



OCTOBER 2018 • VOLUME 97 NO. 10

# OUTLOOK BUSINESS JOURNAL

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE GREAT BEND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## **NEW** Visioning Project Underway

### *Public Involvement Requested for Strategic Planning Process*

What if we could create a roadmap for the future of the Great Bend community? A group of volunteers representing the business community and the Barton County Young Professionals group are spearheading a new visioning project to try and do just that. The project kicked off this summer with a couple meetings of a Steering Committee, whose members hope to inspire the rest of the public around the upcoming process this fall.

"Our first two steering committee meetings were designed to energize the group around some upcoming meetings for the general public, and get some initial ideas for discussion topics down on paper," says Regan Ochs Reif, Co-Chair of the Visioning Committee. "We were ecstatic about the energy and ideas that the group shared, but that was just the beginning. The next step is scheduling the community facilitated discussions to gather more input from the entire community."

A community meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, November 8th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Great Bend Events Center located at 3111 10th Street. Members of the public can also participate in a community survey, which is available to complete online from a new website, [www.GBBetter.com](http://www.GBBetter.com). "We hope the public will participate in the survey as well as in the discussion forum to share their ideas and dreams for the future of Great Bend," Reif says. "Everyone's input will be critical as we establish priorities for our community to focus on over the ten to twenty years."

Facilitating the process is Shockey Consulting, a company specializing in strategic planning for rural communities. Funding for the project was granted from the Thelma Faye Harms Trust. "We so appreciate the Harms Trust, and their continual investment in the betterment of Great Bend," says Mark Mingenback, Co-Chair of the Visioning Committee. "The advisory board members realized the need and made a significant contribution to support the process and the plan. We couldn't have done this without their involvement."

Learn more about the project, and get involved by visiting [www.GBBetter.com](http://www.GBBetter.com). You can also contact the Chamber Office at 620-792-2401.



## Go Online to Give Input

### Access Survey: [www.GBBetter.com](http://www.GBBetter.com)

The public is invited and encouraged to participate in the visioning process by completing the survey on the project website and by attending the community wide discussions coming up this fall.

**Everyone has the opportunity to make Great Bend - Better than Great!**



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## 25th Annual Kids Ag Day Event Educates Nearly 400 Barton County Fourth Grade Students

Kids Ag Day is a hugely anticipated educational field day for fourth grade students from all over Barton County, organized entirely by volunteers. Approximately 375 students learn about the importance of agriculture, and this year was the event's 25th year. Thank you to everyone involved! Check out the Chamber's Flickr profile to see more pictures from this milestone event, which has a rich history in educating our communities' students on the various aspects of the agricultural industry and its economic significance in our region.



## Great Bend Radio Professionals Sweep Awards from Kansas Association of Broadcasters

The Kansas Association of Broadcasters recently announced the 2018 Hall of Fame inductees; the two inductees are Great Bend's very own, Lance Sayler and Phil Grossardt.

Phil Grossardt, began his broadcasting career in 1973 at Barton Community College and student-operated, KBJC-FM. Grossardt's career spans 45 years in radio, TV and public relations, ultimately landing him back in Great Bend with Eagle Media, where today he serves as account executive and afternoon drive host on KHOK.

He also received the Sonny Slater Award for Service to Station and Community in 2007.

Lance Sayler, also awarded the Distinguished Service Award, began his career in Great Bend in 1977 and by 1985 started his own FM station. Sayler currently resides in Pittsburg, KS. In addition to a long list of career achievements of accolades, he is a past Chairman of the KAB and was responsible for starting up the KAB Kid's Scholarship program.

The Great Bend Chamber is also pleased to welcome Sayler back to serve as the emcee for their 97th Annual Banquet in February, 2019.



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## Sunflower Diversified Honors Support Professionals

The people who offer personal care and guidance to Sunflower Diversified Services clients have been recognized for the work they do behind the scenes. Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week, which happened in mid September, shines a light on the invaluable role these Sunflower employees play in clients' lives, said Sarah Krom, chief operating officer.

Sunflower, a non-profit agency, serves people with developmental disabilities and delays in Barton, Pawnee, Rice, Rush and Stafford counties. "Our direct support professionals offer their expertise to our clients in their homes and at work every day," Krom said. "Some of our clients need 24-hour-a-day support, while others might need help a few hours a day or just a few hours a week.

"But whatever the level of need, Sunflower staff members receive comprehensive training designed for the specific needs of individuals," Krom added. "This training also involves working with an experienced colleague during initial home visits. We spend a lot of time and money on this because our clients deserve the best."

Direct support responsibilities include: conducting safety and security checks; providing companionship; accompanying clients on community outings; taking clients to medical and other appointments; employment training; and providing hands-on support. In some cases, they care for people who are medically fragile and require intensive physical care. They do this in cooperation with Sunflower's medical department and local health-care professionals.

"In every situation, the goal is the same – meeting the needs of our clients while offering them options about where to live and work, and how to spend their leisure time," Krom said. "Our direct care professionals provide avenues that lead to the highest level of independence possible.

"This, in turn, leads to productive and rewarding lives for our clients," she added. "The confidence and self-respect they achieve means everything to them."

Sunflower currently has openings. The agency serves infants, toddlers and adults in Barton, Pawnee, Rice, Rush and Stafford counties. It is in its 52nd year.



## Shafer Art Gallery to Present 'Graphic Novel' Exhibit

Comic books and graphic novels have made a resurgence thanks to the success of the Marvel Universe movies. In the Shafer Art Gallery's next exhibit, "Beyond Words: Visual Narratives from the Block Book to the Graphic Novel", visitors will explore the rich history of graphic novels dating back toward the end of the middle ages. The exhibit will be on display until October 20th. "If you grew up loving comics or recently discovered graphic novels this exhibition will put the visual narrative art form into historical and cultural perspective," Shafer Art Gallery Director Dave Barnes said. "Far from being literature just for children, comics are a medium of artistic expression that can be used to communicate sophisticated and nuanced content."

Modern comic strips first began to capture audience's attention toward the end of the nineteenth century. The improvement in printing presses both encouraged artists to explore the medium and newspapers to purchase the comics for their readers. Comic books were first developed as a way for artists to re-sell their comics to readers. The comic books many know and love did not become popular until Superman was released in the late 1930's. Graphic novels weren't created until the 1970s and 80s.

The works selected for this exhibition are intended to encourage visitors to consider the roles of image and narrative in our cultures, and to examine storytelling techniques in different media. "The Shafer Gallery is very fortunate to be able to exhibit these unique works of art that are rarely available to the public in a comprehensive form," Barnes said. "We hope to make this a fun and thought-provoking experience."

The Shafer Gallery is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Admission is free.



## Outlook Business Journal

A monthly publication of the

**GREAT BEND**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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## Bat Cats Baseball League Expanding in 2019

The Sunflower Collegiate League (SCL) announced today it will expand next season adding four established teams in South Central/Central Kansas. The Sunflower, which just completed its second season, is adding the Derby Twins, El Dorado Broncos, Great Bend Bat Cats and the Haysville Aviators from the Jayhawk League for the summer of 2019.

“The Sunflower Collegiate League is very pleased to be expanding in just its third season of competition,” said Casey Walkup, the Sunflower League commissioner. “This expansion will add four quality teams to our already strong league, while adding teams with rich summer collegiate baseball tradition.”

In its first two seasons the SCL has advanced three teams to the NBC World Series’ championship bracket. The Cheney Diamond Dawgs have the league’s best ever finish in the World Series with a third place finish in the league’s inaugural season. The Mulvane Patriots finished 5th in 2017 after being knocked out by Cheney in the Quarter Finals of the NBCWS.

The four new teams join the Cheney Diamond Dawgs, Mulvane Patriots, Hutchinson Monarchs, Wichita Sluggers, Haven Warhawks, Newton Rebels and the Salina Shock.

“With the tradition we are building and the tradition we are adding, the Sunflower is positioned to be one of the premiere summer collegiate baseball leagues in the Midwest region,” said Walkup. “The Wichita area, and State of Kansas, is known for its summer collegiate baseball throughout the country and we look forward to building on that reputation.”

The SCL is a not for profit 501(c)3 organization and is a Premiere League Affiliate of the National Baseball Congress.



## GBCF Establishes Two New Endowment Funds

Golden Belt Community Foundation is pleased to announce the establishment of two new endowment funds to benefit the Welcome Inn Leisure Center, Inc. and The Center for Counseling and Consultation. This partnership with the community foundation allows individuals and businesses interested in supporting and sustaining these important organizations another vehicle for their charitable giving.

“Some individuals wish to support an organization through endowment giving because they know their gift will be invested and continue to support their favorite charity in perpetuity,” said Christy Tustin, Golden Belt Community Foundation Executive Director, “and these partnerships provide a great opportunity to connect donors to these great causes.”

Endowment funds are funds permanently set aside and invested for long-term use, the principal of which is protected, and the earnings of which benefit the charitable organization. Generally, up to five percent of the endowment fund is granted back to the organization annually. By establishing these funds, Welcome Inn Leisure Center, Inc. and The Center for Counseling and Consultation will benefit by reaching more potential donors, being able to offer free estate planning, and receiving annual distributions to support their mission. When organizations work through community foundations, they can build their funds to provide lasting support and take advantage of investment economies of scale and planned giving expertise.

Anyone may contribute to the Welcome Inn Leisure Center, Inc. and The Center for Counseling and Consultation Endowment Funds and gifts are accepted in any amount. The Golden Belt Community Foundation accepts gifts in the form of cash, stock, real estate, and can assist individuals with leaving a gift through their will or trust. All donations are tax-deductible.

At \$22.5 million in total assets and more than 180 funds under management, Golden Belt Community Foundation has been connecting people who care to causes that matter since 1996. GBCF serves the counties of Barton, Pawnee, Rush, and Stafford. For more information about Golden Belt Community Foundation, visit their website at [www.goldenbeltcf.org](http://www.goldenbeltcf.org).



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## HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS IN OCTOBER

- 2... Heartland Farms Bread Making Series, Session 1, 1049 CR 390, Pawnee Rock @ 6p.m.  
 2... **Chamber After Hours 4 Corners Oktoberfest, 16th & Main @ 5-7p.m.**  
 4... **Ribbon Cutting: Result\$ Realty, 2609 23rd St @9a.m.**  
 4... **Chamber Coffee: Bank of the West, 1200 Kansas Ave @ 9:30a.m.**  
 4... Monthly Ambassador Meeting, 1125 Williams St @ Noon  
 4... Noon Lions Club Spaghetti Feed, Columbus Club, 723 Main St @ 4:30p.m.  
 4... Golden Belt Community Concert: 7th Avenue, City Auditorium @ 7:30p.m.  
 5... Adult's Night Out Movie, Great Bend Public Library, 1409 Williams St @ 7p.m.  
 5... KVEC Star Gazing Workshop, 592 NE K-156 HWY @ 8p.m.  
 5... Barton Theatre Production of "Harvey", BCC Fine Arts Auditorium @7:30p.m.  
 6... Central Kansas Southern Gospel Sing, Crest Theater - 1908 Lakin St @ 6p.m.  
 7... BCYP Fall Fest sponsored by Farmers Bank & Trust, Long Pumpkin Patch, 163 NE 30 Rd @ 5p.m.  
 8... Touched by Cancer Support Group, Heartland Cancer Center, 204 Cleveland St @ 4p.m.  
 9... Dine for Dolly at Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers, 3008 10th St, all day  
 10... Chamber Marketing & Member Services Seminar, 1125 Williams St @ 10a.m.  
 11... **Ribbon Cutting: Cherished Blessings Child Development Center, 4500 10th St Pl @ 9m.**  
 11... **Chamber Coffee: Great Bend Masonic Lodge No. 15, 1917 17th St @ 9:30a.m.**  
 11... Great Bend Event Center Open House, 3111 10th St @ 3p.m.  
 12... Kendal's Koffee, Perk's Coffee Shop, 1216 Main St @ 7:30a.m.  
 16... Last day to register to vote before the Nov. 6th Election - Visit the BT Co. Courthouse or ksvotes.org  
 16... Central Kansas Partnership Meeting, 1300 Kansas Ave #B, @ 11a.m.  
 18... **Chamber Coffee: Credit Union of American, 4708 10th St @ 9a.m.**  
 18... **Ribbon Cutting: Beugelsdijk Chiropractic, 1309 William St @ 9:30a.m.**  
 18... Reality U, Presented by United Way of Central Kansas, Great Bend Middle School  
 20... Flatlander Half Marathon, 10K & 5K, Jack Kilby Square, Downtown Great Bend @ 7:30a.m.  
 22... Barton County Historical Society Monthly Meeting, Baseball in KS, Bt. Co. Historical Village @ 7p.m.  
 25... Paint the Town Purple in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month  
 25... **Ribbon Cutting: Cirrus Dental Group, 4811 10th St, Suite 500 @9a.m.**  
 25... **Chamber Coffee: ElderCare Inc., Chamber Office, 1125 Williams @9:30a.m.**  
 28... 4-H National Youth Science Day, Kansas Wetlands Education Center @2p.m.

### Recurring Events:

- Great Bend City Council Meetings, 1st & 3rd Mondays, City Hall, 1209 Williams St, 6:30p.m.  
 Barton County Commission Meetings, Every Monday, Barton County Courthouse, 1400 Main St, Rm 106, 9a.m.  
 October 20-23, 2018: Great Bend Public Library Book Sale - Presented by Friends of the Library. Stop by the library to get great deals on used books! Friday sales for Members of "Friends of the Library" ONLY; open to the public from Saturday through Tuesday. See website for more information.

Visit [www.greatbend.org/events/calendar](http://www.greatbend.org/events/calendar) for a full list of great events taking place throughout the month!

## Expo Boat & Camper Storage Filling Up Fast

Each year, the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development uses one of its two large, metal buildings at the Great Bend Expo Complex to rent for boat and camper storage over the winter months. The load-in for this winter will be happening in mid-October, and spots are filling up fast! If you've got a recreational vehicle you'd like to store out of the weather between mid-October and mid-March, please contact Megan Barfield at 620-792-2401 or [mbarfield@greatbend.org](mailto:mbarfield@greatbend.org).



## GET THE MOST Out of Your Membership Free Seminar Oct. 10

Your business could be missing out on FREE or inexpensive marketing services available to you as a member of the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development. The Chamber invites YOU to attend a Marketing & Member Services Seminar to learn (or re-learn) what the Chamber can do for your business!

**Wednesday, October 10th @ 10 AM**

Free to Attend & Complimentary Donuts and Coffee Provided!

The session will last one hour or less, so that you can get in, get inspired, and get back to your business with new ideas to get started on!


### Why YOUR business needs to attend:

- Gain a better understanding of why the Chamber exists
- Learn about all the valuable marketing services available to you
- Take home a valuable checklist designed to walk you through the most basic Chamber services, step-by-step
- Network with other members and learn how they use their membership
- Get priority scheduling for Chamber Coffees and After Hours events
- Watch a demonstration of the online tools available through the Chamber website (including an inside look at the Online Directory & Member Information Center M.I.C.)
- Get to know your Chamber Staff and let us help you market your business!

Find the event on the Chamber's online calendar of events to get registered!

**Register Online: [www.greatbend.org](http://www.greatbend.org)**





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# Ribbon Cuttings & Milestones for Local Chamber Members

## Renue Salon & Spa Adds Fashion Boutique to Offerings

Looking for some new trendy pieces to add to your Fall wardrobe? Head downtown to Renue Salon & Spa and shop their new Fashion Boutique. The boutique is stocked with a wide range of sizes and colors, including accessories such as scarves, jewelry and more. Renue is excited to add this to their salon and spa and offer the area an additional place to shop for themselves or when purchasing gifts.

Renue Salon & Spa Fashion Boutique is located at 1419 Main St. Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 6:00pm and Saturday from 10:00am – 3:00pm. Find them on Facebook.



The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development helped celebrate the new Fashion Boutique addition with a Ribbon Cutting on September 6, 2018.

## The Errand Lady is Ready to Add Time Back to Your Day

Do you ever feel like there's never enough time in the day to get everything done? You need The Errand Lady!

The Errand Lady provides personal errands, business concierge and organizing services for small businesses, busy people, families and seniors. We specialize in building deep connected relationships with our clients as we bring convenient solutions to check off the to-do list and organize their life from closet to calendar. Our professional, reliable services remove stress and give YOU back time to focus on what is important.

There are many reasons to use The Errand Lady. In fact, no two clients utilize our services in the exact same manner. Some clients use us predominately for personal tasks such as shopping and general errands. Other clients opt to employ our services in a business environment or as a benefit to employees.

We have adult children who contract with us to assist their senior parents (senior support, in home services, or to downsize) when they don't live close by or simply don't have enough hours in the day to complete these tasks for their parents.

The Errand Lady specializes in working with clients on a monthly basis where we give you our undivided attention at a set time you chose. We even offer a one time "Try Us! Package." A "pack" of hours can also be purchased to use as needed over a period of time, subject to schedule availability. We offer several organizing packages for individual projects, downsizing and move management services.

The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development helped celebrate The Errand Lady's accomplishments with a Ribbon Cutting on September 13, 2018.




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## New Rosewood Facility Bolsters Employment Training for People with Disabilities

In an effort to diversify employment training opportunities for people with developmental disabilities, Rosewood Services has opened its Maintenance Training Facility at 2200 Main Street, Great Bend. The new facility is designed to train clients in the areas of mechanical repair, vehicle detailing, window washing, lawn care and electronic recycling.

“These programs have been designed with the idea that once individuals successfully complete a program, they will be qualified to work in that area of industry,” said Anna Hammond, Rosewood Director of Business Development. “These programs are added to the many other employment training programs we already offer people with developmental disabilities. It’s important to give people choices for opportunities in the workforce. With proper training in the areas we have developed, people with disabilities can become stronger candidates for local employers. Our experience shows that with proper training in an area where people show interest and aptitude, they are more successful in achieving long-term employment.”

With mechanical repair, clients learn how to repair small items such as lawn mowers, bicycles, and furniture pieces. Vehicle detailing teaches them how to detail the interior and exterior of vehicles, which includes detailing wheels, washing, waxing and polishing vehicles, plus learning aspects of running a car detailing business. The new window washing program trains people how to professionally clean windows. Lawn care teaches them how to water and maintain lawns. And an electronic recycling program is being introduced that teaches clients how to safely disassemble old electronics, such as computers, televisions and radios and prepare them for proper recycling. “Our new training facility truly will enhance the opportunities we can offer to our clients,” says Tammy Hammond.



## Central Kansas Dream Center Completes Third Floor Renovation

The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development helped celebrate the completion of the third floor at Central Kansas Dream Center with a Ribbon Cutting on August 23, 2018.

Five years into serving the area, Kimberly Becker, Director of the Central Kansas Dream Center, along with many volunteers and board members welcomed the opportunity to open the doors to the near-complete third floor of their building, located at 2100 Broadway Ave. Construction has been underway for months and they were excited to show off the progress. Plans included installing an elevator into a building that had never possessed one before. This meant a shaft needed to be built first prior to adding the car itself of the various other pieces of equipment and cabling needed to make this building ADA compliant.

In addition to the elevator, attendees of the Ribbon Cutting held on August 23rd, also toured the freshly painted and furnished board room, seven apartments, prayer room, medical room and additional office space. The large arched window in the prayer room, on the south side of the building, is one not to be missed. Becker told the crowd the feature was added for the purpose of looking out over Great Bend and praying over the community. The apartments already have a waiting list of married couples wishing to enter the Dream Center’s program.

Connect with Central Kansas Dream Center on Facebook @ CentralKSDreamCenter. Donations are also being accepted to continue the renovations and future projects and can be mailed to 2100 Broadway Ave., Great Bend, KS 67530. For more information, call 620-282-4014.



## Memorial Art Company Continues the Legacy of Exceptional Work & Local Commitment

Ready to line their pockets with some spending cash, then teenagers, Tim, Mike and Bill Main, affectionately known as the “Main Brothers”, all started working in the cemetery and funeral business as young men. While a couple stayed in the business and one ventured into other service oriented fields, they all found themselves presented with an opportunity years later to purchase Memorial Art Company from a family who had owned it since 1927. With it came the Salina and Hutchinson locations where they all three Mains worked to continue the same hands on, family oriented business as it had been operated since 1927. Within the first few years after purchasing, they added locations in Abilene, Great Bend and a location in Oklahoma, as well as purchasing another monument company, Robertson Monuments, in Minneapolis, KS. “We still do our own work, designing and cutting monuments for families from our Salina shop. We have relationships with granite quarries around the world and are able to match any granite color or design a family desires,” says Tim Main, Owner. Memorial Art Company is an exclusive dealer for Rock of Ages brand memorials, which are world renown for their quality. The Main Brothers, along with their office managers, including Bertie Lang of the Great Bend location, are adamant about producing a quality product while keeping the families and emotions at heart. “We appreciate being able to help in every community, and the surrounding areas, Memorial Art Company serves.”

The Great Bend location of Memorial Art Company can be found at 2115 10th St. Stop in to meet and visit with Bertie Lang or call 620-796-2411.





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## EarCare of Great Bend Rebrands to HearingLife

EarCare of Great Bend has joined HearingLife's network of U.S. clinics. The comprehensive rebrand enhances EarCare of Great Bend's focus on personalized customer attention with the resources of a nationally recognized hearing healthcare corporation.

As part of a global hearing healthcare company, HearingLife's resources and additional areas of expertise will ensure EarCare of Great Bend's patients continue to receive the best care. "We chose to join this group because of the benefits it brings to our clients, including excellent clinical support, the most up-to-date diagnostic equipment, and ensuring our patients receive the same personalized attention at any of HearingLife's clinics throughout the nation," said Andrea MacVicar, Regional Director, Kansas.

As a committed care provider for people with hearing difficulties, EarCare of Great Bend's reputation for excellent customer service and integrated hearing solutions is a perfect complement to HearingLife's global resources and outside expertise. The EarCare of Great Bend's team and services, its location(s), and hours will remain the same as the company adopts its new name. Accepted insurance plans will also remain the same. A rebranding campaign--including new clinic signage and website turnover--begins this month.



"With its emphasis on 'nuance matters,' HearingLife's belief that competent, professional care is required to match patients with the right hearing aid technology mirrors exactly our mission for the last several decades," MacVicar said. "I look forward to partnering with them in offering the best care possible."

As one of the country's largest hearing device retailers, HearingLife offers the best and widest choice in the latest hearing device brands--ensuring patients are fitted with devices that will serve them best. Technology service and repair is also available at over 600 locations across the U.S., so patients can count on reliable support when traveling to many major cities.

The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development helped celebrate with a Ribbon Cutting on August 17, 2018. HearingLife is located at 1925 Main St. Call 620-603-5199 to make your appointment today.

## Donors Fund a New Garden at Almost Home Inc.

The idea for a flower garden and other landscaping had been on the agenda for at least a year at Almost Home. But it wasn't in the budget. Recently, however, two families suggested memorials to the short- and long-term-care residence in honor of loved ones. Now, Mother Nature is blooming in the backyard at 1919 Van Buren. Hope Ney, Hoisington, is a member of one of the families that established a memorial. Her mother, Ruth Axman, 87, passed away March 24. She and Liz Schartz, Great Bend, whose father passed away April 27, were both quick to note that their families appreciated the staff-to-resident ratio too because it allows for a lot of one-on-one care. The nonprofit organization also added a solarium that allows family visits in an airy, pleasant atmosphere. The memorials paid for items such as mulch, plants, dirt work, paving stones, a bench and statue. "If it wasn't for generous donations like these, along with \$10K in seed money from 100+ People Who Care, we wouldn't be able to do a lot of things," says Leilani Schenkel, Exec. Director. [www.almosthomeinc.org](http://www.almosthomeinc.org)



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**TUESDAYS:** Group Gravel and Road Rides

**THURSDAYS:** Employee Opinion Survey



## United Way to Host Reality U for Middle School

The United Way of Central Kansas is gearing up to host the 3rd Reality U event at Great Bend Middle School on Thursday, October 18th. The one-day event is presented in partnership with USD 428, GBMS Booster Club, and our numerous sponsors.

Reality U is an interactive, hands-on experience designed for 8th grade students to illustrate the importance of doing well in school and the lasting effect bad grades can have on their future. Prior to the day of the event, the students complete a short questionnaire on the topics of their GPA, plans after school, and whether they envision themselves married or having children at age 26. On the day of the event, reality sets in, and they are given a monthly budget and must go shopping for the necessities of “adulthood.” Reality includes transportation and insurance, medical coverage, mortgage or rent, utilities, student loans, childcare, and saving for retirement. This portion of Reality U takes about 2 hours for the students to go through, then they are off to more in-depth sessions that address finances, credit cards, loans and the cost of delinquency, preparing for high school then college, as well as speakers who talk about what life was really like for them after High School.

This event would not be possible without the generous support of these community sponsors: Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, Benefit Management, LLC, City of Great Bend, Credit Union of America, Farmers Bank & Trust, First Kansas Bank, Marmie Auto Group, MPIRE Realty, Nex-Tech Wireless, Spectrum CPA Partners, LLC, and University of Kansas Health Systems - Great Bend Campus. This program also utilizes the expertise of some of our Community Partners including Great Bend Children's Learning Center and Immediate Intervention Programs.

This event requires numerous volunteers and collaboration with the Middle School, especially Sheryl Neeland who coordinates the schedules for each of the nearly 200 students who will take part in this program. Volunteers from our sponsor businesses, as well as individuals in the community, make this event run smoothly each year. We look forward to working with another class of students and helping them learn how their decisions now, will impact their future.

### Local Employers Can Get Involved in UWCK Jeans Day Nov. 14

United Way of Central Kansas is also preparing for our annual Jeans Day, sponsored by The Buckle. Business owners: simply allow your staff to wear jeans on November 14th, and employees: simply make a \$1 donation to wear jeans to work! Each dollar donated gives the employee a chance to win a free pair of jeans from The Buckle! Only one winner from each business will be entered in the final drawing. Please contact UWCK to get your business signed up today!

## Rosewood ECycle Opens in Downtown Great Bend

You now have a place to conveniently take those antiquated or broken electronics products that you've been collecting over the years. Rosewood Services has recently opened Rosewood ECycle in downtown Great Bend where it offers free, convenient e-waste recycling. People can drop off their electronics for recycle at Rosewood Maintenance Building, 2200 Main Street from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. They can also drop off products at Rosewood Bargain Barn 1215 Main Street, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Rosewood ECycle accepts computers, monitors, printers, fax machines, laptops, televisions, video game consoles, DVD players and VCRs, cameras, cell phones, telephone equipment and just about any other electronic device. You will receive a tax deduction receipt when you drop off working electronic equipment for re-sale.

“By recycling with us, you'll benefit our community, the environment, and you'll help create jobs for people with developmental disabilities,” said Tammy Hammond, Rosewood's CEO. “This program has been in the planning stages for quite some time as we worked on fine-tuning our process. We're excited to finally open the doors on this new green business that will give our clients additional work opportunities and serve a vital need for the community.”



## BARTON COUNTY Open Houses

### Browse Open Houses Online Thanks to Association of Realtors

[www.greatbendpost.com/openhouse](http://www.greatbendpost.com/openhouse)

Have you ever wished you could look up or find all of the Open Houses in one location instead of having to drive all over Great Bend looking for yard signs? Well, now you can! Thanks to Eagle Radio and local realtors, selling and buying customers can now access and view a listing of Open Houses in Barton County, online. Every Friday, the list is updated and can be found on the Great Bend Post website and on Facebook over the weekend. Simply head to [greatbendpost.com/openhouse](http://greatbendpost.com/openhouse) or look for the list on Facebook, @GreatBendPost.

## GBCF Youth Awards \$22,000 for Area Students

Golden Belt Community Foundation is pleased to announce over \$22,000 was awarded for our youth grant cycle. Golden Belt Community Foundation's competitive grants bring in applications from several area nonprofits with a variety of needs. Awards are based on projects most closely aligned with specific grant criteria and available funding. GBCF presented the Hoisington grantees their awards at the Hoisington Chamber of Commerce Coffee, held earlier in August.

There were three projects funded in Hoisington for a shade structure, youth recreation programming, and the library. In Larned, a new basketball court will be constructed. In Great Bend, funds were granted to the weekend food backpack program, a shed for a daycare, and to create an outdoor classroom at the Great Bend Public Library. Learn more about grant programs by calling 620-792-3000 or visiting [www.goldenbeltcf.org](http://www.goldenbeltcf.org).



## Great Bend Rec NOW ENROLLING Fall Enrollment



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## ABBB Announces New CPA Designation for Ille

The certified public accounting firm of Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, Chartered (ABBB) is pleased to announce that Melissa Ille has earned her Certified Public Accountant (CPA) license. "We congratulate Melissa on this milestone in her career," said Brian Staats, CPA, CGMA, managing partner of ABBB. "Throughout her tenure, Melissa has shown commitment to the firm, our clients, and the accounting profession. Earning her CPA is a monumental achievement in her professional development."

Ille joined the firm in 2006. She graduated from Fort Hays State University with a Bachelor of Business Administration in 2004 and a Master of Business Administration in 2006. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), the Kansas Society of CPAs (KSCPA), and the Fort Hays State University Alumni Association. Ille lives in Great Bend, Kansas and in her free time enjoys reading, baking, and spending time outdoors.

Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, Chartered provides a wide range of traditional and non-traditional CPA and consulting services to clients throughout Kansas, including agriculture organizations, construction companies, feedyards, financial institutions, governmental and not-for-profit organizations, manufacturers, medical practices, oil and gas companies, professional service firms, real estate companies and small businesses. Founded in 1945, today the firm maintains 14 office locations throughout the state. For more information about Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, please visit abbb.com.



Certified Public Accountants

## Sally O'Connor Named Pilot Club Ambassador

Sally O'Connor is a strong member of the Great Bend Pilot Club, having joined in 2009. She has been Club president and lead in the Team and efforts with the Barton County Walk to End Alzheimer's as well as spear heading and leading her team in the successful Autism workshop. This year she is serving as the group's recording secretary. Pilot Club would like to celebrate Sally O'Connor as their Pilot Ambassador for 2018-2019.

## The Reserves at Trail Ridge Wins State Award

On Wednesday, September 12, 2018, the Reserves at Trail Ridge accepted the Kansas Housing Resource Corporation Ad Astra New Housing Development Award. The Ad Astra Awards, for Excellence in Housing and Community Development, are awarded annually by KHRC at the Kansas Housing Conference. The awards recognize outstanding housing advocates whose contributions make a positive impact on Kansas communities.

"One of Overland Property Group's cornerstones is building quality housing for all Kansans," provides Matt Gillam, Vice President of Development for Overland Property Group. "We stand firmly behind the philosophy that affordable, well-built, and maintained housing should be available to all Kansans."

The Reserves at Trail Ridge offers large, brand-new apartment homes which are located on beautiful, manicured grounds within walking distance to shopping and restaurants. Additionally, including washers and dryers in each apartment home provides savings and convenience to families not offered elsewhere. Other amenities included in the apartment homes are walk in closets, vinyl wood look flooring, ceiling fans, and much more.

"We welcome the community to visit us at 811 Grant Street for a tour of an apartment home," says Vanessa Lewis, Community Manager. The majority of the units rented are income restricted with rents set at reasonable prices. For a tour or to learn more about the apartment homes available, the leasing office is open Monday – Friday 8:00am – 5:00pm and Saturdays from 10:00am – 2:00pm.

For more information regarding leasing an apartment home at The Reserves at Trail Ridge, please contact Vanessa Lewis at 620-603-0008 or trailridge@dalmargroup.com.



## 3 Reasons to Hire The HR Pro



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## Ambassador Profile - Jake Deutsch, Co-op

### **What brought you to Great Bend? What keeps you here?**

My wife and I were both raised just up the road from Great Bend in Hoisington. We moved to Great Bend 4 years ago and both work in the community. We enjoy Great Bend and the small town atmosphere. While living here we started a family with our first child Harper.

### **Where do you work and what do you do there?**

I have been working at the Great Bend Coop for six years. My title is seed sales. I work on a daily basis helping farmers select the right variety of seed to meet their farming practice.

### **What's one thing about you that would surprise people?**

I am a huge fan of sports... especially K-STATE football!

### **What energizes you and brings you excitement?**

I love seeing the results of happy customers but my family brings the most excitement to me everyday!

### **At what job, would you be terrible?**

Anything where I would be stuck behind a desk or inside. I enjoy be outside scouting fields and talking to customers.

### **How long have you been a Chamber Ambassador and what do you like most about it?**

I have been a Chamber Ambassador for three years. I enjoy getting to know people throughout the community and help support the local businesses.

### **About Chamber Ambassadors:**

The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development Ambassador Club is made up of 30 men and women from the Great Bend business community who represent the Chamber as volunteers. To find out how you can become a member of the Ambassador Club, contact the Chamber: 620-792-2401.



## 4th Annual Flatlander Half Marathon - October 20th

You're invited to join Barton County Young Professionals in Downtown Great Bend for the 2018 Flatlander festivities! This year's race will include the Half Marathon Course, as well as 10K & 5K fun run options. BCYP is proud to provide exceptional racer hospitality, not to mention top notch spectator fun! Families are encouraged to participate in the race, or also invited to come cheer on the runners. All events start and finish at Jack Kilby Square with a professionally chipped timing system administered by the Timer Guys.

Participants receive a race T-shirt, a swag bag of goodies from our sponsors, a complimentary breakfast, along with free finish line photos published on our Facebook page after the event.

### **Schedule of Events:**

- 6:00am - On-site Registration Opens
- 7:30am - Half Marathon Shotgun Start
- 8:30am - 10K & 5K Shotgun Start
- 8:30am - Family Fun Zone Opens
- 9:30am - 5K Awards Ceremony
- 10:00am - 10K Awards Ceremony
- 10:15am - Half Marathon Awards Ceremony



The Flatlander is organized by Barton County Young Professionals and generates funds for community health and wellness initiatives. In just three years, this race has generated over \$7,500 for pedestrian safety initiatives with Be Well Barton County in addition to over 20 Bike Racks that have been installed across Barton County.

Please join BCYP in their effort to promote a healthy community for generations to come! Learn more and get signed up at [www.bartonyp.com](http://www.bartonyp.com).

## GREAT BEND

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## Ellinwood Foundation Hosts Christmas Gala

It may seem a little early to be talking about Christmas, but the Ellinwood Hospital Foundation likes to get in the spirit a little early. This year will be the Foundation's 3rd Annual Christmas Gala, a dinner and auction fundraiser, on Sunday, December 2nd. It will be the ending event for Ellinwood's Christkindlmarket, immediately following the Living Nativity and Christmas Tree Lighting at Wolf Park. "The funds raised go to projects to improve services and facilities in Ellinwood to care for your friends, family, neighbors, and employees," says Lindsey Bogner, Executive Director.

Local businesses and community members sponsor the event and donate silent and live auction items. Tickets are \$20, and include dinner and refreshments. To buy tickets or donate auction items, call (620) 564-2548 or email [lbogner@gpoe.org](mailto:lbogner@gpoe.org). You can also purchase tickets at Ellinwood Hospital, or online at [ellinwooddistricthospital.org/christmasgala](http://ellinwooddistricthospital.org/christmasgala).



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### **ELLINWOOD:**

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### **HOISINGTON:**

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## **CHAMBER COFFEE SCHEDULE** **Every Thursday | Doors Open at 9am | Program at 9:30am**

**October 4, 2018**

### **BANK OF THE WEST**

**1200 Kansas Avenue in Great Bend**

Bank of the West is a strong and prudently managed bank that customers have entrusted with their money for over 135 years. Bank of the West operates more than 600 retail, wealth, commercial and business banking offices in 23 states. It is one of the nation's largest banks, yet it preserves its local feel and its award-winning style of relationship banking that ensures superior customer service.

**October 11, 2018**

### **GREAT BEND MASONIC LODGE NO. 15**

**1917 17th Street in Great Bend**

The Grand Lodge of Kansas is the governing body of Freemasonry in Kansas, formed March 17, 1856. The Grand Lodge of Kansas welcomes those qualified men who are interested in becoming a part of the world's oldest Fraternity — a society of friends and brothers whose members and principles have influenced, and continue to shape our country and our history. In Kansas, a prospective member must be at least 18 years of age and profess a belief in a Supreme Being. With these qualifications met, we welcome men of every country, religion, race, age, income, education, and opinion.

**October 18, 2018**

### **CREDIT UNION OF AMERICA**

**4708 10th Street in Great Bend**

Serving Great Bend since 1974, Credit Union of America is the second largest credit union in Kansas. CUA provides consumer and small business financial services with high quality, low or no fees, and exceptional service. You'll find all of the modern conveniences at CUA with deposit taking ATMs and extraordinary online banking/mobile services.

**October 25, 2018**

### **ELDERCARE INC.**

**Spray-Holt Family Board Room | 1125 Williams in Great Bend**

ElderCare Inc. helps to provide Home Services to elderly Kansans across eight counties. ElderCare also administers the Friendship Meals program in a 28-county area of southwest Kansas. Thirty nine participating communities serve meals five days per week. ElderCare employs approximately 130 people.

**November 1, 2018**

### **USD 428 FOUNDATION**

**201 S. Patton Road in Great Bend**

The USD 428 Education Foundation is a non-profit organization that raises funds to provide mini-grants for teachers in the Great Bend public school system. Over the past 30 years, the foundation has funded more than \$375,000 in mini-grants that have positively impacted teachers and students in the classroom. Their annual fundraiser is coming up on Tuesday, November 13 and more information will be provided at the Chamber Coffee. Tickets will also be on sale!



3307 10th Street • Great Bend, KS 67530

**McDonald's**

is providing coffee for Chamber of Commerce coffees.