



LOCAL CONTENT AND SERVICE  
REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

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2022

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LOCAL CONTENT  
AND SERVICE REPORT  
TO THE COMMUNITY



**PBS Kansas is a valuable part of the life and culture of Central Kansas.**

As a community-supported, independent, non-profit entity, **PBS Kansas** stands fully accountable not to advertisers, shareholders or corporate interests, but to every member of the community who helps make public television possible.

**PBS Kansas** serves all segments of the local population and brings diverse groups together through programs that examine and promote the common human experience.

In June, **PBS Kansas** opened its new building including the **PBS Kansas Cochener-Garvey Children's Education & Discovery Center**. The Center is FREE and open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Center averages 50 children per week, with some weeks as high as 200.

**In 2022, PBS Kansas provided these vital local services:**

- Discussion and analysis of community and state news on **Kansas Week**.
- Life-saving weather information.
- 8 local shows including positive news, vital information for people 55+ and seniors, and a food show.
- Three new, local documentaries about Kansas were produced in 2022
- **PBS Kansas** opened a FREE historical museum for the public
- **PBS Kansas** opened a FREE children's education and discovery center

**PBS Kansas' local services had deep impact in the Wichita area.**

**PBS Kansas** viewers are more informed about what their government is doing thanks to in-depth reporting and analysis not available from any other local source.

They are better-informed voters thanks to comprehensive, balanced political coverage and weekly live coverage of Sedgwick County Commission meetings.

They also better understand the context of current events thanks to engaging and in-depth local history programs.

**PBS Kansas** moved to a new building in 2022 and in addition to many new features, one of the best is the addition to the **PBS Kansas Cochener Garvey Center for Education & Discovery**. Children and their families can use the center weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for FREE throughout the year.

## LOCAL PROGRAMS & DOCUMENTARIES

**PBS Kansas** provides supporters and taxpayers in Central Kansas with an invaluable return on their investment. As a non-profit entity, and the only independently-operated television station in the Wichita-Hutchinson market, viewers have the assurance there are no outside influences shading the local information and entertainment that is presented. With no pressure to maximize profits or please certain advertisers, viewers can be assured they are seeing programs that are conceived and executed with the best interest of the community at heart.

In 2022, **PBS Kansas** aired one new local show -- and three new, unique documentaries about Kansas including, *Historic Buildings of Kansas Part II*, *Kansas Ghost Towns Part I* and *Kansas From Above*. All of these documentaries have informed and enriched viewers.

At **PBS Kansas**, we are always looking for new show ideas and ways to serve people of Central Kansas. On August 17, 2022, *Ageless Enthusiasm hosted by Mindy East* debuted. This new series is all about redefining life, health and happiness over the age of 50. This monthly show delves into thought-provoking, cutting-edge, and actionable topics.

People come and go, but what they build and leave behind influences everything that follows. *Historic Buildings of Kansas Part II*, takes viewers on a tour of some of the most remarkable places that have shaped Kansas' story. The documentary includes such notable buildings such as the Warkentin House; the Fromme-Birney Barn; the Wichita Carnegie Library; Friends University's historic clock tower; Frank Lloyd Wright's Allen House; St. Mary's Church; the Brown Mansion and more.

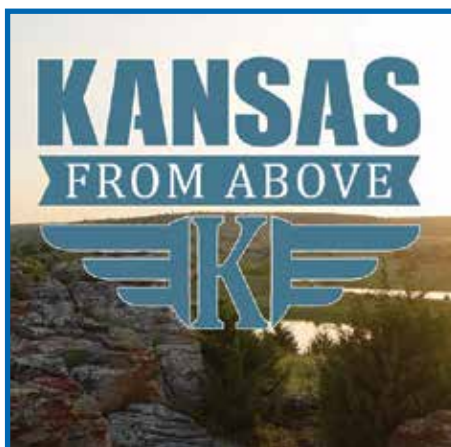
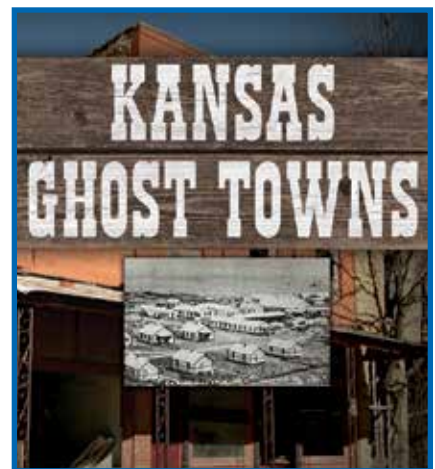
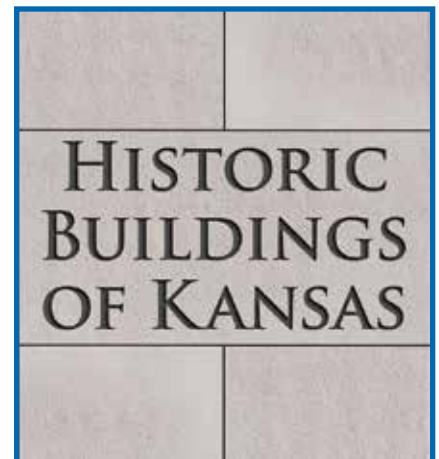
Experts say Kansas has thousands of ghost towns. What happened that caused so many once populated towns to fade away? The ghost town stories are part of our state's history and help explain how Kansas was settled, grew and prospered. All of this and more in *Kansas Ghost Towns Part 1*.

The final documentary produced and aired in 2022 was *Kansas From Above*. Viewers were treated to seeing Kansas from another perspective – an aerial tour of our State. This documentary was filmed by Kansans for Kansans.



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# NEW YEAR, NEW BUILDING



*KPTS Channel 8 (1970)*



*KPTS Channel 8 (1980)*

**PBS Kansas** was started on Jan. 5, 1970 in a brick building at 3rd and Broadway in downtown Wichita, Kan. In 1980, the station moved to 320 W. 21st St. North, where a Western Auto had been before it. This is where the station remained for 42 years. As the years went by, this building became very rundown. It also became too small for the station's productions and staff.

In 2020 and 2021, **PBS Kansas** raised money and then purchased a new building, formerly Meritrust Credit Union, for \$3 million dollars. On April 1, 2022, the station moved to 8710 E. 37th St. North in Northeast Wichita. **PBS Kansas** went from a building with 8,000 sq. ft. to a building with 31,000 sq. ft.

### New Building Features:

- The **Cochener-Garvey Children's Education and Discovery Center** provides FREE, STEAM-based education to children 2-10 years of age. The Center is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



- 2 studios – the Alvin and RosaLee Sarachek Studio is 3,168 sq. ft. and the Fidelity Bank Foundation Studio is 1,175 sq. ft. – even the smaller studio is larger than the studio at the former location.
- The studios and six additional rooms may be rented by the community.
- 3 green screens. One is a three-walled, modular green screen used to create virtual sets. There's a second, smaller green screen in the Fidelity Bank Foundation Studio. And finally, there is a small green screen in the Children's Center for making videos.
- 1 Sierra P. Scott Green Room, complete with a fire place, comfy couches and lighted, mirrored vanities for hair and make-up.
- 145 ft. tall tower with a microwave dish. It is used to microwave programs from the studio to the transmitter, and then to viewers' homes across Central Kansas.

## CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES MAKING BIG IMPACT



The Center has a variety of stations to foster creativity and learning. These centers are sponsored by businesses in the community that support public television. Kids can learn about construction and building; how to use a 3D printer, predicting the weather and how to make their own movie in front of a green screen. There is also a reading area where every child may take home an age-appropriate, free book each time they come to the center. And, the center has the Little Tiger's Den that's a quiet place kids can go if they are getting overstimulated. The Center averages 50 kids per week, but this number has been as high as 200 on peak weeks.



In addition to individual families who are taking advantage of the Center, teachers from throughout the area have been scheduling field trips with the Director of Education – this includes both public school teachers and homeschoolers. When a group comes, our Production Department even gets into the act – the kids get to be on camera in front of the large green screen and then each group rotates into the Control Room to see the next group on screen.

### KIDS CLUB

This year we've been working to grow the **PBS Kansas Kids Club**. Currently it stands at 35 kids, and their parents/grandparents/younger siblings who tag along to events. In February 2022, we had PBS Kids Club at The Wichita Thunder (hockey). Everyone loved the mascot, Thunder Dog.

On June 25, we hosted a Grand Opening for Families so they could come and see the new Center. This was very successful.

Finally, on Oct. 1, we held the **PBS Kansas Kids Club Big Bash 2022** at the Center. Our kids had the opportunity to touch some creatures from Tanganyika Wildlife Park like a snake, an armadillo and a penguin. Kids could also crawl up in a construction truck or a trolley and put an item into the time capsule to be opened in the future.

### OTHER OUTREACH

With the Center open, the Director of Education started receiving many requests for community involvement. She welcomed these requests because these got us out into the community much more than in the past and help us fulfill our mission. Staff worked hockey games; events for teachers; community events; hosted field trips; hosted two Book Fairs at Barnes & Noble. The biggest thing we helped with in the fall was a tablet giveaway sponsored by Storytime Village and Shaquille "Shaq" O'Neal.



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An important part of PBS Kansas' new building renovation was the inclusion of the **PBS Kansas Cochener-Garvey Children's Education and Discovery Center**. The Center is **FREE** and open to the public weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.







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# IMPACTFUL EVENTS

A variety of events were held throughout 2022, both on site and off site. PBS Kansas was able to host several events because of our larger building.



*PBS Kansas Channel 8 Grand Opening 2022*



*Lidia Bastianich Visit 2022*

- Jan. 15 Lidia Bastianich Visits **PBS Kansas**
- Mar. 25 Think Like Ben Experiments (Ben Franklin Initiative)
- June 4 Zine Workshop (Part of Ben Franklin Initiative)
- June 22 Grand Opening - VIPs
- June 23 Grand Opening – Members
- June 24 Grand Opening – Public
- June 25 Grand Opening – Families
- July 23 Antiques Fair at the Kansas Aviation Museum
- Sept. 19 BritClub High Tea at Botanica: The Wichita Gardens
- Oct. 25 Cookie Monster Collection (PBS Kansas Museum)
- Nov. 5 2022 Veterans Coming Home Salute (Details Page 7)
- Dec. 17 A Special Holiday Tea with Ian McNeice



**PBS Kansas Think Like Ben Initiative.**  
A series of videos that show children participating in kid-friendly science experiments.



*PBS Kansas Antiques Fair 2022*



*PBS Kansas BritClub High Tea 2022*



*Cookie Monster Collection on loan to the PBS Kansas Museum from the Foster Family 2022.*



*PBS Kansas Holiday Tea with Ian McNeice 2022*

# IMPACTING VETERANS

**Veterans  
Coming Home  
SALUTE 2022**



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At the end of the year, **PBS Kansas** hosts an awards banquet to recognize outstanding veterans and a local business that provide services or support to veterans. Each of these Kansas veterans has distinguished themselves during their military service and made a difference in their community. After the winners are chosen, a producer reaches out to them and does a short vignette about the person.

Now in its eighth year, this effort focuses on both the struggles and the triumphs of Kansas military veterans as they strive for wellbeing and normalcy after serving in the armed forces.

## We congratulate the 2022 Veterans Coming Home winners:



**Greg Cole**  
Robert J. Dole Award Recipient



**Marri Krupco**  
Herb Duncan "Can Do Attitude"  
Award Recipient



**Gerhard Albrecht**  
Distinguished Veteran  
Award Recipient



**Jennabelle Harding-Crow**  
Distinguished Veteran History  
Maker Award Recipient



**Midwest Battle Buddies**  
Business Award Recipient  
(Accepted by Chip Neumann,  
Co-founder)



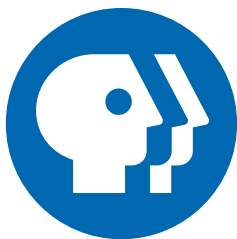
# SUMMARY

2022 was a year like no other. Due to record amounts raised, PBS Kansas was able to purchase, renovate and in April 2022 move into its new headquarters. The new, 31,000 ft. facility is truly a beautiful place, the station plans to stay and grow into for the next half century.

This move allowed the station to build two new studios, a new green room, a FREE museum, and a FREE education center for children in our area. It is our hope, as more individuals and teachers learn about the Center, we will serve even more people in the coming years.

The new facility allows the station to host events inhouse that were prohibited by space constraints in the past. This makes the event cost lower and the amount raised higher!

In the future, PBS Kansas will continue to produce more documentaries, more locals shows and hire additional staff as needed.



# PBS KANSAS

CHANNEL 8

## SERIOUSLY GOOD TV

PBS Kansas is on a relentless mission to be a good steward of the public's airwaves, resources and trust. It the state's leader in local programming and a driving force for community betterment. Through compelling truth-telling and quality entertainment, PBS Kansas brings diverse groups together to demonstrate the commonality we all share as members of an ever-evolving, ever-learning society.