

Beautiful Beginnings has moved & expanded

We recently had an opportunity to sit down with Jennifer Klepper, owner along with her husband Scott, of Beautiful Beginnings Bridal. The reason for our visit was to get the inside information as to why the business recently moved from its location at 1523 North Main to a new location just south of the old location at 1519 North Main. The business has been operating from the 1523 North Main, more affectionately known as Brentwood corner which has been a landmark location in Great Bend for many years. Before we get into the reason for the move a little background of the company history might be helpful.

Beautiful Beginnings has been in existence since 1985. Prior to 2000 the business was located on the north side of the Court House square. In 2000, under the ownership of Cheri Miller, the business was moved to the Brentwood location. The ownership has transitioned

through three owners prior to being purchased by Jennifer and her husband in 2008. Under the new ownership, Beautiful Beginnings added women's casual clothing to complement their wedding gowns.

In June of this year the facility Beautiful Beginnings had occupied since 2000 was sold to DC Real Estate to provide additional office facilities for the expanding nationwide operations of BMI. Beautiful Beginnings began immediately to research for available locations to relocate the business. When asked why they chose the current location, Jennifer indicated they decided to move to the new location when DC Real Estate indicated a willingness to remodel the 1519 location and lease the premises to Beautiful Beginnings. Jennifer stated: "We were able to basically customize our new location to make it work for us and our customers".

The new location is smaller than the prior facility

which limited the space for all lines of business. Jennifer stated that as a result of the reduced space a second location at 113 North Main in Ellinwood has been opened which will specialize in women's casual wear and Brighton Jewelry. This second location will be known as "Beautiful Beginnings Closet". According to Jennifer, "If all goes well we are interesting in developing our "Closet" in Ellinwood into a shop with not only cute clothes but also locally made gift items". They are currently carrying Kansas Earth and Sky candles made locally and hope to add other products in the future.

Jennifer concluded our interview by stating she wanted to remind everyone that in addition to wedding gowns, the Great Bend location at 1519 North Main will carry tuxedos, bridesmaid, and mother of the bride, flower girl attire and Brighton. They will also continue to carry a full assortment of prom dresses.

Tax credits available at Ellinwood Hospital District

The deadline to receive refundable Kansas tax credits from a local source is fast approaching, with December 31 looming in the distance. The Ellinwood Hospital District, the entity that manages the tax support that goes to support Ellinwood Hospital and Clinic, was awarded \$200,000 in 70% tax credits through the Kansas Community Service Program. The project that they applied for was to build a pharmacy and an outreach clinic in Ellinwood.

"Our Pharmacy and Outreach Clinic project will be a wonderful addition to our community," states Lindsey Bogner, Foundation and Community Education Director at Ellinwood Hospital and Clinic. "This is a much-needed service to patients, not only in Ellinwood, but in the surrounding communities as well. Patients and community members have repeatedly expressed the need for these services, so as a hospital, it is our responsibility to provide those services."

Bogner explains a tax credit: "A tax credit is a

refundable credit against Kansas state income tax liability. Basically, if you owe state tax, a tax credit will lower the amount you owe, or if it is worth more than what you owe, you will receive a refund. For example, if you make a donation of \$1,000 to the project, you will receive a \$700 Kansas tax credit. Say you owe \$500 in Kansas taxes. Your credit will take your amount to zero, and you will receive a tax refund of \$200. Then you also claim the donation as a federal deduction." She caveats by saying "Always consult a certified tax preparer or consultant."

Each year since 1994, the Kansas Community Service Program (CSP) has given nonprofit organizations a way to improve their ability to undertake major capital fund-raising drives for various projects. Tax credits are allocated each year and awarded on a competitive application basis to nonprofit organizations. The nonprofit organization may offer the Kansas income tax credits to contributors of approved projects.

Projects eligible for tax credit awards include community service, crime prevention, health care, and

youth apprenticeship and technical training. Based on the scope and cost of the proposed project, applicants may request up to \$250,000 in tax credits. Applicant organizations in rural areas (less than 15,000 population) are eligible for a 70 percent credit. Applicant organizations in non-rural areas are eligible for a 50 percent credit.

Ellinwood Hospital and Clinic is a 25-bed Critical Access Hospital and Rural Health Clinic. With a 24/7 Emergency Room with 2 beds, The hospital provides inpatient acute care, skilled swing bed, and intermediate swing bed care and many outpatient services: endoscopy, physical and occupational therapy, a full service laboratory, and a full range of imaging services – traditional x-ray, CT, mobile mammography, mobile US/sonography, mobile MRI.

The Ellinwood Clinic offers full family care, from newborn to geriatric care, provided by practitioners that truly care about you and your health. The Clinic offers multiple outreach specialty services, as well: endoscopy, gynecology, dermatology, and endocrinology.

Beautiful Beginnings
CLOSET

Spanx Ladies Casual Shoes Squeem
Brighton

Locally Made Products
Kansas Earth & Sky Candle Co.

113 N. Main, Ellinwood
Hours: MTWF 10 am - 6 pm



Looking for a way to lower your tax burden?

Want to support a local community project?

Consider donating to our Pharmacy and Outreach Clinic Project and receive a 70% Refundable Kansas Tax Credit for 2017. The deadline for giving is December 31.

Call for more info.

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