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OUTLOOK BUSINESS JOURNAL

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

Celebrating Healthcare Unity in Great Bend

The University of Kansas Health System Celebrates Facility Dedication

In late September, The University of Kansas Health System hosted a special facilities dedication to commemorate the unification of Great Bend's healthcare providers, a process set in motion many months prior. In April of this year, it was announced that Great Bend Regional Hospital, along with its affiliated health clinics, were under contract to be purchased by the statewide healthcare leader. Then in early August, the official closing signaled a rebrand to The University of Kansas Health System Great Bend Campus.

Also part of The University of Kansas Health System are HaysMed, St. Rose Health Center, and Pawnee Valley Community Hospital, among others. "These facilities have historically competed for patients and market share," the system's leaders said in a press release after the closing. "Now they will be part of one system, with complementary services and providers, not competing but collaborating, focusing together on the needs of the community."

Providing the highest quality care to Kansans is the mission for The University of Kansas Healthcare System, according to Bob Page, President and CEO. "As healthcare across the country evolves, we are taking a new approach in Kansas. We pair the skill of our caregivers with evidence-based medicine and the most advanced technology. We offer this care with compassion, kindness and respect. Together, we can ensure people in Great Bend and across the state of Kansas have access to the right level of care, delivered in the most effective way."

The Great Bend Campus will remain a strong employer and healthcare provider as a result of this purchase. Great Bend's physicians, nurses, and staff were well received, and patients will continue to receive care from their current doctors and practitioners.

"How fortunate we are to have this joint venture with a company that has been consistently ranked in US News and World Report's Best Hospitals list. They were also listed in Ingram's Magazine as one of the best companies to work for in 2017," says Jan Peters, President/CEO for the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development. "On behalf of our community, thank you for investing in Great Bend and for investing in high quality healthcare in rural Kansas. But most of all, thank you for investing in our people."

As part of the transition, St. Rose Health Center was also renamed The University of Kansas Health System St. Rose Medical Pavilion. All together, The University of Kansas Health System has over 910 licensed beds and serves more than 44,000 inpatients annually.

The University of Kansas Hospital receives no state appropriations and is financed through operating revenue, bonding authority and philanthropy. Learn more: www.kansashealthsystem.com.



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Result\$ Realty Celebrates First Anniversary

Located at 2609 23rd St. in Great Bend, Result\$ Realty recently celebrate its first anniversary. Linda Ludes, along with her team, opened her doors on a brisk morning and treated the Chamber Ambassadors to warm apple cider and hot cocoa while she talked about having her own business and expanding into “west wing” of their building. Linda is actively looking to grow her list of available licensed realtors, which now include, Stephanie Krom and Diana Roberts. If you’re in the market to buy or sell your home, consider contacting Result\$ Realty at 620-791-8223 or find them on the web at resultsrealtygb.com.



Cherished Blessings Child Development Center Celebrates Grand Opening of New Facility

Recently, the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development welcomed new member, Cherished Blessings Child Development Center, located at 4500 Tenth St. Place, Great Bend. Owner, Nicole Hertel, is proud of what has been accomplished so far, such as the fact that all meals are prepared fresh and on-site with no processed foods being served. Hertel is geared to grow her child care and pre-school facility in the way of children and staff. Cherished Blessings is currently accepting children, birth to age 12, with curriculum provided from birth through pre-school. To learn more, contact Nicole Hertel at 620-796-2870 or find them on Facebook, @cbcdgbk.



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kansashealthsystem.com/community

Kansas Children's Service League (KCSL) Expands Healthy Families Program to Barton County

Kansas Children's Service League (KCSL) staff hosted an Open House Sept. 20 to celebrate their recent Healthy Families program expansion to Barton County, new office in Great Bend and KCSL's 125th Anniversary. The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony, and the Great Bend Tribune covered the event.



Dr. Sam Beugelsdijk Establishes Chiropractic Practice

After more than six years practicing at a successful chiropractic clinic in Manhattan, Kansas, Dr. Sam Beugelsdijk and his family recently moved to Great Bend for an opportunity in a great community. Dr. Beugelsdijk (also known as Dr. B by his patients) took over Dr. Jesse Grove's practice, Grove Chiropractic & Sports Injury, in early April.

Sam and his wife, Jaimee, both graduated from Buhler High School before continuing their education at Kansas State University. Sam studied Kinesiology earning both his bachelor's and master's degrees before deciding to continue his education at chiropractic school. Sam and Jaimee knew they wanted to relocate to a more rural setting like the one they were raised in. The couple has three children under 6 years of age.

The office located at 1309 Williams will be open 9 a.m. to noon and 2-5 p.m. every weekday, with late hours until 7 p.m. on Thursdays and weekend hours from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. "We were most attracted to Great Bend because of the well-established practice with a lot of history in the community," Dr. B says. "We see our family being here for the long run, and we have received a very warm welcome from our patients and neighbors."

Learn more about the new chiropractor and his services online at www.greatbendchiropractic.com or call to make an appointment: 620-792-3678.



Outlook Business Journal

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GREAT BEND
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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Apprentices Needed for Sunflower Diversified

When Savannah Kennon wrapped up her apprenticeship recently at Sunflower Diversified Services, she considered looking for a job elsewhere. "Then, I thought, 'wait a minute. I cannot leave Sunflower,'" recalled Kennon, a recent Great Bend High School graduate. "I got so close to our clients who have developmental disabilities and delays. And Sunflower has been so good about offering flexible work hours."

Kennon, 18, spent her senior year as a paid apprentice in the non-profit agency's residential program. Today, she is a full-time residential staff member and taking 12 hours at Barton Community College (BCC).

Sunflower is now trying to recruit other high school seniors for apprenticeships. The non-profit agency could accept up to five students for these paid positions. "I would strongly encourage seniors to consider doing this," said Kennon, a Great Bend native. "I have never looked at this as a job. It is great to build relationships with clients and staff members."

An apprentice is always shadowed by professional staff. Responsibilities vary depending on a client's level of independence. During her apprenticeship, Kennon worked at Sunflower's two group homes and now she also is supporting people in their own apartments. "I love being there for them, helping them," Kennon said. "We ensure clients have everything they need. Sometime it's help with cooking, feeding, personal hygiene and/or household chores."

"Other times, a client needs only a little support," she added. "Many clients are pretty independent and do a lot for themselves."

Kennon's goal is an associate's degree in criminal justice at BCC. She then plans to apply for a patrol officer position at the Great Bend Police Department. Ultimately, she wants to be a detective. "I know my Sunflower experiences will help me in law enforcement," she commented. "I have learned, and am still learning, many verbal and behavioral skills that help me relate well with people. Communication is so important."

Amanda Urban, Sunflower director of adult services, couldn't agree more. "Savannah wants to be a police officer and I believe she will excel, in part because of what she is learning here. "We are looking for other mature seniors in Sunflower's service area," Urban continued. "Yes, we want them to consider supporting people with disabilities as a career. However, the skills they learn would be invaluable in other types of human-services careers such as healthcare and social work."

Vicki Keffer, Sunflower director of human resources, encouraged anyone with questions to contact her by calling 620-792-1321. Sunflower can accept up to five apprentices, depending on the number of hours each can work. Keffer emphasized the agency will work around school hours and extra-curricular activities. Sunflower serves infants, toddlers and adults in Barton, Pawnee, Rice, Rush and Stafford counties. It is in its 52nd year.



Fuller Industries Announces Hand Hygiene Program

Fuller Industries is launching a new hand hygiene program, Simple Hygiene. The line features three hand soap options and two hand sanitizer options along with a full line of accessories. The Simple Hygiene line features an antibacterial, gentle and simply green soap; it also features foaming hand sanitizer and an alcohol-free version. The accessory options are dispensers, drip trays and dispenser locking mechanisms.

"Fuller Industries has always been known to provide the highest quality commercial cleaning supplies at fair and competitive prices. We are continuing that tradition with our new Simple Hygiene line," Blake DeBord, Vice President of Sales said.

The Simple Hygiene soaps and sanitizers are manufactured from Fuller Industries headquarters in Great Bend, Kansas. Learn more: fullercommercial.com or call 800-848-4901. These products are sold through distributors, which can also be found on the website.



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HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

- 1... **Ribbon Cutting: BBE Signs & Designs/That Hipster Place, 2100 10th St @ 9a.m.**
 1... **Chamber Coffee: USD 428 Education Foundation, 201 S. Patton Rd @ 9a.m.**
 1... Chamber Connect on KVGB 1590AM or 97.7FM @ 11:30a.m.
 1... Monthly Ambassador Meeting, 1125 Williams St @ Noon
 2... Prairie Ink Launch Party, Shafer Art Gallery @ 12-2p.m.
 2... Adult's Night Out Movie, Great Bend Public Library, 1409 Williams St @ 7p.m.
 3... Explore Great Bend: Holiday Open Houses, participating retailers
 3... PVCH Foundation 80's Murder Mystery, Larned Community Center, 1500 Toles @ 6p.m.
 4... Barton Theatre Student Production, "Drugs Are Bad", Fine Arts Auditorium @ 2p.m.
 5... Barton Theatre Student Production, "Drugs Are Bad", Fine Arts Auditorium @ 7:30p.m.
 8... **Ribbon Cutting: SS Graphics, 2114 Washington St @ 9a.m.**
 8... **Chamber Coffee: Nex-Tech Wireless, 2827 10th St @ 9a.m.**
 8... Community Vision Workshop, GB - Better than Great, Events Center, 3111 10th St @ 6:30p.m.
 8... Golden Belt Community Concert: Sons of the Pioneers, Municipal Auditorium, Lakin & Stone St @ 7:30p.m.
 9... Dave Ramsey EntreLeadership, First Christian Church, 5230 Broadway Ave @ 9a.m.
 9... **Ribbon Cutting & Open House: My Favorite Furnishings, 401 Broadway Ave in Larned @ 5:30p.m.**
 10... Explore Great Bend: Grow Great Bend Day, participating retailers
 10... Annual Mission Bazaar, Dominican Sisters of Peace, 3600 Broadway @ 7a.m. - 2p.m.
 10... 13th Annual Panther Paw Craft Festival, GBHS Activity Center, 2027 Morton St @ 9:30a.m. - 2:30p.m.
 12... Cancer Support Group, Heartland Cancer Center, 204 Cleveland St @ 4p.m.
 13... Dine for Dolly at Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers, 3008 10th St, all day
 13... Holiday Bread Making, Heartland Farm, 1049 CR 390, Pawnee Rock @ 6p.m.
 13... USD 428 Education Foundation Annual Dinner & Auction, Events Center @ 6:30p.m.
 14... United Way Dress Down the Town
 15... **Ribbon Cutting: Hammeke Electric - New Location, 167 N. US 281 HWY @ 9a.m.**
 15... **Chamber Coffee: The Fieldhouse, 2817 9th St @ 9a.m.**
 15... Adulthood 101: Self-Defense, Great Bend Public Library, 1409 Williams St @ 5p.m.
 15... Prairie Winds Concert, Barton Fine Arts Auditorium @ 7:30p.m.
 17... Explore Great Bend: Find a Turkey Day, participating retailers
 20... Central Kansas Partnership Meeting, 1300 Kansas Ave #B, @ 11a.m.
 22... **Happy Thanksgiving!**
 23... Explore Great Bend: Black Friday
 24... Explore Great Bend: Small Business Saturday, participating retailers
 24... Explore Great Bend: Cookie Contest, Begins & Ends at Rosewood Gallery, 1607 Main, 10a.m.-4p.m.
 24... Dilly & Doc Holiday Pop-Up Market, 1119 Main St @ 10a.m.
 24... Home for the Holidays Festival & Parade, Downtown @ 5:30p.m.
 26... Barton County Historical Society Monthly Meeting "Baseball in KS" @ 7p.m.
 27... Giving Tuesday, Golden Belt Community Foundation, 1307 Williams St, All Day
 29... **Chamber Coffee & Ribbon Cutting: Kansas Wetlands Education Center @ 9a.m.**
 29... Adulthood 101: Basic Etiquette, Great Bend Public Library, 1409 Williams St @ 5p.m.

Recurring Events:

- 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 St, Rm 106, 9a.m.
 Great Bend Community Theatre's first production of "Noises Off" will be November 15-17 at 7:30 pm and November 18 at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$12. A social hour prior to the Saturday show with a chance to meet the cast is available for \$10 per person.
 26 & 29... Photos with Santa, Miller's of Claflin, 200 Main St, Claflin, KS @ 5:30 p.m.
 Visit www.greatbend.org/events/calendar for a full list of great events taking place throughout the month!



TWO CHANCES to Learn & Network at Chamber Roundtables

Technology Roundtable - Wednesday, Nov. 14 "Latest Trends in IT"

Spray-Holt Family Board Room at the
Great Bend Chamber Office
1125 Williams Street
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

You're invited to join area IT professionals to discuss the latest workplace technology trends. With several experts on-hand, attendees are encouraged to bring the questions and challenges facing their business. This informal roundtable discussion provides great discussion, ideas and solutions!

Cost to attend is \$15 per person
and includes a catered lunch by Delgado's.

Employer Roundtable - Tuesday, Nov. 20 "Tax Updates & Implications"

The Page Banquet Room
2920 10th Street
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

2018 tax reform has left many businesses with questions and concerns. Barry Bowers, from Spectrum CPA Partners, will provide an informative presentation on how these changes may impact your business.

Cost to attend is \$20 per person
and includes a catered lunch.

Register for these, and other networking events, on the Chamber website:

www.GreatBend.org

ElderCare Inc.



Supporting Health and Independence for Seniors

When the topics are Friendship Meals and Meals on Wheels, Brandi Gruber explains that the services are two sides of the same coin. Gruber is executive director of ElderCare Inc., which serves more than two dozen counties from its office in Great Bend. In addition to meals, it offers home services designed to allow people to stay at home for as long as possible.

Friendship Meals

"ElderCare prepares and serves Friendship Meals five days a week at 39 senior centers in our 28-county area," Gruber said. "Those who cannot attend lunches at these centers count on Friendship Meals being delivered to their private homes. This is where all the great Meals on Wheels volunteers come in."

ElderCare, 5611 10th, provides 28,000 meals a month in its territory, which stretches from Great Bend south and west to the Oklahoma and Colorado borders. "Sometimes it can be overwhelming," Gruber acknowledged. "But between Tina Mingenback and me, we travel to all 39 senior centers about every six weeks. As our dietary services manager, Tina ensures the meals we prepare are tasty and nutritious."

The time on the road pays dividends because cooks and other senior center workers want and deserve to talk with ElderCare administrators in person, Gruber noted. "Yes, we rely on phone calls and emails for a lot of day-to-day issues but we learn more when we meet face to face," Gruber said. "Our valued employees count on us and we will do anything we can to accommodate them."

Expenses incurred for Friendship Meals continue to climb but funding remains fairly stagnant. Some of the financial gaps are filled by businesses and individuals who sponsor meals in a variety of ways. "We are always looking for people to help with meal costs for a day, a week, a month," Gruber said. "This sponsorship program is crucial because it helps offset the costs. In addition, some local seniors want to socialize at lunch but they can't afford the small price of a meal. This leads to concerns about poor nutrition and isolation."

Those 60 and older can eat for \$3.50 per meal at a senior center, while those under 60 are asked to pay \$5.75. For more information about how to be a sponsor, contact Gruber or Mingenback by calling 620-792-5942.



Home Services

Anyone looking for in-home caregiver employment is encouraged to contact ElderCare. Home Services personnel serve families in Barton, Pawnee, Rush, Stafford, Pratt, Kiowa, Edwards and Ford counties. "We recruit employees who have a genuine passion for working with the elderly," emphasized Gruber, a Great Bend native. "These valued employees visit elderly people in their homes to offer a wide variety of services."

"We collaborate with clients and their families, as well as their primary-healthcare providers. Our medical services are varied and tailored to the individual."

Some, but not all, ElderCare staff members have healthcare-related credentials. The non-profit entity relies on registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, certified nurse's aides and certified medication aides. "However," Gruber noted, "some clients need other kinds of services, including housekeeping, meal preparation, laundry and personal care; respite care for families also is available. These caregivers don't need a medical background but are a vital part of ElderCare."

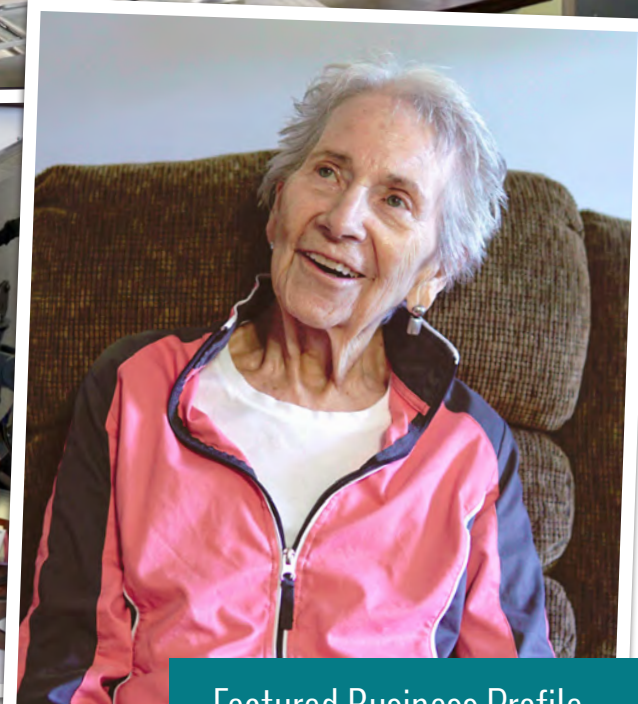
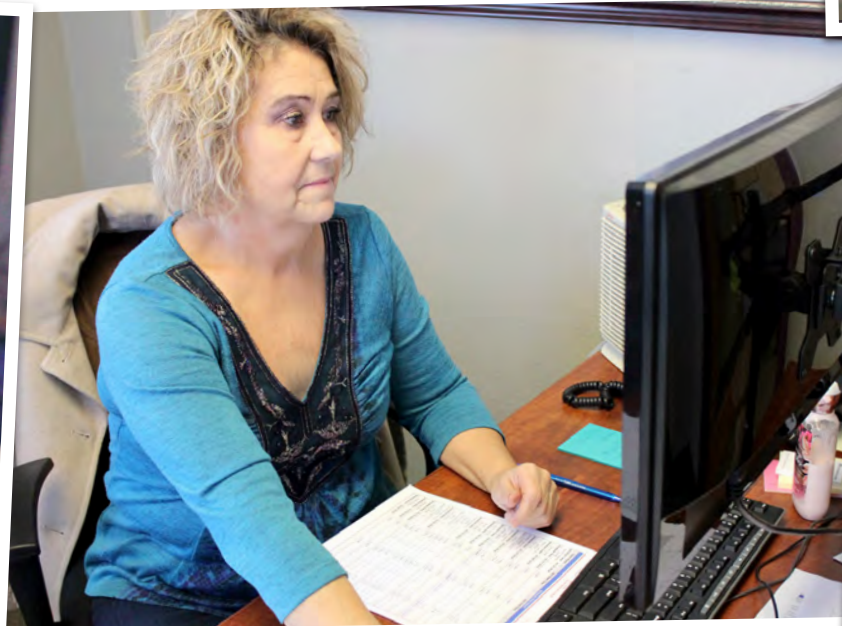
New employees receive hands-on training by visiting clients side-by-side with a seasoned caregiver. Quarterly training sessions help employees enhance their skills and keep up with new practices. "All our caregivers learn at the outset they must be polite, professional and compassionate," Gruber said. "The services they offer, whether medical and/or personal, are extremely important to seniors. They deserve to maintain as much independence as possible for as long as possible."

"We also know that seniors' families want and deserve to be kept up-to-date," she continued. "They feel more at ease and have peace of mind that ElderCare is helping with daily activities for their loved ones."

While ElderCare is supported, in part, by tax dollars from the Southwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging, it also relies on private donations. "Since we are a member of United Way of Central Kansas, we encourage the community to support it," Gruber said. "We are always grateful for whatever United Way can do for seniors who need anything from a hot meal at lunch to an in-home professional caregiver. And anything in between."

Home Services are available 24/7 and a physician referral is not necessary. ElderCare accepts Older American Act funds, private pay, long-term-care insurance and Medicaid. It also collaborates with the Veterans Administration. Of its 130 employees, about 70 serve clients in Barton County.

"All of us want to tend to medical and nutritional needs," Gruber summarized. "But equally important, we want to help lift our clients' spirits. Our visits let people know they are valued and we genuinely care about their physical and emotional well-being."



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Catholic Charities Awarded 3-Year Grant for Training

Catholic Charities of Southwest Kansas was recently awarded an Agency Capacity Initiative grant through Catholic Charities USA. This grant, which focuses on training, preparing, and resourcing five select Catholic Charities agencies, is geared towards providing support to allow agencies to more fully embrace, engage and implement resilience programming as part of the traditional work with and in local communities. This three-year grant was a competitive process, open to Catholic Charities agencies in a ten state area. Catholic Charities of Southwest Kansas was selected because of the agency's deep commitment and desire to build and strengthen resiliency in southwest Kansas.



"2017 was an unprecedented year in terms of disasters and while no person or community is immune, the poor and vulnerable are more at risk to the impacts of a disaster and have a harder time recovering from a disaster," says Debbie Snapp, Executive Director for Catholic Charities of Southwest Kansas. "We will spend the next three years building the agency's capability to add strategic, resourceful thinking to each phase of the disaster cycle with an eye towards building resilient clients."

Over the course of the next three years, the agency will work to assess the vulnerabilities, potential hazards and resources in southwest Kansas and will seek to engage community partners in dialogues about disaster preparedness and community resiliency. "We are excited about this opportunity and look forward to providing opportunities for us to work together to strengthen those communities in which we live, work and serve," Snapp says.

Tribune Planning Health, Wellness Expo Jan. 12

The first Central Kansas Health and Wellness Expo is coming Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019. It will run from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Great Bend Events Center, 3111 10th Street. Admission will be free to the public thanks to the financial support of the vendors. "This event is designed to bring awareness to our community of the resources available on health, medicine, nutrition, finances, assisted living, pets and so much more," said Mary Hoisington, publisher of the Great Bend Tribune. "There are many new and cutting edge technologies as well as new approaches to help us improve our lifestyles and health. We want to give people the tools they need to meet their personal and family financial and wellness goals."

Vendors and attendees will have the opportunity to interact, and vendors have the opportunity to present on topics concerning the health and wellness of our community. Besides having booths and presentations for men and women, the expo will be family friendly. A companion glossy magazine is part of the overall marketing campaign to allow vendors to provide more detailed information about their products and services available in our area. Contact Renee Richmeier or Hoisington at 620-792-1211 for more information on how a business or organization can take part in the Central Kansas Health and Wellness Expo.

GBCF Issues Giving Tuesday Challenge for Nov. 27

The Golden Belt Community Foundation recently issued a friendly challenge to area residents and businesses to support local charities' needs now and in the future by giving a financial gift in ANY amount on Giving Tuesday, coming up November 27th! In addition to over \$10,000 in proportional matching funds, there is also \$5,000 for cash incentives. NEW this year is the option for participating organizations to choose what they raise as a grant and what will build their endowment fund. Any charity that meets eligibility requirements can participate, and all gifts stay right here in our area. Giving Tuesday will also include a school challenge with \$500 classroom mini grants up for grabs. Every elementary school that participates will receive a grant, and the funds will be awarded to the classroom that gives the most on Giving Tuesday. Give online in November, goldenbeltcf.org, or in person at 1307 Williams.



United Way Requests Your Support in November

United Way of Central Kansas is heading into November with two great opportunities for the community to Live United and show support for the 20+ partner agencies.

Jeans Day Returns Nov. 14

The first is the 5th annual Jeans Day, on November 14th. In exchange for a \$1 donation to UWCK, business owners are encouraged to let their employees wear jeans on the 14th. Employees who participate will be entered into a workplace drawing, with one finalist from each business being entered to win a FREE pair of BKE Jeans donated by The Buckle. Over the past 4 years, this event has raised \$6,500 with more than 30 businesses participating. Contact UWCK to get signed up, all supplies will be delivered.

Holiday Luncheon for Small Businesses Dec. 12

Starting to think about your Holiday Party? UWCK has you covered with the location, food, and festive atmosphere; all you have to do is organize your guest list! The 2nd Annual Holiday Luncheon will be held at the Best Western Angus Inn Courtyard on Wednesday, December 12th from 11:30-1:30. This is a great way for small businesses, organizations, or groups of friends to support UWCK and take some of the stress out of the holidays. Reserve your table by December 3rd by contacting United Way at 620-792-2403, unitedwaycentralks@hotmail.com, or message us on Facebook.

Your participation, donations and support of the United Way of Central Kansas is vital to our organization. If you are unable to participate in these events, there are multiple ways that you can donate. Mail your donation to 1125 Williams, Great Bend, KS 67530 or you can donate on our website, www.uwck.org and click on Donate.



Rodeway Inn & Suites Wins Platinum Award

Hoisington Rodeway Inn & Suites was recently awarded the prestigious 2018 Platinum Award by Choice Hotels International, Inc. (NYSE: CHH), one of the world's leading hotel companies.

The property was recognized for its superior customer service and guest satisfaction, reported Co-Owner and Managing Member Phil Griffin. Platinum designated hotels represent the top 3 percent of hotels within their respective Choice Hotels brand. The awards are based on a ranking system that measures guest satisfaction, product quality, room condition, cleanliness and staff service.

"The entire Hoisington Rodeway Inn & Suites' team continues to impress guests with their attention to detail and commitment to customer service, which shines through in their guest satisfaction scores" said Griffin.

Owned by local investors and operated by High Plains Management and Development, the team prides itself on staff friendliness and commitment to service. Maintaining a spotless property is paramount for Griffin and his team as is offering little extras to travelers. They worked with the Hoisington community to offer free access to an outdoor pool, tennis courts and a walking trail. For those who prefer to stay active indoors, the Hoisington Rodeway Inn and Suites offers free access to the Hoisington Activity center and workout facilities.

Rooms include large work areas with ergonomic chairs, refrigerators, microwaves, wireless Internet and offers King Jacuzzi Suites upon request. The property also caters to hunters with a cleaning station for game, and is the closest lodging to Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area. Guests enjoy eating a free Continental breakfast and visiting the Duck Blind Lounge in the hotel to relax.

Sisters' Annual Mission Bazaar to be Held Nov. 10

The Dominican Sisters of Peace in Great Bend host their Annual Mission Bazaar on Saturday, November 10, 2018, from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm at 3600 Broadway in Great Bend, Kansas. With a morning coffee break available, soup and pie for lunch, hundreds of handcrafted and homemade items, a drawing for lots of prizes, unique gift theme baskets, and a silent auction, there is something for everyone. There is even a special drawing for a pendant and earrings with small diamonds and sapphires! Come spend the day and enjoy the aroma and magic of this festive autumn, pre-holiday event! For more information, call 620-792-1232.



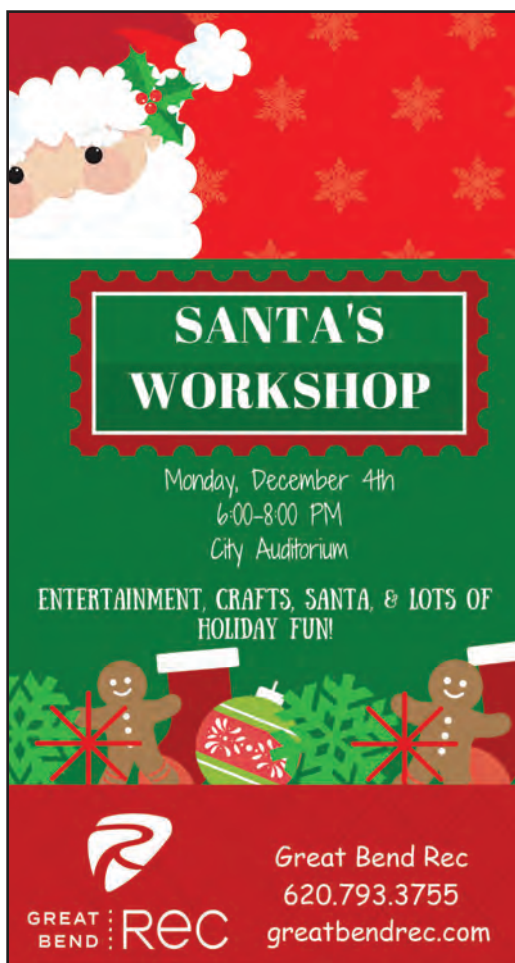
Credit Union of America Named Leader in Value

Credit Union of America (CUA) has been named the top ranked Return of the Member (ROM) credit union in Kansas, by Callahan & Associates. CUA placed 18th in the national state rankings. ROM is a comprehensive metric that uses characteristics of savings, lending, and product usage to quantify member value. A score is then assigned to every U.S. credit union. Located in Washington, DC, Callahan & Associates is a highly respected credit union industry research, analysis, and consulting firm.

Frank Shoffner, Credit Union of America CEO, says that to earn this ranking, "CUA keeps our members in the forefront of our business decisions. We maintain excellent rates on our loans and savings and focus on continual product development to satisfy our members." Shoffner continued, "CUA is honored to receive this distinction and we appreciate the demonstrated faith our members have in their credit union."

CUA serves over 77,000 members online and at fourteen (14) full service locations in Wichita, Derby, Goddard, Hutchinson, Pratt, Great Bend, Salina, and a corporate office located in Wichita. Learn more at www.cuofamerica.com.






SANTA'S WORKSHOP

Monday, December 4th
6:00-8:00 PM
City Auditorium

ENTERTAINMENT, CRAFTS, SANTA, & LOTS OF HOLIDAY FUN!

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Spectrum CPA to Host EntreLeadership Broadcast

Are you a business owner or leader looking to get ahead in today's disruptive market? EntreLeadership, a 1-Day live stream event, might be the right opportunity for you! Through the power of technology, Spectrum CPA Partners is proud to present local access to a dynamic line-up of speakers that include: Dave Ramsey, Chris Hogan & Bobby Gruenewald.



The live-stream event will be held at First Christian Church, 5230 Broadway Ave in Great Bend, KS on Friday, November 9th from 9am – 5pm. Tickets are just \$45 to attend this event, a catered lunch will be provided. Email Spectrum CPA Partners at info@spectrumcpa.com or call 620-792-5378 to reserve your tickets today.

Riedl Retires from Co-op, Anderson Named New GM

After Frank Riedl graduated from Fort Hays State University during the Vietnam War there were limited jobs available. Riedl says he took the only job opening he could find as a bookkeeper at a local co-op and spent 11 years with the company in the Russell and Gorham area. Following that job, Riedl came to Great Bend to become CFO at the Great Bend Cooperative Association. That position lasted eight years and the last 21 years have been spent as General Manager.

Riedl retired in late September. The Great Bend Co-Op was named the "Business of the Year" in 2014 by the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce. Riedl joked that he knew it was the right time to retire after celebrating a birthday and realizing he was four years past retirement age.

The Great Bend Coop has announced that Minnesota native Duane Anderson has become the company's new General Manager. Anderson brings a wealth of experience in agriculture to the position having been the auditor, controller, CFO, COO and CEO of several coops ranging from grain and supply coops to a very diversified manufacturing coop. Anderson says the first order of business will be learning more about the Great Bend Co-ops vast trade area.

Anderson has experience working with farmer cooperatives ranging in size from \$30 million in revenue, to more than \$500 million and says he understands that in a cooperative based business, the customer comes first.

Anderson spent his youth farming near Gaylord, Minnesota which led him to begin running a custom harvesting business for 11 years which included cutting wheat in the Great Bend area. Anderson and his wife, Kris, have seven children, three of which still live in the home. He has a daughter who lives in Olathe and another daughter at Benedictine College in Atchison.



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Small Business, Big Shopping at Pop Up Market Nov. 24

More than 30 unique makers and retailers will gather in Downtown Great Bend for Dilly & Doc's Holiday Pop-Up Market scheduled for Saturday, November 24th from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. in conjunction with "Small Business Saturday" and the Home for the Holidays Festivities. Visitors to the Pop-Up Market will have the opportunity to browse everything from handmade apparel, jewelry and home décor to some of their favorite direct sales vendors like Pampered Chef, Discovery Toys, and more! Dilly & Doc has tripled their indoor vendor space by expanding to include more booths inside the storefront next door. The holiday market will also feature a BBQ Food Truck, Cookie Contest samples and door prizes from the participating vendors. Phyllis Brack, owner of Dilly & Doc, has recruited regional vendors from the Kansas Barn Sale, Hillsboro Craft Fair and other Kansas favorites. "These vendors pour so much talent and passion into their work – our shoppers are in for a real treat as they start their holiday shopping with us" said Brack.

Dilly & Doc is located at 1119 Main Street in Downtown Great Bend. More information on participating vendors and products can be found on Dilly & Doc's Facebook page.

Ambassador Profile - Gaila Demel, United Way

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

I grew up in Lyons and settled in Ellinwood to raise our family. Most of my career has been centered here in Great Bend. We have always been involved in various activities in Great Bend. Working in Great Bend has created amazing opportunities for me, not only professionally but personally as well. The community extends generosity in so many ways to friends, family and neighbors.



Where do you work and what do you do there?

I am the Executive Director at United Way of Central Kansas. UWCK supports 23 Community Partners as well as Community Impact Programs in Barton and Pawnee Counties. It's difficult for me to say this is "a job" due to the incredible Staff, Board Members, Co-Chairs and Volunteers I am fortunate to work with each day. Great Bend has a spirit of giving and advocacy for those in our community in need of basic needs to live healthy lives, achieve financial stability and embrace education goals.

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

My parents were the owners of a trucking company and I worked for them after a year of college to learn the business. When I turned 21, I obtained my CDL and drove an over-the-road "18 Wheeler" hauling cattle in Kansas and surrounding states. My "handle" was Cheerios! There were very few women driving trucks back in the late 70's.

What energizes you and brings you excitement?

The generosity of people. Working with our Community Partners, hearing their stories, witnessing their successes, observing the impact they make in our community and walking alongside them in the journey to find resources for those in need.....all of this inspires me, energizes my senses and brings so much pride in what we do. I'm humbled to be a small part of the big plan.

At what job, would you be terrible?

I would not do well if I didn't have the opportunity to interact with people.

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

Sadly, I'm on my last couple of months as an Ambassador. The last three years has been so much fun. Getting to know the "Young Leaders" in Great Bend has been a blessing. They are committed to their City and are fiercely dedicated in making Great Bend a community they are proud of. I also serve on the Board of Directors for one more year. In my travels throughout Kansas, involved in other Chambers, Great Bend Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors are second to none.

About Chamber Ambassadors:

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

Ford Recognizes Marmie Sales Team for 10 Years

Three members of the Marmie Ford sales team were presented with the 10-Year Achiever award from Ford Motor Company for over ten years at their Level 4 status in the Ford employee excellence program. Ford says, "As an ambassador of Ford, your dedication to exceeding customer expectations positively impacted our overall success." Pictured from left to right are Desa Marmie Behr, Dave Marmie, and David Titus.



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Errand Lady Offers Elf Package for Holidays

The holidays are fast approaching. Are you and your staff stressed with the idea of all that has to be done at work and at home? Not sure what to get your hard-working staff for the holidays? This year de-stress the holidays and let the "Errand Lady Elf" do the work for you.

For a limited time, the Errand Lady will offer the Elf Package- a 3-hour block of time for you to use your very own Personal Assistant! Give the gift of Time and less stress by hiring the Errand Lady Elf to come to your business or home! Some of the services the Errand Lady offers are:

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- Home Organization
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- And More!

The Elf Packages are only available for a limited time and spots are limited. The Errand Lady is here to help you gain more time and get you and your business through the holidays! Call today to schedule your Elf Package, 620-617-8195.





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

November 1, 2018

USD 428 FOUNDATION

201 S. Patton Road in Great Bend

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

November 8, 2018

NEX-TECH WIRELESS

2827 10th Street in Great Bend (Next to Satellite Pros)

Nex-Tech Wireless has been providing cutting-edge wireless solutions to residents of Great Bend since 2005. Offering the latest devices, money-saving rate plans, nationwide coverage and unbeatable local customer service, Nex-Tech Wireless prides itself in supporting the communities that it serves.

November 15, 2018

THE FIELDHOUSE

2817 9th Street in Great Bend

The Fieldhouse is Great Bend's premier athletic training facility, serving as an incubator for all types of small businesses with most being fitness oriented. Dave Tudor with DAT Fitness operates a personal training and group fitness program. Jessica Milsap also offers personal training and group fitness classes for adults, while Andrea Maxwell teaches a youth fitness program for elementary age students. Basketball fundamentals programs and clinics for basketball and baseball are also among the offerings at The Fieldhouse. Come see our new equipment, new class schedules, and office space that is available for rent!

November 22, 2018

NO COFFEE

Happy Thanksgiving!

Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, there will be no Chamber Coffee on Thursday, November 22nd. From the staff, Board of Directors, and Ambassadors we wish all of our members a very safe and happy Thanksgiving! The Chamber office will be closed on the 22nd and 23rd. We will re-open on Monday, November 26th with normal business hours.

November 29, 2018

KANSAS WETLANDS EDUCATION CENTER

592 NE K-156 Highway in Great Bend

The Kansas Wetlands Education Center, with help from the Dorothy M. Morrison Foundation, recently completed an exhibit enhancement project. Come check out the new, highly-interactive exhibits that help tell the Cheyenne Bottoms story. Located at the southeast corner of Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area, KWEC is operated by Fort Hays State University in cooperation with Kansas Wildlife Parks & Tourism.



3307 10th Street • Great Bend, KS 67530

McDonald's

is providing coffee for Chamber of Commerce coffees.