



# the Homesteader

**Mission Statement (Adopted 2018):** The Ellis County Historical Society Museum collects, preserves, and exhibits Ellis County History for the surrounding community and its visitors.

## Dodge. Hunt. Snack. Nap. Repeat.

### 2025 ECHS BOARD

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#### Regular Monthly Board

Meeting at 5:30 pm

Monday, Sept. 29th

Monday, Oct. 27th

One of the perks of working with old documents is that when I get bored with emails, budgets, or schedules, I can dive into local history. One of my favorite kind of dives. The downside? I can happily lose an entire afternoon in dusty files—oops! Just last weekend, while helping out-of-town descendants of Jacob Bissing with their family research, I came across a funny article in the ECHS archives titled “Tallest Man in Hays Bit by Rodent.”

## *Hays Has a Part-time Female Cat Oct 18, 1928 Policing Rodent Infested Cellars*

**Ellis County News**

Did you know that Hays has a part time cat? Well, it has. This cat "serves" most of the business houses on North Chestnut street, keeping the basements fairly free from rats and mice and in return the cat—a tiger so far as markings go—receives gracious hand-outs, from grocery and drug stores.

The cat, seemingly nameless, has been on duty the last six years. It is a female and it never lacks for food and shelter due principally to the watchful eyes of George King and J. B. Basgall who see to it that the old feline has all she wants to eat. At King's the cat gets a daily portion of milk and occasionally a dish of ice cream; at Basgall's the choicest of meat scraps are hers when she pays a morning call at the meat market.

This mother cat has borne many families and when the kittens arrive there is always a basket placed at her disposal. Further, the parent bears such a distinguished reputation as a "mouser" that there is nearly always a waiting list of persons who are anxious to procure one of her mice-catching kittens. J. B. Basgall says he has given away dozens of her kittens and that from all he hears each kitten has made good the reputation of its mother in that it has proven itself a menace to all rats and mice.

A most peculiar circumstance in connection with old "Tiger" is the fact she manages to live on from

year to year when literally hundreds of other cats that invade the business district of the city meet a quick death either through being run over by motor cars or by eating poison. "Tiger," however, knows how to avoid the poison potions it is very apparent and her ability to dodge approaching motor cars frequently causes much amusement to groups of persons at street corners. The old cat usually proceeds diagonally across the thoroughfare, thereby showing she is a jaywalker, and after scanning all avenues of approach, if the way is clear she continues without quickening her pace. If she sees one or more cars coming she is most likely to remain in the middle of the street intersection until the danger is past before proceeding on her way. Only once has her strategy failed and on that occasion a car ran over her tail, breaking it. And she still bears evidence of this accident as her tail is "badly bent" and is carried at an angle.

She is a part-time cat because she divides her time among several places of business. Mostly "Tiger" can be found at the Rexall or Basgall stores but she shows a fine degree of impartiality at that and she pays regular visits to the other business houses on both the east and west sides of Chestnut from the railroad tracks north to the post office.

**...continued on page 7**

**OFF SEASON HOURS:**

**Monday—Thursday**  
**9am—3pm**

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

***Fr. Reggie Presents***

***Fr. Valentine***

**Thursday, Sept. 11th, 7pm**

Kennedy school basement.

***VGCA OKTOBERFEST***

**Friday & Saturday,  
September 26 & 27**

At Frontier Park in Hays!

Come get your spitzbuben.

***2nd Annual Heartland  
Community Foundation  
GIVEFEST!***

**Friday, Oct 10th**

Hays Rec Center

***HCT Haunted Tours***

**Friday & Saturday, Oct 24  
& 25, 7pm—10pm**

Sign up with Hays Community Theatre. ECHS buildings will be a spooky stop.

***DAR Hosts Steven Arthur  
Presents***

***Walker Army Airfield***

**Saturday, Nov. 8th, 1pm**

ECHS Main Gallery

***The Bricks Christmas Kick-  
Off Lighting Ceremony***

**Saturday, Nov. 29**

Downtown Hays Pavillion

***SAC MEETINGS***

**Monday, Oct. 20th,  
6:30pm 100 W 7th St,**

**Basement**

Open to everyone to help plan the 150th Celebration of Volga German Immigrants to Ellis County.

**FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

This summer has felt almost surreal as I've had the pleasure of welcoming visitors into our beautifully completed building. Seeing the look of surprise—and even awe—on the faces of locals never gets old. It warms my heart every time.

Even seeing it such disrepair four years ago I knew this space had incredible potential. Now, it's incredibly rewarding to see others recognizing what we've seen all along—especially in the main gallery room, which has truly come to life.

That space was the perfect setting for our ribbon-cutting ceremony in June, graciously hosted by the Chamber. During the event, we were honored to receive a commemorative brick from the Bricks in downtown Hays—a gesture that meant a lot to all of us.

Seeing a vision like this come full circle is one of life's true joys.

Speaking of accomplishments...

Earlier this summer, I mentioned we had four major grant requests in the pipeline. As of this printing, we're still waiting on decisions for two of them. While we didn't receive the T-Mobile Hometown Grant—which we had hoped to use for a new LED sign out front—we're taking that in stride. Instead, we'll still move forward with restoring the original limestone sign, which has its own charm and history. Not every grant will go our way, but we will continue to apply, apply, apply!

On the bright side, I'm thrilled to share that in late May, ECHS was awarded a \$35,000 grant from the Kansas Department of Commerce for "New Attraction Development" at our new sister site in Victoria. And those funds are already hard at work!

THANK YOU for being part of this journey with us.

And yes...

**HOLDING A COMICALLY BIG CHECK IS AS FUN AS YOU IMAGINE!**



Couple familiar faces pictured here. Can you spot them? ECHS President: Mary Kay Schippers, ECHS Treasurer: Jerry Braun, ECHS Secretary: Donna Maskus, ECHS Trustees Norman Clark and Priscilla Hunt, ECHS Museum/Collections Assistant: Susie Windholz, ECHS Intern Trevor Yocom, SAC Member Brad Penka, and long time supporters Representative Barbara Wasinger and Grow Hays Executive Director Doug Williams.



**Join us on October 10**

Give Fest makes a lasting difference and we hope **YOU** will be a part of it again this year!

**Mark your calendar and help us spread the word!**

The Heartland Community Foundation (HCF) is excited to host the **2nd Annual Give Fest**—a one-day celebration of giving, community spirit, and lasting impact!

**Double Your Impact!**

Every gift to ECHS's permanent fund at HCF on **October 10** will be **matched up to 100%** with an **instant cash grant**—helping us now *and* in the future.

**Endowed Funds are Forever Funds**

Endowed gifts are permanently invested, providing reliable funding year after year. Your gift today is a long-term investment in ECHS and its mission to preserve Ellis County history and tell our shared stories.

**Every gift counts. Every donor matters.**

Whether it's \$10 or \$10,000, **every gift helps makes ECHS stronger**. At last year's Give Fest, your gifts ranked us #2 in total donations. We appreciate your generosity so much more than words can express!



**IN-PERSON** in Hays, **Oct. 10, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.** at the Hays Rec Center, 1105 Canterbury where we will have a table set up to visit with you.

**GIVE ONLINE** during the Give Fest giving period at [HeartlandGiveFest.org](http://HeartlandGiveFest.org) Online gifts accepted from **Midnight Oct. 1 through 11:59 p.m., Oct. 10**. Credit card gifts are subject to a 2.2% credit card fee plus a 30-cent transaction fee.

**MAIL** your gift directly to ECHS, 100 W 7th Street, Hays, KS, 67601.

\*\*\* Checks must be made payable to Heartland Community Foundation with "ECHS" written in the check memo.

\*\*\* Checks must be received no later than Oct. 10th, so please mail your check early or bring it in-person to our office.

*Donations are tax deductible. Donors will receive a receipt letter after the event.*

Give Fest is sponsored by:



# “Like to Move It, Move It!”

*During all the renovations and sorting this song keeps playing in my head, by Reel 2 Real—1994*

## ECHS Tackles the Collection—One Artifact at a Time

This summer, the Ellis County Historical Society (ECHS) continued with the huge task: sorting, cleaning, and reviewing a mountain of artifacts and moving them to permanent appropriate storage—many untouched for years. With limited staff, space, and funding, managing a collection of this size is no easy feat—but we’re making progress, and we want to share how.

**First things first—our unstoppable “mountain slayer” has a name: Susie Windholz! Susie started with us as a dedicated volunteer, cleaning and prepping negatives from the Hays Daily News. She is now our Museum/Collections Assistant.**

Susie took on the enormous task of tackling these items that had been sitting untouched for far too long (since we had moved the majority of items out of the main brick building and the rented storage bays in the former Hays Daily News building). Thanks to her focus, determination, and countless hours of hard work, we’ve made incredible progress. When Susie sets her mind to something, there’s no stopping her. And honestly, we wouldn’t want it any other way.

**Her dedication has made a lasting impact on our collection, and we’re beyond grateful.**

The first challenge? Cleaning. Then came cross-referencing items with existing records—a critical step in understanding what truly belongs in our collection and what may have been accepted over the years without proper documentation.

You may remember our battle with mold—one of the unexpected hurdles we successfully overcame. But this wasn’t just about cleaning and sorting; it was about refocusing our collection to align with our mission.

### **What We Found:**

- 539 items were carefully reviewed and documented
- Many artifacts were unrelated to Ellis County’s history
- Over half of the items were not formally accessioned (not actually part of ECHS collection)
- Most were accepted due to past gaps in collections management
- Every item was evaluated for historical relevance and documentation

### **Why This Matters:**

ECHS’s mission is to preserve and share the rich history of Ellis County. While we appreciate every donation, we can’t keep everything. Our current policy—based on museum best practices—ensures that items are only formally kept or added (accessioned) to the collection if they meet specific criteria.

This allows us to:

- Focus our limited resources wisely
- Protect items that truly tell the story of our region
- Sustain the collection for future generations

### **What’s Next:**

As part of our ongoing strategic plan, we’re updating our collections policy and procedures. These changes reflect our continued commitment to responsible stewardship, sustainability, and curatorial excellence. Despite challenges, we chose to keep the museum doors open—even when conditions weren’t ideal—because we believe in the power of history to connect and inspire.

# ... Our Continuing Saga

## Why We Do It:

Our job isn't to save every antique—it's to preserve and highlight the pieces that matter most to Ellis County and its people. By focusing our efforts, we're ensuring your history is honored, protected, and shared for years to come.

We're always up for a good conversation and we love hearing your questions. Let's talk about the future—and how we are planning and working toward it today!

**Thank you for supporting ECHS as we care for the past—one artifact at a time.**

### Speaking of Items Without Proper Records

For over a decade or two, standing in a back corner of ECHS offsite storage has been this large drum. No identification number of any kind, no paperwork attached and no mention of it on any inventory list staff has been able to locate either ECHS or Sternberg collections.

The only clue is the wagon itself having the initials FHS and the gold color of both the wagon and drum. The image of FDR implies a reference date of the 1930's but everything does not add up.

#### Why is this piece in ECHS possession and what was it used for?

Many theories have been proposed by current staff and trustees, such as used in a parade honoring FDR. However, it was Theodore, not Franklin, that made a brief appearance in Ellis County. Franklin Roosevelt campaigned in Kansas in 1936, with stops in both Wichita and Kansas City. Did Fort Hays State College send their marching band to participate in such a campaign stop? Or perhaps this was a prop for an FHSU theatre production.

Could it have been a piece of the Sternberg collection that was gifted to ECHS in the early 2000's but did not contain a museum number? Conversation with Director Reese Barrick confirmed it was not part of the Sternberg collection.

#### The mystery was turned over to the internet detectives.

Sometimes Facebook has it's merit, at least for getting the word out fast if nothing else. By no surprise a plausible lead was produced within the short afternoon.

Shelly New said "it used to be stored in the band room at FHSU and I was always told it was a drum used in Paper Moon for a parade scene of some sort!"

You may be thinking like I was "there isn't a parade scene



in Paper Moon." Which I confirmed after watching it immediately that morning. However, there was a parade scene filmed. The director mentioned it in an interview and discussed how difficult it was to film. It took a whole day of shooting because any mistake meant the entire parade procession had to be reset. The very short scene of the main characters riding in a car with a parade in the background did not make the final cut. And it was not mentioned in any text we could find of what was in the "parade" for the filming.

So the search continued and Patty combed through the area newspapers of the 30's with no luck of finding a mention or photo of it from a parade locally. She also checked the University Leader publications to see if perhaps it got some ink time there.

**..to be continued!**



## Big Things Are Coming in 2026!

The countdown is on! **2026 marks the 150th anniversary of the Volga Germans' arrival in Ellis County**—and we're getting ready for a year-long celebration of heritage, history, and community.

### It will be a year to remember!

Our **Sesquicentennial Action Committee (SAC)** has been hard at work since October 2023, planning events that will take place throughout the entire year. From our local villages to as far west as Gove County—where Volga Germans and Black Sea Germans came together through migration and marriage—we'll be honoring the stories, traditions, and legacy that shaped our region.

Get ready for an unforgettable celebration filled with events, connections, and meaningful moments. This is more than just a milestone—it's a tribute to the generations who came before us and the vibrant heritage they built.

#### ON THE 2026 CELEBRATION CALENDAR SO FAR

January 23rd—Chamber Chat to kick off the 150th Celebration  
February 22nd—Presentation at the Rush County Historical Society on the 1st Arrival of the Volga Germans  
March 21st—Fr. Reggie presents Fr. Valentine Summerison  
April 18th—Ancestor's Mass at Antonino \*  
April 24th—Chamber Membership Lunch, Presentation on 150th Celebration Activities  
May 24th—Ancestor's Mass at Schoenchen \*  
June 6th—Bus Tour "Quarry to Glory", Kansas Post Rock Coalition  
June 7th—Ancestor's Mass at Liebenthal \*

June 13th—Kinderfest, ECHS Hays campus  
July 19th—Ancestor's Mass at Catherine \*  
August 1—9 —"150th COMING HOME WEEK"  
August 1st—All Villages Picnic, Ellis Co. Fair Grounds  
August 6th—Volga German Play  
August 9th—Mascht's Gut "Make Good" (Goodbye get together for those in town for the special week.)  
August 9th—Ancestor's Mass with the Bishop at Victoria  
September 6th—Ancestor's Mass at Lorretto \*  
September 12th—Ancestor's Mass with Bishop at Pfeifer \*  
October 4th—Ancestor's Mass at Munjor \*

★ Many of the Ancestor Mass locations will have a village reception celebration of some kind, stay tuned for more info.

★★ Other events are still tentative. A complete year long calendar will be printed and available soon.

#### READY TO DISCO?

**We have the only buffalo in the world with a built-in leisure suit!**

On Kansas plains it stands so tall,  
not hide nor hair, but denim all.  
A bison built from rivets and seams,  
straight from the wildest Wrangler dreams.

Pete Felten stitched a legend bold,  
with bell-bottom blue and copper gold.  
The seventies hum in every thread,  
where once the buffalo freely tread.

No roar, no charge, no dusty track—  
just faded jeans upon its back.  
A sculpture tough, yet funky too,  
the prairie's beast in indigo hue.

So if you pass, tip hat and grin—  
this buffalo's dressed to get down in.  
A shaggy ghost of the western past,  
in disco denim made to last.



Miss the excitement this summer? Read about the homecoming of Pete Felten's textile sculpture that returned to Hays after 40 years—

<https://hayspost.com/posts/889e1747-e8ab-4501-adf4-35e170981e29>

Continued from front page.

After about an hour of falling down a surprisingly productive rabbit hole, I thought I'd share some of the amusing things I found with all of you.

Turns out, back in the late 1920s, the city of Hays was dealing with quite the rodent problem. An article from the *Ellis County News* (August 2, 1928) titled "**Begin a Campaign to Exterminate Rats**" explains how J.S. Talbott and N.C. Whitaker—experts in rodent control—were hired by Dr. F.C. Cave from the county health department to launch a campaign against the nuisance.

The first step? Baiting the trash dump on the east edge of town along the South 40 highway with rat poison mixed into food that the rodents would find irresistible. Luckily, the poison they used was said to be practically harmless to humans and other animals. It was called "Red Squill," a bulb that grows wild along the Mediterranean coast. There are two types: the white variety, used in medicine as a heart tonic and expectorant, and the red variety, which has toxic properties that make it an effective rat poison.

What made Red Squill especially handy was its bitter taste, which most animals find highly unpleasant, and the fact that it usually makes animals vomit if they eat too much. Rats, however, don't vomit after eating it, making Red Squill almost like a poison made just for them. That made it perfect for a door-to-door campaign, especially when using stronger poisons would have been too risky.

I didn't spend time digging deeper to see if the rat campaign actually made a dent because, honestly, my original find (clip to the right) pretty much screams, "Yeah, good luck with that." Almost exactly a year later, the *Ellis County News* ran a headline about Mr. Brock—the tallest guy in town—getting bested by a mouse. Not a rat, not a squirrel, a mouse. Apparently, rodents don't care how tall you are; they just want to remind you who's boss. Rodents 1, Tallest Man 0.

NSAS, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1929

THREE SE

## *Smallest of Rodents Makes Attack On Knee of Largest Man in Hays*

"John, quit pinching me."

J. T. Brock addressed this remark to John Bissing who was standing near him. Both men were in Ed Ekey's picture studio on South Main street yesterday morning. Mr. Brock was in front of the counter, Bissing behind it. Brock thought Bissing was "pulling something" when a second pinch on the knee nearly made him jump.

He watched Bissing a moment, then moved a step or two away from the counter. Again he accused Bissing and again Bissing denied he was the source of annoyance. Just then the pinching began again and Brock began forthwith to investigate. His surprise was exceeded by his fright, however, when a mouse ran from his trousers' leg and scurried across the floor.

"My Lord, John," he gasped, "that infernal mouse has bitten me on the knee."

If there was humor in a situation wherein so small a creature as a tiny

mouse had attacked the largest man in Hays Mr. Brock failed to see it. He was nonplussed. Then along came John Troth, newly arrived from Colorado with a wagon load of onions, he accosted Brock.

"How many onions can you use this winter," he inquired of the mouse's victim on whose forehead beads of sweat were standing.

"G-G-Give m-m-me a-bout a half-bushel," Mr. Brock stammered.

Soon after the purchase Mrs. Brock came into the Brock establishment to which her husband had retreated in confusion after the mouse-biting episode.

"Goodness me, did you buy those onions?" the wife inquired.

"Yep, I surely did," was the answer.

"And you know we never eat onions," pursued Mrs. Brock.

"That's right too; I never thought of that," confessed the husband. "You see a mouse bit me. I guess I was a bit excited and didn't know my onions."

Our mission goes beyond museum walls and exhibits—it's about building community.



Summertime gives us the perfect chance to take that mission on the road.

In early August, we traveled to Lincoln, Nebraska for the AHSGR Convention. It was a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. We set up our vendor booth featuring our unique Volga German apparel and handed out hand fans to invite attendees to join us in Hays in 2026 for our Sesquicentennial celebrations. One highlight will be the “Coming Home” week, when we’ll proudly host the AHSGR Convention right here in Hays.

We also took part in the Riley County Genealogical Society Conference in Manhattan—our first time at this great event. It featured a variety of participating organizations and three engaging presentations throughout the day. Since the conference is held every other year, we’re already looking forward to returning in 2027.

Attending events to share the mission and vision of ECHS is something we truly enjoy—and do often.

## SPITZBUBEN

### Hear that?

It's the whisper of buttery layers and sweet, jammy centers calling your name... Could it be?

Yes—it's the return of the one and only ECHS **Spitzbuben**: aka Ellis County GOLD. **These cookies are the real prize.**

This year, we're leveling up the deliciousness with **homemade jams by Gwen Urban**, lovingly tucked between those tender, sugary layers. One bite and you'll be transported straight back to Grandma's kitchen... where everything was warm, sweet, and just a little bit magical.

Got a craving? Totally normal.

Around here, we call it **Spitzbuben Fever**.

Symptoms include:

- \* Daydreaming of cookies
- \* Random smiling
- \* Mild panic when the tray gets low
- \* Plotting your snack strategy for **Oktoberfest in Hays (Sept 26–27)**

But fair warning: **they sell out fast**. Like, blink-and-they're-gone.

So stock up early ... hoarding is real.

And embrace the sweet, flaky obsession that is **Spitzbuben**.  
(No judgment—we're all addicted too.)



## BTW —

Did you miss our first three **Trivia Nights**? Say it ain't so! Since 2023, we've been throwing down the ultimate battle of wits—and trust us, the competition is fierce (and hilarious). Teams have been duking it out for bragging rights, eternal glory, and our *infamous* trophies.

But don't worry—your chance at trivia greatness isn't gone!

Mark your calendars for **March 14, 2026**, because Trivia Night is coming back bigger, bolder, and even more outrageous. Start assembling your dream team and sharpening those random fact skills—strategy matters!

## Summer Also Sizzled with Projects Getting Done!

This summer, we were lucky to work with two interns, thanks to support from NexGeneration Round –Up for Youth Program.

Trevor Yocum is a FHSU history grad student who was new to the program, and Clay Johnson was a delightful bonus as a returning student worker, who you may remember helped with the walking tour app. Johnson, an art major at FHSU, most recently finished a children's activity book to accompany the historic downtown Hays walking tour. Pick one up for your kids or grandkids for free at the museum or many locations around town!

With additional funding from the Heartland Community Foundation, one of our interns, Clay, took on a big project—painting the Harness Shop—and truly made it his own. From planning to the final brushstroke, he handled every detail with care and pride.



Come by for  
a visit and  
check out  
the incredible  
results for  
yourself!

# 2026 SAC DONORS

## Let's Throw a Party 150 Years in the Making!

Big things are coming in 2026—our Volga German Sesquicentennial! Think parades, village events, a *Coming Home Week* full of food, music, family games (yes, even Volga German *Family Feud*), and more!

We're also cooking up a brand-new website, videos, podcasts, and a book to celebrate our shared story—but we need your help to make it all happen!

Donate today to honor our ancestors with the celebration they deserve.

Make checks payable to **ECHS**

and write “**SAC**” in the check memo,

mail **c/o ECHS, 100 W 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Hays, KS 67601.**

*(Donations are tax deductible and you will receive a donation receipt letter.)*

### **ADD YOUR NAME HERE:**

Bank of Hays

Susan Bissing Smith

Cedar Lodge Dental

Golden Belt Bank

Brian Gribben

Hays CVB

Brungardt Hower

K of C St Fidelis Council #1867

Keithley Funeral Home

Dan & Mary Kay Schippers

Donna Maskus

The Meckenstock Group Inc

Northwest Distributors Inc

Popt!

Dr Heather A Robben OD

Rohr's Carpet Cleaning & Sales

Cynthia Goetz Stone

City of Victoria

Vernie's Hamburger House

Volga German Centennial Association

Agnes Werth

Oren & Pat Windholz



**Thanks again** to another season of dedicated lawncare service for ECHS Boot Hill Property by **Mr. Travis Grizzell**. We don't know where he found time this summer. If you didn't catch the HCT Musical in July, he did a great job as *Sam Carmichael* in "Mamma Mia!"

### **Honor a Loved One with a Memorial Gift**

Looking for a meaningful way to honor someone special? A memorial gift to the Ellis County Historical Society is a powerful tribute—one that helps keep their memory alive by preserving the history, stories, and traditions of the place they called home.

Your donation supports everything from caring for historic buildings and collections to creating programs that connect people of all ages with our local past. It's a gift that not only honors your loved one but also gives back to the community in a lasting way.

If you're thinking about making a memorial donation or including us in funeral arrangements, we're here to make the process easy and respectful. We can provide donation envelopes for services and are always honored to help celebrate the lives of those who've made an impact. Names are inscribed on our permanent Memorial Plaque.

Thank you for helping us protect the history that connects us all.

# THANK YOU SPONSORS - YOU ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF OUR STORY!

Running the Ellis County Historical Society takes more than passion—it takes people like you. Your sponsorship helps cover operating costs to keep our doors open: staff, utilities, insurance, and more. Without your support, there are no exhibits, no programs, and no shared history. Our public funding is essential but it just doesn't cover everything. A sponsorship is more than a membership—it's a statement: **"THIS HISTORY MATTERS!"**

## AMBASSADOR (\$1500+)



**Terry Beach Edwards**  
**Brian Gribben**  
**Curt Staab Agency LLC**



## Benefactor (\$1,000 - \$1499)

**Hays Lions Club**  
**Robert Herklotz**  
**Jeff Pinkney CPA Inc**  
**Curtis & Renee Longpine\***

## Settler (\$500 to \$999)

**Bank of Hays**  
**Classic Quality Body Shop**  
**Emprise Bank**  
**Eyesmile Vision & Dental**

## Midwest Energy

**Patricia Phillips**  
**Thunder on the Plains Car Show**  
**VFW Post 9076**  
**Vitztum's Decorating Center**

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## Scout (\$75 to \$99)

<b>Gary &amp; Pat Albrecht</b>	<b>Tom &amp; Therese Haas</b>	<b>Bill &amp; Renette Saba</b>	<b>Patricia Thibault</b>
<b>Allen Gosser Family *</b>	<b>Leigh Purdy</b>	<b>Jean Stramel</b>	<b>Stephen &amp; Joanne Tramel</b>

\* Big thank you to our recently joined/renewed at higher level sponsors.

**Ellis County Historical Society**

**100 W 7th**

**Hays, KS 67601**

**Phone: (785) 628-2624**

**director@echshays.org**

**This agency is funded in part by the City of Hays and Ellis County Kansas.**

**New Family Membership Special \$15  
Gifted Membership from:**



## **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**CHOOSE ONE FROM THESE TWO COLUMNS:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Student \$10 (ID required) CODE 1130	<input type="checkbox"/> SCOUT (\$75 - \$99) CODE 1170
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior \$10 (65 and up) CODE 1140	<input type="checkbox"/> PIONEER (\$100 - \$249) CODE 1175
<input type="checkbox"/> Single \$15 CODE 1110	<input type="checkbox"/> HOMESTEADER (\$250-\$499) CODE 1180
<input type="checkbox"/> Family \$25 CODE 1120	<input type="checkbox"/> SETTLER (\$500 - \$999) CODE 1185
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime 500 (Single) CODE 1150	<input type="checkbox"/> BENEFACTOR (\$1,000-\$1499) CODE 1190
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime \$500 (Couple) CODE 1160	<input type="checkbox"/> AMBASSADOR (\$1500+) CODE 1192

NAME/BUSINESS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to the ELLIS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY*

----- **ENTER credit card information below** -----

Visa  Mastercard  American Express  Discover

Acc # \_\_\_\_\_ CVV# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**You are a person who understands  
the value of history. Thank you!**