

BC Sheriff's Office takes pride for 145 years of service

For 145 years the Sheriff's Office has served the citizens of Barton County. The first Sheriff, George Moses, was elected in 1872 when Barton County was organized. Since that time, 30 persons have been elected to the position. Only 29 of those were actually sworn in. In 1950 Sheriff elect Alfred Jacka was killed before he was sworn in. Jacka died due to accidental electrocution while searching for other victims. He remains the only Barton County law enforcement officer to die in the line of duty. In Kansas, Sheriffs



Barton County Sheriff swears in new deputies.

have complete law enforcement authority within their County and are the only law

enforcement officers who are directly, democratically elected by the citizens of their

jurisdiction. The Sheriff answers only to District Court judges and the voters of his County.

Although the duties of the County Sheriff have changed over the years, the basic role he plays in county government remains unchanged. First and foremost, it is the duty of the Sheriff to keep prisoners for the District Court in the county jail. The Barton County Jail is the only jail in Barton County, therefore we hold prisoners for the other cities in the county as well as state law enforcement agencies. Secondly, Sheriffs must serve the civil process and warrants that are issued by the District Court. Lastly, because Sheriffs have the power of arrest, they are also the chief law enforcement officers for

the county. The Sheriff's office investigates crimes as well as enforces traffic regulations and County Resolutions. The Sheriff may investigate crime anywhere within his County, including inside corporate city limits. Currently the Barton County Sheriff's office holds approximately 90 to 100 inmates daily. Almost 14,000 pieces of civil process are delivered by deputies for various courts. The Sheriff's Office has three main divisions, road patrol, records division and detention. Currently the office has 44 employees and an operating budget of approximately \$2.8 million.

Hoisington . . . not the typical Small Town

As the Executive Vice President of the Hoisington Chamber of Commerce, I am asked the most interesting questions on a daily basis. Do you know the number of the daycare in town? Who do I call if I have a question about my trash? Where is the best place to get my hair done? My toilet is over flowing, can you tell me who can help? There's never a dull moment answering questions and carrying on conversations at the Chamber Office. There is one topic of conversation however that is full of excitement and flows with ease. This topic quite simply put is Hoisington. What makes Hoisington, their businesses and community special and unique?

The answer . . . the people. This community may be small but those who choose to live and work in Hoisington are determined, compassionate, and strong-willed individuals. I have seen this in every aspect of my work with the Chamber and our community. Small town charm & businesses that know your name are not a



thing of the past. It's the Hoisington charm that is the foundation of this community.

Small towns are dying, yet this small town is finding ways to thrive by building new homes, and bringing in new business, all while supporting those that have called Hoisington home for decades. Business men and women within this community strive to take the younger generation, transplants, and even out of towners like me under their wing. Letting this small town fail isn't an option. From getting your groceries carried by none other than Randy himself to having a zero waste to landfill facility as one of our largest community employers. From the multi-generation restaurants and even those former employees who noticed when I put an extra scoop of Oreos in my blizzard to the clinic that works you in when you're under the weather. From the pharmacist that takes



extra time to explain your medication to the volunteers who provide funds, food, and support for so many in need. From the folks who fix your truck when you have a flat or hit a turkey to those that provide a cold beverage after a long day. This community has an abundance of resilience. This community, the young

and the old, are willing to work together, bring fresh ideas, and work to improve the quality of life for its community and its businesses. So, well done Hoisington, you're not the typical small town but so much more. What else is possible for this amazing community? I know I cannot wait to find out and be a part of it all.

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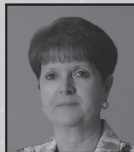
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