

# The Celebration Centre and Bar K Bar Arena provides a great venue for community and regional events



**Mounted Shooting:** Megan Schwartz from Moundridge KS - 2016 Overall Cowgirl State Champion. Competing at the Kansas Cowboy Mounted Shooting State Finals held at the Bar K Bar Arena.

Photo by Jeff Heidel

a gazebo for community members to relax in and enjoy nature. There are numerous life size bronze statues that can be found while wandering the trail. This paved and well lighted park is great for those evening strolls and outings with the children.

Gather your friends up for a fun afternoon of beach volleyball or horse shoes in the Estes Park. Located just west of the Celebration Centre building the park boasts the Santa Fe Caboose a long side the playground with spring toys, climbing ladders and swings. Add this to your family reunion or company party for a great location for all ages.

The Bar K Bar Arena is one of the nicest indoor arenas in the area with indoor stalls, bucking and roping chutes, wash racks and a timing and

sound system. The arena measures 225 feet by 115 feet and the annex features a show office, concession stand, meeting rooms and handicap accessible showers. A full service restaurant provides a great menu in a climate controlled seating area during events held at the Bar K Bar. Twelve additional RV locations will be added in 2018 making the total available at twenty-two. The outdoor arena and 48 additional covered stalls make this facility perfect for equine or livestock events. The arena is host to many events year around including the Cowboy Mounted Shooting, Horse Shows, Barrel Races, clinics and the 4-H County Fair.

Visit the calendar at [www.celebrationcentre.net](http://www.celebrationcentre.net) for upcoming events or call for a tour today.

Weddings, meetings, reunions, horse shows and so much more is happening at the Celebration Centre and Bar K Bar Arena. Located on the East side of Lyons on Highway 56 the Celebration Centre is utilized by businesses and groups both locally and from across the state. Offering many options for room sizes the Celebration Centre is able to accommodate most any type of event.

The Jack W Janssen hall is the ideal location for large meetings, craft shows and wedding receptions. The hall can accommodate up to 400 comfortably and currently hosts the monthly Celebration Centre dances with live music on the third Thursday of

each month. Both round and rectangular tables are available as well as a KDHE approved kitchen. Handicap accessible restrooms, sound system and projectors are available to help make your event a success. Some of the great events held in the hall are the Father / Daughter Dance, Christmas In July Craft Fair, After Prom Celebration, Lyons Chamber Spring Fling and the Ducks Unlimited Banquet.

The Zwick East conference room is suitable for baby showers, retirement parties, family reunions, meetings and so much more. Seating up to 80 guests this room is the perfect size for smaller gatherings. This room in-

cludes a kitchenette with a stove, sink and refrigerator. This room also has projector capabilities and a sound system. Many events are held in the Zwick East Room including Lifeline Screening, Christmas parties, business meetings and family holiday parties.

The Rice County Farm Bureau conference room is located in the Alderman Annex right next to the arena. This conference room is suitable for up to 40 guests and a perfect location for a child's birthday party or small meeting.

The one-half mile Davis nature trail is woven among the bird baths, trees and flower beds. Park benches can be found on the trail and



## Midwest Energy invests in Rice County

By Ryan Carlson  
Midwest energy invested in Rice County in several major ways in 2017. The first major project Midwest has undertaken is a rebuild of both the Lyons and Saxman electrical substations. The Lyons substation is located on Avenue M and the Saxman substation is located across the road from the Kansas Ethanol Plant on Avenue Q. Substations are locations where high voltage electricity arrives via transmission lines. There the electricity is stepped down to lower voltages for delivery to homes and businesses via the distribution system.

"The substation is a very critical piece in the electrical process," said Midwest Energy spokesman Mike Morley. The old Lyons substation was built in the 1940s and 50s and was well into it's service life. Midwest had wanted to undertake the project for the past couple years.

In the past the system was at times unstable because if there was a fault in any of the transmission lines feeding the station, the entire substation would trip offline. The new substation has a ring bus which isolates faults on individual lines, while keeping the other lines energized.

"It's a two part project. The transmission side of the Lyons Substation is done, and through 2019 we'll be working on the distribution side of the substation, and starting a voltage upgrade program in Lyons. Afterwards, we should see improved reliability with fewer and shorter outages," said Morley.

Midwest and the City of Lyons worked together in 2017 to remove several obstacles from around the approach path to the Lyons Rice County Municipal Airport. Midwest had been in discussions with the city for years concerning seven poles near the airport. The

discussion centered around the scope of work and the appropriate cost sharing for the project. Both entities finally reached an agreement in which the City of Lyons purchased the materials and Midwest provided the labor. The project consisted of a removal of seven power poles, and running the power lines held up by the poles underground, crossing under US 56. In addition Midwest marked several other poles with solar-powered lights on the top and the conductor between the poles was marked with aerial marker balls visible to pilots.

"All of our projects represent a 10 million dollar-plus investment in Rice County. Rice County is important to our cooperative, and is one of our larger counties in terms of load. We look forward to serving Rice County and the City of Lyons for decades to come," said Morley.



**Barrel Racing:** Kamryn Luedke and her horse Dakota from Colony, competing at the 2016 National Barrel Horse Association District 05 event at the Bar K Bar Arena.



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