

NewsLetter

Business and Economy



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Dazzle Dog Spa LLC

2

Entrepreneurship in Central KS	3
Information for Manufacturers	4
GB Alive Parade Through Time	7
Main Street Organization	8
COSTARTERS Core	9
IGNITE	11
Brush Up Barton County	12
Calendar	13

Annual Report



Bright Beginnings Open House/Ribbon Cutting May 2nd

Join us to celebrate the completion of the first childcare center from ABCC, Bright Beginnings!



Fridays on Forest is Back on April 26!

Great Bend Alive's Fridays on Forest is back for the 4th Year and bringing some fun with Fuel Barton County.



YEC 2024 in the books

2024's YEC awarded students from all over Barton County



Madison Hardin (on Left), Bather/ Groomer in training, and Gidget Hagan (on right), Owner/Groomer, care about the experience for your pet, not just the look.

Specializing in grooming for your pet. Curated products for your pet's coat, and an experience to keep your furry family members calm.

Dazzle Dog Spa LLC
Gidget Hagan, owner/groomer
2606 10th Street
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-797-9999
dazzledogspa@gmail.com
dazzledogspa.com

Find them on:
Facebook

Hours:
Sunday: closed
Monday to Friday: 9:00 am - 4:30 pm
Saturday: by Appointment

Dazzle Dog Spa LLC

Fear-free dog grooming spa

Tell us about you and the business:

With 40 years experience as a self-employed groomer, I have had extensive training and I'm a master groomer.

Our fear-free dog spa has services that include full service dog grooming with quality products made for each dog's specific coat. We also do nails. A simple nail trim or trim and polishing. We also do teeth brushing.

Why did your company choose to locate in Barton County?

I wanted a place dogs would actually like to go. We take our time with each dog as an individual. I love my job!



Dazzle Dog Spa is passionate about dogs and their well-being. Understanding that grooming can be a stressful experience for some dogs, they offer a fear-free environment to ensure that the grooming experience is as comfortable and enjoyable as possible for dogs. Their dedicated master groomer has 42 years of experience and is committed to providing the highest quality of service to every dog that comes through their doors.

Why did you choose to locate your business in Barton County?

I relocated here to be near family and fell in love with this community.

Why do you like to do business in Barton County?

The community of Barton county, the chamber and business community have all reached out and welcome us and offered any help we need! I love the warmth of starting a business here!

What inspired you to start your business?

I had come across a course in fear free and had seen the new products offered for washing dog. After doing my research I realized I wanted to be part of this new way of handling dogs.

What did your startup plan and timeline look like?

I did not borrow to start this business, so the process took about a year, and the year prior was about finding the right location and building.

Entrepreneurship Resources with Great Bend Economic Development

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





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

Do it! The support is out there! You will be amazed at how willing this community is!!

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

The community has really reached out and when something has come up there has always been someone to offer ideas for the solution. Thank you Great Bend!

This cute pup has been dazzled, [CLICK HERE](#) to get your pet an appointment.

Focus Areas

Follow along on our journey

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

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

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

Anything you want to see in these newsletters that was not included? Please reach out to marketing@gbedinc.com with your feedback.



Development

Attention Manufacturers!

Did you know there are funds available to assist in your expansion projects? Get in touch with us today to find out how to take advantage of the State's incentive programs for manufacturing. Whether you're expanding machinery, building space, capital improvements in general, hiring new employees or

re-training existing ones, there are programs that are in place to help you and we're here to help make it happen!

Check out the list of all Kansas Business Incentives [here](#) and get in contact with us at director@gbedinc.com if you feel like you might qualify.



Join us to celebrate the completion of the first childcare center from Advancing Barton County Childcare, Inc., Bright Beginnings! Ribbon Cutting will take place at 10 am with a come-and-go Open House to follow until 4 pm.



Childcare

ABCC Open House/Ribbon Cutting set for May 2nd

Great Bend Economic Development is thrilled to announce the upcoming ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house event at Bright Beginnings by ABCC (Advancing Barton County Childcare, Inc.), the new childcare center located at 4507 Farmers Plaza, Great Bend, KS. The ribbon cutting will commence at 10:00 am on May 2nd, followed by an open house from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. We extend a warm invitation to all community members, potential applicants, parents, students, employers, and stakeholders to join us in celebrating this significant milestone.



Bright Beginnings is a state-of-the-art childcare facility designed to accommodate up to 80 children. Established by Advancing Barton County Childcare through Great Bend Economic Development, this initiative aims to address the pressing need for reliable and accessible childcare services in our community. The approximately 6,500 square-foot facility represents the first of several daycare centers to be built across Barton County, showcasing a commitment to enhancing childcare capacity throughout the region.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house event offer an opportunity for the community to witness the culmination of extensive planning and effort. Attendees will have the chance to explore the facility and learn more about the services offered at Bright Beginnings.

For more information about the ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house event, please contact GBED staff by phone at 620-796-2407 or by emailing ABCC staff at admin@abccinc.org.



Bright Beginnings by ABCC, Inc.

Join the Waitlist

Learn about our center and secure your child's spot here.



Childcare

Custodial Services for New Childcare Center

Advancing Barton County Childcare, Inc., is seeking proposals for Custodial Services for the new Bright Beginnings Childcare Center.

ABCC will consider a 1 – 3 year contract. The center is just under 7,000 square feet. For a map and layout or any other questions please contact Sara Arnberger at admin@abccinc.org.

The bid should include weekday cleaning (5 days per week) with no weekends or holidays included. Respondents must be insured and name ABCC, Inc. as an insured on their policy, if selected. Contractor will supply all liquid chemicals that it takes to do the job unless it requires specific chemicals to clean specialty equipment. The contractor will need to supply all equipment and materials needed for the job.

Please submit your sealed, plainly marked proposals to the Great Bend Economic Development Office, 3111 10th Street, PO Box 1643, Great Bend, Kansas, 67530. Proposals will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., Friday, April 12th, 2024. ABCC, Inc. reserves the right to reject any and or all proposals. ABCC, Inc. also reserves the right to award in the organizations best interest.



Great Bend Alive GB Alive Kicks off Fridays on Forest Season Four on April 26th

Great Bend Alive, the downtown arm of Great Bend Economic Development (GBED) is excited to announce the upcoming Fridays on Forest Kick-Off on April 26, 2024. The event will take place on Forest Avenue, from Williams to Main. Lee Ann June, GBED Communications Director said, "Fridays on Forest creates the perfect 'third place' for both locals and visitors alike to unwind, connect, and enjoy the vibrant atmosphere, alongside live music, fun food, and beverages. We're delighted to begin another season of community bonding in downtown GBK." The kickoff will feature music from Tim Anthony

& the Animals, food vendors from Lumpy's, Los Dos Portillo's, Brand 17 BBQ, and Flatlanders behind Dry Lake, plus our alcohol vendors, Los Dos Portillo's, Lumpy's, Charlie's Place, and Dry Lake Brewing.

Great Bend Alive is looking forward to another great season of Fridays on Forest with a few new additions and many amenities Great Bend

has gotten used to having in the entertainment district. Mark your calendar for the last Friday of each month between April and October for all the Fridays on Forest events. Many sponsorships and partnerships are already in place but if you, your business, or your organization would like to get involved, please reach out to GBED staff at 620-796-2407 or marketing@gbedinc.com. Another way to stay informed is

to follow Great Bend Economic Development and Great Bend Alive on social media.

Fuel Barton County, formerly Barton County Young Professionals, has joined forces with Great Bend Alive to fill in

as gatekeepers for the evening. Fuel Barton County, dedicated to engaging and retaining young adults in Barton County, recognizes the significance of community involvement. Partnering with Fridays on Forest aligns with their mission, as it fosters a vibrant social scene and enriches the local community. By volunteering time, Fuel members not only contribute to the success



The photo above is from April 2023, a chilly start to the 2023 Fridays on Forest season. The Lovegrass Music Festival brought 3 bluegrass bands to the event. 43 degree-weather didn't scare off these folks. We are so grateful for the community for making these events awesome, no matter the temperature!

of this fun event but also demonstrate their commitment to creating a thriving environment for both current residents and prospective newcomers. Through initiatives like Fridays on Forest, we can build connections, strengthen community bonds, and enhance the appeal of Barton County for young adults, ensuring a bright future for our community.





Great Bend Alive

Parade through Time deadline for entry is approaching!

Great Bend Alive is excited to extend a warm invitation to the community to actively participate in the “Great Bend Alive Parade Through Time”, an enthralling celebration honoring the rich history of Great Bend, Kansas. Serving as the official kick-off to the City of Great Bend’s June Jaunt festival, this parade offers not only a chance to witness history but also an opportunity for the community to become an integral part of it.

Showcase Your Story in the Parade: We are calling on businesses, individuals, clubs, and organizations to join us in crafting a vibrant and unforgettable procession. Whether you possess a historical connection, a unique performance, or a creative costume, we urge you to share your story and be a part of this historic event. This is your moment to spotlight what makes Great Bend truly exceptional.

Participate and Celebrate: The “Great Bend Alive Parade Through Time” is more than just a spectacle; it’s a celebration that thrives on community involvement. We encourage participants to delve into history, performance, costumes, and reenactments to breathe life

into the city’s rich past. By taking part in the parade, you become an active contributor to Great Bend’s collective narrative. Need assistance brainstorming? Reach out to GBED at info@gbedinc.com, and we’ll assist you in figuring out how you or your organization can join the festivities.

Event Details:

Date: May 31, 2024

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: Parade begins at Brit Spaug Park, travels down Main Street to 12th Street

Followed by: Fridays on Forest – A public invitation to continue the celebration

How to Participate: To be part of this historic celebration, submit your entry for the parade by the deadline of May 1, 2024, for approval. Find the entry form and guidelines online at www.gbedinc.com/mainstreet and click the “Parade Form” button, or visit this link directly: [Parade Form Link](#). Don’t miss out on the fun—follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok to see the excitement unfold.

Across Barton County

Ellinwood’s, Two Chicks & Some Old Bird, hosts event April 20th

Get Downtown, Ellinwood

Organized by Two Chicks and Some Old Bird, the April 20th Ellinwood “Get Downtown” boasts there is truly something for everyone!

In addition to shopping with the local Ellinwood Downtown merchants, enjoy shopping a large indoor vendor hall, outdoor vendors, boutique trucks, food trucks, and activities for the kids.

TWO CHICKS AND SOME OLD BIRD INVITES YOU TO

GET DOWNTOWN ELLINWOOD

AN INDOOR & OUTDOOR MARKET FEATURING ANTIQUE, VINTAGE & HANDMADE ITEMS

BRING YOUR FRIENDS
SPEND THE DAY SHOPPING OUR MARKET VENDORS, LOCAL MERCHANTS & FOOD TRUCKS!

APRIL 20TH
9 AM - 4 PM

DOWNTOWN, ELLINWOOD, KS
FOR MORE INFO CALL 620-566-1006

Great Bend Alive

Main Street, What does that mean?

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



As a Main Street organization, the focus is on four main areas: Development, Design, Preservation, and



Promotion/Events. Great Bend Alive is known for Fridays on Forest, while this has been our biggest success to date, we have committees in place to give equal focus to our other areas as well.

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

What is a Kansas Main Street?

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

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



For the latest updates follow Great Bend Alive on:

Facebook



Instagram



TikTok



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



MEET OUR PRESIDENT

director@gbedinc.com



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

COMMS DIRECTOR

marketing@gbedinc.com



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



Join Regan Reif and Jeremy Elliott for the first cohort on April 3rd, space is limited. If you are still interested and the deadline has passed, please reach out to GBED staff at 620-796-2407 or info@gbedinc.com, today!

Workforce

Apprenticeships

Job Seekers can earn while they learn with apprenticeships

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

The Value of APPRENTICESHIPS

- 1 Obtain company-specific training to enable you to enter the company at a higher level of employment.
- 2 Earn college credit towards your degree. Several colleges and tech schools may participate.
- 3 You are more likely to be paid more after the successful completion of an apprenticeship.
- 4 Build a network within the company.
- 5 Gain more marketable skills.



Entrepreneurship

Calling all creatives, innovators, and problem solvers!

If you have a business idea—or want to make a living doing what you love—apply for the CO.STARTERS Core cohort at Great Bend Economic Development! CO.STARTERS Core is a ten-week program that helps anyone turn their passion into a sustainable business. Over 24,000 entrepreneurs across the country have trusted CO.STARTERS to help them get started.

There's nothing more exciting than seeing new businesses open in Barton County. What if yours is next?

Learn more at www.gbedinc.com/costarters or read the full press release online at www.gbedinc.com/news.

CO.STARTERS Core will help you:

- Ask better questions to challenge your assumptions, identify key issues, and address them
- Understand WHY specific business activities matter, HOW they fit together, and WHETHER they are relevant to your situation
- Be able to articulate and explain your business's potential to others
- Find community, structure, and accountability—all within a safe space to share, experiment, fail, and learn with other entrepreneurs
- Know your next step forward



1st Cohort begins April 3rd
 Cost: \$250* (\$2500 value)
 Wednesdays Nights 6 pm - 9 pm
 Dinner & Book included
[Apply Today](#)
 *Attend 8 of the 10 sessions and receive a \$100 Rebate!
 Click the TikTok icon to hear more from Regan & Jeremy!



Entrepreneurship

Barton County YEC is set for March 6th



Barton County's fourth annual Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge took place on Wednesday during the noon hour. This competition, brought to Barton County by Great Bend Economic Development and the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce, was created to challenge our youth, encourage our business community to partner with and mentor our younger generations, and foster an entrepreneurial spirit, and is a partnership with NetWork Kansas. Six Barton County students from 7th grade through 12th grade submitted a business plan and gave a 4-minute pitch presentation to the judging panel during the tradeshow, on Wednesday. The judging panel is made up of a wide array of business professionals.

NetWork Kansas holds regional and state Youth Entrepreneurship Challenges as part of its mission in developing entrepreneurship ecosystems throughout Kansas. The partnership with NetWork Kansas allows YEC contestants the use of VentureDash, the contestant portal. Great Bend Economic Development and the Great Bend Chamber partner on this competition as both organizations are tasked with strengthening the area's workforce for the business community, and in this case, that means nurturing the next generation's entrepreneurs.

Students learn about writing an executive statement and what is important to share in their 4-minute presentation, but they are also learning soft skills that will help them navigate life in the workforce. A great side effect of this competition is the student competitors gain experience in professional networking with judges, mentors, and the community.

Student competitors from Ellinwood, Hoisington, Claflin, and Great Bend showed up with many different industries represented. Students had the opportunity to get to know their judges with an ice-breaker lunch before they headed to the Great Bend Event Center ballroom for the tradeshow and pitch portion of the competition.

After the trade show, the awards were announced. Third place and \$500 was awarded to Tucker Loesch with Loesch Manufacturing, second place and \$750 was awarded to Mady Hammeke with CraftzbyMadyCo, and the first place winner receiving \$1000 was Sydney Bailey & Callie Umphres with their business concept, Ariel View. Sydney and Callie can continue onto the state-level competition with their win. The public voted for their favorite and awarded \$250 to Ariel View as well. Honorable mention went to Zoey Bogner with her business The Kansas Voice, and Sydney Mattison with Honey Bee Marketing. Watch all the participants' short format interviews on Great Bend Economic Development's Facebook page.

A big thank you to our judges AJ Chrest, Monte Strecker, Laura Strecker, Terry Price, and Lea Ann Seiler for taking the time for this event and giving students great feedback on their business plans. Another thank you to our event sponsors Barton Community College and Equity Bank, and our in-kind sponsor Nex-Tech Wireless for allowing us to use the iPads for judging.



Above: Sydney Bailey & Callie Umphres with their business concept, Ariel View, accepting their award for first place. Below: Mady Hammeke with CraftzbyMadyCo, gave her 4-minute pitch to the judges and public onlookers at this year's YEC.





Click the image above to see the competition overview for 2024!

Entrepreneurship

Curious About the IGNITE Journey?

This Video Can Help

The IGNITE Rural Business competition beckons entrepreneurs to sow their seeds of success in Barton County. This dynamic initiative equips visionaries with tools, resources, educational sessions, and investment opportunities, igniting a blaze of innovation and impactful entrepreneurship within the community.

Participants stand to gain invaluable exposure, mentorship, and the prospect of lucrative cash prizes. The competition unfolds in structured rounds, culminating in the electrifying IGNITE Finale event scheduled for October 10, 2024, where top contenders will shine.

Eligible startups—those less than five years old with ten or fewer employees—are encouraged to seize this opportunity for growth and recognition. Applicants, aged 18 and above, must submit their entries by the June 15, 2024 deadline, with detailed guidelines and application forms available at www.igniteks.com.

Join us in kindling the flames of innovation and creativity. The IGNITE Committee eagerly welcomes business mentors and sponsors to join our journey towards fostering entrepreneurial excellence. For inquiries, reach out to the GBED staff at 620-796-2407 or via email at marketing@gbedinc.com. Additionally, check out our new overview video (click the image above) that provides insights into timelines, necessary requirements for each round, and more. We are igniting the spirit of entrepreneurship in Barton County!

Entrepreneurship

Next Creative Mornings set for April 12

Join us for “Creative Mornings” at Perks Coffee, 1216 Main St. GBK. We’re creating a space where dreamers, doers, and entrepreneurs come together. Our monthly sessions, held every 2nd Friday at 7:15 am, are designed for individuals passionate about entrepreneurship, innovation, and success.

At Great Bend Economic Development (GBED), we celebrate every small success. While our numbers may be modest, last month’s gathering welcomed new faces and conversations about business expansion, connecting with young professionals, and fostering business growth.

Why “Creative Mornings”? Because we believe in celebrating the spirit of experimentation and providing a supportive environment for individuals at every stage of their entrepreneurial journey.

There’s no age limit here – we value the diverse experiences of those who have tasted both success and failure. For the young and ambitious, our community offers a platform to explore business ideas with like-minded individuals.

Each session starts with a focused discussion on a specific entrepreneurial topic. Then, we open the floor for an exchange of insights, ideas, and experiences.

And the best part? It’s completely free to join our community. We believe in the power of collaboration and knowledge-sharing. While there’s no

obligation, we encourage you to support Perks Coffee Shop by indulging in their delicious offerings as we fuel our bodies and minds for a morning of creativity and connection.

So, mark your calendars and set your alarms! Join us at Perks Coffee on the 2nd Friday of the month at 7:15 am for “Creative Mornings” – where dreams meet reality, and entrepreneurs find their tribe. Let’s sip, share, and spark innovation together!





Brush Up BC programs sees another Pawnee Rock resident to take advantage of these grant funds.

Housing

Brush Up BC: One Pawnee Rock family utilized program

Great Bend Economic Development (GBED) continues to spearhead initiatives aimed at fostering community development and economic growth in Barton County. Among its array of programs, Brush Up Barton County stands out as a support for homeowners looking to enhance the visual appeal and longevity of their properties.

Brush Up Barton County offers grants for paint and supplies to eligible homeowners for exterior painting projects. The program, with a dedicated annual budget of \$5,000, allocates up to \$1,000 per project, making it accessible and impactful for residents across the county. By providing financial assistance, GBED empowers homeowners to undertake exterior painting endeavors, thereby contributing to the

beautification of neighborhoods and the overall enhancement of the community's aesthetic appeal.

These projects, not only do individual properties receive a fresh coat of paint, but the entire community benefits from the revitalization efforts.

As evidence of the program's impact, take a glance at the latest success story from Pawnee Rock. Pictured is the home's "before" and "after", where homeowners took advantage of the Brush Up Barton County grant, revitalizing their properties and contributing to the overall charm of their neighborhood.

For homeowners interested in participating in Brush Up Barton County or learning more about GBED's housing initiatives, online applications and additional information are available at www.gbедinc.com/housing. Whether it's through revitalizing homes or implementing innovative programs, GBED remains committed to building a brighter future for Barton County.

Workforce

CK Jobs, an Enhanced Platform for Employers

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

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

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

Upcoming Events and Business Education

2
April

Transforming Conflict into Positive Outcomes

Tuesday, April 2
9:00 am - 4:00 pm \$279
405 N Jefferson Ave Springfield, MO 65806
<https://www.sba.gov/event/41378>

10
April

The Power of Positive Teams

Wednesday, April 10
9:00 AM - 8:40 PM
405 N Jefferson Ave, Springfield, MO
<https://www.sba.gov/event/41379>

3
April

CO.STARTERS Core at GBED

Wednesday, April 3 - ENROLL TODAY! 620-796-2407
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm (10-week class)
3111 10th Street, Great Bend
www.gbедinc.com/costarters

12
April

Creative Mornings

Friday, April 12
7:15 AM - 8:00 AM
Perk Coffee Shop, 1216 Main Street
<https://fb.me/e/5ZcsZNx2B>

5
April

Social Media [102](#): Paid Sources of Social Media

Friday, April 5
9:00 AM - NOON
Kauffman Found. Conf. Center, 4801 Rockhill Rd, Kansas City
<https://www.sba.gov/event/41750>

18
April

Small Business, Big Protection

Thursday, April 18
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Washburn School of Law, 2073 SW Washburn Terrace E, Topeka
<https://www.sba.gov/event/44231>

9
April

Kansas Business Expo

Tuesday, April 9
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
DoubleTree by Hilton Lawrence, Lawrence, KS
<https://www.sba.gov/event/44193>

26
April

Fridays on Forest Season 4 Episode 1

Friday, April 26
5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Tickets to get in: FREE
Forest Street between Main & Williams in Great Bend
Learn more: greatbendisalive

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

Education

SBDC & SBA Classes

Click on the Class Name for the Link to Registration

[Diverse Business Certifications Workshop](#)

Tuesday, April 2
noon: Free

[Spring Clean Your Social Media](#)

Tuesday, April 2
noon: Free

[Virtual Reboot | Regional](#)

Tuesday, April 9
8 am - 1 pm: Free

[Startup and Start Right](#)

Wednesday, April 10
Noon: Free

[Upgrade Your Website For Better Business Results](#)

Thursday, April 11
9AM: Free

[Non-Profit 101](#)

Thursday, April 11
6PM: Free

[Entrepreneurship Research Lunch and Learn – Patent Searching Techniques](#)

Friday, April 12
Noon: Free

[Manage Your Own Social Media](#)

Tuesday, April 16
Noon: Free

[How to Start a Business](#)

Tuesday, April 16
5:30 PM: Free

[How to Start a Business](#)

Wednesday, April 16
8 AM: Free

[Unleash the Power of Your Credit](#)

Thursday, April 18
10 am: Free

[QuickBooks for Beginners](#)

Tuesday, April 23
9 am - noon: \$179

[QuickBooks for Intermediate Users](#)

Tuesday, April 25
9 am - noon: \$179

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

Tuesday, April 30
Noon: Free



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



Watch our 2023 Year in Review

In the next issue

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

Let's keep in touch

Great Bend Economic
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3111 10th Street
Great Bend, Kansas 67530

620-796-2407
marketing@gbedinc.com
www.gbedinc.com

- Facebook
- Instagram
- LinkedIn
- TikTok
- Website



YOU'RE INVITED



**BRIGHT
BEGINNINGS**

BY



OPEN HOUSE

Join us to celebrate the completion of the first childcare center from Advancing Barton County Chilcare, Inc., Bright Beginnings! Ribbon Cutting will take place at 10 am with a come-and-go Open House to follow until 4 pm.

**MAY
2ND**

**RIBBON CUTTING AT 10 AM
OPEN HOUSE 10 AM - 4 PM**

4507 FARMERS PLAZA LANE, GBK