

Agenda

OCTOBER 2019

CAREER *exploration* DAY

Wednesday, September 18th, we hosted our annual **Career Exploration Day** at the **National Guard - Kearney Armory**!

Students from 14 area high schools visited and experienced future learning and career opportunities from over 30 colleges and businesses. The goal of the **Career Exploration Day** is to introduce students to a variety of careers by allowing them to participate in hands on activities, such as exploring vehicles, using tools, operating computers and interviewing workers. This event is coordinated by our **Business & Education Committee** which raises money for the **Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce** Student Leader Scholarship.

Thank you to the **National Guard - Kearney Armory** and to all the businesses, students and schools for attending this year's event! A special thank you to volunteers that helped make the event successful: Cassy Kvasnicka - **Vocational Rehabilitation Services**, Susan Tonniges - **Susan Tonniges, CPA**, and Scott Ehmke - **Hilltop Mall**

And a very special thank you to all of the businesses who attended our event:

Associated Staffing	Bayer Crop Science	NDVA/Central Nebraska Veterans Home	Eaton
BD Construction	Nebraska State Patrol	Brookdale Kearney Northridge	Central Community College
Easter Seals Nebraska	UNK Social Work	UNK Engineering Foundations Program	Royal Engineered Composites
Parker Hannifin	Chief Fabrication	Kearney Regional Medical Center	Rexius Nutrition
NRG Media	UNL/UNK Army ROTC	The City of Kearney	Josephs College & Cosmetology
Midlands Contracting	UNK Social Work	West Pharmaceutical Services	Kearney Police Department
LandMark Implement	UNK Health Sciences	Midlands Contracting, Inc.	IES Commercial & Industrial
UNK - Center for Entrepreneurship and Rural Development			



CHAMBER STAFF



DEREK RUSHER

PRESIDENT/
CEO



SHANNA SCHULTE

MEMBERSHIP &
PROGRAM
DIRECTOR



MEGAN BERRY

MARKETING &
EVENTS
DIRECTOR



JULIE CALAHAN

FINANCIAL
DIRECTOR



STACEY JOHNSON

MARKETING &
EVENTS
COORDINATOR



ELDA RODGERS

COMMUNICATIONS
ASSISTANT



JAIME HOEFER

MEMBERSHIP &
PROGRAM
INTERN



AMY COPE

COMMUNICATIONS
ASSISTANT

CHAMBER BOARD



JOSH ERICKSON

BOARD
CHAIRMAN

Team Concepts



TODD GOTTULA

PAST CHAIRMAN

University of
Nebraska at
Kearney



MEGAN GOEKE

VICE
CHAIRWOMAN

Hello Beautiful/
Midlands
Contracting



KEN MEHLIN

SECRETARY/
TREASURER

Bruning State
Bank



DOUG BRUMMELS

EXEC. BOARD
MEMBER

Affiliated Brokers
Insurance



RENAE ZIMMER

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University of
Nebraska at
Kearney



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BOARD MEMBER

Babl Kitchen &
Bath



BILL CALHOUN

BOARD MEMBER

Kearney Regional
Medical Center



ROBERT FITZGERALD

BOARD MEMBER

Home Real Estate of
Kearney



YOUSEF GHAMEDY

BOARD MEMBER

Cunningham's
Journal



KRISTEN GRACZYK

BOARD MEMBER

Graczyk Lawn &
Landscape



NICK WARD

BOARD MEMBER

Ward Laboratories

LEADERSHIP PARTNERS



The Chamber is proud to recognize these businesses that have shown great leadership and vision by investing in the Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce 2019 Leadership Partners Program.

AFFILIATED BROKERS

AWARII DUNES GOLF CLUB
BABL KITCHEN AND BATH
BD CONSTRUCTION, INC.
CASH-WA DIST CO
CHI HEALTH GOOD
SAMARITAN
CHIEF AGRI

CHILDREN'S PHYSICIANS KEARNEY

EATON
EDWARD JONES
INVESTMENTS
EXCHANGE BANK
FARMERS & MERCHANTS
BANK
FIRST NATIONAL BANK

FIVE POINTS BANK

GREAT WESTERN BANK
HEARTLAND BANK
HELLMAN MAIN COSLOR
& KATHOL P.C.
JACOBSEN, ORR,
LINDSTROM &
HOLBROOK
KSO CPA'S, PC

KEARNEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

MARCOTTE
MIDLANDS
CONTRACTING INC.
MIDWAY AUTO DEALERSHIPS
MILLER & ASSOCIATES
CONSULTING
ENGINEERS P.C.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

NORTHWESTERN ENERGY
PARKER HANNIFIN
RUSSELL'S APPLIANCE &
ELECTRONICS INC.
STATE FARM INS.-CORY
KRUSE & MATT PAWLOSKI
TEAM CONCEPTS

THE BUCKLE, INC.

UNIVERSITY OF
NEBRASKA AT KEARNEY
US BANK
VIAERO CENTER
WARD LABORATORIES, INC.
WELLS FARGO ADVISORS
WELLS FARGO BANK
YOUNES HOSPITALITY

WELCOME **NEW** MEMBERS!

OCTOBER 2019

BUSINESS MEMBERS

Livability Media

Derek Brady
725 Cool Springs Blvd
Franklin, TN 37067
615-771-0080

Angus Burgers & Shakes

Shawna Klute
421 W Talmadge
Kearney, NE 68845
308-455-6218

Project Pink/Concrete Cares of Nebraska

Tanya Wegner
2001 C Avenue
Kearney, NE 68847
308-293-6025

Fireplace Stone & Patio

Jeff Griffith
1540 W 56th St.
Kearney, NE 68845
308-708-2400

The R-Bar & Grill

Nathan Eckhout
207 Grand Avenue
Ravenna NE 68869
308-370-8840

Frontier Communications

Michael Burnham
2302 First Avenue
Kearney NE 68847
308-234-6688

CBD American Shaman

Brad Scellin
228 W 42nd St
Kearney, NE 68845
308-455-1486

Real Deals - Kearney, NE

Hannah Sloggett
2102 E Hwy 30, Ste 1
Kearney, NE 68847
308-455-8008

Innovative RX Pharmacy

Rachel Daly
416 W 48th St, Ste 20
Kearney, NE 68845
308-708-5070

RETIRED MEMBERS

Gerry Loschen

1107 W 42nd st
Kearney, NE 68845

Bruce Grupe

PO Box 1526
Kearney, NE 68848



WELCOME TO OUR TEAM, WYATT!



WELCOME
OUR NEW INTERN

Wyatt Debban



Help us welcome our newest intern! Wyatt Debban is joining our team as a Video Production Intern! Read more to get to know Wyatt!

TEN FAST FACTS ABOUT WYATT:

- 1.) I am a senior at Kearney High and will graduate in May.
- 2.) I was born and raised right here in Kearney.
- 3.) I applied at the Chamber because I love to make videos and wanted to see if it would be something I'm interested in pursuing on a professional level.
- 4.) I am undecided on which college I will attend.
- 5.) I want to double major in nursing and cinematography.
- 6.) My favorite thing I have ever done is recently I attended the Maha music festival in Omaha and was able to watch concerts all day long!
- 7.) I have 2 dogs, Melvin & Gigi.
- 8.) My favorite sport is track.
- 9.) My favorite class is Media Pro with Mr. Goff.
- 10.) I say howdy a lot!

I am excited for a year of learning and meeting all of the Chamber Members!





Trick-or-Treat on the Bricks

Thursday, October 24th, 4-6 PM

Holiday Open House

Sunday, November 3rd, 12-5 PM



downtownkearney.com



RIBBON CUTTING: UNFCU

With ice cream, games, and the NE Burger food truck, the **Nebraska Federal Credit Union** hosted their Ribbon Cutting on September 12th.

The **University of Nebraska Federal Credit Union** was started in 1937 by faculty members and later expanded to include university staff as well as students. Founders developed their principles in helping the university community to save, borrow, and live better. Members own the credit union and each member has one vote and equal ownership.



The **Nebraska FCU** strives to make its customers the top priority while providing accurate and secure access to information. **Nebraska FCU** has over 11,000 members and over \$100 million in assets. They offer mobile banking, mobile deposit, internet banking, checking and savings accounts, credit cards, consumer loans, and numerous other services.

Their new full-service branch is open at the corner of 2nd Avenue and 29th Street. The drive thru is open from 8:00am - 5:30pm Monday through Friday and a 24/7 ATM.

The Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to have them as new members! Check out all of their options by clicking [here!](#)

RIBBON CUTTING: FIREPLACE STONE & PATIO

Fireplace Stone and Patio of Kearney hosted their Ribbon Cutting on September 12th at their new location of 1540 W 56th Street, Suite A. Since 1932, **Fireplace Stone and Patio** continues to serve homeowners and design professionals with high quality North American brands of building materials and outdoor living products.

Fireplace Stone and Patio is a fourth-generation family owned and operated company that emerged as a Depression Era success story. Over the years, they have furnished materials for a few Omaha construction projects, such as the following: Eppley Airport, the Cat House and Henry Doorly Zoo, and TD Ameritrade Park.

In 2000, the company grew into the Grand Island area and parts of Iowa. The Kearney community is excited to have **Fireplace Stone and Patio!**

Visit their new facility during their business hours : Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm and Saturday from 10am - 2pm or visit their website by clicking [here!](#)



RIBBON CUTTING: CBD AMERICAN SHAMAN

CBD American Shaman celebrated the opening of their new store on September 16th with a **Ribbon Cutting!** The presentation offered by Brad Scellin, owner, was very educational and offered answers to questions that a few had about the legalities of the business. One of the biggest stigmas is that CBD contains marijuana but it does not, this is a bi-product of hemp. Scellin assured everyone that CBD is completely legal by law and has many benefits for health and wellness.

CBD American Shaman is dedicated to bringing wellness to the world through their products of all natural, terpene rich hemp oil. They offer fair business practices, philanthropy, sustainability, and the highest quality products to customers. Their products feature all natural, high quality industrial hemp. It is legal in all 50 states and is 100% Organic. **CBD American Shaman** Oil is known to help relieve stress in the body and mind by leading to maintaining focus, pain management, and much more.

As a company, **CBD American Shaman** is focused on the welfare of their customers and provide discounts to veterans. Learn more about what they have to offer by clicking [here](#) or visiting their Kearney location: 228 West 42nd Street.



BUSINESS AFTER HOURS: UNITED WAY OF KEARNEY

United Way of the Kearney Area hosted their 2019 kickoff campaign at **CHI Good Samaritan Hospital** during **Business After Hours** on September 26! This campaign's sponsor is Royal Engineered Composites out of Minden.

United Way fights for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in every community. This year, they are kicking off the **United Way** Employee Campaign, which focuses on payroll deduction, pledge forms, and online donations. With 20 Area Partner Agency programs, such as the Salvation Army, Buffalo/Kearney CASA, Girl Scouts, and the SAFE Center. **United Way** is excited to work with 6 surrounding counties to achieve impact in the Community Investment Process.

United Way uses its infrastructure and experience to efficiently turn donations into results through its relationships with many local partners. The Community Investment Process ensures that dollars donated to the **United Way of the Kearney Area** are distributed to the most needed programs and services each year.

Any **United Way** donor who wishes to volunteer their time and expertise, can be part of the Community Investment Process. If you wish to donate online, click [here](#)!

We would like to thank **CHI Good Samaritan Hospital** for being the hors d'oeuvres and location sponsor of this event.



United Way Kearney Area

VIP: WILKINS ARCHITECTURE DESIGN PLANNING



Wilkins Architecture Design Planning celebrated their 40th Anniversary in Kearney on September 5th, 2019 with a **VIP Event** at the **Younes Conference Center** - Younes Pavilion!

Wilkins ADP is a central Nebraska architectural firm that was founded in 1979 and has been a Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce member ever since. It has grown into a team of 16 professionals who are committed to serving diverse clients and their interests. The company performs a variety of services for projects ranging from commercial, civil and educational, to health care, senior care, and religious institutions. The following are a few projects **Wilkins ADP** has completed recently in the Kearney community: [Kearney Public Schools Horizon Middle School addition](#), [Kidwell Inc's office](#), [NebraskaLand National Bank](#), [Central Community College Kearney Center](#), [UNK Mantor Randall Lobby](#), and the new [Kearney Public High School](#). Click [here](#) to see the additional products featured on their website!

Wilkins ADP prioritizes relationship-building with clients and strives to provide personal attention to the projects from beginning to end. Collaboration and finding custom solutions are top goals in satisfying customers' needs, all while meeting the most demanding schedules and project budgets.

The Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce is thankful for **Wilkins ADP's** membership over the past 40 years and we are looking forward to many more!

Wilkins ADP is located at 2908 W 39th Street, Suite A. Call their office at 308.237.5787 or visit [their website](#) or their Facebook to learn more.



COFFEE & COMPANY: WELLS FARGO ADVISORS

Wells Fargo Advisors hosted **Coffee and Company** on September 19th at their location- 124 W 46th St, Suite 206! They provided a beautiful spread of locally made breakfast items, cookies, and coffees. It was a great event for building relationships and enjoying great conversation!

Wells Fargo Advisors is a premier financial services firm, serving investors nationwide through nearly 14,000 Financial Advisors. Their goal is to help clients succeed financially with investment planning and offer advice to achieve life needs and financial goals.

Wells Fargo Advisors draws on extensive experience across the company in order to satisfy clients' financial needs. They can offer referrals from more than 5,000 Licensed Bankers in **Wells Fargo** branches across the United States.

Their Financial Advisors are committed to providing clients with top-notch service and attention. This includes getting to know and understand interests, goals, and concerns of each individual client before creating an investment plan or recommending products and services. **Wells Fargo Financial Advisors** want to see where you want to be in five years, ten years, twenty years, and every year in between then. Click [here](#) to visit their website!

YPN: YOUNG PROFESSIONALS WEEK

Young Nebraskans Week - YP Week | September 23rd – 29th, 2019

Young Nebraskans Week was launched in the fall of 2018. It was developed by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development and modeled after Lincoln's Young Professionals Group's annual YP Week. Young Nebraskans Week aims to concentrate on our state's focus on growing, retaining and developing our youngest members of the workforce.

Kearney's Young Professional Network has participated in this statewide initiative since it was launched. Kearney's YPN hosted three events during this week to celebrate our young professionals. We started off the week with coffee and donuts at Dunkin' Donuts on Monday morning. On Wednesday (HUMP DAY), we gathered at McCue's to unwind mid-work week! We finished off the week on Thursday with Table Talks. Table Talks is a new series we are starting that partner with young professionals in specific areas of expertise and provide insight for other young professionals. Our Table Talk topics were:

- Be Smart with Your Money: Partnered with Waddell & Reed – Financial Advisors to talk to young professionals about savings, monthly budgets, investing, retirement planning, etc.
- Future Planning: Partnered with JacobsenOrr Law Firm to talk to young professionals about wills and trust and which one is more beneficial to your specific situation.

If you are interested in being a part of Table Talk or sharing information with our YPN group that you feel would fit well in the "professional development" category, please contact Kelsey Knehans, YPN Board Member.



SENIOR COALITION: WHAT THEY'VE BEEN UP TO!



The Senior Coalition committee meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. This committee is comprised of, and open to, all retired (or age of retirement) Kearney Chamber Members. Committee members like to venture out in the community to tour area businesses and learn about community programs, as well as, host area business leaders and city officials to learn more about their work in the community. Recently, the committee had the opportunity to tour the G. W. Frank Museum located on the UNK campus. Members were given a special tour of the museum by April White, Interim Director, including the newly renovated 2nd and 3rd floors. The renovation of the 2nd floor allows for more exhibit space of antique items and historical perspective of the many years the museum functioned as the Grothman Elmwood Sanitarium and the Nebraska State Tuberculosis Hospital. The 3rd floor renovation allows space and resources for continued restoration and study of the history of the museum and its inhabitants. Committee members enjoyed the educational tour and sharing their own stories and knowledge of the Frank family history and preservation of the property.



The Senior Coalition committee is open to all retired (or age of retirement) Kearney Chamber Members. To inquire about joining this group, contact Amy Cope at acope@kearneycoc.org or join us for one of our meetings.

KEARNEY AREA BY THE NUMBERS

NEBRASKA COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

	August 2019	August 2018
Adams	3.0%	2.8%
Buffalo	2.8%	2.4%
Douglas	3.2%	2.9%
Hall	3.1%	2.8%
Lancaster	2.9%	2.6%
Lincoln Co	3.5%	2.7%
Nebraska	3.1%	2.7%
USA	3.8%	3.9%

LOCAL OPTIONS SALES & USE TAX

	July 2019	July 2018
Kearney	\$1,114,932.19	\$1,075,567.57
Grand Island	\$1,991,681.38	\$1,435,330.81
Hastings	\$609,045.41	\$578,589.34
North Platte	\$758,105.68	\$714,834.21

LODGING TAX RECEIPTS

	July 2019	July 2018
Buffalo	\$76,174.38	\$128,493.65
Hall	\$133,102.36	\$118,691.58
Adams	\$26,442.12	\$21,022.83
Lincoln Co	\$130,185.40	\$126,699.88



**NUMBERS
BROUGHT
TO YOU BY:**



NET TAXABLE SALES

	June 2019	June 2018	% Change
Buffalo	\$69,747,977	\$70,951,195	(1.7%)
Hall	\$93,664,233	\$94,161,593	(0.5%)
Adams	\$32,223,457	\$33,301,649	(3.2%)
Lincoln Co	\$44,536,700	\$45,987,973	(3.2%)

MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

	June 2019	June 2018	% Change
Buffalo	\$10,034,056	\$9,104,143	10.2
Hall	\$10,556,616	\$10,655,094	(0.9%)
Adams	\$6,234,590	\$7,014,188	(11.1%)
Lincoln Co	\$6,925,122	\$7,324,801	(5.5%)



Personalized service | Active living | Homelike surroundings

If you care for someone with Alzheimer's or other dementia, **CountryHouse** can help. Ask about our caregiver support options.

5605 Ave K, Kearney | 308-455-8000

countryhouse.net | Find us on Facebook!

OCTOBER HAPPENINGS & EVENTS

CHAMBER COMMITTEES

BUSINESS & EDUCATION	THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 4:00 PM
COLONELS	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 4:00 PM
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS	WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 7:30 AM
ENVOYS	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 12:00 PM
HOSPITALITY	THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 12:00 PM
LEADS BLUE	THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10 & 24, 8:30 AM
LEADS GREEN	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1 & 15, 4:00 PM
NEBRASKA VETERANS FIRST	MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 4:00 PM
SENIOR COALITION	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 10:00 AM
SHOP KEARNEY 1ST	WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 9:00 AM
SPORT & RECREATION	WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 4:00 PM
YPN BOARD MEETING	MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 5:30 PM

PARTNER MEETINGS

KEARNEY SISTER CITIES	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 4:30 PM
DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT	WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 8:00 AM
DOWNTOWN PROMOTIONS	WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 8:00 AM
LEADERSHIP KEARNEY	FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 8:15 AM



BRUNING BANK
1110 17TH AVENUE
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 10:00 AM

REAL DEALS - KEARNEY, NE
2102 E HWY 30, STE 1
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 4:00 PM

PUBLIC HOUSE 22
12 E 21ST ST
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 4:00 PM

INNOVATIVE RX COMPOUNDING PHARMACY
416 W 48TH ST, STE 20
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 10:00 AM

PRESS ON FITNESS
2102 EAST HWY 30, STE 3
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 4:00 PM



KEARNEY AREA ANIMAL SHELTER

3205 W HWY 30
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 5:00 PM

TOWN & COUNTRY BANK
6005 2ND AVENUE WEST
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 5:00 PM

BRUNING BANK
1110 17TH AVENUE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 5:00 PM



FIRST NATIONAL BANK
2223 2ND AVE.
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 8:00 AM



OKTOBERFEST
BUFFALO COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19TH
VIP HOUR: 5:00 - 6:00 PM
GA: 6:00 - 11:00 PM

FOR A FULL LIST OF EVENTS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

DREAM | PLAN | BUILD



308.698.2400
KearneyDriveIn.com



308.698.5677



308.234.1836
BDconstruction.com

