

Organization supports entrepreneurship

By Ron Wilson
Director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University
 E=mc². That was the famous equation proposed by Albert Einstein. While the E in that equation stood for energy, today's society has other important E-words, such as entrepreneurs. In fact, we might say that E=Entrepreneurship. There is increasing appreciation of the importance of entrepreneurship in growing our economies and communities. Now, an organization named NetWork Kansas has created a system for supporting and enhancing entrepreneurship in communities across the state. It's the subject of today's Kansas Profile.
 Steve Radley is director of the Kansas Center for Entrepreneurship

which operates under the name of NetWork Kansas. Steve is a native of Wichita who grew up in Oklahoma and has degrees from Wichita State and OU. He began his private sector career with a business startup technology company in Wichita, where he helped the founding entrepreneur grow the business from a \$6 million company to more than \$175 million. Steve co-owned two other businesses after that.
 In 2004, the state legislature passed the Kansas Economic Growth Act which, among other things, created the Kansas Center for Entrepreneurship. Steve became the center's first director in 2005. That organization, now known as NetWork Kansas, is intended to assist entrepreneurs in the state. It opened with a call center and website to provide prospective

business startups with information and referrals to partnering organizations. This initiative began with 250 partnering organizations in March 2006.
 Now NetWork Kansas has some 470 partnering organizations. In the summer of 2006, NetWork Kansas held 18 town hall meetings in 45 days around the state, seeking input on how to do more to assist entrepreneurs. One outcome of this process was that NetWork Kansas launched a Start-up Kansas fund to assist small business growth. This is a statewide matching loan fund for entrepreneurial projects submitted through partnering organizations.
 "As I wrote the town hall meeting report, I visualized a community with three bridges: Expertise, Economics, and Education," Steve Radley said. "Each bridge had

those resources moving both ways. We need to truly empower these communities with assets and decisionmaking."
 This led to the creation of what NetWork Kansas calls E-Communities. A NetWork Kansas E-Community is a partnership that allows a town, a cluster of towns, or an entire county to raise seed money for local entrepreneurs through donations from individuals or businesses within the community. These funds are raised using Kansas Entrepreneurship Tax Credit allocations and are then distributed in the form of matching loans and grants to new and expanding businesses through a competitive application process administered by a local leadership team.
 Essentially, this enables a donor to the entrepreneurship fund to

receive a credit on their state income tax. Then the funds are used to grow local businesses. NetWork Kansas selects five to eight new E-communities each year. This service is intended to reach out to the whole state, not only to the big cities.
 Twenty-four E-communities have been selected so far in every region of the state, from Greeley County to Linn County. More than half are county wide. The list of individual towns selected includes small- to mid-size communities but does not include Kansas City, Topeka, or Wichita. In fact, it includes rural places such as Bird City, population 472, and Alden, population 165 people. Now, that's rural.
 Altogether, more than \$4.5 million dollars has been raised to provide matching loans and grants to local businesses. Based on current

loans and grants funded, it is estimated that these funds will help generate more than \$35 million of investment in rural businesses across Kansas.
 "Our goal is to help communities grow their own money and make their own decisions," Radley said. For more information, go to <http://www.networkkansas.com>.
 E=mc². That was Albert Einstein's famous equation. But in this case, E equals Entrepreneurship. We commend Steve Radley and all those involved with NetWork Kansas and the E-communities for making a difference by targeting and supporting entrepreneurs. If E equals Entrepreneurship and "mc" stands for My Community, that makes for a powerful equation to benefit rural Kansas.

Meeting to plan health exchange

Sandy Praeger, Commissioner of Insurance, will host a public meeting Thursday, Jan. 27, to continue the planning process for a Kansas health benefit exchange.



sandy praeger
 • insurance comm.

The scheduled two-hour meeting will begin at 10 a.m. in the Shawnee A Conference Room at the Maner Conference Center in Topeka.
 "The health benefit exchange planning is part of the federal Affordable Care Act health reform law," Commissioner Praeger said. "It is scheduled to be an online process where health insurance consumers can compare similar insurance plans from many companies certified to do business in each state. It also will help determine eligibility of consumers for subsidy payments to purchase the insurance."
 At the meeting, Commissioner Praeger will give opening remarks, followed by a presentation of spe-

cific information regarding the operational requirements for a Kansas exchange. Attendees will then have the opportunity to volunteer to participate in various working groups created to address specific issues related to the exchange.
 "We want input from insurance industry representatives, non-profit health organizations and consumers," Commissioner Praeger said. "It's vital that we receive input from Kansans concerning how to make this a state-based activity."
 The law calls for a state health exchange to be operational by 2014. If individual states decide not to operate an exchange, the federal government will, according to the law.

Fruit plants suffer from wind desiccation

Wind chills can have a profound effect on the ability to keep warm for warm-blooded animals. During Christmas break, wind chills dropped into the negative teens. The wind bit right through us. Plants, however, do not respond to wind chill indexes as warm-blooded animals because they do not need to maintain a temperature above that of their surroundings.



dana belshe
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For example, a wind chill of 40 degrees below zero at a temperature of zero degrees Fahrenheit will not cause any more cold injury to plant tissue than a wind chill index of 20 degrees below zero at zero degrees


Fahrenheit.
 Though the cold temperatures may not damage plants, wind alone is desiccating and can dry plant tissues. This desiccation may be great enough to injure or even kill tissue, particularly the smaller size wood as in peach twigs, apple spurs, or blackberry canes. There is no scientific evidence to show that an increasing wind chill index will directly increase plant damage due to cold injury.

vfw auxiliary

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars met on Thursday, Jan. 6, at 5:30 p.m. at the Post Home. President MaryAnne Elliott called the meeting to order.
 Members were informed of legislative happenings by Brenda McCants. The VFW has a strong history of working for veterans to maintain their rights. The following are the issues that will be focused on for this legislative year:
 Improving VA Health Care-VFW is urging Congress to ensure quality care for all sick and disabled veterans. This would include increased funding for suicide prevention and treatment of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury and gender-specific disorders.
 Creating a Seamless Transition-VFW is encouraging Congress to ensure our veterans receive timely access to processing, viable training and employment and education programs.
 Improving the VA Claims Process-VFW is urging Congress to find a workable solution to improve efficiencies, decrease claims processing times and reduce the number of errors.
 Ensuring Military Quality of Life-VFW is fighting for increased pay and adequate housing and work facilities for service members and their families.
 Mary Harper reported on her

radio spots for Pearl Harbor Day as an Americanism project. Members baked goods for the White Elephant sale and 15 members helped sack candy for the Santa Claus visit.
 The department mid-winter meeting is Saturday and Sunday, January 25 and 16, in McPherson. The Voice of Democracy contest winner will be announced at this meeting. Kyle Dunn from WaKeeney is the 9th District entry. Cade Bracelin from St. Francis has been announced as the department Patriot's Pen winner. His entry will go on to national competition. The district mid-winter meeting will be in Stockton on Sunday, Jan. 23. The auxiliary side will be a slipper party. So decorate your slippers with buddy poppies.
 The state scholarship contest deadline is Tuesday, Feb. 1. Any student attending college or a technical school may apply as long as parents or grandparents are members of the VFW or it's Auxiliary.
 Danyelle Northrup and Elsie Matthews were accepted as new members. The charter was draped in memory of Tess Luckert, who passed away on Saturday, Oct. 30, 2010 and Past National President Jane Bingham who passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2010.
 The next meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 3, at 5:30 p.m.
 JoAnn Wahrman

Worship warms the heart

<p>Calvary Gospel Church Pastor: Randy Payne Fourth & College • 890-3605 Sunday: Kid's Church: 10 am Morning Service: 10 am Prayer and Praise: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday: Royal Rangers Missionettes 6:30 p.m. Adult mid-week service: 7:00 p.m. Youth @ the Rock House: 6:30 p.m. Adult mid-week service: 7:00 p.m. www.calvarygospel.net</p>	<p>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Pastor: Father Norbert Diabal 307 W. 13th • 890-7205 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 5-5:45 p.m. Saturday or by appointment Mass Schedule: Saturday: 6 pm, Sunday: 10:30 am Spanish Mass: Sunday: 12:30 pm</p>	
<p>Word of Life 10th & Clark • 899-5250 Pastor: Jason and Beverly Trupp 10 a.m. - Worship Celebration and Kids' Church Life Groups - call for times and locations www.wordoflifefoursquare.org A Foursquare Gospel Church</p>	<p>Pleasant Home Church Serving the rural community for over 100 years Rt. 1, Box 180 • 694-2807 • 3190 Road 70 Pastor: Perry Baird 890-3375 Sunday: Worship Service: 9 a.m. Sunday School: 10 a.m.</p>	
<p>Bible Baptist Church Pastor: Clifford Middlebrooks Fifth & Broadway 890-7368 Sunday: Sunday School: 9 a.m. Morning Service: 10 a.m. Evening Service: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday: Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints 1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO (719) 346-7984 Sacrament Meeting: 10 a.m. Sunday School: 11:15 a.m. Priesthood/Relief Society: 12 a.m.</p>	<p>Iglesia Del Dios Vivo La Luz Del Mundo Spanish Speaking Church Minister: Esteban Ortiz B. 1601 Texas • 899-5275 Daily Prayer: Sunday thru Saturday: 5a.m. & 6 p.m. Sunday: Sunday School: 10 a.m.</p>
<p>United Methodist Church Brewster: Pastor: Dorine Chambers Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. CST Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. CST Winona: Minister: Sheryl Johnson Worship Service: 9 a.m. CST Sunday School: 10:15 am CST</p>	<p>First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Pastor: Rev. Carol Edling Jolly Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233 Sunday: Church School - All ages 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Youth Group: 1st and 3rd Sundays 5-7 p.m. Wednesday: Prayer Class - Noon Pastor Carol's Class 5:45 p.m. www.goodlandfcdoc.org</p>	<p>Kanorado United Methodist Church Pastor: Leonard Cox 399-2468 Sunday: Sunday School: 9 a.m. Worship Service: 10:15 a.m.</p>
<p>Church of the Nazarene Pastor: Bob Willis Third & Caldwell 899-2080 or 899-3797 Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship Service: 10:50 a.m. Evening Service: 6 p.m. Wednesday: Evening Service: 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Goodland United Methodist Church 1116 Sherman 899-3631 Pastors: Dustin and Shelly Petz Saturday: Worship: 5:30 p.m. Sunday: Adult Classes: 9:15 a.m. Worship: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday: Wednesday Nite Live 5:45 - 6:45 p.m. Simple Supper "Free will Offering 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Classes for all ages</p>	<p>Goodland Bible Church 109 Willow Road • 899-6400 Pastor: Chad DeJong Sunday: Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship: 10:45 a.m. Evening Worship: 6 p.m. Wednesday: AWANA (Winter) and prayer: 7 p.m.</p>
<p>First Baptist Church Pastor: Travis Blake 1121 Main 890-3450 Sunday: Coffee fellowship: 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship: 10 a.m. Sunday School: 11:15 a.m. Thursday: Bible study 9:30 a.m. Wheatridge Center</p>	<p>St. Paul's Episcopal Church 13th & Center Church 890-2115 or Rectory 890-6969 Priest: Father Hal Lycett Holy Eucharist: 10:00 a.m. Sunday 10:00 a.m. Thursday Daily Morning Prayer For emergencies 890-6969</p>	<p>Harvest Evangelical Free Church 521 E. Hwy. 24 • 890-6423 Pastor: Brian Egleberg Sunday: Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m. Wednesday: Senior High 6:30 p.m. at church Junior High 6:30 p.m. at 708 Washington www.goodlandefree.com</p>
<p>Seventh Day Adventist Church 1160 Cattletrail Pastor: Jerry Nowack Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service: 11 a.m.</p>	<p>Emmanuel Lutheran Church 13th & Sherman • 890-6161 Pastor: Darian Hybl Sunday: Christian education/fellowship: 10:15 a.m. Worship Service: 9 a.m.</p>	<p>Church of Christ 401 Caldwell 890-6185 Sunday: Bible Study: 9:45 a.m. Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. Wednesday: Bible Study: 7 p.m.</p>

The following sponsors urge YOU to attend your chosen House of Worship this Sabbath:

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Kansasland Tire 1402 Main St.	KLOE/KKEG/KWGB 3023 W. 31	AFLAC Insurance 111 W. 12th

Classifieds work! 899-2338