



May 28 - June 4, 2013

THIS WEEK IN *Atchison*

AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

200 S. 10th
P.O. Box 126
Atchison, KS 66002

913-367-2427
www.atchisonkansas.net



Notes from the President

CHAMBER MEETINGS/ EVENTS:

- June 1 Haunted Tours, 6 & 7 p.m.
- June 4 Leadership, 12:15 p.m., Depot
- June 7 Chamber Golf Classic
- June 8 Paolucci's Street Dance
- June 8-9 Juneteenth Celebration
- June 12 Chamber Board, 4 p.m., Depot
- June 14 Ribbon Cutting, Skyway Motors,
12:15 p.m., 1400 Hwy 59
- June 15 Carrigan Memorial Golf Tournament
- June 18 Workforce, noon, Depot
- June 20 Tourism, 9:15 a.m., Depot
- June 21-22 International Forest of
Friendship Celebration

TICKETS ON SALE JUNE 1

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There isn't much doubt that Spring has actually finally arrived. Please be sure to pay close attention to the weather. Heed watches and warnings to stay safe!

Friday, June 7th is the Chamber Golf Classic. If you're not a golfer, we hope you'll plan to come out and visit us at Bellevue Country Club. We have some wonderful things for the silent auction! We will be sharing pictures of some of those this next week on Facebook. There is surely something there that you want or need!!
THANK YOU to all the sponsors and golfers who are participating. We're



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CHAMBER NEWS

Minority Enterprise Development Week Awards

In celebration of Minority Enterprise Development Week, the Kansas Department of Commerce, Office of Minority and Women Business Development is seeking nominations from across the state of Kansas for minority and women owned businesses that exhibit outstanding achievements. The awards will be given out in the following categories:

- Minority and Women Owned Businesses
- Minority and Women Business Advocate
- Young Entrepreneur
- Kansas Corporation of the Year (our newest category)

Deadline for receipt of nominations is Monday, July 8, 2013. You can visit our website to download the nomination forms at KansasCommerce.com/medweek.

Please note self nominations are acceptable. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (785) 296-3425.

Welcome Banner Program

We have come to the end of our three-year agreement on the Welcome Banners. With wear and tear evident on many of them, workers will begin taking them down.

A newly-formed committee is currently studying the program and will give us a recommendation on the best way to continue this beneficial program. We will update our members and the community when we have new information.

Save the Date! Career Fair scheduled for Oct. 17

The Chamber's Workforce Council will host its annual high school career fair on Oct. 17 at Atchison High School.

Please plan to have a booth and show our area students what career opportunities are available right here in Atchison. Chamber members are invited to set up a booth free of charge. The non-member fee will be \$25.

2013 Pony Express Re-Ride

April 3 marks the annual anniversary of the start of the famed Pony Express. 153 years later, horsemen still want to deliver mail by horseback and on the same trail.

The National Pony Express Association will carry personal mail and commemorative letters from St. Joseph, Mo., to Sacramento, Calif., in June 2013. The first rider leaves the Patee House in St. Joseph at 10 a.m. on June 17, and the last rider will ride into Pony Express Plaza in Old Sacramento at 10:30 a.m. June 27.

The 1,996-mile route will be over the Pony Express National Historic Trail, from Missouri, across Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and Nevada to Central California.

More than 600 riders will participate, each taking the Pony Express Oath and receiving a Bible. They will relay a mochila with cachets and personal mail 24 hours a day.

The commemorative letter will be a vignette of Pony Express history in Utah. They can be purchased in advanced by the public at 1860 prices — \$5. Letter applications can be obtained by writing: NPEA, 2482 Road M, Emporia, KS 66801 or by calling 620-342-6963.

Free Labor Law posters available for Chamber members

Thanks to a generous donation from Coby Cullins and MO-KAN Underground, the Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce will offer free 2013 Labor Law posters to all of its member businesses.

The State of Kansas made some changes to the laws, so all businesses will need new posters this year.

Stop by the Santa Fe Depot at 200 S. 10th Street to pick up your set of two posters.

Cullins, the owner of MO-KAN Underground, recently purchased the Atchison Strategic Storage Facility, also known as the Atchison Caves.

looking forward to a fun day on the golf course!

Next Saturday is the Juneteenth celebration here is Atchison. Juneteenth celebrates the day the last slaves were freed. We have a very determined committee who works extremely hard all year to provide a FREE celebration for everyone. Be sure to stop by LFM Park on Saturday or Sunday and be a part of this important day in our country's history.

The annual Forest of Friendship celebration is also coming up in June. Make plans to visit the Forest. It's one of Atchison's most beautiful places.

Don't forget tickets for LakeFest 2013 are on sale now and available at area banks. Gary Allan, Lee Brice and Lauren Alaina will put on another great evening of entertainment at Warnock Lake!

Have a great week!



SUPPORT YOUR FESTIVAL

The 2013 Amelia Earhart Festival buttons are now available! Purchase these collectibles at the Santa Fe Depot and many other Atchison locations. Your purchase supports our festival!



A new Amelia seeking adventures

Amelia Rose Earhart to receive Amelia Earhart Pioneering Achievement Award

When Amelia Earhart was a young woman, she worked at a variety of jobs — nurse's aide and social worker among them — while attending college. It took her six months to save enough for her first flying lesson. For nearly 100 years, stories of Earhart's feats have inspired millions to follow her footsteps.

Today, another Amelia is tracing an eerily similar path.

At age 21, Amelia Rose Earhart was working three jobs, going to school full time and saving every penny she could in order to take flight lessons. The modern Amelia's goal? To finish the around-the-world flight that the famous aviatrix never got to complete in 1937.

On July 19-20, the two will meet, at least symbolically, when Amelia Rose is presented with the Amelia Earhart Pioneering Achievement Award during the annual Amelia Earhart Festival in Atchison, Kan.

"Amelia's interest in flight, her determination to learn to fly herself and recreate the famous last flight of her namesake, and her dedication to helping young people who share her fascination with flight actually learn how to fly make her a perfect honoree," said Festival Coordinator Jacquie Pregont. "We think she is a tremendous role model for young people and uses the accessibility she has through media

presence to make a positive difference in their lives."

Amelia Rose is a private pilot and NBC reporter for Denver's top television news station, KUSA 9News. As a reporter who has logged more than 4,000 passenger hours in a news helicopter in Denver and Los Angeles, Amelia Rose says she gained a sense of adventure and curiosity that has cross into most parts of her life. She has spent time studying and interviewing adventurers, astronauts, pilots and explorers, all to promote and engage people's excitement around getting out and trying things.

Again, the similarities with her namesake continue.

"There are many similarities between Amelia Rose and Amelia," Pregont said. "Amelia Rose was here at the festival years ago as a high school student, so we have had her on our radar screen and watched her career unfold. She has the drive and determination, as well as the 'spunk' that Amelia had. I think she has an exciting life ahead of her!"

The Amelia Earhart Pioneering Achievement Award is presented annually to an individual whose life and career exemplifies the spirit of Amelia Earhart. The honoree must demonstrate triumph over adversity, reinforce the image of self-worth and self-confidence in young women and demonstrate that for any woman the sky is no longer the limit. Honorees receive the "Amelia," a tangible symbol of the pioneering spirit and a \$10,000 scholarship in the name of the



honoree to be awarded to the educational institution of their choice for a scholarship to encourage and support young women.

"The Amelia Earhart Festival feels it is extremely important to keep the memory of Amelia alive through the Pioneering Achievement Award," Pregont said. "To honor women who exemplify the spirit of Amelia Earhart is to recognize women today who are making a real difference in the world, who have fought through barriers that still exist for women today. It is a true pleasure to be able to meet all these women, visit with them and hear of their experiences."

Much of Amelia Rose's extra time is devoted to the Fly with Amelia Foundation. The foundation's aim is to feed that curiosity, that spirit of

adventure in others by providing flight scholarships for high school-aged girls in partnership with Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum and providing downloadable educational materials for teachers across the United States.

The Fly with Amelia Foundation will also play an important role in Amelia Rose's goal of completing the circumnavigational flight, allowing people of all ages to interact with aerospace and aviation.

"It's exciting to have another recreation of Amelia Earhart's flight around the world," Pregont said, noting that two previous award winners, Linda Finch (1997) and Ann Holtgren Pellegreno (2004), also recreated the famous flight. "For Amelia Earhart to recreate Amelia Earhart's flight is something truly unique and should once again promote the original Amelia Earhart and all that she accomplished."

Amelia Rose will be the featured speaker at the Pioneering Achievement Award luncheon and will be part of a speaker's symposium that is one of the highlights of the festival each year. The symposium is scheduled for 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 20, at O'Malley-McAllister Auditorium on the campus of Benedictine College in Atchison. The event, which is free and open to the public, gives attendees the opportunity to learn from women who are successful in many arenas. The Pioneering Achievement Award Luncheon will follow. Luncheon tickets are \$15.

SPOTLIGHT



**Nancy
Madden**
THEATRE ATCHISON

What does it mean to you to be an Ambassador?

It means a great deal to be able to welcome new businesses and to help promote Atchison as a whole. Be proud of what we have here. It's a jewel nestled on the banks of the Big Mo! There's no better place to live or work!

Tell us about Theatre Atchison.

We offer a number of youth classes to introduce young minds to the theatre. We also offer five main stage shows per season, along with many co-sponsored events and youth productions. There's something for everyone at Theatre Atchison!

How has being an Ambassador helped you or your business?

It has given me the opportunity to tell people about Theatre Atchison and all that we offer the community. Atchison is a wonderful place to live and grow.

What is your favorite thing to do as an Ambassador?

I enjoy attending the activities downtown to help promote our wonderful retail businesses.

MEMBER NEWS

Elks Lodge to host Drug Awareness Benefit Golf Tournament

Atchison Elks Lodge 647 is pleased to announce our upcoming Drug Awareness Benefit Golf Tournament. This is sure to be a fun filled day. Time is upon us to expand our vision. We need your help in reaching even more area residents. Funds from the tournament are used to locally help the benevolence of the Elks reach as many people as possible. The proceeds are used by the community to promote drug awareness in our area schools, assist the local police and sheriff departments, and other charitable organizations. Together we can make our vision come true

Even if you are not a golfer you can also participate by being a sponsor. There is a level of sponsorship for every budget including donation of items for auction up to Corporate Sponsor. This year the Atchison Elks are honoring the first golf tournament committee: Toby Tyler, Dwight Myer, Les Smith, the late Pat Wilson, Ed Ireland and Mike Purcell.

Cost is \$80 per player. Entry includes green/card fees, player goody bag, dinner & 2 drink tickets (redeemable at Atchison Elks Lodge). Tournament: Friday, June 21, 2013 7 a.m. with a 9 a.m. shotgun start at the Bellevue Country Club, 1713 Country Club Road, Atchison, KS 66002. Awards, cookout and auction at the Atchison Elks Lodge, 609 Kansas Avenue following the tournament.

For further details contact: Debbie Betts (913) 367-8126 mo_kan@att.net, Patrick Hegarty (785) 969-1626 patrick.hegarty@bunge.com or for team information Jack Laurie at jacklaurie4@yahoo.com.

Estate sale at Gateway to Kansas Shops

LOCATION: Downstairs at Gateway to Kansas Shops

WHEN: May 30th. Thursday
May 31st. Friday
June 1st. Saturday

Time: 10:00 to 5:30 on Thursday and Friday
10:00 to 5:00 on Saturday

Atchison Library to host Summer Reading Program kick-off

The Summer Reading Program kickoff is scheduled for Friday, May 31 from 2:00-3:30PM at the Atchison Public Library, 401 Kansas Ave.

All ages, games, face painting, bubble pond, bean bag toss, and more. Summer Reading Program runs from May 31 to July 26, with pre-registration starting May 28.

Celebrate Father's Day at Cedar Ridge

Don't forget Father's Day is Sunday, June 16th and Cedar Ridge will be OPEN from 9:30 to 1 p.m. Extended buffet will be offered for \$14.99 for adults, children 4-9 \$7.00 and 3 & Under free. Give us a call or send an email for the menu or to make a reservation...913-367-4357. Reservations will be required due to the fact we do fill up. Don't wait long for prime times.

Elks Lodge First Annual Ride to benefit scholarship and youth programs

The Elks Lodge 647 is proud to announce our First Annual Ride on June 8, 2013. Proceeds of the ride are to benefit ENF (Elks National Foundation for National and Local Scholarships as well as National and Local Youth Programs). This is a 148 mile ride. Registration is from 8-10 a.m. at the Atchison Elks 647 Lodge, 609 Kansas Avenue. Kickstands will be up at 10:30 AM.

Entry fee is \$20.00 for rider and \$10.00 for co-rider. A meal will be provided at the end of the ride, which is included in the entry fee. There will be a 50/50 Raffle for a donation of \$5.00 per ticket. Drawing will be held at the end of the ride. Local Boy Scouts Troops will be serving a Biscuit & Gravy Breakfast from 7-10 a.m. for \$5 in the basement of the Elks Lodge.

For more information and pre-registration please contact: David Blasi (913) 367-6774 or Randy Gragg (785) 554-7164 email: elkride@yahoo.com.

MEMBER NEWS

Upcoming workshops at Vintage Gypsy

VINTAGE GYPSY

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Upcoming Workshops
Reserve Your Space Today!

Terrariums

Learn how to create a tiny world of succulents, rocks, and moss, encapsulated in a glass terrarium for you to enjoy at home!

- Friday, June 7th, 3pm – 5pm, \$40 per person, all supplies included

UP-cycled Scrapbooks

- Friday, June 21st, 3pm – 5pm, \$35, all supplies included

UP-cycled Plastic Tote Bags

- Saturday, July 6th, 1pm – 3pm, all supplies included

Coming Soon ...

- Cheer Bows
- Lightbulb Vases
- Basic Crochet
- Duct Tape Handbags
- Renewal Workshop - Defining And Celebrating Your Own Personal Style... Includes Hair And Face Makeover!

Follow Us on <https://www.facebook.com/VinGyp>, or check out our website to keep up with special events, cool design ideas, promotions, and workshops! And don't forget to book your child's fantasy party at Vintage Gypsy.

The Peacemakers present 'Songs of Faith'

The Peacemakers will present "Songs of Faith" at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 31 at the First Christian Church.

The program includes "In the Garden," "Amazing Grace," "Fairest Lord Jesus," "What a Friend," "Whispering Hope" and many more.

A freewill offering to benefit the Atchison County

Food Pantry at FCC will be taken.

Paolucci's 19th Annual Street Dance scheduled for June 8

Paolucci's 19th Annual Street Dance is scheduled for Saturday, June 8. The bar and food station will open at 4 p.m., and wrap up at midnight.

This year, we will feature the band "Oasis," which will play from 8 p.m. to midnight. Join us for a great evening!

Paolucci's is located at 113-115 S. 2nd St. For more information, call 913-367-6105.

Atchison County Catbackers event June 17

The Atchison County Catbackers have an exciting event planned for Monday, June 17 at Willie's Bar & Grill.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m., with a 5 p.m. social, followed by the dinner and program at 5:30 p.m.

Tickets to the dinner and auction are \$30 and seating is limited to 125. Reservations are due by Monday, June 10.

Some of the guests include head football coach Bill Snyder and Wyatt Thompson, the Voice of the Wildcats, among others.

For more information, contact Reed Berger at 913-367-3700 or Mick Hundley at 913-426-2537. You may also send an email to them at atchisoncatbackers@yahoo.com.

New addition to Gateway to Kansas Shops

Gateway to Kansas Shops has a new addition: A-Town Boutique. Check it out for great new and gently used fashions and accessories. Located downstairs.

Theatre Atchison taking reservations for 'California Suite'

Theatre Atchison is pleased to present the comedy "California Suite" by Neil Simon to end its 29th season. This hilarious comedy tells the adventures and misadventures of the various couples who stay at The Beverly Hills Hotel.

The four stories in "California Suite" each feature characters who experience events that cause them to examine their

lives amid laughter and tears. "California Suite" keeps the audience laughing and enjoying the various events in one of the finest California suites! The all-star cast will make this show one to remember.

Performances scheduled at 8 p.m. on May 31, June 1, 7 and 8, and at 2 p.m. on June 2 and 9. Adults \$12, youth \$8. For reservations, call the box office at 913-367-SHOW(7469).

Children's Miracle Network benefit on June 15

The Children's Miracle Network will host a craft & food sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 15 in the Wal-Mart parking lot.

Check out the variety of booths, baked goods and even balloon animals for the kids! There will also be Ident-A-Kid available from 8 a.m. to noon.

Rent your 10x10 booth now for a \$25 deposit. The deposit must be in by June 10.

For more information, contact Kathy Damon at 913-367-4062, ext. 199, from 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Let KANSASWORKS help with your hiring needs

As we are moving into the busy time of the year and employers in your area begin to hire, please refer them to KANSASWORKS for posting job opportunities at no cost. Employers can create an employer account at www.kansasworks.com and enter job openings easily to find qualified and skilled candidates matching their job specifications. If the employer needs assistance with posting job openings, they can call (877) 509-6757 and ask Workforce Center staff for assistance with this process. Employers can also search for resumes of job candidates by experience, keyword, and other search criteria once they have created an account on KANSASWORKS.

If you have any employers in your area struggling to fill specific positions, please contact Kansas Department of Commerce Workforce Response Coordinators for further assistance: Debra Rodenbaugh-Schaub at drodenbaugh@kansasworks.com or phone # 785-224-6664; or Phyllis LaShell at plashell@kansasworks.com or phone # 785-577-4610.

Local retail establishments to expand

Willow Brook, Snow Ball 8th Street Bistro announce expansion plans

Albert Valdez and Brett Huskamp, co-owners of Willow Brook and Snow Ball 8th Street Bistro, located in the 100 Block of North Eighth St. in Atchison, have announced the planned expansion of both businesses.

Willow Brook, a specialty home décor retail shop, will relocate to currently unoccupied space at the west end of the main floor of Pepper Mill & Co., a two-story dining establishment that Valdez and Huskamp opened last June at 101 Commercial St. in Atchison. Following this move, which is expected to be completed this fall, Snow Ball will begin preparations for expanding into the immediately adjacent space presently occupied by Willow Brook.

“We are extremely excited about these expansions and how they will enable us to enhance customer offerings and experiences at both businesses,” Valdez said. “The additional space that Willow Brook and Snow Ball will gain will accommodate increased traffic and provide significantly more room for merchandising the distinct products and services of these respective enterprises.”

With Willow Brook’s move to the Commercial Street location, the shop’s merchandise display space will more than triple, “allowing us to increase our selection of unique decorative products, along with a broader choice of home furniture items,” Huskamp said.

Snow Ball’s expansion will double the space of that business, providing more room for individuals and groups to gather while enjoying foods and beverages from a menu featuring deli-style sandwiches, soups and salads, specialty coffees and teas, several ice cream varieties and other treats.

With the inclusion of sofas and other comfortable furnishings, the area into which Snow Ball is



Currently located in the 100 block of N. 8th St., in the downtown area, local business owners Brett Huskamp (left) and Albert Valdez have announced the expansion of Snow Ball 8th Street Bistro and Willow Brook. Snow Ball will expand to include the space now occupied by Willow Brook, which will relocate to a larger space on Commercial Street next to Pepper Mill & Co., restaurant.

expanding “will offer patrons a relaxing setting for dining or simply visiting with friends or working from their laptop computers,” according to Valdez. He added that this phase of the dual business expansion plan “is scheduled to be completed by next spring.”

Renovations are already underway at Willow Brook’s future location, which for several years was principally used for storage purposes. The space at Snow Ball will also undergo various refurbishments.

Huskamp and Valdez are both familiar faces on the Atchison business scene and each is heavily involved in a number of local Chamber of Com-

merce and community improvement activities. They founded Willow Brook at its present site in June 2001. Snow Ball, which began as a small ice cream shop, was established in October 2002.

“We are very grateful to all of our loyal patrons in Atchison and the surrounding vicinity,” Valdez said. “The support we have received since opening our businesses here has been overwhelming. With our expansions, we hope to not only increase our ability to provide more products and services to customers, but demonstrate our appreciation and commitment to the community by further contributing to the local and economies.”

Dickason celebrates 40 years with Exchange Bank

In a world defined by increasingly rapid and constant change, Rich Dickason might be considered a rarity. The CEO of Exchange National Bank & Trust Co., Dickason reached a major career milestone this spring, observing 40 continuous years in the banking profession, all with the same organization. He will be recognized for this achievement by the bank's board of directors and staff during a series of activities on May 29.

"It's been a great experience and partnership working with Rich all these many years," said Exchange Board Chairman Paul Adair. "It's difficult to realize that 40 years have already passed since Rich joined the bank. We've shared many wonderful times here, and Atchison is a better place as the result of Rich's deep involvement in multiple initiatives dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for local and area residents."

Rick Berger, Exchange board member and president of the Berger Company in Atchison, stated the following: "What Rich has accomplished during his tenure with the bank and through his involvement in the community is monumental. I've learned a great deal from Rich both personally and professionally and have the utmost respect for him. He is one of the most intelligent people I know, possessing the unique ability to process complex and complicated issues in his mind and quickly cut to the bottom line. His business acumen is uncanny."

Berger added, "Rich's integrity, character and role as a devoted family



man set an example for how we should all strive to live. Our society as a whole would be much better if we had more people like Rich Dickason in it."

The desire to spend more time with his wife, Cindy, and to raise their children in a small town environment had a significant impact on Dickason's decision to accept a job offer from Exchange in 1973. He began at the bank as controller, and five years later was appointed president by the late John Adair, Sr., who was chairman of the board and CEO at the time.

Prior to joining Exchange, Dickason was employed as a certified public accountant for the Touche Ross accounting firm. This role originally brought him to Atchison to perform audits for Exchange. "When John Adair offered me a position with the bank, I accepted it based largely on the fact that it would

enable me to dramatically reduce my time away from my family," Dickason said. "Also, while conducting audits for Exchange, I developed a deep respect for John and other members of the Adair family and the bank's staff, as well as a fondness and strong appreciation for Atchison."

A native of Kansas City, Kan., Dickason said he was "accustomed to living and working in a much larger metropolitan environment," and initially expected his stint in Atchison would last approximately five years before he would choose to "move on." However, "my attachment to Exchange, its customers and the Atchison community grew and this is where I decided I wanted to stay," he said.

After nearly 30 years as president of Exchange, which was approximately just a year shy of the time the bank's founder, William Hetherington, spent in that position, Dickason became CEO in 2007. He was succeeded as president by Mark Windsor.

"I don't think I could have had a better mentor than Rich," Windsor said. "He taught me a great deal over the years and has always exemplified the very best in how a bank should be managed. Whenever Rich makes a commitment, you can be sure he will give it his all. Whether it is the bank, an individual, or a community or charitable organization, they will be better because of his advice."

Among things in which Dickason said he takes great pride is the "genuineness and integrity" of the bank's employees, all of whom have been

hired during his years with Exchange. "Our staff consists of people who grew up in Atchison and surrounding towns and cities," he said. "Our people and the fact that they are homegrown comprise one of our greatest assets. They understand the needs and expectations of the customers and communities we serve and how to effectively assist them."

Dickason also noted that he is very proud of the "sizeable number of women who have joined the bank through the years and have attained high levels and key roles within the organization." Among those is Ginger Hunninghake, vice president of marketing, who became a member of the Exchange staff in 1979.

"Rich has always been tremendously encouraging, and a strong proponent of women taking on leadership positions at Exchange and within the community," Hunninghake said. "He enjoys helping and seeing people grow in their roles, all the while instilling confidence and a real 'can do' attitude. I owe much of my success at the bank to the support he has provided me and the trust he has shown in my capabilities."

While Exchange has expanded in recent years with the acquisition of branches in Easton, Leavenworth, Lansing, Effingham and Troy, Kan., and Rushville, Mo., Dickason said he is "very pleased by the fact that we have remained locally-owned." He added that "As a result, our culture is one that continues to focus on treating our customers as our neighbors and consistently doing our best to help them achieve their dreams."