

Topeka Business

A PUBLICATION OF THE GREATER TOPEKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

United Airlines Ready to Launch From Topeka

Flights Start January 7th, Connecting Topeka to the World

Final preparations are complete and both United Airlines and the Topeka Regional Airport are ready for the launch of Topeka's first scheduled network airline service in more than a decade. On January 7, United launches two daily non-stop flights, connecting Topeka to more than 130 cities on four continents.

The service, which will operate with morning and afternoon departures from Topeka Regional Airport (FOE), and midday and late evening arrivals back in Topeka, is designed to connect to virtually every major worldwide market with less than a 90 minute stop in Chicago. United is pricing the service with competitive fares – in many cases the same as United fares out of Kansas City.

By flying from Topeka instead of Kansas City the typical traveler will save two and a half hours of drive time, 5.5 gallons of gas (or about \$20) and \$40 in parking fees. Many Kansas City flights require travelers to make a connection, so Topeka's net time savings is even greater.

United Express carrier, ExpressJet Airlines, will fly the route with a 50-seat regional jet, featuring six seats in Economy Plus, and 44 seats in Economy. The flight schedule allows for quick connections to more than 130 cities around the world, from New York to Los Angeles, and from London to Tokyo. You can find a specific schedule for the day you would like to travel, along with fares and other flight details, by logging onto United.com.

Don't forget---the airport code for Topeka Regional Airport is FOE!

2014 LGT Class Announced

Thirty-seven individuals from the Greater Topeka area have been selected to participate in the 2014 Leadership Greater Topeka program. Leadership Greater Topeka, a program of the Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce since 1984, identifies outstanding potential leaders from various components of the community. There are over 900 alumni of the program, with 70% of them still living and contributing to the Shawnee County community.

Class members will attend a retreat and eight day-long sessions between January 30 and May 16 to learn about challenges facing the City of Topeka and Shawnee County and how they, as individuals, can work to influence community issues and problems. The 2014 class was chosen from more than 200 nominees representing a variety of backgrounds and a cross section of the community.

Carleigh Frazier, at left, a senior at Washburn Rural High School, was surprised December 10 when she found out she would be part of the 2014 Leadership Topeka class. Carleigh's parents, Carl (LGT 2009) and Linessa (LGT 2008) Frazier, are both graduates of the program. See a full list of the 2014 class on page 4.



CHAMBER *news*

Chamber Annual Meeting

Doug Burgum, founder of the Kilbourne Group in Fargo, ND, will be the keynote speaker at the 2014 Chamber Annual Meeting Monday, January 13, from noon-1:30 p.m. at the Ramada Convention Center, 420 SE Sixth Avenue. Learn more on page 3.



How many times can you find FOE in this newsletter?

(hint: this is the airport code for Topeka Regional Airport)

Email msheahan@topekachamber.org with your answer by January 17. The tenth person with the correct answer will win a prize.

Greater
Topeka
CHAMBER & GO TOPEKA

CHAMBER OFFICERS

Neil Dobler
Chairman of the Board

Brent Boles
Chairman of the Board-Elect

Jim Ogle
Treasurer

Coleen Jennison
Immediate Past Chairman

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Curtis Sneden
Government Relations

Allan Towle
Development/GO Topeka

Paul Bossert
Leadership

Karla Clem
Marketing

Randy Goldsmith
Membership

CHAMBER Staff Additions



Jerrika Winkenwader joined the Chamber staff December 2 as administrative assistant.



Meagan Vargas joined the Chamber staff December 19 as finance assistant.



Risë Quinn joined the membership services team at the Chamber in December.

Greater
Topeka
CHAMBER & GO TOPEKA

CHAMBER *news*

Dobler Names 2014 Vice Chairs

Neil Dobler, vice president for Bartlett & West, has named Chamber members to serve as vice chairs for the Chamber Board during 2014.

Those serving include:



Curtis Sneden,
Government Relations



Allan Towle, *Economic Development/GO Topeka*



Paul Bossert,
Leadership



Karla Clem, *Marketing*



Randy Goldsmith,
Membership



Neil Dobler, 2014 Chamber
Chairman of the Board

Committee Chairs have also been named for 2014:

- **Ambassadors:** Mary Meens, Blue Dot Services
- **Business After Hours:** Brian Haug, WIBW Channels
- **Power Breakfast:** Diana Friend, Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library
- **Minority & Women Business Development Council:** Cacy Klumpp, Feel Good Nutrition
- **Diplomats:** Troy Mitchell, Fidelity Banks
- **Fast Forward Steering Committee:** Stephanie Hall, Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library
- **Federal Employers' Committee:** Curtis Sneden, Payless ShoeSource
- **InterCity Benchmarking Exchange:** Brent Boles, Schendel Pest Services
- **Leadership Greater Topeka Planning Committee:** Fred Patton, Patton Law Office
- **Leadership Greater Topeka Selection Committee:** Marlou Wegener, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas
- **Legislative Information Committee:** Curtis Sneden, Payless ShoeSource

Thanks for your Service

The Chamber staff extends our thanks to those individuals that have fulfilled their terms as officers and board members:

- **Greg Schwerdt**, Schwerdt Design Group, Past Chair
- **Shawn Brown**, Hy-Vee, Inc., board member
- **Jeff Hiestand**, CoreFirst Bank & Trust, board member
- **Carol Wheeler**, Stormont Vail HealthCare, board member
- **Nathan Morris**, Meridian Roofing Solutions, ex-officio board member representing Fast Forward
- **Dr. Brenda Dietrick**, Auburn Washburn Schools, ex-officio board member representing public schools
- **Representative Shanti Gandhi**, ex-officio board member

Annual Meeting Plans Set



Doug Burgum, founder of the Kilbourne Group in Fargo, ND, will be the keynote speaker at the 2014 Chamber Annual Meeting Monday, January 13, from noon-1:30 p.m. at the Ramada Convention Center, 420 SE Sixth Avenue.

The Kilbourne Group is a company committed to inspiring and supporting the redevelopment and revitalization of downtown Fargo, ND. Burgum is also co-founder and chairman of Arthur Ventures, a Fargo-based venture capital group that focuses on early-stage software companies, with a concentration on healthcare. He is also Executive Chairman of Intelligent InSites, a leading provider of enterprise real-time location systems (RTLS) software, and board member of Preventice, which delivers mobile health-care solutions. All four companies are located in downtown Fargo.

Burgum has led the effort for downtown preservation in Fargo, but along the way he's encouraged entrepreneurs, mentored students, saved and built exceptional properties and served as a catalyst for new events, ideas and energy in Fargo. He believes that successful communities must have thriving downtowns in order to attract people and businesses.

Jack Penning representing Sixel Consulting, Topeka's air service consultant, will speak about Topeka's new air service at Topeka Regional Airport (FOE) and hold a drawing for a pair of tickets.

Tickets to the event are \$50 per person or \$400 for a table of eight. Gold and Silver Sponsorships are also available. Please register online at www.TopekaChamber.org or return your reply card included in your invitation. After January 3, ticket prices increase to \$75; registration deadline is Monday, January 6.

Chamber Board Approves Legislative Priorities

Maintaining a competitive business incentive package and sustaining the state's transportation infrastructure are key legislative priorities identified by the Chamber's board of directors at their December board meeting.

"The Topeka Chamber believes multiple modes of transportation are critical to a community's quality of life, commerce, health and safety and we thus oppose efforts to eliminate or reduce current transportation funding sources and/or divert funds from the 2010 T-Works Transportation Plan," says Christy Caldwell, Chamber vice president government relations.

The Chamber has also opposed arduous reporting requirements intended to impair public/private partnerships Caldwell says. "We believe chambers of commerce and associations have the right to advocate on behalf of their membership and that such organizations' roles as advocates should be protected and not limited or denied by government.

The full set of Legislative Priorities can be viewed on the Chamber's website at: <http://topekachamber.org/member-services/advocacy/chamber-legislative-priorities>.



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PUNCTUALITY:

Showing esteem for others by doing the right thing at the time

Leadership Greater Topeka Class of 2014



Leadership Greater Topeka

Greater Topeka CHAMBER

Jeff Alderman, Vice President of Sales, Visit Topeka
Chris Brown, Costing/Sourcing Analyst, Payless ShoeSource
Mikki Burcher, Research Associate, GO Topeka
Emily Crockett, Director of Retail Sales & Services-Kansas Market, CoreFirst Bank & Trust;
Guy Cumpton, President, Ozark Pest Control
Sheyvette Dinkens, Founder/President/Executive Director, Women Empowerment
Joe Fazio, Assistant Vice President /Branch Manager Downtown Branches, US Bank
Carleigh Frazier, Student, Washburn Rural High School
Sean Frost, Director of Resource Development, United Way of Greater Topeka
Rodger Fry, General Manager, Ramada Convention Center
Jolene Gochenour, Director of Finance, HF Rubber Machinery
Jessica Goubeaux, Commercial Banking Officer, UMB Bank
Angela Haggard, Chief Financial Officer, Valeo Behavioral Health Care
Jeremy Hall, Foundation Director, Brewster Place
Lee Hendricks, Attorney/Partner, Stumbo Hanson LLP
Sandra Hestand, Community Services Supervisor, Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library
Brenda Holladay, Replenishment Specialist, Hill's Pet Nutrition
Cathy Holmes, Manager, Internal Operations Professional Relations, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas
Amanda Kiefer, Officer, Corporate Counsel, Director of Office of Minority & Women Inclusion, FHL Bank Topeka
Catherine Klein, College & Career Internship Coordinator, Seaman High School
Todd Lutz, Director, Managed Care Services, Stormont Vail HealthCare
Tara Mays, Kansas Transportation Initiative Liaison, Kansas Turnpike Authority
Gena McGivern Hendrickson, Orthodontist, Hamilton & Wilson
Joe Perry, Lieutenant, Property Crimes Commander, Topeka Police Department
John Ratzenberger, Vice President of Development, Sheltered Living
Keith Richards, Owner, Meridan Roofing Solutions
Heath Robinson, Director, Division Operations, Westar Energy
Lance Royer, Captain, Shawnee County Sheriff's Office
Cory Schoffelman, Project Manager, Bartlett & West
Jana Selley, Assistant Vice President, Investment Relationships, Security Benefit
Nick Smith, Student, Hayden High School
Michael Turner, Director of Operations, WIBW Channels
Lonnie Walker, Jr., Marketing Coordinator, Family Service and Guidance Center
Jannett Weins, Constituent Relationship Manager, Harvesters Community Food Network
Alisha White, Student, Highland Park High School
Brian White, Executive Director of HR & Operations, Auburn Washburn School District
Andrew Wiechen, Senior Project Manager/ Designer, Architect One

Note: If you would like to receive the full list in excel spreadsheet format, email msheahan@topekachamber.org



Ambassador Gary Knoll, Berberich Trahan & Company, presented the first dollar of clear profit to the owners of the **Hot & Roll** restaurant in the food court at West Ridge Mall December 5. A group of local investors has brought this franchise to the United States from Malaysia.

The restaurant is an emerging leader of "Wholesome Tasty Treat Baked Food Products" which can be enjoyed anytime, anywhere especially for those who are constantly "On-The-Go." HOT & ROLL's crispy, paratha and chapatti wraps are available in a wide assortment of tasty flavors and cooked before your very eyes at its kiosk.



Joshua Foreman, owner of **Foreman Chiropractic** at 2951 SW Wanamaker Drive Suite A, officially opened his office with ribbon cutting ceremonies December 11. His office opened in September and he

specializes in treating back pain, neck pain, headaches, or pain in the joints. He also offers walk-in appointments.



Shelley Jensen (center), owner of **Shelley Jensen Photography**, celebrated new office and studio space at 909 1/2 S Kansas Avenue December 6.

Shelley specializes in senior pictures, family portraits and event photography.



Mary Holloway, owner of the **Flower Gallery**, cut the ribbon December 13 for her shop located at 2025 SW Urish Road. In addition to flower arrangements, she also sells wedding apparel and gift items.



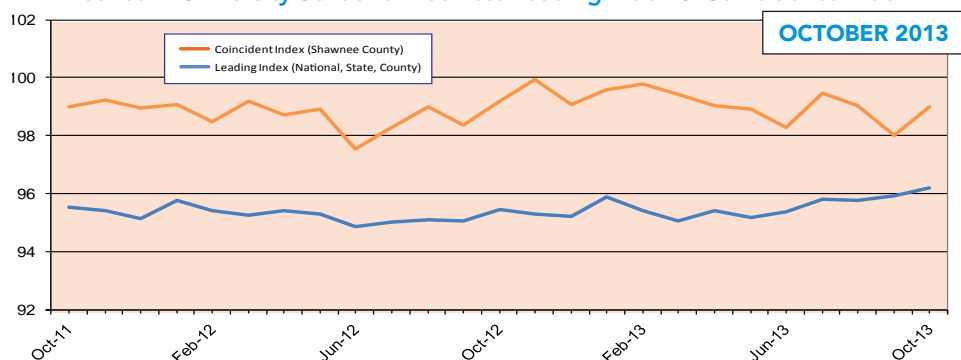
Jim Driggers, The Computer Store, checked out the food buffet at the "Diamonds are Forever" **Business After Hours** event at the **Capitol Plaza Hotel** December 17.



Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins spoke at a Chamber Federal Forum December 18 at the Ramada. Jenkins addressed questions on the budget, health care and the farm bill from the assembled Chamber members and their guests. Jenkins is pictured here at left, along with Coleen Jennison and Annette Middendorf, representing Cox as the event sponsor.

Monthly Economic Indicators for the Topeka Area Economy

Washburn University School of Business Leading Index & Coincidence Index



The Washburn University School of Business Leading Index increased 0.1% in August to a preliminary estimate of 96.2 from 96.1 in July (2005 = 100). The index is a composite of national, state and county indicators whose movements often precede changes in economic growth. The leading index is up 0.8% over the last three months and down 0.6% over the last 6 months.

The Washburn University School of Business Coincident Index, which measures current economic conditions in Shawnee County decreased 0.3% in August to a preliminary estimate of 99.1 from 99.5 in July (2005 = 100). The index is a composite index of county non-farm employment and taxable sales. The coincident index is down 0.7% over the last six months and up 0.1% from August 2012.

Estimated Taxable Sales - Topeka/Shawnee County

August 2013	\$212,998,663
YTD 2013	\$1,654,753,300
August 2012	\$211,674,537
YTD 2012	\$1,664,877,999

Source: Kansas Department of Revenue

UTILITY HOOK-UPS CITY OF TOPEKA

Topeka Water**	November 2013	November 2012
Residential	51,442	50,798
Commercial	4,330	4,127
Total	55,772	54,925

**Includes those within the county who use Topeka water.

Westar Energy*	November 2013	November 2012
Residential	69,217	69,575
Commercial	8,233	8,418
Industrial	51	48
Total	77,501	78,041

*Includes those within the Topeka city limits.

Construction Permit Information City of Topeka

	October 2013	September 2013	YTD 2013	October 2012	YTD 2012
New Single Family Residential Permits	15	5	69	12	80
New Multi-Family Residential Permits	0	0	0	5	10
Value, New Residential Units	\$2,945,000	\$1,320,000	\$14,987,000	\$2,830,000	\$16,514,863
New Commercial Units	0	1	22	3	44
Value, New Commercial Units	0	\$865,000	\$11,997,200	\$3,161,400	\$32,545,520
New Commercial Alterations	3	3	164	38	415
Value, Commercial Alterations	\$3,925,073	\$1,108,669	\$39,911,443	\$3,339,040	\$25,141,980

Construction Permit Information Unincorporated Shawnee County

	October 2013	September 2013	YTD 2013	October 2012	YTD 2012
New Residential Permits	14	8	99	13	91
Value, New Residential Units	\$2,126,411	\$1,565,000	\$18,389,475	\$2,521,428	\$17,092,411
New Commercial Buildings	1	0	2	1	8
Value, New Commercial Buildings	\$350,000	\$0	\$700,000	\$125,000	\$6,300,500
New Commercial Alterations	3	1	11	0	7
Value, Commercial Alterations	\$1,744,000	\$15,000	\$15,393,545	\$0	\$2,686,068

Civilian Labor Force

	October 2013	September 2013	October 2012
Total	118,660	119,145	119,236
Employed	112,158	112,071	112,202
Unemployed	6,502	7,074	7,034
Unemployment Rate	5.50%	5.90%	5.90%

Employment (In Thousands) Non Farm Wage and Salary

	October 2013	September 2013	October 2012
Natural Resources/Construction	5.7	5.6	5.2
Manufacturing	7.3	7.3	7.5
Trade, Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	17.5	17.3	17.6
Information	1.8	1.8	1.6
Finance Activities	6.9	6.9	7.1
Professional & Business Services	12.3	12.1	11.3
Education & Health Services	17.6	17.6	17.6
Leisure & Hospitality	9.2	9.0	9.3
Other Services	5	5	4.9
Government	26.4	26.2	25.7
Total	109.7	108.8	107.8

*These numbers reflect the five-county MSA. Comparing these figures with 2004 and prior years is not advisable.

ACCRA Cost of Living Data

Selected Cities	2013 Third Quarter
Kansas City, KS/MO	98.0
Little Rock, AR	97.6
Topeka, KS	95.1
Manhattan, KS	94.1
Des Moines, IA	90.2
Oklahoma City, OK	90.1
Springfield, MO	88.6
Tulsa, OK	88.4
Omaha, NE	87.4

Topeka participates in the ACCRA Cost of Living Index study which measures differences between areas in the cost of consumer goods and services, excluding taxes and non-consumer expenditures, for professional and managerial households in the top income quintile.

Local Company Expands Manufacturing Operations

HF Rubber Machinery, 1701 NW Topeka Boulevard, celebrated completion of a new assembly hall and warehouse building December 3. The company built an 18,000-square-foot addition to its manufacturing and warehouse operations.

HF Rubber Machinery makes mixing machines used to make rubber products in a variety of industries, including Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company. The company has been in Topeka for 50 years.

A Connecticut facility run by HF's parent company, HF Mixing Group, moved from making both rubber and plastic mixers to focusing only on plastic, so the company decided it would be more efficient to put all of its North American rubber operations in Topeka. Paul White, site director for HF Rubber Machinery, says the \$2.5 million addition would increase the Topeka facility's revenue by 40 percent, and that it would create four or five new jobs.

Right, **Paul White**, site director for HF Rubber Machinery, and **Mark Meulbroek**, managing director of HF Rubber in Germany, cut the ribbon marking the completion of the expansion at the HF Rubber Machinery facility in North Topeka. The machinery pictured is an example of the equipment built by HF Rubber Machinery in Topeka.

THINKING OF ADDING EMPLOYEES OR EXPANDING YOUR FACILITY?

There may be assistance available to you in the form of tax incentives and small business or employee on-the-job training programs! Call GO Topeka at YOUR Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce for more details – 785.234.2644.

Scott Smathers
Vice President
Economic Development

Jo Feldmann
Vice President
Existing Business

Glenda Washington
Vice President
Entrepreneurial Minority Business Development



HF Rubber Machinery



TOPEKA'S HOLIDAY LIGHT TOUR

Ray and Debra Gates, 7100 SW Cannock Chase, won the Grand Award for the **2013 Holiday Lights Contest**. The Chamber's Ambassadors partnered with Santa's Little Helpers, WIBW AM/FM and the Topeka Capital Journal to promote the Topeka Holiday Light Contest which drew more than 20 entries.



There's a new community for Topeka and Shawnee county entrepreneurs and small business owners: **Topeka Entrepreneur**. Join us online so you never miss out on news, advice and conversation.



Facebook: Topeka Entrepreneurs
Twitter: @TopekaEntprmr
LinkedIn: Topeka Entrepreneurs

Kyle Wiley Pickett, along with his family, recently relocated to Topeka to begin as the Music Director & Conductor at the Topeka Symphony Orchestra.

What tricks do you have riding your coat tails for next year's season?

I can't reveal everything right now - we're still in the planning stages - but we have some exciting projects in the works. I'm working on a multi-media production involving kids taking pictures of Topeka and weaving them into a film that the symphony will accompany. That will pair with Dave Brubeck's Ansel Adams: America, which is a piece that accompanies a film of Ansel Adams's photographs. I'm also exploring ways to get the symphony out of the concert hall and in front of some different groups of people. I call it "Symphony in Unexpected Places." We're hoping to partner with NOTO, and I'm also looking to partner the symphony with local theater performers.

What is something interesting about the Topeka Symphony Orchestra that we probably don't know?

The Topeka Symphony is a significant member of our arts community and is a substantial contributor to the local economy. It costs approximately \$50,000 to present one concert. The TSO paid \$12,543 in state and local sales tax in 2013 and booked 62 room nights in local hotels. We also support a youth ensemble program which provides 160 young musicians with educational and performance opportunities. They present two concerts per season. The TSO also presents school day concerts free of charge to 4,000 area students each year.

Can you tell us more about the orchestra members...who are they and where do they come from?

The Topeka Symphony was organized sixty-eight years ago as an all-volunteer local orchestra comprised of town folk and students. Over the years it has grown to become a semi-professional, per service orchestra of more than 80 dedicated musicians, many of whom have played with the TSO for 20 years or more. There have only been four conductors in the history of the TSO. Two thirds of the musicians are from outside Topeka and eleven of them were born in countries other than the United States. There are 20 students in the orchestra and 29 of the musicians are music educators in Topeka and surrounding communities in northeast Kansas. The music director/conductor search last season attracted 125 applicants, with over two dozen applications coming from persons outside the United States.

TOPEKA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

What would you tell someone that has never been to a Symphony concert to recruit them?

That I'm not about "stuffy symphony." There really aren't rules and regulations that I'm worried about anyone breaking at a concert. People say they aren't sure when to clap, what to wear, or if they'll know the music they hear. First off, the idea that you weren't supposed to clap between movements of a symphony is only about 100 years old. In Beethoven's lifetime, the audience applauded, cheered, or even sometimes booed after every movement, and the orchestra might have even played a movement again before going on. Symphonic concerts used to be like rock concerts--wild, uninhibited, and raucous, and I have no problem with bringing a little of that life back to the modern symphony hall. Clap and cheer and walk out whistling and dancing--it's all good. I've been conducting in Juneau, Alaska, for the last 12 years and I've seen people in evening gowns sitting next to people in Carhartt's, and I think that's great. The symphony experience is whatever you want it to be for your own night out. Finally, I think people have this idea that they might not know symphonic music, but the thing is, symphonic music is woven into almost every aspect of our lives. Think about the Olympics theme. Think about movie soundtracks. Think about television commercials. We actually hear classical music all the time, and it's not this sound that is removed from our everyday lives at all. I think most people would be surprised how familiar they are with the music of the symphony. The symphony is a fun night out, a chance to experience something bigger than your daily routine and a ritual that has been part of communities for hundreds of years.

What is your favorite part about Topeka so far?

There's no question - my favorite part of Topeka has to be the people. I have met so many wonderful, warm, welcoming people. I feel like I have been adopted as a Topekan already. I also love the pride that Topekans take in their community and its resources - its arts, Washburn, its cultural heritage and history. People here seem ready to support each other in their artistic endeavors and to see their community reach new heights and expand their experiences.

2013-14

The Topeka Symphony's 68th Season

Kyle Wiley Pickett's inaugural season with the TSO!



Topeka Symphony Orchestra

PO Box 2206, Topeka, KS 66601-2206
785-232-2032 | Fax: 785-232-6204
TSO@TopekaSymphony.org

Would you like to tell your Chamber colleagues about your expansions, new locations, awards and honors, or new products and services? Sorry, personnel changes or announcements are not included. Notation information and your logo should be e-mailed to Marsha Sheahan at msheahan@TopekaChamber.org.



**Topeka
Community
Foundation**

More than 30 non-profit organizations received 2013 grants from the **Topeka Community Foundation**

December 3. "The Topeka Community Foundation granted more than \$1.6 million to Topeka area non-profits in 2013," said Roger Viola, president. "Grants range from hundreds of dollars to tens of thousands of dollars and are awarded to charitable groups as diverse as social service agencies to arts organizations."



Dillon Stores has announced an expansion and renovation plans for their location at 2010 SE 29th Street. Construction on the expansion and remodel will begin in early 2014, and is expected to be complete late in 2014. The announcement marks another multi-million dollar investment for the company in Kansas. This investment can be attributed to Dillons' steadfast commitment to Topeka, providing convenient shopping experiences for its customers. Details of the renovation to the store on SE 29th include a 21,600 square foot expansion, bringing the total space to just over 78,500 square feet, overall.

Stormont-Vail Health Care

The **Stormont-Vail Foundation** has been awarded a \$25,000 grant through the Kansas Health Foundation's

Recognition Grants program. This money will help support the Care Line Family Services program, which provides emergency assistance to patients and their families. "We are grateful for the Kansas Health Foundation's support of the Care Line," said Jane Mackey, president and executive director of the Stormont-Vail Foundation. "Through this grant, the Foundation will continue to play a pivotal role in sustaining the program's Family Services assistance, which helps parents and caregivers continue to support their children while they are hospitalized or receiving medical care."

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30 Years Experience

Please join the Chamber staff in welcoming these firms and organizations to Chamber membership and support them by buying from your Chamber colleagues! The following members joined or reinvested in November 2013 and were approved for membership at the December 2013 Board of Directors meeting.

New Members

Appelhanz Roofing, Inc.

Roofing contractor
James Weckerling
Matt Appelhanz, President
7521 NW Nickell Road
Topeka, KS 66618
785.246.0006
Sold by: Nathan Morris, Meridian Roofing Solutions

Century Group

Business payment acceptance consultants
Dean Huey, President
3612 SW Blue Inn Road
Topeka, KS 66614
785.231.7200
Sold by: Ed Carmona, EC Enterprises

Easy Own Auto

Auto sales, leasing and repair
Dave Woodward
315 SW 32nd Terrace
Topeka, KS 66611
785.266.0208
Sold by: Rise Quinn, Chamber staff

It Works!

Health & wellness
Brandi Simmons, Owner/CEO
785.554.7760
Sold by: Ed Carmona, EC Enterprises

Patti Shafer - Shelter Insurance

Insurance
Patti Shafer, Agent/Owner
3620 SW Fairlawn Road
Topeka, KS 66610
785.272.9600
Sold by: Rise Quinn, Chamber staff

Topeka Youth Project

Youth development agency
3710 SW Munson Avenue
Topeka, KS 66604
785.845.3820
Sold by: Selena McNaull, Chamber staff

Reinvestments

A-1 Lock and Key, LLC
Absolute Design by Brenda
Allegiant Technology
ALLSIGNS
Alorica, Inc.
American Home Life Insurance
Ameriprise Financial
Aquarian Design
Atria Hearthstone
Black Gold, Inc.
Briman's Leading Jewelers, Inc.
Bryan University
Canon Solutions America, Inc.
Capitol Concrete Products Co.
Century Business Technologies
Chez Yasu
CoreFirst Bank & Trust
Corporate Plan Management, Inc.
Whitney B. Damron, PA
Del Monte Pet Products
Duffens Optical Co.
The Eldridge
Event Management Solutions LLC
Fairlawn Plaza Shopping Center
FHLBank Topeka
Finney & Turnipseed, Tr & CE, LLC
First American Title
Graham Restaurant Group LLC dba Goodcents
Deli Fresh Subs
Goodell, Stratton, Edmonds & Palmer LLP
The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
Harden Hospice Kansas
Larry Hesse Financial Services
Hobart Transportation Co Inc dba Hertz
Home Depot Distribution Center
Houck Transit Advertising
Terry Humphrey Public Affairs Group
Brian Ismert - Northwestern Mutual
Kansas Association of Insurance Agents
Kansas Motor Carriers Association
The Kansas Rehabilitation Hospital
Kern Group Inc.
Drs. Kohake, Deutscher & Hefner PA
Legend at Capital Ridge
Maximus Fitness & Wellness/Woodvalley
Racquet & Fitness Center
Midwest Housing Equity Group-Kansas Operations
Penny Morgan Financial Service
Morris, Laing, Evans, Brock & Kennedy, Chartered
Myers and Stauffer LC
North Topeka Business Alliance
On The Border
PC 911 of Kansas
Peoples Benefit Group
Photo-1 Inc.
Porterfield's
Residence Inn by Marriott
Salisbury Supply Co., Inc.
Sam's Club
Schwerdt Design Group, Inc.
Scotch Fabric Care Services
Security Benefit
ServiceFirst @ Anderson Peck Agency

Sharp Cars Inc - Sharp Honda
Sovanski Photography
Staples
Stevenson Company Inc.
Ed Swift
Swims & Sweeps
Topeka Area Association of REALTORS Inc.
Topeka Community Concert Association
Topeka Youth Project, Inc.
U.S. Bank
UMB
Umbrella
Wal Mart Store #5441
Waste Management of Topeka
Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC
Wendy's Restaurants (Legacy Restaurant Group)
Wolfe Cameras, Camcorders & Computers
Yantra Services
Youth Entrepreneurs

Welcome to New Assignees During November 2013

Karen Befort-Simpson
CenterPoint Energy Services, Inc.

Jerome Gutierrez
Dynamic Computer Solutions

Justin Jacquinot
Security Benefit

James Jefferies
Fidelity State Bank & Trust

Missy Lackey
U.S. Bank

Emily Marquart
Security Benefit

Treana Mason
Advanced Insurance Company

Tabitha Miner
U.S. Bank

Justino Moreno
U.S. Bank

Nick Neukirch
Peoples Benefit Group

Shawn Steinkamp
North Topeka Business Alliance

Sherri Stephens
Visiting Nurses

Shana Stitt
Schendel Pest Services

Barry Ward
Security Benefit

Register online @ www.TopekaChamber.org

You are encouraged to make reservations and pay for these events on the Chamber's Website at www.TopekaChamber.org. (See "Register Now" in the center of the home page.)

- ☐ **Chamber Annual Meeting**
Monday, January 13, 2014
11:30 a.m. seating
Noon-1:30 p.m. Luncheon & Program
Ramada Downtown, Regency Ballroom
420 SE Sixth Avenue
- ☐ **Fast Forward Networking Social**
Thursday, January 23, 2014
5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Topeka Collegiate
2200 SW Eveningside Drive
- ☐ **Fast Forward Ignite**
Wednesday, January 29, 2014
"Researching Your Family Tree"
5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.,
Topeka and Shawnee County
Public Library
1515 SW Tenth Avenue
- ☐ **Business After Hours**
Tuesday, February 18, 2014
5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.,
location to be announced
- ☐ **Fast Forward InsidersOUT**
Tuesday, February 22, 2014
6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.,
Uncle Bo's Blues Bar
420 SE Sixth Avenue
- ☐ **Fast Forward Networking Social**
Thursday, February 25, 2014
5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Advisors Excel
2950 SW McClure Road

Other Important Dates

January

- 1 Chamber Office Closed in Observance of New Year's
- 3 Ambassadors, Noon-1:00 p.m., CBR
- 3 GO Topeka Board, 7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m., CBR
- 9 Fast Forward Steering Committee, 3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Meridian Roofing Solutions, 1275 SW Topeka Boulevard
- 13 2014 Legislative Session Begins
- 14 Diplomats, Noon-1:00 p.m., CBR
- 16 Business After Hours committee, 4:00 p.m., Buffalo Wild Wings, 1227 SW Wanamaker Road
- 17 Chamber Board, 7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m., CBR
- 20 Chamber Office Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Day
- 21 Leadership Greater Topeka Participant Orientation, 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Topeka Civic Theatre & Academy, 3028 SW Eighth Avenue
- 22 Fast Forward Inspire Dinner Service, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., Topeka Rescue Mission, 600 N Kansas Avenue
- 27 Diplomats, Noon-1:00 p.m., CBR
- 30-31 Leadership Greater Topeka Retreat, Reynolds Lodge, Lake Shawnee

February

- 6 Fast Forward Steering Committee, 3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Location TBA
- 7 Ambassadors, Noon-1:00 p.m., CBR
- 7 GO Topeka Board, 7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m., CBR
- 10 Diplomats, Noon-1:00 p.m., CBR
- 12 Power Breakfast Committee, 7:30-8:30 a.m., ECR
- 14 Leadership Greater Topeka Session #1
- 21 Chamber Board, 7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m., CBR
- 24 Diplomats, Noon-1:00 p.m., CBR
- 26 Fast Forward Inspire Dinner Service, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., Topeka Rescue Mission, 600 N Kansas Avenue
- 28 Leadership Greater Topeka Session #2

CBR: Chamber Board Room, 2nd floor ECR: Executive Conference Room 1st floor

Register at
www.TopekaChamber.org

If mailing or faxing please check each event you would like to register for and fill in your information below.

Name _____

Firm _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

☐ Check enclosed ☐ Please invoice me
☐ Bill my credit card: Visa / MasterCard / Discover / Amer. Express (CID# _____)

Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce • 120 SE Sixth Avenue, Suite 110, Topeka, KS 66603-3515 • 785.234.2644 • fax 785.234.8656



PIE
&
POLITICS

A Program of the Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce

**BE WATCHING FOR
THE 2014 DATES!**

Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce
120 SE Sixth Avenue, Suite 110
Topeka, Kansas 66603-3515
Periodical postage paid at Topeka, Kansas



Topeka Business

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Interesting Tidbits

1/3

Kansas is ranked 4th for volunteerism by the Corporation for National and Community Service. Topekans averaged 37.1 hours of volunteer time, placing us in the top third for volunteer hours per resident in mid-size cities!

UNITED  **we are!**

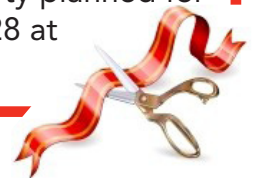
**United Airlines Service
begins at Topeka Regional
Airport January 7.**

Topeka Regional
Airport Code: FOE



Celebrate!

The ribbon cutting for the Kansas Statehouse renovations is January 2, with a party planned for January 28 at noon.



Kansas Day commemorates the admission of the state as the 34th in the Union on January 29, 1861.

**ARE YOU GETTING
THE CHAMBER ENEWS?**

If you're not getting eNews on Friday mornings, call Adrienne at the Chamber and make sure she has your correct email, 785.234.2644.

GET CONNECTED

www.TopekaChamber.org

