

# Western Kansas Manufacturers Association Newsletter

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## 3i SHOW Partners with NWTF

WKMA is excited to announce its partnership with NWTF-Kansas (National Wild Turkey Federation). Tyler Kirby, NWTF Regional Director for Western Kansas & Western Texas, will be working closely with 3i SHOW officials to coordinate a hunting and conservation exhibit area for the 2015 3i SHOW being held October 8, 9, and 10.



A defined area will be held until May 1 for any exhibitors wishing to participate in the hunting and conservation exhibit. Within this area, the NWTF-Kansas will be promoting their Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt program. Their Wall of Guns and JAKES Take Aim BB Gun Range trailer will be on display as well as other events. Kirby said "This show has been going strong for over 60 years and is a staple in the agri-business industry. The hunting and conservation exhibit will be an exciting new addition! We are very excited about this new partnership and the opportunity to raise funds for all of our projects, helping the NWTF reach its goals of Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt." The area will be finalized on May 1. Any space requests received after this date cannot be guaranteed placement within the defined area.

A Space Request specifically for the hunting and conservation area can be found on the exhibitor information page of the 3i SHOW website at [www.3ishow.com/3ishow/exhinfo](http://www.3ishow.com/3ishow/exhinfo). Complete information about the NWTF can be found online at [www.nwtf.org](http://www.nwtf.org).

## RETURN OF HIGH SCHOOL AG CAREER DAY



High School Ag Career Day was a long-standing tradition of the 3i SHOW and, with the new October show dates falling once again during the school year, WKMA is proud to announce they will be working closely with representatives from Dodge City Community College to bring this event back.

High School Ag Career Day will be held on Friday, October 9, and offers students an opportunity to learn about careers in agriculture. Initial plans for 2015 include drone demonstrations, outdoor farm accident first aid, welding demonstrations, diesel and livestock safety, beef quality assurance preparation, and GPS tractor demonstrations as well as introducing robotics. WKMA invites all high school ag teachers, their students and parents, high school counselors, and extension agents to attend the 3i SHOW High School Ag Career Day. Complete registration information will be available soon!

Any educational institutions wishing to participate in the coordination of this event should contact WKMA directly. In addition, any 3i SHOW exhibitors who wish to sponsor or participate in this event are also invited to contact WKMA.

### Save the Date!

**Thursday, May 14**  
**WKMA Annual Meeting**

**New Product Award**  
**Nominations Sought!**

The New Product Award will be presented at WKMA's Annual meeting, and nominations are requested. Nominations should be emailed to [info@3ishow.com](mailto:info@3ishow.com) and include information about the new product and provide a picture and/or brochure if available. Nominations should be submitted by **Monday, April 13**. *Self-nominations are completely acceptable and encouraged!*

*"A North American Agri-Business Tradition"*

## HIGH PLAINS JOURNAL CONTINUES AS OFFICIAL PROGRAM

The High Plains Journal continues as the Official 3i Show Program for 2015! As the Official 3i SHOW Program, the insert will again be distributed throughout all of the High Plains Journal territories, providing great exposure for the show and exhibitors. Extra copies will also be printed and given to show attendees as they enter the show grounds. The Journal will continue partnering with an area chapter of the FFA to distribute the programs.

### Congratulations Scholarship Recipients!

WKMA is proud to continue their support of western Kansas students furthering their education at area community colleges, technical colleges and universities through the annual scholarship program. The scholarships are for freshman students who are residents of western Kansas, have graduated from a western Kansas high school and are U.S. citizens. Preference is given to students enrolling in Industrial Engineering, Pre-Engineering or Business Administration.

WKMA would like to congratulate the following 2014-2015 school year scholarship recipients:

- **Eduardo Martinez**, a Dodge City High School graduate, was awarded a \$500 scholarship at Barton Community College and is majoring in Business.
- **Keegan Bowling**, a Goodland High School graduate, was awarded a \$250 scholarship at Colby Community College and is majoring in Business Administration.
- **Edward F. Castillo**, a Dodge City High School graduate, was awarded a \$500 scholarship at Dodge City Community College and is majoring in Engineering.
- **Jonathan Corbett**, an Oakley City High School graduate, was awarded a \$500 scholarship at North Central Kansas Technical College and is majoring in Welding Technology.
- **Steven Fisher**, a Scott Community High School graduate, was awarded a \$500 scholarship at Northwest Kansas Technical College and is majoring in Engineering Technology.
- **Brady Graves**, a Liberal High School graduate, was awarded a \$500 scholarship at Seward County Community College/ATS and is majoring in Diesel Technology.
- **Martin Gough**, a Scott Community High School graduate, was awarded a \$700 scholarship at Fort Hays State University and is majoring in Management.
- **Jeffery Bogner**, a Garden City High School graduate, was awarded a \$700 scholarship at Kansas State University and is majoring in Engineering.
- **Jeffrey Richmeier**, a Thomas-More Prep High School graduate, was awarded a \$700 scholarship at the University of Kansas and is majoring in Business Administration.

One scholarship remains available for the 2014-2015 school year at Garden City Community College.

## WKMA SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR 2015-2016

Scholarships are once again available to area universities and vocational technical colleges for the 2015-2016 school year. Scholarships are available at Barton Community College, Colby Community College, Dodge City Community College, Garden City Community College, NCK Tech (North Central Kansas Technical College), Northwest Kansas Technical College, Seward County Community College/Area Tech School, Fort Hays State University, Kansas State University and the University of Kansas. *Scholarship applications should be made directly through the individual school's financial aid or scholarship department.*



WKMA scholarships are partially funded each year by the sale of three hundred limited-edition belt buckles commemorating the upcoming 3i SHOW. Buckle order forms are available online at [www.3ishow.com/3ishow/merchandise](http://www.3ishow.com/3ishow/merchandise).

For more information regarding scholarships, visit [www.3ishow.com](http://www.3ishow.com), or contact the WKMA office directly toll-free at 877-405-2883 or locally at 620-227-8082

# Kansas Workforce Summit

## 2015 Kansas Workforce Summit Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders in a Rapidly Changing Workplace

The 14th Annual Kansas Workforce Summit was held at the Topeka Capitol Plaza in Topeka, Kansas, January 21 and 22. Governor Brownback opened the Summit at noon on January 21. He discussed part of his Senate Bill 155 on Career Technical Education and its affect on technical enrollment in the state of Kansas. In the past two years, enrollment in the career technical programs has increased by over 60%.



Matthew Sigelman, CEO of Burning Glass Technologies., was the keynote speaker. Matt discussed how real-time labor information and “big data” analytics give workforce agencies

and educators unprecedented insight into the job market. With this information, these key players can understand the real gaps and inefficiencies in the market, and answer the Workforce Investment & Opportunity Act's (WIOA) call to align their programs to meet employer demand. But there's also an opportunity to challenge demand as well. In many cases, the strategies employers use to hire workers are inefficient and even self-defeating. Workforce agencies and educators can leverage this more specific awareness of demand to flag opportunities to make the job market work better for employers and workers alike.

Kevin Burke from ITC presented “ITC-Who We Are, What We Do, and the Skills We Need Now and in the Future.” Discussion included how ITC fits into the electricity transmission grid, how the transmission business works, the importance of military veteran placement services in their control room, and the skills and education required in the energy field now and in the future.

The new WIOA legislation was discussed. There are many questions and continuing developments around how it will affect employment and training. Danielle Waddell, Federal Project Officer from the Department of Labor Employment

and Training Administration as well as other government representatives were there to field questions and gather comments and concerns to take back to Washington.

Marcia Dvorak from the Kansas Enrichment Network brought another great program to this year's Summit, “The Hutchinson Project.” The Hutchinson Project presented an overview of how business and industry are offering internships and job shadowing experiences for high school credit. They also highlighted a program sponsored by the Kansas Enrichment Network called ROCKET21. ROCKET21 is an opportunity for youth and for Kansas professionals. It is an online innovation platform that enables youth to connect with professionals in a variety of fields to gain input and guidance. ROCKET21 brings real-world opportunities, experiences and connections through collaboration with Forbes, Nat Geo World, NASA, New York Academy and many other world-class organizations and companies. Youth can be engaged through a series of challenges focused on activities that require them to reflect on real world examples of professionalism. The platform is available to all youth online at [www.rocket21.com](http://www.rocket21.com). The desire is to establish Kansas PROs. Anyone interested in being a PRO can contact Marcia Dvorak at [mjdvorak@ku.edu](mailto:mjdvorak@ku.edu) with any questions. She will be happy to share specifics on becoming involved.



The first day of the Summit wrapped up with the Kansas Celebration Banquet sponsored by the Kansas Department of Commerce. Larry Isaak, President of the MHEC (Midwestern Higher Education Compact), presented “Increasing Educational

Attainment in Kansas: An Imperative for Future Prosperity” focusing on the increased demand for postsecondary education and training. Mike Beene, Director of Employment Services, and Lana Gordon, Secretary of Labor, were on hand to present the LWIB (Local Workforce Initiative Board) performance awards. The evening rounded out with some great prize giveaways.



The second day of the Summit geared up with the “Legislative Update.” The Kansas House of Representatives, the Kansas Senate, and the U.S. Senate were all represented. Their focus



was directly related to economic development and a trained workforce. A major highlight of this presentation is the question and answer session that follows. Attendees have the opportunity to speak directly with representatives about their comments and concerns.

Dr. Ed Berger, Kansas Cosmosphere Revitalization Initiatives Chair, and Tracey Tomme, Kansas Cosmosphere Directory of Education, presented "Applied STEM from the Cosmosphere - A New Universe." They discussed what the Cosmosphere is doing with applied STEM to address the shortage of engineers, how they inspire youth through educational camps and programs with a commitment to excellence, education and leadership in this nation's future.

"Federal Policy Changes: Opportunities for People with Disabilities" was presented by representatives from the National Disability Institute in Washington DC, LEAD Center's Public Policy Team, Griffin Hammis Associates and the Office of Disability Employment Policy. WIOA Section 503 and other federal policies that have recently aligned to support employment for people with disabilities was discussed. The major changes were discussed, highlighting key provisions, the new focus on employers, system coordination requirements, reasonable accommodations, qualification screening, affirmative action plans and compliance evaluation.

Tyler Tenbrink, Senior Labor Economist for the Kansas Department of Labor, discussed "Projected Needs for Kansas." Tyler discussed statistics including long-term industry employment projections for Kansas, the top 20 occupations, current job vacancies, projected employment growth by education level and more.



Jared Estes closed the Summit with a moving, inspirational testimony covering perseverance, attitude, teamwork, and refusing to take "no" for an answer. Jared outlined his grueling recovery that defied medical odds after surviving a fiery car crash caused by a three-time DUI offender that took the life of his young, beautiful wife. His recovery took him on a path that would either make or break him. Despite enduring an incredible loss and the pain of more than 50 surgeries for his life-threatening injuries, Jared made the choice to not just get back up . . . but to FIRE BACK. Jared's message was of perseverance and the importance of keeping a positive attitude. He shared his experience and the relatable lessons he learned along the way. Words cannot express the impact of this final presentation, "FireBack!"

The Summit is a A DO NOT MISS annual forum for community leaders and chamber representatives, legislators

and government officials, employers, educators, and local workforce board members to take action to address the new realities facing the workforce and economic development issues in Kansas. **Mark your calendars for the 15th Annual Kansas Workforce Summit scheduled for January 20-21, 2016.**

IN MEMORY OF

**John J. McLoughlin**

1941-2015

Longtime friend and  
dedicated community  
volunteer.

## WINKEL MFG. WINS SURVEY DRAWING

Exhibitor feedback is extremely important to the WKMA staff and board. Every survey is reviewed and evaluated to assist in making future show decisions. Congratulations to Winkel Mfg. for winning the survey drawing for \$400 towards their 2015 show space.

## KANSAS AGLAND 3i SHOW INSERT

**KANSAS AGLAND** WKMA is very excited to announce the addition of a Kansas Agland insert for the upcoming 3i SHOW. The Kansas Agland joins the Dodge City Daily Globe, the High Plains Journal (Official Program), the Kansas Farmer, and the Territorial Magazine in providing expansive coverage of great benefit to our exhibitors! The Kansas Agland is a Hutchinson News publication. Visit [www.KansasAgland.com](http://www.KansasAgland.com) to check out this publication.

## 2015 3i SHOW SPACE

Exhibitor packets have been mailed. If you haven't requested your show space yet, do so **TODAY** for the best selection!

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