



JUNCTION CITY  
GEARY COUNTY  
K A N S A S | ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
COMMISSION

*America's Business Center*

# Economic Development's *Grow JC*

## Kansas Military Workforce Summit

The Kansas Department of Commerce, in partnership with the Junction City Area Chamber of Commerce and Kansas' military installations, will host the Kansas Military Workforce Summit on Friday, May 19th at 9:00 a.m. Registration will start at 8:30 a.m. and the event will end after a networking reception that begins at 5:15 p.m. The summit will take place at the Geary County Convention Center located at 310 Hammons Drive, Junction City, KS 66441.

Brigadier General Pat Frank, Fort Riley Acting Senior Commander and Secretary Antonio Soave will address the summit attendees. Various panelists will include community members, business-owners, service-members, military spouses and military support specialists.

The summit will serve to address various topics surrounding a service members' transition to civilian life and will allow transitioning soldiers, business-owners, and community members the opportunity to network with one another.

Sponsors for this event include the Kansas Department of Commerce, Junction City Area Chamber of Commerce, Geary County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Junction City First, Kaw Valley Engineering, Bayer Construction, Central National Bank, Del Motors, and Briggs Auto Plaza, Weary Law Firm, USO-Fort Riley, and Coryell Insurors.

## Site Factors

In an effort to look at site selection factors and economic development trends, this section of the Grow JC will be dedicated to these issues. Lets start with the Corporate Rankings for site selection factors.

The Top Ten Factors from the Corporate Survey from Area Development Q12017 magazine are as follows..

1. Highway Accessibility
2. Availability of Skilled Labor
3. Labor Costs
4. Occupancy or Construction costs
5. State and Local Incentives
6. Corporate tax rates
7. Tax exemptions
8. Energy availability and costs
9. Proximity to major markets
10. Quality of Life

There have been quite a few shifts in the numbers from a year ago. In the next newsletter we will examine these changes more and look at the difference from Corporate Rankings to Site Consultant Ranking. Lots to learn from the trends and professionals.

## *Hot Jobs in Junction City!*

- ◆ Bayer Construction currently has an opening for a CDL driver. Drivers operate tandem axel/end dump truck-trailer to pick up and deliver materials to construction job sites. Contact Stan Hambright HR Manager 785-776-8839 or stanh@bayerconst.com.
- ◆ Kaw Valley Engineering has an opening for a Civil Design Engineer/Project Manager- Responsible for project mgmt., client invoicing, review agency correspondence, utility coordination, permit acquisition, civil design, plan preparation, client satisfaction, and client base development. Must have experience in residential and commercial site development with experience in transportation a plus. Kansas P.e. license is required with 10+ years experience. Contact Shantelle Means, Recruiter with Kaw Valley Engineering, Inc., 785-762-5040 or recruiter@kveng.com.

# Economic Development and Tourism Go Together

Tourism and Economic Development are great partners by the definition we use such as an event or tourist attraction that generates income from outside sources for our community.

Most people think about Economic Development in terms of corporate expansion or relocation. The partnerships that the Convention and Visitors Bureau has played a crucial role in the long term economic strength in our community.

Community events, parks, lakes, and natural settings all add to the attractiveness of a locale and its ability to see itself to outside investors. Tourism is creating jobs and helping our community attract new business and new residents.

Economic Development, Tourism, and Quality of Life issues are at the core of growth for our community.

## Editorial

So... thank you Junction City/Geary County for such a warm welcome to the area. I am excited to say that since the day I walked into the new office it has been a whirlwind! Meeting community leaders, business owners, learning what an honor it is to work with our military neighbors and more.

I said when I first arrived that Junction City/Geary County had a wealth of opportunities and with the first quarter under my belt I still believe that. Assets such as I-70, rail connections, available land for development, well educated retiring or transitioning military personnel, the spouses of those military as well, educational resources in our region, and an area that is unique and beautiful to work in to name a few.

During this first quarter I interviewed over 40 community and regional leaders about Junction City/Geary County obtaining lots of good information. There are some definite patterns emerging from these discussions. I am currently working on putting this wealth of information into a report to share with our leadership. One thing I can say for sure after my first quarter here, we have challenges ahead of us but at the same time tremendous opportunities to capitalize on, and I for one am excited to be here and part of the TEAM!

Yours,



## Junction City 1st Update

The leadership of Junction City 1st has really been active this first quarter of 2017. In January they held their annual meeting and it was then they voted on board representation.

Leon Osbourn; Chair  
Matt Junghans; Vice Chair  
Alan Bontrager; Secretary  
Cecil Aska; Treasurer  
Sue Kollhoff  
Mark Stenstrom  
David Walker

They also announced their support for the Children's Mercy project to the tune of \$100,000; \$50,000 for 2017 and 2018. This obviously is a very worthwhile project for Junction city and the Region.

The Board is also supporting the Kansas Military Workforce Summit by hosting the reception on the night of the event Friday, May 19th from 5:15-6:30 p.m.

The board has voted to support the EDC Director in efforts to attend events this year for recruiting new potential business to Junction City/Geary County. It is the mission of JC 1st to support projects and opportunities for economic growth.

Those businesses and individuals who pledged to support this initiative of JC 1st are greatly appreciated.

For more information contact:

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