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## Celebrating Awards Banquet Winners

The 2020 Annual Chamber Awards Banquet is officially in the books. With a successful and sold out event, we would like to take time to give thanks to the attendees, sponsors and businesses who helped support this great event.

Congratulations to all our honorees who received awards at this year's banquet.

**Johnny Matlock, USD 489 JAG-K  
Nex-Tech Citizen of the Year Award**

**Chelsey Ladd, Office of  
Senator Jerry Moran  
Eagle Rising Star Award**

**Living Independently in Northwest  
Kansas Inc. (LINK)  
eyeSMILE Vision and Dental  
Helping Hands Award**

**S & W Supply  
James Motor Company Small Business  
Achievement Award**

**Mary Hammond, FHSU Foundation  
Jody Hipp – Aflac  
Business Woman of the Year Award**

**Galen Pfeifer, Adams, Brown,  
Beran & Ball  
Golden Belt Bank  
Hall of Fame Award**

### Stepping Out

Chamber Ambassadors will be stepping out to deliver the 2020 Chamber window decals soon.

If you renewed your Chamber membership for 2020, a Chamber Ambassador will bring you an updated decal March 18.

Our Ambassadors appreciate the opportunity to learn information about all our Chamber's member investors. This, in turn, allows our Ambassadors to give potential new clients referrals to your business.

Thank you to all our 2020 members for your partnership and to our Ambassadors for donating your time and talents to the Chamber and its members throughout the year.

## Spotlight March 2020



## 2020 Ellis County Census Dictates Funding for Next Decade

By now, you have likely read about the 2020 Census online or have seen it being covered via national media outlets. In a few weeks, Ellis County residents will begin seeing literature being mailed via USPS regarding what steps you need to take to complete the Census. For the first time this year, households will have the ability to fill out the Census online, by mail or by phone. The count day for this census is April 1. The self-response process will be completed from April through July. Non-response follow-up will be completed by census staff from May through July.

So why is the 2020 Census so important for residents in Ellis County? Did you know that \$675 billion in federal funds are disbursed annually based on the data that is collected from each decennial census? Of that \$675 billion, \$6 billion was distributed to the state of Kansas every year during the past decade. What is the cost of Ellis County residents not accurately completing the 2020 Census? **In short, Ellis County will lose \$20,820 for each**



### person until the next census.

The funding received through the Census goes into so much, whether it be infrastructure, schools, businesses, non-profits, health services, emergency preparedness, law enforcement funding and even disease control. An accurate Census is also crucial for residents in Kansas because it indicates the number of seats our state has in the U.S. House of Representatives; census numbers are additionally utilized when drawing federal, state and local voting districts.

During the next month, you can help Ellis County realize a successful census count in several ways:

- Open all census-related material that is sent to your mailing address and follow the directions by the indicated dates.
- Encourage your family, friends, college students and neighbors to participate in the 2020 census. College students who live on campus and in nearby residential housing are counted in the Ellis County census.
- It is important to understand that

all information submitted during the census is protected by law. The U.S. Census Bureau keeps your information confidential and will never share your information with other government agencies that distribute government benefits.

The Chamber encourages you to stay connected with important 2020 census information in a variety of ways. To access a full list of 2020 census questions and frequently asked questions, visit [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov). If you have specific questions about how the census impacts Kansas, visit [kansascounts.org](https://kansascounts.org). General questions can also be answered via phone by calling (800) 923-8282. To view a brief video of the 2020 census, visit <https://2020census.gov/en.html>. The 2020 census also has great information listed on their social media pages via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

Thank you to the role that each of you will play in helping carry out a successful 2020 census for Ellis County. It will take all of us to maximize the amount of federal funds that are allocated to Ellis County over the next 10 years.

## New Members

The businesses listed here recently made an investment by joining the Chamber. Please consider them for your needs and let them know you learned about their business through the Chamber. Welcome to:

**Henry Schwaller & Associates**  
1500 Vine, Hays, KS 67601  
(785) 628-6162

**Sunflower Senior Solutions**  
407 Main, Victoria, KS 67671  
(785) 301-2716

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**CHAIR-ELECT:** Mike Morley, *Midwest Energy*  
**PAST CHAIR:** Shane Smith, *Commerce Bank*  
**TREASURER:** Melissa Romme, *Adams Brown Beran & Ball*  
Bryan Brady, *First Care Clinic*  
Sarah Cearley, *Simply Charmed*  
Shanna Dinkel, *Hays USD 489*

Karen Gutierrez, *Gutierrez Mexican Restaurant*  
Jody Hipp, *Aflac*  
Elizabeth Jaeger, *Eagle Broadband*  
Lisa Karlin, *Fort Hays State University*  
Amanda Rohleder, *Nex-Tech*  
Brian Ruder, *American Family Insurance*

## STAFF

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## Dale Carnegie 'Building Stronger Leaders' is Back

The Chamber is excited to offer the Dale Carnegie Course "Building Stronger Leaders" for the second year in a row this summer. Participants will navigate through this eight-week program that takes place every Tuesday, starting June 2 through July 21, from 1 to 4:30 p.m.

Designed with business and organization leaders in mind, the course focuses on giving attendees the tools to become more effective leaders. Interpersonal relationships, stress management and succeeding in a fast-changing workplace will be



learned through this course. Dale Carnegie teaches by inspiring and engaging his audience. More information about this course is available by calling the Chamber at (785) 628-8201. Email questions to [mariakimzey@DaleCarnegie.com](mailto:mariakimzey@DaleCarnegie.com), or call (785) 320-2753. You can also register at <https://www.dalecarnegie.com/en/courses/effective-communications/66894879-112e-448c-9333-41bd5900a9e6en>. Through the Chamber's partnership with Dale Carnegie, this course is available to Chamber members at a 15% discount.

## Tee Up for Annual Golf Tourney

The 11th Annual Chamber Golf Tournament, presented by Eagle Radio, will be May 1 at Smoky Hill Country Club. Highlight your business in front of numerous potential new clients by becoming a sponsor or donating a silent auction prize. The tournament will again feature a four-person team scramble. Check out the enclosed insert to register your team today. For more information about the golf tournament, call the Chamber at (785) 628-8201 or email [hayscc@hayschamber.com](mailto:hayscc@hayschamber.com).



## Spring into Development

Four FHSU Management and Development Center workshops are available this spring. Topics include: time management, utilizing Excel for data analysis, marketing basics in today's world, and creating and curating content to reach your target market and create loyal customers.

Dates and additional information are available on the MDC website, [www.fhsu.edu/mdc](http://www.fhsu.edu/mdc). Chamber members are eligible for a 15% discount with code 6298ztk.

This spring, the MDC will launch a Lunch and Learn Series. The first is on wellness in the workplace and is tentatively set for April 9. For more information, contact Hannah Hilker at (785) 628-4121 or [hehilker@fhsu.edu](mailto:hehilker@fhsu.edu).



## Legislative Coffee Touches on Issues

On Feb. 8, the Chamber hosted the first Legislative Coffee of 2020 at the FHSU Memorial Union. Approximately 40 attended the event to hear updates on state and national issues. Area legislators serving on the panel included: Alex Richard on behalf of the Office of U.S. Sen. Jerry Moran, U.S. Rep. Roger Marshall, Kansas State Sen. Rick Billinger, Kansas Rep. Leonard Mastroni,

Kansas State Rep. Ken Rahjes, Kansas State Rep. Barb Wasinger, and Kansas State Rep. Troy Waymaster. Thank you to all who attended the event, as well as our area legislators, for providing this opportunity to our community. The 2020 Legislative Coffee Series is made possible by sponsors AT&T and Midwest Energy. Stay tuned to the Chamber's calendar for the next Legislative Coffee.

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## MEMBER NEWS

Ellis County will be having a mail ballot election asking two separate ¼ cent sales tax questions. The first tax is to assist EMS and Health Services. The second question is to assist the general fund for road infrastructure. If passed, both would sunset in 10 years. If you would like to have an Ellis County representative speak to your organization or business regarding the sales tax questions, call (785) 625-9410. Look for updates on upcoming town hall meetings to discuss the election with local Ellis County officials. There is also more information on the county website at [www.elliscounty.net](http://www.elliscounty.net) for the sales tax and election information.

**Brookdale Hays** recently awarded its quarterly Everyday Hero award to Nicole Maggart. Maggart is a CMA and received the award for her work ethic, dependability, flexibility and leadership. She has many years of experience in senior care and more than two years with Brookdale. She is continuing her education for more specialized care as a nurse.

Downtown Hays is celebrating by preparing the second annual Cottontails and Cupcakes adult Easter Egg "Hunt" on April 3. Everyone 14 years of age and older is welcome to hit The Bricks for some retail therapy. Every guest will be guaranteed two eggs filled with freebies from downtown. Two "egg stations" will be set up to make taking home two prizes easy. Also, \$1,000 in Downtown Dollars will be given away at the after-party. Each guest will also get a bunny-eared

accessory to wear that evening, a coupon sheet to help "hunt" for deals, and access to the after-party where cupcakes and cocktails will be waiting. Ticket prices are \$15 in-office and \$18 online. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased at [www.DowntownHays.com](http://www.DowntownHays.com) or at the DHDC office, 1200 Main. Contact Allie Glidewell at [allie@downtownhays.com](mailto:allie@downtownhays.com) with questions.

The staff of **Hays Post and Eagle Radio of Hays** earned four honors in the 2020 Kansas Press Association Awards of Excellence. Hays Post competed with the largest publications in the state, including the Wichita Eagle, Topeka Capital-Journal and Kansas City Star. Judging was completed by impartial industry peers from Mississippi. Overall, Hays Post was named the second-best news website in the state of Kansas. Individually, Cristina Janney earned three awards for excellence in reporting. Janney's work covering the Plainville Livestock Commission earned her a second-place finish in the agricultural story category, while a feature on Fort Hays State University alum Tre Giles earned her a third-place honor in the feature story category. Janney's Mental Health First Aid series also was honored with a third-place award for community service project.



On March 11, the **K-State Research and Extension Service** will present **Thriving Across Generations:**

**Succession Planning in Rural Kansas** at the FHSU Memorial Union from 5 to 8:30 p.m. Pre-registration is open online, and the cost is \$20 and includes dinner and materials. On-site registration is \$30.

The certified public accountants of **Brungardt Hower Ward Elliott & Pfeifer, L.C.** announced that Mariah Brungardt, Rachel Cofer, Jodi Jensen, Mallory Milstead and Tylor Shepherd will be completing internships with the firm during the Spring 2020 semester. They will be working in the Hays office in the tax department. Brungardt is in her second year of internship. She is completing her master's degree at Fort Hays State University and is originally from WaKeeney. Cofer is originally from Ransom, Milstead from Granby, Colo., and Shepherd from Hutchinson. All three are pursuing accounting undergraduate degrees from Fort Hays State University. Jensen hails from Council Grove and is completing her master's degree from Emporia State University after receiving her bachelor's from Kansas State University. Jensen will begin working full-time with the firm upon completion of the spring semester. Brungardt Hower, with offices in Hays, Garden City, and Johnson serves clients in central and western Kansas.

**Herrman Physical Therapy** announced the addition of Kerby Rice, DPT, ATC. Rice went to high school at Smith Center. He graduated from Sterling College

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## MEMBER NEWS

with a degree in athletic training. He then attended Wichita State University to acquire his doctor of physical therapy degree graduating in 2016. Rice spent his last four years working in Hutchinson as a physical therapist at Pinnacle Rehabilitation and Sports Performance. He enjoys working with all types of patients but specializes in orthopedic rehabilitation and sports injuries. He is also certified in dry needling.

Requirements to be a voter in 2020:

- Be a U.S. citizen.
- Be 18 years of age on or before Election Day.

Check out if you are currently qualified to vote: Go to the Ellis County website at [Ellisco.net](http://Ellisco.net) under Election/Registration Procedure/KSVotes.org/list your name, date of birth, zip code, email/ check my registration. You only need to register to vote if you moved/ changed name/wish to change party affiliation/or not currently registered.

Upcoming election dates:

- Sales Tax Mail Ballot Election — ballot mailed to all qualified voters March 23 and must be back in county clerk's office by noon April 7. (Postage is paid to return voted ballot).
- Primary election — Aug. 4.
- General election — Nov. 3.



**Please note:** The Chamber reserves the right to cut and edit any submitted copy for Member News. Please submit your news to [hayscc@hayschamber.com](mailto:hayscc@hayschamber.com) by the 15th of each month.

For more information, contact the Ellis County Clerk's Office (785) 628-9410.

Allie Frisbie successfully passed all parts of the Uniform CPA examination. She is a May 2019 graduate of Fort Hays State University with a bachelor's of business administration in accounting degree with a concentration in public accounting. She joined the Hays office staff at **Brungardt Hower Ward Elliott & Pfeifer, L.C.**, Certified Public Accountants on a full-time basis in May but had worked part-time for the firm while completing her degree. Frisbie is originally from McDonald.



Raise a glass to raise funds for the Hays Public Library Trust. With a library renovation on the horizon, the Hays Public Library Trust is hosting a fundraiser at 6:30 p.m. May 30. The event will include a wine and cheese social hour, followed by a presentation from Huck Boyd Institute Director Ron Wilson. The evening also will include a raffle and silent auction. Tickets, on sale beginning March 1, cost \$30 and are available at the library or online at

[hayslibrary.org/event](http://hayslibrary.org/event). Businesses interested in sponsoring the event or providing auction items are encouraged to contact Callie Kolacny at [ckolacny@hayslibrary.org](mailto:ckolacny@hayslibrary.org).

Western Kansas Human Resource Management Association will host its monthly meeting March 10 at the Robbins Center (Eagle Communications Hall), on the FHSU campus. Registration is from 11:15 to 11:30 a.m., with a short business meeting starting at 11:30 a.m. The program for the March meeting will be "Running an Effective Meeting," presented by Brett Whitaker, chair and assistant professor of Leadership Studies at Fort Hays State University. The program will be submitted for SHRM continuing education credits. WKHRMA members and guests can RSVP at [wkhrma.shrm.org](http://wkhrma.shrm.org). The deadline to RSVP is noon March 6. For more information on WKHRMA, visit [wkhrma.shrm.org](http://wkhrma.shrm.org).

The Downtown Pavilion area at 10th and Main in Downtown Hays will get several updates. Downtown Hays Development Corp. presented the proposed updates to Hays City commissioners in January. DHDC's presentation detailed improvements to both the east and west side of the pavilion and the installation of two security cameras. On the west, a crushed concrete and gravel fill will create a sustainable and low-maintenance parking area. An extension of the existing retaining wall will make identifying the entrance and exit of the area easy as well as prohibit runoff.

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## HYP Announcements

- March 5 — Networking & Engagement Committee meeting, CBD American Shaman (2013 Vine), 12:15 p.m.  
Lunch Feature: The Soda Shoppe
- March 11 — Advisory Council meeting, The Welcome Center (2700 Vine), noon.
- March 12 — Lunch with Leaders, Gutch's (111 W. Seventh), noon.

Guest: Steve Riat, Nex-Tech

- March 25 — Membership Development committee meeting, Professors (521 E. 11th), noon.
- March 31 — HYP Social Hour, CANCUN Mexican Grill (1011 Elm), 5:15 to 7:15 p.m.

### New Young Professional Members

Welcome and congratulations to:

- Allie Glidewell, DHDC
- Jennifer Harmon, Eagle Radio
- Garrett Bland, Eagle Radio
- Jacob Brubaker, Eagle Radio
- Joel Shorman, Eagle Radio
- Vivian Leiker, Eagle Radio
- LeAnna Jeffery, Premier Business Management

## Advisory Council Seeks YP to Fill Open Term

The Advisory Council of the Hays Young Professionals organization is seeking one fellow young professional member to fill in the last 10 months of a three-year term. The term will conclude in December. The person can re-apply for their own three-year term at that time, should they wish. The time commitment consists of one meeting a month (with exceptions around major holidays) during the lunch hour, events organized by the young professional committees as one is able and anything else above and beyond that they would like to help initiate or implement for the betterment of the

group in 2020.

This is great practice for those who hope to serve on a governing board at some point in their career as we do our best to adhere to the HYP Bylaws and Roberts' Rules of Order.

For more information or an application for the Advisory Council, reach out to one of our current Advisory Council members (listed on the Young Professionals tab of the [hayschamber.com](http://hayschamber.com) website, email [hayscc@hayschamber.com](mailto:hayscc@hayschamber.com) or call the Chamber office at (785) 628-8201. There is no additional membership cost to being on the Advisory Council.

## XYP: Building an Effective Team



Olga Detrixhe, Nex-Tech Wireless, leads fellow young professionals with tips and team suggestions during a recent Expert Young Professionals event.

### Don't Forget

• The Chamber will be hosting a community forum for the upcoming Ellis County Sales Tax Election from 7 to 8 a.m. March 10 at the Hays Welcome Center, 2700 Vine. Interim Ellis County Administrator Darin Myers will share information about the upcoming election and answer questions for attendees.



# Fly Hays First



To submit member news or sign up for Chamber event alerts, email [hayscc@discoverhays.com](mailto:hayscc@discoverhays.com).



## CHAMBER CHATS



*Clinkscales Elder Law Practice  
718 Main, Ste. 205*



*Soroptimist Group  
The Press, 230 E. Eighth*



*Premier Indoor Training  
1035 240th Ave.*



*Hays Community Theatre  
121 E. Eighth*

## RIBBON CUTTINGS



*Chroma Quilting  
218 W. Eighth*

## LEADERSHIP HAYS



*Leadership Hays, Day 1  
Welcome Center, 2700 Vine*

## MEMBERSHIP LUNCH



*Speaker Tisa Mason, FHSU  
Smoky Hill Country Club, 3303 Hall*



# March 2020

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat/Sun
2	3	4	5	6	7/8
		• <b>AMB Committee Captain Meeting</b> , 3:30 p.m., Welcome Center (2700 Vine)	• <b>HYP Networking &amp; Engagement Committee</b> , 12:15 p.m., CBD American Shaman (2013 Vine)	• <b>CC</b> , 9 a.m., FHSU Student Government Association, FHSU Memorial Union Ballroom (600 Park)	
9	10	11	12	13	14/15
• <b>Ellis County Sales Tax Q&amp;A</b> , 7 a.m., Welcome Center (2700 Vine)	• <b>HYP Advisory Council</b> , noon, Welcome Center (2700 Vine)	• <b>HYP Lunch with Leaders</b> , noon, Gutch's (111 W. Seventh) • <b>Q1 Business Showcase</b> , 4:30 p.m., The Press (230 E. Eighth)	• <b>CC</b> , 9 a.m., HaysMed The University of Kansas Health System (2220 Canterbury, Entrance C)		
16	17	18	19	20	21/22
• <b>Chamber Board Meeting</b> , 3:30 p.m., Welcome Center (2700 Vine)	• <b>AMB Stepping Out</b> , 11 a.m., Welcome Center Meeting Room (2700 Vine)	• <b>RC</b> , 4 p.m., Wonder Women League, Jeter Law Firm (1200 Main, #101)	• <b>CC</b> , 9 a.m., Joe Bob Outfitters (4850 General Hays Road)		
23	24	25	26	27	28/29
	• <b>HYP Membership Development Committee</b> , noon, Professors (521 E. 11th)		• <b>CC</b> , 9 a.m., Ellis County Health Services (1104 E. 22nd) • <b>ML</b> , noon, Smoky Hill County Club (3303 Hall); Sponsor: Midwest Energy; Speaker: Sandy Jacobs.		
30	31				
• <b>HYP Social Hour</b> , 5:15 p.m., CANCUN Mexican Grill (1011 Elm)					

## ABBREVIATION LEGEND:

AMB = AMBASSADOR  
 LH = LEADERSHIP HAYS  
 BS = BUSINESS SHOWCASE  
 RC = RIBBON CUTTING  
 CC = CHAMBER CHAT  
 ML = MEMBERSHIP LUNCH  
 HYP = HAYS YOUNG PROFESSIONALS  
 WC = HAYS WELCOME CENTER  
 GO = GRAND OPENING  
 FOR DETAILS, SEE YOUR WEEKLY EMAILS.

## Executive Circle Chamber Members



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