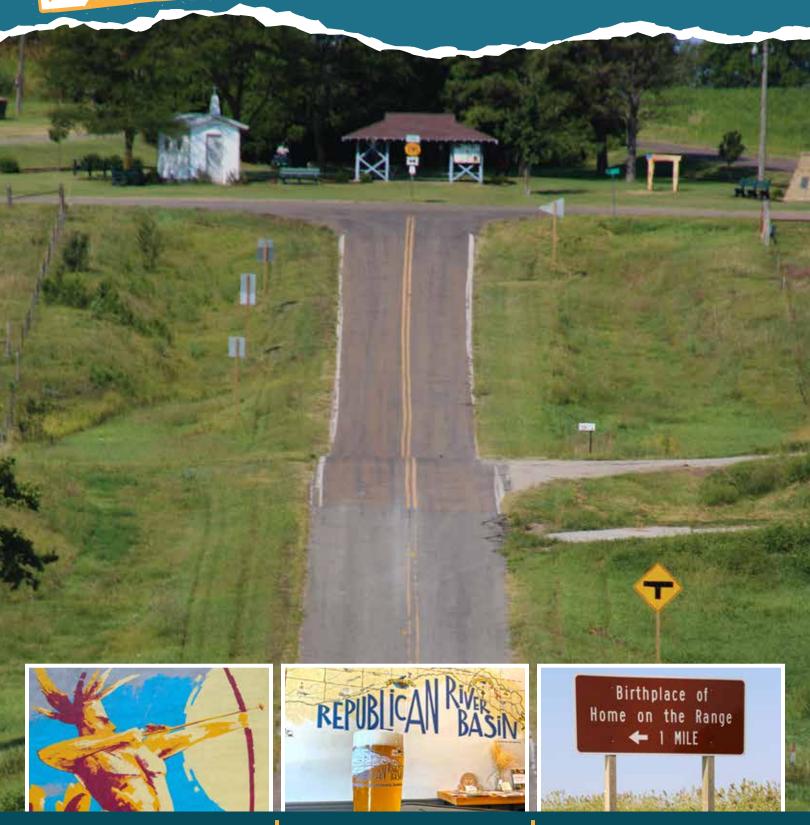


May 4-7, 2023 BIGKANSASROADTRIP.COM



JEWELL REPUBLIC

SMITH



Pioneers originally went west for better opportunities to satisfy a longing spirit. Now Northwest and North Central Kansas are giving people the freedom to pave their own path and develop their own definition of success. Pioneers just as much today as our ancestors were then. Professionals area-wide will be needed to help maintain and grow our region. Doctors, lawyers, dentists, and construction trades are just some of the positions that hold huge opportunities within the Innovation Center territory.

Have you enjoyed your Big Kansas Roadtrip experience? Join us permanently in this part of Kansas!

See open positions at ConnectNWK.org.

Work Remotely with **RuralandRemote.org**.



Big Kansas Road Trip

Information Centers

INFORMATION CENTERS are located in all three counties at the following locations.

Here is where you'll find the program, updated Day Schedule and other BKRT and community information. These are also good locations to leave donations of toilet paper and paper towels you have purchased locally.



Mankato City Library

214 N. High, Mankato
Thursday 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 2-6 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 2-6 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m.-1 p.m.



Belleville Public Library

1327 19th St., Belleville Thursday 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Friday 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Sheetz and Suds

1318 19th St., Belleville Open Daily, 24-Hours

Depot Market

1101 30 Rd., Courtland Thursday 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Friday 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Sunday 1-5 p.m.

Scandia Public Library

318 4th St., Scandia Thursday 2-5 p.m. Friday 2-5 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Kensington Public Library

203 Jackson St., Kensington Thursday 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Smith Center Public Library

117 West Ct., Smith Center
Thursday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Kiwanis at Collier Park

Kansas and Main St., Smith Center Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



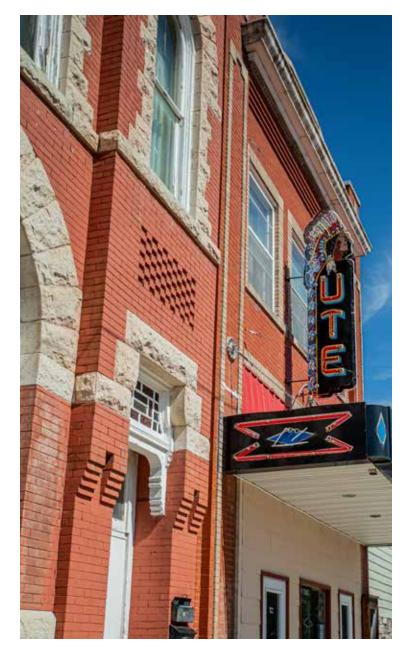
Look for the signs!

Participating BKRT venues will be designated with signage.

Find Us On Social Media

BKRT2023















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The 2023 Big Kansas Road Trip Guide was produced by JenRus Freelance, in Courtland, Kansas, in collaboration with the Kansas Sampler Foundation (KSF). Photos have been provided courtesy of KSF and JenRus Freelance. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the content published in this guide. However, we assume no responsibility or liability for errors or omissions in this guide. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

May 4-7, 2023





Come roller skate on a wooden floor in a Quonset Hut in Formoso (Jewell County), walk on the angle of a dirt race track in Belleville (Republic County), and stand beside a Statue of Liberty

replica to see a beautiful view of the river valley below between Gaylord and Harlan (Smith County).

You can hear about these things or see them in a brochure, but it can't compare to being there in person. On this road trip, you can stand at the very location where Dr. Brewster Higlev wrote the words that became our state song You can hear about these things or see them in a brochure, but it can't compare to being there in person.

and you'll see why his choice of words make sense. You can stand on the banks of a canal of the most unique surface irrigation system in the state. And you can stand inches away from tusks of a Columbian Mammoth found in the area.

The Big Kansas Road Trip (BKRT) is about being there.

It's about the smells, sounds and customs of these three counties. Attend a livestock sale in Mankato, rock in the Cuba Rock-a-thon rockers, and eat Pie on the Porch in Smith Center and Burr Oak. You'll encounter musicians. you can visit farms and garden centers, and you can sit down at restaurants that range from the 1950s Jiffy Burger (Smith Center) to the creative menu at Adri's (Courtland). The BKRT is about the full effect, all five senses in action.

Kansas Sampler Foundation director Marci Penner said, "We've asked these three counties to just be themselves. In some cases, they've added scheduled activities as they enthusiastically want to share their community story with you."

Penner continued, "The shopping options give you an opportunity to make a real economic impact on local businesses and to understand what it takes to live and work in a rural community."

Though the Inman-based Kansas Sampler Foundation facilitates the organizes the BKRT each year, it's local leadership that does the work in the counties. Led by Kyra Lampe and Jason Ortman in Jewell County; Jenny Russell and Josey Hammer in Republic County; and Dana Peterson, Denise Marcum, Joan Nech, and Edith McClain in Smith County, many, many people are involved in the process.

Three counties. Four days. Hundreds of people. All seeing north central Kansas with new eyes.



Why North Central Kansas?

One of the most fun things about the Big Kansas Road Trip is that it helps lead people to places they've never been in the state. The Smoky Hill region in north central Kansas is home to monuments and attractions that few Kansans have seen, including a Thomas Edison memorial in Mankato (Jewell County), a vintage hair care display in Scandia (Republic County), and a weather station in Athol (Smith County). After starting in Barber, Comanche and Kiowa counties, the BKRT has encouraged explorers to travel to the most northwestern, the most northeastern and the most southeastern counties in Kansas. For the fifth BKRT, we are in the middle - not just the midpoint of the state, but the middle of the country. In fact, the center of the 48 contiguous states is here (Smith County). This area is home to one state park and reservoir, Lovewell; one state historic site, Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site; 21 incorporated cities with only two above 1,500 population and 11 of them under 100; surface irrigation ingenuity, the Home on the Range Cabin, a Dutch Mill replica; one microbrewery--and you can get kolaches everywhere. You can visit Norway, Cuba, and Lebanon in the same day. What more could an Explorer ask for?

cad trip

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Caravan with friends or head out on your own. There will be some activities to help you get to know the rural culture of the area but be more spontaneous if you'd like. Part of the fun is acknowledging other people on the adventure, so buy a BKRT flag or put some kind of sign on your car so you can be identified.

Select the activities that you want to attend from a menu of choices. Find these schedules in this guide or pick up the program at information centers in the three county seats. Listings in this guide are condensed for space considerations.

You can find more specific and detailed information on the bigkansasroadtrip.com website or the Big Kansas Road Trip Facebook page.

BKRT yard signs will be in front of participating entities and will indicate where to turn when out in the country.

Make your own adventure. Take the scenic backroads, visit cemeteries, and enjoy the journey!

Practice Patience & Kindness

When you have an open house you seldom know how many people will show up: dozens, hundreds, or thousands? What will the weather be like? Will there be enough bathrooms? How much food should a restaurant fix? How much staff should be scheduled? The public should know there won't be cell phone coverage everywhere and that some people will get lost. The unknown for both locals and visitors creates an opportunity for extending patience and kindness, helping each other, and making the variables part of the grand experience.

Help make the story a good one!

DO YOUR OWN THING

Maybe you want to see murals or eat pie in every county. Perhaps your quest is to walk a block in every city, buy \$18.61 worth of something in every county, or take a selfie with a local in every town. Whatever it is, do your thing!



#BKRT2023



Is this an event for kids?

You bet it is! They can roller skate, bowl, kayak, ride a bike, or hop on a hayrack. They can try on firefighter gear or stick their toes in Lovewell State Lake. They can see a display of Columbian Mammoth tusks, step inside old jails, explore courthouses, check out museums or walk on a dirt race track. Playgrounds abound. They can make Dala Horse-shaped cookies or design necklaces out of Kansas clay. There is Explorer BKRT Auto Bingo (see form in guide), a Mammoth Scavenger Hunt, or a Buffalo Hunt! Kids can touch, taste, see and run around on a trip that will nurture a love for Kansas and build the next generation of Kansas explorers! Yes, this is a wonderful family outing!





THINGS TO THINK ABOUT



Bring lawn chairs



Gas up wherever you can. Not every town has gas pumps.



Restaraunts will serve until the food is gone.



If it's been raining, stay off dirt or gravel roads.



It's a courtesy to bring rolls of toilet paper and offer them to businesses that are opening their restrooms.

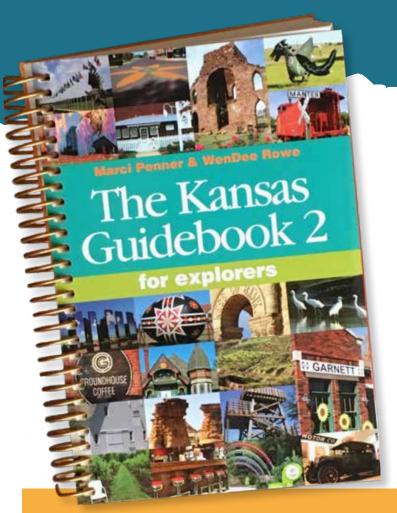


When you post, use #BKRT2023.



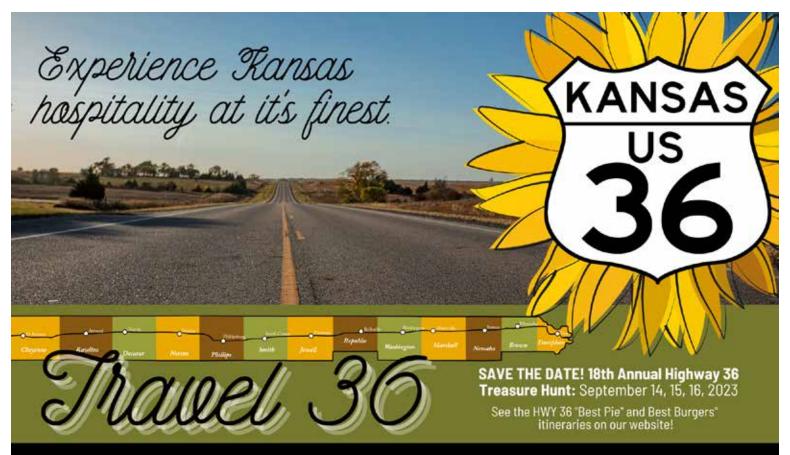
Co-authors Marci Penner and WenDee Rowe went to every one of the 627 incorporated cities in Kansas to research for the 480-page coil-bound guidebook. The 4,500 entries in the book come from 500 of those cities and 97 unincorporated spots on the map. Compiled into six regional sections, the entries include addresses, hours, websites, and descriptions. More than 1,600 pictures bring color to a statewide array of things to see and do. The book is a project of the Kansas Sampler Foundation and can be found in more than 200 locally-owned stores. Look for the list and/or buy online at kansassampler.org.

Let the guidebook help direct you around to the main attractions in all three BKRT counties. Make sure to go to the **bigkansasroadtrip.com** site to find places that have opened since the guidebook was published.

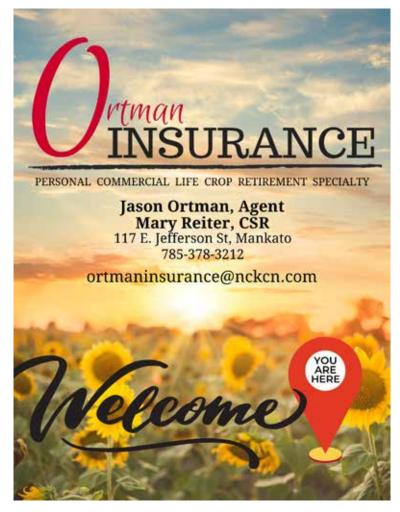


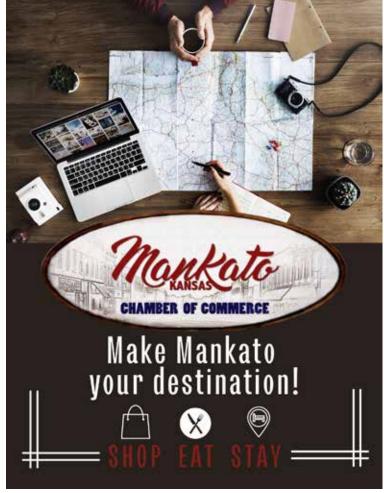
LODGING & RESTAURANTS

To find a list of lodging and restaurants in the three counties, please go to bigkansasroadtrip.com



Visit our website at www.ushwy36.com





BKRT EXPLORER AUTO BINGO

How about adding a little adventure to your road trip? Cross off the squares below as you complete them. If we ask a question, write the answer in the square. When you've completed all you can, send your form to Kansas Sampler Foundation, 978 Arapaho Road, Inman, KS 67456 or scan and email to marci@kansassampler.org by June 1, 2023. Even better, deliver your form in person at the Kansas Explorers Club meeting!

We'll draw a winner and send you a prize!

Find the roller rink in Formoso	Locate the bas relief corn stock on the Jewell County Courthouse	See the large pictures in front of tanks, a mile south of Courtland	Check out conditions at the weather station in Athol	Read the plaque at the steps of the Old Dutch Mill in Smith Center
Take a few steps on the Lake Emerson Trail in Jewell	Find the soda fountain in Agenda	Take a selfie in front of the Norway sign	Find the vintage hair curlers in the StyleAire collection in Scandia beauty shop	Spot the Lustron houses in Smith Center
Find the Thomas Edison plaque in Mankato	Step inside the chapel at the Center of the 48 States near Lebanon	FREE	Cross over one of the irrigation canals in either Jewell or Republic County	See the painting in the Munden post office
See the Columbian Mammoth Tusk at the museum in Mankato	Walk on the High Banks dirt race track in Belleville	Buy something in the Kensington Community (grocery) Store	Walk around the Statue of Liberty in Smith County	See the excavated floor in the Pawnee Indian State Historic Site
Take White Rock Creek Scenic Back Road to Lovewell Lake	Rock on a rocker in Cuba	Walk across the covered bridge in southern Republic Co.	Find a favorite vehicle-and- farm parts sunflower in Burr Oak	Sing Home on the Range at the Brewster Higley cabin

Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	

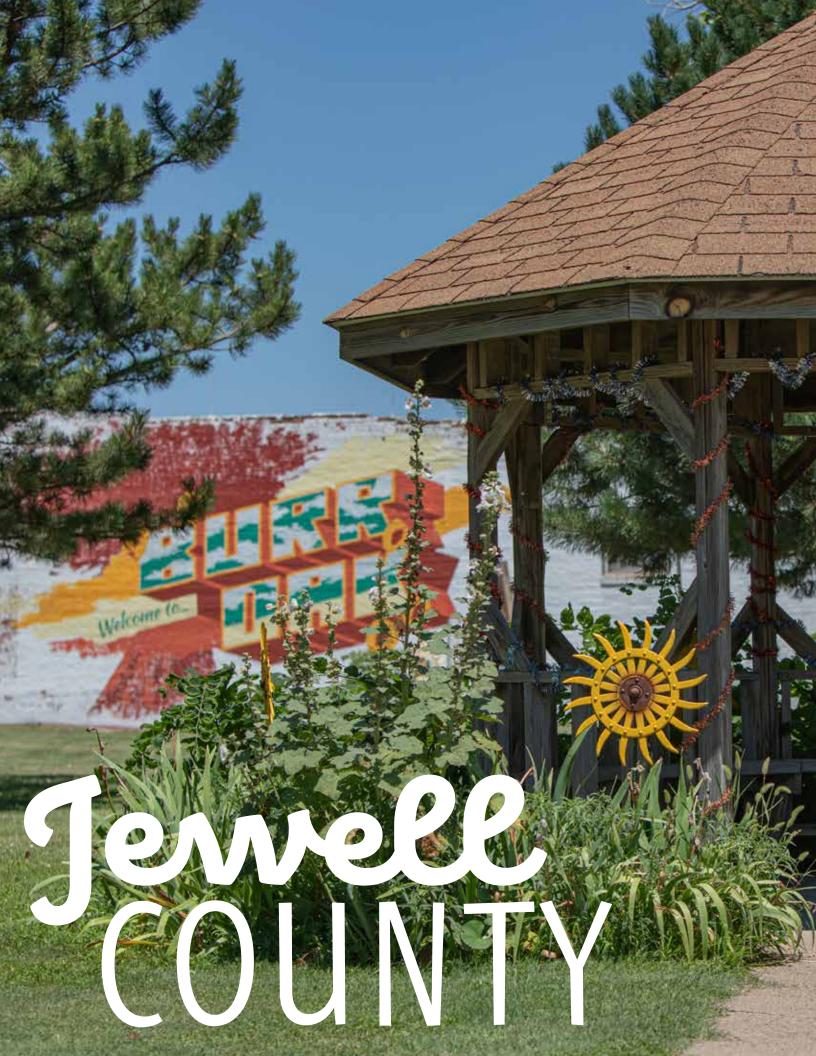
Get social while you're road trippin'. Show us all the fun you're having and great places you've explored!

#BKRT23 **(1) (0)**





Email:









Jewell County, established in 1887 and named for Lt. Colonel Lewis Jewell of the 6th Regiment Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, is home to house contests (who could build the best house in the early 1900s), an art deco courthouse built in part by the WPA (Works Projects Administration), excavated mammoth tusks, and some of the best ice cream around! The canals you see are evidence of the fascinating Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District Canal and Lateral system, incorporated in 1948 to deliver water to farmers. Lovewell Reservoir, completed in 1957, sits in the valley of White Rock Creek.

Here is a sampling of things to see and do in Jewell County as listed in the *Kansas Guidebook 2 for Explorers*:



Formoso, population 92: White Rock Creek Scenic Back Road, 1909 Formoso School plaque.

Jewell, population 365: Fort Jewell marker, robbery alarm, Lake Emerson and walking trail.

Mankato, population 848: Jewell County Courthouse, downtown businesses, 1899 limestone jail, 1915 YMCA building; Jewell County Museum; Sweden Crème; Buffalo Roam Steak House; Bob's Inn; Ute Theater; Mankato Livestock Sale barn, Thomas Edison memorial.

Webber, population 27: Frank Herrmann Park.

Other communities are: Esbon, population 68; Ionia, unincorporated; Randall, population 80.





The most eastern county on the BKRT, Republic County was named for the Republican River, which flows through the county. In the early 1800s a Pawnee village comprised of 40 earth lodges and 2,000 inhabitants occupied an area in the northern part of the county. The floor of the largest lodge has been excavated and can be seen inside the Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site. Attractions range from midget auto racing artifacts in Belleville to Jim Richardson's 1970's black-and-white photos of life in Cuba, some of which have been featured in National Geographic and on CBS Sunday Morning.

Here is a sampling of things to see and do in Republic County as listed in *Kansas Guidebook 2 for Explorers*.

Agenda, population 44: Unique downtown businesses owned by one person.

Belleville, population 2,021: Republic County Courthouse, post office mural, Belleville High Banks, Belleville High Banks Hall of Fame & National Midget Auto Racing Museum, Blair Theatre, Belleville Public Library, WPA in the Park, Republic County Historical Museum, The Feathered Nest, Queen Anne house.

Courtland, population 288: Depot Market, Art Center Arch, The Cantina and Jensen Tire and Service, AnTeaQues, Clock Tower Bridge.

Cuba, population 139: Cuba Cash Store, Cuba Community Hall, Glen Lojka Sculpture, historic bank vault, blacksmith shop, Doc McClaskey office, National Bohemian Cemetery.

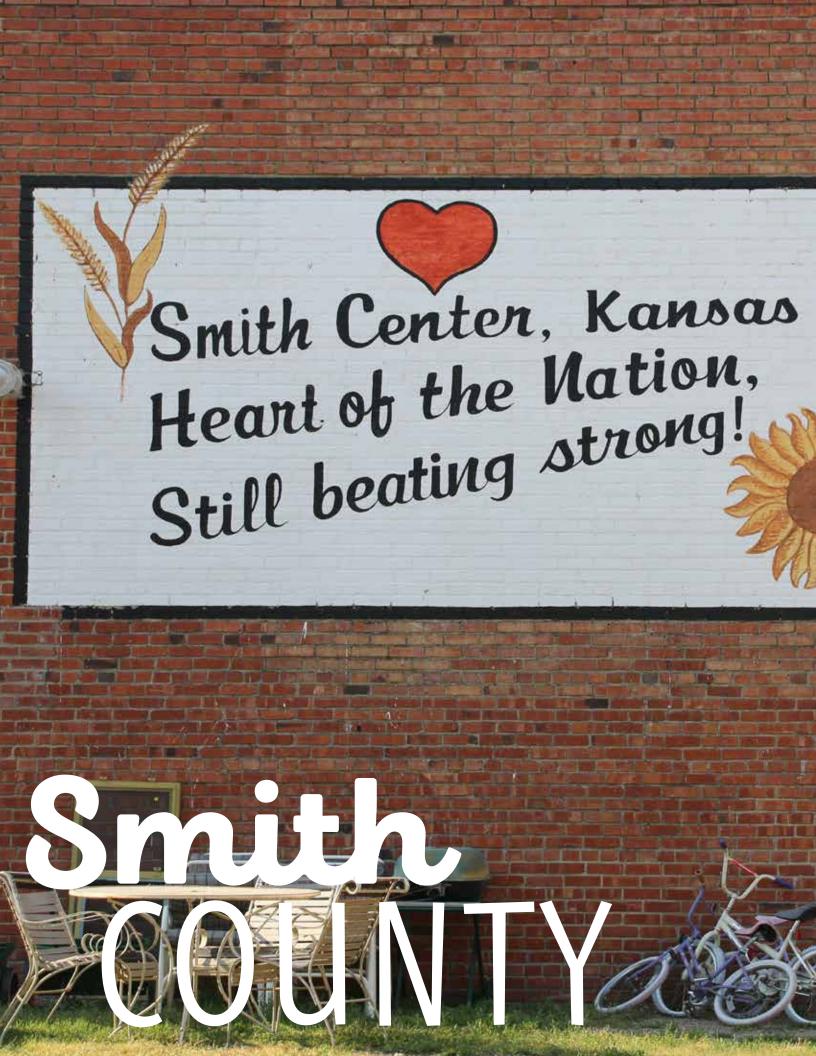
Narka, population 80: spaceship water tower.

Norway, unincorporated: Norway flag, Ada Lutheran Church and cemetery,

Republic, population 83: Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site

Scandia, population 337: Swedish immigration historical marker, downtown businesses, Scandia Museum, tile mural, T.A.G.'s Grill & Bar.

Other community: Munden, population 99.







In 1853 one of the largest battles among Plains Indians took place in an area southwest of Smith Center. A marker stands there now. Almost twenty years later (1872), Smith County was established and named in honor of Major Nathan Smith, a member of the Second Colorado Cavalry. That same year, Dr. Brewster Higley, living on the banks of Beaver Creek, wrote the words to what would become our state song. In 1918, a survey designated a location north and west of Lebanon as the center of the 48 contiguous states.

Here is a sampling of things to see and do in Republic County as listed in *Kansas Guidebook 2 for Explorers:*



Athol, population 42: Weather station, Home on the Range Cabin



Cedar, population 12: Missouri Pacific Depot



Gaylord, population 83: Park entrances, Statue of Liberty



Kensington, population 401: Kensington Community Store, Rusty Tractor restaurant



Lebanon, population 183: Geographic Center of the United States, Ladow's Supermarket



Smith Center, population 1,572: Smith County Courthouse, Old Dutch Mill, old First National Bank Building, Forks of Beaver Creek Indian Fight Historical Marker, Jiffy Burger, Relihan Row.

O' Photo Stop! **#BKRT2023**

see what else is in



Hours

TUESDAY-SATURDAY 10AM-5PM

We offer handmade ceramic jewelry and pottery made from Kansas clay in our boutique as well as hand selected home decor and Kansas made gifts. Visit our studio for walk-in pottery painting and private parties.



Heartland Lodge offers an unparalleled lodging experience in small town America. This historic building that once housed two banks has been completely refurbished to create a distinctive space for large gatherings or families. Exposed brick and arched windows create an ambiance of a time since passed.

Book Online at: www.heartlandgamebirds.com





TUESDAY-SATURDAY 9AM-5PM

Anteaques is an antique store and more!! A local antique stop with great finds, clothing, crafts, and more! Stop for lunch Tuesday-Friday and serving breakfast Monday-Saturday!



Hours

TUESDAY-SATURDAY 11AM-2:30PM & 5PM-9PM

Adri's is located in what was formerly Pinky's and continues to serve Republic County's best burgers, and an eclectic dinner menu serving up elevated meals that won't break the budget.





Whether you are looking for restful peace and quiet, beautiful sunsets or wild game, Snow Goose Lodge offers it all in five star comfort.

Book Online at: www.snowgooselodge.com







THURSDAY - 5PM-10PM FRIDAY - 5PM-11PM SATURDAY - 12PM-10PM

Courtland is one of the smallest towns with a brewery in the state. IA offers 8 taps of their own craft beer, Kansas wines, cider, kombucha, and snacks. Located near beautiful Lovewell Lake and the waters of the Republican River.



● 6 0



July 28, 29, 20, 2023 Free Street Dance, Bands, Beer Garden, and Family Events!



Gummer Hours

M-F: 9 AM-5:00 PM

Fall Hours

M-F: 10 AM-5:30 PM

Open Mid-April-Oct. We grow fresh vegetables and melons, and offer many other products, including homemade ice cream, for sale in Courtland's 120-year-old Santa Fe train depot. Come enjoy picking blackberries in July and apples in the Fall!

SATURDAY (ALL SEASON): 9 AM-5:30 PM SUNDAY (ALL SEASON): 1 PM - 5:00 PM

COURTLAND

-KANSAS-



courtlandkansas.com

WHAT IS THE KANSAS SAMPLER FOUNDATION?

Our mission is to preserve and sustain rural culture.



Kansas Sampler FOUNDATION

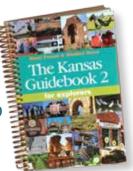
The Inman-based Kansas Sampler Foundation is a public, non-profit organization with

a mission to preserve and sustain rural culture. With 3½ employees (co-directors Marci Penner and Sarah Green, project manager WenDee Rowe, and bookkeeper Kim Clark) and a board of directors (Stacy Barnes, Greensburg; Simone Elder, Leoti; Luke Mahin, Courtland; Dave Procter, Manhattan;

and Sarah Werner, Winfield), the KSF relies on a strong statewide network to help accomplish projects like the Big Kansas Road Trip, the Kansas Explorers Club, the *Kansas Guidebook 2 for Explorers*, the 8 Wonders contests and guidebook, the We Kan! Conference, We Kan! awards, the Big Rural Brainstorm, Do-alogues and the PowerUp Movement.

Visit our website at KANSASSAMPLER.ORG

- ▶ Purchase guidebooks
- ▶ Join the Kansas Explorers Club
- ► Sign-up for email updates
- Support the WeKan! Network



WHAT IS THE KANSAS EXPLORERS CLUB?

The Kansas Explorers Club is a fluid group of difference-making people who love Kansas and want to get to know her better. The membership

club, a project of the Kansas Sampler Foundation, was created to inspire, educate, and encourage the exploration and appreciation of Kansas...and to have fun doing it.

Membership is \$18.61 for

...difference making people who love Kansas and want to get to know her better.

individuals and \$30 for families. Members receive six print newsletters a year, a membership card, and knowledge of the secret greeting ritual. The newsletters feature Kansas adventure ideas for year-round road trips and ways to see Kansas with new eyes. Visit online at **explorekansas.org.**



ATTEND THE KANSAS EXPLORERS CLUB MEETING Bring a lawn chair!

Everyone is invited to the Kansas Explorers Club Meeting Sunday, May 7 at 10 a.m. at the Home on the Range Cabin north of Athol, 7032 90 Road. People will share their BKRT adventures, we'll sing our state song, and the showcase counties for 2024 will be announced. T-shirts, BKRT car flags and the *Kansas Guidebook 2 for Explorers* will be available. You'll also be able to renew your membership or join the club.

Directions to the Home on the Range Cabin. From Athol, ¾ mile west on U.S. 36, 8 miles north on K-8, then 1 mile west on 90. Follow a mile-long drive to arrive at the cabin. **WEATHER ALTERNATIVE:** From Athol, 3/4 mile west on U.S. 36, 1 mile north on K-8, then 1/4 mile west, then north into the Tom James farm driveway to 15061 Hwy 8. To confirm, contact WenDee at 620-937-2101.







We have multiple locations across North Central Kansas.

BURR OAK • 121 S. Main St.

ESBON • 501 Grand Ave.

JEWELL • 120 S. Wash. St. ATM • 213 Main St. (Jewell City Mercantile)

SMITH CENTER
Main Bank • 133 S. Main St.
Motor Bank & 24-Hr. ATM • 202 S. Main St.





Scan this QR code for quick access to www.guarantystate.com





courtland, KS

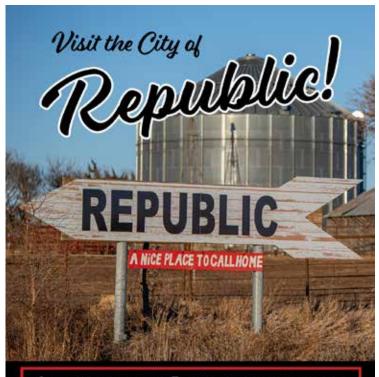
"ONE OF THE MOST 'PIVOTAL'
BREWERIES IN THE MIDWEST!"

OPEN

Thurs 5-10 PM Fri 5-11 PM Sat 12-10 PM



Sample eight hand-crafted beers or Kansas made wine, cider, and kombucha! Find us on 🕝 and 💿



ONLY 4 MILES FROM PAWNEE INDIAN MUSEUM! SEE THE RAE HOBSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY!

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL TACO BAR FRIDAY EVENING 4-8PM AND BREAKFAST BURRITOS ON SAT MORNING 8AM-1PM AT THE RFD#9 FIREHALL!

Welcome BKRT

ON YOUR WAY TO REPUBLIC, JEWELL AND SMITH COUNTIES STOP IN CONCORDIA FOR A SODA AT BRITT'S FOUNTAIN & GIFTS, A TASTY PASTRY AT JITTERS COFFEE HOUSE, A BURGER AT EASY G, A CHIMICHANGA AT EL PUERTO OR THE BREAKFAST BURRITO AT MI RANCHITO.

- · National Orphan Train Complex Tues-Fri, 10-12, 1-4, Sat 10-4
- Orphan Train Statue Stroll 24/7 (40 Statues)
- · Brown Grand Theatre Mon-Fri 10-12, 1-3
- The Whole Wall Mural/Cloud County Tourism Mon-Fri 9-5, Sat 10-2
- Nazareth Motherhouse by appt Mon-Fri 1-3
- · Cloud County Museum Tues-Fri 1-5, Sat 8-2
- · Broadway Plaza 24/7

VICTORY DAY

in celebration of VE Day, May 8, 1945

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023

• WWII Re-enactors • Military Vehicles • Free Tours • Speakers • Exhibits





10 am-3 pm north of Concordia







Look for us at The Whole Wall Mural 6th & US81 785-243-4303 cloudcountytourism.com







Jewell County

CITY	DAY(S)	HOURS	SITE	DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS	PHONE
Burr Oak	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours (call for appointment)	Burr Oak School & Museum	Renowned Kansas architect, J.C. Holland, designed the Burr Oak School in 1900, now the Burr Oak Museum (NRHP).	220 Kansas	
Burr Qak	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	House Contest	Built by O.W. Francis in 1909, this lovely home on the outskirts of town, stands out with its turret tower, wraparound porch, and Palladian windows. The story goes that an early-1900s coffee shop wager started a contest on who could build the fanciest and biggest house. Locals claim that the winner was the O.W. Francis home and the 1909 Wellman House, 249 South, was a viable competitor. Event Note: Pie on the Porch event planned for Wellman House.	2264 K\$-128	
Burr Oak	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Lumberyard	This huge building was part of the downtown scene as early as 1886, operating as the Chicago Lumber & Coal Company. It functioned as a lumberyard until the late 1990s.	230 Main	
Burr Oak	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	United Methodist Church	In 1912, architect J.C. Holland designed the United Methodist Church (NRHP). Drive by only.	974 Pennsylvania	
Esbon	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Esbon Town Name	Esbon, population 63, is clearly proud of their name. A limestone welcome sign greets you to town and the centennial years are on the water tower. The area was named Ezbon, however, when the first newspaper was printed in 1892, it was named The Esbon Leader. The spelling stuck.	Esbon	
Esbon	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Hershner Hospital	In 1917, Dr. Charles Herschner opened a hospital specializing in proctology and rectal diseases. Patients came from many states. The hospital closed in 1957. It is now a private residence.	306 Grand Ave	
Esbon	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Salem Methodist Church Monument	A monument topped by a bell stands in what once was Salem, Kansas. Once a thriving town, with a population of 500 in 1887, it no longer exists. This short-lived town has an interesting history including horse thieves hung by a mob and buried nearby and the infamous James and Younger gang supposedly had a hide out west of Salem just into Smith County. See more on the BKRT website.	2234 20 Road	
Esbon	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Veteran's Memorial - Esbon	Special tribute is paid to local soldiers who paid the greatest sacrifice while serving our country.	509 Grand Ave	
Formoso	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Formoso School Site	The story of the 1909 Formoso School is told on a sign. After a fire destroyed the school in 1960, a sign was erected to honor the students educated here.	Patterson and Spencer	
Jewell	Fri	9am-4pm	Antique Bank Alarm	In the 1930s, an ornate alarm box with stained-glass pieces forming the words "Robbery Alarm" was placed on the side of the Guaranty State Bank. It has since been removed but you can see this relic on display inside the bank on Friday.	120 S Washington	
Jewell	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Emerson Lake and Walking Trail	From K-14 and Pearl, less than 1/4 mile west on Pearl. Enjoy a pleasant walk on the crushed white limestone trail that takes you around the lake. Notice the 48-foot memorial cross. Event Note: Kayaking and trailer rides around the lake provided on Saturday from 1-3 p.m. Kayaks will be provided. See the Event page for more information.	305 W Pearl	
Jewell	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	First National Bank Building	What looks like thick frosting on the arches of this former 1888 bank is part of the influences of the Richardsonian Romanesque style which includes heavy, rock-faced stone, round masonry arches, contrasting colors and transom windows arranged in ribbon-like patterns. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places.	201 N Commercial	
Jewell	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Fort Jewell Marker	A fort of four-foot-thick, seven-foot-high sod walls was erected near here in 1870 after an area Indians attack. Look for a marker where the fort once stood, in the southwest corner of Maag Memorial Park.	218 Delaware St	
Jewell	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Maag Memorial Park	Named after community supporters, Kenneth and Eula Maag, this well-groomed park with a charming gazebo is a great place to let the kids work off some energy. Event Note: Location for the Market in the Park on Saturday. See the Events page for more information.	216 Delaware St	
Jewell	Sat	9am-12pm	Palmer Museum	The Palmer Museum is housed in the former publishing house of the local newspaper and presents local history. The Palmer family owned the paper from 1870 through 1965.	210 Delaware St	785.534.2128
Jewell County	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Bostwick Irrigation District Canal	The many canals you cross while traveling in Jewell and Republic Counties fall within the Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District Canal and Lateral system. To see locations of the canals go to https://tinyurl.com/bostwickmap	Jewell County	
Jewell County	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	White Rock Creek Scenic Back Road	From U.S. 36 north of Formoso, go 5 miles north on 280 to the ghost town of Lovewell, 2 miles west on V, 4 miles north on 260, 1/2 mile west on Z, then 1/4 mile north on Lamm into Webber. This 12-mile route on gravel and blacktop is a drive through beautiful Jewell County scenery to Lovewell Reservoir. Look for BKRT signs to guide you.	Start north of Formoso at US 36	
Mankato	Thu- Sun	10am-2pm	1899 Limestone Jail	Architect, J.C. Holland, designed the Jewell County jail and sheriff's residence. Created from native limestone with a brown streak, this double-walled jail (in use until 1978) is topped with a striking galvanized metal cupola.	Center and Madison	
Mankato	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Ad Astra Mural	Painted by Callum McNichols, this mural represents the Ad Astra sculpture on top of the state capitol dome. Look for it on the south side of Hidden Treasures Quilt Shop.	101 N Commercial	





Jewell County continued

CITY	DAY(S)	HOURS	SITE	DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS	PHONE
Mankato	Thu-Fri	8:30am-4:30pm	Jewell County Courthouse	Built in part by the WPA in 1937, this art deco structure designed by architect Joseph Radotinsky features native limestone walls. Note the two 3D limestone medallions on the west side, and a bas-relief of the book and scales of justice-with a corn stalk!	307 N Commercial St	785.378.4020
Mankato	Thu- Sun	8am-4pm	Jewell County Museum	See the new exhibit featuring the Columbian Mammoth. Remains of seven mammoths have been found in Jewell County. Several structures house the museum's diverse collections. Event Note: Mocktails, Mammoths and Trailer Rides planned for Saturday at the museum.	118 N Commercial St	785.545.7658
Mankato	Thu-Sat	24/7	KANcycle: Bike Sharing - Mankato	KANcycle is a rural bike share program. Rent bikes in Belleville and Mankato. Bikes can easily be checked out with the Movatic app. Ride for as long as you want and then return the bike to a KANcycle rack. Available 24/7!	217 S High	785.826.1583
Mankato	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Memorial to Thomas Edison	A rare Kansas memorial to Thomas Edison stands across from Rock Hills Elementary School. The inscription reads in part "for gratitude for his illustrious inventions and services."	303 N West St	
Mankato	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	YMCA Architecture	Drive by an original 1910-1920 YMCA building.	210 N Commercial St	
Webber	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Frank Herrmann Park	Beloved by all, blacksmith Frank Herrmann was known as a man who could fix anything but a broken heart. He donated this land for a park. The anvil that his father brought from Germany in 1908 rests next to the limestone park sign.	Lamm and Commercial	
Webber	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Lovewell Lake and State Park	Completed in 1957, the reservoir was developed for flood control, irrigation and recreational purposes. Camping and day use facilities, fishing, swimming beach, marina cafe, playground and archery range. Free admission on Saturday, May 6. Camping fees still apply. Cabins available, reservations required. From US 36, 8 1/4 miles north on K-14.	2446 250 Rd	785.753.4971
Webber	Thu-Sat	7:30-9:30am	Webber Post Office	Inside this old-fashioned post office, even the post boxes date to an earlier era. If open, buy some stamps here! The city hall shares space inside a nicely renovated depot.	202 Lamm St	785.753.4495











Republic County

CITY	DAY(S)	HOURS	SITE	DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS	PHONE
Agenda	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Garden Stop	A paved walkway between the Cedar Porch and Hope Floats will lead you to a garden area.	413 Railroad St	785.732.6595
Agenda	Thu-Sat	11am-4pm	Glenda's Downtown	Glenda Trecek purchased every building in this one-block downtown and renovated them all. Her intent to do something good for the community were aided by her husband, Millard, and friends. Stroll the block and enjoy an old-fashioned soda fountain, shop for home and garden decor and furniture, and peruse the museum and library.	413 Railroad St	785.732.6595
Agenda	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Shoe Pole Art	Dale Cherney saw a picture in a farm magazine of shoes nailed to a post. He and his son Chris liked the idea, so they erected a post and nailed some family shoes to it.	K-148 and 230	
Belleville	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Belleville High Banks	The track had its beginnings in 1880 as a race venue for horses but was transformed for auto racing in 1910. In 1937 the WPA built the limestone grandstand and converted the flat track to a high-banked oval, making it the fastest half-mile dirt track in the world. During the BKRT, the track will be open daylight hours and people are welcome to sit in the stands and walk the track.	9th and O St	785.527.2488
Belleville	Thu- Sun	9am-5pm	Belleville High Banks Hall of Fame and National Midget Auto Racing Museum	Jeff Gordon, Tony Stewart, and Clint Bowyer are just a few who got their start on the High Banks dirt track. The history of the track, the racers, and the cars is preserved in this hall of fame and museum.	1204 H St	785.527.2526
Belleville	Thu-Sat	Thu-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 9am-1pm	Belleville Public Library	During the Great Depression people were urged to create handicrafts and be paid for them through the WPA. Now on display are some results of that work: costume dolls wearing international or period clothing, images of Kansas landmarks, paintings of Kansas wildflowers, and intricate wooden models of American industry.	1327 19th St	785.527.5305
Belleville	Thu- Sun	Thu-Sat 7pm; Sun 3pm	Blair Theatre	After the theatre closed in the late 1990s, its Spanish Colonial facade was restored, the interior renovated, and the 1928 theatre reopened in 2008 as a state-of-the-art movie theatre.	1310 19th St	785.527.8080
Belleville	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Courthouse Square	Around the courthouse square, four historical information kiosks relate the stories of Belleville beginnings.	M and 19th St	
Belleville	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Historic Queen Anne Home	Dry goods merchant S.T. Stevenson mail ordered the design for his 1894 house (NRHP). It is an exquisite example of a high-style Queen Anne structure with a tower, delicate spindle work and a variety of exterior wall textures. Drive by only.	2012 N St	
Belleville	Thu- Sun	24/7	KANcycle: Bike Sharing - Belleville	KANcycle is a rural bike share program. You can find bikes in to rent Belleville and Mankato. Bikes can easily be checked out with the Movatic app. Ride for as long as you want and then return the bike to a KANcycle rack. Available 24/7! In Belleville, find bikes at 19th and M; 28th and N.	19th & M and 28th & N	785.826.1583
Belleville	Thu-Sat	6:30am-10pm (lobby hrs)	Post Office Mural	Kansas Stream is the title of this 1939 Section artwork by Birger Sandzen. The Public Works Administration provided part of the funding to construct the 1937 post office and pay the artist.	1119 18th St	785.527.242
Belleville	Thu-Fri	7:30am-4:30pm	Republic County Courthouse	Built as a 1939 Public Works Administration project, this structure is said to be the best example of courthouse art deco architecture in the state. It has a marble interior with staircase rails of brass and stainless steel.	1815 M St	785.527.7238
Belleville	Thu- Sun	1-5pm	Republic County Historical Museum	The main museum is closed due to remodeling but you'll find many outbuildings open including the antique farm implements building, blacksmith shop, log cabin, church, vintage barn, rural school and round limestone smokehouse.	615 28th St	785.527.5971
Belleville	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Rocky Pond	A camping and RV park can be found at Rocky Pond at the east end of 12th. Water from this historic pond was once used by the Rock Island railroad to run their steam engines.	2000 12th St	785.527.2288
Belleville	Thu- Sun	Thu-Fri 7:30am-5pm; Sat-Sun 9am-12pm	Sixth Prinicipal Meridian	Stop by the Blecha Realty office, 1325 18th, to pick up information about this important survey marker before you head to the northeast part of the county. The initial point for all land surveys in Kansas, Nebraska, much of Colorado and Wyoming, and a small part of South Dakota was marked on this site in 1856. The survey point is marked with a plate (manhole cover) in the middle of the road. Nearby, monuments and an informational marker tell the intriguing story surrounding the survey. Directions from Narka, go northeast on Road 280 to Cedar to Road 290 to Birch for five miles, then one mile north on Road 310.	1325 18th St	785.527.2626
Belleville	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	St Josaphat Cemetery	This is the location of the former St. Josaphat's Catholic Church, named after a Polish Saint. According to the sign, this area is the largest Polish farming settlement in Kansas, dating back to 1870. From U.S. 36, six miles north on U.S. 81, then four miles west on Hickory.	1395 Hickory Rd	785.527.2310
Belleville	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	WPA in the Park	City Park features several WPA projects including the art deco band shell, tennis courts, and other structures. The band shell, completed in 1937, was constructed of monolithic concrete.	8th and M	
Courtland	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Art Center Arch	Around 1890 Swedish immigrant John Sederlin built a limestone barn with a unique arch. A few years ago his descendants donated the arch and additional stone for the archway and the wall around the garden adjoining Courtland Art Center.	421 Main St	





Republic County continued

CITY	DAY(S)	HOURS	SITE	DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS	PHONE
Courtland	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Clock Tower Bridge	Jim Elliot built this picturesque 20x80-foot covered bridge and clock tower. A covered walkway with windows provides a view of the quiet landscape. The current owners, Mike and Kili Land, welcome BKRT visitors to stop by to see the bridge. The Land's also own the nearby Snow Goose Lodge on a salt marsh overlooking the Jamestown Wildlife Refuge. From Courtland, 6 1/2 miles south on 30 Rd., 1 mile west on Xavier, 1/4 mile north on a private drive.	250 Xavier Rd	785.374.920
Courtland	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Photographic Murals	Take a short one mile drive south of Courtland on County Rd 3 (30 Rd) to find giant photographic murals hiding weathered gas tanks. With Harley Schuster as the designer, the Office of Rural Prosperity funded these five historic pictures that take you back to the days when the Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District canals were being built from Courtland to Lovewell Lake.	1 mile south of Courtland	
Cuba	Thu- Sun	See Description	Blacksmith Shop	From Baird, 1/2 block west on Lynn. Union veteran John Davidson came to Cuba in 1884 and built a native limestone blacksmith shop, which he operated until 1892. The shop (NRHP) has been restored. Event Note: Demonstrations at 11am and 2pm on Thu-Sat. Hosts available Thu-Sat 10am-5pm; Sun 10am-2pm	320 Lynn St	785.527.0105
Cuba	Thu- Sun	Thu-Sat 9am-5pm; Sun 10am-2pm	Cuba Community Hall	Each March community boosters host a week-long Rock-a-Thon at Cuba's 1930 auditorium, Ceska-Narodin-Sin (Bohemian Hall). Two rocking chairs are kept rocking 24 hours a day for an entire week. You pay to rock, and proceeds go to community projects. This hall is the heart of the community. Event Note: The famous chairs will be available for rocking. See Events page.	216 Baird St	
Cuba	Thu- Sun	Thu-Sat 9am-5pm; Sun 10am-2pm	Cuba Country School Museum	Worth visiting is the one-room country school that was moved into town thanks to Rocka-Thon dollars.	318 Baird St	
Cuba	Thu- Sun	Thu-Sat 9am-5pm; Sun 10am-2pm	Cuba Heritage Center	The office building of former town doctor Doc McClaskey has been restored and has evolved into a heritage center. Here you can see some of the famous Jim Richardson 1970's photo of Cuba and original Sokol equipment.	316 Baird St	
Cuba	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Czech Farmstead	The abandoned two-story, limestone structure was built in 1903 by the Shimek family. It has a presence that few can resist stopping to admire and photograph. From Cuba, 1 mile north on Brandon to U.S. 36, 3 miles north on 26 Rd, then 1/4 mile east on Lincoln.	Lincoln Rd	
Cuba	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Czech Us Out	So says the town's entrance sign!	K-139 and Lewis St	
Cuba	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Glen Lojka Sculpture	Standing in front of Cuba City Hall, an 8,000-pound limestone sculpture, a gift from native Glen Lojka to his hometown, depicts a typical Czech family arriving on the prairie in the late 1800s.	313 Baird St	
Cuba	Thu- Sun	Thu-Sat 9am-5pm; Sun 10am-2pm	Hillcrest Library- Glen Lojka Wood Carvings	The library houses Glen Lojka wood carvings and historic memorabilia. His work can be found in many communities throughout the state.	408 Baird St	785.527.0105
Cuba	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Historic Bank Vault	What looks like a limestone jail with a fancy door is really a bank vault. The stone walls are part of the vault that once stood inside the First Commercial Bank. When the bank was razed, the vault survived!	400 Block Baird	
Cuba	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	National Bohemian Cemetery (formerly Narodni Hrbitov)	Inscribed names such as Kopsa, Lesovsky, and Huncovsky leave no doubt that you're in Bohemian country. At one time Czechs were denied burial in some cemeteries, so they created their own. From Lynn, 1 block south on Baird, 3/4 mile east on Linden, 1 mile south on 270, then 1/4 mile east on Queen.	Queens Rd	
Cuba	Thu- Sun	Thu-Sat 9am-5pm; Sun 10am-2pm	National Geographic Photos by Jim Richardson (Cuba Heritage Center)	Jim Richardson, photojournalist for National Geographic, is famous in our state for photographing life in Cuba. The stunning black and white photos were published in National Geographic and featured twice by CBS News Sunday Morning. Jim is a resident of Lindsborg and a native of Republic County. See the photos at the Cuba Heritage Center.	316 Baird St	
Narka	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Narka Water Tower	Located north of Cuba at 280 and Diamond, Narka was named in 1887 for the daughter of a railroad employee. Little remains of this town. Its claim to fame is the water tower. Or is it an alien spaceship? See for yourself and try to find the geocache hidden there.	Maple and Nebraska St	
Norway	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Ada Lutheran Church	This limestone country church is one you come upon unexpectedly and is a pleasant find. In the church cemetery an anchor marks the grave of merchant marine S.A. Haggman. From Norway, 4 1/2 miles west on K-148, 1 mile north on 50, then 1/2 mile west on Valley.	444 Valley Rd	785.374.4267
Norway	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Ethnic Heritage	Norwegians settled this small community in 1870. You'll find Scandinavian names on the stained-glass windows of the Lutheran church on K-18 and in Norway Cemetery just east of town.	Norway	
Norway	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Norway Flag	The flag on a monolith provides the town's founding date, stating in part, "Norway 1869."	976 Hwy K148	





Republic County continued

CITY	DAY(S)	HOURS	SITE	DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS	PHONE
Republic	Thu-Sat	10am-5pm	Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site	On this site an early-1800s Pawnee village once comprised 40 earth lodges and 2,000 inhabitants. A museum, which encloses the excavated floor of the largest lodge, features panoramic exhibits and, of special interest, a rare Pawnee sacred bundle. This is the only site in the state dedicated to one of the indigenous tribes and is of major archeological significance. Admission charge. From U.S. 36, 8 miles north on K-266. (8 Wonders of Kansas History finalist.)	480 Pawnee Trail	785.361.2255
Scandia	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Riverview Cemetery	George White's eerie message greets you on the first gravestone on the right: "Remember friends as you pass by, as you are now so once was I." Concrete tree fences surround family plots in this cemetery, which holds many Scandinavian names.	1124 Republic St	
Scandia	Thu-Sat	1-4pm	Scandia Museum	A miniature scene (built with 8,557 hard-carved pieces by Allen Larson) of a wagon train attack is one of the museum's highlights.	409 4th St	785.335.2561 or 2266
Scandia	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Scandia Name	The Scandinavian Agricultural Society of Chicago formed a colony here in 1868. Its original name, New Scandinavia, was soon shortened to Scandia. A historical marker on U.S. 36 describes this immigration. Most of the early settlers were Swedish, Danish and Norwegian.	US 36 & Cloud St	
Scandia	Thu-Sat	10am-5pm	Styleaire Beauty Salon & Vintage Hair Care Collection	Take a short tour to see vintage hair care items and enjoy a free cup of coffee.	409 4th St	785.527.3303
Scandia	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Tile Mural	Made with colorful tiles, a mural depicting bridges and roads can be seen above the entrance of Reece Construction Company. The mural reflects the company's business-building bridges and roads.	402 4th St	





ATTRACTIONS Smith County



CITY	DAY(S)	HOURS	SITE	DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS	PHONE
Athol	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Brew's Park - Athol	Brew's Park is located on the south side of Athol, on the north side of the RR tracks. It was a place to stay overnight back in the early days of car travel. Now a little park to rest and stretch, you will find a playground, old school remnants and a weather sign.	Main St	
Athol	Thu- Sun	10am-5pm	Home on the Range Cabin	From Athol, 3/4 mile west on U.S, 36, 8 miles north on K-8, then 1 mile west on 90. Follow the mile-long, narrow driveway to the 1872 cabin and former home of Brewster Higley. Standing in this peaceful setting, it's easy to see how Higley was inspired to write the poem "My Western Home," known today as "Home on the Range." You might enjoy standing here and singing the song named the Kansas state song in 1947.	7032 90 Rd	785.476.5216
Athol	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Weather Station	In City Park a rock on a chain hangs from a sign that serves as the Athol Weather Station. Very scientifica wet rock indicates rain, a swinging rock wind, an invisible rock fog, and so forth.	Kansas and Main St	
Cedar	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Missouri Pacific Depot	A well preserved 1879 depot is at home in City Park. The depot doubles as the town museum and contains railroad memorabilia. This classic yellow structure is well kept by volunteers. Drive by only.	430 N Main St	
Gaylord	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	City Park - Gaylord	A Wrought Iron Company bridge remnant has been repurposed as an archway entrance to City Park. When the bridge was removed from south of Gaylord, a local welder and artist saved several pieces to create the entrance.	5th and Gilman	
Harlan	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Gould College	From K-9 at Harlan, 1/4 mile north on Q (becomes Commercial). In 1880 the United Brethren conference established Gould College to provide education for students in western Kansas. Named for railroad mogul Jay Gould with the hope that he would be a benefactor for the new college. Harlan Church is all that remains of the college. A plaque describing the college location is found on a rock monument just north of the church.	Q St	
Harlan	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Harlan Park & Veteran's Memorial	Take a short stroll around this charming little park that includes a memorial to veterans.	Q Rd	
Harlan	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Statue of Liberty	From the intersection of K-9 and K-281 east of Gaylord, travel 1 mile south on U.S. 281. A Statue of Liberty replica, erected by the Boy Scouts in the 1950s, stands at a roadside park surrounded by a first-rate, 360-degree view of cropland, river valley, and open sky. EVENT NOTE: Sunset viewing at Lady Liberty, Friday, May 5, 8pm.	US 281	
Kensington	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	The Biggest Little Town of its Size in the State of Kansas!	Established in 1887, Kensington bills itself with a large sign as "The Biggest Little Town of its Size in the State of Kansas!"	Kensington	785.476.2668
Lebanon	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	City Park - Lebanon	Enjoy a modern play ground or an old metal slide from back in the day at the Lebanon City Park. You'll also find a covered picnic area, public bathrooms and shaded areas.	Main and Kansas Streets	
Lebanon	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Geographic Center of the United States	From Lebanon, 1 mile north on U.S. 281, then 1 hilly mile west on K-191. Get centered at the geographic center of the 48 contiguous states. A limestone pedestal with a plaque and flagpole mark the exact point.	Lebanon	
Lebanon	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Harmony Park / Historic Jail	Harmony Park showcases a shelter housing the old Lebanon Jail. Benches makes it easy to sit awhile and enjoy the weather and local movement. Information about the jail can be found in the Lebanon visitors center located southeast of Harmony Park	Main St and Kansas Ave	
Lebanon	Sat	10am-3pm	Kanza House Library and Museum	Local volunteers keep Lebanon's history alive through alumni records, genealogy and history books and displays of historical interest.	School Ave	785.686.4155
Lebanon	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Little Free Library - Lebanon	The Little Free Library is a nonprofit that inspires readers, builds community, and expands book access. To have rotating variety each month the caretakers take older or seasonal titles out and place new titles in the library.	309 Main	785.282.4142
Lebanon	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Local National Weather Service Board	Check out the weather service board near downtown Lebanon. From Highway 281 travel east on Kansas Street for one and half blocks. The weather board is on the south side of Kansas. The report is based on the local weather observer that reports to the National Weather Service in Hastings, Nebraska. Just east of the report board you can view the 'official' rain gauge issued by the government for reporting.	Lebanon	
Lebanon	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Restored Gas Station Visitor Center	This beautifully restored 1930-era gas station doubles as a visitor center. You'll find local tourism information, historic photos and artifacts, coffee, water and a bathroom.	Main St and Kansas Ave	
Smith Center	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Forks of Beaver Creek Indian Fight Historical Marker	From Smith Center, 3 1/4 miles west on U.S. 36, then 3/4 mile south on M. One of the largest battles among Plains Indians happened in this area in July 1853. The clash engaged 1,000 Cheyennes and their allies (Arapahoes, Sioux, Kiowas, Comanches, and Crows) in a revenge attack against some 800 Pawnees and their allies (Otoes and Potawatomis). The old Pawnee Trail from the Pawnees' earth lodge villages (see Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site entry-Republic County) to their hunting grounds passed through here. Look for a marker on the west side of the road.	Rural Smith Center	
Smith Center	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Lady Liberty Mural	Look on the east side of the laundromat building for a wall mural created by local artists and students depicting a colorful Kansas sunset with the Statue of Liberty located near Gaylord in silhouette. The actual Statue of Liberty monument is located on Hwy 281 south of Smith Center headed toward Gaylord.	111 W Court	
Smith Center	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Lustron Homes	These post-WW II prefabricated and affordable houses were made of enameled steel, inside and out. Both listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Drive by only.	214 Park & 216 Park	





Smith County continued

CITY	DAY(S)	HOURS	SITE	DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS	PHONE
Smith Center	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Millionaire Row	Relihan Row (also known as Millionaire Row) were homes for the wealthier folks in early Smith Center, four generations of Relihans! Still used as residences, the homes are at 102, 108, 112, 114, 118, 120 and 204 E. 3rd.	E 3rd St	
Smith Center	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Old Dutch Mill	(Wagner Park). Much of this mill is a replica of the original octagonal structure built by native German Charles Schwarz near Reamsville in 1879-1882. It used wind power to grind corn and wheat until a kerosene engine was installed in 1913. The mill was moved to Smith Center in 1938.	200 E 3rd	785.282.3249
Smith Center	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Old First National Bank Building	In 1889 J.R. Burrow built this lavish red-brick structure complete with granite pillars, circular steps to a corner entrance, limestone-accented arched windows, and a turret. Over the years the former bank fell into major disrepair, but thanks to local effort, a restoration was completed in 2015.	100 S Main	
Smith Center	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Roadside Park - Smith Center	On the west side of Smith Center on the north side of Hwy 36 you'll find an old-fashioned roadside park with modern restrooms. It's a good place to picnic, stretch your legs and let the kids and pets run around.	US 36 and 160 Rd	
Smith Center	Mon-Fri	9am-5pm	Smith County Courthouse	Inside this 1920 limestone courthouse you'll find information about the Old Dutch Mill, a mural documenting the mill's construction, and a Nelson Chubb painting of Brewster Higley sitting beside his cabin. The bright green and pink floral pattern tile running throughout the courthouse adds a classic touch.	218 S Grant	
Smith Center	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Veteran's Memorial	The Veterans Memorial is located on the Smith County Courthouse lawn. This tribute is paved with bricks bearing the names of veterans and loved ones.	218 S Grant	
Smith Center	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Veteran's Memorial - Smith Center Hospital	Veteran's Memorial that stood at the old hospital was carefully moved to the new hospital location. Nice memorial for all branches of service with benches to sit and view names.	921 E Hwy 36	





EVENTS



Jewell County

CITY	DAY(S)	TIME	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS	PHONE
Burr Oak	Fri	2-3pm	Historic Home Tour & Pie on the Porch	Here's a rare chance to tour a restored historic home and enjoy a piece of pie on the porch. Abby Elkins is your host.	242 E South St	785.545.5757
Esbon	Sat	10:30-11am	Sacred Heart Catholic Church Tour	See the 100 year-old stained glass in the 1914 Catholic church. Sunday 8am church service. Located at the north end of Grand Avenue, off K-112.	1100-1198, KS-112	785.545.8139
Esbon	Sat	9-10:30am	Stained Glass Art Tour - Esbon	Start at 309 Depot St, home of local artist Charlie Fischer, to view his stained glass windows, then Esbon Community Church, Henry and West St., to see the stained glass windows, the Village Café, 400 Grand, from 9-11:30am. for cinnamon rolls, see his stained glass window there and in the windows of the fire hall across the street from the café.	309 Depot St	
Esbon	Fri	7:30-9:30pm	Trivia at Sam's Place	Teams need to preregister at Sam's Place by 7:15pm. Fee is \$5.00 per person. Up to 4-5 people per team recommended.	511 Grand Ave	785.725.3008
ormoso	Sat	7-9pm	Formoso Skating Rink	Volunteers, Mike and Deb Worm, are opening the rink on Saturday for a BKRT open skate night! Skates for rent and concessions available.	201 Howe St	402.879.5451
Jewell	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Buffalo Hunt	Go into sleuth mode on this self-led tour to look for 15 buffalo statues. Pick up guide at Lake Emerson shelter house (305 W. Pearl Street) in Jewell for a map of where each can be found. Take a selfie with one and post it with the hashtag #bkrtbuffalo23.	305 W Pearl	
Jewell	Sun	10:30-11:30am	Community Church Service	The churches of Jewell will host a joint community church service at Emerson Lake. A free will donation meal will follow the service.	305 W. Pearl St	
Jewell	Sat	1-3pm	Kayaking & Trailer Rides at Emerson Lake	From K-14 and Pearl, less than 1/4 mile west on Pearl. Enjoy kayaking and trailer rides at this beautiful local attraction. A few kayaks will be available, but the public is invited to bring their own. Borrowed kayaks are limited to use between the hours of 1-3pm. Trailer rides around Emerson Lake will take about 10 minutes. The trailer will pick up passengers at 305 W. Pearl (by the shelter house at the lake). Free will donation. Sponsored by the Jewell Chamber of Commerce.	305 W Pearl	
Jewell	Sat	10am-3pm	Market in the Park, Art Exhibit and Book Signing	A Farmer's Market and Craft Fair will be hosted in downtown Maag City Park. Local handmade items, homemade treats and homegrown eats. Work by local artist, James (Jim) Nelson featured. Meet local author Rosie Bosse, raised in north central Kansas and writer of children's books and historical western novels.	214 Delaware St	
Jewell County	Thu- Sun	8:34pm	Sing Home on the Range!	Sing! Wherever you are on the BKRT at sunset, sing a verse of Home on the Range. Share your song on social media, use #SingBKRT23.	Jewell County	
Mankato	Sat	10am-2pm	Harmony United Methodist Church Stained Glass & Pipe Organ	Beautiful stained glass windows and a restored 1906 Hinners pipe organ.	109 S High	785.569.7534
Mankato	Sat	Music 10am-2pm; Biz hrs: Mon-Fri 7am-4pm; Sat 8am-1pm	Live Music with Seth Cushing at Possibilities	Listen to soothing tunes by singer/songwriter Seth Cushing while you enjoy locally roasted coffee in the friendly atmosphere at Possibilities.	121 N Commercial	785.648.0024
Mankato	Thu-Sat	See Description	Mammoth Scavenger Hunt	Pick up your scanvenger sheet at Mahin Insurance, 105 N. Commercial on weekdays (9am-4pm), and Possibilities, 121 N. Commercial (8am-3pm) on Saturday. Scavenger Hunt will take approximately 45 minutes to complete around downtown Mankato. Return your form for a free prize.	Downtown	785.378.8484
Mankato	Fri	10:30am-4pm	Mankato Livestock Barn	Slip into a bleacher seat between 10:30am-4pm on Friday to hear top-notch auctioneers selling cattle. It's a fascinating slice of rural culture and you're welcome to witness the custom. Opening at 10:30am the cafe serves homemade meals and desserts and stays open until the cows go home 4-11pm.	810 N Commercial St	785.378.3283
Лапкаtо	Sat	See Description	Mocktails, Mammoths & Trailer Rides	Enjoy a Mocktail, see the new Mammoth display and take a trailer ride to see historic homes. Mocktails and Mammoths 1-2pm, trailer rides 2-3:30pm, departs from museum every 15 minutes, lasts 30 minutes. Museum open Thu-Sun 8am-4pm	118 N. Commercial	785.955.9703
/lankato	Sat	7-10pm	Music in the Park	The Good Sam Club Band features four guys that love making music together. Groove to a repertoire of rock and roll tunes, country, blues, cowboy and gospel.	McRoberts St & W Jefferson	785.820.6917
/lankato	Sat	5-7pm	Rock Chalk Wine Walk	Participants given a wine glass and a list of residences that have wine for tasting. Registration 4:30pm; Wine Walk at 5pm Event will last about 2 hours. Fee is \$25. Pre-registration is encouraged.	City Park, W Jefferson St	785.820.6917
Mankato	Sat	1-3pm	Ute Theater	On Saturday a video about the history of Mankato will be shown at the 1905 theatre. Public bathroom is available.	203 N Commercial	785.378.3141



Those who work in libraries, historic theaters, museums, art galleries, and, well, just about any business or organization could use a pat on the back or a friendly word and will enjoy conversations with you.



EVENTS



Republic County

CITY	DAY(S)	TIME	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS	PHONE
Agenda	Sat	11am-1pm	Baked Potato Bar Lunch	The Methodist Church welcomes visitors to a Loaded Baked Potato Bar. Look for this lunch event in downtown Agenda in the building next to Hope Floats.	413 Railroad	785.732.6595
Belleville	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	North Central Kansas Experiment Field	Kansas State University's Department of Agronomy hosts agronomic research of dryland crops and soils on this 40 acre site. Visitors may drive through the farm on their own or park and walk around. Please stay on grass driveways. No amenities on site.	1480 US 36	785.706.8450
Belleville	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	Chalk it Up!	Sidewalk chalk drawing contest around the square in downtown Belleville. Chalk found in front of businesses around the square. To enter, take a photo of your drawing and post it on your Facebook page. Use the hashtag #chalkitupbelleville. Sponsored by Belleville Chamber and Main Street.	1383 18th St	785.527.5664
Courtland	Sat	10-11:30am	Canal Driving Tour	Canal driving tour from Courtland to Lovewell Reservoir dam and back lasting appx 1.5 hours. Drive your own vehicle and learn about surface water irrigation. Can also be self guided if you miss Saturday. NOTE: For those with limited time, you can be a part of the tour for 15 minutes or longer if you wish. The tour will leave from Irrigation Ales in Courtland.	414 Main St	785.374.3511
Courtland	Sat	1-3pm	Courtland History Trivia Game	Pick up a history trivia playing card at the library and walk around to different businesses for the answers. Return the completed card back to the library before 4pm to be entered into a drawing for prizes.	403 Main St	785.374.4260
Courtland	Thu-Fri	11am, 1pm or 3pm	Depot Market - Asparagus Picking	Experience picking fresh asparagus at our farm 8 miles straight south of the Depot Market. Don't forget to bring a cooler to keep your asparagus fresh.	1101 30 Rd	785.374.4255
Courtland	Sat	11am until gone	Eager Beavers 4-H Bake Sale	4-H'ers are known for their baking skills so be sure and grab some baked goods from the Eager Beavers 4-H Club bake sale. CASH only.	421 Main St	785.335.3159
Courtland	Sat	1-4pm	Gear Up to be a Firefighter	The Courtland Volunteer Fire Department invites you to gear up, see the trucks, equipment, and shoot some water at some targets. Free, open to all ages.	Liberty St and Main St	785.955.0692
Courtland	Thu- Sun	Daylight Hours	How Does Irrigation Work?	Look in the business windows in downtown Courtland, the Surface Irrigation Capital of Kansas, and you'll see pictures and irrigation parts to showcase how the Bostwick Irrigation District canals work and how the system has evolved over the years.	Downtown	785.454.1194
Courtland	Sat	2-4pm	Live Music - Short Notice: Final Notice	Live music by local band, "Short Notice: Final Notice," at the open area next to Adri's, downtown Courtland. Sponsored by Stateline Veterinary Services.	428 Main St	785.293.2431
Courtland	Thu-Sat	10am-5pm	Make Your Own Kansas Clay Necklace	A thriving handmade jewelry and ceramics boutique in a revonated vintage gas station. Spend some time shopping and try your hand at making your own necklace from Kansas clay!	328 Main St	785.527.3579
Courtland	Fri-Sat	Fri 2-4pm; Sat 1-4pm	Photography Exhibit and Book Signing	Meet the author of "Nothing But The Dirt: Stories from an American Farm Town" by Kate Benz who embedded herself into Courtland's culture to learn about how agriculture and all its challenges impacted this community. An exhibit by book photographer, local Josey Hammer, enhances the content of the book. View the exhibit at the Courtland Arts Center 8am-5pm. Thursday-Saturday. Meet the author and photographer during the special open house times on Friday 2-4pm and Saturday 1-4pm.	421 Main	785.564.2119
Courtland	Sat	10am	Yoga, Brunch, and Beer	Participate in group yoga sponsored by Pivotal Health & Wellness (bring a yoga mat or buy one from Soul Sisters Ceramics). Grab brunch with mimosas or Bloody Marys at Adri's. After yoga, enjoy an Irrigation Ales beer.	428 Main St	785.955.0670
Cuba	Thu- Sun	See Description	Blacksmith Shop	From Baird, 1/2 block west on Lynn. Union veteran John Davidson came to Cuba in 1884 and built a native limestone blacksmith shop, which he operated until 1892. Demonstrations at 11am and 2pm on Thu-Sat. Hosts available Thu-Sat 10am-5pm; Sun 10am-2pm	320 Lynn St	785.527.0105
Cuba	Thu- Sun	Thu-Sat 9am-5pm; Sun 10am-2pm	Cuba Community Hall (Ceska-Narodri-Sin)	Each March community boosters host a week-long Rock-a-Thon here. Two rocking chairs are kept rocking 24 hours a day for an entire week. You pay to rock, and proceeds go to community projects. The famous chairs will be available to BKRT visitors for rockin!	220 Baird	785.527.0105
Munden	Fri-Sat	7:30-9:30am	Coffee & Kolaches with the Locals	Have coffee with the locals. Kolaches for sale with the coffee. It's reported a huge number of problems are solved at these coffee times each week.	106 S Main	785.527.1619
Munden	Fri-Sat	10am-2pm	Munden Community Art Show	See the work of these local artists: Ines Dejmal, Blanche Horak, Gerald Moore, Rose M. Splichal, Frantiska Palacek and others. Stop in the post office to see the famous Palacek Painting. Coffee and kolaches will be available to purchase from the Coffee Club.	206 S Main	785.527.1619
Munden	Thu-Fri	1-3pm	Pro Hoe Manufacturing Tour	Hand-crafted garden and fire fighting tools made from recycled agricultural disc blades. Take a quick 20 minute tour and see for yourself how over 60 different tools are made.	202 S Main	785.987.5450
Munden	Thu	1-3pm	Splichal Hardware Tour	See the restored Splichal Hardware store displaying gas pumps, signs and Splichal Hardware items.	201 S Main	785.527.1619
Munden	Sat	2-4pm	St. George Catholic Church Tour	See the beautiful stained glass windows at St. George Catholic Church. Tour guide on site.	101 Murza St	785.527.1619



EVENTS



Republic County continued

CITY	DAY(S)	TIME	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS	PHONE
Republic	Sat	11am until baskets are gone	Bingo Baskets	Stop by the Rae Hobson Memorial Library to play bingo. Winners will receive baskets filled with books, beverages, and adult and children's goodies. Free will donation will be accepted. Library open Tue and Thu 1-6pm	401 Pawnee Ave	785.527.2310
Republic	Sat	8am-1pm	Republic Fire Department Breakfast Burrito Fundraiser	Meals are free will donation inside the fire department building and to-go containers will be available for road trippers.	421 Main St	785.527.0941
Republic	Fri	4-8pm	Republic Fire Department Cinco de Mayo Taco Bar Fundraiser	Meals are free will donation inside the fire department building and to-go containers will be available for road trippers.	421 Main St	785.527.0941
Republic County	Thu- Sun	8:34pm	Sing Home on the Range	Sing! Wherever you are on the BKRT at sunset, sing a verse of Home on the Range. Share your song on social media, use #SingBKRT23.	Republic County	
Scandia	Thu-Sat	11am, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm (tours last 30 minutes)	C & C High Tunnel Farms Tour	A small urban farm inside the city limits raises produce year round, sells at their downtown store and delivers directly to customers. Four tours each day. Meet at the Scandia Farmstore. RSVP by emailing candchightunnelfarms@gmail.com	317 4th St	785.335.2611
Scandia	Fri	11am-1pm	Decorate a Dala Horse Cookie	Scandia is a town with a Scandinavian heritage so it's the perfect place to decorate your very own Swedish Dala Horse sugar cookie. Event takes place downtown at the Scandia City Library.	318 4th St	785.527.0941

Smith County

CITY	DAY(S)	TIME	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS	PHONE
Athol	Fri-Sun	Fri 3-5:30pm; Sat 8:30am-5:30p m; Sun 9am-3pm	An Athol "Home on the Range" Celebration	Christmas shop and exhibits open Friday, 3-5:30pm; Saturday activities include 9:30am-Dr Higley; 10:30am-Music; 11am-Athol history by the mayor/city commissioners; 12pm & 1pm-Music; 2-4pm-"Home on the Range" movie.	715 Main St	785.282.4142
Athol	Fri-Sat	Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 1-5pm; Sun 10am-5pm	Meet Brewster Higley	From Athol, 3/4 mile west on U.S, 36, 8 miles north on K-8, then 1 mile west on 90. Follow the mile-long, narrow driveway to the 1872 cabin known today as Home on the Range. "Brewster Higley" will be available to answer questions and give tips on a walking tour.	7032 90 Rd	785.476.5216
Harlan	Fri	8pm (Sunset at 8:34pm)	Sunset at Lady Liberty	Experience the magnificent view over the Harlan Valley and a Kansas sunset with others. Refreshments available. Sunset is 8:34pm. (CDT). From the intersection of K-9 and K-281 east of Gaylord, travel 1 mile south on U.S. 281.	Hwy 281, South of Hwy 9	785.282.4142
Kensington	Tour-Fri only 1-5pm	Store hours: Mon-Fri 8am-12pm;1- 5pm; Sat 8am-12pm	Meat Locker Tour- Kensington Locker	Here's your chance to pick up some locally butchered meat and take a tour of the facility. (Don't forget to bring a cooler for your meat purchase!)	218 W US 36	785.476.2834
Kensington	Thu- Sun	Thu 9am-5pm; Fri-Sat 9am-12pm; Sun1-3pm	The Vintage Wedding Shed	See the personal collection of vintage wedding finery from 1900 to 2000. Over 100 gowns displayed. Antiques for sale. Tours 30 minutes. (Located at Bow Creek Kennels, just west of Kensington)	618 W US 36	785.476.5600
Lebanon	Thu- Sun	Thu-Fri 3-6pm; Sat- Sun 10am-5pm	Bake Sale - Lebanon	A free will donation event for Family Community Education Movers and Shakers. Bring cash, no change will be made.	309 Main	
Smith Center	Sat	8-10am	Breakfast at the Museum	Join members of the Smith County Historical Society at their first-of-the-month Saturday breakfast. Free will donation.	519 N Monroe St	
Smith Center	Sat	10am-4pm	Kiwanis Kids Activity Stop	Kid activities organized by the local Kiwanis Club in a downtown park. Free water for all!	Kansas and Main St	785.282.4142
Smith Center	Thu-Sat	Noon-dusk	Pie on The Porch at Ingleboro Mansion	Join the Ingleboro Mansion owner, Jean, for Pie on the Porch and learn more about the 1899 historic mansion which now serves as a bed and breakfast.	319 N Main	910.233.3930
Smith County	Thu- Sun	8:34pm	Sing Home on the Range	Sing! Wherever you are on the BKRT at sunset, sing a verse of Home on the Range. Share your song on social media, use #SingBKRT23.	Smith County	



>>> RESTAURANT GUIDE (



Jervell County

RESTAURANT	ADDRESS	CITY	HOURS	HIGHLIGHTS	PHONE
Grate Expectations	115 S Main	Burr Oak	Mon 7am-2pm; 5-8pm; Tue-Fri 7am-2pm; Sun 11am-2pm (Closed Sat)	Breakfast (served all day), burgers, sandwiches, salads, daily specials and frappes. Owners have won awards for their barbecue!	785. 647.7171
Sam's Place	511 Grand Ave	Esbon	Thu-Sun 5-11:30pm	Mexican food on Thursdays and we hear their homemade pies and desserts are pretty special, too! Event Note: Trivia here on Friday night, 5:30-7:30pm	785.725.3008
Village Cafe	400 Grand Ave	Esbon	Sat 9-10:30am	Run by volunteers and city owned. The cafe serves their famous homemade cinnamon rolls and muffins on Saturday morning. Stop in when in town for the stained glass tour.	785.725.3019
The Barn	502 Patterson	Formoso	Mon-Sat 9am-2pm; Sun 5-8:30pm	Enjoy a comfortable atmosphere and some good home cooking featuring daily specials.	785.794.2262
The Shed	456 E Main	Ionia	Fri-Sat 5pm-12am	Find a menu of burgers, specials on the whim of the owners, Bill and Sue Foster, and the coldest beer in the county!	785.786.0100
Jewell City Mercantile	213 E Main	Jewell	Mon-Fri 7am-7pm; Sat 10am-6pm	Randall Farmers Coop Union owns this combination convenience and grocery store affectionally known as "The Merc." You can find hot food here, too.	785.428.8053
LeRoy's Lofts Bed & Breakfast	212 S Washington St	Jewell	Mon-Fri 7:30am-1:30pm; Sat 9am-12pm	Famous for homemade bierocks and cinnamon rolls.	785.738.0134
Bob's of Mankato	119 E Jefferson St	Mankato	Mon-Sat 11am-2pm; 5-8:30pm	A special twist of comfort foods and authentic Mexican food. Known for their burritos, chimichangas, brisket nachos, salsa and burgers. If you're lucky, order the award winning carrot cake. It's not always available. Full bar.	785.378.3201
Buffalo Roam Steak House	740 US 36	Mankato	Tue-Fri 11am-1:30pm and 5-8pm; Sat 5-9pm	Known for reuben sandwiches, prime rib, delicious pies and desserts. Seafood buffet on the first Saturday of every month. Reservations accepted.	785.378.3971
Nuthin' Fancy Bakery	105 E Madison	Mankato	Fri-Sun 7am-1pm	Fresh donuts on Friday and Sunday and other baked goodies and a light lunch served on Saturday and Mondays. Closed Thursday.	785.201.9500
Sweden Creme	610 E South St	Mankato	Daily 11am-9pm	Local favs are the Grizzly Burger, Bourbon Brisket Burger and Oz Burger. Voted "Best Burger" by US Hwy 36 Association and named "Best Ice Cream" and "Top 10 French Fries" in Kansas, Dine-in and drive-up window.	785.378.8600
Lovewell Marina and Grill	2400 Webber Rd	Webber	Sun-Thu 7am-7pm; Fri- Sat 7am-9pm	(Lovewell State Park; permit required; free on Saturday, May 6). Breakfast, burgers, made-from-scratch pizza, and Becky's bierocks are among the choices.	785.753.4351



BUY STAMPS WHILE VISITING

Buying stamps in small town post offices helps increase revenue. Revenue, plus the number of post office boxes, number of bulk rate permits,

and amount of mail are some of the determinants of salaries and open hours for a post office. When you find an open post office on the 2023 BKRT, please buy!



RESTAURANT GUIDE (



Republic County

RESTAURANT	ADDRESS	CITY	HOURS	HIGHLIGHTS	PHONE
Hope Floats	413 Railroad	Agenda	Thu-Sat 11am-4pm	A charming space with a soda fountain, copper ceiling, ice cream parlor chairs and tables. Offering sandwiches, ice cream treats, homemade cinnamon rolls and friendly service.	785.732.6595
Bel Villa	213 US 36	Belleville	Mon-Sat 6am-9pm; Sun 7am-8pm	Large menu featuring American dishes for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Tri-tips is the local favorite and don't forget to try a piece of pie! Full bar.	785.527.8111
Los Primos	2006 E Frontage Rd	Belleville	Mon-Sat 11am-9pm; Sun 11am-2:30pm	Tasty authentic food and delicious margaritas. Local favorite is the Arroz Con Camarones and the carnitas.	785.527.8162
North Side Pizza & More	1317 18th St	Belleville	Wed-Sat 11am-2pm; 5-9pm; Sun 11am-2pm	Wood fired pizza, sandwiches, salad bowls, craft/domestic beer and fizz drinks. Try the Chicken Alfredo sub!	785.527.8000
Tuxie's Ten Pin	1306 19th St	Belleville	Mon-Fri 11am-2pm; 5-9pm; Sat 5-10pm	Bowling and a grilled burger using fresh meat. Take time out to throw a strike at Tuxie's.	785.955.7082
Adri's	428 Main St	Courtland	Tue-Sat 11am-2:30pm; 5-10pm	Unique burgers, pizza, a creative menu and full bar. Reservations recommended for parties over 10 with at least one day advance notice for dinner and brunch.	785.374.4200
AnTeaQues	415 Main St	Courtland	Thu-Sat, 6-9am.; 11am-2pm.	Good home cooking in a unique antique atmosphere. Box Lunches available during BKRT. See Burgers in the Bin event Sat 11am-5pm.	785.374.9292
Burgers in the Bin	415 Main St	Courtland	Sat 11am-5pm	Enjoy delicious burgers and sides in a converted grain bin in the garden north of AnTeaQues.	785.527.3089
Irrigation Ales	414 Main St	Courtland	Thur 5-10pm.; Fri 5-11pm; Sat 12-10pm	Eight taps of handcrafted beers, Kansas wines, hard ciders, homemade root beer and kombucha. Bring in food from Adri's or other venue or choose from their grab-and-go snacks.	785.374.3511
Betty's Cafe	307 Baird St	Cuba	Thu-Sat 11am-9pm; Sun 8am-11am and 11am-2pm for lunch.	This is where you'll find Kolaches, the delicious Czech pastry made from sweet dough and filled with fruit. Try one of the daily specials. Biscuits and gravy on Sunday. They go quick!	785.729.3633
Republic Oil/Rip City Inn	411 Republic Ave	Republic	Thu-Fri 7am-5pm; Sat 7am-2pm	Daily specials, Kansas local beef used and locals report the salad bar is awesome.	785.361.2984
T.A.G.'s Grill & Bar	319 Cloud St	Scandia	Thu 9am-9:30pm; Fri-Sat 7am-9:30pm; Sun 7am-2:30pm	Favorites are the barbeque, daily specials, all-day breakfast, ice cream barand the green beans!	785.335.2020

Smith County

RESTAURANT	ADDRESS	CITY	HOURS	HIGHLIGHTS	PHONE
Rusty Tractor	410 N Main	Kensington	Thu-Fri 11am-2pm and 5-9pm; Sat 11am-9pm; Sun 11am-2pm	Hand-cut steaks, weekly specials, full bar, and friendly service are all you need to feel fully satisfied.	785.476.2500
LaDow's Supermarket	403 Main	Lebanon	See Description	A full service grocery store with breakfast offerings at 7am until gone and home-cooked meal from 11am-1:30pm on weekdays.	785.389.3261
2-Cup Cafe	106 S Main	Smith Center	Thu-Fri 7am-2pm; Sat 7-11am	Start your day of exploring with a hearty breakfast or stop for a quick lunch while you're out and about. Locals rave about the pancakes, French toast and the daily lunch specials can't be beat.	785.686.2287
Jiffy Burger	815 E US 36	Smith Center	Mon-Sat 11am-8pm	Go back to the 1950s where you order at the window or eat inside. Slushes, malts, cyclones, burgers, fries and cheeseballs.	785.282.6435
Las Canteras Mexican Grill	233 Main St	Smith Center	Tue-Sun 11am-9pm	Mouthwatering Mexican dishes await you, full bar and friendly service.	785.686.3074
Pete's BBQ	114 US 36	Smith Center	Mon-Sat 11am-9pm; Sun 11am-2pm	Known for their Smoked Prime Rib served Fri and Sat. Steaks, burgers, soups, salads and homemade pie.	785.686.3223
Pooches Bar & Grill	106 E Kansas	Smith Center	Daily 3:30pm-2am	Pool tables. Good food, full bar.	785.686.4195
Tavern On The Creek	18022 M Rd	Smith Center	Thu-Sun 5-10pm	Casual food, beer on tap, multiple TV's and a fun atmosphere. 4.5 miles west and south of Smith Center.	602.499.1177



Meet Marci Penner and WenDee Rowe of the Kansas Sampler Foundation and co-authors of the Kansas Guidebook 2 for Explorers. At "The Stump", Marci will ask Kansas questions and the audience will answer. In the end, someone walks away with a prize. Merchandise will not be available at the Stump locations with an asterisk. Kansas Guidebooks and Explorer swag will be available at the other locations!

Remember, bring a lawn chair!

May 4, Thursday

2 p.m. – Old Dutch Mill, 200 E. 3rd., Smith Center

May 5, Friday

*10:30 a.m. – 1898 Limestone Jail, Center and Madison, Mankato

2 p.m. – Dr. McClaskey's Office, 316 Baird, Cuba

May 6, Saturday

10:30 a.m. - Maag City Park, 214 Delaware, Jewell

*2 p.m. – High Banks (inside on the bleachers!), 9th and O St., Belleville

May 7, Sunday

Stump and Kansas Explorers Club meeting (all welcome)

10 a.m. - Home on the Range Cabin, north of Athol

Bring a lawn chair and your Kansas knowledge!



STOP IN AND SEE WHAT GOODIES WE HAVE IN OUR COOLER!

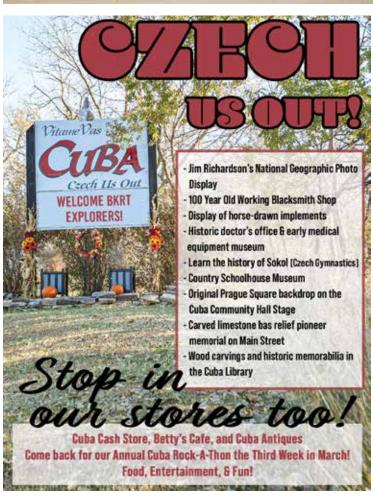
Meats, sausage, jerkies, oven-ready cookie dough, frozen pies and more!

Kensington Locker locker from 2-218 W Hwy 36 Kensington KS 66951 785-476-2834 - kensingtonlockers.com

Monday to Friday 8am-12pm & 1pm-5pm Saturday 8am-12pm Sunday - Closed





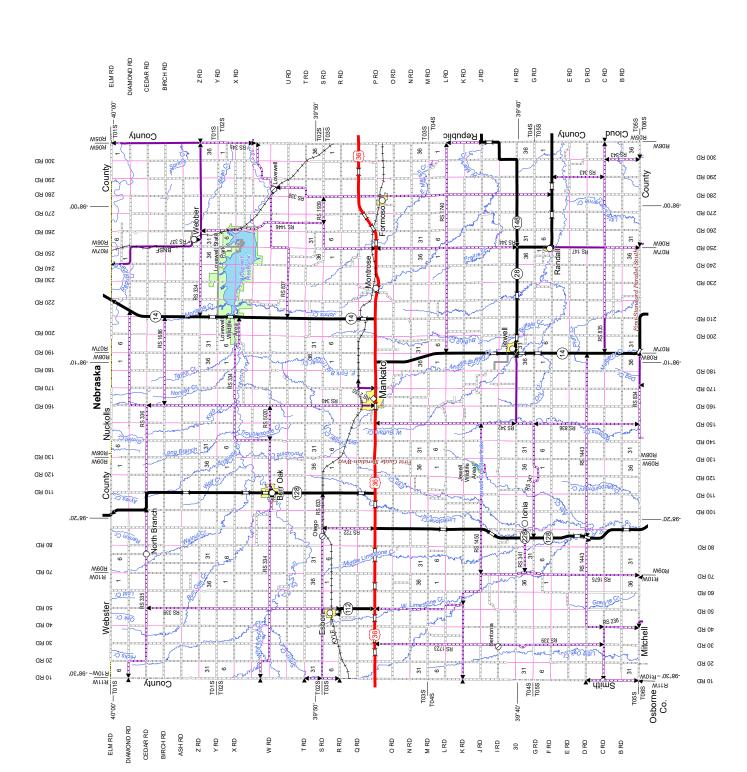










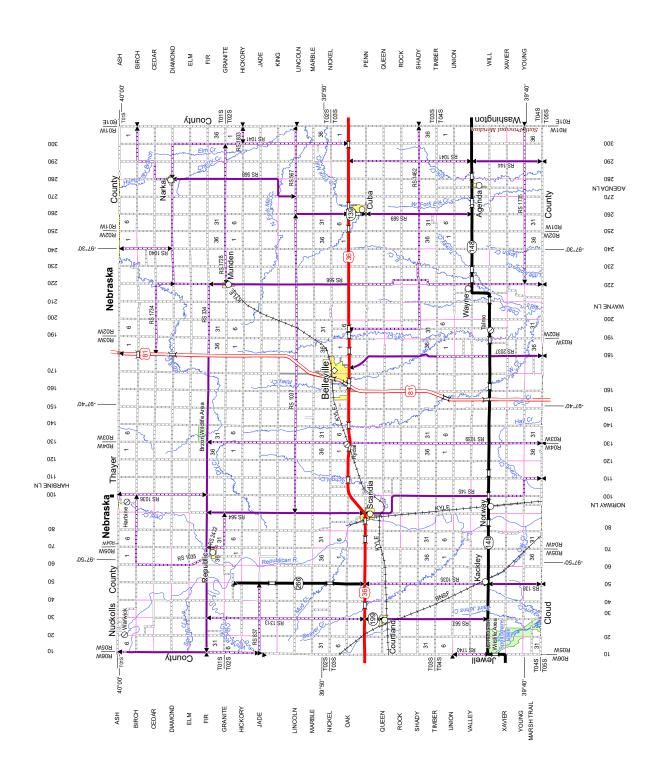


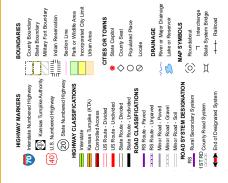






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REPUBLIC COUNTY

GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP

KANSAS
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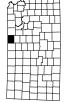
KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

DONAGO DE TRANSPORTATION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION



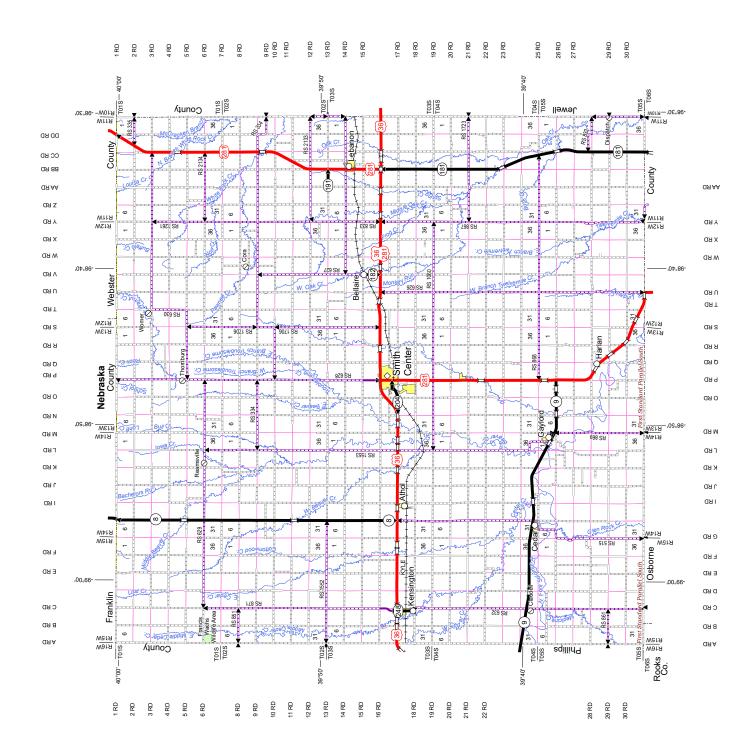
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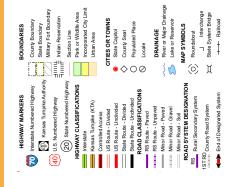


Kansas Regional Coordinate System (KRCS) KRCS 07 Salina NAD 1983 2011 TM US Feet



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GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP SMITH COUNTY

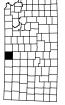
PREPARED BY THE KANSAS

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
IN COOPERATION WITH THE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION



MAY 2021



Kansas Regional Coordinate System (KRCS) KRCS 05 Great Bend NAD 1983 2011 TM US Feet



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SHOP STOPS



SHOP STOP	ADDRESS	СІТҮ	HOURS	HIGHLIGHTS	PHONE
Spicy Scheidt and Golden Scheidt Apiary	449 Grand Ave	Esbon	Sat 8am-12pm	Spicy Scheidt seasonings, oils, flavored honeys, popcorn, local honey from Golden Scheidt apiary and handmade wood work/games. Booth in front of the Esbon Community Center. All who attend will be entered to win a gift basket.	785.725.2044
Limestone Valley Garden Center	890 R Rd	Mankato	Fri-Sun 9am-6pm	Locally grown, from seed-to-table, garden plants, annual and perennial flowers. Giveaway to BKRT visitors. From Mankato, 7.5 miles west on US 36, north on 90 Rd (Otago) for 2 miles, .5 mile west on R.	785.282.0145
Possibilities	121 N Commercial St	Mankato	Thu-Fri 7am-5pm; Sat 8am-3pm	The historic "variety store" building is full of unique home decor, gifts, kitchen supplies, toys, accessories, floral services and coffee bar. Enter to win a "Kansas Made" gift basket with any purchase. Event Note: Live music on Sat 10am-Noon.	785.378.7036

Republic County

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SHOP STOP	ADDRESS	CITY	HOURS	DESCRIPTION	PHONE
Cedar Porch	413 Railroad St	Agenda	Thu-Sat 11am-4pm	A destination shopping experience with pressed-tin ceiling and wood floor compliment quality merchandise and make this off-the-beaten-track store a real find. Choose from clothing, jewelry, home decor, and more.	785.732.6595
Chantily Lace	413 Railroad	Agenda	Thu-Sat 11am-4pm	Beautiful offerings of garden items that are waiting for you to take home to enhance your own backyard. This space also serves as an event space and the wide back door opens up to an entrancing courtyard.	785.732.6595
Clover House	413 Railroad	Agenda	Thu-Sat 11am-4pm	When you first step into this renovated downtown building, you know you're entering a different sort of shopping experience. The rich backdrop of unique and one-of-a-kind items entice you to stay and explore every nook and cranny.	785.732.6595
Belleville Hometown Lumber	2409 US Hwy 81	Belleville	Mon-Fri 7:30am-5:30pm; Sat 7:30am-2:30pm	Stop at this locally owned hardware store for 20% off one regularly-priced Ariat item and enter to win a basket of "special" seasonings!	785.527.5695
Feathered Nest	1914 M St	Belleville	Tue-Fri 8am-5:30pm; Sat 8:30am-3pm	The "nest" is a preserved historic building and it's "feathered" with a modern chic interior that presents unique shopping experiences. Home decor, personal care specialities, garden accessories, and a coffee lounge with drinks and baked goods.	785.527.7200
P K Collectibles	US 36 and K St	Belleville	Thu-Sun 9am-6pm	Find lots of antiques and collectibles at Paul Kallman's store. Public restroom available.	785.955.0985
AnTeaQues	415 Main St	Courtland	Tue-Sat 9am-5pm	A quaint antique store waiting for you to find your next treasure. Random prizes given out daily during the BRKT. Refreshments and samples daily.	785.374.9292
Depot Market	1101 30 Rd	Courtland	Mon-Fri 10am-5:30pm; Sat 9am-5:30pm; Sun 1-5pm	A roadside market at a beautifully refurbished Santa Fe depot. Fresh seasonal produce and specialty products sold here.	785.374.4255
Soul Sister Ceramics	328 Main St	Courtland	Tue-Sat 10am-5pm	A renovated vintage gas station with a thriving handmade jewelry and ceramics boutique offering an array of home decor and Kansas made gifts. Event Note: Make your own necklace here on Saturday. See Events page.	785.527.3579
The Cantina and Jensen Tire and Service	225 Main St	Courtland	Mon-Sat 7am- 6pm	In front of the tire service, the Cantina is an expanded convenience store carrying gifts, home decor items, to-go sandwiches and pre-cooked meats to take home.	785.374.4315
Cuba Antiques	319 Baird St	Cuba	Thu-Sun 10am-5pm	You'll find all sorts of antiques and collectibles in this welcoming store in downtown Cuba. You'll also like the 20% discount on all items during the BKRT.	785.527.0793
Cuba Cash Store	301 Baird St	Cuba	Mon-Sat 8am-5pm; Sun 10am-2pm (special Sunday hours just for BKRT visitors)	The store sells the famous Czech ring bologna and are well known for their deli featuring delicious sandwiches and 40 different kinds of cheese. Bring a cooler to take some home!	785.729.3632
Buffalo Gallery & Pigeonhole Studio	302 4th St	Scandia	Tue-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-3pm	Owners and artists Connie Levendofsky and Marla Wilson offer creative and unique 2-D and 3-D art work, copper jewelry, custom car tag relief and an eclectic mix of antique and vintage home furnishings. Refreshments served Friday.	785.527.0393
Rockin' C Custom Leather	895A US 36	Scandia	Thu 9am-5pm; Saturday 9am-5pm (Closed Fri and Sun)	A unique store front/work space, offering quality, hand-crafted leather goods. See the process and equipment while you shop! Refreshments served and pick up a handmade leather item giveaway.	785.527.0138
Scandia Antique Mall	309 4th St	Scandia	Mon-Sat 10am-5pm	Shop to your hearts delight for antiques, primitives, retro furnishings, home products, artwork and new and used items throughout four buildings in downtown Scandia.	785.335.3303



SHOP STOPS



Smith County

SHOP STOP	ADDRESS	CITY	HOURS	HIGHLIGHTS	PHONE
Cedar Lane Cottage Studio	12082 I Rd	Athol	Sat 10am-4pm	Jewelry maker, Teresa Arment, offering sales on handmade jewelry. Stop in on your way to the Home on the Range cabin. From Hwy 36, Alhol, 4 1/4 miles north on I Rd.	785.282.0147
Kensington Community Store	128 S Main	Kensington	Mon-Fri 9am-7pm; Sat 11am-3pm	Since 2002 the community-owned grocery has been providing healthy food choices for Kensington and the area. Stop in for a cup of coffee, bottle of water, long john or cookie.	785.476.2852
Kensington Locker	218 W US 36	Kensington	Mon-Fri 8am-12pm; 1-5pm; Sat 8am-12pm	Here's your chance to pick up some locally butchered meat. Don't forget to bring a cooler for your meat purchase! Event Note: Tour on Friday, May 5 from 1-5pm.	785.476.2834
Hoss's Antiques	309 Main St	Lebanon	Thu-Fri 3-6pm; Sat-Sun 10am-5pm	Vintage home transformed into an antique/gift shop. Nine rooms full of antiques, gifts and collectibles. BKRT special-10% off anything over \$10.	785.282.4142
LaDow's SuperMarket	403 Main St	Lebanon	Thu-Fri 7:30am-6pm; Sat 7:30am-7pm; Sun 10am-5pm	Full service grocery store with fresh cut meats, vegetables, and dry and frozen goods. Bring a cooler and stock up on locally raised meat from R Family Farms. Sign up to win meat bundle valued over \$100. Geographical Center souvenirs sold here. Free Lebanon sticker with any purchase.	785.389.3261
Blooms	118 S Main	Smith Center	Thu-Fri 10am-5pm	Visit this sweet boutique filled with fresh flowers, gift and home decor. BKRT visitors receive 20% off boutique, gift and home decor items (excludes flowers).	785.282.0873
Foxy Finds and Consignments	125 Main St	Smith Center	Thu-Fri 9am-6pm; Sat 10am-4pm	Home decor, tools, vintage, jewelry, books, games, toys, cooking items, and more. Specials deals for BKRT visitors plus water, tea and snacks.	308.390.4474
In the Garden, LLC	510 S Jefferson	Smith Center	Thu 1-6pm; Fri 9am-6pm; Sat 9am-4pm; Sun 1-4pm	Annuals, perennials, vegetables, mixed planters, hanging baskets, and seasonal items from the area. BKRT visitors receive a free packet of flower seeds and homemade sugar cookie.	785.620.7556
Kendalyn's On Main	225 S Main St	Smith Center	Thu-Sun 8am-8pm	Locally owned antiques and collectibles, furniture, hand crafted items, new and gently used home decor, housewares, small appliances, clothing, sporting goods, western merchandise, and much more. Variety of beverages, snacks and special treats plus 10%-75% off hundreds of items for BKRT visitors.	817.703.6064
ReadyUP Wear	121 S Main	Smith Center	Thu-Sat 11:30am-7:30pm	New business offers clothing, Ariat footwear, western boots and casual shoes. Free snacks on Saturday. BKRT visitors receive 10% off select products.	785.282.4973
Twisted Petal	111 E Court	Smith Center	Thu-Fri 7am-5:30pm; Sat 7am-12pm	Sip on a delicious cup of coffee (free coffee on Thursday for BKRT visitors!) while you shop for gifts and admire the beautiful floral arrangements when you visit this lovely, locally-owned shop.	785.282.6579

SHOP LOCALLY WITH PURPOSE

For a wholesale truck to even stop at a grocery store, the store must buy at least \$10,000 worth of groceries a week. Since many small stores can't do that, they sometimes share orders with another store or buy their inventory from a big box store. It certainly isn't easy and owners work long hours. If you can, pick up some groceries in small stores during the BKRT.





OPEN 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. Friday, Saturday, Sunday Homemade baked goods | 105 E. Madison St. | Mankato







In 1934, Desire Tobey Sears Chapter, NSDAR erected a bronze plaque to honor the 28 Buffalo Militiamen who built Fort Jewell on May 13th and 14th, 1870. The plaque stands in the southwest corner of Maag Park.



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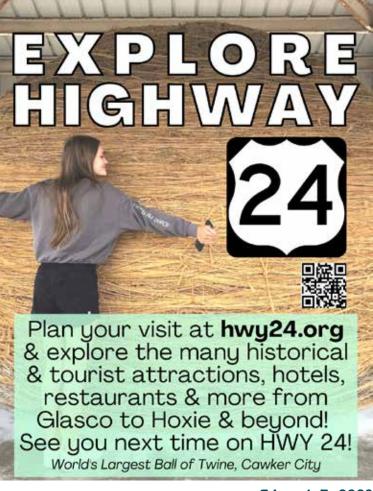
OPEN DAILY 11 AM - 9 PM 610 E South (US HWY 36) Mankato, KS

> 785-378-8600 @SwedenCremeKS SwedenCremeKS.com



Saturday, May 4 Seth Cushing 10 AM - NOON Favorite Stop!









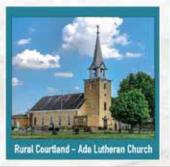
YOU ARE INVITED TO EXPLORE POST ROCK COUNTRY!

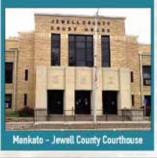
Welcome Big Kansas Road Trip!

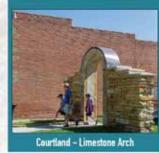
The swath of the state of Kansas depicted on this map holds the natural Greenhorn Fence Post limestone beds across 18 counties. We welcome all limestone enthusiasts, architecture and history buffs, rock hounds, fossil finders, educators, and tourists and travelers to our numerous history museums, historic downtowns, rural art galleries, stately places of worship, and beautiful scenic views.

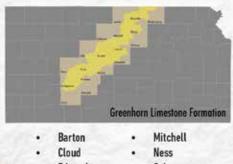
You can find limestone structures all across the state of Kansas, but in Post Rock Country, you can make a day trip of it! Explore rural communities towering with native limestone architecture and back roads with historic bridges and fence posts standing watch over the roads, fields and pastures. Choose your own adventure, there is so much more to see! The evidence of the hardy spirit of the homesteaders and pioneers who came before us is present today in Post Rock Country!

kansaspostrocklimestone.org









- Osborne
- Edwards Ellis Ottawa
- Ellsworth Pawnee Ford Republic
- Hodgeman Rush
- Jewell Russell Lincoln Washington

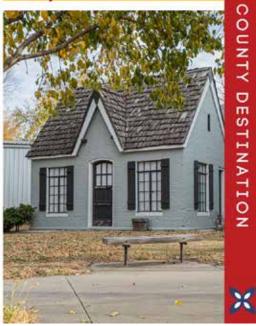






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REPUBLIC







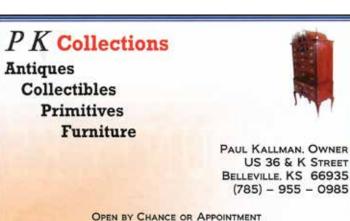


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402 Main St Courtland, KS







Mitchell
County has
11 new
murals
created by
local artists!

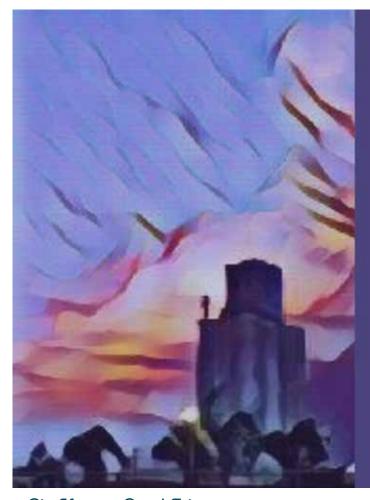
Scan the QR code for a map of the murals.







mitchellcountystrong.com/murals muralsofmitchellcountyks@gmail.com



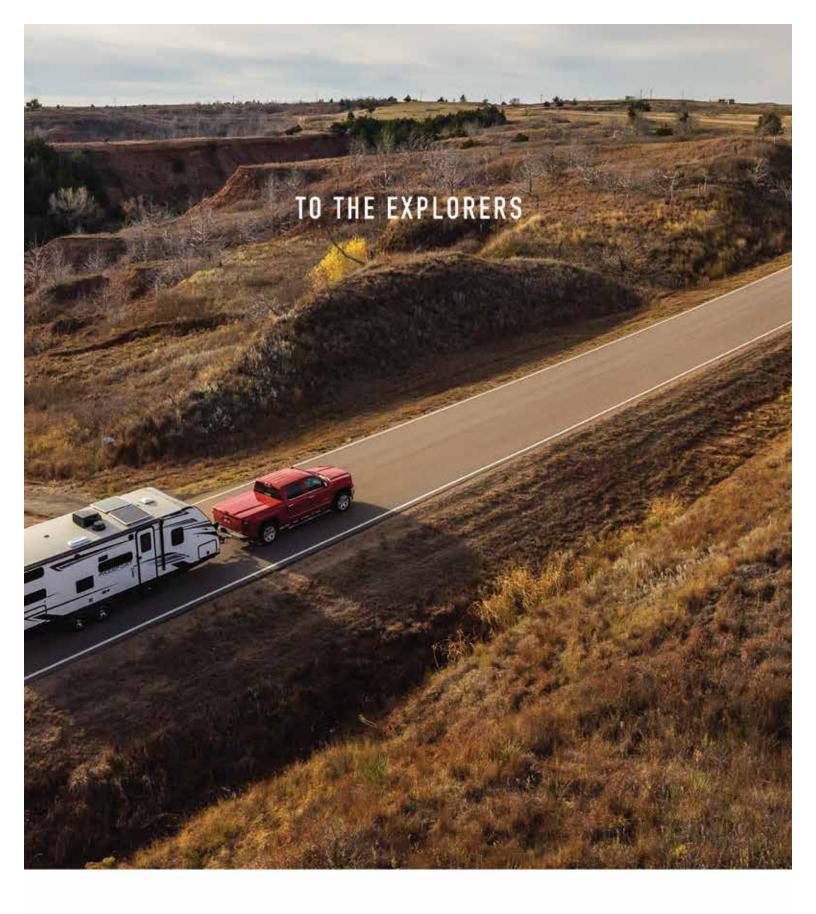
Washington County is made up of twelve villages who welcome visitors to their communities. There are community festivals and activities occurring monthly in the various villages. You won't find one fast food franchise, but you will find home-cooked meals at cozy little country cafes. We don't even have a stop light in our county, however you can stroll through an antique shop or quilt shop bringing back memories of grandma's house.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Kansas

https://washingtoncountyks.gov/ county-departments/tourism/







Your to-do list can wait. It's time to unplug and recharge your own battery. Wherever the open road leads is exactly where you're meant to be.

The Kansas experience is a salute to the outdoors. To the adventurous. To the explorers, To the stars.