**Focus on Building Rural Communities  
Monday, March 4  
Sikes Venue, Leonardville, KS  
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

9:00 a.m. – Registration, coffee and refreshments

9:30 a.m. – Introductions – Gary Fike, County Extension Director

9:40 a.m. – Keynote speaker – Benjamin Winchester – University of Minnesota

10:40 a.m. – Break

10:55 a.m. – Mindy Brissey, SBA Regional Administrator Region VII

11:30 a.m. – Trisha Purdon – Governor’s Office on Rural Prosperity

11:45 a.m. – Lunch – Catered by the Farmhouse, Olsburg and Riley

12:30 p.m. – Erik Pedersen – NetWork Kansas E-Communities: Local Empowerment & Deployment of Assets

1:15 p.m. – Jeff Wick – WTC – Rural Broadband Progress

2:00 p.m. – Panel of local leaders, business owners, newcomers to communities – moderated by Dr. Winchester

2:45 p.m. – Evaluation and wrap-up

Sponsored by: Riley County K-State Research and Extension  
Riley County Rural Economic Development Advisory Board  
Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce  
Riley County Farm Bureau  
Riley State Bank  
Dale Carnegie – Kansas Heartland  
State Senator Usha Reddi  
Representative Lewis Bloom

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