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About the Cover:
McCormick School Museum
in Wichita (Sedgwick County).
Photo provided by the *Kansas
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related article on page 297.

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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.

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October

- 11 - CAAK Fall CLE, Overland Park
- 12-14 - LKM Annual Conference
- 13 - Governing Body Meeting, Overland Park
- 29 - Regional Supper, Holcomb
- 30 - Regional Supper, Colby
- 31 - Halloween

November

- 6 - Regional Supper, Beloit
- 7 - Regional Supper, Pittsburg
- 8 - MLA; Civility and Public Service (core), Russell
- 9 - MLA; Civility and Public Service (core), Eureka
- 11 - Veteran's Day
- 20 - Regional Supper, Lenexa
- 21 - Regional Supper, Marion
- 28 - Thanksgiving Day

Obituaries

Bill Strange, died on Saturday, May 4th in Grove, Oklahoma. He was born September 20, 1928 in Shaw, Kansas to Everett and Gertrude Strange. After high school Bill served his country in the US Navy from 1946 -1948. He returned to Kansas to marry his childhood sweetheart, Reva E. Stanley in 1948 and enrolled in Kansas University. Bill completed his education and earned his law degree at Washburn Law School in 1953.

Bill served as a member of the Kansas House of representatives 1951-1954, serving as the youngest elected member to that date. He was a former board member of the Federal Home Loan Bank Topeka, former board member and chairman Kansas Savings and Loan Department and member Kansas Bar Association (60 years).

Edward F. Wieggers, 80, of Marysville, KS, died Friday, June 28, 2013, at the Nebraska Heart Institute in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Ed was a long time attorney in Marshall and Washington counties. During his career he served on many local and state boards and committees including as Marshall County Attorney, Mayor for the City of Marysville, Marysville Township Board, Marysville Planning Commission, Community Memorial Healthcare, St. Gregory's School, Kansas Bar Association Ethics Committee and Awards Committee, Marshall County Habitat for Humanity Foundation, Original Pony Express Home Station, Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board and Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs.



League of Kansas Municipalities 2013 Regional Suppers

The League of Kansas Municipalities invites all Kansas city officials to join us for the 2013 Regional Suppers. We hope you will take this opportunity to discuss the upcoming Legislative session that will highlight LKM's 2014 Legislative priorities.

October 29 • Holcomb

School Administration Building
Board Room
305 Wiley
\$14 per person
RSVP by October 24

October 30 • Colby

Law Enforcement Center
260 N. Franklin
\$14 per person
RSVP by October 25

November 6 • Beloit

City Municipal Building
119 N. Hershey
\$15 per person
RSVP by November 1

November 7 • Pittsburg

Memorial Auditorium
Lower Level
503 N. Pine
\$14 per person
RSVP by November 4

November 20 • Lenexa

Dark Horse Distillery
11740 W 86th Terrace
\$26 per person
RSVP by November 15

November 21 • Marion

Marion Community Center
203 N. Third
\$15 per person
RSVP by November 14

Registration for all locations will begin at 5:30 p.m. with dinner beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Registration is available online at www.lkm.org/regionalsuppers.



More than 2,000 Join First Lady for 2013 Kansas Book Festival

“I want to extend my deepest thanks to the excellent authors who took part in the festival, the adults and children who took time on this beautiful Saturday to come out and enjoy the event, and all of our amazing sponsors who helped make this event possible,” First Lady Mary Brownback said.

In total, more than 25 authors participated in the 2013 Kansas Book Festival, including Frank White, Larry Welch, Joel Rosenberg, and many of the 2013 Kansas Notable Book winners.

“The State Library is pleased to be part of the Kansas Book Festival and will continue to support this in any way we can. It is a wonderful way to promote the love of reading and lifelong learning by bringing authors, publishers, and readers together,” said State Librarian Jo Budler.

During the book festival, the First Lady assisted the Kansas State Library in recognizing the 2013 Kansas Notable Books by presenting awards to their authors. The Kansas Notable Book Award is the only award for books either written by Kansans or that have a Kansas connection.

The Kansas Book Festival is a 501(c)3 organization established through the Topeka Community Foundation. The book festival organization awards grants to public and school libraries across the state that can be used to supplement their books, reading programs, and technology.

Agreement Increases Storage Capacity at Redmond Reservoir

Kansas and a federal agency signed a permanent agreement to increase the capacity of sediment-filled John Redmond Reservoir by nearly 30%.

The federally owned reservoir southeast of Emporia is a water source for the cooling lake at nearby Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plant. Westar Energy, which provides electricity to almost 225,000 customers in the Wichita area, owns 47% of the power plant.

The move was the first step in trying to alleviate the sedimentation problem for the reservoir, which is 40% silted in, Kansas Water Office Director Tracy Streeter said.

Last year, as the drought took its toll, Redmond’s water level dropped to almost 50% of capacity, Streeter said.

“We were still able to pump water to the cooling lake,” Streeter said, but he added that the low level created concerns.

The agreement between the state and the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers, which oversees the lake, increases the reservation’s elevation by 2 ft. – from 1,039 ft. to 1,041 ft. That pushes the number of gallons available in storage from 16 billion to 22 billion.

“That will help mitigate the effects of a drought,” Streeter said.

Right now, because of heavy rains this summer, Redmond is 13 to 14 ft. above normal.

Governor Sam Brownback and Colonel Richard Pratt, head of the Corps’ Tulsa district, signed the agreement in Emporia.

The Corps had been temporarily allowing the reservoir to operate at the higher level, Streeter said.

The storage increase is obtained by pushing up the reservoir’s

allowed conservation level and decreasing the set flood level. Water for Wolf Creek’s cooling lake is pulled from the conservation pool.

The Corps had to make sure that reducing the flood level didn’t create problems for such things as boat docks and the nearby wetlands, Streeter said.

Besides bumping up the storage capacity, the elevation increase helps to distribute the reservoir’s sediment across the flood, conservation and other pools.

The second phase of improving the capacity at Redmond – often called a muddy bowl by those who fish the lake – is to start dredging the silt from the reservoir and strengthening the banks of the Neosho River to reduce the flow sediment.

The state has about \$1 million to contract a firm to design the dredging work, Streeter said, but his office will ask the Legislature to approve \$25 million for the project. The state hopes to begin dredging in 2014, he said.

Many of the state’s lakes and reservoirs need to have sediment cleaned out after decades of silt slipping into the water, Streeter said. He was attending a meeting Thursday to establish a priority list for dredging the lakes.

The state restored a lake in 2010 on a smaller scale when it partnered with Horton to pull about 1 million cubic feet of sediment out of Mission Lake in Brown County, state officials said.

Efforts to Build Local Food Hub in Douglas County Gaining Traction

Lawrence and Douglas County officials are intensifying their efforts to create a unique distribution center or “food hub” that would handle fruits, vegetables, and grains grown by farmers in a 16-county region.

Three local elected officials traveled to Memphis, Tennessee, last week to participate in an invitation-only workshop designed to bring together communities that have strong potential to make locally grown food a significant part of their economies.

“What I learned is that the ideas we have here are not far-out concepts,” said City Commissioner Bob Schumm. “They are taking hold elsewhere.” Douglas County officials have received

a \$68,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Kansas Health Foundation to study the feasibility of the project. County Commissioners agreed to hire Scale Inc. to complete a study in the next several months examining the potential number of farmers, crops and consumers that a regional food hub could support.



Randy Jones 2013 Kansas Mayor of the Year



Photos provided by Tammy Wyland.

The 2013 Kansas Mayor of the Year comes from a small community in southeast Kansas. Mayor Randy Jones of Mulberry, Kansas, was recognized during the annual Kansas Mayors Conference on May 10th in Topeka. Being from a town with a population of 520 and nestled in Crawford County just a few miles northeast of Pittsburg, Mayor Jones knows firsthand the challenges facing a small community.

A southeast Kansas native, Mayor Jones moved back to the area in 1980, settling in Mulberry 17 years ago. Jones has been very active in the community having served on the local school board, church board, and recreation board. He was elected to the Mulberry City Council in April of 2006 and appointed as President of the Council. In October of 2007, Jones was appointed to Mayor of the City of Mulberry, as a result of the elected mayor's relocating and subsequent resignation. Mayor Jones is currently serving his second term as the elected mayor of Mulberry.

According to employees and other citizens of the City of Mulberry, in spite of working full time as a purchasing manager at a major manufacturing company in Pittsburg, Kansas, serving his community is paramount for Randy. They indicated you'll find him cooking hot dogs or cutting watermelon during the annual 4th of July celebration. You will also find him helping with the local flower beds, cleaning the restrooms in the park on the weekend, or assisting with the annual Mulberry High School reunion, the Orange and Black Night. In addition, you might see him shoveling walks or helping someone that needs help. According to those

who know him best, Mayor Jones' main desire is moving the community of Mulberry forward.

As is the case in most cities, especially in small cities, trying to find ways for stimulating economic growth and development and improving the quality of life are major challenges. With the pressure of declining valuations, tight budgets require significant oversight. Randy spends many hours, including vacation time, attending meetings, researching grants, and trying to find ways of getting the most value out of the available dollars for the community of Mulberry.

The Kansas Mayors Association congratulates Randy Jones, Mayor of the City of Mulberry, Kansas, for being selected 2013 Kansas Mayor of the Year.

The Kansas Mayors Association is an organization that promotes the proficiency of mayors in Kansas through study, research, and mutual counsel. The Association annually recognizes a Kansas Mayor who has gone above the call of duty to provide exceptional community leadership. The Kansas Mayors Association is an affiliate of the League of Kansas Municipalities, a nonpartisan organization of over 590 cities in Kansas established by municipal officials in 1910.





Brenda Davis 2013 City Clerk of the Year



City Clerk Brenda Davis (Scott City) was selected to receive the Mildred Vance City Clerk/Finance Officer of the Year Award on March 14, 2013, during the annual conference of the City Clerks and Municipal Finance Officers Association (CCMFOA) of Kansas.

Brenda was nominated for the award by her Mayor Dan Goodman who noted, "Brenda is a true professional. She is known for being able to work well with all elected and non-elected city personnel, which is not the easiest thing to do at times. There may be city clerks as good, but I believe none is better."

Brenda has worked for the City of Scott City since April 1999. She served on the Board of Directors of the City Clerks and Municipal Finance Officers Association (CCMFOA) of Kansas since 2006, serving as Vice President in 2011 and as President in 2012. She has served on numerous CCMFOA committees, including Chairman of the Education/Program Planning Committee and the Certification Committee, served on the Newsletter Committee for several years, and is an active member of Region 2 in Southwest Kansas. She and Mayor Goodman speak with the 7th graders at Scott City Middle School yearly, and she has taught classes at the CCMFOA Spring Conference, IIMC Certification Institute, IIMC Master Clerks Academy, and the LKM Annual Conference. Brenda attained the status of Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) in 2002 and achieved the prestigious Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) designation in 2010.

Brenda is the first City Clerk in Kansas to fulfill the requirements for Levels I, II, and III of the League of Kansas Municipalities Municipal Leadership Academy. She is a member of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), Human Resources Management Association of Kansas (HRMAK) serving as President and currently as Past President. She serves as Secretary/Treasurer of Scott County Public Building Commission, and is a Western Kansas Business Consulting Board Member. She volunteers as a Scott County 4-H Leader and is one of the Scott County Clothing Superintendents at the County Fair. Brenda is a former member and President of St. Joseph Church Pastoral Council and is a 2001 graduate of Leadership Scott County.

Brenda is supported in her professional and community endeavors by her husband Kevin, and children Austin, Christopher, and Aubrey. She will be formally presented this Award, in recognition of her accomplishments, at the League of Kansas Municipalities Conference in Overland Park in October.

This award is presented each year to a Kansas city clerk or finance officer who has made significant contributions to the state association, the profession, and their city. The award was named in honor of Mildred Vance, former auditor and City Clerk/Municipal Finance Officer of Parsons, Kansas, who served her community from 1948 to 1988. Mildred was instrumental in developing and promoting professional education programs for city clerks and finance officers at the state and national levels and was one of the first 100 clerks to receive the Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation in 1972. Mildred was later accepted into the Academy for Advanced Education (AAE) and served as a director of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC). She strongly believed that city clerks and finance officers should contribute to their communities and she unselfishly gave of her time and talents in church, community, and civic activities.

To be eligible for the award, nominees must: 1) be a current city clerk or finance officer in Kansas, who has held the position for at least 3 years; 2) be a member of the City Clerks and Municipal Finance Officers Association for at least 3 years; and 3) have attained the status of Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) or have received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting. Nominations may be submitted by fellow city clerks, mayors, councilmembers, city managers/administrators, or fellow employees.

A five-member panel of judges reviews all nominations and rates candidates on a point system. The Selection Committee consists of two prior year recipients of the award, the Missouri Clerks/Finance Officers Association President, the Illinois Clerks Association President, and a League of Kansas Municipalities representative as assigned by the Executive Director of the League.

Nominations for the 2014 Mildred Vance City Clerk/Finance Officer of the Year award will be accepted through December 31, 2013, and can be sent to Marian Cook, City Clerk, City of Overland Park, 8500 Santa Fe Drive, Overland Park, KS 66212. Email: Marian.Cook@opkansas.org or Fax: (913) 890-1151. For further information, contact: Marian at (913) 895-6151.



2013

Kansas Preservation Alliance Awards for Excellence Announced

by Todd Renyer

Each year the Kansas Preservation Alliance, Inc. (KPA) recognizes exemplary efforts in historic preservation across the state of Kansas. KPA has presented over 200 annual awards since its founding in 1979. These awards have been presented to individuals, organizations, and institutions responsible for exemplary preservation projects in 70 different communities in Kansas. The properties recognized have included houses, ranches, farms, schools, churches, courthouses, cemeteries, train depots, stores, bridges, banks, libraries, post offices, street improvements, landscapes, and neighborhoods. Rural properties, properties in small towns, and properties in urban areas have all received awards. In addition, advocacy awards have been presented to individuals, groups, and organizations for a variety of historic preservation efforts. Nominated projects must meet the intent of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and the criteria for listing properties in the National Register of Historic Places. To be eligible for a KPA Award for Excellence, preservation work must be substantially completed by December 31 of the previous year.



Ambassador Hotel in Wichita. Photos provided by Kansas Preservation Magazine.



Sedgwick County; from left to right, David Stauth, Wes Darnell, Christy Davis, Christine Johnson Kready.

The 2013 Awards for Excellence were presented May 24 at the Kansas Preservation Alliance Awards ceremony at Memorial Hall in Topeka. The following projects received awards:

Medallion Award: Rehabilitation

Ambassador Hotel – Union National Bank Building, Wichita (Sedgwick County)

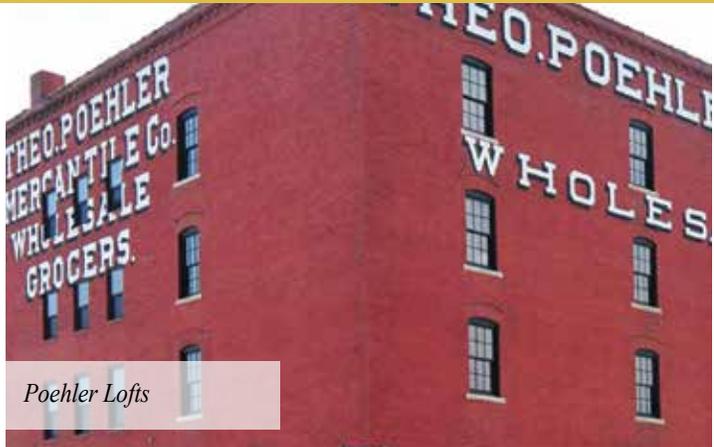
Since its completion in 1926, the Union National Bank building, which was financed by Chicago’s Edith Rockefeller McCormick Trust, has proudly occupied the intersection of Main and Broadway. The prominent fixture in Wichita’s skyline is perhaps best known for its contribution to civil rights history. In July 1958, a youth member of the Wichita NAACP was refused service at the building’s Dockum Drug Store, which led to a sit-in to urge the chain to desegregate. Although rarely recognized, this protest inspired other sit-ins across the county and predated the better-known Greensboro, North Carolina, sit-in by two years. After three weeks of non-violent protest, the managers of Dockum Drug Store, which was the state’s largest drug store chain, desegregated all their lunch counters. The building sat vacant for more than a

decade, and many of the building’s character-defining features, including those tied to the civil rights era, had been lost. A \$23 million project converted the derelict building into a 117-room hotel with restaurant and meeting rooms. Missing terra cotta pieces were reconstructed, the storefront was restored, and new double-hung enameled steel windows were installed. This work spurred an additional \$40 million in public and private investment in the area. Federal and state historic preservation tax credits were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The project team included Ambassador Hotel Collection LLC, Marketplace Properties, WDM Architects, Key Construction, and Davis Preservation.

Poehler Lofts, Lawrence (Douglas County)

Built as a four-story grocer distribution warehouse in 1904, the Poehler building has stood as one of the city’s most identifiable brick buildings of Lawrence’s east side. Given its ideal position adjacent to the railroad tracks, German immigrant Theodore Poehler built this warehouse to support his growing wholesale grocery business begun in the late 1880s with his brother August



Poehler Lofts



ston (KPA), and Rick

Douglas County; Building Controls and Services, Inc., Sedgwick County; from left to right, Mark Burenheide (KPA), Dusty Ewing, Brett Walbridge, Christy Davis, Luke Dolechek, and Ken Stoppel. Photo provided by Kansas Preservation Magazine.

Poehler. It is a good example of an early 20th Century industrial building as its exterior façade has remained largely intact over the years. After sitting vacant for several years, the building was purchased in 2011 with a plan to convert it into usable living space. The project generated 49 living units while maintaining the building’s original industrial character by cleaning and polishing existing concrete floors, exposing heavy timber wood structure, and cleaning the brick walls.

Federal and state historic preservation tax credits were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The project team included East Lawrence Historic Partners LP, Rosemann & Associates, Rau Construction, and Rosin Preservation LLC.

Building Controls and Services, Inc., Luling’s City
Laundry, Wichita
(Sedgwick County)

The Luling’s City Laundry building was constructed in 1924 with an addition completed in 1936. Original newspaper articles lauded the company’s industrial advances with a water softener that promised “clothing washed in softened water has a sweet-

smelling freshness that is a constant delight.” Ironically, the 1936 expansion coincided with the home washing machine industry’s eclipse of the industrial laundry market. Luling’s eventually closed in 1961 and was later leased to the locally-owned business of Fisher Transmission, Inc.

Building Controls and Services, Inc.’s \$1.2 million project included removing unsightly suspended acoustical tile ceilings to expose steel trusses and clerestory windows along with their exposed mechanical operators. The building was rehabilitated as office space in a way that was compatible with its historic industrial use. The rehabilitation has inspired other property owners along East Douglas, who have formed the Douglas Design District to encourage the investment and promotion of approximately 300 businesses between Washington and Oliver.

Federal and state historic preservation tax credits were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The project team included Building Controls and Services Inc, SPT Architecture, Davis Preservation, Professional Engineering Consultants PA, Southwestern National Bank, Miller and Miller Construction, Central Air Conditioning Co, A & H Electric, Blake Clotia, Midwest Drywall, Lewis Street Glass, and Contract Furnishings.



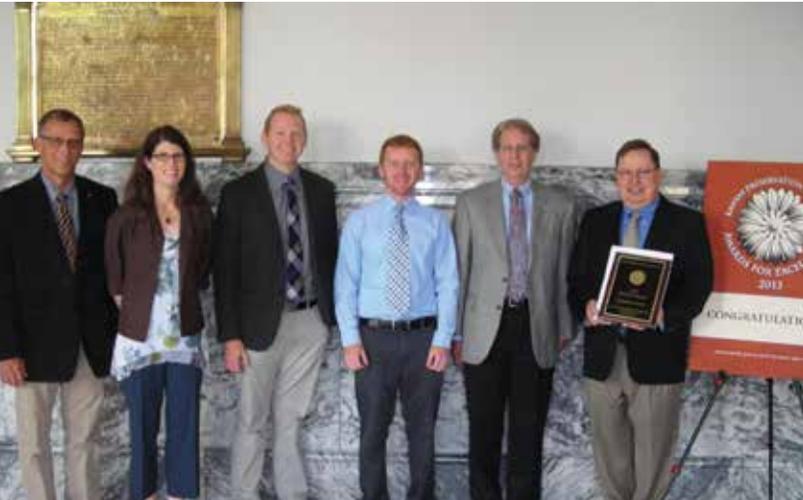
Leavenworth Building 427. Photos provided by Kansas Preservation Magazine.

Honor Award: Rehabilitation

Fort Leavenworth Building 427 Rehabilitation, Riverside
Apartments, Leavenworth
(Leavenworth County)

Built as a Progressive-Era commercial style building functioning as the married officer's quarters in 1921, Building 427 has seen minor physical modifications to its simple four-and-a-half story rectangular plan over the years. Utilizing the building's existing layout, an open office plan was designed while retaining the building's original wood trim, doors and floors, terrazzo flooring, plaster walls, and brick fireplaces along with skylight and windows. All new mechanical, electrical, and piped services were installed in non-significant spaces. In addition, the existing load-bearing brick walls were post-tensioned to meet federal blast requirements.

The project team included Fort Leavenworth DPW, Fort Leavenworth CAC Office of the Deputy to the Commanding General US Army Combined Arms Center, Army Corp of Engineers/Kansas City District, GLMV, Spencer Preservation, Treanor Architects PA, Professional Engineering Consultants, and Dudley Williams.



Leavenworth County, from left to right, Randle Clark (KPA), Joy Coleman, Brett Walbridge, Dusty Ewing, Ivan Veldhuizen, and David Murdock.

KCI Soccer Club, Kansas City High School Gymnasium and
Laboratory, Kansas City
(Wyandotte County)



KCI Soccer Club

The three-story building was built in 1923 as part of the Kansas City High School campus. The gymnasium and laboratory facility was built across 9th Street from the high school and was connected by an underground tunnel. After a 1934 boiler room fire that destroyed the high school building on the far west edge of downtown Kansas City, the gymnasium and laboratory has stood alone, serving as a junior college until the late 1960s. The subsequent tenant, the Boilermaker's Union, used it as a training facility. The 2012 rehabilitation converted the former basketball court and the over-decked indoor swimming pool facility into an indoor soccer facility. The lockers were retained and the principal character-defining features of the interior preserved. Exterior doors and stairs were retained and repainted, and the historic wood windows were restored.

Federal and state historic preservation tax credits were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The project team included Foutch Brothers LLC, Historic Preservation Partners, Rosin Preservation LLC, Community National Bank in Basehor, and the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas.



Wyandotte County, from left to right, Robert Beardsley, Scott Foutch, Honor Foutch, Steve Foutch, and Rick Kready.



Leavenworth Building 427. Photos provided by Kansas Preservation Magazine.



Sedgwick County, from left to right, Pat Michaelis, Christine Johnston (KPA), Steve Foutch, Scott Foutch, Janet Latimer, and Rick Kready.



Sedgwick County, from left to right, Tim Sutherland, Jordan Barnes, and Liz Lumpkin (KPA).



McCormick School Museum

Preservation Stewardship Award: Rehabilitation

Fairview Apartments, Wichita
(Sedgwick County)

Built in an uncommon u-shape configuration, this 1924 low-rise apartment building borders downtown Wichita's north end industrial region. The rehabilitation included brick cleaning, re-pointing of deteriorated mortar, refurbishing of existing wood windows and replacement of missing wood windows, and installation of basement living units.

Federal and state historic preservation tax credits were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The project team included Foutch Brothers, LLC, Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, Midwest Housing Equity Group, Horizon Bank, Federal Home Loan Bank, National Funding Incorporated, Historic Preservation Partners, and Rosin Preservation LLC.

Preservation Stewardship Award: Window Restoration

McCormick School Museum, Wichita
(Sedgwick County)

Originally built in 1890 with an addition constructed in 1910, the McCormick School is still owned and maintained by the Unified School District 259 of Wichita and is the oldest school in the city of Wichita. As part of an overall phased plan to restore and maintain the school for continued use, the historic wood window sashes, frames, and surrounds were restored. The next phase will restore the exterior doors and construct new wood storm windows.

Kansas State Rehabilitation Tax Credits and a Heritage Trust Fund grant were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The project team included Sutherland Builders and Unified School District 259.



Murray Hill Senior Apartments. Photos provided by Kansas Preservation Magazine.



Neosho County, from left to right, John Neff, Pat Michaelis, Kathy Herzog (KPA), Steve Fouch, Scott Fouch, Janet Latimer, and Rick Kready.



Bailey Log House



Osage County, from left to right, Charna Williams, Barbara Poresky (KPA), Sarah Walker-Hitt, Dan Pishny, Colleen Kirsop, and Peggy Clark.

Preservation Stewardship Award: Rehabilitation

Murray Hill Senior Apartments – Murray Hill School, Chanute (Neosho County)

In 2009 the Unified School District 413 constructed a new Chanute Elementary School to consolidate four existing elementary schools, including the 1951 mid-century modern-style Murray Hill Elementary School. With 30,580 sq. ft. available on a 4-acre site with existing utility infrastructure, the Murray Hill School was rehabilitated for senior housing. The distinctive glass-block-over-hopper-sash windows were retained to create vibrant naturally lighted living units. Non-historic features, such as the walk-in freezer on the north side of the gymnasium, were removed to improve the streetscape appearance.

Federal and state historic preservation tax credits were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The project team included Fouch Brothers, LLC, Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, Midwest Housing Equity Group, Horizon Bank, Federal Home Loan Bank, National Funding Incorporated, City of Chanute, Historic Preservation Partners, and Rosin Preservation, LLC.

Bailey Log House Rehabilitation and Stabilization – Wells P. Bailey House, Lyndon (Osage County)

The Wells P. Bailey House was constructed circa 1870 for Wells P. Bailey, the brother of Lyndon co-founder Judge L. D. Bailey. The hewn-log residence was relocated in 1997 from a farmstead two miles east of Lyndon to the Lyndon City Park. The 18 ft. by 27 ft. structure was at risk of structural collapse. With partial funding from a Heritage Trust Fund grant and state rehabilitation tax credits, the building's foundation was stabilized; logs that had deteriorated beyond repair were replaced with new hand-hewn logs from old growth oak; and the wooden window sashes, frames, and trim were repaired. Kansas state rehabilitation tax credits and a Heritage Trust Fund grant were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The project team included City of Lyndon, Historic Preservation Partnership of Lyndon, Susan Richard Johnson & Associates, Inc, Pishny Restoration Services, and Wallace Engineering Structural Consultants, Inc.

 *Todd Renyer is the President for the Kansas Preservation Alliance, Inc. He can be reached at (785)640-7767.*

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Lenexa Named 2013 Google eCity for Kansas





Lenexa Named 2013 Google eCity for Kansas



Mayor Michael Boehm accepting the Kansas eCity award from Google. Photos provided by Google.

Lenexa isn't just home to barbeque battles and spinach celebrations. Lenexa's business community was honored recently, when Google announced that the City of Lenexa was named the 2013 Google eCity for the State of Kansas. Lenexa is the only city in the Kansas City metro area to receive the award.

As an e-City, Lenexa is lauded as the strongest online business community in Kansas—one of the digital capitals of America. In Lenexa, businesses are embracing the web to find new customers, connect with existing clients and fueling the local economy.

"We already knew Lenexa is a leader in business and technology," said Lenexa Mayor Mike Boehm. "But, we are excited our community is being honored for the great work our businesses are doing by embracing the web."

To determine the inaugural eCities, Google worked with independent market research company Ipsos MORI to analyze the online strength of local small businesses in all 50 states to determine the cities who are embracing online technology. The city with the highest score in each state was named the 2013 Google eCity.



Abilene Backs Petition to Rename Mid-Continent Airport

The online petition launched by Jan Harrison and Phil Thompson of the 104.5 The Fox's Jan and Phil Show to change the name of Wichita's airport to "Wichita Dwight D. Eisenhower International Airport" has received the support of the Abilene City Commission.

The Wichita City Council received a resolution requesting that the City of Wichita rename the Wichita airport for President Eisenhower.

The resolution, in part, states: "Whereas the city of Wichita is the home of the largest commercial airport in the state of Kansas

and is located about 100 miles south of Abilene, the proud home of President Eisenhower's Library, Museum and boyhood home and whereas, there are no commercial airports in the United States of America named in honor of President Eisenhower and his many accomplishments, now therefore be it resolved the City Commission of the City of Abilene, respectfully requests the City Council of the city of Wichita, Kansas to take such actions as may be necessary to rename the Mid-Continent Airport the Dwight D. Eisenhower International Airport."

Wichita OKs, Temporary Hotel Tax

Wichita's tourism marketing efforts will be ramped up under a plan that includes a proposal for an expanded hotel tax.

The City Council approved the creation of an 11-member tourism business improvement planning committee, the first step in an expanded hotel tax that could raise an additional \$3,000,000 to prop up Go Wichita's \$500,000 marketing budget.

The committee will create a temporary tourism business improvement district—or TBID—to assess an additional charge on guest nights in the city's hotels. The boundaries of the TBID will be determined by the Committee, but typically will include the city limits, said Wichita City Manager Robert Layton and Susie Santo, who heads Go Wichita.

Osage City Offers Unique Incentive to Possible New Tenant

The Osage City Council agreed to offer a Topeka company an incentive for purchasing the former KanBuild building, which has been vacant since KanBuild liquidated its assets in 2011.

After the Council met in executive session for two 10-minute sessions at the end of the September 10 meeting, Osage City Council Member Becky Brewer made a motion to "authorize the mayor to extend our standard electrical incentive to Asset Lifecycle."

The Council's offer of the city's standard electrical incentive agreement would provide the company with rebates on its electrical

use based on the amount of money invested into the building and the number of jobs created.

The incentive's agreement form states that a 10% rebate on electricity charges will be given for each \$100,000 of direct investment into the facility and a 1% rebate for each new full-time job created at the facility and maintained for a year. The total incentive cannot exceed 50% of the electric bill charges for any 1 year, and the incentive is offered over a 5-year period.

Hutchinson Approves LandBank

The Hutchinson City Council approved the creation of a "land bank," which will be used to acquire property that is unwanted by its owners for possible future redevelopment.

The land bank could acquire the property by donation, transfer, or purchase, but it would not be obligated to accept every property offered.

Housing Program Manager Irene Hart said that land bank would only accept property if there is a plan for returning it to productive use.

"It is not a dumping ground," she said.

In most cases, she said, the property probably would be sold to adjacent property owners who'd like to expand their yard. In other cases it might be turned into a community garden or park. In still other cases, several small parcels could be assembled to create a larger parcel for redevelopment, she said.

Creation of a land bank has been a goal of the Hutchinson Housing Commission for a number of years.

Valley Center Receives Law Enforcement Grant

The City of Valley Center is among six entities in Kansas receiving money to create additional law enforcement positions through a grant given by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Policing Services.

Valley Center, which was awarded \$95,011, is among 263 cities and counties nationwide receiving money to fund 937 law enforcement positions. The awards total more than \$125 million, including \$45 million to fund 356 new school resource officers,

according to a news release from U.S. Attorney Barry Grissom's Office that announces the awards.

"In the wake of past tragedies, it's clear that we need to be willing to take all possible steps to ensure that our kids are safe when they go to school," Attorney General Eric Holder said in the release. "Especially in a time of increased challenges and limited budgets, our top priority must always be the safety and well-being of our children."



Nursing Moms: A New Protected Class?

Does your city support employees who nurse their infants? Changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and two recent cases concerning Title VII discrimination claims indicate that it should.

On March 23, 2010, President Obama signed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Affordable Care Act).¹ Under the Affordable Care Act, all FLSA employers, which includes every city in Kansas, must provide non-exempt employees a reasonable break time to express breast milk for a nursing child up to one year after the child's birth. Employers do not have to compensate employees for these breaks except when the employee expresses milk during an employer-provided compensation break. Moreover, the employer cannot limit the number of breaks an employee takes. Employers must provide a reasonable break as often as the employee needs.²

The FLSA also requires employers to provide employees a private space shielded from public view and free from co-workers intrusions to express milk. A bathroom does not qualify as an adequate private space. Rooms used by other co-workers, such as a copy room, would suffice as long as the room is private and free from intrusion when the employee expresses milk. Employers do not have to designate a permanent space, but should dedicate a space as the need arises.

Employers with fewer than 50 employees do not have to comply with this law if they can show it would cause an undue hardship. LKM advises, however, that you should contact your city attorney before deciding it would cause an undue hardship.³

In addition to the FLSA changes, two recent court cases indicate that nursing employees may be afforded more protections in the workplace. The first case involved Donnica Venters, an employee of Houston Funding II. Venters started working for Houston Funding in March 2006. In December 2008, she took a leave of absence to have a baby. During her leave, she remained in weekly contact with her supervisor, Robert Fleming, and informed him that she would return to work once her doctor released her. During one of those conversations, Venters told Fleming that she was breastfeeding and asked if she could express milk at work. Fleming informed her that it was not possible. Venters later called Harry Cagle, a partner of the company, on February 17, 2009, and informed him that her doctor had released her to return to work. She again inquired about expressing milk at work. Cagle told Venters that she had been terminated, because of job abandonment.⁴ The EEOC filed a Title VII action arguing that Houston Funding unlawfully discriminated against Venters "based upon her sex, including her pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, by ending her employment."⁵

The district court granted summary judgment to Houston Funding. The court held that Venters was not unlawfully terminated, because firing someone for breastfeeding is not a valid sex discrimination claim and lactation is not a related medical condition of pregnancy.⁶

The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the district court's decision. On a matter of first impression, the court held that terminating an employee because she asks to express milk at work is a cognizable Title VII sex discrimination claim, because it places a burden on women that male employees do not suffer.⁷ Moreover, the court held that lactation is a medical condition related to pregnancy under the Pregnancy Discrimination Act, because it is a physiological result of being pregnant and having a child.⁸

The second case involves a high-performing employee, Signe

Martin. Martin worked for Canon from 1997 to 2011. Martin received several awards and excellent performance reviews from 1997 to 2009. Upon the announcement of her pregnancy, however, her supervisors, Bryan Cox and Dave Coffman, began expressing their displeasure with her performance. After the birth of her child, Martin asked for a place to express milk. Coffman informed her that she could use the bathroom. Because the bathroom lacked a power source and was unsanitary, Martin chose to express milk twice a day in her car. This led her to miss days of work, because she suffered from several bouts of mastitis. She was later reprimanded for excessive absenteeism. A year later, even though she was the third-highest performing sales representative, Canon reassigned most of Martin's revenue-producing accounts; lower-performing male colleagues did not suffer this same adverse action. Martin resigned and filed a lawsuit asserting, among other things, a gender and pregnancy discrimination claim. Canon moved for summary judgment.⁹ The court denied summary judgment on the gender and pregnancy discrimination claim.¹⁰ Citing *EEOC v. Houston Funding II*, the court noted that accommodating an employee's "'need to express breast milk 'readily fits into a reasonable definition of pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions.'"¹¹ Note: This case was decided on September 10, 2013. It is not clear at the time of this publication, if Canon will appeal the district court's decision to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The FLSA changes, along with the recent Title VII cases, indicate that cities should review their personnel policies and consider adding a section regarding employees who express milk. Establishing a written policy that discusses compensation and designates a specific space for employees thwarts future concerns and informs employees of their rights. Moreover, supervisors should be trained on the changes to the FLSA and the implications of denying an employee her right to express milk at work.

 Nicole Proulx Aiken is Legal Counsel for the League of Kansas Municipalities. She can be reached at naiken@lkm.org or (785) 354-9565.

(Endnotes)

1 United States Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division. Frequently Asked Questions – Break Time for Nursing Mothers. Department of Labor. Web. 19 September. 2013. Available from <http://www.dol.gov/whd/nursingmothers/faqBTNM.htm>

2 *Id.*

3 *Id.*

4 *EEOC v. Houston Funding II*, 717 F. 3d 425, 426-27 (5th Cir. 2013)

5 *Id.* at 427.

6 *Id.* at 427.

7 *Id.* at 428.

8 *Id.* at 428.

9 *Martin v. Canon Business Solutions, Inc.*, 2013 WL 4838913 at 1-3 (D.Colo 2013).

10 *Id.* at 8.

11 *Id.* at FN4.



Larry Campbell

The League of Kansas Municipalities (LKM) is pleased to present the 2013 Intergovernmental Leadership Award to Representative Larry Campbell (R-26). Started in 1995, this award was designed to honor those who support cooperation between and among the various levels of government. Recipients of this award have demonstrated in both word and deed an understanding that public servants at all levels serve the same citizens and should work together to provide the best service possible.

Larry Campbell is no stranger to public service. He has served at both the state and local level. In fact, he is currently serving the citizens of Olathe as both a City Councilmember and State Representative.

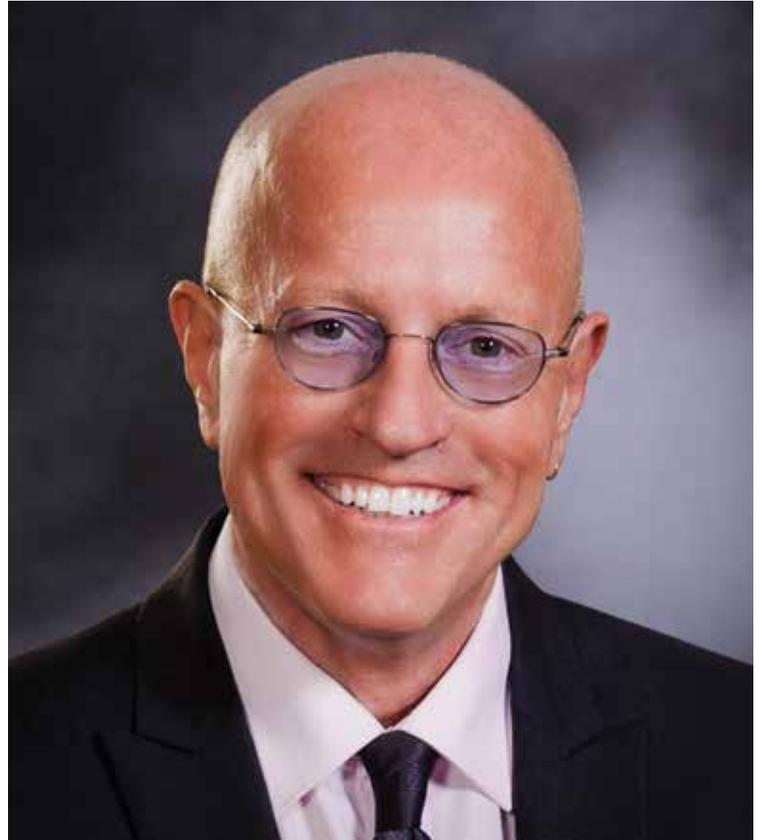
As a Councilmember, Larry Campbell was elected in April 2007 and re-elected in April 2011 to represent Ward 1 in Olathe. Campbell previously served on the Olathe City Council as the Ward 1 representative from 1991-1995 and as Mayor from 1995-2001. He also served as a Kansas State Representative from 1997 to 2005. In 2012, he was again elected to the Kansas House where he is still serving as the representative of the 26th District. He currently serves on the Federal and State Affairs, Corrections and Juvenile Justice, and Financial Institutions Committees.

During the 2013 Legislative Session, Representative Campbell was a strong advocate for local control. In addition, he took specific steps to work with cities and counties during the floor debate on legislation that could have been interpreted as a local property tax lid.

Campbell's professional background is in banking, with over 32 years of experience. He is a graduate of Southern Nazarene University and completed his master's degree in business management at MidAmerica Nazarene University.

He is currently working on a doctor of management in organizational leadership through the University of Phoenix. He is president and CEO of several businesses, which include real estate management and investment, a recording studio and a sound production company. He is an accomplished song writer and performer of contemporary Christian music. Campbell teaches several business courses at MidAmerica Nazarene University, Baker University and the University of Phoenix. His wife of over 32 years, Gwendolyn, is a substitute teacher in the Olathe School District.

For his years of public service and support of local control and the principle of constitutional home rule, the League of Kansas Municipalities is proud to honor Representative Larry Campbell with the 2013 Intergovernmental Leadership Award

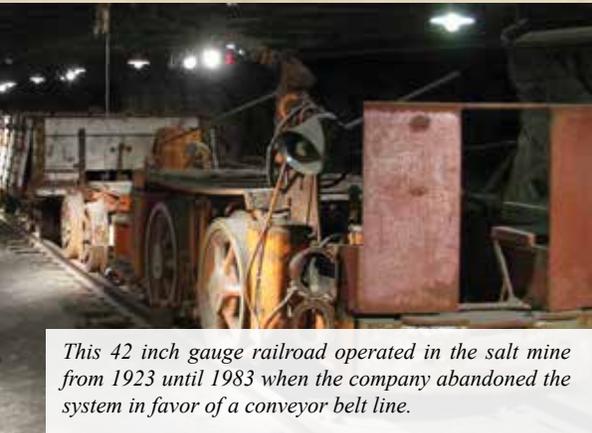


INTERGOVERNMENTAL LEADERSHIP AWARD PAST RECIPIENTS

1995 Representative Carl Dean Holmes Senator Audrey Langworthy	2002 Representative Doug Gatewood Representative Gerry Ray
1996 Senator Dick Bond Senator Bud Burke Senator Nancy Landon Kassebaum Senator Mark Parkinson	2003 Congressman Jerry Moran
1997 Governor Bill Graves Representative Bob Tomlinson	2004 Senator Babara Allen
1998 Representative Kent Glasscock	2005 Senator Pete Brungardt
1999 Senator Janice Hardenburger	2006 Representative Ward Loyd
2000 Senator Ben Vidricksen	2007 Governor Kathleen Sebelius
2001 Senator Jim Barone	2009 Representative Kevin Yoder
	2010 Senator Roger Reitz
	2011 Representative Thomas J. Sloan

DID YOU KNOW?

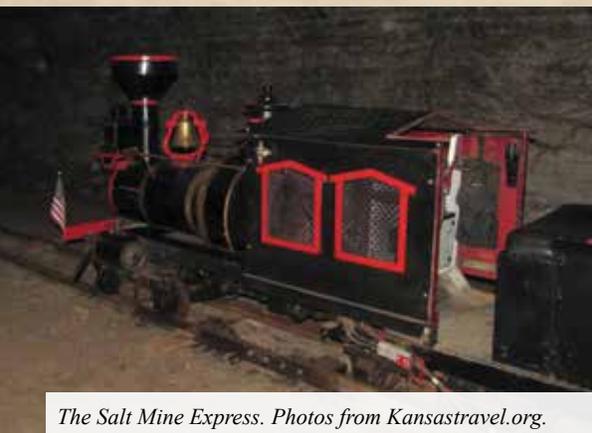
by Kimberly Winn



This 42 inch gauge railroad operated in the salt mine from 1923 until 1983 when the company abandoned the system in favor of a conveyor belt line.



Movie costumes: Mr. Freeze costume worn by Arnold Schwarzenegger & Batman costume worn by George Clooney in Batman and Robin, and Jean Girard Racing Suit worn by Sacha Baron Cohen in Talladega Nights.



The Salt Mine Express. Photos from Kansastravel.org.

Did you know that the original reels from *Gone With the Wind* and the *Wizard of Oz* are stored in Hutchinson?

Underground Vaults & Storage (UVS) provides secure, climate controlled storage for most of the major motion picture companies.

In the United States there are 16 salt mines but Hutchinson is the only one, in fact the only one in the Western Hemisphere, that has an underground museum open to tourists. There are only two other underground salt museums in the world and they are in Poland and Austria. People from throughout the country have clamored for an opportunity to visit the Hutchinson salt mine.

The Hutchinson Salt Member of the Permian Wellington Formation was formed about 275 million years ago when the Permian Sea dried up. One of the largest in the world, the extent of this bedded salt deposit is 27,000 square miles in central and south-central Kansas and is marginal to Permian Basin salt deposits in Oklahoma, the Texas Panhandle, and southeastern New Mexico that cover 100,000 square miles. The purest portion of the salt vein at this location is 650 feet underground and is still mined here today. Strataca has access to about 300,000 square feet of mined out area.

Salt was discovered southwest of Hutchinson in 1887 by a land developer from Indiana named Ben Blanchard. He was drilling for oil to increase land sales and discovered salt instead. It was the first significant salt discovery west of the Mississippi. Today there are three salt companies in Reno County: Morton and Cargill operate brine evaporation plants and the Hutchinson Salt Company operates the original Carey rock salt mine in which Strataca is located. The original salt discovery site is open to the public in the city of South Hutchinson.

By 1999, the Executive Director and Board of the Reno County Historical Society recognized the importance of preserving and presenting the Hutchinson salt story to the public. It soon became apparent that the logical, yet most challenging solution would be to re-open a portion of the mine to public tours. Today's attraction is the product of collaboration of the Historical Society and the two business entities that exist in the mine: the Hutchinson Salt Company and Underground Vaults and Storage.

Today, visitors can tour the underground museum, learn about the natural history of the mine, and see an exhibit provided by UVS. For more information, go to <http://underkansas.org/>

Source: <http://kansastravel.org/hutchinson/kansasundergroundsaltmusum2.htm>



PRIDE Awards

These Kansas PRIDE communities reported completing 1,178 community improvement projects, and invested nearly 95,000 hours on various PRIDE initiatives. Youth were involved in 93 of these projects and more than \$474,000 was invested in projects through private and public funding. This is evidence that working together truly is successful.

Providing support to the Kansas PRIDE communities is a partnership team including K-State Research and Extension, the Kansas Department of Commerce, and Kansas PRIDE, Inc.. To enroll, a group of interested volunteers collaborate with city government to organize a local PRIDE committee. Then, with technical support from the partners, a research based community planning process based on the Community Capitals is initiated. This includes assessment, setting goals, project implementation, evaluation and celebration! Kansas PRIDE provides recognition through three major programs including STAR Project awards, Community of Excellence, and Partners in PRIDE. In 2013 the following communities received statewide recognition for their work based on one of the seven community capitals.



Photos provided by Jamie Menon



Built Capital Star Award
City of Lucas: Bowl Plaza Project:

Lucas is the self-proclaimed Grassroots Art Capital of Kansas. The nearly 10,000 visitors exploring Lucas raised the need for public restrooms. A group of concerned volunteers including the Grassroots Art Center staff, land owners, artists, and other interested citizens met to address the need. The design goal for the restrooms was to be unique, handicap accessible, and enhance the grassroots art niche of Lucas.

An over-sized sunken toilet was the solution! Complete with Toto drinking from the bowl. The entrance to the building invites patrons to follow the toilet paper sidewalk across the toilet bowl and through the lid into the toilet tank. Once in the tank, one can explore thousands of imbedded memorabilia from the past.

This is a great example of a community determining their identity and then building on that identity one step at a time. By identifying and marketing their community as a tourist destination, it was possible to support local businesses that not only attract visitors but also serve the needs of local residents.



Cultural Capital Star Award
City of Alton: A Library Enhancement

Prior to 2013 the library in Alton consisted of a book shelf and some second-hand books along the walls in the community room of the Alton PRIDE community building. Community members indicated that Alton needed a better inventory of books and resources as the nearest library was 14 miles away, and the book mobile only visited monthly. Alton PRIDE jumped into action to address the situation.

The PRIDE group identified five action steps needed.

- Clean up the existing reading resources area
- Add additional shelving
- Enhance reading materials for adults
- Develop a system for organizing the library
- Make it an inviting place to be

A generous donation of shelving from the Courtland Library provided the needed shelf space. The PRIDE Group then submitted a request through the Central Kansas Library System, and received boxes of donated books. It took a great deal of volunteer time and effort, but through cleaning, organizing, and expanding the reading resources, Alton PRIDE has helped to establish a greatly expanded library, and has expanded the cultural capital of their community.



Cultural Capital Star Award
City of Lucas: 125th Birthday Celebration

2012 was the 125th birthday for the community of Lucas. The celebration was a great opportunity to bring historians and newcomers to the Lucas community while working on this big event.

To celebrate, the committee of local volunteers decided to replicate an early 1900's celebration. Planning began in October of 2011 with a contest to create an identifying brand and activities for the celebration. A 2009 Lucas graduate designed a logo that resembled two horseshoes with the theme "Looking Back, Moving Forward." This was used on t-shirts, fliers and souvenirs.

Another 2009 Lucas graduate directed the "Mystery of the Fred Dinniny Murder" play, based on actual historical events from the community. The play was performed by Fort Hays State University students and hosted in the restored theater in Lucas.

This was a great way for Lucas to honor the past while purposefully planning for the future—a great community planning approach that will enhance this community's ability for success.



Cultural Capital Star Award
City of Bushton: 125th Anniversary Celebration

2012 was the 125th Anniversary of the founding of the City of Bushton. Bushton PRIDE invited the community to gather for a meeting to discuss what should be done to celebrate the event. Jane Habiger agreed to become the overall coordinator of the event with one rule... if you wanted an activity to take place; you would head up a sub-committee to make it happen. Twenty committees formed to plan the event. More than 650 volunteer hours went into planning and implementing an amazing 125th Anniversary Celebration.



Natural Capital Star Award
City of Iola: Park Improvements

Thrive Allen County conducted a professional survey to identify resident priorities for the community of Iola. Park improvements were at the top of the list. Iola's PRIDE group jumped to action. They began with cleaning, painting, and repair work on the Municipal Natatorium and Community Building in Riverside Park. The PRIDE group then launched a full re-development at Elm Creek Park, a city park that was under-utilized and in disrepair. The area was cleared of debris before flowers and trees were planted. Continued park improvement efforts include goals for a fishing dock that is handicap accessible, and a walking/biking bridge across Washington Avenue to connect the city parks. Citizens are now taking more pride in keeping the park free of trash and debris by patrolling the area. This is a great example of involving the public from the start to create community buy in to insure sustainability of the improvement efforts.

Community of Excellence

Kansas PRIDE recognizes those communities who have initiated a comprehensive community planning process including assessment, goal setting, identified projects, evaluation, recognition, and celebration. The following communities have provided evidence of following the process and have been selected as Kansas PRIDE Communities of Excellence:

- City of Alton
- City of Ashland
- City of Glasco
- City of Humboldt
- City of Iola
- City of Lakin
- City of Larned
- City of Lenora
- City of Lucas
- City of Potwin
- City of Rossville
- City of Spearville
- City of Wilson

Many of these communities have wasted no time with their new designations, and proceeded to apply for, and receive, Partners in PRIDE Grants. These are mini grants of up to \$2,000 from Kansas



PRIDE Awards

PRIDE, Inc.. To date 14 awards have been made totaling just under \$28,000 that is matched dollar for dollar at the local level.

Partner in PRIDE

In the fall of 2012 and the spring of 2013, the following communities applied for and received Partners in PRIDE funds for the following projects:

City of Humboldt-Neosho River Park to enhance the Natural Capital

City of Iola-Downtown Beautification and Walking Tour to enhance the Cultural Capital

*City of Lakin-Thornburg Park Improvements to enhance the Built Capital

City of Larned- Time to Get Moving to enhance the Human Capital

City of Lucas-Walking/Driving Tour Map of Grassroots Arts Sites to enhance the Cultural Capital

City of Potwin-Ballfield Fence Project to enhance the Social Capital

*It is important to note that Lakin PRIDE received the first designated grant for Partners in PRIDE, funded by the Kansas Mayors Association!

Kansas PRIDE would like to recognize the 2012 corporate sponsors of the PRIDE program community initiative:

- Atmos Energy
 - Black Hills Energy
 - Blue Valley Telecommunications
 - Casey's General Stores, Inc
 - Frontier Oil
 - Kansas Bankers Association
 - Kansas Gas Service
 - Kansas Rural Water
 - Midwest Energy
 - Kansas Mayors Association
 - Wolf Creek
 - Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline
 - Westar Energy
 - The Kansas Association of Counties (in-kind)
 - The League of Kansas Municipalities (in-kind)
- All resources donated by these sponsors are returned to the communities through communication, education, recognition, and community grants.

☀️Trudy Rice is with K-State Research and Extension Community Development/PRIDE. She can be reached at trice@ksu.edu. Jamie Menon is with K-State Research and Extension Kansas PRIDE Program. He can be reached at jmenon@ksu.edu. All photos for this article were provided by PRIDE.



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City Branding

Brands play an important role in our decision-making. When we are looking for somewhere to eat, certain restaurants attract us because they make us think “fast and cheap,” “healthy,” or “classy.” When we purchase a vehicle, we choose a make and model we consider reliable, and when we pick out a newspaper to read, we want something that is interesting and trustworthy. The brands of these products and companies make us imagine certain qualities we desire, and in other cases qualities we dislike. City officials want to make sure their communities trigger thoughts of the former, which is why many have initiated marketing campaigns to shape how they are perceived.



Garden City

In 2009, Garden City’s 25 years of rapid population growth began to slow, and the community decided to look into how it marketed itself. The local chamber and tourism bureau led the effort, hiring a consulting firm to guide them through the process. One of their first decisions was to have residents take an active role in picking an image and slogan that they thought best represented Garden City. Over 2,000 individuals voted online or at public ballot boxes, with the desire to embrace the community’s cultural diversity emerging as a common theme. The graphic chosen resembled a yucca plant with crimson, lime green, sky blue, and orange and purple leaves, which could be interpreted to symbolize the different cultures within Garden City. The tagline, “The World Grows Here” referred to the growth of tangible items like crops or people and more abstract things like diversity, tourism, or economic development. Lynn Schoonover, Director of the tourism bureau, said after the campaign was complete that, “[the logo and slogan] have been authorized and endorsed by all our public entities... Everybody’s excited about this.”¹



Garnett

Garnett took a somewhat unexpected route to their rebranding effort. After the city commission observed that a lack of adequate signage was hurting the ability of visitors to get around Garnett, the tourism advisory board contacted University of Kansas Professor Greg Thomas to help to develop a signage program. Professor Thomas saw this as an opportunity to understand citizens’ perceptions of Garnett and what was needed to increase tourism, encourage retail growth, and entice people to move there. Approximately 30 students from KU visited to become familiar with the community to help develop signage proposals. These students created five logos and five taglines, which the city posted as an online survey to its Facebook page and made available on paper ballot at several popular locations. Nearly 600 people voted for their favorite logo and slogan, with “Small, Serene, Simply Garnett” being

selected as the winner (logo above). The City immediately began replacing letterhead, envelopes, and business cards with the new image and tagline, and made plans to replace street and entrance signs as soon as future budgets permit.²



Clifton

Cities are also finding ways to rebrand themselves even if they don’t have resources for consultants or access to college professors. Last summer, Clifton held a public contest to see who could design the best new city logo. Residents and non-residents were allowed to enter the contest, and the creator of the winning image won free utilities for a month, a \$25 cash certificate that could be used at local businesses, and the chance to have their artwork on uniforms, letterhead, envelopes, and city t-shirts. City Clerk Rhonda Meyerhoff said of the contest, “It was amazing what was submitted... The great thing about [the winner’s] design is that it is self-explanatory – yet so alive with color and the elements of who we are as a community.”³

There are some skeptics of city branding campaigns who say they result in no real benefit to a community. However, most city officials who’ve experienced branding initiatives disagree. They often cite these campaigns as the first step in broader movements to improve the city. Branding also creates an identity the community can rally around, which serves as a type of mission statement to guide future decision-making.⁴ The efforts of Garden City, Garnett, and Clifton also show how these campaigns can bring a community together for a common purpose. If you are concerned about your city’s image, you should consider using their strategies to project a compelling message about your own community.

 *Michael Koss is the Membership Services Manager for the League of Kansas Municipalities. He can be reached at mkoss@lkm.org*

Endnotes

- 1 Ahmad, S. (2011, November 23). Logo, tagline part of rebranding effort. The Garden City Telegram. Retrieved from <http://www.gctelegram.com/news/Rebranding-11-23-11>
- 2 Martin, J. (2012, Winter). Town Talk. City of Garnett. Retrieved from http://garnettksonline.com/uploads/Town_Talk_Winter_12.pdf
- 3 Meyerhoff, R. (personal communication, 2013, August 2). RE: [Ccmfoa] Logo.
- 4 Holeywell, R. (2012, December). Are Municipal Branding Campaigns Worth the Price? Governing.com. Retrieved from <http://www.governing.com/topics/economic-dev/gov-municipal-branding-campaigns-worth-price.html>

Assistant City Attorney III – Civil Litigation

The City of Wichita Department of Law is accepting applications for a civil litigation attorney (Assistant City Attorney III). Seeking a highly qualified trial attorney with experience in Federal Civil Rights litigation. Applicant must have specialized knowledge and experience to handle complex and difficult litigation matters in federal and state courts. Position will also provide other legal services to the City of Wichita. Requires four years experience in professional legal work and admission to practice in Kansas. Applicants should apply on-line at www.wichita.gov. Application deadline is October 11, 2013. EOE

Assistant City Attorney

The City of Lenexa, Kansas is a growing, dynamic and progressive city due in large measure to its commitment to quality growth as a “planned community” in partnership with its citizens. We are currently accepting applications for an Assistant City Attorney. This is a highly responsible and challenging position providing legal advice and assistance on a wide variety of business and legal matters impacting the City.

QUALIFICATIONS include a juris doctorate from an accredited law school and a license to practice law in Kansas. Advanced legal knowledge; the ability to independently manage legal projects; counsel elected officials and management on legal matters; supervise and manage other attorneys and support staff; and research, analyze, and draft legal documents. This is not a prosecution position.

The ideal candidate will have a passion for public service and at least 3 years of legal experience, including municipal, real estate or finance work; a stable work history; excellent verbal, written and analytical skills; strong counseling and negotiating experience; supervision and management experience; and good interpersonal skills. Demonstrated competence in using PC-based applications such as Microsoft Office is required. This is a regular, full time position involving 40+ hours per week including occasional evening and/or weekend hours. Salary \$57,038 – \$90,062 DOQ, with excellent benefit and retirement

package.

To apply for the above position please complete our on-line application. Be sure to attach your cover letter and resume reflecting any work history you may have during the past 10 years

City Administrator

City Administrator of Peabody, KS. Minimum qualifications: three years’ experience in public administration or closely related line of work. Bachelor’s degree in municipal management or related field. Letter of application including salary history, resume, and three work-related references in confidence to City Clerk, 300 N. Walnut, Peabody, Kansas 66866. Pre-employment drug screening. See recruitment profile at: <http://www.peabodyks.com/>

City Administrator

Hiawatha, Kansas (pop. 3,133; \$5.2 million budget; 30 FTE’s) is seeking a professional administrator to maintain its high quality of life and strong sense of community. The position reports to an experienced five-person City Commission, and oversees all city departments. Hiawatha is located an hour northwest of the Kansas City Metropolitan Area on the intersection of US Highway’s 36 and 73. It is a hard-working, family-friendly community that has a rich history and growing health and service sectors. Amenities include a state of the art regional health center, excellent school system, and many cultural and recreational attractions. For more information, visit <http://www.cityofhiawatha.org/>.

The ideal applicant will have at least a bachelor’s degree in public administration or a related field, and two or more years of management experience. The successful candidate will have proven budgeting and administrative skills, while demonstrating financial accountability, a good work ethic, and strong leadership. Applicants must demonstrate the communication skills necessary to work with elected officials, department heads, and other stakeholders in the community.

Competitive benefits, Salary \$60,000-\$70,000 DOQ. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and three work-related references to LEAPS-Hiawatha@

lkm.org or LEAPS-Hiawatha, 300 SW 8th, Topeka, KS 66603. If confidentiality is requested, please note in application materials. Position will remain open until filled. Application review will begin October 7. EOE.

City Clerk

The City of Ulysses, Kansas is a seeking qualified applicant for the position of City Clerk to oversee the daily office procedures in utilities, maintain ordinances, resolutions, assessments, city property, titles and personnel files. Provide assistance in response to requests from Mayor and Council. Assist City Administrator and City Attorney in maintaining personnel policies. Serve as Public Information Officer, review and sign all checks for the City and other duties as assigned.

Applicant must have supervisory/management experience, excellent communication skills and be self-directed. Certified Municipal Clerk certified is preferred but not required. Salary will be based on qualifications and experience.

Applications and complete job description are available at City Hall, 115 W. Grant Avenue, Ulysses KS 67880, at www.cityofulysses.com or call 620-356-4600. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. All offers of employment are conditional upon the successful completion of a post offer physical exam, drug and alcohol screen and background check.

City Manager

The City of San Marcos, Texas, is seeking a new City Manager. San Marcos, named the fastest growing city in the nation in 2013 by the US Census Bureau, is ideally situated midway between Austin and San Antonio along Interstate 35. San Marcos is the county seat of Hays County and has a population of more than 50,000.

The City of San Marcos operates under a Council-Manager form of government. The San Marcos City Council is comprised of a Mayor elected at-large, for a two-year term, and six Council Members elected at-large for staggered three-year terms. The City Council appoints a City Manager to manage the day-to-day operations of the organization. Other

positions appointed by the City Council include the City Attorney, City Clerk, and Municipal Court Judge.

Bachelor degree and a minimum of eight years of progressively responsible experience in municipal operations required. Master degree in public administration or business administration preferred. The ideal candidate for this position will have previous city manager experience, but experience as an assistant city manager in a comparable or larger city will be considered. Experience in meet and confer and community policing is preferred, as is previous experience in a university community.

View the complete position profile and online application instructions at: www.governmentresource.com/pages/CurrentSearches

For more information on this position, please contact: Tom Muehlenbeck, Senior Vice President Strategic Government Resources Tom@GovernmentResource.com

Fire Chief

The City of Irving Texas, is seeking a new Fire Chief. Irving has a population of more than 220,700 and is situated between Dallas and Fort Worth.

The city is governed by a Home Rule Charter with a Council-Manager form of government. The mayor and city council appoint a professional city manager to manage the operation of the organization. The fire chief is a Civil Service position and reports directly to the city manager.

The Irving Fire Department provides fire protection and emergency ambulance service from 11 stations around the city. The department has an annual budget for FY 2012-13 of \$33.7 million (\$35.9 million proposed for FY 2013-14), and is staffed by 317 full-time personnel handling more than 22,500 fire and EMS responses annually.

Bachelor's degree and 10 or more years of command or supervisory experience in an organized fire department required. Master's degree, CFO designation, FSCEO, and EFO from the National Fire Academy preferred. Experience in a fire department with a medical priority dispatch system in conjunction with a tiered EMS system is highly desirable. Familiarity with Civil Service rules and Insurance Services Office parameters is also desirable. A person appointed as head of the Fire Department must be eligible for certification as an Advanced Firefighter or Head of Department, Suppression and Prevention, by the Fire Protection Personnel Standards and Education.

View complete position profile and apply online: www.governmentresource.com/pages/CurrentSearches

For more information on this position, contact: Bill Peterson, Senior Vice President Strategic Government Resources Bill@GovernmentResource.com

Full Time Code Compliance and Animal Control Officer

The City of Plainville is taking applications for a Full Time Code Compliance and Animal Control Officer. Responsibilities include field inspections of commercial and residential establishments and construction projects to ensure compliance with code, animal and nuisance ordinances. Responds to complaints of possible violations; performs inspections and determines compliance with applicable code, standards and ordinances; identifies violations; prepares written report of findings and identifies needed corrective actions. Performs other work as assigned. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent and a valid Kansas driver's license. Experience is preferred but not required. Apply at the Plainville City Office. Position will be open till filled. Can pick up application at the Plainville City office at 222 W. Mill, Plainville, Kansas. Call 785-434-2841 for more information.

Human Resource Manager

The City of Olathe is seeking a Human Resource Manager with proven and extensive experience in human resources leadership and management in a similarly sized local or state government, public agency, or comparable private sector organization. This is truly a unique opportunity to be a member of a full-service human resources department in a dynamic city government that values innovation, efficiency, and top-quality management. The Manager will lead the Employee Experience team and provide complex administrative and technical support to the Assistant Director of Human Resources & Risk Management.

Education and Training Requirements:

•Bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college or university in Human Resource Management, Public Administration, or related field. •Five years of broad based, progressively responsible human resources experience in a supervisory or management capacity; or any combination of education, training, and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform the essential functions of the job.

Essential Competencies:

- Change Management - Budgeting/

Resource Management - Problem Solving/ Decision Making - Innovation/Creativity - Strategic Thinking - Process Improvement - Safety/Liability Management - Coaching, Motivating, and Developing Others

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

•Excellent communicator •Highly developed interpersonal skills •Results oriented. •Quickly establish and maintain positive, collaborative relationships with the Human Resources Department's strategic partners, including the City's Leadership Team management and supervisory personnel, and employees. •Apply extensive human resources skills, abilities and knowledge to streamline operations and improve effectiveness. •Be a successful day-to-day manager who is not only technically competent and experienced in human resources, but who also understands the broader focus of the organization and how to effectively serve the needs of user departments. •Be able to manage competing priorities in a fast-paced, exciting environment. •Lead and elevate the employee experience for City staff by implementing and managing related programs and activities within the Human Resources division

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Utilities Assistant Distribution & Collections Superintendent

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The City of Atchison has an opening in the Utilities Department for an Assistant D&C Superintendent. This position will train in the essential functions of the Superintendent. Upon successful demonstration of ability to fulfill requirements of the position, the individual will transition to position of Superintendent upon current superintendent's retirement. Duties include, but not limited to: direct the day-to-day operations and mechanical maintenance and repairs of the City's distribution and collection systems; oversee meter reading and customer service activities; supervision of subordinate personnel; ensure work quality and adherence to established policies & procedures. Will serve as Equipment Operator for a minimum of 2 months to gain experience working with crew members and gain knowledge of existing infrastructure. Job related physical and substance abuse screen upon offer of employment. Applicants must apply on-line at www.hrepartners.com. Position open until filled. EOE



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Conference Memories



Well, it's October and when one works at the League of Kansas Municipalities that means the focus is on the annual League conference. In thinking back it occurred to me that I have participated in a total of 29 annual League conferences, including the one this month. This year represents the 105th annual conference of the League of Kansas Municipalities. Some might ask how it can

be that we have had 105 annual conferences, but the organization is only 103 years old. Well, we had two annual conferences in the year of our founding, 1910. So, while I wasn't there, the records tell me that with zero years under our belt as an organization, we had already experienced two annual conferences.

In those 105 conferences we have provided innumerable training and networking opportunities to city officials from across this great state. The key to having a great conference, at least to some extent, is finding great keynote speakers. Two of the best we have had were Dr. Lowell Catlett and Erik Weihenmayer. Dr. Catlett is a futurist who hails from New Mexico. He has been the keynote speaker at two League conferences. Both times he received rave reviews from those in attendance. Erik Weihenmayer was perhaps the best find "on the way up" that we ever had. Not only a great motivational speaker, but we found him while he was literally making his way up the side of Mt. Everest. Kim Winn heard about his story, in which he was seeking to be the first blind person to climb Mt. Everest, but he hadn't yet reached the top. The difference in his fee between the bottom and the top of Everest amounted to a factor of three. So we were very lucky to get him before his historic climb was completed.

Finding good speakers on the way up is important, but also the timing of the speaker is important. Early in 2008 we signed a contract with Kansas Coach Bill Self to be our motivational speaker at the October conference. Due to our great sense of timing and planning ... the 2008 League Annual Conference occurred only a few months after the Jayhawks became National Champions once again. Also falling into the great timing category is Dr. Benjamin Carson who we have secured as a keynote speaker for the conference not once but twice over recent years. As you are undoubtedly aware Dr. Carson has an amazing life story and has been the subject of books, numerous print and media articles, as well as a made-for-television movie.

We also have had some very interesting moments in our Kansas debate series. The year that comes to mind is 1996 in which we had not one, but two contested races for U.S. Senate in the State of Kansas. The League hosted debates for both races, with one being between Pat Roberts and Sally Thompson (for the Nancy Landon Kassebaum seat), and the other being a debate between Jill Docketing and Sam Brownback (for the Bob Dole seat which was then briefly held by Sheila Frahm). As you can imagine, that was a very exciting time at the League conference.

We have also been fortunate to have native son Bill Curtis present at our conference, and that has always been a special treat for all of the attendees. In addition, we have had a series of Kansas Governor's addresses, both as keynote speakers and as the

featured speaker at our annual awards luncheon for as long as I can remember.

League conferences are always set up to be a time of high energy and learning which will not only motivate individuals who are engaged in local government, but it will also help them to be even better governmental leaders in an effort to improve their communities and the great state of Kansas. It is interesting to note that while the presentations and speakers always seem to be the focal points of our conferences, I have always believed that perhaps the most important aspect of our conference is the interaction and networking that takes place between and among the conference attendees. It is vitally important that city officials be able to share common experiences with one another. In this way challenges and opportunities can be communicated and may open up new avenues of thought as well as new problem solving measures for addressing problems in one community or another. One never knows where the next big idea is going to come from, but when one attends an annual League conference, the chances of finding something that will help your community are very good indeed.

Finally, I will relate one story which has always stuck with me. Many years ago when I was very young League staffer, we were holding the annual conference in Wichita. In those days we had hospitality suites in the evenings, and I was attending one of these and talking to a big city mayor about the matters of the day. We were on the second floor of the Broadview Hotel in Wichita when some shouting was heard out in the hallway. This caused us to open the door to the suite to see that up the hall a hot water main had broken, and there were perhaps two inches of scalding hot water running down the hallway outside this hospitality suite. What then ensued was a quick discussion about what the appropriate course of action would be. First, we called the hotel to alert them that they had a major problem on their hands. We then decided to stay put while the water rushed down the hallway, hoping that the hotel would in short order get the hot water main shut down. Unfortunately, this did not happen. In fact, when we next checked the hallway, there were perhaps three or four inches of water now coursing down the hallways.

Two basic concerns were then raised. The first issue was: Would we be scalded if we attempted to run down the hall through the water? The second, and more concerning issue was: Would we be electrocuted if the water in the hall made contact with the wiring running through the hotel walls? The idea of running through electrified hot water wasn't very appealing, but after a while we decided that the longer we waited, the more likely it became that the water would in fact seep through the walls and become electrified. So, the final scene of this little melodrama was the sight of perhaps a dozen city officials, including yours truly, sprinting down the hallway in our suits to the stairs at the end of the hall, splashing water as we went and hoping we weren't going to be electrocuted.

I am a firm believer that interactions at professional conferences, such as the annual League conference, lead to positive outcomes statewide, and also allow city officials to improve their cities one idea at a time. I have been proud to be a part of this great tradition of excellence for the past 28 years.

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