

# NewsLetter

Business and Economy

**Business and Economy**

July 2024 | Issue No. 26



**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

## KanEquip celebrates 5 years

2

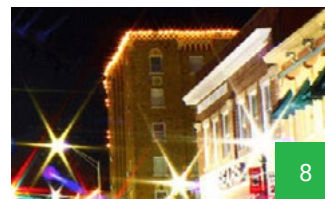
- Entrepreneurship in Central KS 3
- Grow Workforce Summit 7
- Meet the GBED Team 11
- IGNITE Update 12
- Marketable Statistics 13
- Calendar 14

**2023-2024 Annual Report**



### Tax Credits Available to benefit Innovation Center

State Tax Credits are Available When You Support GBED



### State Announces ROOMS Grant

Kansas Main Street Awards New Housing Grant to Great Bend Upper Floors Project



### Fridays on Forest celebrates Airfest

Check out our recap from June 28th Fridays on Forest sponsored by the University of Kansas Health Systems, and look ahead to July's Salute to AIRFEST!



*KanEquip celebrates 5 years in #GBK, A Legacy of Agriculture and Community in Great Bend*

**KanEquip, Inc. - Great Bend**

Scott Dewerff, Manager

214 SW 40 Ave

Great Bend, KS

620-792-5256

[www.kanequip.com](http://www.kanequip.com)

**Hours:**

Monday - Friday  
7:30 am - 5:30 pm  
Saturday  
8:00 - 12:00 pm

# KanEquip's Journey

*An Interview with Scott Dewerff on Building a Thriving Ag Equipment Business and Supporting Future Technicians*

**Tell us about you and the business**

Started with this Case IH location previously owned by Straub International in 1995. In 2019 KanEquip, Inc. acquired this location along with four others owned and operated by Straub. I am an active member of the community, especially anything related to agriculture and kids. Kids Ag Day is a major event for our dealership and me personally - celebrating 30 years the 4th of September.

I got the idea of working for an ag equipment dealership



Scott Dewerff, Manager

The expansive shop for large equipment, featuring reliable techs, ready to meet all your farming needs. The well-stocked parts department, ensuring customers have everything they need to keep their equipment running smoothly.

by the opportunity at the time. 29 years ago I was working night shifts in an adjacent town when I was contacted by a friend about the position. The KanEquip design came about when our founders decided to merge their dealerships into a single company to maximize economies of scale in a number of ways including branding the business as the place to go for the right equipment for the right job representing multiple brands. KanEquip Can Equip You encapsulates the brand position. The Great Bend location employs 20+ people. In addition to Case IH products we also represent Land Pride, Great Plains, MacDon, Drago, KUHN/Krause and Haulmaster. The showroom features KanEquip Branded merchandise as well as Case IH branded clothing and toys plus Louisiana Grills available for purchase. Store hours are 7:30 am to 5:30 pm Monday - Friday and 8:00 am to noon during our customers' busy season (once planting begins and until harvest concludes). 8 am to 5 pm Monday - Friday and 8am to noon Saturday during the off-season. After-hour parts and service are available around the clock 365 days a year.

**Why did you choose to locate your business in Great Bend?**

Barton County's number of agriculture producers per capita. We have also recently worked with Barton Community College to start the CNH Top Tech program training the next generation of superior agriculture technicians to service ag producers in the area and beyond. Starting this fall, the program will provide high school graduates a career path enabling them to combine their interests in agriculture and mechanics. **The ribbon cutting and open house is scheduled for Wednesday, July 17th 4:00 pm at the Agriculture and Transportation Complex on the Barton Community College campus. <https://bartonccc.edu/programs/top-tech>**

**Entrepreneurship Resources with Great Bend Economic Development**

Entrepreneurs are the key to success in rural communities. If you have interest in creating a business, reach out to us today for help with business planning, financial analysis and access to start up loan funding. Great Bend Economic Development partners with many experts in the entrepreneurship field to bring you all the resources you need to get started successfully.





Beautiful farmland surrounding KanEquip, located on SW 40 Ave, off Highway 56. Where agriculture meets innovation and community thrives

**What inspired you to start your business?**

KanEquip founder, Jim Meinhardt, developed deep agricultural roots beginning with his quality experiences as a youth in 4H and working in the family business. Soon after high school graduation, in 1967 the opportunity arose for Jim to purchase an equipment dealership in Wamego, Kansas. His life's work began. From the start, he and his team of three dedicated themselves to the long hours necessary working to support agriculture producers who work tirelessly themselves.

**What did your startup plan and timeline look like?**

In 1967 startup plans consisted of showing up, doing the work, and focusing on the customer.

**If you could share any positive feedback to another company hoping to open in the Barton County market, what would it be?**

The people are the biggest positive.

**Do you have any advice for entrepreneurs starting out?**

Start by filling a need.

**Anything else you'd like to share about your business experience thus far?**

Being an active participant in the community has been an enriching experience professionally and personally.

**What obstacles have you faced and how did you overcome them?**

Economic cycles always present obstacles in the life cycle of a business. KanEquip prides itself on financial stability so we can be there for our producers regardless of the economic climate.

**Entrepreneurship**

**New CO.STARTERS CORE Session Begins in September**

Great Bend Economic Development, Inc. (GBED) recently completed the CO.STARTERS Core program, a ten-session course designed to empower entrepreneurs with the tools and insights needed to bring their business ideas to life. The program focused on lean business modeling methods, encouraging participants to test small models and receive real-time feedback from customers.

With a global presence in over 200 communities, CO.STARTERS has a proven track record of success. In Barton County, the program was facilitated by GBED, guiding entrepreneurs through every stage of their business journey.

Lee Ann June, Communications Director for GBED, praised the program, stating, "CO.STARTERS Core was the perfect addition to our suite of classes for entrepreneurs. It guided 'starters' through the essentials needed for business sustainability." The core beliefs of CO.STARTERS—simplicity, community focus, and individual investment—resonated well with the participants.

GBED's experience with the IGNITE Rural Business competition highlighted the need for more support and education for local entrepreneurs. CO.STARTERS addressed this need, recognizing the crucial

role small businesses play in the local economy.

We are proud to announce that the first cohort included three "starters" who have launched their businesses. This success marks a new chapter for entrepreneurship in Barton County. GBED will host another cohort this fall. Join us in supporting our local entrepreneurs and fostering a vibrant business community. **Stay tuned for application details!**



Join "IGNITE the Morning," a monthly GBED gathering for passionate individuals at Perks Coffee (1216 Main St., GBK) on the 2nd Friday of each month (7:15 AM). This is a space to spark ideas, share experiences, and learn from seasoned entrepreneurs and young visionaries. All are welcome – no age limit!

It's FREE, but feel free to support Perks with their delicious coffee and treats.



## Focus Areas

# Follow along on our journey

We are elated with the momentum gained and plan to continue to capitalize on the current progress and continue pushing forward on many ground breaking projects.

If you are interested in *investing* in GBED projects, we would be happy to keep you updated on any specific categories of interest. The upcoming project categories that we will be seeking funding for are as follows:

- \* Housing
- \* Childcare
- \* Entrepreneurship
- \* Apprenticeships

*Anything you want to see in these newsletters that was not included? Please reach out to [marketing@gbedinc.com](mailto:marketing@gbedinc.com) with your feedback.*

## Workforce

# Apprenticeships

*Job Seekers can earn while they learn with apprenticeships*

Apprenticeship is an essential learning model that provides individuals with the opportunity to gain practical skills and knowledge in a particular trade or profession. It enables aspiring professionals to work alongside experienced practitioners, learn from their experiences, and receive hands-on training that prepares them for a career. Apprenticeship programs help bridge the skills gap between theoretical education and the practical application of skills, providing individuals with the necessary skills to thrive in the workplace. By offering a structured and supervised approach to learning, apprenticeships can help promote career advancement and economic mobility, leading to increased job satisfaction and higher earnings potential. Apprenticeship programs are essential to building a skilled workforce and sustaining economic growth.





*Great Bend*  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
— A Barton County Partnership for Growth

## Tax Credits

# State Tax Credits are Available When You Support GBED

Great Bend Economic Development is pleased to announce they have received \$166,000 in Community Service Program (CSP) Tax Credits through the Kansas Department of Commerce. The available tax credits will be used to enhance fundraising efforts for the IGNITE Innovation Center.

CSP is a popular program for Kansas nonprofits and public healthcare entities taking on major capital campaigns for projects involving children and family services, non-governmental crime prevention, youth apprenticeship, and youth technical training and health care. Awarded nonprofits were chosen through a competitive application process. State tax credits reduce the total amount of taxes owed to the state. They are a way for taxpayers to substantially reduce the cost of contributing to Great Bend Economic Development.

Sara Arnberger, President of Great Bend Economic Development, said, "Our project is

committed to making a real impact on our community, and the sale of new tax credits is needed in turning this vision into reality. These incentives not only provide us with the necessary financial relief to accelerate our initiatives but also enable us to expand our reach and resources. By leveraging these tax credits, we will establish an innovative space that addresses a wide array of community needs. This support underscores the importance of strategic financial planning in achieving sustainable development and fostering community growth."

IGNITE Innovation Center, an innovative community hub, featuring overnight childcare facilities, a makerspace, a workforce center, and health screening services. This comprehensive approach ensures that a wide array of community needs are

addressed.

Businesses and individuals subject to Kansas income tax are eligible to receive a tax credit through this program. Donors giving at least \$250 to the IGNITE Innovation Center may qualify for a (70%) tax credit. For example, a donor making a \$1,000 gift receives a (\$700) tax credit when they file their state taxes, making the net cost to the donor only (\$300).

"CSP amplifies the mission of awarded community service organizations and their projects by encouraging donations through the benefit of state tax credits," said Matt Godinez, Assistant Secretary of Quality Places. "When you donate to an awarded CSP project, you have the opportunity to support a project and receive a state tax credit to reduce your taxable income."

If you or your business are interested in donating to Great Bend Economic Development or the IGNITE Innovation Center, please reach out to Sara Arnberger at [director@gbedinc.com](mailto:director@gbedinc.com) or by calling 620-796-2407.



## Workforce

# Grow Workforce Summit Returns on Nov. 13th!

Great Bend Economic Development and our workforce partners are excited to announce the return of the Grow Workforce Summit this fall on November 13th. Our goal is to maximize interest and attendance by offering exciting incentives for job seekers, including big giveaways. We are also introducing innovative ways for the business community to gain more exposure in the area, along with fun elements.

We aim to bridge the knowledge gap with classes for both employers and job seekers, highlighting the many resources available to the business community. While many details are still to be announced, we are thrilled to reveal our keynote speaker: Phillip Kelley, Founder of Purpose-Driven Coaching, Overcomer Academy & Iceberg Leadership, and former team Chaplain/ Character Coach for the Kansas City Chiefs.

Save the date and stay informed by subscribing to our newsletter at [www.gbedinc.com](http://www.gbedinc.com). Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to grow and connect!



## GROW WORKFORCE

EMPLOYER AND JOBSEEKER SUMMIT

11.13.2024

LOADING...

30 %

*Great Bend*  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**BRIGHT BEGINNINGS**

# SAFE AND ENGAGING

CHILD CARE FOR INFANT TO 6 YEARS

Bright Beginnings is equipped with the WATCH ME GROW security system, allowing parents to check in on their child

**JOIN NOW**

**WATCHMEGROW**  
Advancing Barton County

**NOW OPEN**  
[www.abccinc.org](http://www.abccinc.org)

## Childcare

# Nurturing Young Minds: Bright Beginnings

Bright Beginnings is dedicated to providing high-quality early childhood education and care in Great Bend. Our programs are designed to foster a love for learning in a safe, nurturing environment. With a focus on holistic development, we offer engaging activities that promote cognitive, social, emotional, and physical growth for children. Our experienced and compassionate staff is committed to supporting each child's unique journey, preparing them for a bright and successful future. At Bright Beginnings, we believe in the power of early education to shape confident, capable, and curious learners.

**Learn More & Stay Informed:**  
[abccinc.org](http://abccinc.org)

**ABCC**  
ADVANCING BARTON COUNTY CHILD CARE

# ROOMS AWARDEES ANNOUNCED

35 RESIDENTIAL UNITS TO BE CREATED IN UPPER FLOORS OF DOWNTOWN BUILDINGS



## Development

# Kansas Main Street Awards New Housing Grant to Great Bend

Great Bend Economic Development/ Great Bend Main Street is excited to announce that a project in Great Bend has been selected by Lieutenant Governor and Commerce Secretary David Toland as one of the recipients of the Residential Opportunities on Main Street (ROOMS) program. This program will provide \$50,000 each to eight projects in designated Kansas Main Street communities to create new residential units in the upper floors of downtown buildings.

Multiple property owners in Great Bend applied for the grant, demonstrating their serious commitment to revitalizing

Great Bend's Main Street properties. Great Bend Economic Development/ Main Street is pleased to see so many local property owners' efforts toward positive progress in the historic buildings on Main Street.

The Department of Commerce has announced the selection of awarded projects, tasking designated Main Street organizations with delivering this exciting news to property owners. This grant marks a pivotal moment for downtown Great Bend, facilitating the development of three new one- and two-bedroom units owned by Hammond, Inc. Sara Arnberger, the

Economic Development Director of Great Bend, expressed enthusiasm, stating, "Tammy Hammond has long been a key figure in downtown development, and we are thrilled that this grant will support yet another successful property renovation."

Property owners and applicants underwent a competitive process, showcasing their dedication to reviving their downtown commercial districts. Great Bend Economic Development/ Main Street is proud to be one of 30 active Designated communities participating in the Kansas Main Street program.



# Great Bend Alive Thank You to All That Joined Us to Celebrate the Arts!

Barton Arts Movement hosted the "Art Alley" art show, giving away two "Bammies." Despite the first 100-degree event of the summer, over 480 attendees enjoyed live music from Lightfoot & Buehler, delicious food, drinks, and fun at every turn. Many children and even some adults participated in the face painting sponsored by the evening's presenting sponsor, The University of Kansas Health Systems - Great Bend Campus.

## Looking Ahead to a Summer of Fun:

This was just the first of many exciting Fridays on Forest events planned for 2024. Mark your calendars for the last Friday of each month between now and October! Great Bend Alive is always looking for new sponsors and partners. If you're interested in getting involved, contact GBED staff at 620-796-2407 or [marketing@gbedinc.com](mailto:marketing@gbedinc.com). You can also stay informed by following Great Bend Alive on social media.

Don't miss out on the fun! Join us for the next Fridays on Forest event and be part of the vibrant Great Bend community!

**Join Us for the Next Fridays on**

**Forest on July 26th!** Great Bend Alive presents Fridays on Forest, sponsored by Bank of the Plains! The event will take place on Forest Avenue, from Williams to Main, on July 26th. This month, we are celebrating the upcoming Airfest. Stop by the Bank of the Plains booth to test out your paper airplane skills! The City of Great Bend will also have a booth at our event to help promote the return of the Great Bend Airport Airfest (happening Sept 20-22 at the Great Bend Airport).

**What to Expect?** Come after work with your friends, family, or coworkers and sit outside with a beverage in your hand, enjoying great food, great music, and a great time! Alcohol will be served in the district but CANNOT be brought into the district from outside. NO smoking and no pets in the district, thank you!

This is a family atmosphere, so feel free to bring the whole gang! There will be security to ensure the safety of you and our properties. Worried about bathrooms? Don't be, we've got you covered! Bring your appetite - you'll have plenty to choose from!



Click the image above to learn more about July 26th's Friday on Forest!

Click the image below to see our TikTok from last month!



**Calling All Rule Enforcers!** Be a Fridays on Forest Gatekeeper and ensure a fun, safe environment for all. Get free drink tickets and help us make each event a success! Sign up now by clicking [HERE](#).



## Great Bend Alive

# Revitalizing Downtowns: The Heartbeat of Our Communities

Downtown areas are the lifeblood of any community, serving as the commercial center and defining the image of a city. They are crucial for the economic activity and vitality of the surrounding region. However, many downtowns have struggled since the COVID-19 pandemic, with declining retail activity and increasing office space vacancies. To revitalize these areas, cities are focusing on innovative strategies to attract people back to their downtowns.

One key approach is the development and enhancement of public spaces such as parks and plazas. These areas can function as gathering spots, creating an authentic sense of place and providing calm and respite for visitors and community members. A Brookings Institute study found that public spaces play a crucial role in shifting perceptions of downtown areas, inspiring infrastructure improvements, and incubating small businesses.

The International Downtown Association (IDA) emphasizes the importance of downtowns, highlighting their contributions to the economy, inclusion, vibrancy,

identity, and resilience of a region. IDA's research, "The Value of U.S. Downtowns and Center Cities," shows that downtowns outpaced their cities in residential growth between 2000 and 2021, growing an average of 50% against the citywide average of 15%.

To support downtown revitalization, organizations like IDA offer tools and resources for place management. IDA's e-newsletter, "Inspired by IDA," provides personalized and curated headlines, member spotlights, and business intelligence for the urban place management industry.

In conclusion, downtown areas are vital to the health and prosperity of a community. By investing in public spaces and leveraging resources from organizations like IDA, cities can work towards revitalizing their downtowns and fostering a thriving community.



## Great Bend Alive

# Main Street, What does that mean?

Great Bend Alive is Great Bend Economic Development's downtown arm. Great Bend Alive is also a Kansas Main Street and Main Street America.

As a Main Street organization, the focus is on four main areas: **Development, Design, Preservation, and Promotion/Events**. Great Bend Alive is known for Fridays on Forest, while this has been our biggest success to date, we have committees in place to give equal focus to our other areas as well.

Be sure to follow Great Bend Alive on social media (click the links below) for upcoming events, opportunities to volunteer, sponsor events, or get involved in new ways!

### What is a Kansas Main Street?

Kansas Main Street Organizations are a self-help, technical assistance program that targets revitalization and preservation of downtown districts through the development of a comprehensive strategy.

Main Street America™ leads a movement committed to strengthening communities through preservation-based economic development in older and historic downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts.



### For the latest updates follow Great Bend Alive on:

Facebook



Instagram



TikTok



GBEDinc.com/[mainstreet](https://www.gbedinc.com/mainstreet)



## Workforce

# CK Jobs, an Enhanced Platform for Employers

Central Kansas Jobs has undergone a significant website overhaul, emphasizing our commitment to connecting talent with career opportunities. Our upgraded platform is designed to empower employers and streamline the hiring process, featuring new enhancements for a better user experience.

Users can now create profiles and establish distinct company profiles, fostering seamless collaboration within organizations. A notable addition is the "Featured Company Highlight," allowing companies to showcase their profiles in a scheduled display for \$50 per month, providing heightened visibility to potential candidates.

While we introduce premium features, posting jobs and viewing resumes remain free for employers and job seekers, ensuring an inclusive and accessible platform. Explore the revamped website at [www.centralkansasjobs.com](http://www.centralkansasjobs.com) to leverage these new features and make Central Kansas Jobs your strategic partner in building successful teams.

**ARE YOU HIRING?**

- **FREE JOB POSTINGS**
- **CREATE A COMPANY PROFILE**
- **LOOK THROUGH RESUMES**
- **ADVERTISING AVAILABLE**

[centralkansasjobs.com](http://centralkansasjobs.com)

central kansas  
**JOBS**

## MEET OUR PRESIDENT

[director@gbedinc.com](mailto:director@gbedinc.com)



Sara Arnberger is a native of Great Bend, Kansas and located back to the area to pursue the opportunities with economic development. Sara comes to Great Bend Economic Development with a bachelors degree from Friends University and close to 10 years of experience in management and customer service. Her experience combined with her passion for the area is sure to spur new growth.

## COMMS DIRECTOR

[marketing@gbedinc.com](mailto:marketing@gbedinc.com)



Communications Director, Lee Ann June, is a longtime local with a love for community. She is excited to join forces with GBED to promote and grow Barton County. Bringing a comprehensive set of skills that are valuable to the organization, she is delighted to contribute her talents to GBED's efforts. Mother of two, former business owner/instructor, and creative; she brings a unique perspective to this position. Motivated by the momentum, Lee Ann is invested in seeing the Great Bend area thrive.

## MARKETING & EVENTS INTERN

[intern.team@gbedinc.com](mailto:intern.team@gbedinc.com)



Hi! I'm Charley Sander, the newest addition to the team at Great Bend Economic Development. Born and raised in Great Bend, I am continuing my academic career at Barton Community College with a focus on marketing. I hope to further my skills in marketing while I learn alongside my new team! I'm excited to be a part of something so big and have the opportunity to give back to my hometown.

# SEEKING: *Business Mentors*

GBED is seeking successful business owners to serve as Business mentors for the IGNITE Rural Business competition.

INTERESTED? REACH OUT TO  
DIRECTOR@GBEDINC.COM



## Entrepreneurship **IGNITE Rural Business Competition: First Deadline and Progress**

The IGNITE Rural Business Competition has successfully hit its first milestone. Originally set for June 13th, GBED extended the deadline to June 20th to allow a few participants additional time to complete their business plans and video pitches. The competition started with 17 entrants, and 7 have advanced to the next round.

These 7 participants have submitted their video pitches and competition materials and have begun working with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC). The next step will involve matching all participants with industry-specific business mentors, alongside continued support from the SBDC. Those moving to the next round are: First Response Cleaning and Restoration, K617 Custom Coatings, Mama T's, Proper Boards & Picnics, Rana Luna Balloons, Ruhe Rituals, and Saving Face Aesthetics Lounge.

Stay informed and follow the progress of the competition by visiting [igniteks.com](http://igniteks.com) and following us on our social media channels.



## Entrepreneurship **Inspiring Future Entrepreneurs**

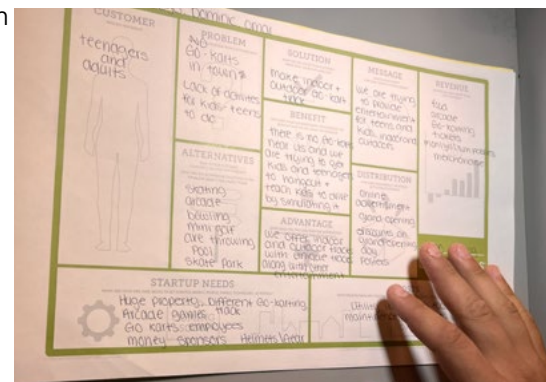
### *GBED and Chamber Visit Upward Bound Students*

In June, representatives from the Great Bend Economic Development (GBED) and the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce had the pleasure of visiting with students from the Upward Bound program at Barton Community College. Sara Arnberger, GBED President, Lee Ann June, GBED Communications, and Julie Mazouch, GB Chamber Member Success Manager, spoke to the group about the 2025 Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge (YEC).

During the visit, the speakers outlined the exciting details of next year's competition, emphasizing the importance of identifying and addressing unmet needs in Barton County. Following the informative session, the students broke into groups to brainstorm and draft rough business plans. This hands-on activity allowed the teens to apply the concepts discussed and develop innovative solutions for their community.

After a brief planning session, some students presented their business ideas to the larger group. The presentations showcased the creativity and entrepreneurial spirit of the Upward Bound students. Inspired by the discussion and activities, many teens expressed their eagerness to participate in Barton County's YEC in the upcoming school year.

The visit was a resounding success, leaving both the students and presenters excited for the future of youth entrepreneurship in Barton County.



# Did You Know?



## Marketable Statistics

How about some spending pattern facts?!

Our area spends 5.8 million on Cereal & Bakery products annually!

That's \$578 a year per household!

STI: Spending Patterns Food: Cereals, Bakery, Meat and Dairy (Annual)	Walmart 0-5 min				Walmart 0-10 min				Walmart 0-20 min			
	Aggregate Expenditure Estimate	%	Average per Household	Market Index to USA	Aggregate Expenditure Estimate	%	Average per Household	Market Index to USA	Aggregate Expenditure Estimate	%	Average per Household	Market Index to USA
Cereals and bakery products	\$ 2,311,205	13%	\$ 557.15	80	\$ 3,990,789	13%	\$ 580.40	83	\$ 5,866,208	13%	\$ 578.52	83
Cereals and cereal products	\$ 712,198	4%	\$ 171.69	79	\$ 1,229,190	4%	\$ 178.77	82	\$ 1,808,597	4%	\$ 178.36	82
Flour	\$ 42,299	0%	\$ 10.20	78	\$ 72,996	0%	\$ 10.62	81	\$ 107,637	0%	\$ 10.61	81
Prepared flour mixes	\$ 53,891	0%	\$ 12.99	78	\$ 93,069	0%	\$ 13.54	81	\$ 137,033	0%	\$ 13.51	81
Ready-to-eat and cooked cereals	\$ 333,241	2%	\$ 80.33	80	\$ 576,365	2%	\$ 83.82	83	\$ 847,994	2%	\$ 83.63	83
Rice	\$ 123,636	1%	\$ 29.80	81	\$ 212,443	1%	\$ 30.90	84	\$ 311,686	1%	\$ 30.74	83



## Housing

# Brush Up BC

Great Bend Economic Development supports Brush Up Barton County, offering grants for exterior painting projects to eligible homeowners. With a \$5,000 annual budget, the program allocates up to \$1,000 per project, enhancing community aesthetics and property longevity. Learn more at [www.gbeduc.com/housing](http://www.gbeduc.com/housing).

# Upcoming Events and Business Education

**9**  
JULY

## Fueling Industry: McConnell AFB Industry Day

Tuesday, July 9  
Noon - 4 PM  
Great Plains Mission Acceleration Center  
1855 Innovation Blvd., Suite 140 Wichita  
<https://www.sba.gov/event/50164>

**16**  
JULY

## Office of Advocacy Comment Tour

Tuesday, July 16  
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Manhattan Public Library 629 Poyntz Avenue Manhattan  
<https://www.sba.gov/event/50167>

**10**  
JULY

## Kansas Exporter Roundtable

Wednesday, July 10  
Noon - 1:30 pm  
117 N. Walnut Hutchinson,  
<https://www.sba.gov/event/50165>

**17**  
JULY

## 2024 Small Business Marketing Meetup

Wednesday, July 17  
10 AM - 4 PM  
WSU Hughes Metroplex Wichita, KS  
<https://www.sba.gov/event/50226>

**11**  
JULY

## Retail Sales Tax

Thursday, July 11  
1 - 4 PM  
Omni Circle 1302 SW Topeka Blvd Topeka KS  
<https://ksbdc.ecenterdirect.com/events/28428>

**17**  
JULY

## How to Start a Business

Wednesday, July 17  
5:30 - 7:30 PM  
Topeka Shawnee County Public Library 1515 SW 10th Ave  
<https://www.sba.gov/event/49087>

**11**  
JULY

## Sales Tax for Construction Contractors

Thursday, July 11  
10 - Noon  
Omni Circle 1302 SW Topeka Blvd , Topeka KS  
<https://ksbdc.ecenterdirect.com/events/2842>

**26**  
JULY

## Fridays on Forest Celebrate Airfest!

Friday, July 26  
5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
No Tickets Needed Thanks to our Sponsor: Bank of the Plains!  
Forest Street between Main & Williams in Great Bend  
Learn more: [greatbendisalive](http://greatbendisalive)

Go to [www.gbedinc.com](http://www.gbedinc.com) and scroll down to the calendar for even more classes with descriptions & links.

## Education

# SBDC & SBA Classes

Click on the Class Name for the Link to Registration



### [Virtual Reboot | Regional](#)

Tuesday, July 9  
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
online

### [Global Commerce: The Art of Trade Logistics Episode 2: Global Sourcing Supply Chain Management](#)

Tuesday July 9th  
2 pm - 3 pm

### [Accounting for Non-Accountants - The Absolute Basics](#)

Wednesday July 10  
online  
Noon - 1 pm

### [Polishing your Business Idea](#)

Wednesday July 10  
6 pm - 8:30 pm

### [Manage Your Own Social Media](#)

Thursday, July 11  
Noon - 1 pm

### [Marketing Strategy](#)

Thursday July 11th  
online  
6 pm - 7:15 pm

### [Social Media Marketing](#)

Thursday July 11th  
online  
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

### [Simple Steps for Starting your Business - Basics](#)

Tuesday, July 16  
online

### [How to Start a Business](#)

Wednesday, July 17  
online  
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

### [QuickBooks for Small Business](#)

Wednesday, July 17  
9:00 AM - 10:30 am  
online

### [Engage Your Social Media Audience, Grow Your Business](#)

Tuesday July 23  
online  
Noon - 1 pm

### [Financial Statement Basics](#)

Tuesday July 23  
online  
6pm - 8:30 pm

### [Unemployment Insurance, Compliance, and Tax Management for Your Small Business](#)

Wednesday, July 24  
online  
11 am - Noon

### [Sources of Funding](#)

Wednesday July 24th  
online  
6 - 7:30 pm

### [Financial Projections](#)

Wednesday July 24th  
online  
7:30 - 9 pm

### [Startup & Start Right](#)

Tuesday, July 30  
Noon - 1 pm

### [How to Stand Out in a Competitive Market with a Capability Statement](#)

Tuesday, July 30  
1:30 - 3:30 pm

### [Intellectual Property Basics](#)

Wednesday, July 31  
Noon - 1 pm

### [Lunch N Learn: 5 Ways to Use ChatGPT \(AI\) for small business](#)

Wednesday, July 31  
Noon - 1 pm

Please note that online registration will close at noon the day before each event.

*“Economic development is not a science, but an art, and a combination of forces and factors that must come together in the right way at the right time.” - James E. West*



### In the next issue

- **Featured Business**
- **Entrepreneurship Class Update**
- **Update on Childcare Center in Barton County**
- **GB Alive, Fridays on Forest, and More!**



Watch our 2023 Year in Review

### Let's keep in touch

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