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OUTLOOK

August 2018 Issue

online

BARTON *More Than Meets the Eye*

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Special Story Contributed by Brandon Steinert

On the surface, Barton Community College is a safe choice, the practical way to save money on education, but the higher education institution has been quietly evolving over the decades into a locus of student-focused faculty and staff driven to keep pace, innovate and set new standards in a rapidly changing industry.

Service to the US Army; Barton's role in our country's deployment capabilities

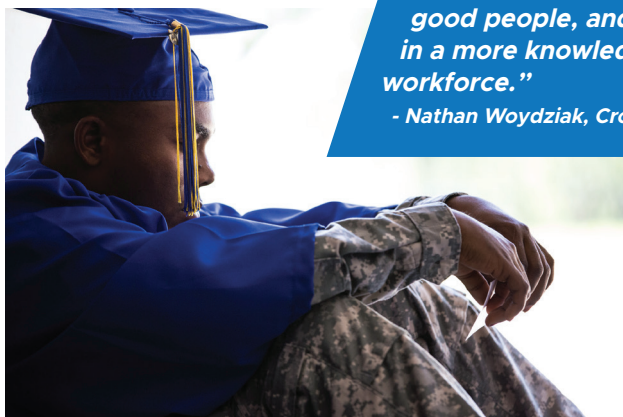
The college began serving the US Army at Fort Riley in 1984. Barton hires expert instructors and orchestrates field training for Soldiers. The bulk of the training is focused on preparing troops for deployment with classes like Field Sanitation, Combat Lifesaver, Fuel Handler, Transportation Loading and more.

Former Fort Riley Garrison Commander Col. John Lawrence, during a Barton Board of Trustees visit to the post, said Barton's ability to be agile, efficient and flexible is a key factor in the Army's ability to deploy quickly, as troops need certain pieces of training before they're allowed to ship out.

In addition to the serves Soldiers' families

"Barton gives Central Kansas access to training, good people, and results in a more knowledgeable workforce."

- Nathan Woydziak, Crop Quest



military training, Barton's Fort Riley campus also with general education courses and career programs, all offered in seven six-week cycles each year to mesh with the Army's schedule. Barton has also been serving Fort Leavenworth on a smaller scale since 2012, where Soldiers' spouses and children make up the primary demographic taking advantage of the college's services.

Everything Barton takes on from an outreach perspective is tied to a mission of having an impact here at home in central Kansas. The core purpose of Barton is to serve its local communities with high quality courses and programs. In this case, the activities at the Forts not only bolster the country's military readiness, they also offset the mill levy and reduce tax reliance on Barton County residents. The rate of taxes levied has remained constant for a decade. *- Cont. on Pg. 2*



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BARTON *More Than Meets the Eye*

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- Continued from Page 1

An online innovator

More than half of all Barton students took at least one online class in 2017-2018, and Barton was one of the first higher education institutions to provide classes online in the 1990s. In the mid 2000s through 2015, the college experienced tremendous enrollment growth of about 20 percent per year, mostly online.

The college has continued to innovate based on the needs of its students. Most recently, the college announced a new aggressive format for scheduling online, with 15 sessions throughout the year to include four-, six-, eight-, and 16-week sessions. This new format better fits the demands of today's diverse student body, whether they want a more traditional semester-length course, or more accelerated, condensed curriculum.

"I consider the concurrent credit hours that high school students can earn as one of the best deals available in secondary education. My daughters finished bachelor's degrees in 3.5 years, largely due to the fact that they had a semester's worth of college credits when they enrolled in their chosen colleges."

**- Ron Harms, Stanion
Wholesale Electric**

True to its roots, an intense local focus

Jenny Shaw of Bison chose Barton first and foremost because it is just down the road from her hometown; it was the most pragmatic option to change her life trajectory to pursue her dream career in early childhood education. She graduated from Barton with her associate degree in 2017 and has been taking strides toward her goal.

Shaw transferred to Fort Hays State University (FHSU) to finish her education, landed a job at Helping Hands Preschool in Great Bend during the school year and works at Hays Area Childrens Center during the summer.



"At first I picked Barton because of convenience. It's not far from home and it's a financially better route than going directly into a four year college," she said. "But then it became something more. Barton is an amazing place where the instructors legitimately care about making you successful."

Michael Fahrney is making a comfortable living as a feed delivery driver for Great Bend Coop, but only a couple years ago his path in life didn't look as bright. He had been struggling with drug abuse, losing one job after another.

"I woke up one day and was like, 'I really hate the way my life is right now. This isn't what I want,'" he said. - Continued on Page 4



"I was in the dream center for awhile, I got surrounded by a bunch of Godly people willing to help me turn my life around. Then I got my CDL at Barton and landed this job. It's such a blessing to have these types of courses offered. I wasn't looking for a degree, just a certification. The instructors were awesome and the courses were put together really well."

Fahrney said Barton made it possible to change his life with about three months of training.

"Barton worked with me on availability so I could practice driving," he said. "Life gets busy sometimes, but it was really flexible and worked around our schedules."

Fahrney and Shaw are just two of thousands of anecdotes illustrating the impact on real people in central Kansas.

Partnerships galore

Barton has hundreds of partnerships with businesses, government agencies and other institutions.

A recent example of a newfound relationship includes Fort Hays State University. Barton and FHSU agreed upon 19 complete programs that allow students to enjoy seamless transfer of credits.

FHSU President Dr. Tisa Mason said she holds Barton students in high regard during an agreement signing ceremony.



"Send them our way," she said. "We know they are prepared for our institution because of the care and the attention that your faculty and staff give them."

Barton partners with area businesses to share resources and tailor training

to specific needs. Partnerships with hospitals, clinics and medical labs are also common to provide hands on training and fulfill clinical requirements for students in medical programs.

One of Barton's longest running and arguably most impactful partnerships is with the Kansas Department of Corrections with a presence at both Larned Correctional Mental Health Facility and Ellsworth Correctional Facility to bring educational opportunities to inmates. Tuition and fees are funded either by the families of inmates or private donations from citizens who have recognized the program's significant benefits to society. Barton recently expanded its offerings at Larned with the KDOC's new focus for the facility to serve young men.

A vast majority of inmates will eventually be released into society when their sentence is complete, and it's one of Barton's prerogatives, in partnership with the Kansas Department of Corrections, to make sure they become hard-working functioning members of society instead of back behind bars.

For more information, visit Bartonccc.edu/community and download the annual Community Report for more detailed data and information.

"A Barton student who is able to remain in his/her facility to work and learn keeps people and their families in our communities. It is vital to rural areas to have educated/credentialed individuals to meet regulations."

- Taunya Williams, Owner of Nutrition Consulting

"Having a college close to home is super beneficial. Great Bend needs the college; we need the trained students and we want people to call us home! Go Cougars!"

- Christina Hayes, City of Great Bend

"[Barton is] generating and preparing the employees that our industry and economy need locally with our own community and central Kansas.."

- Ana Hayson, Rana Luna Boutique

"Four of my six employees have graduated through Barton's wonderful MLT program. I graduated in 2010 from the program and became the lab manger in 2012. It has been a great way to introduce students to our area of work and help keep them employed locally."

- Tiffany Pulley, Lab Manager at Hospital District #1 of Rice County

"At Golden Belt Feeders, we've always tried to purchase locally. Along those lines, we try to hire and train locally. Barton has given us an avenue to find and develop young talent that has a desire to live and work locally."

- Stan Kaiser, Golden Belt Feeders

"[Barton graduates] are a valuable resource to pursue in lieu of expending significant resources and time to recruit from elsewhere or train from the ground up."

- Dave Cox, Maico Industries Inc.

Enterprise Opens New 10th Street Store

If you've driven down 10th Street recently, you have probably noticed that Enterprise Rent-a-Car has a new home. Previously located inside Dove Buick Chevrolet Cadillac, most people didn't even realize that Great Bend did, in fact, have an Enterprise Rent-a-Car here in town. Now located at 2110 10th St, their newly renovated office has a street view, allowing local residents and visitors to easily find their store front. Manager, Ronda Krier, says their business has already noticed an increase in traffic and rentals with the move. "People come in and comment that they never even knew we were in town. It's been a great experience and we are so glad we made the move!"

Enterprise Rent-A-Car recently hosted the weekly Chamber Coffee on June 28th with a Ribbon Cutting following to commemorate the successful relocation.

Looking to rent a car for your next vacation or business trip? Call Ronda at (620) 793-9992 or visit www.enterprise.com.



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Sunflower Plans 2nd Annual Poker Run Ride for Independence Slated for August 25th

The itinerary for the Ride for Independence Poker Run, which is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 25, has been mapped out and includes a Wild Card stop. Sunflower Diversified Services is sponsoring this second annual event to raise money for a new art studio that will showcase the talents of Sunflower clients with a creative flair.

Sunflower serves infants, toddlers and adults with developmental disabilities and delays in Barton, Pawnee, Rice, Rush and Stafford counties. Connie Oetken, Sunflower director of development, said the turnout for last year's poker run was good and she is hoping it is even better this year.

"We hope to see the familiar faces from last year and meet many newcomers this time around," Oetken said. "It is a great way to raise funds for our clients while having a good time touring around our service area.

"The Beautiful Minds Art Studio is in the planning stages," Oetken added. "The poker run will help us continue with our plans."

Motorcycles and other types of vehicles are welcome at the poker run. The fee for drivers is \$25 in advance and \$30 the day of the event. The passenger fee is \$20 and \$10 is charged for an extra poker hand. Those who register by Aug. 10 will receive a free T-shirt. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Aug. 25 at the Sunshine Garage in Larned, with kickstands up at 10:30 a.m.

The first stop along the route will be Squeak's Club in St. John. Then it's off to Oasis Convenience Store, near Sylvia on U.S. Highway 50; Brew 56 Coffee & Tap in Lyons; and the final stop is the HandleBar & Grill in Great Bend.

During their journey, participants should look for the sign that will direct them to the Wild Card stop. This mystery stop will provide the opportunity to toss out a poker-hand card and win the chance for a better one. Prizes will be awarded for the best and worst hands.

The day's agenda also include \$3 biscuits and gravy; raffles; and cinnamon rolls.

Tammie Caley, Sunflower's chief financial officer, has been instrumental in organizing the poker-run fundraisers and encouraged participants to register for the event.

"We are trying to have a little something for everyone," Caley said. "This really is a fun event and we hope the community comes out to support our neighbors with disabilities."

For more information or to register, call 620-792-1325.



Mind Sculpt Games Moves to 10th Street

Mind Sculpt Games, a face to face gaming store owned by Daniel and Darcy Leech, recently moved to 2521 10th street in Great Bend and celebrated a ribbon cutting with the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce. Founded in June of 2016, after a year of being in business, Mind Sculpt Games has doubled their space in their new location. Now Mind Sculpt Games has 8 tables always set up for open gaming, carries all major trading card games like Pokemon, YuGiOh and Magic: the Gathering, supplies hobbyist with citadel paints and Warhammer models and hosts a full calendar of events and over 400 board games in stock.

"It is wonderful to see how many people have been walking in the door to support the friendly local game store in our new location. Mind Sculpt Games has been lucky to be in an area with so many local game enthusiasts who want to help us succeed in building community through games." says co-owner Darcy Leech. "We have people taking games home for face to face time with the family and people finding their new best friends in our game communities."

Co-owner Daniel Leech is also excited about the new location at 2521 10th in Great Bend and what the future holds for Mind Sculpt Games and the local community. "At Mind Sculpt Games, people find something safe and fun to do with real interactions with real people. Our biggest trading card game community, Magic: The Gathering, has over 150 players connected in the Facebook group "Magic the Gathering players of Mind Sculpt Games." It's fun to see how many new friendships have been formed for our customers since we've opened. We hope to run Mind Sculpt Games in a way that we are a positive influence in the lives of our players and customers. I think it's working."

Mind Sculpt Games is open 7 days a week Monday through Friday noon to 9pm, Saturday noon to 6pm, and Sunday 1pm to 6pm. Customers can connect to gaming communities of local players through the Mind Sculpt Games Facebook page and are invited to check out the Mind Sculpt Calendar of events which has 6-8 events per week.



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If your company is interested in joining the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development, fill out the online application on our website: www.greatbend.org. Membership is quick and easy to get started, and it is affordable, too! Lots of networking, marketing, and other services you can benefit from. Sign up to attend one of our Chamber Member Orientation & Marketing Services Seminars. These seminars happen throughout the year. Sign up on our website:

www.greatbend.org

Nex-Tech Wireless Opens New Store on 10th Street in Great Bend

Nex-Tech Wireless is excited to be a part of the Great Bend community. We have added to our investment in the community by opening a retail store, providing wireless assistance 7 days a week. Nex-Tech Wireless offers the latest wireless phones - including iPhones and android smartphones and high speed data. The new retail store has a wide variety of accessories such as the Apple Watch, protective cases, portable chargers, speakers and more. Nex-Tech Wireless offers a variety of money-saving rate plans including unlimited data and advance pay options. For a limited time get 4 iPhones and unlimited data for less than \$40 a line. We invite you to stop by the new Nex-Tech Wireless retail store, located next to Satellite Pros on 10th Street, to learn more about these great offers and more!



Chamber Events You Won't Want to Miss in August

Last Chance to Reserve Your Booth for Business Showcase

The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development will host the 4th Annual Great Bend Business Showcase on Monday, August 20th from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in the Panther Activity Center (PAC) at Great Bend High School, and will be open to 700+ educators and staff.

This exhibit opportunity is available FREE to members of the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development, and the deadline to reserve a booth is August 10th. Space is limited. Contact Megan Barfield for more info: 620-792-2401.

Employer Roundtable Aug. 21 "Mental Health in the Workplace"

Professionals in the area are encouraged to register now for the upcoming Employer Roundtable on Tuesday, August 21st at 11:30 a.m. While this discussion will only scratch the surface, it's an important and timely conversation that will cover employee safety and well-being to their satisfaction and productivity. The presentation will be provided by a panel of representatives from The Center for Counseling & Consultation.

Cost to attend is \$20 per person and includes the catered meal. Sign up now at www.greatbend.org.

Comfort Pro Hosts Business After Hours Sept. 6th

Comfort Pro Inc is celebrating TEN YEARS in business this September, and we want to show our appreciation for all our customers, our team members, and their families by hosting a HUGE After Hours event on Thursday, September 6th from 5-7 p.m. at the Columbus Club, 723 Main Street in Great Bend.

Join us for tasty food, cold beers, and some fun entertainment you won't want to miss! We'll also be giving away several awesome prizes, and YOU get to pick which prize you want to try for. There will be freebies for everyone who attends, and lots of fun celebrating a decade of exceptional service to Central Kansas.

Ribbon Cuttings Galore!

Lots of exciting new business expansions are being celebrated in August, and you are invited to attend to support and encourage these fellow Chamber members:

Thursday, August 2nd @ 10 a.m.

DAT HIIT Performance - 2817 9th Street

Thursday, August 9th @ 10 a.m.

Golden Belt Bicycle - 1111 Main Street

Friday, August 17th @ 12:30 p.m.

Hearing Life - 1925 Main Street

Thursday, August 23rd @ 10 a.m.

Central KS Dream Center - 2100 Broadway

Thursday, August 30th @ 10 a.m.

Memorial Arts Company - 2115 10th Street

HIGHLIGHTED AUGUST EVENTS IN GREAT BEND

- 1... Sunflower's Early Education Center & Incredible Years Preschool Play Group: 1312 Patton @ 9a.m.
- 2... Chamber Coffee: The Buckle, 1313 Main @ 9a.m.**
- 2... Ribbon Cutting: DAT HIIT Performance, The Fieldhouse, 2817 9th @ 10a.m.**
- 2... Children's Miracle Network Blizzard Benefit, Dairy Queen, 2302 N. Main starting at 11a.m.
- 3... Wee Ones Camp, Dilly & Doc's, 1119 Main St. @ 9:30a.m.
- 3... Weaving Retreat, Heartland Farm, starting @ 7p.m.
- 4... Open Studio - Pick your Project, Dilly & Doc's, 1119 Main St. @ 10a.m.
- 5... Caregivers Count Kick-off Meeting, Hoisington Activity Center @1p.m.
- 6... Kids Canvas Class, Dilly & Doc's, 1119 Main St. @ 1p.m.
- 7... Wooden Barn Quilt, Dilly & Doc's, 1119 Main St. @ 7p.m.
- 8... Girly Girl Camp #2, Dilly & Doc's, 1119 Main St. @ 9a.m.
- 9... Chamber Coffee: Barton College Foundation, Best Western Courtyard, 2920 10th St. @ 9a.m.**
- 9... Ribbon Cutting: Golden Belt Bicycle Company, 1111 Main St. @ 10:15a.m.**
- 10... Perseid Meteor Shower Watch Party, Kansas Wetlands Education Center, 592 NE K-156 Hwy @ 9p.m.
- 11... Party in the Park, Veteran's Memorial Park, All Day
- 12... Perseid Meteor Shower Viewing, Heartland Farms, 1049 CR 390, Pawnee Rock @ 8:30p.m.
- 13... Touched by Cancer Support Group, Heartland Cancer Center, 204 Cleveland St. @ 4p.m.
- 13... Furniture Flip, Dilly & Doc's, 1119 Main St. @ 6p.m.
- 14... Dine for Dolly at Freddy's, 3008 10th St., Starting @10:30a.m.
- 15... Kids Wood Shapes, Dilly & Doc's, 1119 Main St. @ 10a.m.
- 16... Chamber Coffee: Great Bend Municipal Airport, Terminal Building, 9047 6th St. @ 9a.m.**
- 16... Great Bend Tribune Ice Cream Social, 2012 Forest @ 4p.m.
- 16... Open Studio - Pick your Project, Dilly & Doc's, 1119 Main St. @ 6p.m.
- 17... Wee Ones Camp, Dilly & Doc's, 1119 Main St. @ 9:30a.m.
- 17... Ribbon Cutting: Hearing Life, 1925 Main St. @ 12:30p.m.**
- 18... Step Up to the Plate for United Way, Columbus Club, 723 Main @6p.m.
- 20... 2018 Business Showcase, GBHS Activity Center, 2027 Morton @ 8:30a.m.
- 21... Central Kansas Partnership Meeting, 1300 Kansas Ave #B, @ 11a.m.
- 21... Employer Roundtable: Mental Health in the Workplace, The Page, 2920 10th St. @ 11:30a.m.
- 23... Chamber Coffee: First Kansas Bank, 4001 10th St., @ 9a.m.**
- 23... Ribbon Cutting: Central Kansas Dream Center, 2100 Broadway @10a.m.**
- 23... Old Window Redu, Dilly & Doc's, 1119 Main St. @ 6:30p.m.
- 25... Barton Foundation's 40th Annual Big Benefit Auction, Columbus Club, 723 Main St. @6p.m.
- 26... Open House: 3rd Floor of Central Kansas Dream Center, 2100 Broadway @ 12p.m.
- 28... Open Studio - Pick your Project, Dilly & Doc's, 1119 Main St. @ 6p.m.
- 30... Chamber Coffee: The Reserves at Trail Ridge, 811 Grant @9a.m.**
- 30... Ribbon Cutting: The Memorial Art Company, 2115 10th St. @10a.m.**

Recurring Events:

- Great Bend Summer Street Stroll Farmers Market, weekly on Thursdays through September 13th, South Side of Jack Kilby Square, 4-7p.m.
- Great Bend City Council Meetings, 1st & 3rd Mondays, City Hall, 1209 Williams @6:30p.m.
- Barton County Commission Meetings, Every Monday, Barton County Courthouse, 1400 Main @9a.m.

GREAT BEND

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FEATURED AMBASSADOR

Megan Hammeke

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 in a number of ways.

They host the weekly Chamber Coffees, attend Business After Hours and Ribbon Cuttings, serve on Chamber committees, and assist with member recruitment and retention efforts.

They also volunteer at numerous Chamber events, such as the Great Bend Farm & Ranch Expo, Gary Gore Memorial Golf Tournament and the Annual Banquet and Meeting.

Learn more: www.greatbend.org/ambassadors

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

My husband and I both grew up in Great Bend, but went off for college. A job opportunity for my husband and internship for me brought us back to the area, and I don't think we ever discussed leaving after that. We love this community and the ways we get to be involved in it.

Where do you work & what do you do there?

I have an awesome job at the Great Bend Rec. I get to spend everyday trying improve the lives of the individuals in our community by overseeing year round the programing for our Senior and Adaptive population and then March thru August I get to focus on Aquatics programming. So some days I'm doing arts and crafts, serving up snacks at a Special Needs dance, and other days I'm training lifeguards.

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

I'm a die hard, jump on the couch, scream at the television, KU basketball fan for as long as I can remember.

What energizes you and brings you excitement?

My husband and kiddos! The love and joy that I receive from them every day definitely makes those tough days a little easier.

At what job, would you be terrible?

I would be a horrible waitress. I am just not coordinated enough to carry a tray of full drinks!

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

I've been a Chamber Ambassador for two years. I have enjoyed meeting so many new people and business that are just looking for ways to make Great Bend great!



American State Bank Promotes Penka to Back Office Manager

American State Bank is pleased to announce the promotion of Sara Penka to AVP/ Back Office Manager. The announcement was made by Amy Maytum, Senior Vice President of the bank. "Sara's commitment to providing excellent customer service and solutions are two of the reasons that she deserves this promotion. She embodies so many of the traits that we look for in employees, including a willingness to try new things and a great attitude," said Maytum.

Penka started at ASB in 2013 and has been promoted and recognized several times during her employment. Prior to working at American State Bank, Penka worked at 2 other financial institutions. In her new role, Penka will be responsible for back office operations overseeing processing. Sara is from Olmitz, KS and works at the Great Bend branch on Main Street.

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Defining the Skills Gap in Kansas: A Survey Project Across the State

The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development recently hosted Kansas Secretary of Revenue, Nick Jordan. Jordan spoke to a room of 40 about the different sectors of the Kansas business community facing a critical need for skilled workers.

The Governor's Education Council, the Kansas Chamber, and the Brandmeyer Center for Applied Economics at the KU School of Business invite your participation in a survey-based research project to help better define the term "skills gap" - as it manifests itself in the Kansas business community.



You may start and stop the survey as your schedule demands as long as you use the same internet browser and connection. We encourage you to carefully reflect on your answers, which will be kept anonymous.

Take the Survey Here: <http://kansasskillsgap.org/>

Early Education Center Hosts Open House for New Parents Aug. 13

Incredible Years Preschool will welcome families to a preview of the upcoming school year at an open house that is set for 6 to 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 13, at 1312 Patton. The first day of school is Aug. 16. Sunflower Diversified Services, a non-profit agency, owns and operates Incredible Years. Tuition is based on a sliding-fee scale, making preschool accessible to more families. Incredible Years focuses on the Kansas Early Learning Standards and a curriculum that includes: free play; social/emotional development; language, literature and communication; arts and sciences; and physical development. For more information, call 620-792-4087.

A Quick Recap from the Chamber Night @ The Bat Cats



On July 23, 2018, the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce officially welcomed the Great Bend Bat Cats as a new chamber member with an on-field Ribbon Cutting and a night of celebration! Thanks to sponsors, Office Products, Inc., Joiner Construction, Z's Liquor, and Dillon's, the community was invited to Chamber Night at the Bat Cats. Over 175 people were served up right, with hamburgers, brats, hotdogs and all the fixings for a great BBQ. With 300+ people in attendance for the home game, the community filled the stands to cheer on the Bat Cats as they took on the Dodge City A's. The Bat Cats took the win with a 4-3 finish in the 9th inning, following a game-winning single.

"It was a very exciting night at the ballpark," Head Coach, Roger Ward said. "We finally got one of those on our side. This team has found itself. They've really bonded over the last three weeks. It's sad it's going to end."

Ward was encouraged by the overflow crowd, which were treated to the best baseball game of the summer. The Bat Cats are part of the Jayhawk League, a summer collegiate baseball program.

"The guys were energized by the crowd," he said.

The Great Bend Bat Cats are hopeful to return for a third season, given the amount to city and community support. Follow the Great Bend Bat Cats online at www.greatbendbatcats.com, Facebook and Twitter.

3 Reasons to Hire The HR Pro



You have employees but can't afford your own Human Resources department.



Your company needs assistance tackling a special Human Resources project.



Your H.R. department needs a boost from a seasoned industry expert.



Erika Brining
SPHR & SHRM-SCP
620-793-0985



Browse More Photos:

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CHAMBER COFFEE SCHEDULE

Every Thursday | Doors Open at 9am | Program at 9:30am

August 2, 2018

THE BUCKLE

1313 Main Street in Great Bend

The Buckle, Inc. is a leading retailer of medium to better-priced casual apparel, footwear, and accessories for fashion-conscious young men and women. The Company emphasizes personalized attention to its guests (customers) and provides individual customer services such as free alterations, layaways, and a frequent shopper program.

August 9th, 2018

BARTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Best Western Angus Inn Courtyard | 2920 10th Street in Great Bend

The Barton Community College Foundation is 51 years old. It was established in 1967 as the non-profit arm of the college to raise the funds to build BCC. From that day to this, the mission of the foundation has been to raise private sector funds in support of the college and to prudently manage all gifts and donations in support of scholarships and college initiatives and program enhancements.

August 16, 2018

GREAT BEND MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

Airport Terminal | 9047 6th Street in Great Bend

Great Bend Municipal Airport (KGBD) serves the central Kansas region's needs for air travel and air cargo. Originally built in 1943 to support B-29 Super fortress crews, the airfield currently maintains a primary runway 7850' X 100', and a crosswind runway 4751' X 75', both in good condition. Located approximately 3 miles west of Great Bend, the airport is a popular mid-America fuel stop for small and large personal and business aircraft.

August 23, 2018

FIRST KANSAS BANK

4001 10th Street in Great Bend

First Kansas Bank prides itself on highly personalized customer care delivered by local decision makers. We also offer the latest technology to make banking with us easier for you. For 117 years, our Bank has offered loan and deposit products to meet the needs of individuals, commercial businesses, and agricultural producers. We provide full service banking in Hoisington, Claflin, Great Bend and Hays.

August 30, 2018

THE RESERVES AT TRAIL RIDGE

811 Grant Street in Great Bend

Join us for coffee, refreshments and take a tour! The Reserves at Trail Ridge is an apartment community providing affordable housing to Great Bend residents. Trail Ridge is centrally located and within walking distance of shopping, schools and healthcare. We currently have forty-eight (48) 2 and 3 bedroom apartments and will soon be adding another 48 apartments to include twelve (12) 1 bedroom apartments. Come home to The Reserves at Trail Ridge!

September 6, 2018

UNITED WAY OF CENTRAL KANSAS

Jack Kilby Square | 1400 Main Street in Great Bend

United Way of Central Kansas officially kicked off the 2019 Campaign in August. We are asking Communities in Barton and Pawnee Counties to "Step Up to the Plate For United Way" - supporting our valued 23 Community Partners through Workplace Campaign, Donor Mailing, Direct Gifts and Advocacy. 99% of all donations remain right here in our communities where the needs are the greatest. Join us to learn how our Community Impact programs bring resources and education to families, children and seniors. *In the event of inclement weather, the chamber coffee will be moved to the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce Spray-Holt Family Board Room at 1125 Williams St.*



3307 10th Street • Great Bend, KS 67530

McDonald's

is providing coffee for Chamber of Commerce coffees.

ABBB Named Top 200 Accounting Firm by INSIDE Public Accounting

Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, Chtd. (ABBB) is pleased to announce that the firm has been recognized in INSIDE Public Accounting's (IPA) annual ranking of the Nation's Top 200 Accounting Firms for the fourth consecutive year. The firm rose fifteen spots to number 174 in this year's Top 200 list.

For the most recent fiscal year, IPA 200 firms range in size from \$17.9 million to \$37.7 million in revenue, have more than 1,300 equity owners, and employ more than 13,500 staff.

"With the addition of our Overland Park office, 2018 has been an exciting year for us. We are honored to be recognized as one of the top 200 public accounting firms in North America for the fourth year in a row," said Brian Staats, CPA, CGMA, managing partner of ABBB. "We thank our clients and team for making this accomplishment possible!"

Founded in 1987, INSIDE Public Accounting (IPA) is published by The Platt Group (TPG). TPG publishes both the award-winning INSIDE Public Accounting newsletter and the award-winning National Benchmarking Report, along with other key reports on the accounting profession. TPG aids firms in becoming more successful through a variety of services. TPG works with managing partners, CFOs, and thought leaders across the nation to provide practical ideas, benchmarking data, and information to take firms to the next level of improvement.

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, feed yards, 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, visit www.abbb.com.



ABBB's annual intern community service day on June 27, 2018. This year, the group volunteered in Great Bend. Seven interns from various office locations, participated by assembling flashcards for United Way's literacy kits, cleaning kennels at Golden Belt Humane Society, and painting with Sunflower Diversified Services.

KWEC Plans to Host Annual Perseid Meteor Shower Party Aug. 10

The Kansas Wetlands Education Center will host its annual Perseid Meteor Shower Watch Party – a free, fun-filled family evening of crafts, science experiments, games, snacks, and stargazing – at 9pm Friday August 10, at the Kansas Wetlands Education Center located at 592 NE K-156 Hwy northeast of Great Bend. Families of all ages are encouraged to come out to learn the difference between an asteroid, comet and meteor through a dry ice science experiment, enjoy a night hike on our nature trail, create a space rock fridge magnet, play glow-in-the-dark wiffle ball, and enjoy s'mores while gazing at the night sky. FHSU will also have an inflatable planetarium for guaranteed star-viewing. Learn more by calling 1-877-243-9268.

United Way Campaign Kicking Off

United Way of Central Kansas is excited for our busiest month of the year! Starting things off with our 2019 Campaign Kickoff Event on August 18th. This year we are asking you to Step Up To The Plate for United Way. There are still tickets available, but they are going fast! You can get yours by calling us at 620-792-2403 or visit our website www.uwck.org/kickoff.

The Columbus Club will be serving up premium Ellinwood Packing Plant burgers and brats with all the fixin's. Then we will be marveled by the mind reading mental tricks of Curtis the Mentalist, who is coming back for another year with a new show for all our guests to be talking about for months afterwards.

Top the night off with some fantastic auction items including handmade quilts, a wood carving donated by Barry Bowers, a rib dinner for 20 donated by A & G Catering, and a Fire Disk donated by Eldridge Fencing.

Come out for a great night of food, entertainment, and friends, all while supporting UWCK, where 99% of the funds raised stay local.

After our Kickoff Event, we will be out across Barton & Pawnee Counties hosting Chamber Coffees in each of the communities we support. Come to all of them or join us at the one that is most convenient for you. We talk all about what UWCK is up to this year and what our Community Partners are doing to support our community.

We will be in Hoisington on August 23rd at the City Auditorium, Larned on August 30th at Progressive Therapy, and Great Bend on September 6th at Jack Kilby Square.

We love to see a full crowd and help to spread the word about what UWCK is doing in your community thanks to every dollar that you donate.



SAVE THE DATE

Step Up To The Plate For United Way

August 18, 2018

LIVE UNITED
United Way
United Way of Central Kansas

Social Hour 6:PM • Dinner 7:PM
Entertainment to Follow • Curtis the Mentalist

Tickets: \$50.00 • Table of 8: \$400.00
Knights of Columbus • 723 Main, Great Bend, KS
For more information call: 620-792-2403
unitedwaycentralks@hotmail.com or visit uwck.org/kickoff



SAVE THE DATE Downsize to Rightsize Your Life Sept. 11

Are you an empty nester? Will you be retiring soon or already retired? Are you wondering whether you should make a change, but feel overwhelmed by the thought?

Then you need to attend the Downsize to Rightsize Your Life Seminar! Come to listen and engage with area professionals who will provide tips and advice on the emotional, financial, residential and medical questions related to the next phase of your life.

This is a free event hosted by the following businesses:

The Errand Lady
MPIRE Realty Group
Jim Armatys
Doll Insurance

Downsize to Rightsize Your Life Cocktails & Conversation

Tuesday, September 11th
5:30p.m.

Holiday Inn Express
3821 10th Street in Great Bend

For more information or to RSVP,
please contact:

Jessica Milsap at 620-791-7498
or Sonya Rein at 620-617-8195

GRAND RE-OPENING EVENT

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18TH

@ Golden Belt Bicycle Co.

1111 Main Street in Great Bend, Kansas

3:00 PM

Group Ride Leaves Shop

AFTER

Food & Drinks - All are Welcome!



**GOLDEN BELT
BICYCLE CO.**

· BICYCLE SALES & SERVICE ·



PARTY IN THE PARK

Returns to Veterans Memorial Park

for All Day Family Fun on Saturday, August 11, 2018



THE CITY OF
GREAT BEND

NOW...

What did YOU think?

Answer **9 questions** to **WIN** a \$50 certificate!

The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development is always looking for new ways to innovate and better serve our members. This *NEW Outlook Online* is designed to offer new opportunities to our members:

- Video Media Advertising
- Click-Through Links
- Fewer Space Restraints
- More Images = Better Readership
- Extended Audience Online



We are giving away Chamber gift certificates, and all you need to do to win is fill out our brief, 8-question survey about the new online format to help us decide how we utilize this new online option.

THREE lucky people will win a \$50 Chamber gift certificate that can be spent at over 140 local businesses! **Deadline to respond is August 15th.**

TAKE SURVEY