The cover of the Kansas Government Journal features a vibrant background of yellow flowers, likely sunflowers, with a monarch butterfly in the foreground. The butterfly's wings are detailed with black veins and red spots. The title 'Kansas' is written in a large, bold, red serif font, and 'GOVERNMENT JOURNAL' is in a smaller, white, sans-serif font on a dark red banner below it.

Kansas

GOVERNMENT JOURNAL

VOLUME 97-NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 2011

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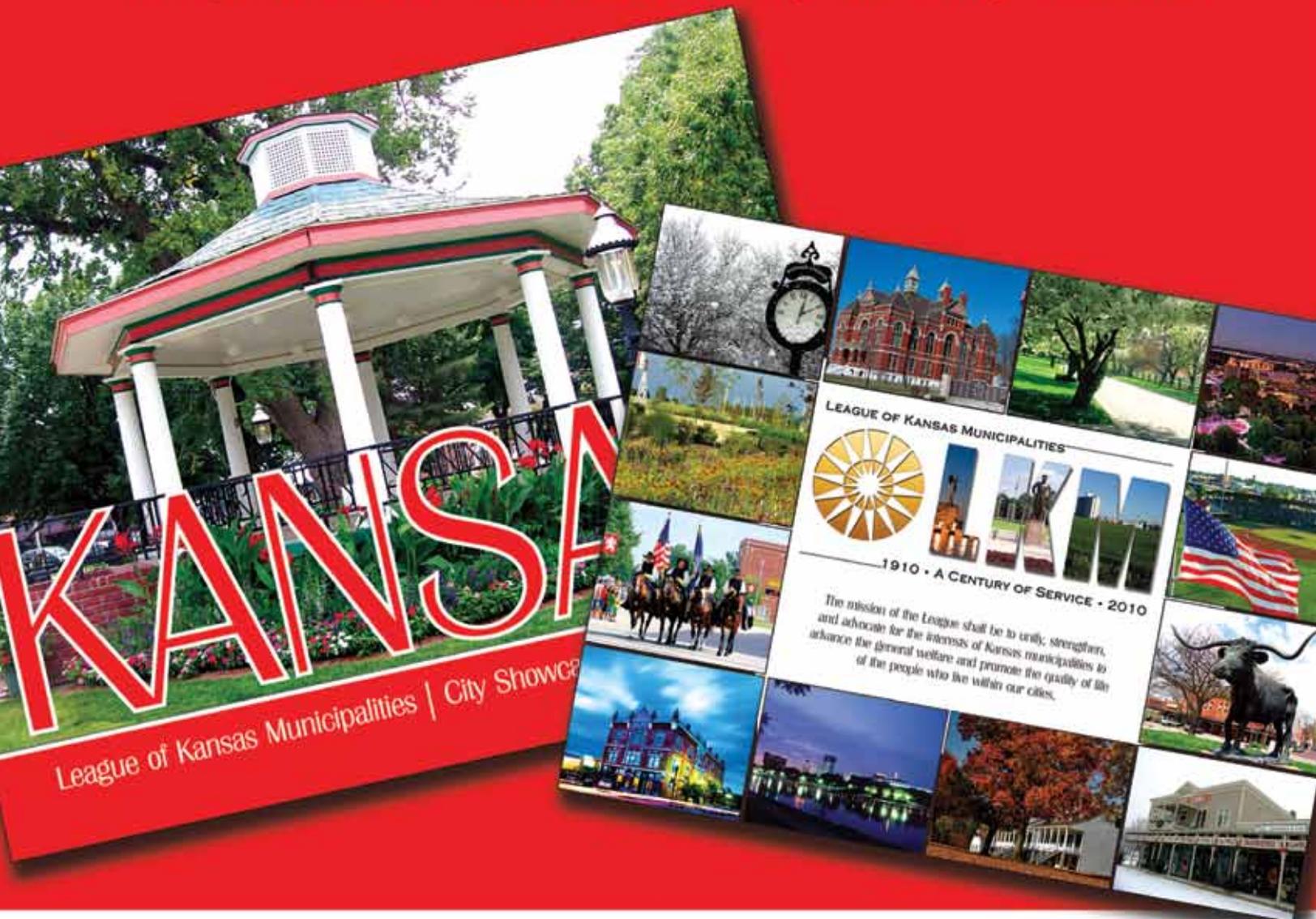
Macksville Celebrates 125 Years

Wind Energy Manufacturer Selects Newton

Update: Annexation in Kansas

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About the Cover:
 A view from the City of Newton's Sand Creek. The City was selected by New Millennium Wind Energy to expand their newest plant, see related article beginning on page 270. *Photo provided by the City of Newton.*

Kansas

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The mission of the League shall be to unify, strengthen, and advocate for the interests of Kansas municipalities to advance the general welfare and promote the quality of life of the people who live within our cities.



October

8 - 10 LKM Annual Conference, Wichita

9 - LKM Governing Body Meeting, Wichita

9 - KMIT Annual Meeting, Wichita

November

4 - MLA: Sexual Harassment, Garden City

4 - MLA: Sexual Harassment, Prairie Village

24 - Thanksgiving

December

9 - LKM Governing Body Meeting, Topeka

16 - KMIT Board of Trustee Meeting, Wichita

25 - Christmas



Obituaries

James A. Craig, 78, died July 28, 2011, at his home in Topeka. In 1956, he joined the Topeka Police Department. He retired in 1983 after 27 years of service. He then was a bus driver for USD 437 for 19 years. Jim was a former Marshal, City Councilman, and Mayor of the City of Auburn.

Mary P. Lampe, 64, died August 16, 2011. She started working for the City of Saint Francis in 1997 and assumed the duties of City Clerk in 2001. Lampe completed the Municipal Clerks Certification Institute (CCMFOA) in 1999 and was a member of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks.

Carolyn A. Marlier, 72, died June 20, 2011. Marlier served as a Bel Aire City Councilwoman from 1999 to 2011. She was also a retired home economics teacher.

Bob Wootton, 86, died August 22, 2011, at his Topeka home. In 1968, Bob became a lobbyist for the Kansas National Education Association, until leaving to serve in the administration of Governor John Carlin. From 1992 to 1994, he represented the 57th House district of North Topeka in the Kansas Legislature.

Lansing Community Benefits From New Grant



A view of the Lansing Historical Museum that received some of the new tables and benches (below), purchased from the Waste Tire Grant. Photos provided by the City of Lansing.

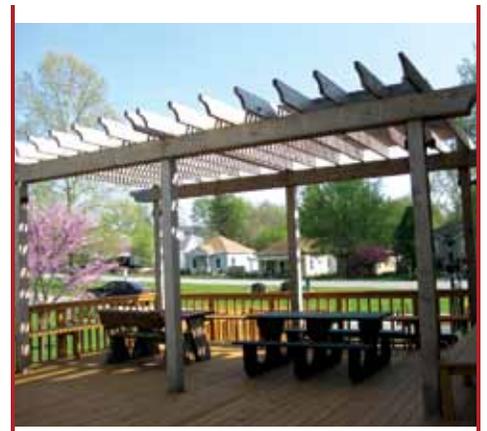
by Laura Phillippi

As Lansing continues to grow, its citizens need parks for recreation, sports, and event facilities. Since 2008, the City of Lansing has spent \$2.2 million to create the 128-acre Kenneth W. Bernard Community Park at 15650 Gilman Road. In the past year, the City constructed a new shelter, sidewalks, and a playground structure at the park. To make the shelter and playground family friendly, the City also needed to purchase tables and benches. In addition, the Lansing Historical Museum has worked to improve its outdoor facilities. In early 2011, Lansing successfully applied for a Kansas Department of Health & Environment Bureau of Waste Management's Waste Tire Grant. The grant is a 50% matching grant which paid for (2) Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant tables, (3) 8 ft. tables, and (4) 6 ft. benches for a total of \$3,971.

This year, 24 waste tire recycling grants totaling almost \$350,000 were awarded across Kansas. According to Bureau of Waste Management Director Bill Bider, more than 140,000 waste tires will be recycled to make the products funded by these grants. These grants are funded through a 25¢ tax paid on the purchase of new tires.

The tables and benches were made by Champlin Tire Recycling in Concordia. Lansing Parks & Recreation staff assembled the tables and benches. One ADA table went to the Museum with the remaining tables going to Kenneth W. Bernard Community Park.

 Laura Phillippi is the Site Supervisor for the Lansing Historical Museum. She can be reached at lphillippi@sbcglobal.net or (913) 250-0203.



WHERE THE ACTION IS

ACROSS THE COUNTRY, NEW INDUSTRY HUBS ARE DRAWING ENTREPRENEURS AND INVESTORS—AND OFFERING START-UPS SUPPORT AND SAFETY IN A TURBULENT ECONOMY.

BY EMILY MALTBY

It's a lesson that's all too easy to forget in a world driven by mobile devices, cloud computing, and home offices. There are big benefits to setting up shop in the right spot—especially among lots of peers in the same field.

Just ask sports-gear makers in Ogden, Utah. Or health-care companies in Nashville. Or nanotechnology researchers in Albany, New York.

These cities, and others like them across the country, have become hubs for specific industries. Entrepreneurs are moving there and flourishing in the teeth of a bleak economy. The cities, in turn, are nurturing the entrepreneurs by giving them access to funding, mentors, and facilities.

All in all, these clusters can be ideal spots for an entrepreneur in the field. Being there means getting access to a much wider range of suppliers, customers, employees, and industry experts. What's more, industry peers are often willing to support each other as they get off the ground, sharing recommendations about staffers, potential sales leads, and attractive office space, or giving each other guidance and insight about the industry.

Jeffrey Logsdon can attest to that. Five years ago, he moved his cybersecurity firm from Phoenix to San Antonio—a city that's seeing a surge in business for companies in the field. Company revenue doubled within three years of the move.

"I'd attribute a lot of our success to the location," he says. "I think the availability of cybersecurity talent and the low cost of doing business here has helped us. And because there are so many different cybersecurity companies, we have improved each other's business through partnerships."

As a hub grows, it brings other benefits to small firms. For one thing, even as businesses cooperate, they challenge each other to innovate—to come up with new ideas that make them stand out from the crowd. "Specialization in a region increases patents, business formation, and higher wages," says Rich Bryden, director of information products at Harvard Business School, who's working with a team mapping industry hubs in the United States.

When businesses come together, they also catch the eye of big players with deep pockets—especially beneficial when the economy is weak and financing is limited.



“It’s easier to be on the radar for investors when you’re part of a critical mass,” says John Fernandez, assistant secretary of commerce for economic development at the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

Hubs also catch the eye of government, says Dan Carol, senior fellow at the New Policy Institute think tank in Washington, D.C. A concentration of small firms in the same field is more likely to be recognized on the municipal level, where funding programs and policies can be created to stimulate their growth.

Here’s a look at seven up-and-coming innovative centers. All have solid partnerships between the public and private sectors, a growing work force to fuel the industry and long-term strategies for development. And entrepreneurs say being there is vital to their success.

INDIANAPOLIS - LIFE SCIENCES



Indianapolis used to be the quintessential Rust Belt city. Now it’s at the center of a statewide boom in the life-sciences business.

The state has added 8,800 jobs in the life sciences in recent years, and today some 825 medical-device companies, drug manufacturers, and research labs call Indiana home.

Indianapolis, which is home to big names in the field such as Eli Lilly & Co. and health insurer WellPoint Inc., is leading the transformation. Corporations like these have added the lion’s share of the state’s new life-sciences jobs. Now they’re helping smaller companies get off the ground, too—by spinning off new businesses as well as by backing independent start-ups. Eli Lilly, for instance, has contributed roughly \$60 million to seed and venture funds that are supporting entrepreneurs.

That isn’t the only way big companies are easing the way for small ones. With new firms arriving to supply the large drug makers, start-ups are getting access to a range of services at competitive prices.

“We have access to companies in Indiana where we can outsource functions like toxicology, analytics, and clinical supply,” says Ron Ellis, president and CEO of Endocyte Inc., a 65-employee firm that’s testing a cancer treatment.

Many small firms, meanwhile, are helping others get off to a good start. David Broecker, president and chief executive of BioCritica Inc., an Eli Lilly spinoff, says his peers have referred employees, suggested work space, and given information on tax and financial incentives.

It’s just the environment he hoped for when he left the East Coast to build a company. He considered other spots but settled on Indianapolis because “it’s all new and exciting here for these folks, so there is a hunger for doing this type of thing.”

SAN ANTONIO - CYBERSECURITY



Washington, D.C., has usually taken the lead in creating Internet-defense systems. But the Alamo City is poised to give the Beltway a run for its money. There are more than 80 information-technology and cyber-related businesses in San Antonio, and that figure is increasing rapidly, according to the City’s Chamber of Commerce.

Many entrepreneurs are anticipating a flood of government contracts from the new Air Force Cyber Command headquarters in town. The military chose San Antonio in part because the armed forces have always had a strong presence there—and many of the

city’s workers have security clearances from the Defense Department and the National Security Agency. Another big plus: a stream of skilled graduates from the University of Texas at San Antonio.

But not all the firms in town are counting on government contracts. The City has a growing group of businesses that cater primarily to the private sector, like MainNerve Inc., the company Mr. Logsdon moved to San Antonio. The firm helps health-care companies secure digital records and servers. “The quantity of people here allowed us to show more discernment in our hiring,” says Mr. Logsdon. “It was the best place for us to find qualified and certified cybersecurity professionals—and it doesn’t hurt that they have military experience.”

ALBANY, N.Y. - NANOTECHNOLOGY



The capital of New York state is becoming a big player in a field that deals with small things—nanotechnology. The city now boasts more than 4,000 people in the industry, centered on the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering at the University at Albany.

The school has doubled in size during the recession to its current 800,000 sq. ft. complex. Dozens of nanotechnology companies have established a presence there to take advantage of research facilities and business incubators; since 2008, nearly 50 new start-ups have launched within its walls.

The build-out was part of a state plan, formulated years earlier, to revive the economy in upstate New York. Financing came partly from the State and partly from corporations like International Business Machines Corp., which now have offices there alongside entrepreneurs. That means companies can share the cost of equipment and labor—and start-ups get to associate themselves with big names.

“The prestige of being here and the credibility is amazing, which helps when you are talking with VCs and investors and large companies,” says Primal Fernando, CEO and chief technology officer of Resource Management Technology Systems Inc., which moved to Albany from La Junta, Colorado, last year. “And the equipment available here is not available elsewhere.”

Many companies are launching off-campus, as well, in laboratories that are opening in once-vacant buildings. And financiers and other vital players have been moving in to be a part of the action.

“Venture capital has been growing to feed the innovation,” says Alain Kaloyeros, a physics professor and senior vice president of the college. “Suppliers and law firms are moving to the region to support this ecosystem, so it will be quite an exciting venture to watch.”

KANSAS CITY - INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



Welcome to “Silicon Prairie.” Kansas City, straddling the Kansas and Missouri state line, is home to tech giants like Sprint Nextel Corporation and Cerner Corporation, but its industry ranks have been swelling with smaller firms. In 2009, the number of tech companies rose by 5% to 2,900, trumping the growth rates of well-known hubs like Silicon Valley, Boston, and Austin, Texas, according to a 2010 study published by the TechAmerica Foundation.

Part of the lure for entrepreneurs: a high-speed fiber network from Google Inc., which chose Kansas City over 1,100 other cities to set

up the service. Expected to roll out next year, the network will run 100 times faster than current broadband, which will likely bolster cloud-based technologies and pave the way for high-definition streaming services that will be hard to find elsewhere.

The Google initiative will be “an excellent platform for innovation,” says Bryan Richard, founder of iCode Inc., a Web start-up that posts profiles of software developers. “Everyone in the technology business is talking about it here in town, and everyone wants to do something with it and maximize it.”

Entrepreneurs who have relocated from the coasts also tout the friendly business environment. It’s far less expensive to build a firm and develop technology, they say, and there are fewer state and city regulations to worry about. And, as in other hubs, many entrepreneurs are helping each other. “Numerous times people have asked me for things I have expertise in and there are times where I call competitors...for specific problems,” says Donald Rossberg, president of Dataworks Inc., a technology-support and consulting start-up. “In the end, we all benefit.”

ASHEVILLE, N.C. - BEER BREWING



Craft beer is a small industry, but it has a devoted customer base. One Southern town is going after those fans with vigor.

Asheville, a Blue Ridge Mountain town of 75,000, has 10 breweries, with two on the way. That can’t compare with the 40 in Portland, Oregon, but it stacks up to other beer havens like Milwaukee and Boulder, Colorado, which both have fewer than a dozen. “Asheville is definitely on the map and well recognized in the craft-brewing industry,” says Paul Gatza, director of the Brewers Association in Boulder.

Entrepreneurs new to the area seek mentoring from the established brewmasters and the Asheville Brewers Alliance, formed to exchange ideas and promote the industry. They also tap Blue Ridge Food Ventures, an incubator for developing and commercializing products.

Competition among the breweries is a key driver of growth. “Every time a new brewery opens, it has to create its own creative edge, and then the other breweries have to be creative to become relevant again,” explains Bill Drew, owner and brewmaster at Craggie Brewing Co. “So it’s good when the new guys come in; it keeps the old guys on their toes.”

In fact, the beer culture has permeated the town, with a host of businesses cooking up beer-flavored edibles and artists making tap handles and bottle labels. The environment gives brewers a place to source ingredients and fuel creativity. “By local companies teaming together, it’s pretty much a win-win,” Mr. Drew says.

NASHVILLE, TENN. - HEALTH CARE



Early last year, the federal government passed legislation calling for a host of health-care reforms. And Nashville is poised to benefit from the overhaul.

There are more than 250 health-care companies in the city, and their numbers are rising. Employment in nursing, hospital, and ambulatory services jumped 16% between 2004 and 2008, for instance. That, in turn, provides fertile ground for companies that create medical devices and patient-care systems.

The entrepreneurial spirit “is infectious,” says Leon Dowling, founder and chief executive of IMI Health Inc., which collects and organizes health records to give insight into the best patient-care

practices. “Within 10 miles of my office, I can have more potential clients than any other city in America.”

Last August, the City launched an entrepreneur center to spur innovation; two-thirds of the firms that have sought mentoring and financing are related to health care. State programs have also helped propel the industry. Recently, some \$180 million in public funds has been made available to burgeoning firms.

It’s an attractive spot for entrepreneurs like Stephen Hau, president and chief executive of Shareable Ink Corp. The company, whose digital pen records doctors’ notes and transfers them to an electronic format, launched nearly three years ago in Boston and established a presence in Nashville last year. Today, 60% of the company is in Nashville.

“The community here is so well versed in health care that it keeps us plugged in to the key issues and how to resolve them,” says Mr. Hau. “And in terms of the investment community today, people are careful about where they place their bets. Being here, [investors] see we are aligned with thought leaders.”

OGDEN, UTAH - OUTDOOR SPORTS



Ogden, a small city some 40 miles north of the capital, packs a concentrated punch in the outdoor and recreation industry.

Ogden made headlines in 2002, when it hosted events for the Salt Lake City Olympic Games. Those Olympic facilities, along with acres of pristine mountains, canyons and rivers, are the main reason outdoor-apparel and equipment companies have been moving to town: The site offers a perfect spot for testing new products, and it’s easily accessible from a nearby airport that supports direct flights to Europe. What’s more, business owners say, the growing base of competing companies in the area push each other to design the best equipment.

Utah has a relatively modest share of the industry; the state estimates it’s home to about 5% of the outdoor-products firms in the U.S. Still, companies that expanded in or relocated to Utah have created at least 2,550 jobs in the past 6 years, according to the Economic Development Corporation of Utah.

Industry goliaths get partial credit for the surge in Ogden. Amer Sports Corp., the company behind Wilson, Atomic, and other brands, consolidated its U.S. operations in 2007 and moved them to the town. Quality Bicycle Products Inc., a distributor based in Bloomington, Minnesota, set up its second location in Ogden in 2010.

Quality’s founder, Steve Flagg, liked the growing retailer base, easy access to the West Coast and strong labor pool. But, he says, “the game changer was the transformation that the City was going through,” as other companies moved in, and the local government actively recruited more.

Local leaders are also helping start-ups like Kahuna Creations Inc., a longboard, surfboard, and landpaddle company, launch and grow. Kahuna founder Steve McBride says the mayor’s office helped him land funding and find a low-rent facility in 2008. The company has grown 30% to 50% annually.

“You get a network of people who really want to help,” Mr. McBride says. “We’ve been flourishing here.”

 Ms. Maltby is a small-business reporter in The Wall Street Journal’s New York bureau. She can be reached at emily.maltby@wsj.com.

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A Lesson in Civics

Many individuals express dissatisfaction with the tone and tenor of public discourse. Whether evaluating government debates at the federal, state, or local level, the common assessment is that civility is often lacking between individuals of differing views. One result from the political climate is that youth often disengage from a system that can appear broken.

The League of Kansas Municipalities (LKM) addressed the issue of youth and community involvement in the 1990s by working with the Kansas Department of Education to craft civics requirements for elementary, middle, and high school students. As part of this process, LKM worked with interested organizations, including the Kansas Association of City/County Management (www.kacm.us) and the Kansas Association of School Boards (www.kasb.org), to create a textbook designed for middle school students on local government and the role it plays.

LKM also works to promote civics through its annual “If I Were Mayor” Contest (www.lkm.org/youtheducation/mayoressay) and its coloring book, “My City, My Home” (www.lkm.org/youtheducation/coloringbook), which is linked to the third-grade civics requirements. Many city officials have complemented this effort by working with teachers to show the many important services that local government provides and the importance of civic engagement.

Spreading the City Message

The City of Lyons is one community that has been particularly active in engaging students. Nearly 10 years ago, the City began its own coloring contest for elementary students after receiving a flyer from the American Water Works Association “AWWA” (www.awwa.org). AWWA is a nonprofit organization dedicated to safe water that spearheaded the campaign for a national week dedicated to drinking water, a program that officially came to fruition after President Reagan signed a joint congressional resolution in 1988. AWWA sent Lyons information about National Drinking Water Week in an effort to encourage public awareness and involvement regarding drinking-water issues.

AWWA regularly distributes information kits containing ideas for celebrating Drinking Water Week, and the City of Lyons was attracted to the AWWA idea of offering local students a coloring contest. The City opened a coloring contest to elementary students in preschool, kindergarten, first grade, and second grade. Shirley Blank, Lyons’s Utility Administrator, chooses a coloring sheet for each grade from the AWWA website.

In early April, Ms. Blank visits the schools and distributes the sheets to each classroom. The students then color the sheets, which Blank receives later in the month. The sheets always have

a water theme and often include information on conserving water. The City displays the students’ work in city hall, and community leaders judge the contest. Lyons offers awards for first, second, and third place in each grade, and they announce the winners to correspond with Drinking Water Week at the beginning of May.

At the first council meeting in May, the mayor presents the students with a certificate and a prize, which in past years has included chamber bucks, t-shirts, and swimming-pool passes. The City encourages the students’ parents to attend the ceremony. The City of Lyons also prepares a package for the rest of the student participants. The package highlights the City and often includes water bottles, rulers, and pencils—all of which emphasize the positive work that local government contributes.

Encouraging Results

Ms. Blank discussed some of the positives of reaching students at such a young age. One highlight is that it captures student excitement when it is at its peak. The students show sincere enthusiasm about the program, and the awards serve as a real point of pride. The coloring sheets have a positive message about being good stewards of water and present the message in a fun manner. The coloring contest also allows the City to remind parents about the important service that the City provides with potable and affordable drinking water.

When cities like Lyons put forward effort to engage students and the public, it results in a more positive view of government and community. This is by no means a universal solution for the discord that dominates the political arena, but it is a starting point. In order to change the public perception of the government, city officials must be proactive in communicating how local government provides everything from police and fire protection to drinking water and roads. By doing so, students and their families will gain awareness of the positive impact of government.

This article is as much to serve as a charge to cities as it is to highlight the efforts by the City of Lyons. There are many resources available to engage youth whether it is using AWWA’s coloring resources to run a local contest or reaching out to local teachers to speak in conjunction with one of LKM’s educational resources (www.lkm.org/youtheducation). City officials work hard to serve the community, and it is important for citizens young and old to understand that government can be for good.

 *Nathan Eberline is the Intergovernmental Relations Associate for the League of Kansas Municipalities. He can be reached at neberline@lkm.org or (785) 354-9565.*

For the Good of Holton

by Bret Bauer, Kerwin McKee, and Scott Fredrickson

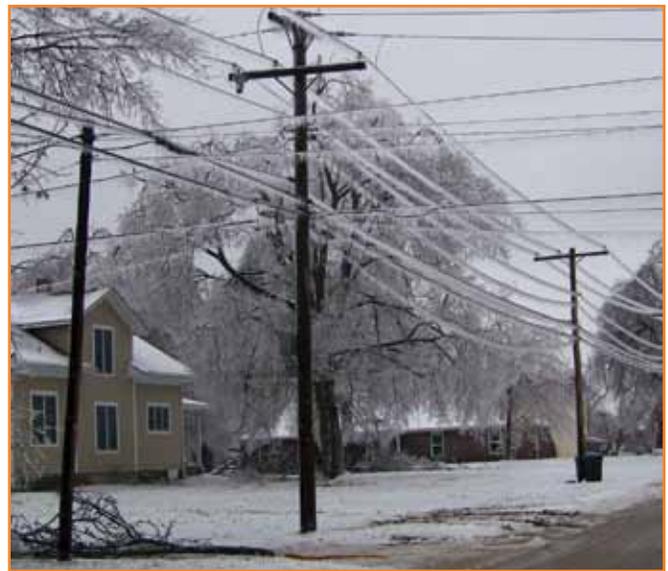


In December of 2007 the State of Kansas experienced an ice storm of devastating proportions, and the City of Holton did not escape Mother Nature's fury that fateful month. While the ice storm was devastating, city crews went to work immediately to restore power to Holton residents and its customers. A number of events took place after the ice storm that led to a successful completion of our electrical rebuild, and it is truly a testament to what individuals can do when faced with hard and difficult times.

In the afternoon hours of December 10, 2007, the ice storm began and did not end until late in the day on the 11th. City crews went to work clearing the streets and power lines of tree limbs, repairing the destroyed power lines, replacing the utility poles, and coordinating with volunteers. With the number of tree limbs lying in streets, alleys, and yards, the City had to first focus efforts on clearing the streets to allow for crews to gain access to utility poles and lines. Once this task was completed, crews moved right in and



Crews working to restore electricity after the 2007 ice storm. Right photo: Layers of ice covered the power lines causing many residents to be without power. *Photos provided by the City of Holton.*



residents, Welliever Construction, and Haug Construction. Each of these volunteers provided assistance to Holton when it was truly needed either by assisting with tree limb removal, repairing of utility poles and lines, and even cooking food for all of the crews.

Long-term recovery started in February of 2008, and consisted of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Kansas Department of Emergency Management (KDEM), and the City of Holton. This initial long-term recovery process included a electrical rebuild evaluation, which was submitted to FEMA and KDEM for review and approval. Ultimately, both FEMA and KDEM approved the submittal granting us the go ahead to start the bidding process for material procurement and electrical system reconductor, which included labor and equipment.

Bids were awarded in July of 2009 and construction of our electrical rebuild started in October of 2009. The construction period lasted 18 months and consisted of multiple projects, replacement of utility poles, and new electrical line. The total number of projects that were a part of our rebuild was 52, and they were broken up into two categories. The first category was rural projects, which had 26 projects. The second category was the urban part of our rebuild and had 26 projects as well.

Each of the different rebuild areas, urban and rural, consisted of a total of 1,231 new utility poles erected. The total number of new electrical line installed was 38 miles. This number when calculated into linear feet equates to 517,339 linear ft. of new electrical line. Total cost of this project was approximately \$3.5 million.

The rebuild construction concluded in April of 2011. It was met with a huge sigh of relief by staff to finally have the remembrance of a bad winter storm behind us. All of the integral parts that took place to ensure the rebuild concluded successfully, for example, other cities providing assistance, local contractors, and Holton residents cooking good hot food for our crews. This is a perfect example and definition of the word community—coming together to achieve a common goal for the good of Holton.

☀ *Bret Bauer is the City Manager, Kerwin McKee is the Assistant City Manager, and Scott Fredrickson is the Electrical Distribution Superintendent for the City of Holton. They can all be reached at (785) 364-2721.*

started clearing power lines off tree limbs. As this process was being worked on, other crews started actually repairing and replacing utility poles and power lines.

This step by step initial recovery took approximately 10 days from the start of the ice storm until power was restored to all Holton residents and customers. One important aspect to the initial recovery efforts was the very much appreciated volunteer support we received from the City of St. Mary's, City of Pomona, City of Garnett, Holton



KDHE Receives Funds

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has been awarded funds to develop an integrated data system that will generate health-related statistics encompassing data from state- and county-level systems. KDHE applied for this grant through the Kansas Health Foundation.

KansasHealthMatters Healthy Communities Network (HCN) will deliver resources for communities conducting health needs assessments, health improvement plans, and evidence-based strategies to address identified health problems. Scheduled to be released in the first quarter of 2012, the online dashboard will display health and quality-of-life indicators using multiple data views (no patient-level data will be distributed) including compare-to-region (state, county/city, sub-county), compare-to-target and trends. Additionally, pertinent national and state health news will be available.

“The dashboard will be a seamless blend of locally and centrally provided content to Kansans,” explained Brenda Nickel, KDHE Performance Management Director. “This system will give Kansans access to the most current available data and resources for their specific communities.”

KDHE will be working closely on the development of KansasHealthMatters with the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, the Kansas Hospital Association, and the Kansas Health Institute.

“Working toward the implement of this integrated system is a great example of how KDHE is leveraging its partnerships to improve the state’s coordination of public health programs,” said KDHE Secretary Robert Moser, MD. “Through collaboration we can break down silos and give local communities the tools they need to improve health outcomes.”

New Wind Company to Expand in Wichita

Wurth Service Supply is the latest wind-energy industry supplier to open a business in the Wichita area.

The German company is opening a 25,000 sq. ft. logistics and distribution center that will create 10 new jobs.

Wurth supplies fasteners and fastener systems to Siemens Energy in Hutchinson, but it also supplies Coleman and Agco.

“Wichita provides us with an excellent location to support our wind energy, agricultural, and regional industrial customer base,” said John Fuerst, president and CEO, Wurth Service Supply.

The company received training incentives and tax credits from the state, but no local incentives.

Wurth adds to Kansas’ growing cluster of wind energy businesses, along with AH Industries, Prysmian/Draka, Jupiter Group, Tindall Corp., and the latest New Millennium Wind Energy.

“In today’s economy any deal is a big deal,” said Debra Teufel, a managing director of the Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition (GWEDC).

David Bossemeyer, a managing director at the GWEDC, said the area is in the running for a number of other wind-related businesses, some small and some quite large.

“As more companies come here, I think we are getting a harder look,” he said.

Kansas Highway is a Candidate for Nationwide Awards

The K-23 Practical Improvement Project in Gove County has been selected as a candidate for America’s Transportation Awards People’s Choice Award. The award recognizes roads that reduce congestion, create new access, or open new business opportunities.

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) saved time and taxpayers money through its use of “practical design” strategies that rebuilt the 17 mile, two-lane road in Western Kansas.

The rural roadway dated back to a Works Progress Administration project and although the roadway was originally built at 28 ft. wide, additional asphalt material placed over the years had raised the grade and reduced the roadway to 24 ft. The project removed deteriorated asphalt and rebuilt 7 in. lower than current grade—closer to its original grade allowing the roadway to be widened.

The \$7.8 million project made the roadway safer by adding new 12 ft. driving lanes and 2 ft. wide paved shoulders with rumble strips. The practical design saved construction time and more than \$11 million in project costs.

The People’s Choice Award is just one of two national awards sponsored by the American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials, AAA, and the US Chamber of Commerce.

The Grand Prize will be selected by a panel of transportation experts and the People’s Choice Award will be determined by on-line voters. Both winning states will receive funds to support an educational grant in the transportation field, or to fund a community service project selected by the winning state’s department of transportation.

State Invests In Bioenergy Projects

The State will invest \$4.9 million in federal stimulus funds to support a biomass energy project.

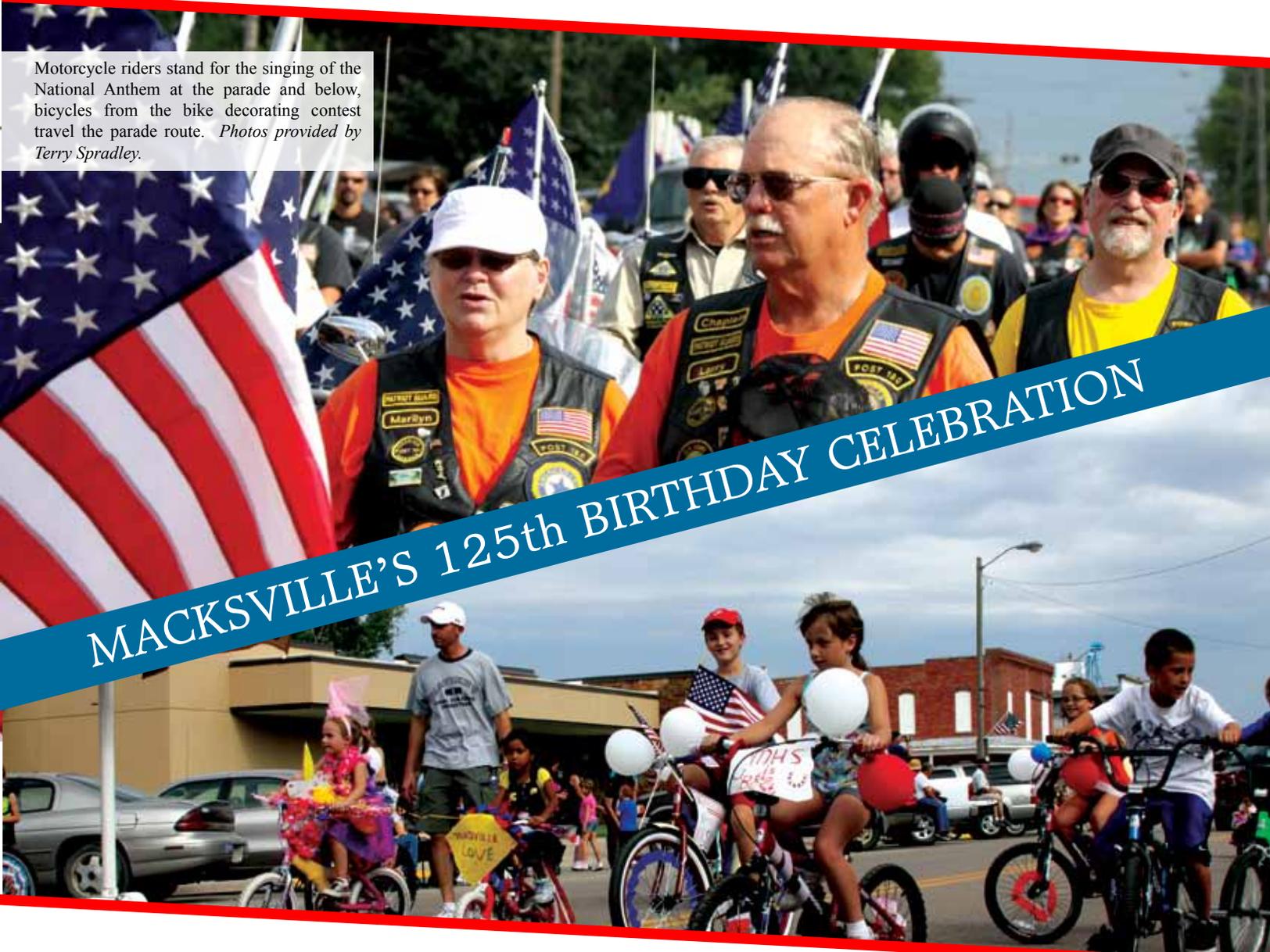
The Wichita-based Kansas Alliance for Biorefining and Bioenergy will use the money to buy advanced harvesting and transportation equipment to deliver biomass feedstock to the plant more efficiently.

The plan is to use the equipment mainly in the northeast and southwest parts of the state.

The State will also spend nearly \$15.6 million for methane digester equipment technology at an ethanol plant near Oakley. The plant’s onsite power generator will be converted to use methane from cattle manure instead of natural gas. Plant operator Western Plains Energy will partner with Pioneer Feeders, also near Oakley, for the manure.

According to the Department of Commerce, the funds are being spent to insure the money would remain in Kansas. Unspent stimulus funds have to go back to the federal government.

Motorcycle riders stand for the singing of the National Anthem at the parade and below, bicycles from the bike decorating contest travel the parade route. Photos provided by Terry Spradley.



MACKSVILLE'S 125th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

BY TERRY SPRADLEY

Motorcycles roared, horseshoes clinked in the sand, and dignitaries and guests lined the streets of Macksville as the small community celebrated its 125th birthday, September 3-4, 2011.

“We had wonderful weather and a great turnout for all the events,” said Kelly Benzel, one of the event promoters. “There was good attendance at the Lion’s Club breakfast and 5K run for breast cancer awareness.”

The small community had a full agenda of events for the weekend memorializing the town’s beginnings.

Local family quilts were on display at the Grace United Methodist Church. There were 103 quilts on display, including the Centennial quilt made 25 years ago and a new quilt made specifically for the 125th celebration.

The “Roping Rodeo” event had 14 entries and over 70 entries were featured in the parade. The community and floats lined Main Street as far as one could see. Miss Kansas and U.S. Senator Jerry Moran were in attendance at the parade. Senator Moran gave a formal thank you to the town’s active and inactive military, and a special thank you to surviving WWII veterans, Fred Clark, Eugene Grizzell, and Oric Neelly. Kansas State Senator Ruth Teichman also attended the parade to show her support for the community.

The parade also awarded prizes for entries. The categories included best car show, tractor show, motorcycle show, and best decorated

bicycle. Grand Marshalls that were ages 90 and above were in attendance and given special recognition by Miss Kansas.

A stunt flying air show demonstration hosted by Clark Flying Service filled the air that morning, followed by arts and crafts, food and drinks, train rides, and games for all at the city park.

“The Air show and home made pies were a big event,” Benzel said. “The Library also had several kids participate in readings and skits.”

A hog roast with all the fixings was served to the community that evening, followed by a street dance featuring the *Thunder Alley* band.

Prior to the weekend, a time capsule from 25 years ago was opened. Contents from the capsule were on community display in the Fire Station for two weeks. A new capsule is in the works and will be opened in 25 years, 2036.

On Sunday morning, the celebration continued with a worship in the park by all three churches. A potluck lunch was enjoyed afterwards, and the local 4-H group held a movie night at the tennis courts that evening. A large number was in attendance for the movie *Soul Surfer*.

☀ Terry Spradley is the Editor for St. John News. He can be reached at sjnewseditor@embarqmail.com. This article was reprinted with permission from the St. John News online edition, September 8, 2011.

WIND ENERGY MANUFACTURER SELECTS NEWTON FOR NEW FACILITY

-by Erin McDaniel-

Governor Sam Brownback's special visit to Newton. Photo provided by the City of Newton.



New partnership with Tulsa port to foster additional growth

Colorado-based New Millennium Wind Energy has chosen the Kansas Logistics Park in Newton for its first manufacturing facility, state and local officials announced.

In a special visit to Newton on July 15, Governor Sam Brownback said New Millennium's new facility will manufacture an innovative vertical-axis wind turbine, adding to the emerging wind energy development cluster in Kansas.

"What a great day for Newton and Kansas," Brownback said. "New Millennium represents an innovative company making exciting products in an expanding industry for the state. Kansas is beautifully positioned to create new good-paying jobs through alternative energy. This is more proof that Kansas can compete and win in the global marketplace."

The new facility is projected to employ about 70 people in the first year of operations, and more than 350 in the next 3 to 4 years. The company expects to commit \$20 to \$30 million in resources over a 5-year plan. The plant is expected to be operational by July 2012.

"Newton was a logical choice for our manufacturing facilities," said Drew Thacker, founder and chief executive officer. "Newton

has a strong local workforce with the right skill sets, as well as good logistical support, including rail, barge, and highway access. Those were key factors in our decision, as our product lines will ship worldwide. We wanted to be in the heartland of wind generation and believe that Kansas will lead the way in this field."

New Millennium Wind Energy was founded in Colorado in 2009 to develop and manufacture the newly designed turbine, called the Next Generation Wind Turbine. The turbines range from 28 by 20 ft. for the smaller units to 35 by 28 ft. for the larger units, all light-weight and designed to be installed directly on the rooftops of commercial buildings, which is a first-of-its-kind design. The Newton facility will produce 20- to 60-kilowatt systems. The company expects to see high-volume demand from big-box and smaller commercial users.

"Our point-of-use turbines will revolutionize renewable energy deployment," Thacker said. "These systems can provide significant power to data centers, skyscrapers and big-box retail stores but also to the most remote villages and locations to assure all people have energy for irrigation, clean water, sewage treatment, lighting, and the ability to access remote learning opportunities at affordable cost."

The first phase of the project, expected to be complete by late this year, will involve assembly and final testing of production designs. The turbines are planned to be made from high-tech, carbon-based composites. Future phases will involve increasing assembly capacity, composite fabrications, and possibly advanced technology

other economic development programs designed to grow the state's economy and create jobs.

"I look forward to watching New Millennium Wind Energy become a valued member of the Newton community and the state," said Commerce Secretary Pat George. "Our economic development efforts to move the state forward as a desirable place to do business are certainly evident in today's announcement."

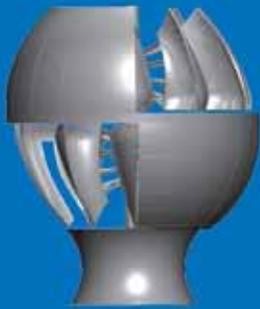
NEW MILLENNIUM WIND ENERGY

Patented Unique Design Counters Moments of Inertia
Thus allowing "First Ever" Rooftop Installations

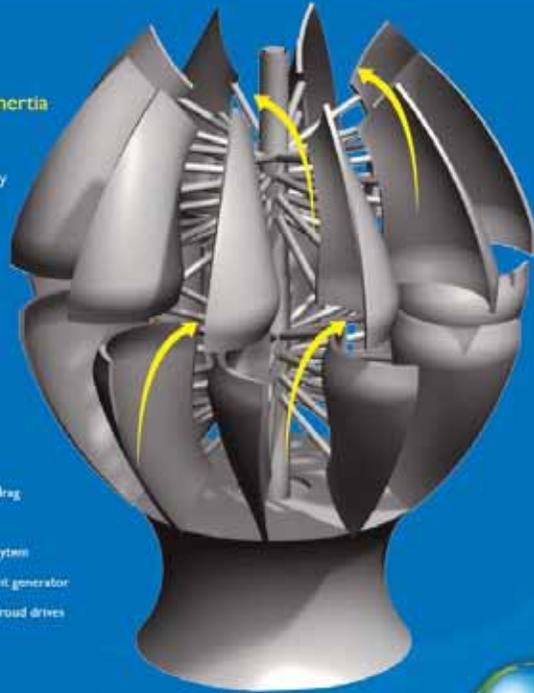
Wind energy drafts upward to take advantage of kinetic energy loss and reduce drag.

Airfoils work in tandem to produce compressor effect between upper and lower lifting bodies.

Spiral wind flow and slow RPMs eliminates harm to birds and other flying animals.



- Counter rotating fins
- Draft upward - no turbulence or drag
- Strouds protect from high winds
- Dual drive shafts counterbalance system
- Direct drive to floor or roof mount generator
- Solar panels provide energy for stroud drives



www.nmwenergy.com



for high-rate composite manufacturing with assistance from the National Institute for Aviation Research (NIAR) at Wichita State University.

The project represents a strong collaborative effort by the City of Newton, Harvey County, the Harvey County Economic Development Council, and the State of Kansas.

"The Economic Development Council is honored to have the Kansas Logistics Park as the chosen location of New Millennium Wind Energy's new manufacturing site," said Mickey Fornaro-Dean, Executive Director of the EDC. "This project is an affirmation of the vision and partnership our leadership has been fostering. We have truly enjoyed working with New Millennium Wind Energy and our partners to make this a reality."

With its focus on renewable energy, the company is looking for a sustainable facility. Suzanne Loomis, Newton City Engineer and Director of Public Works, said the new building will be LEED-certified.

New Millennium Wind Energy will receive incentives through the Kansas Economic Opportunity Initiatives Fund, which is used to support state and local efforts to encourage companies to locate or expand operations in Kansas. The company also may qualify for additional incentives through Promoting Employment Across Kansas (PEAK), High Performance Incentive Program (HPIP), and

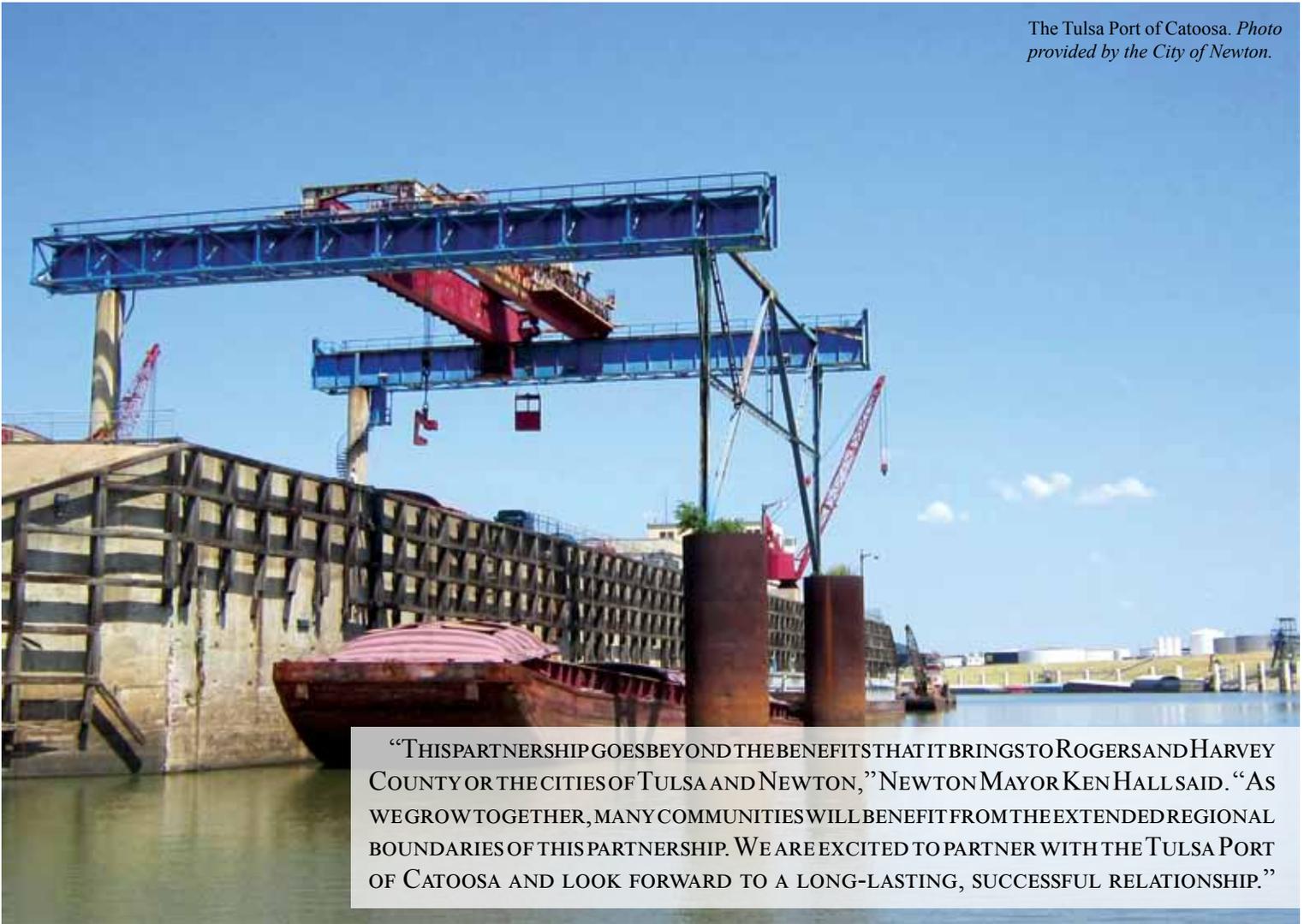
City and County signed an interlocal agreement in 2010 for the development of the park, dividing up the costs for land acquisition, road work, water and sewer lines, and drainage improvements, creating a true interlocal partnership. Economic Development Council leaders are traveling throughout the United States and Europe to market the park.

Local officials hope to use the park to take advantage of national and international trends in alternative energy and trade. States are setting new energy standards, and the federal government is making it very attractive for companies to invest in wind energy. Many large companies are seeking sites for new facilities to serve the wind energy demand.

Newton is uniquely positioned to take advantage of what's happening:

- Kansas is the No. 2 state for wind energy potential.
- Newton's transportation assets are ideal for logistics involving large components.
- Newton is close to a major manufacturing region but is located in a large, open, uncongested area.

The park's first tenant, Tindall Corporation of Spartanburg, South Carolina, was announced in December 2009. Its Newton facility will manufacture concrete bases that will raise wind turbines an additional 40 meters to generate more power. Plans call for a



“THIS PARTNERSHIP GOES BEYOND THE BENEFITS THAT IT BRINGS TO ROGERS AND HARVEY COUNTY OR THE CITIES OF TULSA AND NEWTON,” NEWTON MAYOR KEN HALL SAID. “AS WE GROW TOGETHER, MANY COMMUNITIES WILL BENEFIT FROM THE EXTENDED REGIONAL BOUNDARIES OF THIS PARTNERSHIP. WE ARE EXCITED TO PARTNER WITH THE TULSA PORT OF CATOOSA AND LOOK FORWARD TO A LONG-LASTING, SUCCESSFUL RELATIONSHIP.”

150,000- to 200,000 sq. ft. facility, with a total capital investment of about \$66 million. Tindall is expected to break ground in 2012.

PORT OF CATOOSA

Officials from New Millennium Wind Energy indicated that one factor in their decision to locate in Newton was the Kansas Logistics Park’s strategic partnership with the Port of Catoosa in Tulsa.

The Port of Catoosa is the farthest inland ice-free port in the United States. The port is directly connected to Newton by rail and highways, which gives Kansas manufacturers access to barge transportation to the Gulf of Mexico and beyond.

On July 19, Newton and Harvey County officials traveled to Tulsa to tour the port and sign the partnership agreement, which calls for a number of joint initiatives, including:

- A joint marketing campaign to generate new shipping ventures.
- Sharing of data that could be helpful in determining future markets and strategies.
- Market studies pertaining to trade and statistics.
- Sharing of technological products and information.
- Training programs.

Ed Fariss, chairman of the City of Tulsa-Rogers County Port Authority, said the new arrangement would be good for both

regions, helping to make logistics easier and lowering shipping costs.

“In our competitive world of international trade, transportation costs play a major part in the challenge of winning market share in international commerce,” Fariss said. “By partnering regionally, we will meet these challenges for our regional manufacturers.”

The partnership agreement is expected to become even more valuable in the coming years as international trade grows in importance. China’s economy is already the second-largest in the world and is expected to double the U.S. economy by 2050. Asia will become the United States’ primary trading partner.

At the same time, the Panama Canal is scheduled for expansion in 2014, allowing much larger ships to transport foreign goods to the Western Hemisphere. Dick Grenville, director of logistics and business development for the Port of Catoosa, said the changing trade landscape will have a major impact on the Kansas Logistics Park.

“You will have a world market at your fingertips,” he said.

For more information, please visit www.kansaslogisticspark.com.

 Erin McDaniel is the Public Information Officer for the City of Newton. She can be reached at emcdaniel@newtonkansas.com or (316) 284-6055.



...On a “Texas Shaped” Daytrip

It was the last summer day trip, which granddaughter Maddison correctly dubbed the “Texas-Shaped” trip ...check it out by drawing a line from Derby to Potwin to Ebling, through Newton to Halstead, south to Bentley, west to Andale and then back southeast to Derby...a land area somewhat smaller than Texas.

Our first stop (on what was just one more of the record number of 100+ days in central Kansas this year) was in Benton. Located just east of Bel Aire along K-254, between Wichita and El Dorado, Benton is an immaculate and cozy little bedroom community of 808 people. At City Hall, Maddi and I had a warm visit with City Manager Dale Shaffer and City Clerk Joyce Casady, both of whom had attended one of the League’s City Clerk MLAs (in Iola), just a couple of weeks earlier. The most current issue/challenge in Benton has been restructuring the financing of a subdivision whose development was challenged by aspects of the housing bust. Dale was encouraged to be moving past the crisis and on to better times. Entering the south end of town from the west (on a county road), Maddi and I had come right past the wonderful Stearman Field Bar and Grill, fly-in (or drive in) café, where the small planes seem to scrape the roof of your car (and head) as they come in from the north. Dale has previously advised me that the food is terrific, but I still haven’t had the chance to sample the fare there. We brought home a menu...

On to Potwin (pop.434), located a few miles northwest of El Dorado, along K-196, where brand-new City Clerk Sherri Wedel was doing a massive cleaning and reorganization of the office space of the City shop/ City Hall. A new clerk following a longtime clerk usually has some changing and rearranging to do. Sherri was, at that particular point, a little overwhelmed by everything, but, having come from being on the council, she did have somewhat of a head start on understanding city business. During our stay there, Mayor Dean Schmidt, who was busy mowing city property on that HOT Kansas day, stopped by. These two are NICE people. And, both were also attendees at the aforementioned clerks training. I thought it was pretty cool that Mayor Dean would take the time and effort to come to the training along with Sherri...it really shows his level of commitment to his city (that and mowing in the blistering heat).

Down the same highway to the west a few miles, I went into the Whitewater (pop. 636) City Hall for just a very short “hi” visit with City Clerk Kathleen Wiebe, who was busy (along with her daughter who was helping out) with getting out the city newsletter. From Whitewater, we drove north a few miles to “Forty-Mile Road” (an east/west Harvey/ Butler county road, which is First Street, extended, out of Newton, and which terminates at Cassidy on the east end), where we stopped by the tiny city of Elbing (pop.208), but alas, it was over the lunch hour, and nobody was “home.” As is my custom, I left my business card in the drop slot, and City Clerk Marsha Clark kindly emailed me the next day...so, I do need to go back sometime soon.

We headed west, and looked around at a downtown flea market in Newton a bit (yes, Maddi talked grandpa into a small purchase or two), before heading on west along US-50 to Halstead (that story was last month), and then south, out of Harvey County and into Sedgwick County, to Bentley, where we shared a light-hearted moment or two with City Clerk Daylene Beckner, Deputy City Clerk Angela Clark and one of the outside staff (whose name I did not get...sorry), and one very interesting citizen who stopped by.

Our last stop of the day was in the western Sedgwick County City of Andale (pop.907), located west of Colwich and east of Mt. Hope. Andale was right on OLD K-96 during my youth, and I traveled through town a number of times, going back and forth to visit between Haysville and Hutchinson. K-96 long since was re-routed miles to the north, and became more of a straight NW/SE line from Wichita to Hutchinson. Maddi and I had a lot of fun talking to City Clerk Virginia Edwards, Maintenance Supervisor Doug Simon, and Maintenance Worker Eugene Ernst. Virginia showed us the large panoramic photograph on the wall, depicting the enormous devastation following the 1917 Andale Tornado—still, after nearly a century, a major fact of the City’s history. So many Kansas communities have been “hit” over time...and more to come. Be ready. Have a plan.

It is fitting, near the end of another baseball season, to recommend a baseball book this month; one about a great player and great guy who is nearing the end of his own long and very well-lived season of life. *Stan Musial: An American Legend*, by George Vecsey, covers the life story of this son of a Polish immigrant/zinc mill worker, from its beginning, in Donora, PA, to the present day, as he approaches 91 (born November 21, 1920). My own baseball idol, as I was growing up in the 50s/early-60s, was Mickey Mantle, and, as did Mickey (when he was growing up in Commerce, OK in the 40s), and probably millions of other young ballplayers in the midwest/southwest, I spent many of my afternoons and evenings “watching” hundreds of Cardinals’ baseball games on the radio (KMOX, St. Louis), and visualizing Stanislaus Frank “Stan” Musial, too. Stan was Mickey’s hero (and, ironically, Mickey’s dad worked in the zinc mines), and, in Mickey’s day, there was no TV at all; for me, the only baseball on television was the Saturday afternoon “Game of the Week” (usually the Yankees v. Somebody), and, of course, during the only “post-season” back then—the World Series (usually the Yankees v. Somebody). But, I “saw” Stan “The Man” hit many, many times, through the medium of incredible radio voices like they just don’t make any more (Harry Caray, Jack Buck, and Joe Garagiola). Stan got to the Big Leagues late in the ‘41 season (70 years ago this month), and, not counting the time he served in the Army in WWII, spent 22 years as a major leaguer (all with the Redbirds), retiring after the 1963 season. (Wouldn’t you know it, Mickey Mantle’s last World Series was in 1964, when the Cards beat the Yanks in seven games...so Mickey never played a “real” game against Stan.) Stan Musial was, and is, a humble man; devoted to his family and his adopted city of St. Louis. By most accounts, Stan was one of the Big Three (along with Ted Williams and Joe DiMaggio) of his generation of ballplayers, but, he is, by far, the unsung one. In an odd twist of fate, Vecsey recounts a story of Stan’s playing his harmonica (he did that a lot in his post-playing life) while sitting next to his own statue outside (now OLD) Busch Stadium, before the Cards/Cubs game on Labor Day in 1998—my son and I, along with two old friends, were there that day, and I took pictures of my son in front of the same statute, also before the game. So, we must have missed seeing the Great Stan “The Man” by minutes. I’ll have to be forever content with just visualizing...sometimes it’s better that way, anyway....

 Don Osenbaugh is the Director of Finance and Field Services for the League of Kansas Municipalities. He can be reached at dosenbaugh@lkm.org.

by Sandy Jacquot

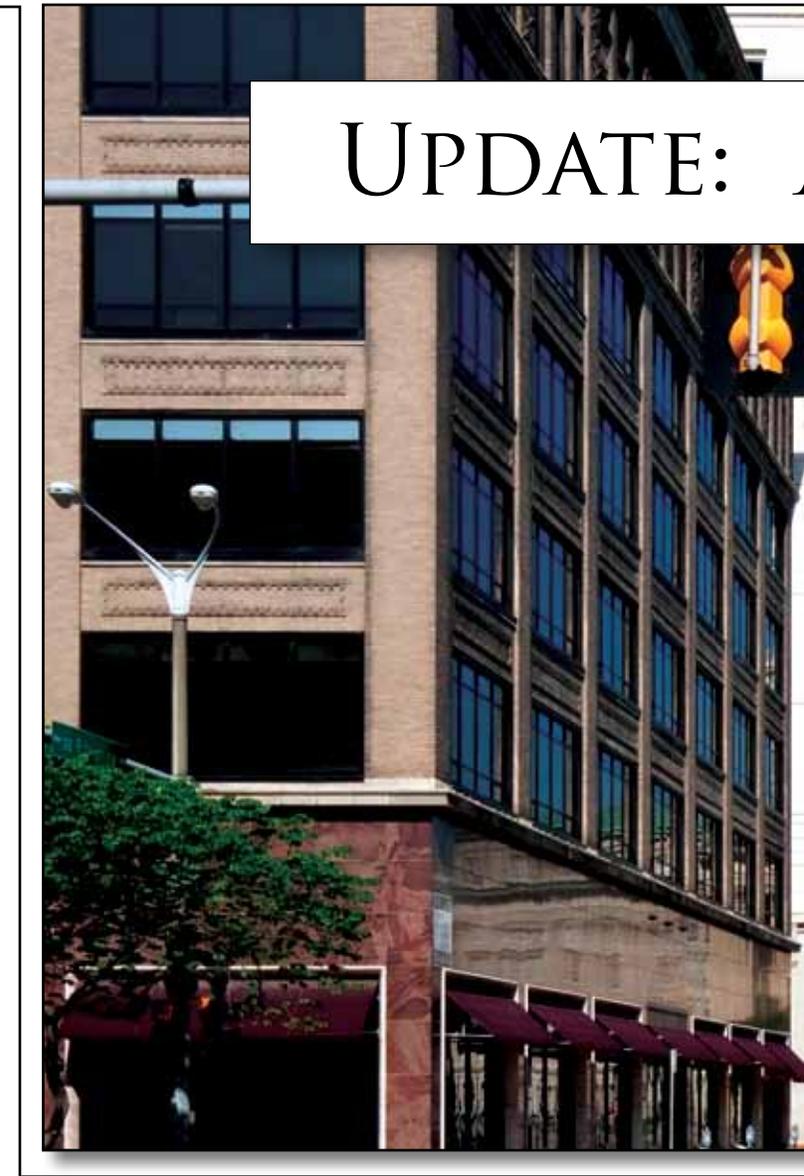
In the 1980s, the annexation laws in Kansas underwent massive revision and worked well for several decades. But the annexation tension between landowners and cities continues as urbanization naturally progresses. The last update to the League of Kansas Municipalities (LKM) annexation manual was in 1991 and was based upon the work done by many predecessors of the current staff. That manual was relevant for many years and has continued to be used by city officials. But times have changed, necessitating the drafting of a new manual, which is currently in progress and should be available in the very near future. It will include the still relevant portions of the previous manual, while incorporating the changes and tweaks in the law occurring over the past few years, most recently in the 2011 Legislative Session. This article will provide a brief overview of the status of the annexation laws in Kansas, but should not be relied upon as a complete primer on how to annex property.

Annexation is the legal process whereby territory is added to the jurisdictional boundary of a city. The boundaries of the city are important, because they define the scope and responsibility of city authority. While walls no longer divide the land inside the city from the land outside the city, as it did in earlier civilizations, the boundary determines the city's jurisdiction to act on behalf of its citizens.

Annexation is not a modern concept, having existed in Kansas law since statehood. There are a number of reasons why cities need the authority to annex territory. Some of the reasons include the ability to provide for the orderly growth of the city and its surrounding area, and similarly, to plan for the future needs of city services. By cities looking at their growth areas and where development is occurring, they are often able to gauge the needs of the city utilities, the need for street upgrades, and, even of the need for parks and recreational facilities. The desire for public services is often what drives citizens to locate in a community. Cities can only prosper if they are maintaining the balance between those that receive city services and those that pay for city services. The fringe areas of a city are every bit a part of that community and the inhabitants of those areas drive on city streets and use other services provided by the city, while escaping the payment for those services.

Studies have been done across the United States concluding that the health and vitality of cities is dependent in large part on their ability to annex. In those areas of the country where annexation has been restricted, inner cities stagnate and begin to decay. The theory is that when expansion occurs in suburban areas, there is a corresponding demand for better roads, more access to traditional government services, access to telecommunications services, and other types of traditionally urban amenities. There is also a burden placed on existing services. Thus, if the increased expenses cannot be recovered, such as through taxes, maintenance for existing areas and services and the capacity for growth are limited.

One such study, done by the Perryman Group in 2003 for the Texas Municipal League, *The Impact of Overly Restrictive Annexation Policy on Economic Activity in Texas and Its Metropolitan Regions*, arrives at some alarming conclusions. Assuming a 50% curtailment of anticipated annexation patterns in Texas, it was estimated that by 2030, the loss of Gross State Product would be \$305.7 billion annually, the annual loss of personal income would be \$168.8 billion, and the annual loss of retail sales would be \$96.1 billion. (<http://tx-newbraunfels.civicplus.com/DocumentView.aspx?DID=201>; pg. 16)



because of the expected decline of business activity, there would be a corresponding loss of approximately 1.2 million jobs and 2.3 million residents of Texas. (<http://tx-newbraunfels.civicplus.com/DocumentView.aspx?DID=201>; pg. 17) The point is that annexation limitations have a profound effect on cities and their ability to continue to provide and maintain city services. The study recommended that the most efficient way to assure this was “simply to allow responsible and appropriate annexation of emerging development.” (<http://tx-newbraunfels.civicplus.com/DocumentView.aspx?DID=201>; pg. 21)

Almost every legislative session in recent memory has resulted in the narrowing of annexation authority for Kansas cities. The main features of the law, however, have remained intact and cities continue have the ability to annex territory when deemed appropriate. The annexation statutes begin at K.S.A. 12-519 through K.S.A. 12-542 and encompass all types of annexations. In addition, there are some annexation statutes regarding how to handle the service territory of rural electric cooperatives that may be found in K.S.A. 66-1,176 through K.S.A. 66-1,176c. The current *Statement of Municipal Policy* has a section on annexation that states the following: “The ability of cities to grow is inherent to the ultimate success of annexation powers as they are currently established in state statute. We oppose any change which limits the authority of cities to grow through annexation.” Annexation

ANNEXATION IN KANSAS



is one of the fundamental uses of city authority that should be recognized and protected.

UNILATERAL ANNEXATION

Cities have various types of annexation authority. The first is commonly referred to as unilateral annexation. This allows cities, when certain conditions exist, to annex land to the city by ordinance. K.S.A. 12-520. Those conditions include:

- when the land is platted and some part adjoins the city;
- the land is owned by the city;
- the land adjoins the city and is held in trust by another governmental entity, but consent is required to annex land owned by a county;
- the land lies within or mostly within the city and has a common perimeter with the city boundary line of more than 50%;
- if the land is annexed it will make the boundary line of the city straight or harmonious and some part adjoins the city, but no tract in excess of 21 acres may be annexed under this provision;
- the tract is situated so that two-thirds of any boundary line adjoins the city, but no tract in excess of 21 acres may be annexed under this provision; and
- the land adjoins the city and written consent for the annexation is filed with the city by the landowner.

Other caveats exist in statute regarding unilateral annexation, the most well-known of those being the prohibition on unilateral annexation of unplatted agricultural land of 21 acres or more unless the landowner consents in writing. Another recent change includes language about the annexation of highway right-of-way. When a city annexes up to a highway, the board of county commissioners may require that the city also annex the highway. This was ostensibly to address situations in which cities were annexing on both sides of a highway, but not annexing the highway itself.

The process for a unilateral annexation begins with the adoption of a resolution stating that the city is considering the annexation of certain land. In the resolution, the city must give notice of a public hearing to be held, fixing the place, date, and time of the hearing. It must describe the boundaries of the land proposed to be annexed and a copy of the resolution must be mailed to each owner of land in the area. It must also be mailed to the county commission, the township, any special assessment district providing services (rural water districts, fire districts, etc.), utilities having facilities in the area, the school district, the planning commission in the area, and any other taxing or political subdivision in the area.

A relatively new provision for unilateral annexation includes the requirement that at the public hearing, the governing body



must consider the advisability of the annexation by considering the 16 guidelines now in K.S.A. 12-520a. Without restating all of those, the point is to balance the needs of the city with the needs of the area proposed to be annexed. They relate to the availability of city services and the dependence of residents in the proposed annexation area on those services, the tax impact, the common interests between the area and the city, the types of businesses in the area, whether the area is in the growth area of the city, the impact on other taxing subdivisions, and other relevant factors.

For other than the proposed annexation of city-owned property and consented-to annexations, an extension of services plan must be developed and sent to the county commission 10 days prior to the hearing. 2011 Kan. Sess. Laws, Ch. 101, § 6. The plan details the city's plan to provide municipal services to the annexed area. There is a common misperception that the city must extend all city services to the proposed area at the city's cost. This is not the case. The extension of services plan must estimate the cost to extend the services and how it proposes to finance the cost. A timetable must also accompany the plan.

After the public hearing, the city is free to adopt an ordinance annexing the territory described in its resolution of intent. Cities should provide enough written justification that it considered the statutory guidelines and deems annexation an advisable course of action.

COUNTY APPROVED ANNEXATIONS

The most significant changes to the annexation laws occurred during the 2011 Legislative Session. SB 150 incorporated in 2011 Kan. Sess. Laws, Ch. 101, affects the procedure to annex territory when county approval is needed under K.S.A. 12-521. County

approval is required for any annexation not falling under the criteria allowing for unilateral action by the city. Most often this occurs when larger parcels are being annexed or when the land does not adjoin the city. The process for county approved annexations has changed dramatically, but still allows for the exercise of the power.

The process begins with the city sending a petition to the board of county commissioners with a legal description of the land sought to be annexed and requesting that the county hold a public hearing on the advisability of the annexation. The city must prepare an extension of services plan for the area it seeks to annex, with a sketch of the land and a detailed narrative on how the city intends to provide for municipal services to the area. This plan is a very important piece of the annexation process and one the county will consider as a part of its evaluation regarding the advisability of allowing the city to annex. Very similar factors to those found in K.S.A. 12-520a regarding unilateral annexation are in K.S.A. 12-521 for the county to use as a guideline when determining whether to grant the city authority to annex.

Newly amended language requires a two-thirds vote of the county commission to grant the annexation. The key change, however, is that cities are limited to 3 adjoining annexations of less than 40 acres in a 60 month period. The county has the authority to grant up to that number of adjoining annexations before additional procedural protections are required. If the proposed annexation is greater than 40 acres or it is the fourth or subsequent adjoining annexation requested within 60 months, the county election officer must conduct a mail ballot election. If the qualified electors in the area proposed for annexation vote in favor of the annexation, the city may adopt an ordinance annexation the land. If the qualified electors do not approve the annexation, the city may not propose

such annexation again for four years. Qualified elector is defined as any owner of land within the area proposed to be annexed.

Clearly, cities may choose to be strategic about their requests to counties for approval to annex under K.S.A. 12-521. While the size of the land sought to be annexed is limited, the number of county approved annexations is only limited when the land proposed to be annexed adjoins other annexed parcels under the new provision and the annexation is specifically being authorized under K.S.A. 12-521. For example, consent annexations not adjoining the city pursuant to K.S.A. 12-520c would not fall under the K.S.A. 12-521 limitation even though they are approved by the county commission.

SPECIAL ANNEXATION CONSIDERATIONS

When cities annex property that is being served by a rural electric cooperative or a rural water district, special rules apply when determining how the city may provide its own utilities to the newly annexed area. K.S.A. 66-1,176 provides the procedure for notification of the rural electric cooperative (REC) serving an annexed area and how the city may determine what provider will serve the area. The statute provides that, in most cases, the right of the REC to serve the annexed area terminates 180 days after the date of the annexation. The city makes the final determination regarding which supplier will be issued the franchise to serve the area. There are nine factors in the statute to guide the city in its determination. One of the primary features of the law provides that whenever the rights of an REC to serve an area are terminated, the REC must be paid "fair and reasonable compensation." How reasonable compensation is determined is specifically set forth in the statute, which allows cities and RECs to negotiate the amount

according to a formula that has reduced the need for litigation in most cases.

Annexation of rural water districts (RWD) has been the subject of litigation over the years for cities seeking to provide water service to annexed area. In the 2010 Legislative Session, a statutory process was adopted to assist in the determination of what entity serves newly annexed territory and, if the RWD is displaced, how much compensation is paid. K.S.A. 12-539:542. If the city serves notice to the RWD that it intends to designate a different supplier, the city must purchase "the property, facilities, improvements and going concern value of the facilities." There is a provision for mediation if the parties cannot agree on the value and, if mediation is not successful, three appraisers value the property. There is an appeal to district court if either party is dissatisfied with the value set by the appraisers.

CONCLUSION

Annexation is a very important function of cities that allows for orderly growth and spreading the burden of paying for city services to those using such services. The process for annexing territory has undergone some significant change since the last major revision of the law in the 1980s. *Annexation in Kansas – A Guide to Orderly Growth of Cities*, will be available this fall and will include much more detail for city officials on how to annex land into the city.

Sandy Jacquot is the Director of Law/General Counsel for the League of Kansas Municipalities. She can be reached at sjacquot@lkm.org or (785) 354-9565.



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Scott City Receives New Grant

Kansas Secretary of Transportation Deb Miller announced the Spencer Flight and Education Center (SFEC) of Scott City as the recipient of a \$108,000 grant through the Kansas Airport Improvement Program. The award will be used for the purchase of a full-motion flight simulator to be housed at the planned SFEC located at the Scott City Municipal Airport.

The idea of obtaining a simulator was birthed, in part, by the tragic loss of the Spencer family of Scott City who were all killed when their plane crashed in April 2011.

The Spencers were beloved members of the Scott City community, and because of Dylan Scott's interest in aviation, he had many ties to area pilots. Brian Vulgamore had essentially grown up with Dylan. He attended Kansas State University with him and most recently shared his passion for both running marathons and aviation, which started a discussion with Scott City Airport Manager Weston Thompson, who was both Spencer's and Vulgamore's flight instructor.

"We got to talking after the accident about what we could do, well for one, to help me feel safe flying in tough conditions with my family again and two, about Dylan and how it would just tear him up to think that the accident would have stopped us from being enthusiastic about aviation and flying," Vulgamore said.

As the two men talked, Thompson recalled a conversation he had

with another pilot, Daniel Dunn of Scott City, who had brought up the idea of buying a flight simulator.

"At first we were talking about a \$10,000 flight simulator," Vulgamore said. "And the next day we were talking about it some more and said, 'Hey we ought to do this in memory of Dylan and do something a little bit nicer, a little bit bigger.'"

Within a few days, not only had the image of a nicer, bigger simulator come into focus, but also the plan itself seemed to take on more and more momentum.

The simulator they are going to purchase by the end of the year is the Redbird FMX, which will allow simulation of different aircraft, airports, and weather conditions. Tentative ground breaking of the SFEC is planned for later this fall with completion scheduled for the spring of 2012.

"I got \$120,000 of just out of pocket donations in just three or four days. That's how this all got started and the reason I think the tax credit went through — they saw how much support it gained in a little amount of time," Vulgamore said. "And that money didn't just come from Scott County. A lot of pilots around southwest Kansas stepped up."

With no major airports and few flight instruction schools available in western Kansas, the new center will provide a needed service to the area.

Lenexa Chosen For New Distribution Center

UpWind Solutions Inc., a Medford, Oregon based wind asset management services firm, announced they are opening their first UpWind Solutions Parts & Tooling Center in Lenexa. Following a comprehensive evaluation of several locations, the KC region was chosen due to the surrounding infrastructure and its proximity to 70% plus of the wind farms coming out of warranty over the next 3-5 years.

UpWind has signed a lease for more than 18,700 sq. ft. of land in Lenexa, and plans to grow their presence over the next several years. The new facility will house a wide range of spare parts for multiple wind turbine technologies, as well as an engineering center for parts, and critical components like gearboxes, generators, blades, and transformers.

"We are pleased and excited that UpWind has chosen a Lenexa location for their new distribution facility," said Blake Schreck,

president of the Lenexa Economic Development Council (EDC).

"They provide a critical service to an increasingly important energy sector. We look forward to working with them and are proud to have them in our community."

The new facility will feature modern inventory storage and management equipment, as well as advanced software. It combines temperature controlled areas for critical components, as well as an area for tooling and equipment used by the UpWind Solution's field technicians. This state-of-the-art facility, together with their solution-based parts logistics team, is positioned to deliver reduced lead times and optimum parts availability to wind project owners so to minimize turbine downtime.

For more information on the Kansas City region's assets for advanced energy companies, visit www.kcadvancedenergy.com.

Greensburg Makes Top 10 List

The City of Greensburg has made the top 10 list for the coolest small towns in America. *Budget Travel* magazine named Greensburg, "The Real Emerald City" for its elegant wind turbines and LED streetlights that have replaced cornfields and barns.

In 2007, a tornado destroyed 95% of Greensburg and since, the community has vowed to build the ecofriendliest city ever. Ruth Ann Wedel, site manager of GreenTown, the city's rebuilding campaign said, "Being green is such a part of our identity that people assume we changed our name after the storm."

However, the idea of being green dates back further than anyone would expect. South-facing windows were once used before to increase light in chicken coops and the community continues to save by reusing everything, said Stacey Barnes, director of the 5.4.7 Arts Center, named for the day the tornado hit.

For a complete list of all the cities that made *Budget Travel's* 10 Coolest Places in America list, visit <http://www.budgettravel.com/feature/10-coolest-small-towns-in-america-2011.7557/>.

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NLC has restructured the Congress of Cities program to allow for more in-depth exploration of the most pressing challenges facing cities. This year in Phoenix, the conference will include four concurrent conferences on Your City's Families, Green Cities, Economic Development, and Infrastructure, as well as all the traditional conference-wide activities. Each of these conferences will incorporate the impact that immigration has on communities, and include keynote speakers, workshops, and peer networking sessions.

Be sure to register today to get the best available rates and your first-choice hotel. Online registration is open now. Visit the conference page at www.nlccongressofcities.org for more information.



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2011 UPOC and STO Changes

First, the changes to the **driving under the influence** statutes have already been covered in a previous article and will not be repeated here. The second thing the reader needs to know is that the *Uniform Public Offense Code* (UPOC) contains all new statutory references. The Legislature recodified the Kansas Criminal Code, changing statute numbers, which are reflected in the 2011 UPOC.

City officials can find the changes for both the UPOC and the *Standard Traffic Ordinance* (STO) in the back of each of the books after the Index. Some of the changes in the two documents will be summarized below. In the UPOC for both 2010 and 2011 is a notation that the 2010 Kansas Legislature acted to give municipal courts jurisdiction over certain felonies, including **domestic battery, theft, giving a worthless check and possession of marijuana**. The prosecution of felony level offenses comes with concerns about sentencing issues and the costs to the city to prosecute. Thus, the felony level offenses were not included in either the 2010 or 2011 UPOCs. If a city wishes to prosecute felony level offenses with the attendant issues, it should adopt a separate ordinance.

Some of the changes in the UPOC are subtle, but create a slightly different standard of proof. For example, the crimes of **assault** and **assault of a police officer** are now in the same section, 3.3, and assault is defined as “knowingly placing another person in reasonable apprehension of immediate bodily harm.” The change from 2010 is the element of intent, from “intentionally” to “knowingly.” Knowingly essentially means that an individual knew what he or she was about to do, and proceeded to do it anyway. Intentionally, on the other hand, denotes a conscious objective, or wanting the consequence of the action to occur. Knowingly is a slightly lower standard to prove, although the words are used interchangeably by some. Another example in the 2011 UPOC of “intentionally” changing to “knowingly” is in Section 9.5, **maintaining or permitting a public nuisance**. Note that “maintaining” and “permitting” have been combined into one section. In Section 9.10, **harassment by telecommunications device**, “knowingly” has been added to many of the subsections. In addition, the types of devices subject to this section have expanded to include current technology, such as cell phones.

An additional three subsections have been added to **breach of privacy**, 3.12. Those expand the crime to include surreptitiously listening to private conversations or observing persons’ conduct in a private place, installing a device to amplify or capture sounds that would not ordinarily be audible, and intercepting wired or wireless communications without the consent of the person. This is an attempt to modernize the crime consistent with the technology in use today. The next change is the addition of dispensing motor fuel into a vehicle or container and leaving without paying, which has been added to the **theft** section, 6.1. **unlawfully selling scrap**

metal, 6.24, and **unlawfully buying scrap metal**, 6.25, have been expanded to limit exceptions for some purchases, unless certain safeguards are in place. Scrap metal typically associated with governmental entities, such as street light poles, traffic signals, street signs and the like may only be purchased by someone that deals in scrap metal if the purchaser has obtained proof from the seller that he or she has the authority to sell the items on behalf of the government. These expansions in the law are an attempt to stem the theft of marketable scrap metal, by tightening up the regulations for buyers and sellers. There is an additional section now requiring scrap metal dealers to hold scrap metal for a period of 30 days when law enforcement has put them on notice that the material might be stolen.

The primary STO changes are to all of the sections related to **driving under the influence**, including the preliminary breath test and ignition interlock sections. As is usually the case, the **definitions** section has been changed to add a definition. There is now a definition for “lightweight roadable vehicle,” which is a car that can also fly. STO Sections 23 and 25, involving injury accidents and the duty to give information or render aid, have been clarified and expanded to clearly set forth the driver’s responsibility in those accidents. Section 33, **maximum speed limits**, adds the newly effective 75 miles per hour authorization when posted by the Secretary of Transportation.

The **seat belt** section 182.1 has changed slightly, with the main change clarifying that additional court costs may not be added to the fine. Thus, for a primary seat belt violation, the maximum fine is \$10 and no court costs. The bill in the 2011 Legislative Session also preempted cities from having a fine any different from that specified in statute. Thus, cities will need to determine the feasibility of continuing to prosecute violations of the primary seat belt law in municipal court for \$10 or write such violations on state law and send the prosecution to the district court. In Section 40, **overtaking a vehicle or bicycle on the left**, bicycles were specifically added to a section that previously only applied to other vehicles. The requirement was added that motor vehicles pass bicycles at a distance of not less than three feet. Also, motorcycles and bicycles are now allowed to run red lights when the signal fails to change because signal does not detect the presence of the motorcycle or bicycle, because of its size or weight.

Those are the primary changes in the STO and UPOC for this year. Please consult the actual documents for the language and provisions of the violations.

☀ *Sandy Jacquot is the Director of Law/General Counsel for the League of Kansas Municipalities. She can be reached at sjacquot@lkm.org or (785) 354-9565.*



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City Administrator

The City of Platte City, a financially stable full-service suburban community 20 miles north of downtown Kansas City, is seeking a highly qualified individual to manage the operations of the City (pop. 5,200); ensure that the mission and policies of the Mayor and six-member, non-partisan Board of Aldermen are carried out by the employees (33 FTE's); develop and oversee the \$6.6M budget; and shepherd the ongoing CIP, as well as provide leadership for economic development.

The selected candidate must be an experienced professional with demonstrated communication, interpersonal, and networking skills; proven work ethic; excellent decision-making aptitude; the ability to maintain the fiscal integrity of the organization; demonstrated leadership, management, and financial capabilities; familiarity with economic development tools; and at least five years progressively responsible positions in city administration. BA required, MPA or advanced degree desirable. ICMA Certification is a plus.

The starting salary will be market competitive, depending on the qualifications and experience of the selected candidate. Residency is a requirement. Applications will be accepted until September 30, 2011. Email resumes and cover letters should be addressed to: Amy Hubbard, City Clerk, amyhubbard@plattecity.org. All applications will be treated as confidential.

The City of Platte City is an equal opportunity employer.

City Manager

Carbondale, IL (pop. 25,092). Dynamic, progressive, growing community seeks experienced, professional to lead its organization of 260 FTE employees with a \$40.9 million annual budget. Carbondale is located in southern Illinois, 96 miles southeast of St. Louis. Home to Southern Illinois University with 20,000 students, Carbondale is the center of commerce, entertainment, medicine, recreation, culture and education for region. The City of Carbondale has a strong emphasis on economic development and has established a 25-acre TIF District. The City Manager reports to the Mayor and a six-member City Council. The City seeks candidates with a

record of accomplishment in a full-service, growing community, preferably a community with a large university. A bachelor's degree in public administration, urban management, public policy, business administration, or related field is required plus seven to ten years increasingly responsible public management experience as chief executive or Asst. CAO in similar or larger community or combination of relevant experience and training. Master's degree in Public Administration or Business Administration is highly desired. Strong general management, economic development, fiscal management, motivating leadership skills and partnership-oriented attitude critical. Outstanding organizational skills, interpersonal communication skills and excellent writing skills required. Appointed by Mayor and City Council. Residency required. Starting salary \$120,000 +/- DOQ. Submit résumé, cover letter with salary history and five references by October 7, 2011 to Gregory F. Ford, Voorhees Associates LLC, 500 Lake Cook Road, Suite 350, Deerfield, IL 60015. TEL: 847/580-4246; FAX: 866/401-3100; Email: resume@varesume.com. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

Civil Engineer

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Position reports to the Director of Engineering and/or City Engineer and performs entry level professional engineering, design, and construction inspection work. Duties include design and preparation of specifications, cost estimates, and standards for public works improvements; supervision of project inspection; reviews and processes subdivision proposals and maps for conformance to established standards; supervises and reviews work of retained consultants; coordinates with state and federal agencies; and assists in the preparation of grant applications.

We are seeking a graduate in Civil Engineering with the ability to obtain KDOT-CIT Certification and Interim Engineer status within one year of appointment. Applications will be accepted until filled.

To apply: contact Human Resources, City of Dodge City, P.O. Box 880, Dodge City, KS 67801. Ph. (620) 225-8100; Fax(620) 225-8144; email barbs@dodgecity.org. If you need accommodations to obtain or complete an application call same number. Valid driver's license with good driving record is required. Substance Abuse screening and post-offer physicals performed. Must confirm USCIS employment eligibility (I-9) upon hire. EOE. www.dodgecity.org

Director of Parks & Recreation

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The City of Topeka is accepting applications for the position of Director of Budget and Financial Services. This position provides total management of the Financial Services Department, including the accounting and contracts & procurement divisions and has overall responsibility for the personnel management, departmental budgeting, long and short term planning and oversight of daily operations of the department and divisions. Additionally, the position develops and monitors city budgets and program performance standards. Work involves developing overall municipal budget, including capital budgets, conducting management and financial studies, reviewing performance standards, formulating budget development guidelines and coordinating budget preparation by departments.

Minimum qualifications include graduation from an accredited four year college or university with a degree in finance, accounting, public administration, or closely related field and five years of directly related experience in a significant, progressively responsible position.

Salary range is \$74,595 to \$113,092, DOQ

Must be a resident of Topeka or relocate upon completion of probationary period.

Qualified candidates please submit a cover letter, resume and City of Topeka employment application. Employment applications are available on the City's website at www.topeka.org/employment. Applications accepted until position is filled.

District Manager

Public Wholesale Water Supply Dist. #4 is taking applications for District Manager. Applicants must have 10 years of experience in Water plant management. This position requires a class 4 water operation certification from Kansas Department of Health Environment. Applicant must have computer knowledge in multiple programs. Applicant must be a self starter and able to manage a small crew, on call 24/7, must also be able to communicate and report to a 13 member board of directors monthly. Outstanding public relation skills are a must. Drug test required. This opportunity offers Retirement, Health Ins, Vacation. E.O.E. Resume must accompany application. Applications accepted until Sept. 30, 2011. Please call Sam Atherton at (620) 336-2721 for application.

Information Technology Analyst

Information Technology Analyst, City of Eudora, KS (pop. 6,200). Starting salary range \$35-55K with room for advancement. Position reports to the City Administrator and will serve as Webmaster and GIS Coordinator. This employee is responsible for all information technology equipment operated by city employees. Equipment includes but is not limited to all servers, desktop and laptop computers, related peripheral equipment, data storage, plotters, telephone system and cell phones, copiers, meter reading equipment, VPN accessibility, Wireless Access Points, and implementing records management program. Qualified candidates should possess a bachelor's degree in a related field or five years of experience in similar Information Technology capacity. SCADA systems knowledge preferred but not required.

Interested applicants should submit a cover letter and resume to City of Eudora, P.O. Box 650, 66025 Attn: Pam Schmeck or at pamcaa@sunflower.com by October 14th. Job description available upon request. Call (785) 542-2153 for more information.

Public Works Assistant Superintendent

Quinter (pop. 800) is a thriving, friendly, family-oriented community, located along I-70 between Hays and Colby, with strong community involvement, high quality schools, a hospital, 65 businesses, four churches, youth and adult recreation programs, pool, park, library, grocery, law enforcement, and nearby farms—a great place to work, live, and raise kids.

The Public Works Assistant Superintendent assists with maintenance of City water, sewer, pool, street, and park facilities, vehicles, and equipment. Duties include assisting with daily inspections and written reports for water wells and sewer lift stations, routine and emergency repairs, snow removal, mowing, reading water meters, mosquito spraying, and tree trimming. Successful Candidate will learn to operate backhoe, street sweeper, front-end loader, dump truck, sewer machine, tractor, packer, and mowing equipment. He/ She will participate in developing department budget, inventory, and operational guidelines. This full-time, non-exempt employee reports to the Public Works Superintendent and generally receives assistance from summer hires. Quinter residency required. Immediate opening. Position open until filled. Resumes may be faxed to (785) 754-3831. For more information or application form, contact Ericka Gillespie, (785) 754-3821. ericka.jean.gillespie@gmail.com.

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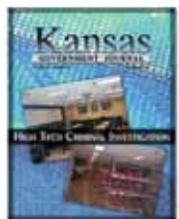
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The Plan



It is almost fall and that means it is garage clean up time at the Moler household again this year. I don't know if you have a system for cleanup and maintenance, but over the years I have sort of developed one where when it cools off a little bit from the summer heat of Kansas, then it is time to attack the garage and the inevitable clutter that has accumulated over the preceding months.

This year, however, I was less than excited about moving forward on this project. An opportunity to spend a few hours working on it would present itself, and I would find myself looking for reasons why I didn't have to do that at that particular time. This actually happened on several occasions, and it finally got me to thinking about why I was procrastinating on my cleanup project. I had already enlisted the assistance of son Seth, and friend Joe, for the ultimate project, and most of the heavy lifting, but I was still reticent about moving forward with the project. After thinking about it for awhile, it dawned on me that the reason I was procrastinating had more to do with the way I was envisioning the job, rather than the job itself. Let me explain.

I found that I had committed the cardinal sin of large projects—"Don't envision the entire project." Now I don't mean that you can't envision the entire project with the project completed in a satisfactory way. Rather, I mean you cannot approach, and I would suggest should not approach a large job in that fashion. What happens is that the job itself becomes overwhelming. They say that the longest journey begins with one step and the same is true, of course, of all projects. You must start somewhere, and ultimately you will end somewhere, hopefully with a positive result. What I had been doing was thinking about all of the hours spent sweating out in the garage, especially when the temperatures were still in the 90s after the crazy hot summer we had this year, but I continued to think of it as a whole rather than as a sum of its component parts. That was my mistake.

So, about two weekends ago, I finally was able to break the job down into its constituent parts. The first began with a cleanup of the area immediately surrounding the small access door of the garage. I had allowed an inordinate amount of flotsam and jetsam (junk) to accumulate in this area. To give you an idea, I found rakes, hoes, tree trimmers, sledge hammer, shuffle board set, about a trash barrel volume of old used lumber pieces that I had saved and had refused to throw away, as well as a whole bunch of grit and grime and general clutter. After a few hours of work, and contemplation of what should be done with a lot of this stuff, I was able to return the corner to its original grandeur where it houses now mostly just garden utensils.

With this step completed, I was then able to move to the next piece of this project which was the cleaning of the old cabinet that

my father had inherited from his Army service in 1946, and which I inherited from him. It had become cluttered with, you'll love this, mostly old rags and painting supplies. The painting supplies were easy to sort, the old rags less so as they represented about three generations of my family. But you know, at a certain point you have to let go of things, and so I filled our dumpster with perhaps 75 pounds of rags which I had concluded would never be used for anything, including rags. That job also took a couple of hours sweating in the August heat.

The third part of my project involved working on the east wall of the garage which had become overrun with boxes of old car parts, various pieces of sporting equipment, read basketballs, footballs, tennis rackets, etc. along with multiple sets of golf clubs and again assorted clutter. That project took about three hours in total (including beverage breaks), and it still isn't completed. If you had not seen it before I started, you wouldn't know that I had done a thing. About all I could tell after moving rearranging, storing, sorting, and throwing away a bunch of stuff was that it seemed a little bit emptier than it had been before. And so the project continues. I still have to deal with working on the area above, below, and beside my workbench, as well as finalizing the work on the east wall containing the sporting equipment. But the end of the project is now in sight, and that is very reassuring to me, and to my dear wife Judy.

The fact of the matter is that the project would never have had a chance to be completed, or for that matter even started, had I kept thinking of it as a project that was probably going to end up consuming anywhere from 12 to 18 hours of hard manual labor over a period of days or weeks as time became available. Huge projects are in and of themselves daunting and if allowed to be thought of as a whole, will oftentimes stop all forward momentum. I have seen this in the workplace, I have seen it in my private life, and I have seen it throughout my life with different people doing different things. I think it can be a particular problem for governments.

Many projects that government undertakes are in and of themselves monumental. If we as government officials allow ourselves to be burdened by viewing it as an unreduced whole, we always risk being overwhelmed by the sheer size and scope of the project and we may well find ourselves being stuck in a rut. As my dear mother-in-law used to say with amazing regularity, a rut, even though it is a rut, is a comfortable place to be. I would urge you when contemplating large projects to think of them not as an unsurmountable whole, but rather as a series of smaller projects each of which can be accomplished, and when they are all finished will reward you with a significant project that was undertaken and developed over a period of time. Virtually all things are possible if we approach them in the right way. Good luck, and let's keep those projects moving out there.



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October 26– Oakley

Colonial Steakhouse
464 US Highway 83
\$14.00 per person
RSVP by Oct. 19
Registration - 5:30 p.m.
Dinner - 6:00 p.m.

November 2 – Iola

Bowlus Fine Arts Center (Creitz Hall)
205 E. Madison
\$11.00 per person
RSVP by Oct. 26
Registration - 5:30 p.m.
Dinner - 6:00 p.m.

November 16 – Belleville

The Treasurer Tree
1826 M. Street
\$12.00 per person
RSVP by Nov. 9
Registration - 5:30 p.m.
Dinner - 6:00 p.m.

October 27 – Cimarron

Basement of the City Library
120 N. Main
\$13.00 per person
RSVP by Oct. 20
Registration - 5:30 p.m.
Dinner - 6:00 p.m.

November 3 – Canton

Community Center
100 W. McPherson
\$8.00 per person
RSVP by Oct. 27
Registration - 5:30 p.m.
Dinner - 6:00 p.m.

November 17 – Leawood

The Lodge at Ironwood
14701 Mission Rd.
\$10.00 per person
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Registration is available online at www.lkm.org/regionalsuppers.

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