



Beef Empire Days

**OFFICIAL
PROGRAM GUIDE**

MAY 31-JUNE 9, 2024



Welcome!

For more than five decades, Beef Empire Days has been a mainstay in Southwest Kansas. Built around the Beef Empire Days live and carcass show, it was a vision of John Dohogne, in 1967. Mr. Dohogne, the Plant Manager at Garden City's Producers Packing Company, collaborated with Earl C. Brookover and together they began the first Beef Empire Days Live and Carcass Show in 1969.

The great Beef Empire came from a study conducted at Oklahoma State University in the late 1960's. The study labeled an area 100 miles on either side of a line drawn from Lubbock, TX to North Platte, NE, as the Beef Belt of the U.S. Realizing that Southwest Kansas (Garden City in particular) is located in the heart of that area, this was recognized as the groundwork for a salute to the Beef Empire.

The now 10-day celebration provides twenty plus events geared to the cattle feeding industry, the arts and humanities, and the athletics of the High Plains area. Each of these events is made possible by dedicated volunteer chairs and sponsors, and the cooperation of Finney County and the City of Garden City.

Throughout the years, Beef Empire Days' original goals have remained. They include: advancement in the production and quality of beef; improvement of communications; and continued education and promotion of beef. These are the goals that guide the Board of Directors and the many volunteers who organize the events that make up Beef Empire Days.

So come celebrate with us!

In order to comply with state and alcohol and beverage control regulations, Beef Empire Days is not allowed to sell or distribute tickets to reception or dinners at the door of these events. Therefore, **TICKETS TO RECEPTIONS AND DINNERS MUST BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO THE EVENT.** Beef Empire Days event tickets are available at the Beef Empire Days office or online at www.beefempiredays.com



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COVER IMAGE BY 2024 FEATURED ARTWORK
CONTEST CHAMPION JOSH ROESENER

Title Sponsors



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President: Brian Price - Garden City, KS
Vice President: Edwin Cooper - Garden City, KS
Secretary: Issa Sommer - Garden City, KS
Treasurer: Shelbi Wiggs - Garden City, KS

MEMBERS

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Chase Gleason - Scott City, KS
Dominic Stephens - Scott City, KS
Jacob Jenkins - Garden City, KS
Jason Rios - Kingman, KS
Jeremy White - Garden City, KS
Marisa Kleysteuber - Garden City, KS
Todd Grothusen - Scott City, KS
Trevor Cox - Scott City, KS

EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS:

Historian: Mark Sebranek - Garden City, KS
Southwest K-State Research Center: Justin
Waggoner - Garden City, KS
SWKS Cattlewomen: Calie Hazen - Sublette, KS
Executive Director: Bonita McClure
Summer Associate: Katie Mongeau

For questions concerning information in this guide,
please contact the Beef Empire Days office at :
206 E. Fulton Terrace, Garden City, Kansas 67846,
(620) 275-6807, Director@beefempiredays.com
www.beefempiredays.com



SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

MAY 11 & 12

9:00 AM: Beef Empire Days Association
Cutting Horse Show
GCCC Bronbuster Arena

MAY 17-26

6:00 PM: WEEE Entertainment Carnival
Finney County Fairgrounds Parking Lot

MAY 15-JUNE 9

GC Banner Art Walk

FRIDAY, MAY 31

8:00 AM: 12th Annual Garden City Open
Tennis Tournament
GCHS Tennis Courts

10:00 AM-2:00 PM: FI CO Public Library,
Summer Reading Kickoff Event
Northeast Lawn & Nature Center of Library

7:00 PM: Specialty Risk Insurance Ranch
Rodeo
Finney County Fairgrounds

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

8:00 AM: High Plains Archery Club Beef
Empire Days Shoot
Mansfield Road

8:00 AM: 12th Annual Garden City Open
Tennis Tournament
GCHS Tennis Courts

10:00AM: Western Motor Beef Empire
Days Parade
Main Street

11:30 AM: Commerce Bank Chuckwagons
in the Park
Stevens Park

3:00 PM: Sunflower Livestock Showdown
Hosted by Beef Empire Days
Fi Co Fairgrounds West Pavilion & Show Ring

7:00-10:00 PM: Praise in the Park
Christian Music Concert
Stevens Park

7:00 PM: BULLS, BRONCS & RODEO
Driven by Legacy Auto - KPRA Rodeo
Fi Co Fairgrounds Arena

10:00 PM: Valley State Bank Boot Scootin'
Rodeo Ball featuring STEEL SKARECROW
Fi Co Grandstand Plaza

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

8:00 AM: High Plains Archery Club Beef
Empire Days Shoot
Mansfield Road

8:00 AM: 12th Annual Garden City Open
Tennis Tournament
GCHS Tennis Courts

[SUNDAY CONT]

8:00 AM: Sunflower Livestock Showdown
Hosted by Beef Empire Days
Fi Co Fairgrounds West Pavilion & Show Ring

10:00 AM: Empirical Timed Events - Team
Roping & Barrel Race
Finney County Fairgrounds

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

9:00 AM: Merck Animal Health Live Show
Finney County Fairgrounds

12:00 PM: Scouler Grain Cattleman's
Steak Cookout
Finney County Fairgrounds

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

6:00 PM: Beef Empire Days Sponsor
Reception
Moonlight Harvest

8:30 PM: People's Choice Auction
Moonlight Harvest

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

10:00 AM: Zoetis Cattle Working
Contest Finale
Deseret Cattle Feeders

FRIDAY, JUNE 7

Noon: Sunflower Classic Benefit
Truck Show
Fi Co Fairgrounds Expo Building

2:00 PM: Carcass Show at Tyson Foods
Tyson Processing Plant

6:00 PM: Beef Empire Days Awards
Banquet
Clarion Inn

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

8:00 AM: Sunflower Classic Benefit
Truck Show
Fi Co Fairgrounds Expo Building

3:00 PM: Western State Bank Beef, Beer
& Boots (Touch-a Truck & Tractor, Beer Garden & All
American Beef Battalion Steak Sandwiches)
Stevens Park

7:00 PM: Marc Baker & Untamed Country
Stevens Park

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

8:00 AM: Sunflower Classic Benefit
Truck Show
Fi Co Fairgrounds Expo Building

4:30 PM: Beef Empire Days Cattle Crawl
The Baron's Steakhouse

SEPTEMBER 21 & 22

Beef Empire Days Intercollegiate & Youth
Meat Judging Contest
Garden City Community College

2024 BEEF EMPIRE DAYS

DESCRIPTION OF EVENTS

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Events that require an entry fee are marked with: **ENTRY FEE**

Events that require a pre-purchased ticket are marked with: **TICKET**

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BEEF EMPIRE DAYS CUTTING HORSE SHOW

GCCC BRONCBUSTER ARENA • MAY 11-12 • 9 AM EACH DAY • ENTRY FEE

Two full days of National Cutting Horse Association approved shows with a full range of classes for all skill levels of horse and rider, including Youth. There will be a separate Feedyard-Ranch Cutting class.

WEEE ENTERTAINMENT CARNIVAL

FI CO FAIRGROUNDS • MAY 17-26 • 6 PM NIGHTLY • ENTRY FEE

Weee Entertainment is a family-based, 3rd generation Kansas amusement company, part of the Ottaway Carnival family. They provide the entire carnival experience including rides, midway games, and concessions. Weee Entertainment has purchased some of their equipment from Ottaway Amusements, so look for your favorites! Listen to the local radio stations for announcements on special wristband promotions and weather related closings. *** BED Carnival patrons to enter via Taylor Avenue to the West end of the parking lot and to use designated parking area.*

12TH ANNUAL GARDEN CITY OPEN TENNIS TOURNAMENT

GCHS TENNIS COURTS • MAY 31-JUNE 2 • 8 AM EACH DAY • ENTRY FEE

The Garden City Tennis Association presents the 12th Annual Garden City Open Tennis Tournament, which will be held at the Garden City High School tennis courts starting at 8 AM each day. \$15 entry fee, all participants who register before the deadline receive a free t-shirt. Double elimination, 8 game pro set with ad scoring and 12 point tiebreaker at 7 games all. Finals rounds 2 out of 3 sets with super tie breaker. Awards will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in each division. Divisions may be canceled if there are not at least four entrants/teams and will be put in other divisions. Visit Garden City Tennis Association on Facebook for online entry or call Heather Kneeland at (620)-290-1999 to register.



FINNEY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, SUMMER READING KICKOFF EVENT

FI CO PUBLIC LIBRARY • MAY 31 • 10 AM - 2 PM • FREE TO ATTEND

This year for our Summer Reading Kick off, we will be having a farm animal story walk. There will be booths around the outside reading stories and handing out information with animals in between. Here you will see animals that you see out and around the farm. We will provide water to drink and thanks to our partnership with the USD 457, we will provide Summer Lunch for anyone in school under the age of 18. Come by the library on May 31st from 10 AM to 2 PM, it is going to be a fun-filled event where we get to learn and explore farm animals and the library!

SPECIALTY RISK INSURANCE RANCH RODEO

FI CO FAIRGROUNDS • MAY 31 • 7:00 PM • ENTRY FEE

Come see how the traditional cowboy works the herd. The Specialty Risk Insurance Ranch Rodeo is a FREE event to attend where traditional working cowboys gather to compete and demonstrate skills that are used every day in cattle ranching operations. Although there are some similarities to rodeos that people are normally accustomed to seeing, ranch rodeo events typically use combinations of roping, horsemanship, and ground work skills to create a presentation of real-life ranch work. This is considered to be a team event where everyone works together to get the job done. Teams consist of 3 members with up to 20 teams. Events are doctoring, mugging and penning. The ranch rodeo will begin at 7 PM at the Finney County Fairgrounds Arena. Entry forms are available at www.beefempiredays.com. **Event Chair: Todd Grothusen, Dominic Stephens**

The Ranch Rodeo is made possible by the following sponsors: American Implement, Heritage Beef LLC, Lariat Feeders LLC, Miller Aesthetic Medicine, and Specialty Risk Insurance.

HIGH PLAINS ARCHERY CLUB BEEF EMPIRE DAYS SHOOT

GCHS TENNIS COURTS • MAY 31-JUNE 2 • 8 AM EACH DAY • ENTRY FEE

This is our biggest tournament of the season! Saturday is the 3D shoot, two rounds of 20 targets. After, there will be a 2-man Scramble where each shooter pays \$15 (\$30 per team) and their name is entered into a hat for the teams to be drawn. Each team member shoots one arrow at each of the ten targets and they use the highest-scoring arrow for that team on their scorecard. The team with the highest score wins 50% of the pot (entry fees). We also have done a long-distance shoot where you pay \$1 per arrow to shoot a large target. We have done the iron buck where a cut-out of a buck with a quarter-sized hole in it is set out around 20-30 yds. Shooters pay \$1 an arrow and try to make it through the hole. People bring "junk" arrows for this game. After all of the games, we do a big raffle where we give away donated items. We have 5 camper hookups for those who want to stay the night or we allow primitive camping.

WESTERN MOTOR BEEF EMPIRE DAYS PARADE

MAIN STREET • JUNE 1 • 10 AM • FREE ADMISSION

Garden City's largest parade is sure to be a crowd-pleaser with over 100 entries! The parade begins at 10 AM. For entry information or to register, visit us online at www.beefempiredays.com or contact the Beef Empire Days office at (620) 275-6807. **Event Chair: Roxanne Lansink & CVB Staff**

The parade is made possible by Western Motor and sponsored in part by Mary Street IceHouse, and KCB Bank.

COMMERCE BANK CHUCKWAGONS IN THE PARK

STEVENS PARK • JUNE 1 • 11:30 AM • ENTRY FEE

The aroma of sizzling beef beckons you to STEVENS PARK to sample the fun and flavors of the west with a FREE old-fashioned BBQ meal

The tender beef is slow-cooked to perfection to savor the flavors with all the fixings. Enjoy the true “out west” with chuck wagons, family entertainment, food, music and just downright family fun. Serving begins immediately following the parade at approximately 11:30 AM Grab the kiddos, your lawn chair or blankets and join us! **Event Chair: Marisa Kleysteuber**

Thank you to our featured sponsors: Commerce Bank, Circle Bar Heifer Ranch LLC, Royal Farms Dairy LLC, Noble Dairy, and United Wireless. Meat provided by Tyson.



SUNFLOWER LIVESTOCK SHOWDOWN HOSTED BY BEEF EMPIRE DAYS

FI CO FAIRGROUNDS WEST PAVILION & SHOW RING • JUNE 1-2 • ENTRY FEE

We are pleased for the 3rd year to welcome a youth livestock show to our lineup. The Sunflower Livestock Showdown hosted by Beef Empire Days is a 4-H livestock show for youth in SW Kansas and surrounding area to competitively show beef, swine, sheep and goats. There will be Showmanship, Breeding, and Market classes. The show Saturday will be BEEF only, and will start at 3 PM. The show Sunday will be swine, sheep and goats starting at 8 AM.

Chairperson: Hannah Morales (620)-290-4484, hkmorales89@gmail.com

PRAISE IN THE PARK CHRISTIAN MUSIC CONCERT

STEVENS PARK • JUNE 1 • 7 PM - 10 PM • FREE TO ATTEND

Praise in the Park is a non-denominational music event open to the entire community. Praise and worship bands from around the region will come together to share their music and faith. There is no cost to attend and a concession stand will be available. Bring your easy chair, bring your smile and come down to Stevens Park in beautiful Downtown Garden City. In case of inclement weather, the event will be relocated to the First Southern Baptist Church 2708 N 3rd St, Garden City.

BULLS, BRONCS AND RODEO DRIVEN BY LEGACY AUTO

FINNEY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS • JUNE 1 • 7 PM • TICKET

It's not our first rodeo! We have to admit, it has been a couple of decades since Beef Empire Days Inc. produced a traditional rodeo. Fans get excited about great rodeo entertainment and we aim to please! It's Bulls Broncs and Rodeo – Saturday, June 1st. We've offered an attractive “added money purse” to draw the most talented professional rodeo cowboys and cowgirls to this KPRA sanctioned event. One big night of rodeo, with a performance packed full of rough stock and a good helping of timed events. There will be a “mutton money run” for the kids, funny man Donnie Landis, and the fabulous Clydesdale hitch – Broken Spoke Clydesdales, from Winfield Kansas. Immediately following the rodeo enjoy The Boot Scootin' Rodeo Ball featuring STEEL SKARECROW. There'll be food trucks and a beer garden! **Tickets are \$5 at the gate, or FREE at any of our sponsor Locations (Legacy Auto, Central Power Systems & Services, Hertz, Ascendance Truck Centers, Bomgaars, Crazy House, KanEquip, and Mary Street IceHouse).** Beef Empire Days and our sponsors want to introduce your family to great rodeo fun, Let's pack that grandstand! **Event Chair: Aaron Elam**

EMPIRICAL TIMED EVENTS FEEDLOT & SPONSORS TEAM ROPING & BARREL RACE

FI CO FAIRGROUNDS • JUNE 2 • 10 AM • ENTRY FEE • FREE TO ATTEND

Area feedyard employees and locals that enjoy barrel racing and team roping are invited to attend this annual favorite at the Finney County Fairgrounds Arena beginning at 10 AM. Cowboys and cowgirls compete in events that are open to any current Beef Empire Days sponsor or feedyard employee.

Event Chair: Brock Baker – Barrels, Ashlynn Remington - Roping

This event is made possible by the following sponsors: Empirical, American Implement Inc, Animal Health International, Bowman Mfg., Feedlot Magazine, Fullmer Cattle, Global Animal Products Inc, Heritage Beef LLC, JEFO Nutrition Inc., Miller Aesthetic Medicine, and Parker Haskins Insurance Inc. Entry forms and information available at www.beefempiredays.com.

MERCK ANIMAL HEALTH LIVE SHOW

FINNEY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS • JUNE 4 • 9 AM • ENTRY FEE • FREE TO ATTEND

The cattle begin arriving at sunrise and the excitement level will peak by midmorning when the 56th annual Live Show takes center stage. Anyone with an interest in the cattle feeding industry is invited to be in the stands at the Finney County Fairgrounds at 9 AM when Live Show Judge Kelly Bruns begins the judging of the steers and heifers. **Event Chair: Cole Crawford**

Special thanks to our friends from LBS Scales who provide the weigh chute and scales for the Live Show and to TLC Trucking for their assistance in transporting the Live Show cattle to Tyson Foods. Thank you to the sponsors: Elanco, KCB Bank, and Scoular Grain. A big thank you to Merck Animal Health for their continued partnership.

LEARN MORE ABOUT DR. BRUNS ON PAGE 16

SCOLAR GRAIN CATTLEMAN'S STEAK COOKOUT

FINNEY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS • AFTER THE LIVE SHOW

The Cattleman's Steak Cook-Out sponsored by SCOLAR GRAIN gives you a taste of beef grilled to perfection by Klaus Outdoor Wood Pellets and Outdoor Living. Merck Animal Health and Scoular Grain invite all Live Show attendees, producers, and feedlot personnel and the general public for the noon lunch at the Finney County Fairgrounds Arena. Nothing satisfies like beef! Meat provided by Tyson.

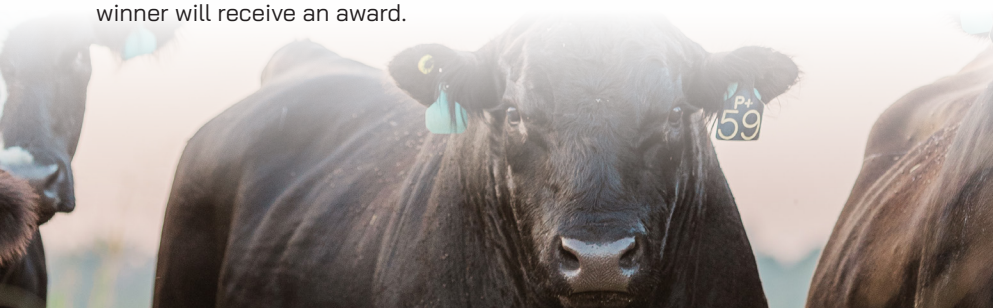
MEAT PROVIDED BY



PUBLIC PICK 5 CONTEST

FINNEY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS • JUNE 4 • NOON • ENTRY FEE

Can you beat the Judge? The Public Pick 5 is open to men, women and youth. Each person will pick five steers during the Live Show that they believe will be the top placers in the Beef Empire Days Index during the carcass show. The total of the Beef Empire Days Index of your five steers will determine the winners. Cost is \$10 per person to enter the day of the show. The top three winners of the men's and women's divisions will be paid out. The youth division winner will receive an award.



BEEF EMPIRE DAYS SPONSORS RECEPTION

MOONLIGHT HARVEST • JUNE 5 • 6 PM • TICKET

Beef Empire Days, Inc. honors and shows appreciation to our sponsors and their guests with help from our friends at EQUITY BANK! This annual event provides an excellent opportunity to network with customers and clients while enjoying cocktails and beef buffet dinner by John Ross & Co Catering. The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. with cocktails, country music from Josh Roesener DJ Service, "cornhole contests" on the lawn and time to enjoy the beautiful Moonlight Harvest facility. **Event Chair: Stefanie Sebranek**

A special thank you to: EQUITY BANK, Animal Health International, Midwest Feeders, National Beef, and Nutrien Ag Solutions Inc for their sponsorship. Meat provided by Tyson.



PEOPLE'S CHOICE AUCTION

MOONLIGHT HARVEST • JUNE 5 • 8:30 PM • TICKET

The People's Choice Auction includes the top 25 placing heifers of the live show. The objective is to select the heifer with the highest BED index score. The top three heifers based on the BED index score, will be paid. Participants and buyers alike are invited to join in on the fun-filled event.

ZOETIS CATTLE WORKING CONTEST FINALE

DESERET CATTLE FEEDERS • STARTS 10 AM, LUNCH AT NOON • ENTRY FEE

The Beef Empire Days Cattle Working Contest is open to all area processing crews and provides an excellent opportunity to learn the newest trends and test the latest equipment. It allows competing teams to be judged in a preliminary round in the comfort of their own processing facilities. Judges have been working with the crews through April and May on the preliminary competition. The top 6 teams from the preliminaries are invited to compete in the Grand Finale on June 6th. Lunch sponsored by DATAMARS will be served after the contest. **Event Chair: Kassity Tucker, Trevor Cox, Dalton Rutledge**
The Cattle Working Contest is coordinated and made possible by the following sponsors: Zoetis, Bowman Mfg, and Animal Health International.

SUNFLOWER CLASSIC BENEFIT TRUCK SHOW

FI CO FAIRGROUNDS EXPO BUILDING • JUNE 9-11 • FREE ADMISSION

Get ready for our 4th Annual Sunflower Classic Benefit Truck Show! All trucks are welcome! We have raffle prizes, door prizes and silent auctions. Join us for our cornhole tournament and our famous jake brake contest. Stop by the food trucks and listen to music by Weston Wilkerson. Stick around for the truck light show inside and out. Truck registration is \$100. All proceeds will go to a local family in need. Last year we were able to raise over \$20,000 for a 4 month old girl named Jemma. We welcome everyone to register and swing by to see some of the prizes and vote for the trucks. Check out our Facebook page for further details!

Event Sponsors: Big Rig Tees, Babcock Trucking, Cattle relocation, D&J Truck and Trailer Service, Klotz & Sand, MWL. INC, JDK Trucking, Dickerson Custom Trucks, 10-4 Magazine, Trux Accessories, Rockwood, Big Rig Chrome Shop, 4 States Trucks, Diesel Life, DAP, I29 Custom Truck Parts, ISSPRO, Crossroads Trailer, H&A Chrome Shop, Lifetime Lugnut, Valley Chrome Plating, Lincoln Chrome, Stay Loaded Apparel, SH Tube and American Eagle Exhaust.

CARCASS SHOW AT TYSON FOODS

TYSON PLANT • JUNE 7 • 2 PM

The public is invited to view the carcasses of the steers and heifers entered into the Merck Live Show. The Beef Empire Days, Inc. Board of Directors would like to thank Tyson and their staff for their contribution to the continuing success of the Beef Empire Days Carcass Show. **Event Chair: Edwin Cooper**
LEARN MORE ABOUT JUDGE DR. BLAKE FORAKER ON PAGE 16

AWARDS BANQUET PRESENTED BY AMERICAN AGCREDIT AND ZOETIS

MEAT PROVIDED BY



CLARION INN • JUNE 7 • 6:00 PM • TICKET

The social hour begins at 6 PM at the Clarion Inn Ballroom with The Ron Carlson Quartet. Guests will be served delicious, Western Kansas beef and all the trimmings. The excitement begins as all the Live and Carcass Show awards are presented, as well as awards for the Cattle Working Contest, Feedlot Special, People's Choice Auction, Public Pick 5, and Ranch Rodeo. In addition, the Beef Empire Days Academic Scholarship recipients and winners from the Sunflower Youth Showdown will be recognized. Of course, we're all anxious to hear who wins the coveted Earl C. Brookover Award. **Event Chair: BED Board & Directors. Call 620-275-6807 to purchase tickets: \$30/ticket** *The Awards Banquet is sponsored by American AgCredit, KCB Bank, Nutrien Ag Solutions Inc., and KanEquip. Meat provided by Tyson.*

WESTERN STATE BANK BEEF, BEER & BOOTS

STEVENS PARK • JUNE 8 • 3:00 PM • FREE ADMISSION

Beef Empire Days partners with WESTERN STATE BANK and All American Beef Battalion to offer a laid-back, fun family event with beef, entertainment, beer garden and music. All will enjoy TOUCH-A-TRUCK & TRACTOR to get a real appreciation for first responders as well as farmers, ranchers and those working in the beef industry. ALL AMERICAN BEEF BATALLION will be grilling a tasty "cowboy Philly sandwich" for just a suggested \$10 donation – Cold beer will be served in the beer garden starting at 3 PM. The park will be packed with fun for the kids, cornhole tournament, live music and Touch a Truck. MARC BAKER AND UNTAMED COUNTY will round out the evening with great dancing and listening music – the best of country! Admission to the park is free!
Event Chairs: Sterling Anthony & Shelbi Wiggs



All good deeds require both vision and follow through. Bill Broadie of Ashland, KS was the man with the vision. This two-time purple-heart honored Vietnam veteran believed that everyone being deployed or returning from deployment should be shown the highest degree of appreciation possible. To a cattleman like Broadie, that can be easily shown with a ribeye steak. While we can't say enough about the individuals who have shown the patriotism to volunteer for this worthy endeavor, it needs to be mentioned that the cost of feeding the troops typically runs about \$12/person. That money has been generously donated by families and farm commodity organizations that share the same degree of appreciation for our troops as the core group of the AABB.

BEEF EMPIRE DAYS CATTLE CRAWL

THE BARON'S STEAKHOUSE • JUNE 9 • 4:30 PM • TICKET

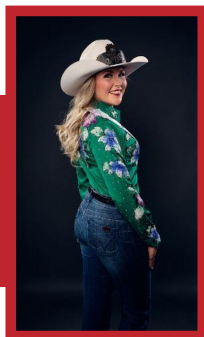
Beef Empire Days 2024 winds down with amazing food and refreshing adult beverages – you're invited to journey with us for a progressive delicious dining experience with the spotlight on some of Beef Empire's prime selections served at several of Garden City's local establishments. Participants meet at 4:30 PM at Baron's Steakhouse and Bar. Some of the finest local restaurants host our guests, and we're excited about this year's tour. Board the bus and our journey begins! Guests will be ferried from location to location aboard their own "stagecoach", courtesy of Garden City Community College. End the evening with an amazing meal at Baron's Steakhouse where the first round of beverages is on Roto-Mix. You'll also take home a memento of the evening courtesy of Rabo Agrifinance. **Event Chairs: Anne Lampe & Katie Mayo**

Limit 100 tickets - \$75 each in advance only. Contact BED office to purchase 620-275-6807 - call now, tickets will sell out!

The Cattle Crawl is sponsored by Pinion, Wheatland Electric, and Hi Plains Feed LLC. Meat provided by Tyson.

Miss Rodeo Kansas

Miss Rodeo Kansas, Brayley Frazier of Garden City, Kansas, will be in attendance at some of the 2024 Beef Empire Days events! Her appearances are sponsored by KSN, and we want to thank KSN for their sponsorship.



SCHOLARSHIPS

We know that our future requires talented young people who value their agriculture roots, to continue the mission of producing and processing the highest quality beef products in the world. Our scholarship program is designed to honor that goal. High School Seniors in Southwest Kansas and the Oklahoma and Texas Panhandle areas of the High Plains who plan to further their educations full-time in an agriculturally related field are encouraged to apply for a Beef Empire Days \$500 Freshman Scholarship Award. Career fields include education, communications, production, research, engineering, or any other area involved with the beef industry. The scholarship program hopes to identify and encourage talented students who may emerge as cattle industry leaders. Five to seven graduating seniors will be selected to receive awards during the 2024 Beef Empire Days celebration. Thank you to our sponsors who help fund these scholarships Cobalt Cattle Company and Animal Health International.

Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame

JACK REEVE, DVM



Lee Reeve and Sandy Carpenter, children of Jack Reeve, accepting the induction award.

Jack Reeve, DVM, of Garden City was posthumously inducted into the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame during their 15th annual banquet held on February 1, 2024 as part of the Cattle Industry Convention in Orlando, FL.

Reeve, a fifth-generation cattleman and founder of Reeve Cattle Company, earned his degree in veterinary medicine from Kansas State University and launched his practice in Garden City after serving in the U.S. Army. Transitioning to the cattle business full-time, Reeve started the family-owned feedyard in 1962 and proceeded to dedicate his life to the industry. His son, Lee, now manages the family business as the sixth generation in the cattle industry.

The Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame was established in 2009 to honor the exceptional visionary men and women who have made lasting contributions to the cattle feeding industry.



Western Motor Parade Grand Marshals

BOB AND JOLENE BAKER

This year's Beef Empire Parade Marshals Bob and Jolene Baker are leaving large boot prints wherever business and life takes them. The Bakers live South of town on the farm and in the same house Jolene grew up in. Their roots in Finney County are deep and extend throughout Southwest Kansas.

Bob and Jolene met at a rodeo dance and were married in 1975. Together they attended a Boot, Shoe, and Saddle Trade school in Oklahoma. Two years later they returned to Garden City, and Baker Boot officially opened in 1977. They immediately joined the Chamber of Commerce knowing this could help support the new business and keep them informed on what was happening in the community they lived and worked in.



In those early years Bob custom made boots and people desiring a pair came from all over the US to the shop to get a proper fit. Demand for saddle repair in the early years was high due to usage in the growing cattle industry in Southwest Kansas. Repairing saddles, boots and shoes was the mainstay of the business and that along with custom made boot sales grew the business. The shop was soon providing these services to surrounding towns because there were, and still are limited people skilled in the trade of leather crafting. The boot shop outgrew previous locations and in 1987 they moved to 1011 N Main remaining there for 19 years.

It was during this time, after 25 years of custom making boots, Bob quit taking orders. Bob and Jolene went retail, and still to this day you can purchase boots both western and work from multiple suppliers at the shop. The boots are custom fitted and of course if after wearing them repair is required Baker Boot is local and provides that service. As with any surviving business, change is inevitable. Customers were inquiring about boots and shoes to accommodate special needs. In 2020 Bob became a Podiatrist specially trained in foot care and supportive orthotic devices. In 2022 Jolene also completed

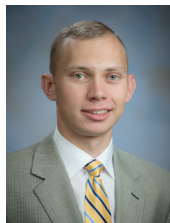
the training and the shop now can help their diabetic and military customers and others with special needs for boots and shoes. More than 50% of their business meets the need for modified or special shoes and they are serving customers within a 125 -mile radius of Garden City. Without this local service people would travel great distances to get the help needed for their feet and footwear.

In addition to operating one of Garden City’s most unique and needed businesses Bob and Jolene raised a family. Brock, their son lives and works in Finney County and Codi their daughter has been serving her country in the Military. Operating a business and raising a family did not stop the Bakers from becoming involved in our community, passing on their skills and mentoring to their kids and other youth in Garden City. Both parents participated with Brock and Codi in 4-H as Project Leaders and Fair Superintendents. Bob also served on the Finney County Fair Board for over 12 years. Jolene was the Leathercraft Leader, often opening the boot shop for 4-Hers to use equipment and supplies and of course her expertise to complete fair projects. Bob taught leathercraft at GCCC in the late eighties and early nineties, passing on his knowledge and skill to all young and old with a desire to learn. The hardworking couple as a family participated in Little Britches Rodeo, Sandhill Vaqueros Saddle Club, and FFA at Garden City High School. Jolene is an active member of the Women’s Chamber of Commerce and Baker Boot continues their support of youth in 4-H at the Fair Livestock Auction.

If it is happening in Garden City you will see Bob and Jolene in attendance, selling tickets at the boot shop for an event, or raising funds to help support someone or a need in our community. Through all the challenges of life they kept their faith and remain active members of Pierceville Federated Church.



Business ownership and providing good customer service is a commitment Bob and Jolene made when they opened Baker Boot. The shop, now located at 211 W Kansas Ave., still provides the basic services of boot, shoe and saddle repair, the very foundation of the original business 46 years ago. These are big boots to fill!



**CARCASS
SHOW
JUDGE
DR. BLAKE
FORAKER**

Dr. Blake Foraker is an assistant professor in meat science at Washington State University (WSU). He holds a B.S. in animal science from Kansas State, a M.S. in meat science from Colorado State, and a Ph.D. in meat science from Texas Tech. His expertise pertains to meat animal growth, carcass composition, and eating quality. He has extensively studied the growth, carcass yield and performance, and eating satisfaction of beef products of beef x dairy crossbreds. He currently holds a teaching and Extension position at WSU, where he also serves as the coach of the meat judging and meat animal evaluation teams.



**LIVE
SHOW
JUDGE
DR. KELLY
BRUNS**

Kelly Bruns grew up on a diversified livestock and cropping operation near Grand Island Nebraska. He received his undergraduate degree from University of Nebraska and his doctorate from South Dakota State University where he taught and conducted research in growth and development of beef cattle with an emphasis in management effects on carcass quality.

He was a Professor of Animal Science at South Dakota State for 18 years. For 10 years he coached the livestock judging and meat animal evaluation team. During that time, he coached three National Champion Meat Animal Evaluation Teams. In 2014, he accepted a position at the West Central Research and Extension Center in North Platte, NE where he serves as director of the research and extension operations where nine PhD specialists who work in cropping systems and beef cattle research.

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West Central Research and
Extension Center
402 West State Farm Road
North Platte, NE 69101
Office: 308-696-6702
Fax: 308-696-6740
Cell: 605-690-3620
<http://westcentral.unl.edu/>*

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Lonestar
FRIDAY, JUNE 7
DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM SHOW STARTS AT 7:00 PM

THE OFFICIAL 2024 BODE CITY DAYS CONCERT

HOSTED BY

KATHY BERN, KAREN BARRETT & BILLIE BRONKHORST



3 ARTISTS FOR 1 WILD CARD CONCERT
SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH 7:00 PM



VS
VALLEY STATE BANK

Boot Scootin'
RODEO BALL

WILL BE IN GRANDSTAND
PLAZA IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING THE RODEO
& IS FREE TO ALL WITH
RODEO TICKET



STEEL
Skarecrow
EST. 2017



MAY 31 - JUNE 9
GARDEN CITY, KANSAS