

Center for Counseling and Consultation serves community

The Center for Counseling and Consultation has been serving the mental health needs of Central Kansas for nearly fifty years.

The agency was founded under Kansas law in 1967 by joint resolution of the county commissioners of Barton, Rice and Stafford Counties in conjunction with the local mental health association with the goal of being a community resource “where people with psycho-social problems” could receive help and guidance. In 1975, Pawnee County joined The Center’s catchment area when Larned State Hospital closed its outpa-

tient services program.

Initially called “Mid-Kansas Mental Health Center,” it opened to the public on January 16, 1968, with a staff of only three – a reception, a psychologist and a social worker. A brochure from its opening indicated that “in addition to treatment, it provided education, prevention, consultation and research in the mental health field.”

While the primary goal of being a community resource has not change, The Center’s programs have expanded over time to now include medication evaluations, case management and addiction recovery services.

Today, the staff has grown to approximately ninety and includes the area’s only fulltime outpatient psychiatrist. Its primary location is in Great Bend on Broadway Ave. west of Patton Road and has satellite offices in Larned, Lyons and Stafford.

The Center receives both State and local public funds and is governed by a Board made of appointees from each of the representative counties. As a state licensed community mental health center, they serve as a safety net for those in mental crisis. The Center accepts most major insurances and offer an income based sliding fee schedule.

Plains State Bank opens third location



Front row sitting left to right; Gene Dikeman, CEO & President and Tim George, SVP Loan Officer. Back row left to right; Lindsay Schartz, SVP Director of Risk Management, Roxanne Ibarra, Operations Officer, Cory Galindo, BSA Coordinator, Christy Kuhn, EVP Corporate Management.

Plains State Bank announces the opening of its third full-service Kansas branch in Great Bend. The Bank opened its newest branch August 3, 2016 at 800 Coolidge Street, Great Bend, Kansas.

Christy Kuhn, Executive Vice President, stated, “a new chapter has begun at Plains State Bank, and we are excited to announce we are now open for business at our new full service banking location.”

This new chapter comes after the success of the loan production office that opened in Great Bend in 2014.

Now that the full-service location is open, the staff is excited to continue to serve Barton, Pawnee and surrounding counties with excellent service, progressive technologies, and personalized products.

Plains State Bank was originally founded in 1906 by John and Frank Collingwood in Plains, Kansas. Both men were Kansas farm boys, and the Bank’s commitment to rural Kansas has not changed over the past 110 years. Acquiring a second branch in Lakin in 2006 then expanded to Great Bend in 2014, Plains State Bank has a rich history of serving rural Kansas.

The staff carries the passion to serve rural Kansas, as well as the desire to pursue Plains State Bank’s purpose.

Kuhn shared, “We encourage you to stop in and visit with one of our tenured employees about your banking relationship and how Plains State Bank can help make your success simple.”

With the intent to make banking simple

for their customers, the team at Plains State Bank is always looking to improve their services. Some of their current services built for customer convenience including a 24-hour intelligent ATM, mobile banking, as well as online banking.

Gene Dikeman, Plains State Bank CEO, invites the community to come by the new branch as well. “We very much appreciate our new customers and the support from the community that has allowed us to make available complete banking services at our new location.”

To learn more about how Plains State Bank can make your success simple stop by 800 Coolidge Street in Great Bend, call at 620-796-2370, or check out the website at www.plainsstatebank.com.

BARTON COUNTY

residents and businesses, operates the household hazardous waste facility and other like programs.

Emergency / Risk Management – The Emergency/Risk Management Department provides multiple services for the citizens of Barton County - Emergency Management and Risk Management.

Emergency Management – The overall goals of the Emergency Management program are to reduce the loss of life; to minimize property loss and damage to the environment; and to protect Barton County from all threats and hazards.

Risk Management – In addition to emergency management functions, the department director acts as the Risk Manager administering property, vehicle, liability and workers compensation insurance, and safety issues.

Communications/911 – Barton County Communications is the public

safety answering point for all of Barton County and has enhanced 911 services. As such, Communications dispatches for the Barton County Sheriff’s Department;

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the Police Departments of Claflin, Ellinwood, Great Bend, and Hoisington, the Kansas Highway

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