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OUTLOOK

MAY 2019 ISSUE

online




KANSASWORKS
Connecting Employers with Qualified Workers

KANSASWORKS and the American Job Centers comprise a Workforce System of partners and network of services to deliver a qualified workforce through training and matching services, supporting businesses, growing economies and achieving prosperity for all. The system connects partners such as Wagener-Peyser, Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) Programs, Vocational Rehabilitation, Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker programs, Senior Community Services Employment programs, Adult Basic Education, Carl Perkins Career and Technical Education and the Central Kansas Educational Opportunities Center. We link jobseekers to numerous services through meaningful, immediate connections that break down barriers jobseekers face. KANSASWORKS establishes strong partnerships to achieve greater integration and alignment of the various resources available to employers and workers.

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Cont. from Page 1

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Connecting Employers with Qualified Workers

How does KANSASWORKS benefit the business community and be a partner in filling jobs?

KANSASWORKS provides comprehensive business services to help employers with recruiting, training and retaining employees. These services are available as a benefit at no cost. Benefits include:

- **Job Referrals** - Employers are encouraged to establish a KANSASWORKS account and search resumes and advertise current workforce needs, at no cost, by listing available positions online at KANSASWORKS.com. Or, if you need assistance, please call the workforce center to post your job opening.
- **Job Fairs** - KANSASWORKS staff is available to coordinate an employer job fair at our office, your location or through our Mobile Center.
- **Assessment Services** - Staff can provide assessment and testing of job applicants including typing, word processing, spreadsheets and data entry. We encourage hiring managers to ask about the WORKReady! Certificate.
- **Service to Veterans** - Veteran employment representatives are available to assist employers in finding qualified veterans to fill positions.
- **Custom Direct Training Program** - Flexibility to design a training program to meet the specific skill requirements for your employees. By partnering with Kansas post-secondary institutions, KANSASWORKS can assist you in selecting or customizing a program to meet your business needs. We will be happy to refer your information to Business and Community Development representatives.
- **Labor Market Information** - Current information on labor market conditions is available on our website or by contacting your local workforce center.



CIRCLES of Central Kansas Joins the Great Bend Chamber

Fighting through tears, Circles Coach, Jamie Baldwin, spoke to a large crowd at First United Methodist Church during a Chamber Coffee in April. Jamie spoke of the impact Circles of Central Kansas has made not just in her life, but in many others since the program started in early 2017. Circles of Central Kansas, is a program designed to give people a road map out of poverty. The Circles program connects people in relationships across income lines and helps develop clear goals for education and stable income. Circles also focuses on supporting families to help themselves completely out of poverty.

Circles of Central Kansas is modeled after the circles program in McPherson County and is a joint effort between the Barton County Health Department, 20th Judicial District Community Corrections, the Essdack program at the Barton County Academy, and Kansas Kids @ Gear Up.

The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development would like to welcome Circles of Central Kansas as a new member and thank them for all they're doing to improve the lives of so many right here in Great Bend. To learn more about how to get involved as a volunteer or business ally, call Jamie Baldwin at (620) 282-9332 or Steven Polley, Barton County Academy Site Director, at (620) 792-7995.



ANYTIME FITNESS Introduces New Ownership & Plans

Are you ready for swimsuit season? Whether you're headed to the beach or just looking to get into shape, Anytime Fitness has what you need and they're pleased to announce they're open for business. Now under new management, owners Jim and son, Evan, Schneider, invite the public to see what's new. The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development welcomed Anytime Fitness as a new member in April and saw first-hand the fresh face that has taken shape inside.

Corporate Plans!

Businesses looking to connect employees with general wellness initiatives are invited to call and learn more about Corporate Accounts with Anytime Fitness. Corporate Accounts can be structured individually to meet the business and employees' needs.

Call Jim at (620) 793-8700 or stop in today at 3721 10th St. to learn more. Join now during DOLLAR ENROLLMENT DAYS!



FEATURED AMBASSADOR: *Traci Burns, USD 428 Accountant*

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

I met my husband, Logan, at K-State. He is originally from Great Bend, while I grew up in a smaller town in Northwest Kansas. We went to Kansas City after college, but we always knew we wanted to end up back in Great Bend. It was actually me that pushed to move back sooner than we originally thought we would. I wanted to get back to a smaller town but where we still had opportunities and friends and family.

Where do you work and what do you do there?

I work for USD 428 as the District Accountant. In this role, I handle a lot of reporting for the district on local, state, and federal levels. One big part of my job is preparing monthly financial statements for the Board of Education. I just took this position over about half a year ago and I am loving the work and the people I work with, not to mention that being involved in the school district is really interesting to me at this stage in my life.

What is one thing about you that would surprise people?

I am a huge Harry Potter geek. The series of books was being written as I went through school, so I started reading them in Elementary School and followed them through the last book being released right after I graduated High School. I have seen the movies probably hundreds of times and read the books several times. My husband was mortified when I insisted that one of our first daughter's newborn pictures be Harry Potter themed!

What energizes you and brings you excitement?

I am a Type A personality through and through, and I love structure and plans. I always feel more energized when I feel organized. It sometimes feels impossible to stay organized with all sorts of different roles and responsibilities, but sometimes I just have to put things on hold and take the time to sort everything out before I can handle tackling the mountains. I love a good to do list!

How long have you been an Ambassador and what do you like about it?

I started as a Chamber Ambassador in January 2017, just a few months after my first daughter was born. I love that being an Ambassador provides so many different opportunities for networking, and in a variety of ways so that each of us can find what works for us and our schedules. It's also been a great way to stay in the loop on all of the exciting things happening in Great Bend!



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:](https://greatbend.org/ambassadors)
greatbend.org/ambassadors

Fuller Announces Chalfant, VP of Operations

Fuller Industries welcomes Mark Chalfant as the Vice President of Operations. Prior to joining Fuller Industries, he served as the Chief Operating Officer at Broce Manufacturing in Dodge City. He also has served as the Chief Operating Officer at MAMCO Manufacturing.

Chalfant received his bachelor's degree from Kansas State University in Industrial Engineering and his Master's in System Management from the University of Southern California.

"We are excited to have Mark on the Fuller team," Mike Ruble, Fuller Industries Chief Executive Officer, said. "He is already a great addition and will continue to be a huge asset as we move forward."

Chalfant is a Great Bend native and is excited to return to his hometown. "I am eager to be a part of re-establishing Fuller as a great business in Central Kansas," Chalfant said.

Fuller Industries has been a leading manufacturer of commercial cleaning products for more than 110 years. The commitment to excellence in quality and service has made Fuller a nationally-renowned brand. Located in Great Bend, Kansas, the manufacturing plant produces multiple lines of commercial cleaning products, including Franklin Cleaning Technology, FullPro, TruMix and Simple Hygiene. Learn more about Fuller Industries at www.fullercommercial.com.



Sunflower Diversified to Host Poker Run

In conjunction with June Jaunt, Sunflower Diversified Services invites you to their 3rd Annual Ride for Independence Poker Run, happening Saturday, June 1st. Registration will be begin at 8:30a.m. at the Sunshine Garage in Larned, KS. Kickstands will go up at 10:00 a.m. with everyone arriving at Jack Kilby Square, downtown Great Bend. Stop include: Rush Center, Hoisington and Claflin. Cost is \$15 per rider or driver and \$10 per passenger. Fee will go up the day of event. Extra poker hands can be purchased for \$10. For more information and to get registered, please call Sunflower Diversified Services at (620) 792-1325.



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Office Products Celebrates 60 Years as a Local, Family-Owned Business

Melvin Vink set the stage 60 years ago for what has become a continuously growing three-location family business based in downtown Great Bend. But his sons, Terry and Kenny Vink, don't think their Dad would be surprised at this longevity.



Terry and Kenny are co-owners of Office Products Inc. (OPI) and Golden Belt Printing (GBP). They and their colleagues are celebrating OPI's six decades of serving customers and the central Kansas community, Terry said.

"I don't think Dad would be surprised about how long we have stayed in business," Terry commented. "He would have said that time goes awfully fast when you are having fun. And one thing about Dad: he loved his family above all else. And to see us still working together and building a good business would have made him very proud."

OPI is located at 1204 Main in Great Bend; 516 Broadway in Larned; and 724 N. Main in Russell. Craig Vink, another brother, manages the Larned store. OPI highlights of recent years include: multiple awards from Canon USA for sales and service of its high-tech copy machines; continued growth in the copy center; and vehicles wraps for businesses that want eye-catching advertising.

If the Vinks could stress one factor that has been the lifeblood of their success, it would be customers who understand the importance of buying locally. "We have been in business for six decades and made lots of good friends," Kenny said. "Our customers become like an extended family. Since there aren't many long-time, family-owned businesses around anymore, we consider ourselves unique."

"And we have our customers and employees to thank for each success. When local people support local businesses, jobs are retained and created. The domino effects of this can be felt by our 41 employees and throughout the communities we serve."

The Vinks return the favor by supporting many local charities, athletic teams and non-profit agencies.

Melvin Vink and Charles Perry opened Perry Vink Office Machines in 1959 at 1112 Main. Melvin then bought Perry out, and in 1964 the business was incorporated as Great Bend Office Products at 1205 Main. In 1994, the Vinks bought the building to the company's south. The name changed to Office Products Inc. in 1995. The Larned store opened in 1992 and the Russell store in 2010. The Vinks will celebrate the 60th anniversary with a Chamber After Hours on Thursday, May 9th from 5-7 p.m.

Featured Business Profile - Volunteers in Action



Facilitating Volunteerism



Linn Hogg acknowledged that it is an odd situation to be in. As director of RSVP and Volunteers in Action, she is well aware that local individuals and businesses want to share their time and talent with the community.

But she oftentimes can't find a spot for a prospective volunteer in a timely fashion. Therefore, Hogg finds herself seeking help from non-profit entities. "We are asking our local non-profit organizations to view volunteer opportunities a bit differently," Hogg said. "We need to understand their specific needs and know the specific times these needs must be met.

"If we are aware of certain tasks that people could volunteer for, we can help connect non-profits to the right person."

However, non-profit entities don't have to go it alone. Hogg will visit an agency and show staff members how to create volunteer opportunities. "We will learn what they are doing and offer suggestions about what they could be doing to connect with people who truly want to give back to their communities," Hogg explained. "Since a big part of this is preparation, we can help them get a handle on what volunteer services they need and when they need them."

Preparation also involves creating a brief job description, assigning a supervisor and maybe offering a little training. "Once we open these lines of communication, we can start planning together how best to take advantage of volunteers," Hogg commented. "We call this capacity-building.

"This is a big push not only here but across the country. Since non-profits often can't afford to hire extra staff, volunteers could be a solution. And we can help non-profits navigate the avenues to finding the right people." *Cont. on Page 8*



Above - Students from Barton Community College assembling Boxes of Love for seniors.



Left - Tax preparation volunteers.



Featured Business Profile - Volunteers in Action

Cont. from Page 7



Hogg noted she is always dismayed when people call and indicate they are available to volunteer for something right away. "When we don't know what agencies need, we can't follow through with the volunteer," Hogg said. Non-profits should also consider two other factors: when they seek grant funding, volunteer services can be included as in-kind matches; and volunteers often become financial donors.

RSVP and Volunteers in Action, 1025 Main, look for volunteers of all ages in Barton and Pawnee counties. The two entities were combined into a volunteer center in 2013. It currently works with about 330 active volunteers. Ideally, Hogg said, 500 would be a good number.

Barton Community College sponsors the center, which is a United Way of Central Kansas partner. In addition to federal funding, its budget is supported by the Barton County Commission, Great Bend Commission on Aging and Emergency Aid Council. All funds from these local entities are earmarked for the medical-transportation service. "This is one of the biggest things we do," Hogg said. "There is a critical need for volunteers to provide transportation to medical appointments here and out-of-town."

Other services at the volunteer center include: Meals on Wheels; Medicare counseling through Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas (SHICK); AARP tax preparation; senior centers; and the Thrift Store in Hoisington.

It also seeks volunteers for hospitals and other healthcare facilities, as well as governmental entities such as various city and county departments. *Cont. on Page 9*



Featured Business Profile - Volunteers in Action

Cont. from Page 8

Since the volunteer center wants to make it as easy as possible for volunteers, it is now using a program called SignUpGenius. This program simplifies the process of coordinating events and people by providing online sign-ups for individuals and organizations.

"We use it for medical transportation and Meals on Wheels," Hogg said. "People go online and see what is available and fill in the slots they prefer. We value our volunteers and want to find the right places for them."

RSVP and Volunteers in Action also used SignUpGenius for the recent Great Bend Farm & Ranch Show. It was the first time it was offered to an outside organization. For those who would rather talk to someone, instead of going online, the number is 620-792-1614. No matter what worthy cause people sign up for, Hogg noted they will soon realize they are not just helping their community. They are helping themselves too.



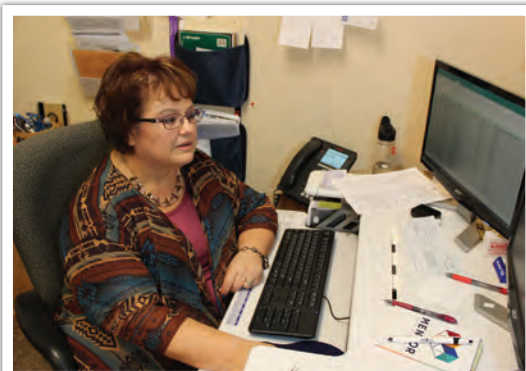
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"For instance, some volunteers have told us that if they don't get involved, they tend to sit home and fret about problems," Hogg said. "But when they get out of their houses and help someone else, they become involved and feel so much better."



"Volunteers come to realize how much there is to do in Barton and Pawnee counties. In addition, they make new friends and learn new skills. Everyone gets something out of it. Sometimes I think volunteers get more out of

sharing their time than the people they are helping."



Top Teachers Recognized in USD 428

Two well-deserving educators from Great Bend USD 428 have been recognized for teaching excellence by being named the district's Elementary and Secondary Teachers of the Year.

Jenna Dreiling, first-grade teacher at Riley Elementary School, and Cortnea Wilson, eighth-grade science teacher at Great Bend Middle School, will advance to the 2020 Kansas Teacher of the Year competition. "The Teacher of the Year program is a great way to recognize our outstanding teachers and to also showcase to other districts in the state the innovative teaching methods and programs



our teachers provide to our students, district and community," said Khristh Thexton, superintendent.

"Jenna and Cortnea were chosen from a very strong pool of candidates," Thexton said. "I want to congratulate them on a job well done. We

are confident that they will represent our district well as the 2019-2020 USD 428 Kansas Teacher of the Year nominees."

The Board of Education will congratulate these outstanding teachers at its meeting regular monthly meeting, scheduled for Monday, April 8 at 5pm at the District Education Center.

Jenna Dreiling, Elementary Nominee - Kansas Teacher of the Year

"A cheerful smile and positive attitude might be Jenna's most obvious attributes," said Riley School Principal JoAnn Blevins, "but when you look into her classroom, what sets her apart is her ability to truly listen to her students, validate their thoughts and feelings, and make each student feel special every single day."

"This year, Mrs. Dreiling has embraced making her classroom trauma-responsive. She has set up different avenues for students to express themselves and advocate for their needs in positive ways. Her students are able to resolve conflict with one another more easily and focus on learning."

"Mrs. Dreiling builds community and collaboration with the people who work around her," said Blevins. "She mentors new teachers and invites colleagues into her classroom, as well as asking questions and communicating well with others. She wants to see others be successful." *Cont. on Page 8*

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Top Teachers Recognized in USD 428 (cont.)

Dreiling earned a Bachelor's in Elementary Education K-6 with a minor in Special Education from Fort Hays State University, and later a Master's in Science Education with an endorsement in English for Speakers of other Languages from Newman University. She began her teaching career at USD 232 De Soto, Kan. at Riverview Elementary. After her first year of teaching, she returned to Great Bend to Riley Elementary School where she has been teaching first-grade for 10 years. Dreiling serves on the Trauma Informed Team at Riley Elementary as well as the English Language Arts committee, and MTSS team (multi-

tier system of support). At the district level, Dreiling serves on the Curriculum Steering Committee and Healthy Living Committee.

In speaking of her teaching philosophy, Dreiling explains that her experience as a first-grade student herself is one thing that guides her teaching practices today. "It was my teacher that noticed early in the year that I was struggling. She knew my ability and knew I could succeed. She sought out the right tools, created a plan with my parents, and set me on the path of success.

"All students are unique and should be given an education based on their needs and abilities," said Dreiling. "I work to create a positive and caring classroom environment, as well as build relationships with my students that allow for their individual success.

"Watching my students advance on their educational path and celebrating their accomplishments is the largest reward any educator could hope for," Dreiling said.

Cortnea Wilson, Secondary Nominee - Kansas Teacher of the Year

"The staff and students are all proud of Mrs. Wilson and her accomplishments," said GBMS Principal David Reiser. "Preparing students for life after high school, she is leading our building in integrating college and career competencies into her daily instruction.

"She helps lead our College and Career Competencies school improvement committee that is focused on the skills kids need to be successful," Reiser said. "She is a great collaborator, actively sharing her expertise and classroom methods with colleagues for the benefit of our students and goals.

"The enthusiastic reaction from her students speaks volumes about Mrs. Wilson's impact and reputation. We know she will represent USD 428 well in the state competition," he said.

Wilson is an eight-year veteran teacher at the middle school. Wilson returned to her hometown to teach after graduating from Sterling College with a Bachelor's of Science in Biology. She earned a Master's in Education from Fort Hays State University in 2016 while teaching full-time. Wilson serves on the GBMS Building Leadership Team, MTSS Implementation Team and is co-chair of the College and Career Competencies School Improvement Team.

"I believe my greatest contribution to education is providing students with opportunity to become problem solvers, work cooperatively with others, find their own strengths through goal setting all while covering science curriculum," Wilson said in her application. "I find the 'ah-ha' moment very rewarding," she said. "Seeing a student's face light-up with pride because they mastered a skill or came up with a solution to a problem is a one of a kind feeling. To see a student beaming with pride after accomplishing a goal, witnessing growth in my students - that's the most rewarding part of my job."





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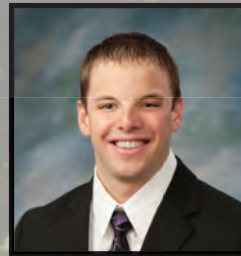
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People on the Move - New Hires & Promotions

Ellinwood Hospital Announces New Pharmacist, Stratmann



Ellinwood Hospital and Clinic has announced the new pharmacist and coming pharmacy in Ellinwood.

Ryan Stratmann, PharmD, will open The Red Haus Pharmacy in the coming months. Stratmann and his wife, Anastasia, will operate the pharmacy, including both prescription and over-the-counter medications with retail.

"We are incredibly excited to bring this pharmacy, and especially the Stratmann family, to Ellinwood," reports Kile Magner, CEO of the hospital and clinic. "This project has been a long process, but we have taken the time to make sure that it meets our community's needs and will be successful into the future. By bringing Ryan onboard, we have a great pharmacist that will serve our community with expertise and care."

Stratmann is also excited to open the pharmacy. "It is a chance to bring services to a beautiful community, and have that hometown feel where, working with providers and patients, we can make a difference in people's lives and the health of the community," describes Stratmann. "Having a hospital, clinic, and a pharmacy in the same town will strengthen all involved. I believe that healthcare is a team effort. It takes the provider, pharmacy, and, most importantly, the patient to create the most beneficial outcome."

Stratmann is originally from Geneseo, and now resides in Great Bend with his wife and their three children, all under five years old. He received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy and has been working locally since 2009, building strong relationships in area.

The pharmacy project began mid-2016, when the

Ellinwood Hospital District was awarded \$200,000 in Kansas Community Service Tax Credits through the Kansas Department of Commerce. Using the tax credits, the district raised over \$287,000 for the pharmacy and outreach clinic project over 18 months. Using the funds and a generous donation, the district purchased, renovated, and equipped the building at 19 North Humbolt Avenue, which previously housed the Bank of the West. The remaining funds will be used to renovate a portion of the Medical Arts building, at 615 North Main Street, into an outreach clinic.

The Ellinwood Clinic offers full family care, from newborn to geriatric care, provided by practitioners that truly care about you and your health. The Clinic offers multiple outreach specialty services, as well: endoscopy, cardiology, dermatology, and endocrinology.

First Southern Baptist Church Surprises Chamber Staff

First Southern Baptist Church of Great Bend recently made a visit to the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development to show their appreciation to those supporting the community and working to make Great Bend a better place to live and work. Chamber staff, along with Central Kansas CASA and United Way all received goodie bags with snacks and Thank You note. We so appreciated this token of kindness and gratification!



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People on the Move - New Hires & Promotions

University of Kansas Health Systems Administrator Jesse Mock Shares Impressions of the Community & Healthcare

It wasn't technically a move back home, but to Jesse Mock, it sure seemed like it. Mock, administrator of The University of Kansas Health System Great Bend Campus, spent his early years on a farm in south central Nebraska. His wife, Rhonda, hails from a farm in Oklahoma.

"When people ask why we relocated from Southern California, I am quick to point out our backgrounds. I am probably one of the few hospital administrators who knows how to milk a cow by hand," Mock said, laughing. "We had milk cows, beef cows, and raised corn and hay.

"We also traveled to my granddad's ranch in Colorado and helped with that operation. We are excited to be here. We love the Midwest," Mock added, noting he also formerly worked at Shawnee Mission Medical Center in the Kansas City metro.

To top it off, Mock worked for a few years as an oilfield roughneck. "It really is like coming home," he said. "We love being here and appreciate Midwestern values."

It was the health system's values that initially "jumped out at me," Mock recalled about his early meetings with The University of Kansas Health System. "Its mission and vision attracted me from the outset. It is based on high-quality, patient-centered care and focuses on whole families. The more I learned about the health system, the more I saw an awesome opportunity."

Next, he met the Great Bend team of healthcare professionals and "saw the excitement building about the health system. I want to do my part to support this newly formed part of the health system in Great Bend and help it grow in the delivery of patient-centered care."

As Mock has become acquainted with local officials, he has learned "the community is invested in having high-quality services here. It is great to know the community is excited about and engaged in this superior health system. And people have been so welcoming. So, it's nice here on personal and professional levels."

Mock is impressed with the local staff, equipment, services and modern facilities, as well as the expertise in primary and surgical care. "We will build on this as we compile plans for the future and study how we can best support providers and staff while offering great care," he said. "We want to put together a plan that continues to improve services."

This plan includes evaluating the need for advanced-practice providers and physicians. Current providers are being asked for their input, with a focus on the continuum of care.

"The University of Kansas Health System is bringing all its expertise and resources because we understand the importance of healthcare throughout the community," Mock said. "We also realize that high-quality healthcare contributes to the economic development of the whole area.

"When our local leaders recruit businesses, they can say, 'We have a great hospital and great doctors. And we are part of The University of Kansas Health System.'"

All these factors motivate Mock to "look forward to coming to work every day. I ask myself: 'What can I do today to make the experiences of patients, families, providers and staff even better?'"

Mock earned his bachelor's in business management from the University of Phoenix and master's in business, with an emphasis on executive leadership, from the University of Nebraska.

In addition to the hospital, Mock also leads St. Rose Medical Pavilion and the primary care physician team, formerly Central Kansas Family Practice.



People on the Move - New Hires & Promotions

Clara Barton Hospital and Clinics Welcomes Ashley Boxberger and Tisha Wikum as Newest Members of Surgical Team

Clara Barton Hospital and Clinics is pleased to welcome Ashley Boxberger, PA-C and Tisha Wikum, CRNA as the newest members of the Clara Barton surgical team. Boxberger is a Physician Assistant who sees patients at Clara Barton Surgical Services and assists with procedures in the operating room at Clara Barton Hospital. Wikum is a nurse anesthetist who has joined the operating room staff providing anesthesia for surgery patients during their procedures. Boxberger and Wikum join Dr. P.J. Stiles, Dr. Jeremy Howes, Leah Alpers, PA-C and the rest of the surgery staff at Clara Barton Hospital & Clinics.

Boxberger grew up on a farm in Goodland, Kansas. She attended Kansas State University and received a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology. She then continued her education at Wichita State University where she received her Masters in Physician Assistant. Boxberger and her Husband, Bryan, reside near Stafford and have one little boy, Lane. In her spare time, Boxberger enjoys spending time with her family, playing games, watching movies, traveling, and skiing.

Wikum comes to Hoisington from El Dorado, Kansas where she previously was an anesthesia provider at Susan B Allen Memorial Hospital. Wikum grew up in Valley Center, Kansas. She attended Dodge City Community College where she received her Associates of Nursing. After attending DCC, she attended Tabor College where she received her Bachelors of Science in Nursing. Once she attained her bachelors, Wikum chose to further her education and went on to receive her Masters of Science in

Nursing Anesthesia.

Wikum and her husband Jace have three children, Wyatt, Tally, and Taycie. They reside outside of Hoisington on their county acreage where they have many horses. Outside of work, Wikum enjoys supporting her children in their various activities and watching her son play football. As a family, the Wikums enjoy participating in rodeos and barrel racing.

"We are thrilled to have these two outstanding clinicians as part of our surgical team," said Jim Blackwell, Clara Barton Hospital President/CEO.

"Their unique individual experiences coupled with their kind and caring approaches to care have already been complimented upon by many; and it is with great pride that we get to call both Ashley and Tisha part of the Clara Barton Family."



Ashley Boxberger, PA-C



Tisha Wikum, CRNA



Rhonda Knudson Agency Earns Top Award for Customer Service

Rhonda Knudson, an American Family Insurance agency owner in Great Bend, Kansas, and her team has been recognized for providing an outstanding customer experience under the American Star Excellence in Customer Experience Certification Program. Knudson has been an agency owner for American Family since April 1986. Her agency office is located at 2201 16th St. suite A, just one block West of the Post Office.

Clara Barton

No. 0026

Friday, June 14, 2019

Special Event

CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES!!!

Clara Barton Hospital Foundation

**26TH ANNUAL BENEFIT
GOLF TOURNAMENT, DINNER & AUCTION**

FRIDAY, JUNE 14

Golf Registration: NOW OPEN

Registration due BY June 10

Dinner & Auction Tickets: \$25

ONLY 225 sold - must secure in advance

There are many hometown heroes in our community. Take this opportunity to honor your hometown hero and help bring life-saving 3D Mammography to Clara Barton. For a \$100 donation, your hometown hero will be recognized throughout the event. DEADLINE: May 31, 2019

For More Information [**CLICK HERE**](#)



HIGHLIGHTED MAY EVENTS IN GREAT BEND

- 1... Athletic Banquet, Barton Community College Student Union, 245 NE 30 Rd @6:30pm
- 2... Chamber Coffee: Perks Coffee Shop, 1216 Main St @9:30am**
- 2... Chamber Connect on KVGB 1590AM or 97.7FM @11:30am**
- 2... Art and Wine Walk, Downtown Great Bend @4-8pm
- 2... The Center for Counseling & Consultation Fundraiser, Perkins, 2920 10th St @5pm - 8pm
- 2... Endowment Concert, Barton Community College, 245 NE 30 Rd @ 7:30pm
- 3... Catholic Charities Wine Tasting, Great Bend Event Center, 3111 10th St @7pm - 10pm
- 3-4... Wings & Wetlands Festival, Kansas Wetlands Education Center, 592 NE K 156 Hwy
- 4... Cinco de Mayo, Downtown Great Bend @11am - 4pm
- 4... Adopt A Pet, Golden Belt Humane Society, Orscheln Farm and Home, 5320 10th St @ 10am - 2pm
- 5... Golden Belt Model Railroad Association, First United Methodist Church, 2123 Forest @ 11am - 4pm
- 5... Caregivers Count Support Group, First Christian Church, 5230 Broadway Ave @2pm - 4pm
- 9... Chamber Coffee: Yours Truly, 2017 Lakin Ave @9:30am**
- 9... Ribbon Cutting: Canvas Cosmetics, 2817 9th St @9am**
- 9... Business After Hours: Office Products Inc., Alley at 12th & Williams @5PM**
- 10... Economic Outlook Event by WSU Center for Economic Development and Business Department, Chamber Board Room, 1125 Williams St @8am - 10am
- 10... 49th Annual Commencement, Barton Community College Gymnasium @7pm
- 11... Gardening for High School Students, Heartland Farm, 1049 CR 390 Pawnee Rock @8am - 4pm
- 14... Employer Roundtable: Recruiting in Times of Low Unemployment, The Page @11:30AM**
- 15... Sunflower Diversified Carwash, South Side of Jack Kilby Square @11am - 3pm
- 16... Chamber Coffee: Saint Francis Ministries, 1508 Main St @9:30am**
- 18... The University of Kansas Health System Lab Fair, Great Bend Campus, 514 Cleveland St @ 6-9am
- 18... Central Kansas Photography Club Seminar, Kansas Wetlands Education Center, 592 NE K 156 Hwy @9am - 4pm
- 18... BTI-Drive Green Demo Day, Barton Community College Soccer Field, 245 NE 30 Rd @ 9am - 5pm
- 18... Glow Ball Golf Event, Stoneridge Country Club @5pm
- 18... Classe Uno - Pasta Making Basics, Heartland Farm, 1049 CR 390 Pawnee Rock @6-8pm
- 19... Great Bend High School Graduation Ceremony, 2027 Morton St @5pm
- 21... Woman on the Farm-Cooking with Pressure Pots & Keeping Finances, 400 E 18th St Larned @11am
- 21... Central KS Partnership Meeting, Barton County Health Department, 1300 Kansas Ave #B @11am
- 21... Mental Health Awareness Day, 5815 Broadway @4-8pm
- 21... Barton County Academy Graduation, St. Patrick's Parish Center, 4100 Broadway @6pm
- 23... Chamber Coffee: Foundry Methodist Church, 5401 Broadway Ave @9:30am**
- 30... Chamber Coffee: Kelly's Garden Sense, 5108 Timber Creek @9:30am**
- 31... June Jaunt Festival Begins

Recurring Events:

Great Bend City Council Meetings, 1st & 3rd Mondays, City Hall, 1209 Williams St @6:30pm
Barton County Commission Meetings, Every Monday, County Courthouse, 1400 Main St, Rm 106 @9am
Visit greatbend.org/events/calendar for a full list of great events taking place throughout the month!

GREAT BEND

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

WELCOME
to Our **NEWEST** Member

MEDICALODGES GREAT BEND

1401 Cherry Lane
Great Bend, KS 67530
(620) 792-2165

<http://medicalodges.com>

Nursing Home - Assisted Living

Comfort Pro Wins Industry Award for Exceeding Sales & Service Goals

Comfort Pro, Inc owned by Barry Stalcup, is no stranger to recognition in their industry. Last year, they were named Dealer of the Year and for 2019, Bryant announced that the local Plumbing and HVAC contractor would receive the Silver Shield Award for exceeding sales and service goals.

"My team works hard to keep our customers' homes and businesses warm in the winter and cool in the summer, and we are honored to receive this recognition from Bryant," Stalcup says. "It's about so much more than just making a sale. We are committed to providing exceptional service before, during, and after our visits to our customers. It's what has helped us grow to over 25 technicians in ten years."

Comfort Pro is based in Great Bend with other locations in Larned and Russell, and technicians serving customers all over Central and Western Kansas. In addition to plumbing, heating, and air conditioning, the licensed professionals at Comfort Pro also specialize in water softeners, reverse osmosis water filtration systems, air purifiers and humidifiers, Radon testing and mitigation, as well as appliance repair. After celebrating their 10th anniversary last fall, they have also expanded their sister company Bath Pro from doing fiberglass repairs to now offering Perma-Glaze resurfacing as well. Learn more about the growing company on their website at www.comfortproks.com, and follow them on social media.



Sunflower Bank Announces New Money Market Accounts

Sunflower Bank announces its Mega Money Market savings account now offers great rates exclusively for businesses. The Mega Money Market account is designed to support businesses that need to keep cash reserves available so that they can make the most out of their long-term plans. With a 1.35% Annual Percentage Yield (APY) for balances of \$250,000 and up, the Mega Money Market can help businesses create possibility from money market liquidity.

As a community bank, Sunflower is committed to building relationships and providing services that support local economic growth and the account promotion is intended to open the door to new opportunities. The Mega Money Market is available to business

customers depositing new money to the Bank and it also requires a checking account. All terms of the account are available at SunflowerBank.com/MegaMoneyMarket.



Great Bend **COMMUNITY OUTLOOK EVENT**

JOIN GREAT BEND AREA
BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS

2019

8:00 AM TO 10:00 AM

FRIDAY, MAY 10TH

GREAT BEND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & E.D.
1125 Williams Street, Great Bend, KS 67530

REGISTRATION \$50

Learn more at
www.cedbr.org/events

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WICHITA STATE
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SPEAKERS



STATE & REGIONAL OUTLOOK

JEREMY HILL

DIRECTOR

*Center for Economic Development
and Business Research
Wichita State University*



LOCAL UPDATE

JAN PETERS

PRESIDENT & CEO

*Great Bend Chamber of Commerce
& Economic Development*

CONTACT US FOR MORE DETAIL AT (316) 978-3225

ABBB Named Midwest Regional Leader by Accounting Today

Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, Chtd. (ABBB) is pleased to announce that the firm has been recognized as a Midwest Regional Leader by Accounting Today.



ABBB is one of three firms headquartered in Kansas named as a Regional Leader. The Midwest Region is comprised of firms in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. This region accounted for \$1,650.38 million in total revenue. Firms in the Midwest averaged 8.30% growth.

"It is truly an honor to be recognized among this group of leading accounting firms," said Brian Staats, CPA, CGMA, managing partner of ABBB. "This recognition is made possible by our incredible team and clients!"

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 13 office locations throughout the state. For more information about Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, please visit www.abbb.com.

Fuller Expands Dilution Control Line

Fuller Industries has recently added two new products to its dilution control line, TruMix. EnzyClean and Fulleroso, two of Fuller Industries more popular products, are now available in convenient dilution control packaging. Enzy-Clean is a powerful combination of enzymes and living bacteria that continues cleaning after the initial application. It is a must-have for restrooms. Learn more about these products and the entire TruMix line at www.fullercommercial.com/brands/trumix/.



Stueders Congratulates Employee on 25 Years' Service

Congratulations Harlan Davenport on 25 years of service at Stueder Contractors! The Stueder family and Harlan's family recently celebrated his achievement with a special dinner. Harlan began his career in March 1994 and is responsible for dispatching and billing.

If you have called or come into Stueders in the last 25 years, you've more than likely spoke to Harlan first. He has lived in Great Bend since 1971 and he and his wife Barbara have raised two children here. A big thanks to Harlan for all that he has done!



MAY 14TH / REGISTER NOW: How to Recruit Talent in Times of Low Unemployment

Recruiting qualified candidates that will perform well and stick around can be challenging enough when the pool of job seekers is large. But it gets even harder when unemployment rates are low. So how can your company stand out and recruit top talent in a slower market?

At this quarter's Employer Roundtable, we'll be enjoying a guided discussion with a special panel sharing ideas and best practices for recruiting in times of low unemployment. The panel will bring some ideas, but guests are encouraged to bring and share ideas they have tried as well!

Doors open at 11:30 a.m. for a delicious buffet luncheon at The Page, followed by the meeting at 12:00 p.m. Register at www.greatbend.org prior to May 11th if you plan to attend!

COMMUNITY CONCERT ASSOCIATION

New Season Evokes 'Nights of Nostalgia'

The Golden Belt Community Concert Association is in the midst of its 2019-2020 membership campaign bringing on its new season "Nights of Nostalgia." The whole season of concerts will bring to audiences nostalgic glimpses of good times past, special people and favorite places.

The season also brings good news: Members will be able to attend five concerts for the same low membership fee as last year's four concerts. The association will continue receiving renewals and seeking new members through May 17. Concerts are as follows:

- **The Everly Set, Sept. 23, 2019** - Tribute to the Everly Brothers with their 1950s-60s sparkling harmonies and hit songs, "Bye Bye Love," "Wake Up Little Suzie," "Cathy's Clown" and more.
- **The Annie Moses Band, Oct. 13, 2019** - Juilliard-educated singer/violinist Annie Wolaver Dupre and her siblings, Alex (viola) and Benjamin (cello) with rhythm section by their award-winning father Bill Wolaver; varied repertoire, Copland's "Appalachian Spring," Cash's "I've Been Everywhere," Gershwin's "An American in Paris," traditional "Orange Blossom Special" and more.
- **A Jazzy Little Christmas, Dec. 10, 2019** - Ernie Haase and Signature Sound present classic holiday tunes, and sacred seasonal songs all presented with a live jazz combo, reminiscent of The Four Freshmen, The Beach Boys, Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett.
- **Classic Nashville Roadshow, April 27, 2020** - A journey down memory lane with classic country hits, "Golden Ring," "Jackson," "Crazy" and "He Stopped Loving Her Today," plus music of Dolly Patton, Hank Williams, Willie Nelson and more.
- **Beginnings, May 11, 2020** - The Ultimate Chicago Tribute Band, bringing to life the original and glorious melodies of Chicago, "Beginnings," "Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is," "25 or 6 to 4" and many more.

Current GBCCA members need to respond by May 17 for guaranteed renewal. They may renew online at www.goldenbeltcca.org if they wish. Anyone who is not a current member and wishes to purchase a membership may contact Linda Jerke, 620-793-2748.

Season memberships are \$50 for adults; \$10 for full-time enrolled students; \$110 for a family membership including two adults and all dependent children living in the same household; and \$110 for a grandparent package for two adults and up to four minor grandchildren. Admission to the concerts is by season membership only. No single concert tickets are available. All concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. and take place at the Great Bend Municipal Auditorium, Lakin and Stone.

Memberships will be counted May 16 and 17 at the Best Western Courtyard, 2920 10th St., Great Bend. Hours are noon to 7 p.m. May 16, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 17. Anyone wishing to purchase a membership may do so in person by going to the headquarters on one of those dates. The membership drive ends May 17.



BUY A MEMBERSHIP:
www.gbcca.org

June Jaunt Festival Returns to Great Bend May 31 - June 2

Shop, Stay, Play, Learn and Explore Great Bend! Located in the center of our beautiful state, Great Bend has something for everyone during every season! Best known for our location by Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area, there are many activities and attractions to enjoy! We invite you to experience our wonderful community during this fun weekend where there's something for everyone here in the middle. Learn more at www.greatbendks.net!

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Two Sunflower Diversified Team Members Chosen for Leadership Academy

Only 14 people have been selected as candidates for a special statewide leadership event and two of those are Sunflower Diversified Services employees. Lacie Gibson and Cody Harris will participate in the Grassroots Advocacy Leadership Academy (GALA) April 11-12 in Topeka. They were nominated by their colleagues at Sunflower, a non-profit agency that serves children and adults with intellectual disabilities and delays.



Amanda Urban, director of adult services, nominated Gibson, training/advocacy manager. "Since starting with us two years ago, Lacie has flourished and found her life's calling. She handles multiple responsibilities as she focuses on the people we serve. She is the epitome of a team player and her heart for the work shines through every day."

Sarah Krom, chief operating officer, nominated Harris, community employment specialist, for GALA. "Cody is passionate about providing services that offer the best possible outcomes for the folks he represents and cares about," Krom said. "When you visit with Cody you quickly notice his determination to continue enhancing his skills. The leadership academy will provide additional skills, connections around the state and confidence to continue developing a powerful voice for people with developmental disabilities."

Harris has coordinated the local Disability Mentoring Day activities for the last three years and was recently selected as the Kansas state coordinator for the annual event. He also helps Families Together by providing training in western Kansas. In addition, Harris is a Great Bend Chamber of Commerce Ambassador and a member of Barton County Young Professionals. In both positions, he advocates for clients at Sunflower.

Urban noted that Gibson and Harris are the "up and coming leaders at Sunflower. Both have made a commitment to Sunflower and they are always focused on the people we serve; clients are the top priority. "Lacie and Cody bring a fire to advocating for people, and this leadership academy will take them to the next level," Urban continued. "They will learn even more about legislative activity and develop contacts for networking throughout the state."

Sunflower serves infants, toddlers and adults in Barton, Pawnee, Rice, Rush and Stafford counties. It is in its 53rd year.

Young Professionals & Rotary Club Stock Local Charity Pantries

Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, Chtd. (ABBB) is pleased to announce that the firm has been recognized as a Midwest Regional Leader by Accounting Today.

Pictured at right, members of the Barton County Young Professionals group pose for a photo with volunteers for Catholic Charities of Southwest Kansas after dropping off a 15-passenger van-sized load of household goods to stock their non-food pantry for those in need. The group also delivered more than a ton (yes, a literal ton) of non-perishable food items to the Barton County Food Bank. The donations were collected from members of the community during the 7th Annual Charity Supply Drive, presented in partnership with the Great Bend Rotary Club. Volunteers from both civic organizations worked the doors at Walmart Supercenter and both Dillons stores from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on a windy Saturday in March to fill numerous vans, borrowed from the friendly folks at Barton Community College.



"We always get so many donations around the holidays, but the Young Professionals drive is always great timing in the spring when donations seem to taper off and we are getting low," says Ruth Behrens, Barton County Food Bank President. "This year we also brought in students from the high school honors group to put the items directly on our shelves. It's so wonderful to see them full again!"

The Barton County Young Professionals group organizes the event and coordinates with the various stores, charities, and transportation logistics. And thanks to the Rotary Club sponsorship, a live radio remote broadcast is made possible to raise awareness for the organizations and the cause they are jointly promoting. You can see more pictures on the BCYP facebook page, or get involved as a member by joining at www.bartonyp.com. Membership is free to anyone 21-40ish that lives or works in the Barton County area.

GET GOOGLE SAVVY During New Seminar Coming June 18th

Learn How to Leverage Google's Free Business Services & Stand Out Online

Most businesses are already over-committed with serving clients, meeting deadlines, and managing day-to-day commitments. Worrying about your company's presence on Google may have taken a back seat, but this seminar will provide insight into the top three ways your organization **SHOULD** be using Google's free business services. Join the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & E.D. and the team from Marketing Maven on June 18th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. **In two hours or less, you will walk away with a better understanding of:**

- How to claim and update your Google Business listing
- How to get and manage reviews on your Google Business listing
- How to post to Google and improve your presence on Google

We will also touch on the various paid avenues for improving search rankings on Google, such as leveraging Google AdWords, Google display advertising, and SEO experts. Each class is limited to 30 participants, so be sure to sign up early. Members of the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development have special access to a **50% OFF COUPON CODE** (contact the Chamber to request the money-saving offer).





JOIN US FOR WEEKLY *Networking Coffees*

Every Thursday • Doors Open @ 9:00 • Program @ 9:30

May 9, 2019

YOURS TRULY, LLC

2017 Lakin Avenue in Great Bend

Yours Truly, non-traditional gift and flower shoppe based in the Midwest. We find gifts that are classic and timeless, to be enjoyed beyond the current trend. Multi-passionate describes us best. With us, you will find everlasting gifts from exclusive vendors, florists that are artists sourcing blooms not found in a supermarket and events that are designed to turn your imagination into a reality. We will be there for you through life celebrations and times of sorrow.

May 16, 2019

SAINT FRANCIS MINISTRIES

1508 Main Street in Great Bend

Most people think of foster care and adoption when they hear our name, but we have a number of programs that might surprise you. We help survivors of child sex trafficking, adults with disabilities, immigrants fleeing violence, people wanting to break addictive behaviors, and families trying to stay together.

May 23, 2019

FOUNDRY METHODIST CHURCH

5401 Broadway Avenue in Great Bend

Foundry Methodist Church was founded in June of 2002. We are an independent Methodist church, which means we are a non-denominational church that holds to early Methodist beliefs. We are a church that strives to return to the biblical foundations The Church was founded upon. Most importantly, above being a Methodist, is that we desire to be sold out believers, living for Jesus, growing through the study of His Word, and applying His Word to every action in our lives, in the Church, and in our community. We invite YOU to come and grow with us!

May 30, 2019

KELLY'S GARDEN SENSE

5108 Timber Creek in Great Bend

Owned by Kelly Moeder, Kelly's Garden Sense aims at creating beautiful landscapes and colorful outdoor spaces in Great Bend and the surrounding area! Services available include: Landscape Design & Implementation, Plant & Tree Consulting, Drip Irrigation & Timing Systems, Rock-scapes, Garden Fountains, Potted Arrangements and More! Call (620) 282-7170 for a free estimate.

June 6, 2019

ANIMAL MEDICAL CENTER

622 McKinley Street in Great Bend

Animal Medical Center is proud to offer the latest medical technology, but in an environment centered around 24/7 service for our clients and their animals. Our core values are at the forefront of everything we do, and we maintain the cleanest possible clinic, a grassy fenced-in outdoor play area, and functional equine and cattle facilities on site. We invite you to learn more about the AMC family by following us on social media, or visiting us online at www.myamcvets.com.



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STAY TOP-OF-MIND IN THE OUTLOOK BUSINESS JOURNAL

Full Color Monthly Advertising. Our monthly newsletter, called the *Outlook Business Journal* is a popular way for members to showcase their news and announcements with a monthly distribution of approximately 1,200 professionals in Central Kansas. Your business can feature a full color, eye-catching advertisement in all twelve issues to keep your business top-of-mind or draw attention to new products, services, or events that might not otherwise be included as featured news articles.

8 PRINTED ISSUES + 4 DIGITAL ISSUES

\$125 Per Month (Only 12 Spaces Available!)

Digital Issues Are Linked to Your Website or Facebook Page

We design the first ad for free! Discounts available for paying in advance or using static artwork all year long! See agreement on the back for details.



PRINTED FLYER INSERTS

We Print & Mail a Letter Sized Flyer. With a distribution of approximately 1,200 professionals, your business can place a letter sized flyer into our printed editions up to 8 times per year. We do all the printing and mailing, which saves time and money!

8 ISSUES AVAILABLE IN 2019

\$450 Per Flyer Per Issue

We can even help design your flyer if you need it!

DIGITAL FLYER INSERTS

Larger Distribution. More Attention. Higher Engagement. The digital issues have an even higher distribution through email and social media, opening up new audiences. They are also interactive with links and embedded video options available.

4 ISSUES AVAILABLE IN 2019

\$350 Per Flyer Per Issue

We can even help design your flyer if you need it!