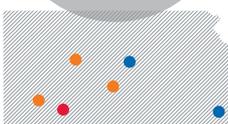


# KU WORKS

for KANSAS / No. 7

## WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR AREA



### STATEWIDE

KU launches RedTire program to match business owners with prospective buyers

### PITTSBURG & SALINA

KU psycho-oncologists provide free counseling to cancer patients

### DODGE CITY

KU program empowers teachers to conduct research, create lesson plans

### GARDEN CITY, HUTCHINSON & HAYS

KU launches interactive atlas for citizens to explore water issues



The KU School of Business — under the direction of dean Neeli Bendapudi and entrepreneurship programs director Wally Meyer — has launched the RedTire program to match business owners with buyers.

Photo by Steve Puppe

### STATEWIDE

## Keeping Rural Businesses in Business

KU launches RedTire program to match business owners with prospective buyers

**THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS HAS LAUNCHED A** program designed to keep rural businesses open for business.

The Redefining Retirement program — nicknamed RedTire — will match qualified graduates who want to own a business with business owners who are looking to retire. The program aims to prevent rural businesses from closing because an owner can't find a successor or buyer.

"Every day in rural communities, businesses close forever because an owner retires and can't find someone to take over the business," said Neeli Bendapudi, dean of the School of Business. "RedTire will address this issue by matching graduates with business owners and facilitating a succession plan to keep the business running."

In effect, RedTire is a matchmaking service. Program staff screen prospective replacement managers and candidate businesses, then identify good matches for purchase opportunities. From there, the program helps negotiate the purchase and transition of ownership terms, helps establish a business purchase loan, and helps the new owners run their new business.

"Nearly 13,000 Kansas business owners plan to retire in five years but don't have succession plans in place," Bendapudi said. "So there's certainly a need for this program in rural Kansas." ■

### MORE INFORMATION

REDTIRE.ORG



## REDTIRE PROGRAM



- The RedTire program aims to work with businesses with annual sales of at least \$750,000 and will focus on those businesses providing essential services to the community.
- RedTire will screen participants and learn about their personal and professional goals, in order to match the right graduates and alumni with the right businesses in the right community.
- RedTire is available to all graduates and alumni of a Kansas Regents institution and to current Kansas business owners. Services are free.
- RedTire is sponsored by the KU Entrepreneurship Works for Kansas program within the KU Business School and assisted by a grant from the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce.



## CANCER CARE, CLOSE TO HOME

- **Psycho-oncology** focuses on the mental health of individuals affected by cancer.
- **KU Medical Center**, in partnership with Turning Point, is currently providing psycho-oncology support group sessions at Via Christi Cancer Center in Pittsburg and Hays Medical Center. One-on-one sessions at Salina Regional Health Center will begin in October.
- **Counseling sessions** are provided at no cost to patients.

**PITTSBURG  
& SALINA**

# Healing the Body — and the Mind

KU psycho-oncologists provide free counseling to cancer patients statewide



Susan Krigel, a postdoctoral fellow in psychology at the University of Kansas Medical Center, is using videoconferencing to provide psycho-oncology counseling to individuals across Kansas.

**ASK ANYONE WHO'S BEEN AFFECTED BY CANCER, AND** they'll tell you about the physical pain that often comes with the disease.

But a team at the University of Kansas Medical Center is focusing on a different aspect of cancer — the emotional stress it afflicts on patients and their families.

Susan Krigel and her colleagues specialize in psycho-oncology — a subset of psychology that focuses on the mental health of individuals affected by cancer — and are now using videoconferencing to provide counseling to individuals across Kansas.

"A cancer diagnosis can produce a range of emotions for individuals and families," said Krigel, a postdoctoral fellow in psychology at KU Medical Center. "We're trying to help individuals battle the disease and address their circumstance as best they can."

From her Kansas City office, Krigel has provided group counseling sessions to patients in Topeka, Pittsburg, and Hays and is scheduled to begin one-on-one sessions with patients in Salina in October. The goal is to expand counseling statewide through the Midwest Cancer Alliance and its network of 18 hospitals, research and cancer care organizations in Kansas and western Missouri.

"This is a great way for us to help Kansans impacted by cancer," Krigel said, "and to do it as close to their home as possible." ■

### MORE INFORMATION

KUMC.EDU  
MIDWESTCANCERALLIANCE.ORG

**DODGE CITY**

# Making Science Come to Life

KU program empowers Kansas teachers to conduct research, create lesson plans based on real-world issues



The Research Experiences for Teachers program at the University of Kansas enables teachers like Shannon Ralph to work alongside KU researchers during the summer and develop lesson plans to take back to their classrooms.

## DODGE CITY HIGH SCHOOL BIOLOGY TEACHER

Shannon Ralph is always looking for new ways to engage her students. For the past two summers, she found exactly what she was looking for thanks to the Research Experiences for Teachers (RET) program at the University of Kansas.

Funded by the National Science Foundation, the RET program brings Kansas science teachers to Lawrence for six weeks to work alongside KU faculty and develop lesson plans on topics such as transportation, energy, and the environment. Last summer, Ralph partnered with Chanute High School biology teacher Brian Gahagan to research how algae can be inexpensively grown, harvested and used as fuel.

In the fall, Ralph brought her new research and lesson plans back to the classroom in Dodge City — and the results have been outstanding.

"The students have really responded to this subject," Ralph said. "With the lesson plans we developed at KU, I'm seeing more of my students interested in science-related careers because they can see real-world applications." ■

MORE INFORMATION — WWW.CEBC.KU.EDU



## RESEARCH EXPERIENCES FOR TEACHERS

- **The Research Experiences for Teachers (RET) program** helps teachers develop lesson plans and acquire materials to demonstrate real-world scientific applications in their classrooms.
- **The goal of the RET program** is to get more Kansas students interested in science careers, specifically in transportation, engineering and the environment.
- **Participating teachers** work alongside KU researchers in ecology and evolutionary biology, environmental engineering, and chemical engineering.

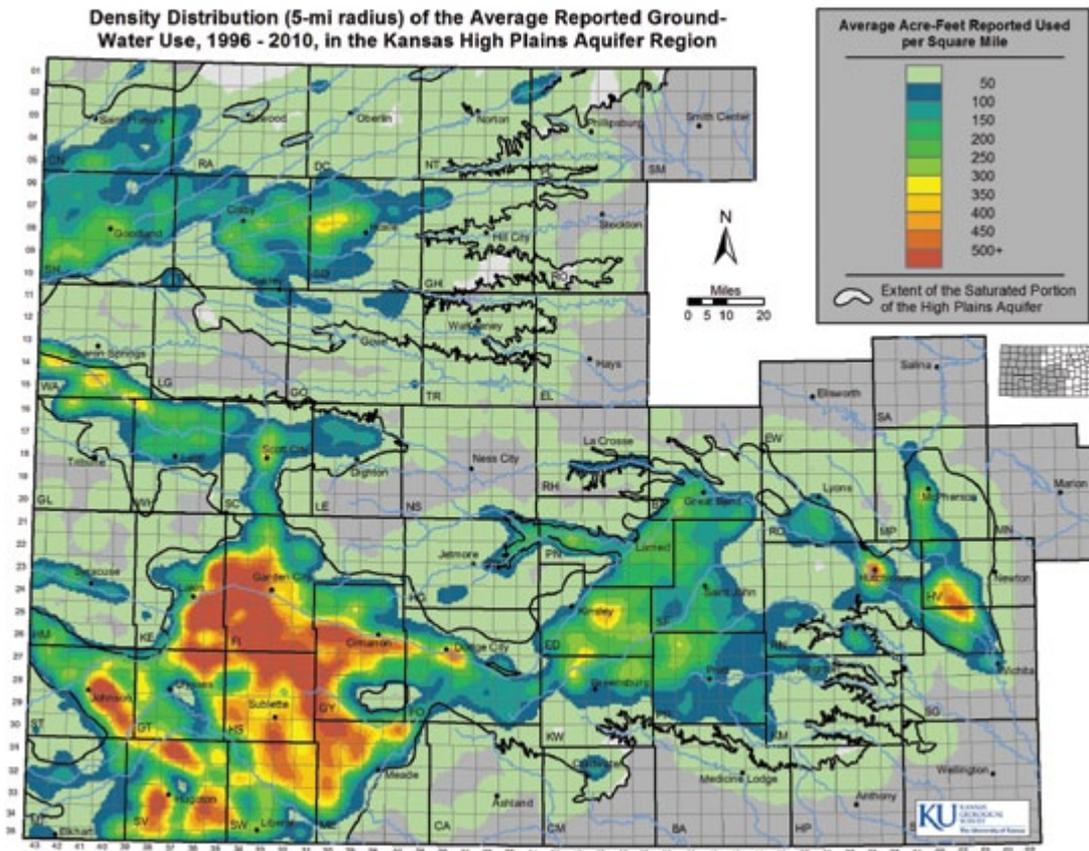
# Measuring, Monitoring, Preserving

KU launches interactive High Plains Aquifer Atlas for citizens, policymakers to explore water issues



## HIGH PLAINS AQUIFER

- **The High Plains aquifer** is a massive network of water-bearing formations that underlies parts of eight states and includes the extensive Ogallala aquifer, the Great Bend Prairie aquifer in central Kansas, and the Equus Beds aquifer north and west of Wichita.
- **The High Plains aquifer network** is the primary source of industrial and irrigation water for much of western and central Kansas and public water for cities such as Wichita, Hutchinson and Garden City.



University of Kansas researchers have created the High Plains Aquifer Atlas, featuring more than 70 maps that can be used to investigate water-related data and topics in Kansas. This powerful online tool makes a lot of previously hard-to-find information easily accessible.

**AS KANSAS FACES CONTINUING DECLINES IN** groundwater, the University of Kansas has created a powerful new tool for those interested in the state's crucially important High Plains aquifer system.

The Kansas Geological Survey at KU has launched the High Plains Aquifer Atlas, an interactive atlas featuring more than 70 maps — several animated or interactive — that can be used to investigate topics such as changes in groundwater level, water use and water rights, and climatic conditions.

A major feature of the atlas is an interactive map element in which annual water-level measurements from 1,000 wells in the aquifer can be accessed by clicking individual well icons. Users can also access real-time data, updated every two hours, on

water levels in three wells monitored by the KGS. The wells, located in Thomas, Scott, and Haskell counties in western Kansas, provide valuable information about how those portions of the aquifer respond to pumping.

"This atlas is intended to be user-driven with maps that can be downloaded, presented as a slide show, and shared via social media and email," said Dustin Fross, KGS High Plains data manager. "It makes a lot of previously hard-to-find information easily accessible." ■

## KANSAS GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

- **The Kansas Geological Survey** at KU conducts geological studies throughout Kansas with an emphasis on natural resources, water quality and quantity, and geologic hazards.
- **KGS publishes information** on topics such as engineering geology, geochemistry, geohydrology, geophysics, geoarchaeology, mineral economics and stratigraphy.

MORE INFORMATION ■ [WWW.KGS.KU.EDU](http://WWW.KGS.KU.EDU)

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