

June 2017

Report of Economic Development Director

Business Recruitment: The largest animal vaccine company in China, **Jinyu Biotechnology Co., LTD** announced it will open a research lab and offices in Phase II of the K-State Office Park, which is scheduled to break ground in July. The company will begin operations in 2018. It is the first time that the company has established facilities in the United States. They plan to employ 4-6 scientists and will focus on R&D of vaccines for swine and cattle, as well as developing educational materials for Chinese companies and veterinarians.

Many organizations played a key role in attracting Jinyu to the region, namely the State of Kansas; Kansas Department of Commerce; City of Manhattan; Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce; Kansas State University; Kansas State University Institute for Commercialization; KSU Foundation; Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine; the Kansas State University US-China Center for Animal Health; the Kansas City Area Development Council; and the KC Animal Health Corridor.

The company has researched the Manhattan location for nearly two years and was drawn to its connection with the region known as the KC Animal Health Corridor. The Corridor is anchored by Manhattan, Kan. in the west and Columbia, Mo. in the east. The region is home to more than 300 animal health companies, accounting for more than half of the sales generated annually by the global animal health industry.

Jinyu Chairman Chongyu Zhang said the company's decision was based on a belief that Manhattan and Kansas State University are "in the forefront of animal health research that is relevant to Chinese animal agriculture and the world. Manhattan is the home to many world renowned scientists in the Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine, Biosecurity Research Institute, and the future National Bio and Agro-defense Facility."

Zhang added that Jinyu is growing quickly internationally and is "looking forward to developing long-term, mutually beneficial relationships with partners in the region." The company may add manufacturing facilities in the future.

Workforce: The Chamber participated in a Business-Education Task Force meeting at Manhattan Area Technical College (MATC). One idea the group is considering is a teacher Meet & Greet at MATC to show USD 383 staff what is available in terms of training and education options. The Chamber will help sponsor the event. A successful collaboration between the two institutions could include job shadowing programs, assistance with internships, and expanded business visits. MATC is also interested in reaching out to employers to see how they can best offer training to help fill employment gaps in the community.

Accolades: Manhattan was ranked one of the "Top 20 Great College Towns" by ThoughCo, a research website. From their entry on Manhattan:

A small Kansas town with a big college presence, Manhattan, affectionately known by its residents as "The Little Apple," is where you'll find Kansas State University. Kansas State students drive the local economy and its nightlife, frequenting Aggieville, a section of Manhattan's downtown area featuring a number of

bars, restaurants and shops that are popular among students and town residents alike. This vibrant culture put Manhattan on CNN Money's ranking of top ten places to retire young.

Sales Activity: May 2017 sales were \$90.1 million; Manhattan is down 2.4% for the year but still well on track to exceed \$ 1 billion in sales for the full year. January - May sales since 2013:

2017 -- \$446.4 million
2016 -- \$457.5 million
2015 -- \$454.1 million
2014 -- \$433.4 million
2013 -- \$430.5 million

Kansas Labor Report: The Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) for April 2017 showed the following unemployment rates:

Manhattan:	2.6% (lowest of cities listed)
Riley County:	2.8%
Manhattan MSA:	2.8%

The Manhattan Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is Riley and Pottawatomie Counties. Geary County was removed from the Manhattan MSA as of 2015. The MSA has a civilian workforce of 51,551 and employment of 50,085. Also from the report:

- In January 2002 Manhattan had **22,325** people employed
- As of April 2017 Manhattan has **31,454** employed
- The net increase of **9,129** jobs places us third among the 17 cities included in the report
- The percentage increase of **41%** places us second among the 17 cities

The 17 cities tracked in the KDOL report based on population are: Dodge City, Emporia, Garden City, Hutchinson, Junction City, Kansas City KS, Lawrence, Leavenworth, Leawood, Lenexa, Manhattan, Olathe, Overland Park, Salina, Shawnee, Topeka and Wichita. We keep track from January 2002, when the first Advantage Manhattan campaign began. *Junction City was included starting in 2012 so historical data is not available.*

Fort Riley: Ah, May. School lets out, spring is in full swing, and it's the beginning of summer moving season for the military. The month began at the K-State Student Union with an awards ceremony for ROTC Cadets.

The Flint Hills Regional Council is working on a Joint Land Use Study (JLUS), a second update meeting was held with various stakeholders at Manhattan City Hall and in other regional locations to update the community on the study's progress.

Our May MRC Luncheon featured MG Lee Tapanelli, the Adjutant General for the State of Kansas. MG Tapanelli presented to a packed house the role of the National Guard in Kansas, the three jobs of the Adjutant General, and the working relationship between the Kansas National Guard and Fort Riley.

At this month's BRO Welcomes, the MRC welcomed 410 soldiers to the Flint Hills Area and Manhattan. Of the twelve soldiers retiring from Fort Riley this May, four stayed in the area: 1 in Manhattan, 1 in Riley, 2 in Junction City.

As a proud supporter, the MRC attended the annual Fort Riley Combined Scholarship Fund Award Recognition. Over twenty youth and spouse scholars were awarded scholarships for the upcoming school year. The MRC also attended the launch of the new Student Veteran Association chapter at Manhattan Area Technical College (MATC).

As part of Military Spouse Appreciation Month, the MRC, in conjunction with the Institute for the Health and Security of Military Families, helped plan and attended a Military Spouse Appreciation Luncheon at K-State's Beach Museum. Among those recognized as resilient spouses was the MRC's own board member, Christine Benne, for acting as caregiver to her husband, Paul, and for her extensive volunteer efforts benefitting both the Manhattan and Fort Riley communities.

The MRC Liaison also appeared on KMAN's *In Focus* with Veteran Caregivers Support Network founder Carolyn Tolliver-Lee to promote the Dole Foundation's Hidden Heroes Campaign in support of Military Caregivers.

There were so many ROTC Cadets graduating from K-State this year that there were two Commissioning Ceremonies, one for Air Force graduates and one for Army graduates. The speaker at the Army Commissioning was former 1ID Commanding General, LTG Paul Funk, currently the III Corps Commander at Fort Hood. It was wonderful to see the Funk family back in the Flint Hills!

Mid-month there were four Battalion level changes of Command on Fort Riley, three from the Combat Aviation Brigade and one from the 1ID Sustainment Brigade. The MRC Liaison headed to Topeka to support their Chamber's new quarterly Military Relations Council meeting.

There was also a day long Kansas Military Workforce Summit put on by the Kansas Department of Commerce. The MRC Liaison was a panelist discussing Military Spouse Employment.

The following week there was a Fort Riley Army Community Partnership Meeting put on by the Office of Economic Adjustment and Installation Management Command. Looking to explore and create mutually beneficial cost savings to both military posts and the communities surrounding them, many of the long held agreements and processes have been adjusted to meet this new goal of partnerships. Representatives from Fort Riley, Manhattan, Riley County, Junction City, and Geary County were all in attendance.

The Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce went on a day long Staff Retreat to Fort Riley. Along with a bus tour, they visited the Cavalry Museum and 1ID Museum; trained on simulated gun ranges and convoy trainers at the Mission Training Complex; ate at the Cantigny Dining Facility, visited the USO and wrapped up their trip at Division Headquarters, visiting the Victory Garden, the Joint Operations Center, and they received a brief from Acting Senior Commander, BG Patrick Frank.

Finally the MRC attended the USO's monthly networking Transition Lunch for soldiers transitioning out of the Army and local employers.

Leadership Manhattan (LM): The LM Board met, reviewed Session 5, and confirmed the 2018 Program Year Board:

Chair: Andy Ellis

Chair Elect: Eli Sallman

Curriculum Chair: Callie Marks

Friends of Leadership Chair: Tory Berard

Selection Co-Chairs: Leah Fliter and Nathan Redeker

Budget Chair: Katie Seay

There is one more meeting of the LM Board for the 2017 Program Year and then the Committee Chair Hand off meeting this July (to be scheduled). This year, during the annual transition from one program year to the next, Leadership Manhattan will be moving from the Economic Development Division to the Membership Division. Janet Nichols will be transitioning out of the Staff Coordinator position and we are excited to announce Director of Membership, Sharla Meisenheimer taking over the position! LM is in good hands for the future with Sharla and the Membership Team!