

LAWRENCE BUSINESS

MAGAZINE

2025 Q3



THE FUTURE OF
AGRICULTURE



City of Lawrence Wastewater Treatment Facilities Receive Recognition

The City of Lawrence is proud to announce that its Wakarusa Wastewater Treatment Plant has earned the Platinum Peak Performance Award from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) for 2024 — the highest recognition for consistent excellence in permit compliance.

The Kansas River Wastewater Treatment Plant added another national honor to Lawrence's track record of environmental stewardship by earning the Silver Peak Performance Award, which is a significant accomplishment as the plant was undergoing major construction and upgrades while operating at reduced capacities throughout 2024.

"These awards are a testament to the incredible, dedicated, and caring wastewater treatment team we have here in Lawrence," said Trevor Flynn, Assistant Director of Municipal Services & Operations. "Their work largely happens behind the scenes, but it is essential to protecting public health and the environment. Meeting strict compliance standards day in and day out is an extremely challenging task — one that our team takes seriously. This is a great recognition for all of their efforts."



Good Energy Solutions and Brightwell Capital Partner to Bring Clean Energy to Nonprofits, Churches, and Government Organizations

Good Energy Solutions is excited to announce a new partnership with Brightwell Capital, a collaboration designed to accelerate the adoption of clean energy for nonprofits, churches, and government organizations.

This initiative opens the door for mission-driven groups to reduce operating costs, improve energy resilience, and shrink their carbon footprint, all while giving investors the chance to earn returns that align with their values.

Through the partnership, Good Energy Solutions brings the engineering and installation expertise, while Brightwell Capital provides financing solutions that leverage tax credits, incentives, and creative investment structures. The result is a pathway for these organizations to access solar power without large upfront costs.

Kevin Good Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Kevin Good, co-founder and president of Good Energy Solutions, received the Impact Award from the Climate + Energy Project (CEP). This lifetime achievement award honors Kevin's outstanding contributions to the solar industry, which have had lasting, positive effects on climate, energy, and environmental issues across the states of Kansas and Missouri.

Kevin founded Good Energy Solutions with his wife, Shana, in 2007. Since then, the company has grown to 70 employees, installed more than 900 commercial and residential solar systems, and expanded its services to include electrical work.

Kevin's career has combined his passion for engineering, construction, and environmentalism with a commitment to doing good, honest work for his customers.



LMH Health earns highest hospital rating

LMH Health just celebrated a remarkable achievement: a 5-star rating for hospital quality from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) — the highest rating possible.

Out of more than 2,800 hospitals evaluated nationwide, only 291 earned five stars—that puts LMH in the top 10% of hospitals across the country, and one of only eight in Kansas. This recognition reflects the outstanding work of every team across the hospital and is a testament to a shared commitment to deliver safe, high-quality care.



Peaslee Tech Launches \$10 Million Endowment Campaign to Expand Access to Technical Training

Peaslee Tech CEO, Dr. Kevin Kelley, announced the launch of the Peaslee Promise Campaign, a long-term fundraising initiative to establish a \$10 million endowment. The fund will provide scholarships for juniors and seniors from partner high schools and qualified Douglas County residents from low-income households to attend Peaslee Tech debt-free.

"The Peaslee Promise Endowment Fund will ensure technical training remains accessible and affordable for generations," said Kelley. "It's an investment in high-skilled, high-income careers for our community."

To lead the campaign, Kelley named Megan Hill as Executive Director of Endowment. Hill brings over a decade of nonprofit fundraising experience and previously served as Director of Donor Engagement for the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence. The endowment will be managed by the Douglas County Community Foundation, supporting both student scholarships and Peaslee Tech's long-term financial sustainability.

"I believe everyone deserves dignity and purpose through a meaningful career," Hill said. "As a parent of a Peaslee alum, I've seen firsthand how transformative these programs can be. My son's experience in the HVAC program helped launch his successful career right here in Lawrence."

The campaign has already received its first major contribution: a \$100,000 gift from long-time Lawrence residents Bob and Lois Hanzlik to fund scholarships for young people interested in careers in the skilled trades.



CEK Welcomes Brad Shanks as it's Newest Producer

CEK Insurance is proud to welcome our newest producer, Brad Shanks. You may recognize Brad from his time behind the counter at Taco Zone from 2014 to 2022—or, if you go back even further, from one of his many roles in the downtown service industry since 2007. However you know him, chances are you remember his signature laugh and, more importantly, his dedication to outstanding customer service. Now, as a Producer at CEK Insurance, Brad brings with him the same values that guided his years in hospitality: "Treat everyone that walks through the door like family."

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How well do you know Douglas Co? Where is this Lawrence palm tree?
And how long has it been part of Lawrence?

Be the first to correctly guess the answers to the questions above!!

Winner receives a \$50 gift card to 23rd Street Brewery. [facebook.com/lawrencebusinessmagazine](https://www.facebook.com/lawrencebusinessmagazine)

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OUR MISSION: Make a positive impact.

From the stories we tell to the FOUNDATION AWARDS we host, we are the only local magazine advocating for the people and businesses making a positive impact on Lawrence & Douglas County.

All of our advertisers have a stake in the local economy - we ask you to first consider them before looking to source your needs outside of the community. We believe in order to have a strong community you must be supported by businesses and people with a stake in that community.

“Lawrence Business Magazine is the authentic resource for diverse perspectives and relevant topics mixed in with community entertainment. We are all fortunate to have a professional publication that represents the unique qualities of Lawrence and Douglas County.”

▲ Beth Easter, Market President - Lawrence & Topeka, INTRUST Bank

“There is a new gold standard for articulate, informative, unbiased and entertaining periodicals, and its name is the *Lawrence Business Magazine*. Each diverse issue brings long anticipated clarity to the people of Lawrence and Douglas County. For those of us looking for a better understanding of our past, our present and where we will be in the future, The LBM is mandatory reading.”

▲ Derek Kwan, Executive Director, YOUR Lied Center

“The Chamber has been a big fan of the *Lawrence Business Magazine* since its inception 13 years ago. Businesses throughout Lawrence and Douglas County share their stories with consumers through meaningful and entertaining articles. The photography shows the diversity and vibrancy we are all so proud of in Lawrence. The magazine’s mission of “Making a Positive Impact” reflects the vitality of our community.”

▲ Bonnie Lowe, President/CEO, The Chamber of Lawrence

“Whenever Peaslee Tech is mentioned in the *Lawrence Business Magazine*, and anytime we are guests on The Lawrence Business Magazine Radio Show, we get so much positive feedback from their readers and listeners. They boost the awareness we need to help create careers for those in the trade industry and provide businesses with qualified workers.”

▲ Dr. Kevin Kelley, Chief Executive Officer, Peaslee Tech

“Express Professionals started advertising in the *Lawrence Business Magazine* over ten years ago. This was one of the best advertising moves we have made. It is continuous exposure to all our clients and potential clients we need to get in front of. The team at LBM is top notch to work with. Thanks LBM for being a great asset to the Lawrence community!”

▲ Kate Chinn, Owner, Express Employment Professionals

“The *Lawrence Business Magazine* is not only a quality publication, Steve and Ann truly support our business & endeavors. And with the FOUNDATION AWARDS - they do a terrific job. The *Lawrence Business Magazine* FOUNDATION AWARDS make businesses realize the importance of their own growth in our community.”

▲ Kathy Pine, Owner, Pine Landscape Center

“It is a great place to showcase Emprise Bank and support local businesses. At the *Lawrence Business Magazine*, they go the extra mile.”

▲ Cynthia Yulich, Community Bank President, Emprise Bank

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