



NEWSLETTER

February 2024

2024 Annual Awards Banquet



On Jan. 30, The Chamber in Hays, Kansas celebrated people, organizations and businesses that help Ellis County thrive during the Annual Chamber Awards Banquet.

This year's diverse group of winners represent the Hays area through their notable contributions to the community in countless ways, said President/CEO Sarah Wasinger.

"The remarkable contributions of our community members paint a vivid picture of the exceptional character that defines Ellis

County, making it a place where people truly care about one another," Wasinger said.

"Recognizing excellence in Ellis County not only celebrates the achievements of individuals and businesses but also highlights the shared values and commitment that make our community outstanding. In honoring the people, organizations, and businesses that shape Ellis County, we showcase the heart and soul of our community – a place where passion, innovation, and community spirit thrive."

Congratulations to all award recipients!

Vyve Broadband Rising Star Award

Tasha Eichman, Brand Manager at
Nex-Tech Wireless

Nex-Tech Citizen of the Year Award

Jayne Inlow, Development Officer for the
HaysMed Foundation

eyeSMILE Vision + Dental Helping Hands Award

High Plains Mental Health Center

Nex-Tech Wireless Businesswoman of the Year Award

LaVonne Giess, Employment Services Manager
at Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas

Grow Hays Robert E. Schmidt Entrepreneur of the Year Award

Brent Schulte

Werth Wealth Management Member Investor of the Year Award

Insurance Planning

City of Hays Small Business Achievement Award

Regeena's Flowers & Events

Golden Belt Bank Hall of Fame Award

Errol Wuertz

Sarah's Space

A favorite tradition

Celebrating the success of our business community at the Annual Chamber Awards Banquet each year has become one of my favorite annual traditions. So many tremendous strides have been made this past year that will undoubtedly impact the quality of life for Hays and Ellis County residents for decades to come.

When I interviewed for this position almost five years ago, I referred to Hays as a sleeping giant. I think it is safe to say that giant is now awake!

In 2023, we peaked our membership at new heights with 540 members. With that support, our organization offered over 250 opportunities for businesses, organizations, and the community to engage with:

- 92 Ambassador, Board, and Hays Young Professional events and offerings
- 41 Chamber Chats that illuminated current members
- 35 Ribbon Cuttings, some joint Brick Presentations, to welcome new businesses and commemorate significant milestones
- 33 professional development opportunities geared toward strengthening our workforce, fostering leadership growth, and

connecting employers and employees alike with valuable resources and local programs

- A wide array of advocacy efforts, including the facilitation of the Child Care Task Force of Ellis County, Western Kansas Delegation advocacy trip in Washington D.C., Legislative Coffees, a Fall Election Forum, and writing numerous letters of support for the R9 Water Ranch, Hays Regional Airport, FHSU, and other member businesses.

Similarly, our chamber helped introduce an additional \$67,000 worth of commerce into our community through the Chamber Cheque program, as we continued to champion the need to shop local throughout the year.

In 2024, The Chamber will continue its diligent focus in the following areas:

- Facilitating the Child Care Task Force of Ellis County
- Enhancing access for leadership opportunities for our members through the 2024 Leadership Transformation Grant from the Kansas Leadership Center, which will afford 56 individuals to attend training in Wichita, Kansas
- Increase visibility for employment opportunities

for our members through The Chamber's online Job Listings/Job Board

- Broadening access to Chamber Blue of Kansas for more affordable healthcare options for employers
- Building the reach of Leadership Hays, Dale Carnegie, and Igniting Leadership to heighten the importance of civic leadership in our community
- Providing quality training opportunities for chamber staff to ensure they are strongly positioned to collaborate with our business community to continue providing progress for the city and county

2023's success and 2024's goals and objectives are only accomplished because of the generosity and support of you, our member investors. Our board of directors will meet in February to discuss continued direction for our chamber.

We value your feedback and encourage you to reach out to us to share how your chamber can continue to go to work for you in 2024 and beyond. Thank you for the countless ways you and your teams make a difference by investing your time, talent, and treasure back into Hays and Ellis County!

Welcome to Our Newest Members!

These businesses recently made an important investment by joining The Chamber!



**Ellis County
Conservation
District**
(785) 628-3081
Ext. 3



**Arcade 11 Bar
& Restaurant**
(785) 621-4443

Please consider them for your needs, and let them know you learned about their business through The Chamber in Hays, Kansas!

Membership invoicing reminder

Save the late fee!

Invoices have been sent to members for 2024 membership dues. If your business or organization did not receive one, please contact The Chamber and another copy will be sent.

To save on a late fee, members are asked submit payment by Feb. 29.

MISSION | Accelerating business connections and advocating community advancement

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR: Amanda Rohleder, Nex-Tech

CHAIR-ELECT: Katie Dorzweiler, Eagle Radio

TREASURER: Andrew Rupp, Insurance Planning, Inc.

PAST CHAIR: Bryan Brady, HaysMed

SECRETARY: Debbie Nunnelee, Hess Services

Matt Allen, Paul-Wertenberger Construction

Joseph Bain, Fort Hays State University

Lance Bickle, Intelequest

Shanna Dinkel, USD 489

Michael Drees, Commerce Bank

Aaron Dreher, Creek Side Resort

Jody Hipp, Jody Hipp - Aflac

Dustin Roths, Diamond R. Jewelry

CHAMBER STAFF

Sarah Wasinger

PRESIDENT / CEO
PH. 785.621.1389

Leigh Purdy

VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP
PH. 785.621.1385

James Bell

VICE PRESIDENT OF MARKETING/
COMMUNICATIONS
PH. 785.621.1384

Isaiah Schindler

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
PH. 785.621.1386



THE CHAMBER

Hays, Kansas

Connecting Business.
Advancing Community.

First Legislative Coffee planned



The Chamber in Hays, Kansas is set to once again give area residents the opportunity to speak directly with area leaders during the 2024 Legislative Coffee series.

The first session is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. Feb. 3 at the Hays Public Library, 1205 Main.

The series is free and open to the public.

Sarah Wasinger, President and CEO of The Chamber, said the annual series is one of the most important endeavors of the year for The Chamber.

"The Legislative Coffee session serves as a crucial platform for citizens to stay

informed about legislative developments in our area," Wasinger said. "It is an invaluable opportunity to have a direct dialogue with our legislators, enabling the community to voice concerns and seek clarification on important matters."

The session invites attendees to pose questions to individual legislators or the panel as a whole, creating a dynamic and interactive environment. This engagement fosters a sense of transparency and accountability, she said.

"We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our legislative premier sponsors, Midwest

Energy and *The Hays Daily News*, for their generous support in making this event possible," Wasinger said. "Their commitment to community engagement aligns with the mission of The Chamber, reinforcing the importance of collaboration between local businesses and the legislative process.

The library will also host the March 2 and April 6 sessions, providing a welcoming and accessible venue for the community to come together.

"We appreciate the library's dedication to facilitating civic discourse and community involvement," Wasinger said.

To enhance the experience for attendees, questions can be submitted in advance by emailing hayscc@hayschamber.com. Questions received by noon on the Friday before each event will be considered for inclusion.

"We encourage everyone to join us for an informative and engaging session that strengthens the bond between citizens and their area representation," Wasinger said.

2024 Ag Appreciation scheduled

Calling local farmers and ranchers - come enjoy the 36th Annual Ag Appreciation Sponsored by High Plains Farm Credit. Join The Chamber in Hays, Kansas and its member sponsors as we express our gratitude, celebrate, and recognize your invaluable contributions to western Kansas and beyond! The first 300 guests will be treated to a free dinner including chili or green bean

and dumpling soup. Hot dogs, cinnamon rolls, relishes, and fixings for the chili will also be served. The night will end with prize drawings compliments of our generous sponsors. Tickets will not be printed for the event this year but save the date cards may be picked up from event title, barnraiser and cultivator sponsors. Please contact The Chamber for a list of these outlets.

Hot Deals transforming into Business Bulletins: Same great deals, fresh new look



We are thrilled to announce that our beloved Hot Deals section on The Chamber website is undergoing a transformation. Starting soon, it will be rebranded as "Business Bulletins." This upgrade aims to better reflect the diverse range

of announcements and opportunities our members share. Your Community, Your News: Share it on Business Bulletins!

We invite all our members to contribute to this dynamic platform by sending in their latest community notifications. Whether it's a special promotion, a grand opening, or a community event, the Business Bulletins section is the perfect place to showcase your news. This

information will not only be featured prominently on our website but will also be shared across our social media channels, amplifying your reach.

Get Featured, Get Noticed!

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to promote your business and engage with the community. Send your updates and let us help you spread the word.

Igniting Leadership: New year, new schedule

Igniting Leadership will be slightly switching up their monthly events to now take place on the 1st Wednesday of every month but will continue alternating the times of the event to be at noon and at 5:30 p.m. every other month. The noon events will continue to be at Professor's Class Sandwich Shop & More, and the 5:30 p.m. events will continue to take place at Defiance Brewing Co. – Downtown Location.

The first event of 2024 will take place on Wednesday, February 7 at 5:30 p.m. at Defiance Brewing Co. – Downtown Location. The facilitator will be Jason Kennedy, Market President of Astra Bank, and the program will be Leading through Challenging Times.

We will announce the speakers and programs for each month here in the digital newsletter, and you can also keep up to date by following the Leadership Hays Facebook page.

We invite all Leadership Hays and Dale Carnegie graduates, any local leaders who enjoy synergizing with others, as well as any other individuals wishing to gain insight on leadership. Ignite Leadership is the space to connect with one another and to discuss how to improve Hays and the surrounding area (a resurrection of Konza).

We are also planning a special reunion event for all Leadership Hays classes celebrating

milestone anniversaries. Keep your eye out for a formal invitation.

Finally, we invite all past participants and those interested in attending future events to fill out our 3-minute survey to ensure we are best serving you when planning our meetings this year. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdls1Z4_qoefwWQP1uwm8mVE4Z6Uh7d6ppzz-3cDUe2qrfiyg/viewform?usp=sf_link.



2024 Schedule

February: Wed., 2/7 @ 5:30 PM (Defiance)
March: Wed., 3/6 @ noon (Professor's)
April: Wed., 4/3 @ 5:30 PM (Defiance)
May: Wed., 5/1 @ noon (Professor's)
June: Wed., 6/5 @ 5:30 PM (Defiance)
August: Wed., 8/7 @ 5:30 PM (Defiance)
September: Wed., 9/4 @ noon (Professor's)
October: Wed., 10/2 @ 5:30 PM (Defiance)
November: Wed., 11/6 @ noon (Professor's)

Ellis County Historical Society signs lease on Victoria satellite site



After nearly 2½ years of negotiation, Ellis County Historical Society Executive Director Amanda Rupp and Victoria Community Coalition Board Chairman

Jeff Pfeifer signed a lease agreement that will allow construction to begin on a satellite site for ECHS. The space will be located in St. John's Place, the former Victoria Nursing Home, which will soon be renovated to house 12 senior living apartments and a community area. The next phase will include an area to accommodate childcare.

"It is a dream come true," stated Mary Kay Schippers, Chair of the Renovations Committee. Part of the space will be used for exhibits and the rest for storage.

The Society's plan is to be open by 2026, which will be in time to celebrate the sesquicentennial of the Volga Germans settling in Ellis County.

While the Society's Hays museum focuses primarily on the history of Hays, the Victoria location will direct its focus on the outlying area of Ellis County and the immigrants who settled there.

Alejandra Mahoney joins RE/MAX Pro as new sales associate



RE/MAX Pro has announced that Realtor® Alejandra Mahoney is the latest addition to the growing real estate franchise. Mahoney brings to the office an ability to work with the underserved Spanish speaking population as she is bilingual.

"I'm excited to join the most productive real estate network in the U.S. and heighten the buying and selling experience

for my clients," Mahoney said. "With the economy improving, it's a great time to buy real estate. Hays is in high demand, homes are selling quickly and I'm here to help guide members of the English and Spanish speaking communities through the exciting and sometimes overwhelming process."

For more information about Mahoney, visit her at <https://alejandramahoney.homesinhays.com>.

ECHS plans second annual Trivia Night



Gather your team for the Ellis County Historical Society's Twist and Shout Trivia Night. There's a grand prize package for the winning team, category prizes, consolation gift for the first losers, and added this year a brainiac trophy. General Ellis County knowledge questions along with interesting facts about a variety of topics will have your team's

collective brain working. And engaging physical challenge intermissions will surely bring laughter to your evening. Bragging rights will be real, but don't take yourselves too seriously.

With many ways to "win," including purchasing Mulligans or Doublers, your team will have a blast all while helping to support a great organization!

Event details

March 2 at the Hays Community Theatre on East 8th.

Registration opens February 2, to sign your team up go online at www.echshays.org

Help us, "SAVE OUR PAST's FUTURE."

Come challenge the returning 2023 champions "Bessen Wissner."

Call for Content

Would you like to see your business featured here?



Email your newsworthy story, up to 150-words along with an image if applicable, to hayscc@hayschamber.com.



Via Christi Village

National Heart Awareness Month- Sweetheart of a Deal

Join us between February 19-23

During the week of February 19-23 you're invited to Ascension Living Via Christi Village Hays for a complimentary health and wellness check up; come in and test your grip strength with our community dynamometer. Strength can be an important indicator of your overall health, so take advantage of this unique opportunity to help ensure you stay aware of your overall well-being.

Following your strength test, you can take a tour and experience our beautiful senior living community to receive a free pedometer; as walking is a beneficial form of exercise for keeping your heart healthy and other aspects as well. We look forward to seeing you!

To schedule your tour call Sandy Dinkel at 785-432-4327.
Learn more at ascensionliving.org/viachristihays



February 19-23

From 10 am to 3 pm



Via Christi Village
2225 Canterbury
Hays, KS 67601



2024



Annual Chamber Awards Banquet

Thanks to our premier and specialty sponsors!



HAYSMED



Venue sponsor



FORT HAYS STATE
UNIVERSITY

Flower sponsor



Print sponsor





Power of the Purse

Thursday, March 21, 2024
Doors Open & Social Begins - 5:00 p.m.
Program Begins - 6:00 p.m.
Rose Garden Banquet Hall
2350 E 8th Street

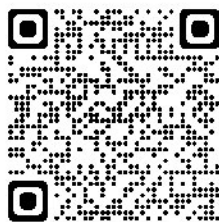
Featured Speaker:

Famous Kansan Jennifer Jo Cobb is a professional NASCAR racecar driver, NASCAR team owner, international public speaker, entrepreneur, and corporate spokesperson. Jennifer's dream of being a racecar driver began when she was just eight years old, and despite the odds against her, she has climbed the ranks of auto racing. She holds several competition records in NASCAR's Craftsman Truck Series. Jennifer has posted the most starts by a female driver in ANY NASCAR series. She has broken into the 200+mph club with a land speed record and has competed across the globe, including in the NASCAR Euro Series in Spain and the United Kingdom. She is one of just a handful of women with a top-10 finish at the highest levels of NASCAR.

(<https://www.jenjocobb.com/about-jennifer>)



Seating is limited and sells out quickly. Single tickets are \$50 or reserved tables of eight are \$400. Reserved tables are purchased in full at the time of registration. To purchase ticket(s), scan the QR code or visit the following link: www.womenwholead.org. For questions, please email contact@womenwholead.org. Please purchase tickets no later than March 7, 2024.



Women who Lead

Formerly known as the Wonder
Women League.

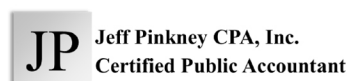
*Inspiring and empowering women
to affect change in our community.*



Women who *Lead* Thank you Annual Sponsors



SCHMIDT
FOUNDATION



Lorena Kellogg



DESIGN



Farnsworth
Law



Erin & Trevor Giebler



Swing into action: 15th Annual Chamber Golf Tournament registration now open

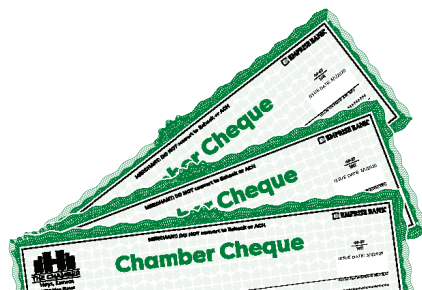
Get ready to tee off for a day of camaraderie, friendly competition, and networking at the 15th Annual Chamber Golf Tournament, proudly presented by Nex-Tech Wireless. We are thrilled to announce that registration is officially open, and you're invited to secure your spot for this highly anticipated event! The Chamber Golf Tournament has become a highlight in our community, bringing together local businesses, professionals, and golf

enthusiasts for a day of fun on the greens. Whether you're a seasoned golfer or a novice, this event offers a fantastic opportunity to connect with fellow chamber members and enjoy a day of outdoor recreation.

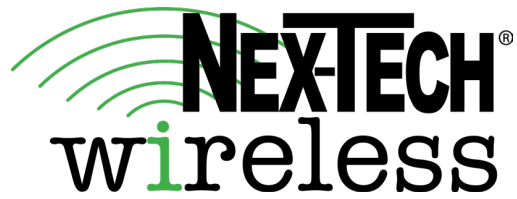
To secure your spot in the tournament, simply fill out the attached entry form on the next page of this newsletter. Early registration is encouraged, as spots are limited, and we wouldn't want you to miss out on the excitement!

KEEP LOCAL

and shop Hays



<p>HAYS MEMORIAL CHAPEL FUNERAL HOME</p> <p>1906 PINE STREET HAYS, KANSAS 67601 PHONE - 785-628-1009 haysmemorial.com</p>	<p>LET NWP HELP YOU BE THE STAR OF THE GAME! We offer more than just printing on paper.</p> <p>Northwestern Printers, Inc.</p> <p>785-625-1110 toll free 1-800-808-1110 114 W. 9th St. - Hays, KS email: service@NorthwesternPrinters.com web: NorthwesternPrinters.com</p> <p><i>Services include:</i> • Banners • Posters • Windows • Mailing Services • Complete Bindery Services</p>	<p>Nex-Tech</p> <p>NEX-TECH.COM</p>	<p>Domino's (785) 625-2311 2505 Vine - Hays</p>
<p>Your Business Featured Here! *Contact The Chamber for more information!</p>	<p>LIFETIME DENTAL CARE Health. Function. Beauty.</p> <p>(785) 625-7969 lifetimedentalcare.com</p>	<p>ELLIS COUNTY CONCRETE HAYS, KS 785-628-2100</p>	<p>Walmart</p> <p>4301 Vine Street Hays, KS 67601 (785) 625-0001 wal-mart.com</p>
<p>INSURANCE FOR THE WAY YOU WORK & LIVE</p> <p>Insurance Planning INCORPORATED</p> <p>785-625-5605 www.insurance-planning.com</p>	<p>ADAMS BROWN Strategic Allies and CPAs above+beyond</p> <p>718 Main Street, Suite 224 • Hays, KS (785) 628-3046 www.adamsbrowncpa.com</p>	<p>Midwest Energy, Inc.</p> <p>Your Hometown Energy Cooperative</p> <p>1-800-222-3121 www.mwenergy.com</p>	



15th Annual Chamber Golf Tournament

Friday, May 3, 2024 - Smoky Hill Country

Registration 8 a.m. - Tee Off 9 a.m.

Cost \$600 per team (\$150/player)

Includes play, lunch, hot appetizers, refreshments and more!

Team Name

Team Captain/Player 1 (Name/Email/Phone)

Player 2 (Name & Email)

Player 3 (Name & Email)

Player 4 (Name & Email)

Team Requests (All team requests due April 15)

Billing Information (Invoice, Credit Card, Cash or Check)

- | | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| Carts needed | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 1 or two (\$35/cart) | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Special Ball | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (\$100) | <input type="checkbox"/> No (Limit one per team) |
| Mulligan | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (\$20) | <input type="checkbox"/> No (Limit one per team) |
| Bet on Hole | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (\$20) | <input type="checkbox"/> No (Limit one per player) |
| Split the Pot | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (\$1 | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Split the Pot | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (6 for \$5) | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

Registration is NOT confirmed until payment is received - NO REFUNDS

Payments are due by April 15!



For more information call (785) 628-8201, visit
hayschamber.com, or email hayscc@hayschamber.



15th Annual Chamber Golf Tournament

Friday, May 3, 2024 - Smoky Hill Country Club
Plinko Patio Party - Silent Auction - Raffle

Includes play, lunch, hot appetizers, refreshments and more!

Sponsorships Available

Silent Auction Gift Sponsor - \$25+

*Contribute an item to the silent auction, such as: gift certificates, merchandise, gift baskets, or monetary donation to purchase an item from another chamber member.

Event Bag Sponsor - Registration Gift - \$100 (add Plinko sponsorship for \$50)

Plinko Patio Party Space Sponsor - \$100 (add bag sponsorship for \$50)

Hazard Sponsor - Beverage - \$250/ea.

Hole Sponsors - \$250/ea.

Specialty Hole Sponsors - Contest - \$250/ea.

Breakfast Sponsor - \$400

Hot Appetizer Sponsor - \$500

Raffle Prize Sponsor - \$500-\$1,500

****ALL SPONSORSHIP LEVELS INCLUDE YOUR BUSINESS NAME AND LOGO
FEATURED ON YOUR PARTICULAR SPONSORSHIP AREA (HOLES, CARTS, ETC.)**

Sponsorship opportunities are being finalized by chamber staff. First right of refusal will be given to last year's sponsors. Please call The Chamber to inquire about possible available sponsorships.



For more information call (785) 628-8201, visit hayschamber.com, or email hayscc@hayschamber.com.



Offered in partnership with The Chamber
Dale Carnegie Course in Hays, Aug. 2024

When you look at the successful people, what do you see? Confidence. Competence. Enthusiasm. They're engaged in all aspects of their work and life, inspiring others as they lead by example.

This Dale Carnegie Course helps you master the human relations skills that enable you to thrive in any setting. You'll discover how to form closer, more rewarding relationships built on trust and respect. Increasing your confidence and competence in interacting with others will gain the influence you need to reach new heights in your personal and professional life.

As you become a persuasive communicator and problem-solver more adept at managing stress and handling change, you'll find yourself inspiring others to take initiative and innovate.

The Dale Carnegie Course will help you master the communication skills necessary in today's demanding business environment. You'll learn to strengthen interpersonal relationships and develop a commanding attitude, instilling confidence and enthusiasm in your workplace.

Does the experience make a difference? Clients say yes. You'll see the results as you stretch your abilities, tackle complex challenges, expand your ingenuity, and excel in building team harmony. The Dale Carnegie Course will focus your energy to become a more effective communicator, securing your place as a valued contributor in your organization.

Learn How To:

- Use a proven process to recall names and facts
- Communicate more confidently
- Build trust and persuade people to take action
- Project an enthusiastic attitude
- Communicate logically, clearly, and concisely
- Energize and engage listeners
- Create a safe and caring environment
- Manage stress and minimize worry
- Strengthen relationships
- Give constructive feedback that empowers others
- Encourage positive thinking
- Identify and reward successes
- Commit to continuous improvement

Schedule:

August 15, 22 & 29, 2024
8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Location:

The Venue at Thirsty's
2704 Vine Street
Hays, Kansas 67601

Investment: \$1,995

Chamber Members Save 10%: \$1,795.50
Discount Code: HAYS-CHAMBER-2024

[Registration Link](#) ▶

Who Should Attend?

Professionals at all levels who wish to optimize their performance, lead with conviction and positively affect the bottom line.

Contact Us:

Kansas Heartland – Dale Carnegie
Gordon Hibbard, CEO

Gordon.Hibbard@DaleCarnegie.com

316.712.9478

785.770.7415 (cell)

kansasheartland.dalecarnegie.com



U.S. Franchisees are accredited by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET).
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Fort Hays State University's Management Development Center plans 2024 events



FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT CENTER

2024 Workshops

Wed. Feb. 7, 8:00 a.m. - Noon
Supervisor Bootcamp

Mon. Feb. 12
12-week online SHRM Certification Prep Course begins

Wed. Mar. 6, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
CliftonStrengths Essentials

Tues. April 16, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
CliftonStrengths Engaged

Tues. April 23, 9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
Breakfast & Learn (complimentary) - Topic coming soon

Wed. June 12, 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Communicating with Emotional Intelligence

Registration and more info can be found at fhsu.edu/cob/mdc/ or connect with us at mdc@fhsu.edu.

Leadership Hays and Dale Carnegie training: Supporting employee mental wellness

In the pursuit of fostering a thriving and resilient workforce, in 2024 The Chamber in Hays, Kansas proudly presents two exceptional programs designed to empower your team and enhance employee mental wellness: Leadership Hays and Dale Carnegie Training.

Leadership Hays is a transformative experience that equips individuals with the skills and insights necessary to excel in leadership roles. Tailored to the unique needs of our local business community,

this program cultivates a supportive network of leaders committed to personal and professional growth.

Complementing this initiative is the renowned Dale Carnegie Training, a globally recognized program that focuses on effective communication, stress management, and building positive relationships. These sessions provide invaluable tools for navigating the challenges of today's dynamic work environment, promoting not only professional success but also

mental well-being.

We urge our Chamber members to seize these world-class development opportunities. By investing in Leadership Hays and Dale Carnegie Training, you're not just fostering leadership skills but also championing mental wellness within your organization. Let's build a resilient and empowered workforce together.

Don't miss out on this chance to elevate your team to new heights of success and well-being. Contact The Chamber today to enroll in these enriching programs!

United Way of Ellis County

Dueling Pianos

70 Year Anniversary Celebration

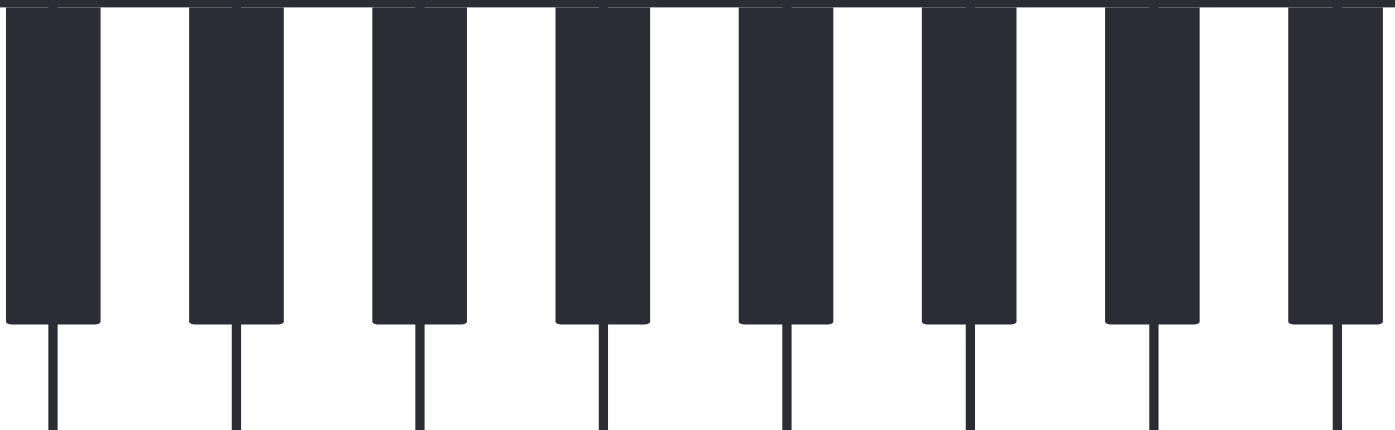
2.10.2024

Schenk Community Building

For tickets visit
www.liveunited.us
or scan the QR Code



MUSIC! FOOD! FUN!





THE DATE

SAVE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S

Check the calendar on the back page for all the HYP events in January!

Let's Connect!

Join us for a connection lunch!

All connection lunches are sponsored by Glassman Corporation!

- **February 20th** - Ashleigh Walker, Arnett Chiropractic
- **March 19th** - Sara Biggs & Scott Stults, DSNWK
- **April 16th** - Gus Konz, Werth Wealth Management
- **May 21st** - James Gerstner, High Plains Mental Health
- **June** - No lunch, summer break!
- **July** - No lunch, summer break!
- **August 20th** - Dallas Haselhorst, TreeTop Security
- **September 17th** - Brandon Hines, Hays Public Library
- **October 15th** - Laurie Kennedy, HYP Chair
- **November** - No lunch, enjoy the holidays!
- **December** - No lunch, enjoy the holidays!

GET INVOLVED!

Looking to get more involved with HYP, but don't know where to start? That's ok! It can be a little daunting. Feel free to reach out to any of the emails below and we'd be happy to connect you with another HYP!

- Laurie Kennedy, HYP Chair - kennedy.laurie18@gmail.com
- Devin Legleiter, HYP Chair-Elect - dclegleiter@gmail.com
- Whitney Gerstner, Committee Chair - wagerstner@gmail.com
- Les Mackey, Committee Chair - lwmackey@fhsu.edu
- The Chamber in Hays, Kansas - hayscc@hayschamber.com

N + E MEETING

The next Networking & Engagement Committee Meeting will be on March 7 at 12:05pm at the Hays Welcome Center!

LDC MEETING

The next Leadership Development Committee Meeting will be on February 28 at 12:00pm at Gella's!

LET'S BE SOCIAL!

Find the latest, most up-to-date information on the HYP Facebook page!

community connections

Ambassador Lunch



THE ROSE GARDEN BANQUET HALL & CATERING
2350 E. 8th St., Hays

Membership Lunch



THE ROSE GARDEN BANQUET HALL & CATERING
2350 E. 8th St., Hays

**Click on photos to be taken
to the Facebook event
replay!**

Ribbon Cutting/Brick Presentations



SECONDWIND IV
1303 Main St., Hays



FIRST CARE PHARMACY
1301 Main St., Hays



PROSPECTIVELY HEALTHY AND WELLNESS
209 W. 12th St., Hays



CARDS RECYCLING
1913 E. 7th St., Hays

Child Care Development



PROVIDER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
2350 E 8th St., Hays

Chamber Chats



UNITED WAY OF ELLIS COUNTY
1200 Main St., Hays



AVID HOTEL
206 W. 43rd St., Hays

Groundbreaking



CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF NORTHERN KANSAS
1015 Centennial Blvd., Hays

COMMUNITY EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2024

2/1-2/9: **Hays Arts Council 40th Annual Five State Photography Exhibition** | Hays Arts Center

2/3: **Legislative Coffee** | 8:30-10 AM | Hays Public Library

2/3: **FHSU Criminal Justice Club hosts: Murder at Mardi Gras** | 6 PM | Thirsty's Brew Pub & Grill

2/3: **Hays High School FFA: Annual Concert, Dinner, & Benefit Auction** | 5 PM | Ellis County Fairgrounds

2/3: **Pop Singers Dinner Show** | 6 PM | Thomas More Prep-Marian High School

2/4: **Pop Singers Dessert Show** | 2 PM | Thomas More Prep-Marian High School

2/8: **Romance Reader's Night** | 6 PM | Hays Public Library

2/8: **Valentine's Jazz Recital of Love Songs and Spring** | 7:30 PM

FHSU Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center

2/9: **Night to Shine** | 4-9 PM | Celebration Community Church

2/10: **United Way of Ellis County Presents: Dueling Pianos** | 6-11 PM | Ellis County Fairgrounds

2/10: **Hays Symphony Presents: FHSU Concerto / Aria Winner's Concert** | 7:30 PM

FHSU Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center

2/11: **Stars & Stripes Breakfast** | 7:30 AM-12 PM | VFW Hall

2/12-2/23: **Kansas Clay 2024 Exhibition** | 9 AM-4 PM | FHSU Moss-Thorns Gallery of Art

2/13: **Murder Mystery Dinner** | 5-7 PM | Hays Public Library

2/14: **Book Tasting Date Night** | 5:30 PM | Hays Public Library

2/14, 2/16, 2/17, 2/18: **Hays Community Theatre Presents: Moon Over Buffalo** | 7 PM & 2 PM (Sun)

2/15: **Live Music: Kelly Hunt** | 6 PM | Hays Public Library

2/15: **FHSU Department of Music & Theatre Presents: Jazz with Brad Dawson & Friends** | 7:30 PM

FHSU Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center

2/17: **Family Storytime with the Hays Kiwanis Club** | 10 AM | Hays Public Library

2/17: **Hays Symphony Presents: A Chinese New Year Celebration** | 7:30 PM

FHSU Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center

2/24: **Puzzle Competition** | 1-3 PM | Hays Public Library

2/24: **Feeding Hays Saturday Showcase** | 5 PM | St. Michael's Church

2/24: **Josh Meloy** | 7 PM | The Fox Theatre

2/27: **Adulting 101: Laundry** | 6 PM | Hays Public Library

2/28: **Tiger Trivia with the FHSU History Club** | 5:30 PM | Defiance Downtown

2/28: **FHSU Encore Series: Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra** | 7:30 PM |

FHSU Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center

2/29: **36th Annual Ag Appreciation** | 5-7 PM | Ellis County Fairgrounds

2/29: **Expert Speaker Series: Israel & Antisemitism Then and Now** | 6 PM | Hays Public Library

2/29-3/3: **FHSU Department of Music & Theatre Spring Play: Almost Maine** | Felten/Start Theatre



Fort Hays State University Athletics Schedule: FHSUAthletics.com

2700 Vine St., Hays, KS 67601 • 785-628-8202
Details and more events at VisitHays.com



February 2024

SATURDAY/SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

				1 • HYP, N&E Meeting, 12:05 PM WC, 2700 Vine Street • RC/BP, Arcade 11 Bar & Restaurant 3:00 PM 201 W. 10th St. •HYP First Thursday Social, 5:15 PM Cancun Mexican Grill, 1011 Elm St.	2 • CC, Heartland Community Foundation, 9:00 AM The Strand Event Center, 1102 Main St.
3 • Legislative Coffee, 8:30 AM Hays Public Library, 1205 Main St.	5	6	7 • RC/BP Verdant Bistro, 10:00 AM, 230 E. 8th St. • IL, 5:30 PM Defiance Brewing Co. - Downtown, 111 W 7th St. Program: Leading During Challenging Times Speakers: Jason Kennedy and Justin Pacheco	8 • HYP, AC Meeting, 12:00 PM, WC, 2700 Vine St.	9 • CC, Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland, 9:00 AM, 2707 Vine St., Ste. 8 • HYP, Night to Shine, 4:15 PM Celebration Community Church, 5709 230th Ave.
10	12	13	14	15 • Grand Re-Opening, Bomgaars, 10:00 AM 2900 Broadway Ave. • RC, Aesthetically You/Lux Massage & Aesthetics, 3:30 PM, 1500 Vine St.	16 • CC, Ellis County Historical Society, 9:00 AM, 100 W. 7th St. • AMB, Monthly Lunch, 12:00 PM, Rose Garden Banquet Hall, 2350 E. 8th St.
17	19	20 • HYP, Connection Lunch, 12:00 PM Speaker: Ashleigh Walker Sponsor: Glassman Corp. The Venue, Thirsty's Brew Pub & Grill 2704 Vine St. • Chamber BOD Meeting, 3:30 PM WC, 2700 Vine St.	21	22	23 • CC, Vyve Broadband, 9:00 AM, 1007 W. 27th St.. • ML, Program: City of Hays Progress Report, 12 PM Speaker: Toby Dougherty Sponsor: Golden Belt Bank Rose Garden Banquet Hall 2350 E. 8th St.
24	26	27 • Child Care Task Force of Ellis County Meeting, 4 PM WC, 2700 Vine St.	28 • LH, 8:00 AM WC, 2700 Vine Street • HYP, LDC Meeting, 12:00 PM, Gella's Diner & Lb. Brewing Co., 117 E. 11th St.	29 • Ag Appreciation, 5:00 PM Schenk Building, Ellis Co. Fairgrounds, 1344 Fairground Rd.	

ABBREVIATION LEGEND:

AMB = Ambassador
BAH = Business After Hours
BP = DHDC Brick Presentation
CC = Chamber Chat
CU = Catching Up
GB = Groundbreaking
GO = Grand Opening

HYP = Hays Young Professionals
IL = Igniting Leadership
LH = Leadership Hays
LL = Lunch & Learn
ML = Membership Lunch
RC = Ribbon Cutting
WC = Hays Welcome Center

Connecting Business.
Advancing Community.



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Golden Belt Bank



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