

# BIKING ACROSS KANSAS 2022

## ROUTE GUIDE JUNE 11-18, 2022

To quickly navigate to a map, touch a route section below

**6.11** SYRACUSE TO GARDEN CITY

**6.15** HUTCHINSON TO HILLSBORO

**6.12** GARDEN CITY TO SPEARVILLE

**6.16** HILLSBORO TO OLPE

**6.13** SPEARVILLE TO ST. JOHN

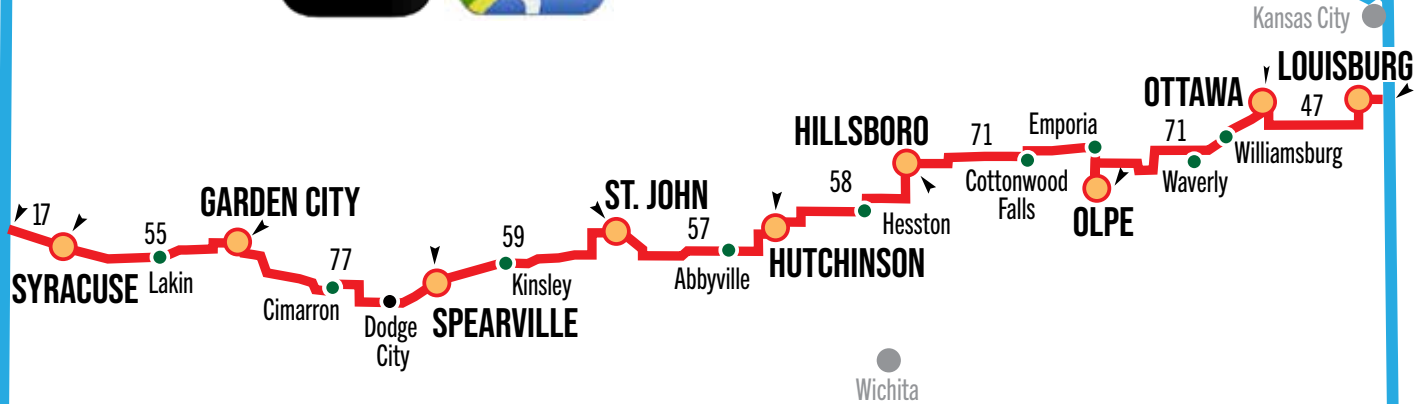
**6.17** OLPE TO OTTAWA

**6.14** ST. JOHN TO HUTCHINSON

**6.18** OTTAWA TO LOUISBURG



Download turn-by-turn RideWithGPS digital maps of the BAK 2022 route at this web link: [bak.org/maps](https://bak.org/maps)



# BIKING ACROSS KANSAS 2022

**Biking Across Kansas** promotes health and wellness through bicycling, the history and beauty of the Kansas landscape, and the warm hospitality of the Kansas towns and people.

Biking Across Kansas, Inc. in no manner warrants the safety of the routes to be used on BAK 2022. All roads suggested are regular roads of the highway system, used by automobiles, trucks and other vehicles, with no special lanes for bicycles.

As no separate lanes are provided for bicycles, the bicyclist assumes the risk for his/her own safety when using the routes indicated for use on BAK 2022.

**To report an accident or emergency on the road, FIRST call 911 and then notify BAK staff with the BAK Emergency number:**

(913) 735-3035

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All maps copyright © 2022 Biking Across Kansas. Select history notes in this guide are from various sources including, but not limited to, *Kansas Guidebook 2* by Marci Penner and WenDee Rowe. History research by Stephanie Craven and other BAK volunteers. Guide layout and map design by David Rohr.

## Biking Across Kansas 2022

### **Safety & Sanitation**

- WEAR YOUR HELMET at all times when riding.
- Obey all traffic laws.
- Ride single file when traffic approaches.
- Communicate your intentions to other riders.
- Be courteous to other traffic.
- When stopping be sure to pull completely off the highway especially at SAG stops.
- Consider walking over railroad tracks or, at minimum, crossing perpendicular to the rails.
- Prevent the spread of germs and viruses—  
WASH YOUR HANDS and/or USE HAND SANITIZER frequently, especially before accepting food at SAG stops.
- Walk cautiously in wet showers and locker rooms and  
4 consider wearing shower shoes.

**Illness and Injury Policy:** In the event of my illness or injury during Biking Across Kansas, I agree that directorial or medical staff may determine that I cannot continue bicycling or traveling with the event for my own well-being and that of other participants. If this determination is made, I agree that I will leave the event within 24 hours, making my own travel arrangements, at my own expense, with no refund of entry fees. If my medical condition requires hospitalization in a BAK overnight city, I agree that Biking Across Kansas will not provide transportation to retrieve me after the tour has progressed along the route beyond that city. In this situation, I agree to make my own travel arrangements at my own expense, with no refund of entry fees.

## Use of Schools & Overnight Facilities

Schools are alcohol, tobacco, and firearms free environments. All persons traveling with BAK follow the same while on school property. Absolutely NO firearms or alcoholic beverages on school property—it's against the law

- BICYCLES ARE NOT ALLOWED ON GYM FLOORS or INSIDE SCHOOL FACILITIES.
- COTS or CHAIRS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON GYM FLOORS.
- Clean up all trash before leaving in the morning.
- Consideration and respect of others is mandatory. If others are sleeping, please be quiet.
- No smoking in unauthorized areas.
- Remember – please check in and out each day.
- Please use indoor restrooms or portable toilets— NEVER use a school's lawn as a restroom.

## Meetings and Entertainment

**First-timer meeting** First-timer meeting on Friday, June 10, at 7:30 pm CDT. Syracuse Jr/Sr High School.

### All-participant meetings

#### **Saturday, June 11: 8 pm**

Garden City Community College

#### **Friday, June 17: 8 pm**

Legacy Square in Downtown Ottawa

Note: Watch text alerts for other all-participant meetings.

**Entertainment and Points of Interest** Daily check your Route Guide and the BAK Info Station for daily activities, points of interest, and entertainment in our host cities.

## Biking Across Kansas 2022

**Teen group** meets most evenings for a casual activity. Info will be posted at BAK information desk.

**The Spokesmen** (and women) Barbershop chorus meets nightly at 6 pm near the BAK Information Station.

Anyone is welcome to join! The Spokesmen will sing at the retirement center visit in St. John and during select BAK all-participant gatherings.

### **SAG Support**

SAG stops are provided by BAK and staffed by volunteers and located approximately every 15 miles. SAG support is from 7 am until 5 pm. If you need support earlier or later, you must make your own arrangements with a private vehicle. If you find yourself getting far behind, consider spending less time looking, talking, and eating until you catch up.

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Everyone should be prepared to cover the daily mileage under their own power, but if you have a mechanical issue or need assistance and you are not at a SAG stop, raise your left arm straight into the air and make a fist. A BAK SAG vehicle will stop and check on you. Rides in BAK SAG vehicles will be reserved for those persons who have mechanical issues. Expect to wear a mask while loading your bike onto and while riding in the SAG vehicle. Air conditioning will not be available in this vehicle. If you simply get tired and need to “SAG in,” call a family member or friend. If you feel ill or become injured, call 911 FIRST, then alert BAK officials at 913.735.3035.

### **Baggage Truck**

You are responsible for loading your own luggage. Trucks are unlocked at 5:30 am and locked at 10 pm daily. DO NOT PILE

YOUR LUGGAGE OUTSIDE OF THE TRUCK AND EXPECT SOMEONE ELSE TO LOAD IT FOR YOU. (BAK volunteers are NOT allowed to load any bags sitting outside a truck.) Please load as far forward and as high as possible (high and tight). The trucks depart daily at 9 am and arrive approximately at 12 pm at the overnight stop. Please help unload the trucks when you arrive.

### **Rider Services**

**Bicycle Mechanic:** Mechanical support (fee for service) will be Saturday through Friday 7-9 am, some remote repair as needed along the route, and mid-afternoon until 6 pm.

**Massage Therapists:** Available at overnight stops during afternoon and evening hours Friday, June 10, through Friday, June 17 (fee for service).

**BAK Information Desk:** Daily from 2–5 pm, the BAK information desk will be staffed by a volunteer at the overnight stop. You will find details on food, entertainment and events; BAK products for purchase; guest tickets for end-of-the-ride picnic (\$10).

**BAK Information Station:** This digital display in the overnight school common areas includes the weather report, route issues, entertainment, photos, mid-ride meal options, sunrise/sunset times and more.

### **Text Messaging System**

BAK uses a text messaging system to alert you about route changes, meal information, events, weather, etc. Please DO NOT reply stop to the messages, as this would block timely or urgent messages from BAK.

## Biking Across Kansas 2022

### **Spirit Days**

Show your spirit and wear your corresponding jersey on the following days:

**College Alma Mater:** Monday, June 13

**Patriotic (Flag) Day:** Tuesday, June 14. Wear a red-white-and-blue or Armed Services jersey.

**Throwback Thursday:** Thursday, June 16. Wear a BAK jersey from a previous year

**BAK Jersey (or T-shirt):** Saturday, June 18. Wear your 2022 BAK jersey or t-shirt

*Note: Meet Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday at 6 am in front of the schools for a group photo. Watch for a text message regarding where to meet for a group photo on Saturday.*

## Share Photos and Memories on Social Media

Share your BAK moments by posting photos, videos, and memories on social media.

- **Twitter or Instagram:** Tag your photos with #BAK2022
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/bakphotos/>.

Join the page, upload directly to the page, and tag your photos and videos with #BAK2022.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/bikingkansas>

**Twitter:** @bikingkansas use hashtag #bak2022

**Instagram:** #BAK2022

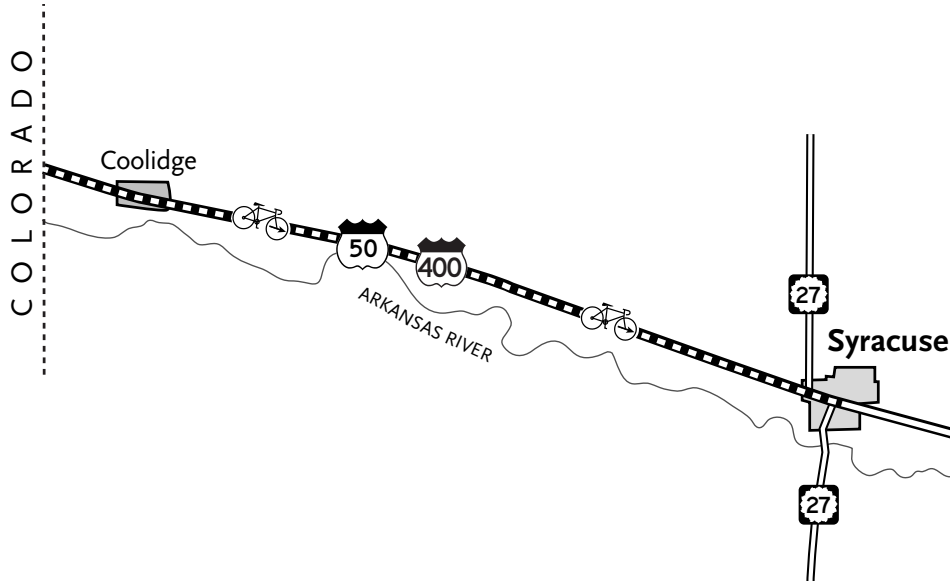
*Usage: All photos are subject to the BAK's Use of Name/Likeness policy, which you signed/agreed to at the time of BAK registration.*

Today's Destination City: Syracuse

Overnight Lodging at: Syracuse Jr/Sr High School (502 N Main St.)

Total Mileage: 17

**Directions:** Begin at Kansas/Colorado border on U.S. 50—head east to Syracuse. Left turn on Main Street, continue to High School at 502 N. Main.





## Syracuse Food Options

### Friday, June 10

*Several local restaurants, grocery stores, and convenience stores are available in Syracuse.*

### Breakfast options, Saturday, June 11

*Bulldog Pizzeria, 208 Main St.*

(one block south of High School) 4:30 am MDT (5:30 CDT)

Breakfast buffet: oatmeal (almond milk), French toast sticks, biscuits & gravy, hard boiled eggs, sausage, bacon, breakfast burritos, orange juice, coffee

*Country Café Mexican Restaurant, 401 Ave A,*

(NW US-50 next to U-Pump-It),

4:30 am MDT (5:30 CDT), Breakfast burritos

*Vicky's Kitchen, 207 E US-50*

(one block east of grocery store) 6 am-2 pm (MDT)

7 am-3pm (CDT)

## Syracuse Restaurants

*Subway, 208 US-50 (Northeast inside Love's)*

*Peraza's Tacos Y Burritos food truck, Main St. & US-50*

(yellow food truck on west side of Porky's Parlor)

*Porkys Parlor, 12 Main St. (Main St. & US-50)*

*Black Bison Pub, 122 Main St. (One block north of US-50)*

*Bulldog Pizzeria, 208 Main St. (one block south of High School)*

*Country Café, 401 Ave A (NW US-50 next door to U-Pump-It)*

*Eagle Convenience Store - Chester's Chicken, 204 Ave A/US-50*

*Antojitos Centro Americanos food truck*

Just east of grocery store

*Taco food truck*

Under awning just west of stoplight

*La Hawaiiana ice cream and snow cone, 208 E Ave B*

*Naughty Chile, 201 US-50 (inside U-Pump-It)*

*Western Trails Café, 204 W 50, Coolidge, KS*

*Redeeming Grounds, 302 East Ave A/US-50*

(inside Hamilton County Drug)

*Vicky's Kitchen, 207 E US-50 (one block east of grocery store)*

Today's Destination City: Garden City

Overnight Lodging at: Garden City Community College, *801 N. Campus*

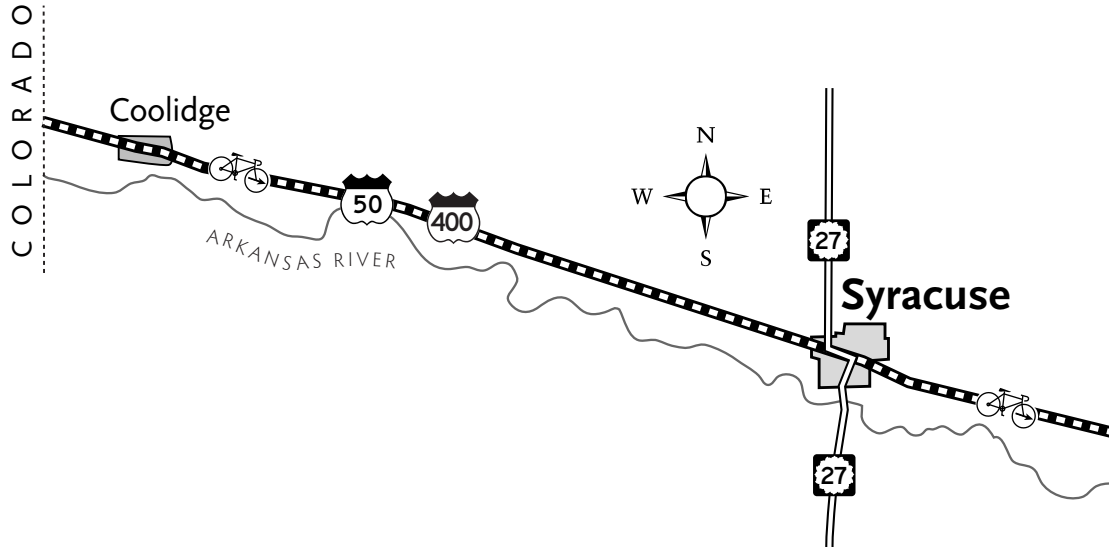
Food Stop: Lakin

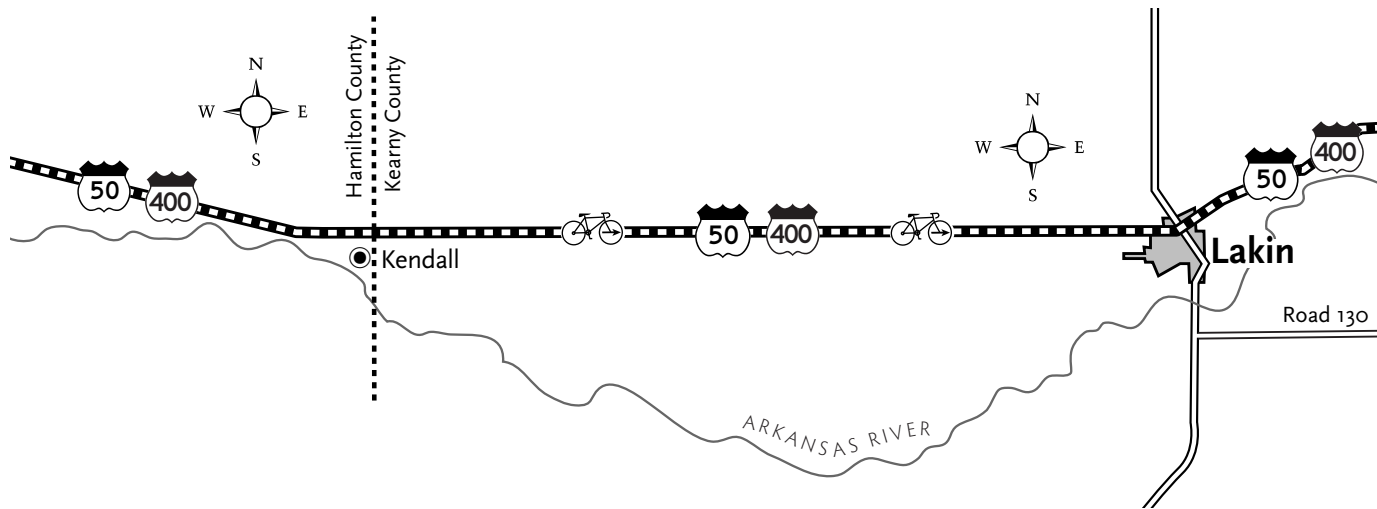
Total Mileage: 55 (Syracuse to Garden City) 72 (Colorado Border to Garden City)

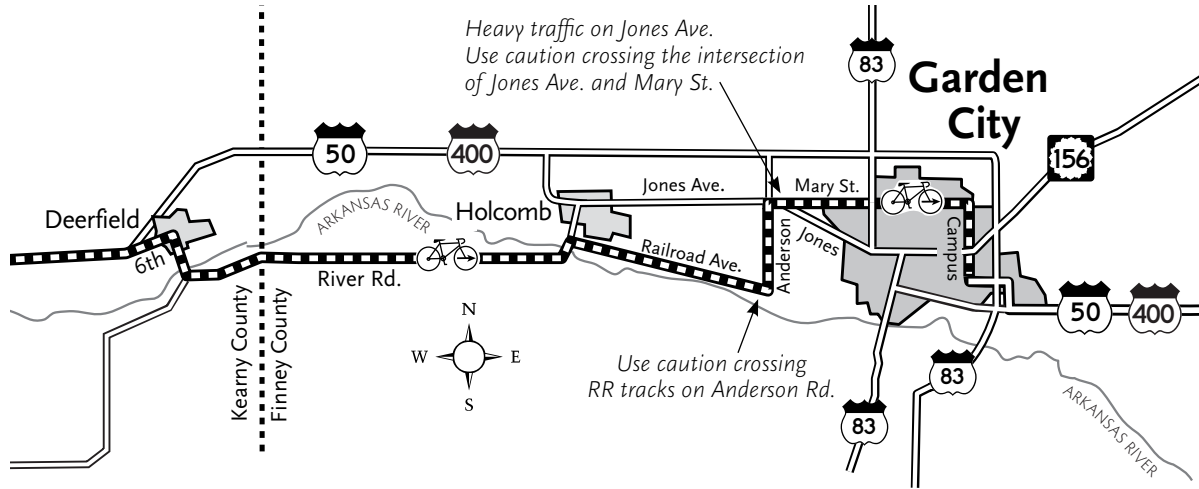
**Directions:** Leave Colorado state line or Syracuse and head east on U.S. 400/50. Continue on U.S. 50 through Lakin. Continue to Deerfield and exit U.S. 400/50 onto 6th Avenue. Continue to Main Street and turn right. Continue on Main to River Road, turn left. Continue through Holcomb to Railroad Avenue and turn right. Continue east to Anderson Rd. and turn left. Continue north on Anderson Rd. to Jones Ave. and turn right. At intersection with Mary St., go straight—*use caution when crossing Jones Ave.* Continue east on Mary St. to Campus Dr. Right turn onto Campus Dr. and continue to Mellow Lane, turn right. Continue on Mellow Lane and curve right through the campus of Garden City Community College. BAK lodging will be at the Dennis Perryman Athletic Complex.

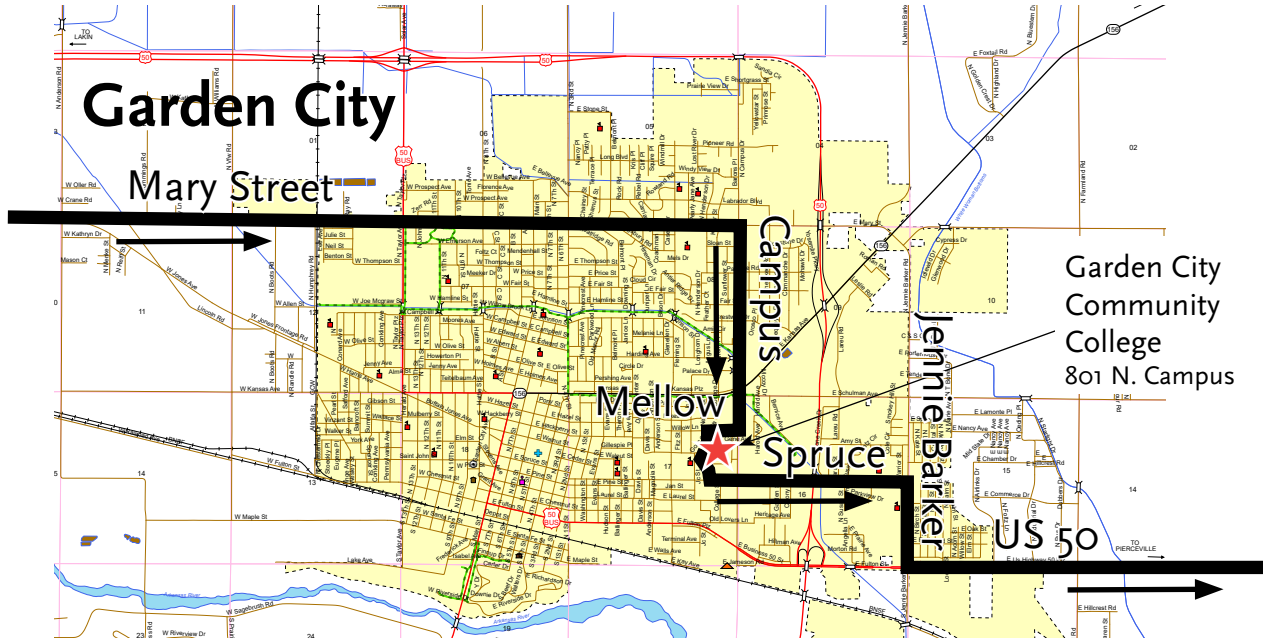
## Point-to-Point Mileage

Colorado Border to Syracuse	17
Syracuse to Kendall	12
Kendall to Lakin	16
Lakin to Deerfield	7
Deerfield to Holcomb	9
Holcomb to Garden City (Garden City Community College)	11









Garden City  
Community  
College  
801 N. Campus

**BAK All-Participant Meeting: Saturday, June 11, 8 pm, Garden City Community College**

## Garden City Food Options

### **Dinner, Saturday, June 11** (on campus options)

*Natalie's Aguas Frescas*, 3 pm-9 pm, Street tacos

Food Truck on GCCC Campus

*Garden City Restaurants* (see list)

### **Breakfast, Sunday, June 12**

*Natalie's Aguas Frescas*, 5:30 am-9 am, Breakfast burritos

Food Truck on GCCC Campus

*Finney County Convention & Visitors Bureau*, 5:30 am-9 am

Donuts, fruit, and pastries, On GCCC Campus

*GCCC/Scooters Coffee*, 5:30 am-9 am, Complimentary coffee

On GCCC Campus

## Garden City Restaurants

*Garden City Steak House*, 1301 E Fulton St., Steakhouse

*Napoli's Italian Restaurant*, 2204 E Kansas Ave, Italian Food

*Tequila's Mexican Grill*, 2306 E Kansas Ave, Mexican Cuisine

*Baron's Steakhouse & Bar*, 1911 E Kansas Ave, Steakhouse & Bar Food

*Applebee's Bar & Grill*, 3030 E Kansas Ave, Bar & Grill

*Pinky's Grilled Cheestro*, 2204 E Kansas Ave, #1, Gourmet Grilled Cheese

*Thai Arawan*, 902 E Fulton St., Bldg A, Thai Cuisine

*El Zarape*, 2501 E Fulton St., Mexican Cuisine

*Pho Hoa One Restaurant*, 713 E Fulton St., Vietnamese Cuisine

*Buffalo Wild Wings*, 1531 Larue Rd, #100, Wings and Bar Food

*IHOP*, 2507 Crestway Dr, 2507 Crestway Dr, Breakfast and Pancakes

*RibCrib BBQ*, 1750 Larue Rd, BBQ

*Hidden Trail Brewery*, 2010 E Schulman Ave

## **Garden City Church Services**

*First Assembly of God* (Garden City), 702 Campus Drive

Sunday: 8:30am & 10:30am

*Trinity Lutheran Church* (Garden City), 1010 Fleming St.

Saturday: 5:30pm; Sunday: 9:00am

*St. Dominic Catholic Church* (Garden City), 615 J C St.

Saturday: 5:30pm; Sunday: 10:30am

## **Church services between Garden City and Dodge City**

*Pierceville Federated Church* (Pierceville), 203 East Avenue A

Sunday: 10:45am

*Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church* (Ingalls), 200 N. Rush

Sunday: 8:00am

*Ingalls Community Bible Church*, 212 N. Main St.

Sunday: 11:00am

*Cimarron United Methodist Church*, 108 N 2nd St.

Sunday: 11:00am

*First Christian Church* (Cimarron), 302 N Main St.

Sunday: 9:45am

*Cimarron Church of the Nazarene*, 406 N 1st St.

Sunday: 11:00am

*Valleyview Bible Church* (Cimarron), 908 N Main St.

Sunday: 10:45am

## **Garden City Amenities**

Laundromat, Campus Laundry, 1717 Old Lovers Ln

ATM / Convenience Store, Kwik Shop, 1102 Campus Dr

Small Grocery and Goods Store, Dollar General, 912 Campus Dr

Spa, Gravity Wellness Spa, 1106 Campus Dr

Local Festival, Beef Empire Days Celebration, 502 N Main St. 21

## History Notes: June 11

**Hamilton County (pop. 2,388)** Named for Alexander Hamilton. Fort Aubry was located along Spring Creek in 1865 to protect the Santa Fe Trail from Indian raids and renegades. Soldiers lived in sod buildings and dugouts. Today, 87% of the land is used for agriculture. Livestock is the most valuable commodity with wheat being second.

**Coolidge (pop. 80)** First named Sargent and renamed after Thomas Jefferson Coolidge, former president of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad in the early 1880's. It was incorporated in 1886, was the division point for the AT&SF, and its Harvey House served railroad workers. After the city and railroad's squabble over property taxes, AT&SF moved the main division to Syracuse in 1890. In 1910 and 1930, fires destroyed much of Coolidge. Agriculture keeps the town alive today.

*Cousin Eddie's Visitor Center & Antique Store:* 210 Coolidge/  
US-50. Retail store/visitors center and 1888 former General

Store that's known for being mentioned in the movie "National Lampoon's Vacation." 11:30 am-5:30 pm.

**Syracuse (pop. 1,812)** The town was originally named Holidayburg after C.K. Holliday, the president of the AT&SF Railroad, and renamed around 1878 to honor the settlers hometown of Syracuse, New York. In 1886, it became the county seat. It was the first U.S. city to elect an all-woman city council on April 5, 1887. It's along the Arkansas River and produces wheat, hay, corn, and milo. Feedlots and dairies also contribute to its economic base.

*Syracuse Sand Dunes Park:* The largest in Kansas and one of the largest in the Midwest with 1,300 acres of dunes, rolling hills, bowls, and fast flats. Sand trails have been expanded through the park.

*The Northrup Theater (NRHP):* opened April 7, 1930. The ornate Art Deco colors were applied to the interior in the 1940s. It's been restored with original seats and a Naugahyde wall.

*Santa Fe Trail:* For about five miles just west of Syracuse, highway US-50 follows the original path of the mountain route of the historic trail.

*Hamilton County Museum:* US-50 and Gates. Inside a former hardware store, the main attractions include artifacts from the famed Harvey House restaurants and hotels that served railroad passengers. 9 am-5 pm. Free admission.

*Hamilton County Courthouse:* 219 N Main. Built in 1937 of blond brick with stone trim, in the style of Modern Eclecticism.

*Post Office Mural (NRHP):* E. 11th & Broadway. The Section for Fine Arts, a Depression-era work program, employed artists to produce public art, including this 1937 mural Rural Free Delivery by Kenneth Adams.

**Kearney County (pop. 3,983)** Established on March 20, 1873 and then organized on March 27, 1888. It was named for Gen. Phillip Kearney, who served with distinction in the Mexican War.

**Lakin (pop. 2,185)** Named for David Long Lakin, a trustee for the AT&SF Railroad. Founded in 1873 by John O'Loughlin to service people traveling west by rail and the Santa Fe Trail. Two large herds of bison (about 3 million per herd) could be seen on the surrounding prairie. By 1875, one herd was nearly exterminated giving rise to a large industry in Lakin as bison bones were gathered and shipped back east.

*Kearny County Museum:* 111 S Buffalo St. Santa Fe Trail memorabilia including Conestoga & survey wagon and fossils. On the grounds, Santa Fe depot, schoolhouse, farm machinery, windmills, and 12-sided barn. 8:30-11:30 am. Donations welcome.

*Kearny County Courthouse:* 304 N Main. This brick and limestone Modern Eclecticism courthouse was completed in 1939. Note the benches with differing designs symbolizing the county's history and economy. Nearby is a large map of the county etched in a limestone slab.

## Biking Across Kansas 2022

Saturday, June 11

*Lakin High School:* 407 N Campbell. It was built in 1931 in the Spanish Colonial Revival style. Note the beautiful terracotta arched entrances with colorful panels.

*DAR Marker:* A large granite Santa Fe Trail marker was placed at the school in 1906 by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

*The Santa Fe Trail, Kearney County Segment 1 (Charlie's Ruts) (NRHP):* 4 ½ miles east of Lakin on US-50, look for the historical marker. Looking east, up and over the bank of the ditch, a set of wagon ruts can be seen. Visitors are welcome to walk through the gate and stand in the ruts (swales). Travel over this segment likely began in 1821 and ended with the railroad's arrival around 1872. During the early years of the trail, the trees lining the banks of the Arkansas River to the south was the boundary between Mexico and the U.S.

**Deerfield (pop. 711)** First settled in 1885, the city incorporated in 1907. The name was given due to the large herd of deer which grazed regularly nearby.

## Syracuse to Garden City

*Great Eastern Ditch (Main & Moreland).* Built in 1881, this canal provided water diverted from the Arkansas River to nearby crops. It's still being used for this purpose today.

*Historic Texaco Station (NRHP):* 105 W 6th. This perfectly restored gasoline service station was built in 1923 in the Tudor Revival style. There are large windows for viewing inside.

**Finney County (pop. 38,470)** Established February 22, 1883 in honor of David W. Finney, who was lieutenant governor of Kansas at the time.

**Garden City (pop. 28,151)** Founded in February 1878, locals first called it "Fulton Town." Legend offers the current name was suggested by a passerby. One day a gentleman jumped from the train and asked Mrs. Fulton the town's name. Mrs. Fulton wasn't fond of the name, so the gentleman, noticing the flowers she was watering, politely suggested, "why don't you call it Garden City?"

## Garden City Attractions

*Finney County Courthouse:* 311 N 9th. This 1929 Modern Eclecticism limestone courthouse is embellished with Art Deco detail. On the grounds, there is a plaque telling the life of Buffalo Jones, local hero credited with saving the American Bison. Also note the statue of Garden City's first mayor, and a replica of the Statue of Liberty.

*The Big Pool:* 504 Maple St. In Finnup Park and was dug mostly by hand in 1922. It was larger than a football field and large enough to accommodate water skiing. In the 1980s, two elephants from the city's zoo swam in the pool after it had closed for the year. The spectacle attracted tourists as far away as California. The original pool has now been turned into the "Garden Rapids at the Big Pool" aquatic center.

*Finney County Historical Museum:* 403 S 4th St. in Finnup Park. Includes exhibits about the area's varied history, home of one of the Fultons (founding family), the world's largest hairball that was found in 1993 at a local meatpacking plant, and more. 9 am-5 pm.

*Lee Richardson Zoo:* 403 S 4th in Finnup Park.

*Traditions Soda & Sandwiches:* 121 Grant. Soda fountain sign nostalgically displays 1950 prices. 9 am-5 pm.

Today's Destination City: Spearville

Overnight Lodging at: Spearville Middle/High School., 305 E. Ave. B

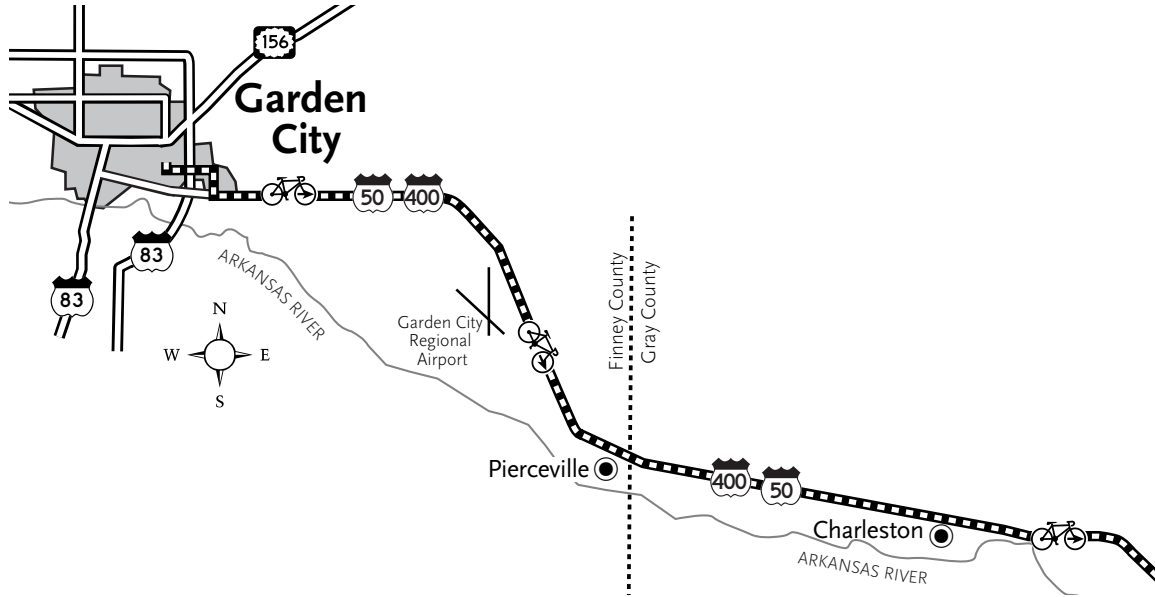
Food Stops: Cimarron and Dodge City

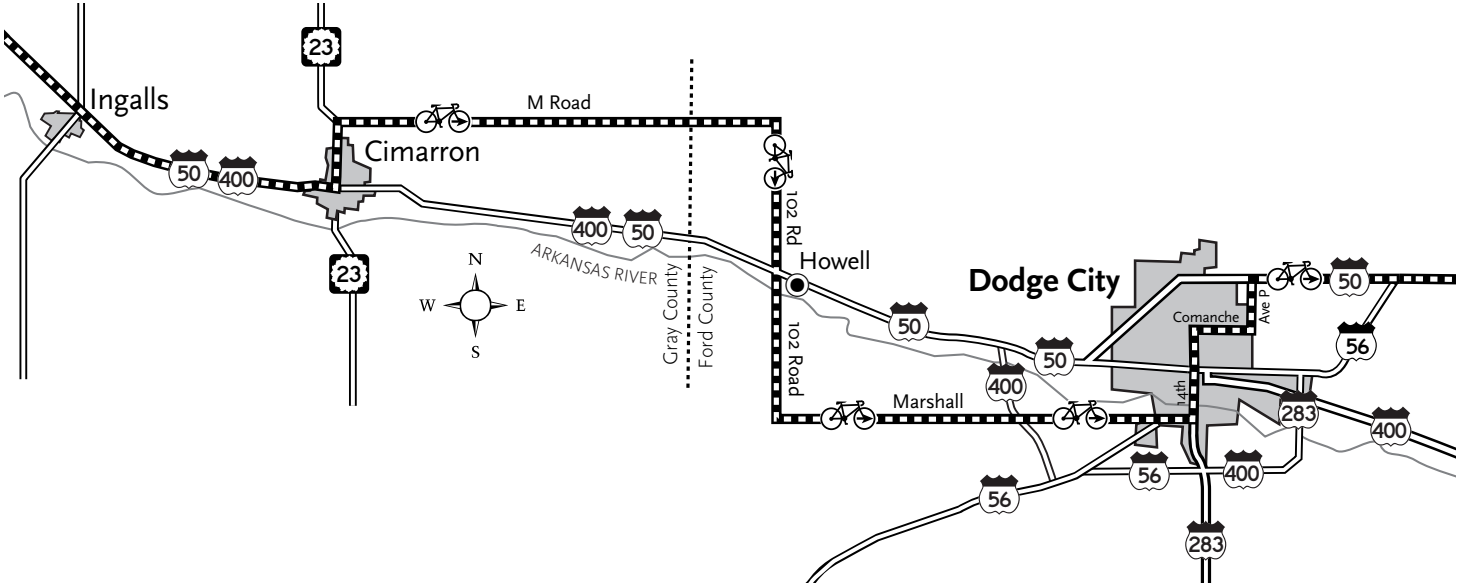
Total Mileage: 77

**Directions:** Leave Garden City CC campus south on Mac Street to Spruce Street. Left turn onto Spruce Street, continue east to Jennie Barker Road. Turn right and continue south to junction of US 50. Turn left onto US 50/400 and continue east to Cimarron. At Cimarron, turn left onto K-23 (Main Street). Head north to M Road and turn right. Continue on M Road to junction with 102 Road and turn right. Continue south on 102 Road to junction with Marshall Road and turn left. Continue to 14th Street and turn left. Continue north on 14th to Comanche and turn right. Head east on Comanche to Ave P and turn left. Continue north to intersect US 50, turn right. Continue east on US 50 to Spearville, turn right onto Main Street. Continue to Ave B and turn left to High School.

## Point-to-Point Mileage

Garden City to Pierceville	13
Pierceville to Ingalls	13
Ingalls to Cimarron	6
Cimarron to Dodge City	25
Dodge City to Wright	10
Wright to Spearville	10

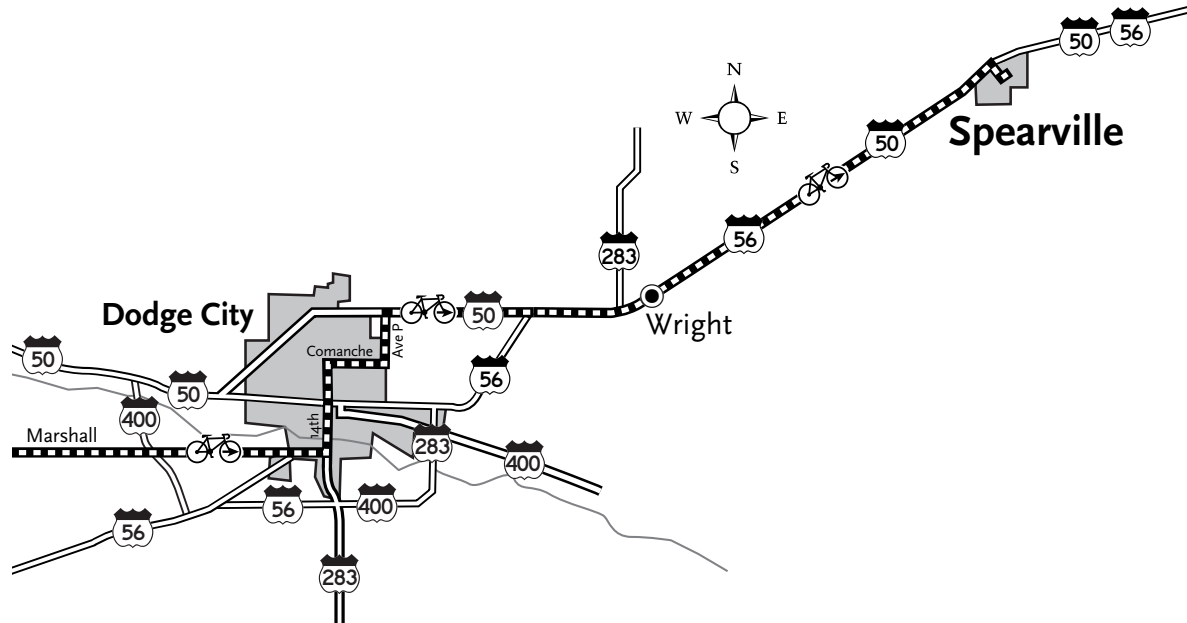


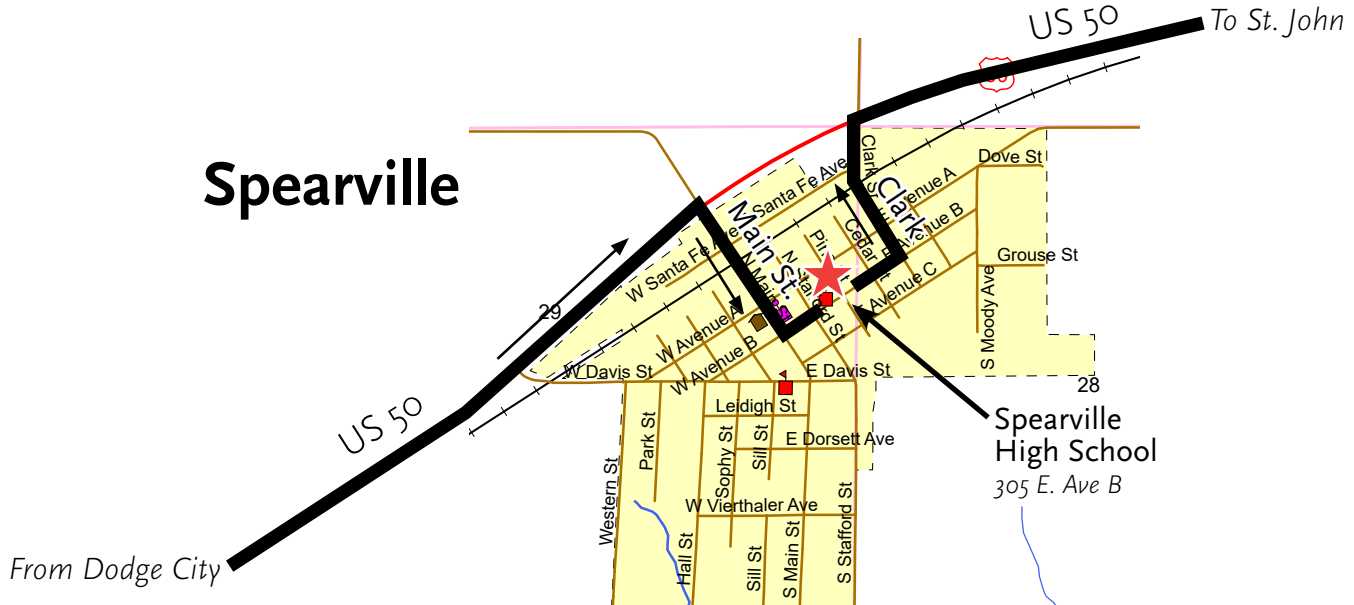


Biking Across Kansas 2022

Sunday, June 12

Garden City to Spearville





Biking Across Kansas 2022

Sunday, June 12

Garden City to Spearville

## **Spearville Food Options**

*Spearville High School*, 2 blocks east of Main Street,  
305 E Ave B, 4–9 pm, Various foods, vegan offerings, etc.

*Windmill Restaurant*, North end of Main St./410 Main Street,  
11 am–2 pm, 5–8:30 pm, Mexican food, hamburgers

*Turbine Bar and Grill*, across from the Windmill Restaurant,  
425 N Main Street, 11 am-10 pm, Bar food

*Truck Stop*, On the highway at east entrance to town,  
10396 126 Road, Hamburgers, tacos, pizza, etc

*Knights of Columbus & Daughters of Isabel* (Beer Garden)  
Up on Main Street at the Parish Center, 220 N Main  
Beer garden and live music

*NCYC Fundraiser*, New baseball field concession stand,  
walking tacos, fresh pork spring rolls, veggie spring rolls

*St. Mary's Pie Queens*, 220 N Main, 3 pm until sold out

## **Breakfast Monday June 13**

*Spearville High School*, 305 E Ave B  
5:30–9 am, Coffee, rolls, eggs, sausage, pancakes, etc.

## **Amenities**

*Spearville Swimming Pool*, Corner of Davis St. & Western St.,  
12:30–9 pm

*ATMs: Spearville Truck Stop* (east edge of town on US 50),  
*First National Bank* (Main St.),  
*Ford County State Bank* (Main St.)

## History Notes: June 12

**Pierceville (pop. 98)** Named in honor of Charles W. and Carols Pierce, part of the Atchison, Topeka railroad's original survey team. 500 railroad workmen were housed in boxcars and fed meat from nearby buffalo and antelope herds. The land was part of the Barton Brothers Ranch, a Texas firm that brought the cattle industry to the western third of Kansas in 1872. The town was burned down by the Cheyenne Indians in 1874 and was abandoned until 1878. From 1879 to 1886, a ferry provided services from one side of the Arkansas River to the other by using horses and sails.

**Gray County (pop. 5,653)** Organized in 1887, it was originally part of Ford County. It was named for Alfred Gray. Between 1887 and 1893, a county seat war ensued that involved notable people like Bat Masterson, Bill Tighman and Ben Daniels. Cimarron became the permanent county seat as a result.

**Charleston (unincorporated)** A shipping point on the AT&SF Railway that had a post office from 1908-1912 and 1913-1944.

**Ingalls (pop. 259)** Named for John J. Ingalls, a U.S. Senator from Kansas who submitted *Ad Astra per Aspera* for the state motto, which means "To the stars through difficulty." The motto was adopted in 1861.

*Santa Fe Trail Museum:* 204 S Main. Includes two Santa Fe depots, early town history. 7:30-11:30 am. Donations welcomed.

**Cimarron (pop.1,981)** First settled in 1878. It took its name from a fork in the Santa Fe Trail which led travelers to the Cimarron River.

*Cimarron Crossing Park:* ½ miles south on Main from US-50. William Becknell, the "Father of the Santa Fe Trail," first traveled what became the trail's "dry route." Hostile Indians and no water made this section of the trail dangerous.

*Remember When Antiques & Collectables*: 101 S Main. Pressed tin ceiling and a 1920's soda fountain. 8:30-11:30 am.

*Old Gray County Courthouse (NRHP)*: 117 S Main. Constructed in 1886, this courthouse was the center of a heated county seat battle in 1889. Men from nearby Ingalls, who wanted their town to be the county seat, raided the courthouse, stole county records, and killed three men in a gunfight. The bullet holes are still visible on the front of the building.

**Ford County (pop. 34,287)** Named after Col. James Hobart Ford, who was in charge of the construction of Fort Dodge.

**Howell** (extinct town) Originally known as Morrison Station, it was a stop on the AT&SF Railway. It was established on June 2, 1886. At the height of its population, Morris, as it was called, reached 150. It had a post office and a depot. Only the grain elevator and fire station remain.

**Dodge City (pop. 27,555)** Founded in 1872 near Fort Dodge, the town became the center for travelers and buffalo hunters. As the longhorn cattle arrived from Texas, the city got its wild, cowtown reputation and became known as the “Queen of the Cow Towns.” It also gained fame as the “Wickedest Little City in America.” Bat Masterson and Wyatt Earp fought to bring law and order to the town. Boot Hill Cemetery was necessary as shootouts were commonly used to settle differences.

*Boot Hill Museum and Historic Dodge City (RHKP)*: 500 W Wyatt Earp. One of the 8 Wonders of Kansas History, the historic exhibits show the life and times of Dodge City. 8 am-8 pm. Admission: \$18 adults, \$10 children ages 5-11.

*Mueller-Schmidt House (NRHP)*: 112 E Vine St. This “Home of Stone,” built in 1881 with 22-inch limestone walls with original furnishings and on the original site, has been owned by only two families. 1-5 pm. Donations welcomed.

*Santa Fe Depot and Harvey House (NRHP):* 201 East Wyatt Earp Blvd. Built in 1896. Ride/drive/walk by only.

**Wright (pop. 145)** unincorporated. The site where the town now stands began as a stagecoach stop. A post office was established in March 1886 and named for Robert M. Wright who owned a large stockyard in the area. It has remained an agricultural community.

**Spearville (pop. 800)** The AT&SF Railway deeded the land to the Arkansas Valley Town Company in 1873 and named the township after Alden H. Speare, railroad director and president of the Town Company. However, the town got its start after two men from Chicago came at night by train and were “dropped in the prairie like a cat in a bag.” At daylight they liked what they saw and contacted the AT&SF Railway Company wanting to purchase the town site. The deal closed late 1877. On November 1, 1892, the Ford County Bank was robbed of \$1,697 along with \$1,500 in treasury notes making Spearville the second robbery by

Oklahoma’s Bill Doolin Gang. The gang fled back to Oklahoma where Ollie (Ol) Yantis, one of the outlaws, was tracked down and killed by a posse by the end of the month. The rest of the outlaws were not captured until 1896. Bill Doolin died in a classic western gunfight with U.S. Marshalls in August of that year.

*Band Shell:* Main and A. This small stone bandshell was a 1938 WPA project and is still used today.

*Windthorst Catholic Church (NRHP),* 131 Spur. 12 miles SE of Spearville. Built in 1913, this Gothic Romanesque Revival church has handcrafted stained-glass windows from Germany. 1-7 pm. Freewill donation.

*Wind Turbines:* Windmills sprang up around Spearville in 2006. Now 300-400 surround the town. A kiosk explaining these giants of energy is located 1/2 mile east of town on US 50.

Today's Destination City: St. John

Overnight Lodging at: St. John-Hudson High School, *505 N. Broadway*

Food Stop: Kinsley

Total Mileage: 59

**Directions:** Leave Spearville High School, heading northeast on B Ave, to Clark St. Turn left on Clark to junction with US 50. Turn right onto US 50 and continue to Kinsley. At Kinsley, US 50 curves to the east, continue on US 50 east through Belpre and Macksville to junction with SW 70th Ave. Turn left onto SW 70th Ave. and continue north to NW 30th Street. Turn right and continue to St. John. Turn left at junction with Main Street and continue north to 5th Ave. Turn to right and continue to St. John-Hudson High School.

**College Jersey Day, Monday, June 13**

Celebrate your alma mater by wearing your college jersey today! Group photo at 6 am, front of school.

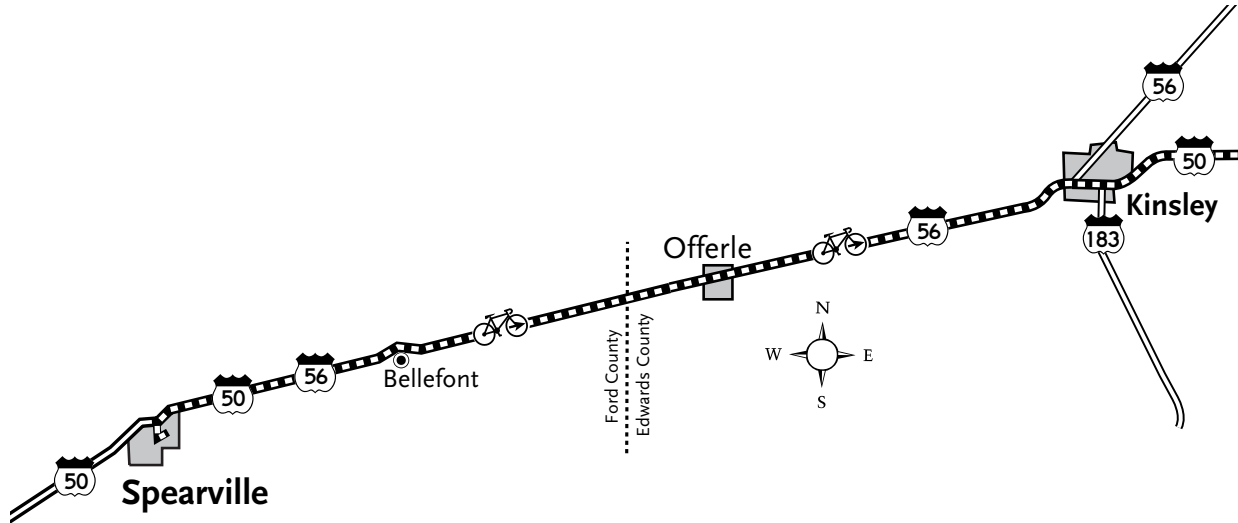
## Point-to-Point Mileage

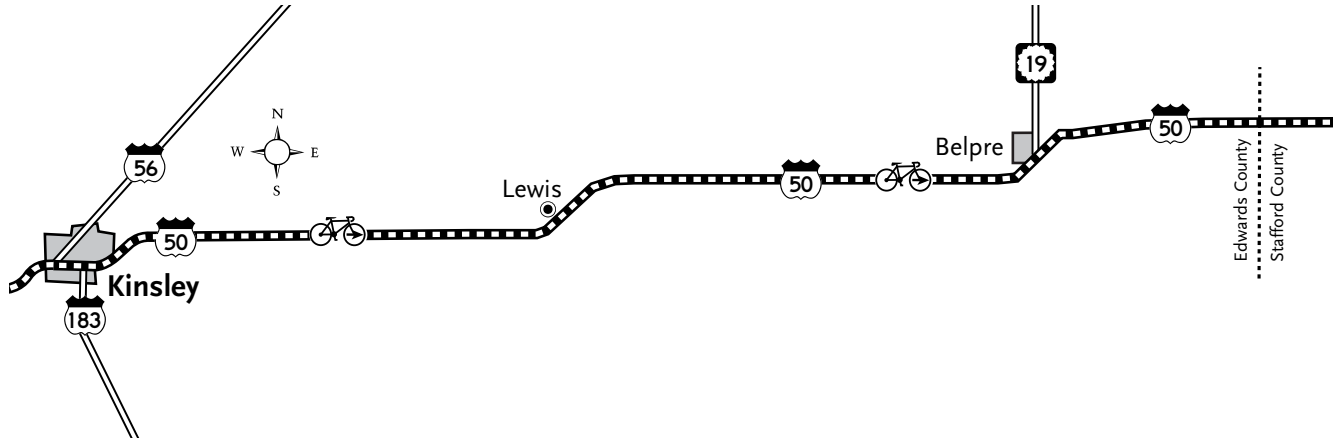
Spearville to Offerle	12	Lewis to Belpre	9
Offerle to Kinsley	8	Belpre to Macksville	7
Kinsley to Lewis	9	Macksville to St. John	14

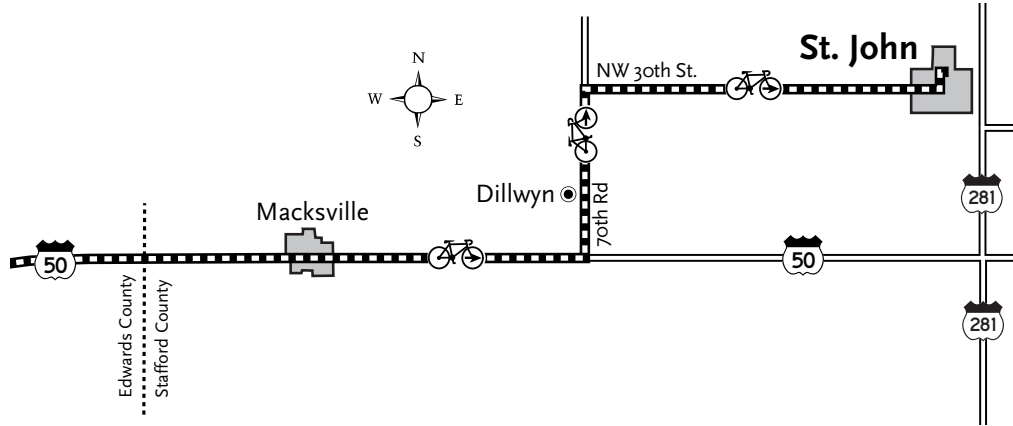
Biking Across Kansas 2022

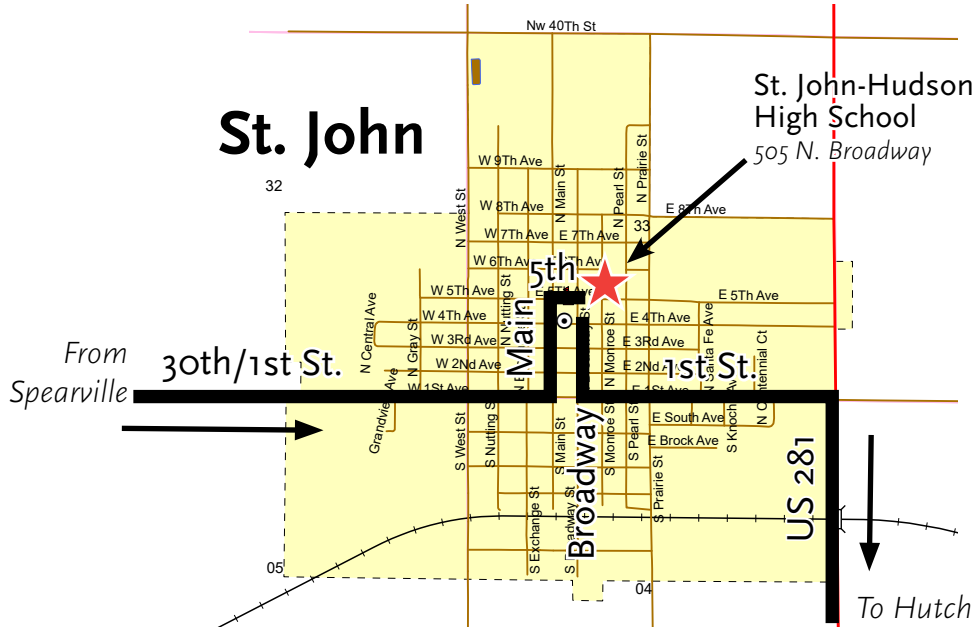
Monday, June 13

Spearville to St. John









# St. John

St. John-Hudson High School  
505 N. Broadway

## St. John Food Options

### Dinner (at High School)

Stafford County 4-H Meats Judging Team High School Cafeteria, 5 pm-7 pm  
Tri-tip steak salad

### Jolly Workers 4-H Club

High School Cafeteria, 5-7 pm  
Spaghetti meal or grilled hamburger

### Breakfast, Tuesday June 14

Wheatland Café  
High School Cafeteria, 5 am-8 am  
Breakfast burritos, cinnamon rolls

### **St. John Restaurants**

*Pueblo Nuevo*, 806 E 1st Ave, 11 am-8 pm  
Authentic Mexican food

*Tiger Town Pizza*, 302 N Main St., 11 am-8 pm  
Lunch buffet on June 13. All profits from this restaurant fund scholarships at St. John High School.

*El Parralito*, 310 N Main St., 6 am-8 pm  
Authentic Mexican food + American-style breakfast

*Squeaks*, 411 S Broadway St., 11-2; 4-12  
Steak, adult beverages.

*White's Foodliner* (deli in grocery store), 329 N US-281,  
6:30 am-9 pm, Chicken daily and rotating lunch specials

*Short Stop*, 434 N US-281 (part of the Cenex), 11 am-2 pm,  
Burgers and fries, and the pork tenderloin sandwich is worth a try!

### **Other St. John Amenities**

*Grocery Store: White's Foodliner*, 329 N US-281

*M & M Laundromat*, 303 N Broadway St.

*St. John Swimming Pool*, E 9th Ave, 1-8 pm.

*Shared workspace* (A/C, Wi-Fi, public computers)

*Workspace 311*, 311 N Broadway St.

Offices can be rented by the day.

*ATM White's Foodliner*, 329 N US-281

*ATM Cenex / Stort Stop parking lot*, 434 N US-281

### **Senior Living Center Visit**

Kenwood Plaza Assisted Living & Residential Healthcare

Monday, June 13, 2-3 p.m. 607 E. 1st Avenue, St. John

## History Notes: June 13

**Bellefont (unincorporated)** In April 1878, long before it was established, Bellefont opened a post office. Landowners platted it in 1885 hoping it would be a AT&SF railhead, however the railroad did not junction there. It once had a general store, grocery, and depot and was a shipping/supply point. Population dwindled to 40 by 1910. The post office closed in 1957.

**Edwards County (pop. 2,907)** In 1874, the Kansas Legislature defined the county. It was named for W.C. Edwards, who built the first brick block, which became the center around which the county was built.

**Offerle (pop. 179)** Founded in 1876, it was named for Lawrence Offerle, one of the town's founders.

*City Park:* Walnut & US-50/56 denotes the “dry route” cutoff of the Santa Fe Trail stated one mile north and later one mile south of this

point during the trail's active years. In both cases, the route eventually connected with the longer “wet route” which followed the Arkansas River near Dodge City.

**Kinsley (pop. 1,456)** This “Midwest City” and county seat is located exactly halfway (1,561 miles) between New York and San Francisco. A roadside park is located where US-50 and US-56 join. There a large sign stating “Midway USA.”

*Edwards County Museum:* Turn at Midway USA sign. Includes a sod house, old church, and the AT&SF steam locomotive #3424. 8-11 am. Donations welcomed.

*Edwards County Courthouse:* 312 S Massachusetts. The Classical Revival style courthouse was built in 1928.

**Lewis (pop. 400)** Founded about 1885, the town was named for journalist M.M. Lewis.

**Belpre (pop. 97)** The post office called Belpre near the eastern edge of the county was established as early as 1879, but the town was not laid out until the railroad was built south of the river in 1886.

**Stafford County (pop. 4,072)** The county was organized in 1873 and named in memory of Lewis Stafford, Captain of Company E, First Kansas Infantry, who lost his life in Louisiana in 1863. In 1874, the Kansas legislature almost wiped the county off the map by partitioning it between neighboring counties. After a six-mile by 32-mile long strip of the county was discovered, the Kansas Supreme Court declared the divisions unconstitutional and original borders were restored on April 25, 1879.

Note the unusual tree groupings on the south side of US-50 as we enter Stafford County. These trees were planted during Lady Bird Johnson's initiative to remove billboards, screening junk yards and landscaping roadways. The Highway Beautification Act of 1965 was a result of her efforts. Trees along this stretch are Russian Olive, Golden Raintree, Conifer, Osage Orange, and other varieties.

On the north side of US-50, see long wide rows of trees known as shelterbelts which were planted in the 1930's by the Civilian Conser-vations Corps to decrease soil erosion due to the wind.

**Macksville (pop. 471)** Founded about 1885, the town was named for George Mack, the first postmaster of Stafford County.

*WPA Band Shell:* From Main, 2 blocks east on Halveson. Rocks from 48 states make up this 1939 band shell.

**St. John (pop. 1,295)** County seat. Established in 1875 by Mormon settlers who originally named the town Zion Valley. An elder of the church declared that as long as someone of their faith lived there, a tornado would never hit the town. The Mormon temple still stands at 5th & Exchange, but services are no longer held there. Located in the Arkansas River Lowlands geographic region.

*Stafford County Courthouse:* 209 N Broadway. Completed in 1929, it is the only triangular courthouse in Kansas and is built in the Modern American design. The stairs and main corridors feature American gray marble and woodwork is made of Lauan Mahogany from the Philippines.

*Town Square:* Known for its three-tiered fountain and a small scale Statue of Liberty, which was placed by the Boy Scouts in the early 1950s. The Boy Scouts also placed 200 statues of Lady Liberty around the U.S. to commemorate the organization's 40th anniversary.

*Art Center at Gray Photo Studio (NRHP):* 116 Main. Restoration continues of the early 1900s studio and residence of William R. Gray, who using the glass plate negative process produced over 30,000 photos from 1905 to 1947. 1-5 pm. \$5 donation suggested

*WPA School:* 505 N Broadway. Constructed in 1939, the white painted building shows the Art Deco style which was popular during the time.

*St. John Homecoming Hall and Museum:*  
304 N Main St., 1-5 pm, \$5 donation suggested.

*White's Foodliner:* 329 N US 281 Hwy. When the town's only grocery store closed in 2016, the town rallied and built a new facility with fuel pumps and pharmacy. 5 cents of every gallon pumped goes back into local economic development work.

Biking Across Kansas 2022

Tuesday, June 14

St. John to Hutchinson

Today's Destination City: Hutchinson

Overnight Lodging at: Hutchinson High School, 810 E. 13th

BAK Food Stop: Abbyville (*lunch provided by BAK*)

Total Mileage: 57

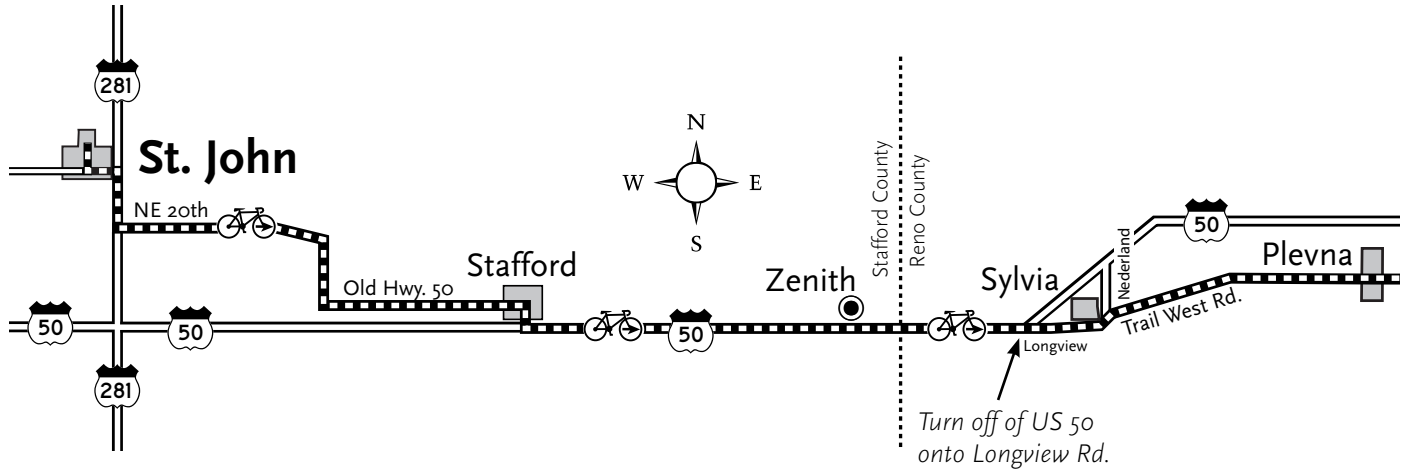
**Directions:** Leave St. John-Hudson High School heading south on Broadway. At 1st Ave., turn left. Continue to US 281 and turn right. Continue south on US 281 to NE 20th Road (Old US 50) and turn left. Continue east on NE 20th Road to Stafford. At junction with Main St., turn right to junction with US 50. Turn left onto US 50 and continue east to junction with Longview Road. Turn right onto Longview Road and head east to junction with Trail West Road and continue to intersection with Nederland Road. Turn right here to stay on Trail West Road. Continue east on Trail West Road to Partridge. Turn left onto Partridge Road, continue north to 4th Ave. Turn right onto 4th and continue to Washington St. and turn left. Go to 7th, turn right and then turn left at Main. Go to 11th Ave. and turn right, continue to Severance. Turn left on Severance to 13th, turn left to Hutchinson High School.

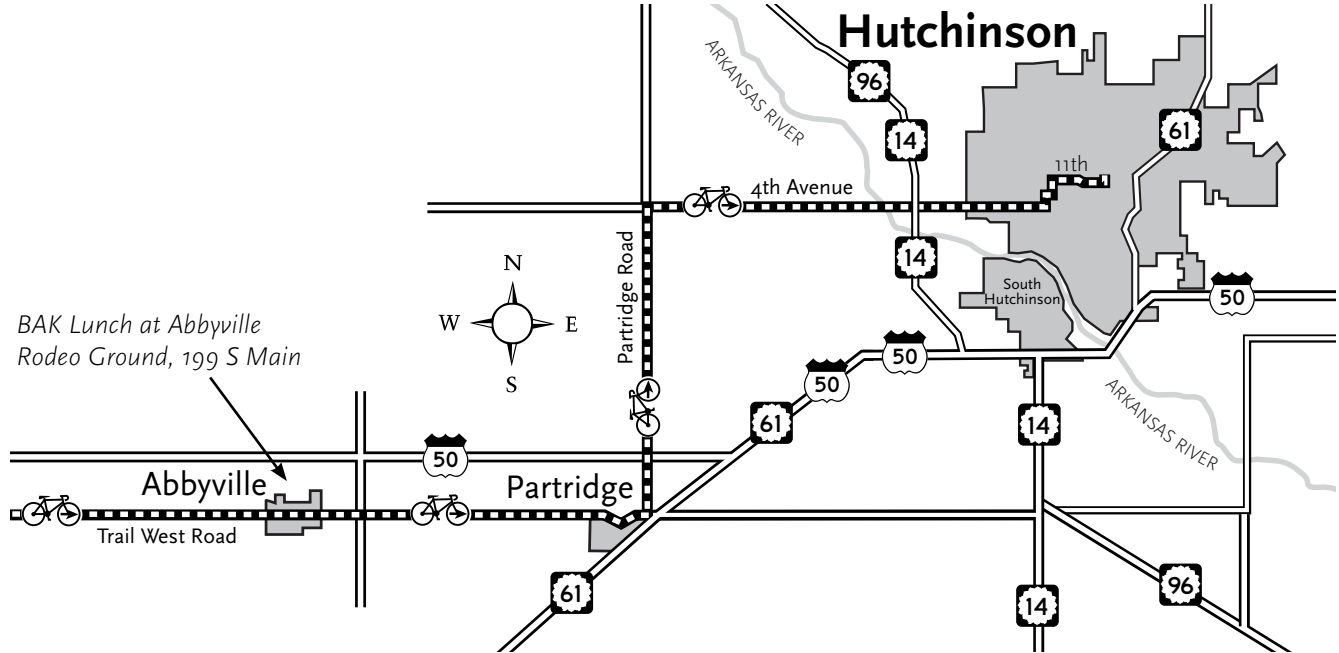
**Patriotic (Flag) Day, Tuesday, June 14**

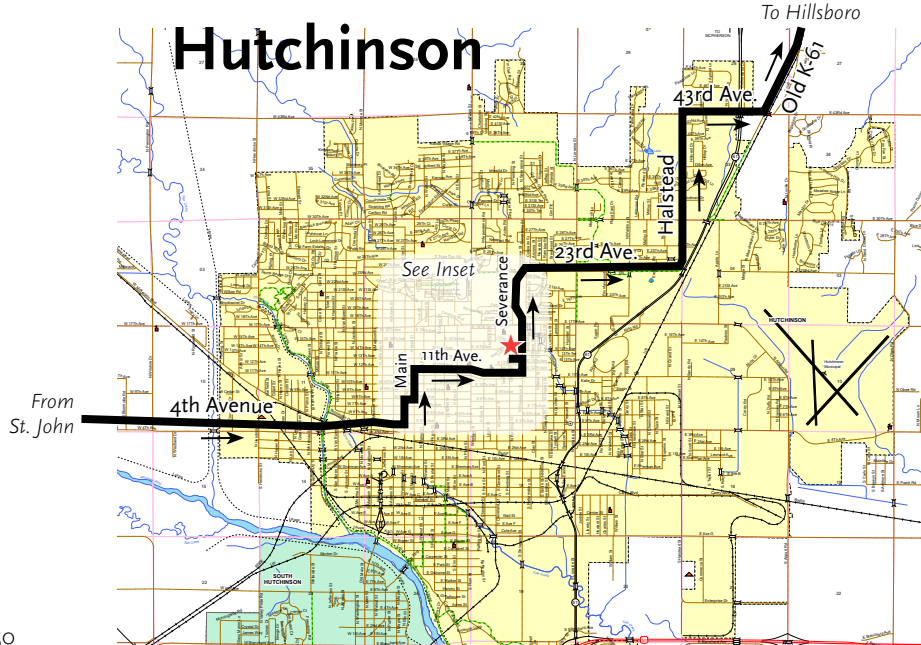
Wear a red-white-and-blue or Armed Services jersey. Group photo at 6 am, front of school.

## Point-to-Point Mileage

St. John to Stafford	11	Plevna to Abbyville	6
Stafford to Sylvia	12	Abbyville to Partridge	6
Sylvia to Plevna	6	Partridge to Hutchinson	16







Hutchinson High School  
Salthawk Activity Center  
810 E. 13th



**Breakfast at High School, Wednesday, June 15**

*Meadowlark Christian School*, Salthawk Activity Center  
 Parking Lot, Biscuits & gravy, other breakfast items

**Hutchinson Restaurants**

*Salt City Brewing Company* (Downtown Trolley Stop)

514 N Main St., Opening special for BAK

*Anchor Mexican Restaurant* (Downtown Trolley Stop)

126 S Main St., Authentic Mexican (Hutchinson landmark)

*Crow and Co* (Downtown Trolley Stop),

2 S Main St., Coffee Shop

*Holly's Sweet Treats* (Downtown Trolley Tour Stop)

205 S Main St., 11 am-6 pm, Sandwiches, weekly specials

*Sandhills Brewery* (Downtown Trolley Tour Stop)

111 W 2nd Ave, 3 pm-10 pm, Local brewery

*Pizzacos*, 112 S Main St., 5 pm-8:30 pm

*Hickory Stick* (Downtown Trolley Tour Stop)

25 N Main St., 11 am-8 pm, BBQ crafted from  
 fresh ingredients

*Jillians* (Downtown Trolley Tour Stop),

216 N Main St., 4 pm-9 pm, Reservation suggested

*Carl's Bar and Deli* (Downtown Trolley Tour Stop)

103 N Main St., 11 am-10 pm, Deli sandwiches and treats

*Sugartime Confections* (Downtown Trolley Tour Stop)

29 S Main St., 5 pm-8:30 pm, Deli cafe, sugar cookies,  
 fast food, gourmet popcorn, cakes & other desserts

*Metro Coffee*, 1329 E 17th, Coffee shop

*Skaets Steak Shop*, 2300 N Main St., full menu  
 (Hutchinson Landmark)

*Scutlebutts*, 1125 N Main St., open until 3 pm,

Coffee shop/Art gallery

## Hutchinson Entertainment & Amenities

### Harley's and Hutchinson's Cycling Celebration

*Harleys Bicycles*, 7th Ave & Main St.,

100th Anniversary Party 10 am–3 pm,  
Community welcome party, vendor tents,  
food options, giveaways

*Harley's Bicycles*, 629 N Main St.,

8 am-7 pm, (for retail sales and service)

### Downtown Restaurant Trolley Tour

Route Information at Cycling Celebration, 5 pm–8 pm

*Salty City Splash*, 1601 S Plum St in Carey Park, 12:30–6:30 pm

Adults over 18+ \$5.25

*Hutchinson Public Library*, Wi-Fi, computers, A/C

*Timber Crossing Laundromat* (closest)

1325 E 17th Ave, Coffee shop next door,  
closest to High School

*Giant Laundry*, 430 N Adams St,

Large laundromat, supermarket next door

*Central Laundry*, 510 E 17th Ave, Unit C,

Large laundromat, new machines, wireless pay

## Hutchinson Hotels (BAK Rates)

*Hampton Inn*: \$99.99 plus tax

*Comfort Inn*: \$88.99 plus tax

*Fairfield Inn*: \$99.00 + tax

*Days Inn*: \$69.95 for single, \$79.95 for doubles,  
and \$89.95 for suites

*Holiday Inn Express*: \$109/night rate

To take advantage of these rates, call the hotel directly  
and indicate you are with BAK.

## History Notes: June 14

**Stafford (pop. 959)** Founded in 1878, the city was named for Louis Stafford, a casualty of the Civil War. The town was destroyed by a tornado in 1882, but was rebuilt within a year. It was incorporated as a city in 1885.

*Stafford County Historical Museum:* 100 N Main St. One of the most famous collections is the 29,000 glass plate negatives from the W.R. Gray Photo Studio in St. John. Also has hand-carved horse-drawn hearse, antique cars, etc. Complex includes: Farmers National Bank (NRHP), 100 S Main Street; Quilt Exhibit, 107 E Broadway (back of Farmers National Bank); Milton Annex (car museum), 113 N Main St. 7:30-11:30 am. Donations welcomed.

*First Methodist Episcopal Church (NRHP):* 219 W Stafford. The 1926 exterior is English Collegiate Gothic style. The interior is Prairie School style with stained-glass ceiling and lamps. Architect Don Buel Schuler of Wichita previously worked for Frank Lloyd Wright. 7:30 am-12 pm. Free.

**Reno County (pop, 61,898)** Organized in 1868 by the Kansas Legislature and was formerly part of Marion County. It was named in honor of Major-General Jesse Lee Reno, who fought in the Civil War and died in the line of duty at the Battle of South Mountain in Maryland in 1862.

**Sylvia (pop. 215)** The original settlement was called Zenith in 1874. Much of the land was deeded to the AT&SF Railroad when it planned to come through in order to develop a city. In 1886, H.S. Thompson and his wife Mary bought much of the town and transferred it to the Sylvia Town Company. The same year, the town was platted. A.A. Robinson, a vice-president of the Santa Fe Railroad, named it Sylvia honoring his wife. It was incorporated in January 1887.

**Plevna (pop. 85)** It is named after the historical city of Plevna in Bulgaria, which months before was a siege battle won by Russian/Bulgarian forces, gaining Bulgaria its independence.

*Plevna General Store (NRHP):* 3rd Ave & Main. This historic general store was built in 1913 and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1988.

**Abbyville (pop. 83)** A station on the AT&SF Railway, it was named for Abby McLean, the first baby born there. The settlement's previous name was Nonpariel. In the third weekend of May, it hosts the annual Abbyville Frontier Days PRCA Rodeo and BBQ, which started in 1961 as a celebration of the Kansas Centennial.

**Partridge (pop 209)** It was laid out in 1886 and incorporated in 1906. Its name commemorates the partridge. In 1887, the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska Railway built a main line from Herington through Partridge to Pratt. Nearby Partridge Cemetery was established in 1883 by the First Church of Christ of Reno County. "Partridge Days" features a bicycle parade and collections of unusual homemade bicycles.

**Hutchinson (pop. 41,889)** Founded in 1872 by Clinton "C.C." Hutchinson who convinced the Santa Fe Railway to make the crossing of the Arkansas River here. Large deposits of salt were found by Ben Blanchard when drilling for oil in the area in 1887. Salt mining soon became the main industry. Cargill, Morton Salt, and the Hutchinson Salt Company still mine today. Nicknames include: The Salt City, Hutch and even Temperance City in its early days. Hutchinson is home to the Kansas State Fair.

*Cosmosphere International SciEd Center @ Space Museum* (8 Wonders of Kansas): 1100 N Plum. An affiliate of the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum, the Cosmosphere features a planetarium and exhibits including a SR-71 Blackbird as well as artifacts from Apollo missions. Have kids? Send them to camp at the Cosmosphere. 9am–5pm.

*Hutchinson Art Center:* 405 N Washington. 9 am-5 pm. Free.

*Strataca - Kansas Underground Salt Museum* (8 Wonders of Kansas): An underground exploration of the renowned former Carey salt mine. Many documents, movies, television masters and valuable artifacts are archived in the mine because of the constant temperature and perfect humidity.

*Historic Fox Theatre (NRHP)*: 18 E 1st. Known as the State Movie Palace of Kansas, it's one of the finest examples of theatre Art Deco in the U.S. It first opened on June 8, 1931. The flashing display of neon on its marquee was the first flashing display in Kansas and is one of the only surviving, functioning, original marquees in the country.

*The Reno County Museum*: 100 S Walnut. The museum contains an eclectic history of the county and features historic exhibits and galleries about the county's history. Current exhibits include a transportation gallery, Hutch Heroes: Hutchinson Police Department, and the most impactful individuals in Reno County history. 9 am–5 pm. Donation suggested.

*The Carnegie Library Building*: 5th & Main. Established in 1903, this neoclassical design is an enduring symbol of philanthropy. It is one of 63 Carnegie-funded libraries built in Kansas.

*Reno County Courthouse (NRHP)*: 206 W 1st. Building began in 1929, for a total cost of \$513,000. It's built from Bedford Limestone and features an Art Deco design--one of only three such courthouses in the state.

*Hutchinson Zoo and Train*: 6 Emerson Loop E., 10 am–4:45 pm. The zoo features an aviary with native birds as well as exhibits of prairie dogs and various farm animals. Free.

*Dillon Nature Center*: 3002 E 30th Avenue. This wild arboretum and National Urban Wildlife Sanctuary features a number of walking trails that wind through various habitats, which are home to hundreds of species of plants, birds, and wildlife. The indoor education center features fun and educational wildlife exhibits. 8 am-7 pm. Free.

Today's Destination City: Hillsboro

Overnight Lodging at: Middle/High School, 400 E. Grand Ave.

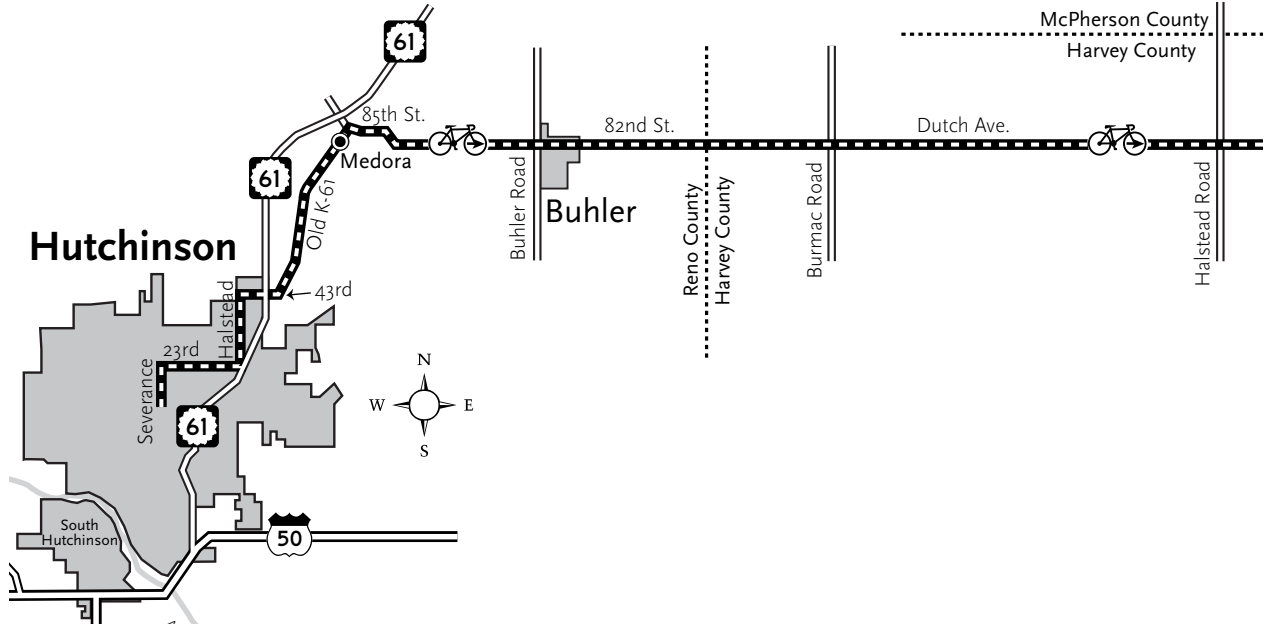
Food Stop: Hesston

Total Mileage: 58

**Directions:** Leave Hutchinson High School, head north on Severance St., to 23rd Ave. Turn right onto 23rd and head east to Halstead St. Turn left onto Halstead St. and head north to 43rd Ave. Turn right onto 43rd Ave. and head east to Old Highway K-61. Turn left on Old Highway K-61 and continue northeast through Medora to 85th Ave. Turn right onto 85th Ave. and head east through Buhler and into Hesston. *At Hesston, the BAK Century Route turns right onto Ridge Road (see Century Route map on page 62).* Cyclists on the regular route will turn left on Ridge Road and continue north to Cheyenne Road. Turn right onto Cheyenne, continuing east through Goessel and to the junction with Indigo Road. Turn left onto Indigo Road and head north to Hillboro. In Hillsboro, turn right onto Grand Ave. and continue east to the Middle/High School.

## Point-to-Point Mileage

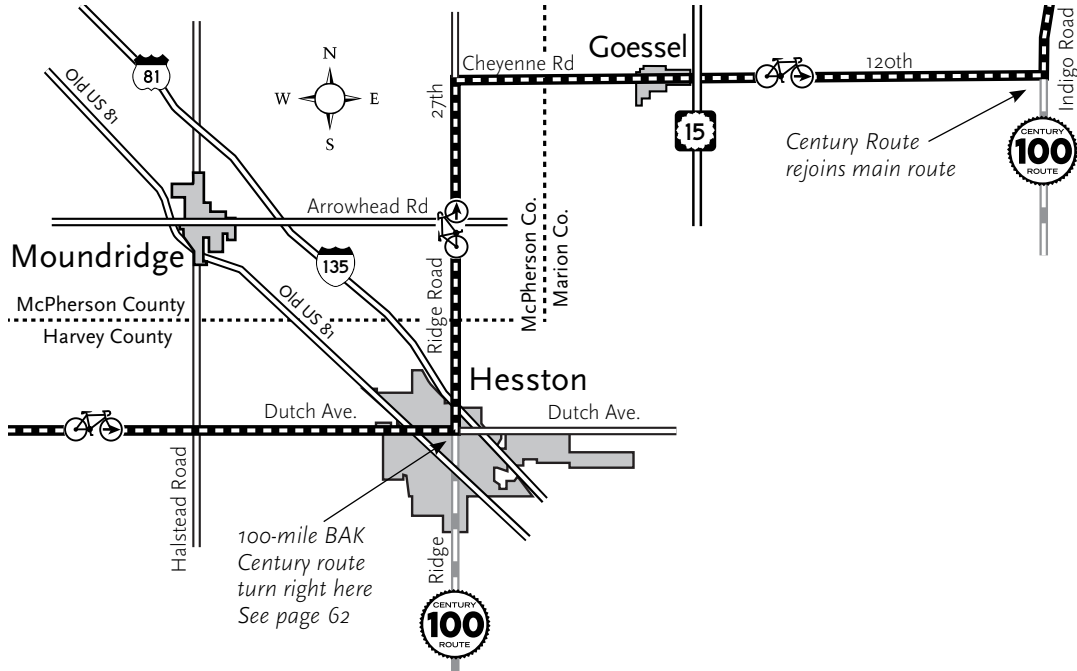
Hutchinson to Medora	8	Hesston to Goessel	11
Medora to Buhler	4	Goessel to Jct. Indigo Road	8
Buhler to Hesston	19	Indigo Road to Hillsboro	8

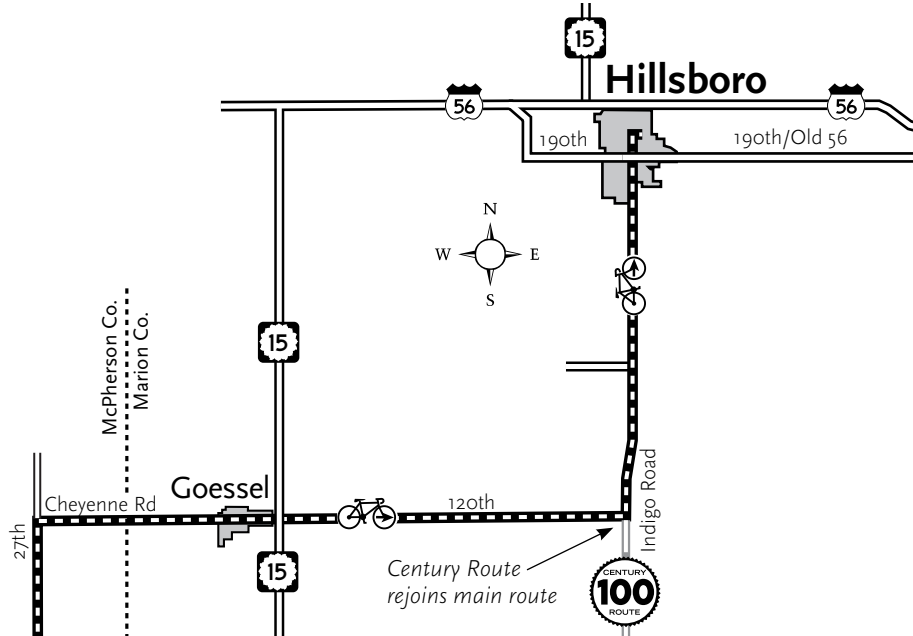


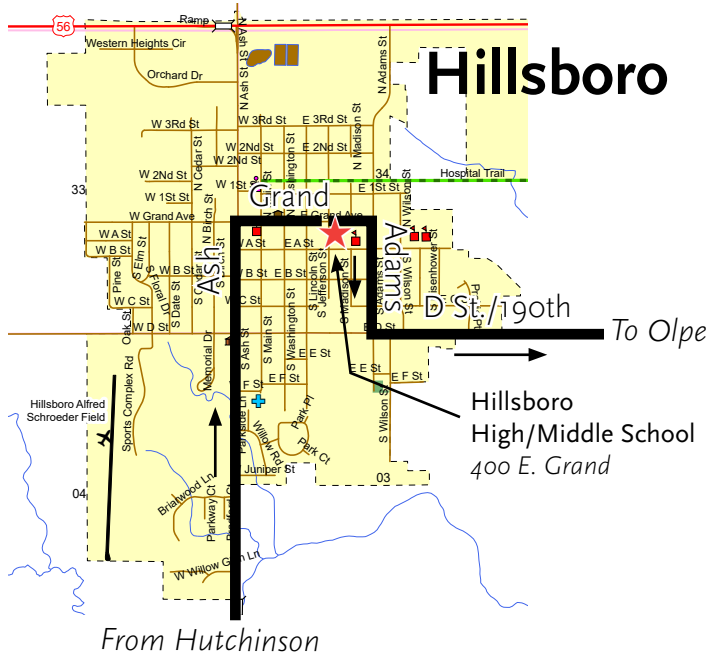
# Hutchinson to Hillsboro

Wednesday, June 15

Route Guide







# Hillsboro

## Hillsboro Amenities

*Swimming Pool*, 66 W D Street

1-5pm (5-6pm adults) 6-8pm. \$4.00

*Convention & Visitors Bureau*, High School out front,  
400 E Grand, 10am–2pm, free water, drinks,  
granola bars, energy bars, fruit.

*Hillsboro Community Hospital*, High School out front  
400 E Grand, 10am–2pm, free vital checks

*Visitors Center*, 508 Memorial Drive, 1-5pm, Free  
*Adobe House*, 508 Memorial Drive, 1-5pm,  
Free or donation

*Schaeffler House*, 312 E Grand  
10am-9pm, Free or donation  
Free with BAK ID

*Public Library*, 120 E Grand, 10am-5pm  
Wi-Fi, air conditioning

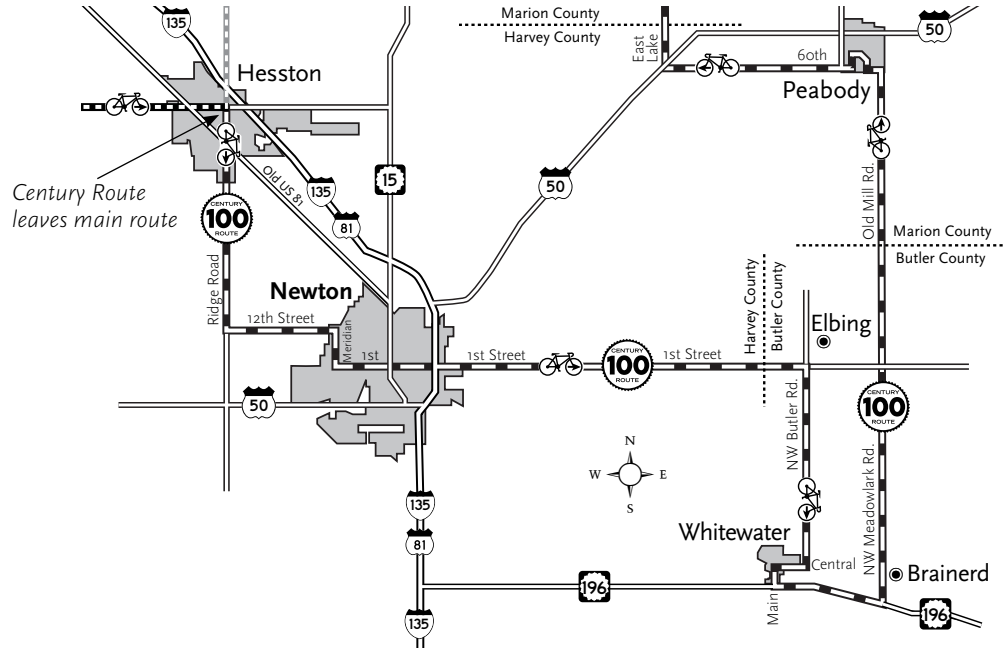
*Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce Office*  
110 N Main, 9am-1pm/2-4pm  
Free Wi-Fi, cold drinks, air conditioning

# BAK Century

**Directions:** Leave main route at Hesston, turn right onto Ridge Road. Continue south to 12th St. Turn left onto 12th and continue to Meridian. Turn right onto Meridian and continue to 1st St. Turn left onto 1st St. and continue to NW Butler Road. Turn right onto Butler Rd. and continue to Central St. in Whitewater. Turn right onto Central and then left onto Main St. Continue on Main to K-196 and turn left. At junction with NW Meadowlark Rd., turn left and head north. (continues on page 63)

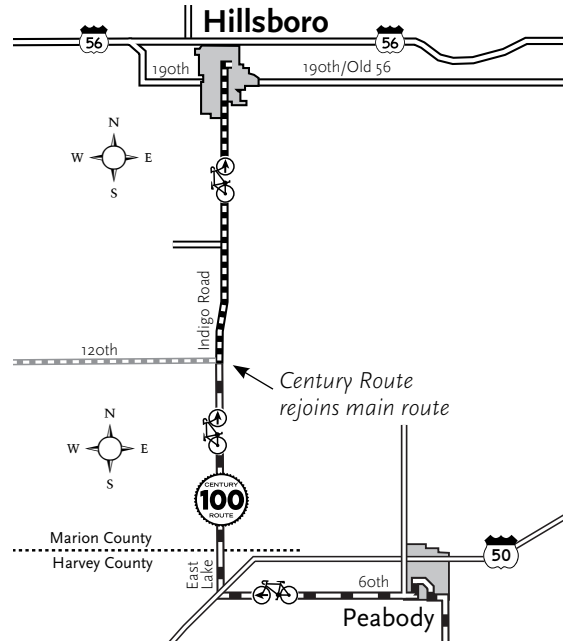
Wednesday, June 15

Hutchinson to Hillsboro



## BAK Century

**Directions** (*continued*): Meadowlark Rd. becomes Old Mill Road at Marion county line. Continue north on Old Mill to 60th Rd/Potters Road. Turn left on Potter's Road and continue to Maple St. Curve right onto Maple and then take a left turn onto Central Ave. Follow Central as it curves into Walnut St. Follow Walnut to 2nd St. and turn left. Continue to Locust St. Turn left onto Locust. Locust turns into 60th St. Follow 60th and continue west. It becomes NE 96th St. Turn right at N East Lake Road and continue north. This becomes Indigo Rd and rejoins with main route at 120th Rd.



Biking Across Kansas 2022

Wednesday, June 15

Hutchinson to Hillsboro

## Hillsboro Food Options

*Hillsboro Community Foundation* Lutheran Hall

106 N Lincoln, 5–6pm, Ribeye Sandwich, fruit, chips,  
pickle, Brownie or cookie, \$10

*Beer Garden: hosted by local Golf Course*

Schaeffler House Museum Porch, 312 E Grand  
12–9pm. Beer & snacks \$4.00 beer, snacks free

*DJ on site for evening, Schaeffler House Museum Porch*

312 E Grand Hillsboro, 5-9pm, Free

*Hillsboro Chamber, Schaeffler House Museum Yard*

312 E Grand, 5–6:30pm, Vegetarian/Vegan meal

*Schaeffler House Museum Yard, 312 E Grand,*

5-8pm or until gone, Pie & Ice cream

## Breakfast Thursday, June 16

*United Methodist Women, United Methodist Church indoors*

905 E D Street, 5:30–8am

## Hillsboro Restaurants

*Pueblo Viejo, 117 S Main, 11am–2pm; 4–10pm, Mexican*

*Panda Kitchen, 107 W Grand,*

11am–2:30pm; 4:30–8:30pm, Chinese

*Mama C's Take & Bake, 111 W Grand, 11am–7pm*

Daily Menus (Lunch only) Salad Bar lunch and early dinner

*The Pick Up Line, 207 N Main, 11am–1:30pm, Daily Menus (Lunch Only)*

*Pizza Hut, 903 E D, Pizza*

*Wendy's, 812 E D, Hamburgers (fast food)*

*Sonic, 700 Western Heights, Hamburgers (fast food) Shakes*

*Rhubarb Market (has guest Wi-Fi), 104 S Main Street, 7am–3pm*

Coffee, baked goods, breakfast wraps

*Subway, 510 E D, Sandwiches*

*The Igloo, 807 E D Opens 2pm, Shaved Ice*

## History Notes: June 15

**Buhler (pop. 1,325)** The first post office was established in 1888 and was primarily inhabited by Mennonite families that emigrated from Russia during the 1880s. Take a stroll down Main Street to find the former Buhler Mill, which was located on the Frisco Railroad. Along the way, swing by the historic Wall-Ratzlaff House at 103 N Maple. This 1898 Colonial Revival and Folk Victorian home is on the National Register of Historic places. It was the former home of John J. Wall, the co-owner of the original Buhler Mill and Elevator Company. Wall, a Russian immigrant, came to the U.S. in 1874 and established the Buhler Mill in 1892.

**Harvey County (pop. 34,024)** A plan to create a new county from townships from Sedgwick, McPherson, and Marion Counties was introduced at a political convention in Sedgwick County, but was ignored. Republican representatives then returned to Newton determined to form their own county with Newton as the county seat. The plan passed the Kansas Legislature on February 19, 1872. The county is named for James M. Harvey, the governor of the state at that time.

**Hesston (pop. 3505)** In 1886, Hesston was founded and named after the Hess brothers who owned the land where a depot on the Missouri Pacific Railroad was built. The post office was renamed to Hesston on December 16, 1887. The railroad made Hesston an important regional shipping point. On March 13, 1990, a large portion of Hesston was damaged by an F5 tornado.

*Dyck Arboretum of the Plains:* 177 W Hickory. Features 13 acres of landscaped native wildflowers, grasses, shrubs, and trees. Ceramic sculptures by Kansas artist Conrad Snider and inspirational quotes enhance the experience. 9 am-4 pm. Donations welcomed.

**Marion County (pop. 12,660)** The County of Marion was established in 1855. It was named in honor of American Revolutionary War hero, Francis Marion of South Carolina.

**Goessel (pop. 556)** It was first called Gnadenfeld in 1874 when settled by German Mennonites who immigrated from Russia. In 1895 Dr. Peter Richert, who was forming an area hospital, named the town Goessel when he learned of Captain Kurt von Goessel, who went down with his ship Elbe in the English Channel. In 1898 the Bethesda Hospital Society, the first Mennonite hospital in North America, was established here. Today it exists as the Bethesda Home. On June 6, 1906, at about 6 o'clock in the evening, a tornado passed down Main Street, destroying 75 percent of the town. This tornado became known as the "Four Sixes Tornado." (Sixth month, sixth day of the month, year 1906, and at about 6 in the evening).

*The Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum:* 200 N Poplar. It tells the story of low-German Mennonite families that came to the area searching for religious freedom. It features a variety of historic items highlighting early prairie life and the challenges farm families faced in taming the Kansas prairie.

**Hillsboro (pop. 2,993)** Known for its location at the edge of the beautiful Flint Hills and close proximity to Marion Reservoir. Named for homesteader John Gillespie Hill. It was originally named Hill City

but was renamed in 1879 since another Kansas town had taken that name. The town was settled by Russian Mennonites who brought the famous Turkey Red hard winter wheat that is still grown in Kansas today. Hillsboro is home of Barkman Honey with their flagship brand Busy Bee Honey.

*Mennonite Settlement Museum:* 502 S Ash. A guided tour at the Peter Paul Loewen House (NRHP), formerly the Adobe House, the last remaining Mennonite-style Russian clay-brick house-barn structure in North America, focuses on the early lifestyle of Russian and Polish Mennonites and their 1870's settlement in Kansas. The tour includes the 1876 Jacob Friesen windmill replica that stood at the Grandenau settlement. 1-5 pm. Donations welcomed.

*William & Ida Schaeffler House (NRHP):* 312 E Grand St. This 1909 Edwardian, Queen Anne style home was the residence of prominent Lutheran immigrants from Germany. The home features an open stairway, stained glass windows, fine woodwork, and a round cupola.

*Tabor College:* 400 S Jefferson St. Founded in 1908 by the Mennonite Brethren and Kimmer Mennonite Brethren denominations. Around 600 students are enrolled.

## Historical Notes: Century Route Only

**Newton (pop. 18,846)** Newton was established in 1871 along the AT&SF Railway when the line was extended from Emporia. The town was the trailhead for the Chisholm Trail for one year when Longhorn cattle were driven northward from Texas and then shipped. Newton was quite rowdy back in those days with cowboys, saloons, gunfights, and a red-light district. When Wichita became the endpoint on the Trail in 1872, Newton began to settle down as the businesses who catered to the cowboys moved to Wichita.

**Butler County (pop. 67,380)** In 1855, Butler County was founded and was named in honor of Andrew Butler, a U.S. Senator from South Carolina who was one of the authors of the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 and a strong advocate of Kansas becoming a slave state. Butler County is the largest county in the state by total area.

**Elbing (pop. 226)** In 1887, the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska Railway built a line through Jacob W. Regier's property. Mr. Regier then sold 80 acres that ran along the tracks to the Elbing Town Company, and the city was founded on May 18, 1887. The town is named after the city of Elblag in northern Poland, formerly Prussia where Jacob Regier had lived.

**Whitewater (pop. 661)** The town was originally formed 12 miles to the east of where it is today. A post office was established as White Water on August 7, 1871, renamed Ovo on July 7, 1882 and renamed again to Whitewater on May 15, 1888. In 1887, the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska Railway built a branch that intersected with the Missouri Pacific railroad where the town was established.

**Brainerd** (unincorporated) Platted in 1885 around a depot along the McPherson branch of the Missouri Pacific Railroad. The community was named for Elisha B. Brainerd, an original landowner.

**Peabody (pop. 937)** Named after F.H. Peabody of Boston, a former vice-president of the AT&SF Railway. It was incorporated on March 15, 1878.

Today's Destination City: Olpe

Overnight Lodging at: Olpe High School, 220 W. *Listerscheid St.*

Food Stops: Cottonwood Falls, Strong City, Emporia

Total Mileage: 71

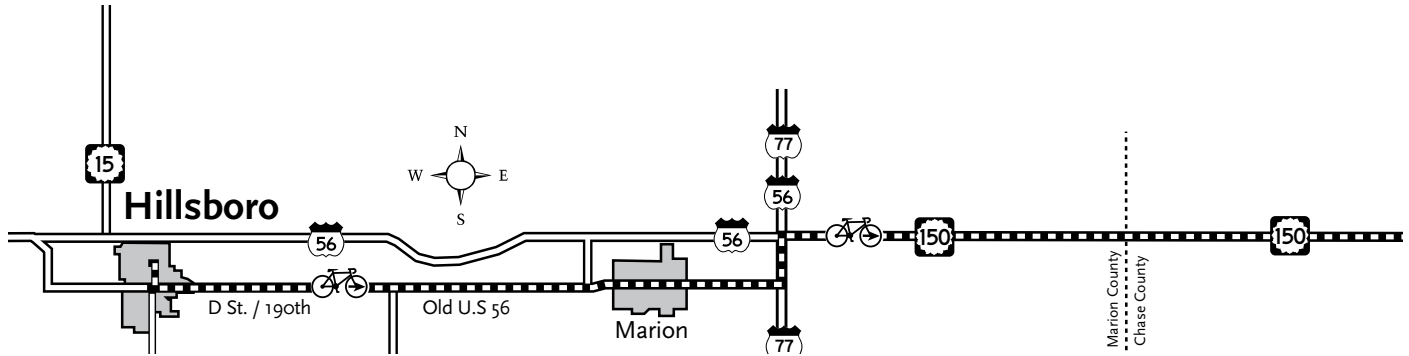
**Directions:** Leave Hillsboro Middle School east on Grand Ave to Adams St. Turn right onto Adams and head south to D St. and turn left. Continue east on D St. (190th Rd) through Marion to junction with US 77. Turn left onto US 77 and head north to junction with K-150. Turn right onto K-150 and head east to junction with US 50. Turn left onto US 50, continue to Main St. in Elmdale. Turn right onto Main St. and continue around the curve as it becomes Lake Road. Continue east on Lake Road to K-177 (Walnut St.) in Cottonwood Falls. Turn left onto K-177, continue north to Strong City and junction with US 50. Turn right onto US 50 and continue east to Emporia. In Emporia, turn left onto Graphic Arts Road and then make a quick right onto 12th St. Continue east on 12th to Grand, turn right to 9th, turn left to Chestnut, right onto 12th. At junction with K-99 (Commercial St.), turn right and continue south to Road 75 at Olpe. Turn left and then right onto Kansas St. Turn left onto Listerscheid to Olpe High School.

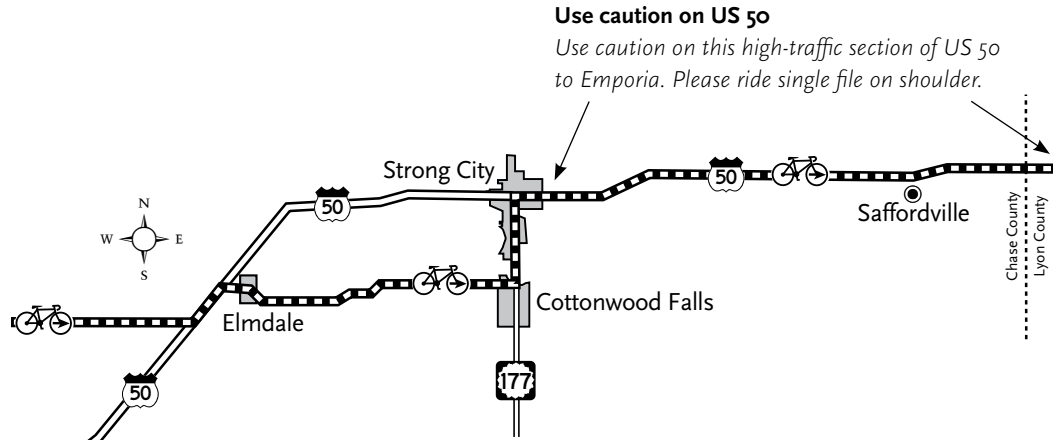
**Throwback Thursday, June 16**

Wear a BAK jersey from a previous year! Group photo at 6 am, front of school.

## Point-to-Point Mileage

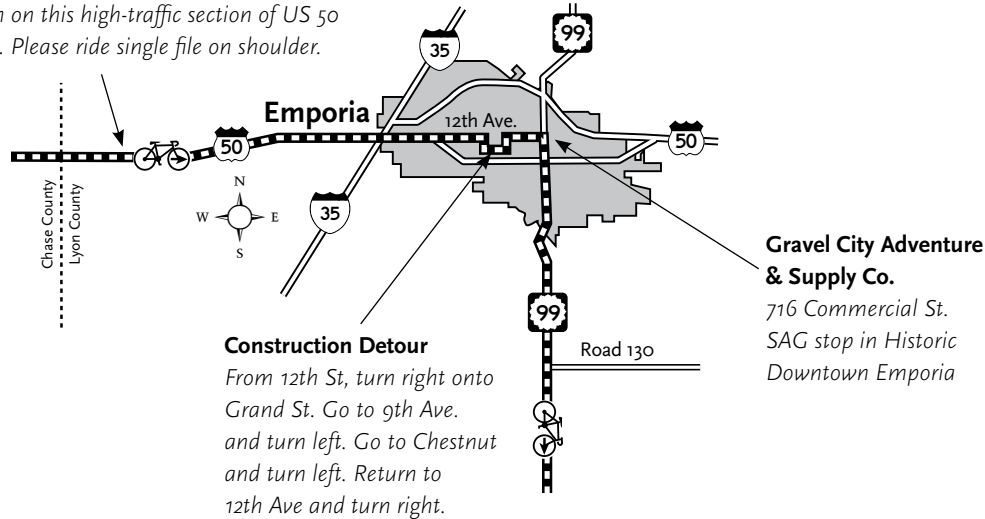
Hillsboro to Marion	10	Cottonwood Falls to Strong City	2
Marion to Elmdale	21	Strong City to Emporia	20
Elmdale to Cottonwood Falls	7	Emporia to Olpe	11





**Use caution on US 50**

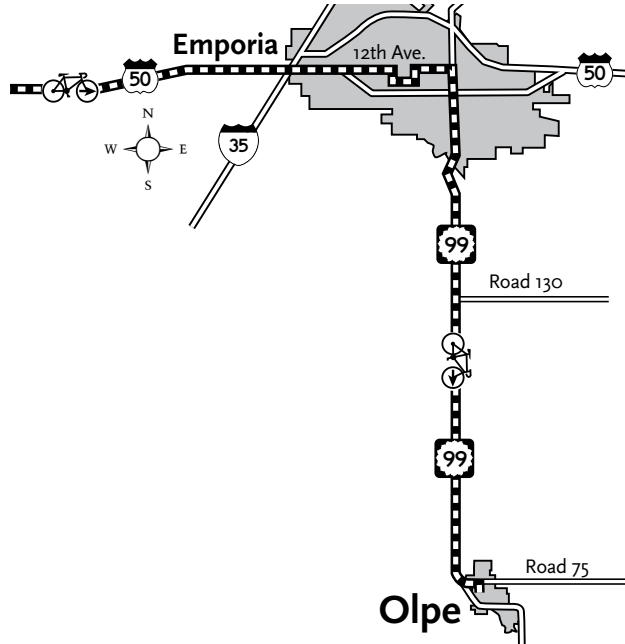
*Use caution on this high-traffic section of US 50 to Emporia. Please ride single file on shoulder.*



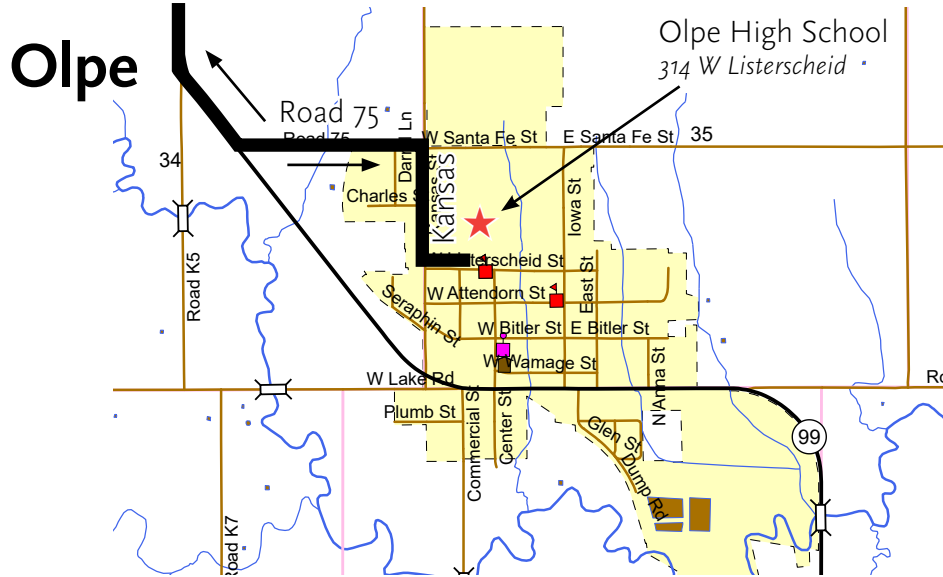
# Hillsboro to Olpe

Thursday, June 16

Route Guide



*From Hillsboro/To Ottawa*



**Supper, Thursday, June 16**

*BBQ crafted from fresh ingredients*

High School Commons, 220 West Listerscheid, 5–8:30 pm  
Potato Bar, burgers, brats

**Breakfast Friday, June 17**

*Olpe Lions Club*, Olpe Methodist Church Fellowship Hall  
120 West Listerscheid, 5:30–9 am, breakfast burritos,  
breakfast casseroles, fruit, yogurt, coffee, juice

**Olpe Restaurants**

*The Chicken House*, Hwy & Iowa St., 8 E K-99, 11 am-8 pm,  
Chicken, ham, pork chops, fish, burgers, chef salad  
*Murphy Oil Food Mart* Highway & Westphalia St.,  
210 W K-99, 6:30 am-9 pm Chicken strips, pork tenders,  
pizza, fries, deli sandwiches

**Olpe Points of Interest & Events**

Front Porch Jam, South across from High School, 7–9 pm  
Local musicians perform original and cover songs  
Free will donation.

Veterans' Memorial, South end of park, north of the church  
Honoring local veterans, built in 2019

*Olpe Jones Lake*, 635 Road K7 - Approx. 1 mile SW of Olpe  
until 9 pm, free. Swimming beach, camping, challenging  
18-hole disc golf course

*Olpe Jones Lake*, 635 Road K7 - Approx. 1 mile SW of Olpe  
\$15 per unit, RV camping w/electrical hookups

*Olpe Jones Park*, Adjacent to High School  
Until dark, 9-hole disc golf course, pickleball/basketball  
courts, free

*Youth Baseball/Softball*, Ball diamonds  
School and Park, 6-9:30 pm, Little league and coach-pitch  
games start at 6:00 pm. Free.

## History Notes: June 16

**Marion (pop. 1,922)** Nicknamed Stone City. It was named in honor of the Revolutionary War hero General Francis Marion, who was also known as the Swamp Fox.

*Central Park:* Centerpiece is the 1884 fountain and wooden walking path along Luta Creek. In the southeast corner, an 1860 historic spring still runs. It once was a watering site for passing pioneers.

*Historic Elgin Hotel (NRHP):* Third & Santa Fe. Now apartments, it once was known as one of the most elegant hotels in Kansas. Constructed of limestone in 1886, it remained a hotel until the 1950's.

*Marion Historical Museum:* 501 E Main, east of Central Park. This former 1887 church has an ornate wood ceiling, elaborate stained glass, and features the city's history and memorabilia. 7 am-4 pm. Donations welcomed.

**Chase County (2,572)** Zebulon Pike led the Pike Expedition westward and followed the Cottonwood River through modern Chase County 1806. In 1859, Chase County was established within the Kansas Territory.

At one time 400,000 square miles of tallgrass prairie covered North America. Now less than 4% remains—mostly found in Chase County. The land has not been plowed under due to the limestone near the surface. This gray and white rock is exposed on the prairie and is seen dotting the hillsides. The stone is interlayered limestone and flint, also known as chert. Big and little bluestem, switchgrass and Indian grass make up most of the tall grasses found here.

**Elmdale (pop. 40)** Founded in the 1870s, it was once a hub of commerce as a railroad town for the surrounding farming communities. It was built on the floodplain of the Cottonwood River so the city has been flooded many times—most recently in 1998. Many people of Elmdale came back to reclaim what they could but never returned to live here.

**Cottonwood Falls (pop. 851)** The first settlement in the area was in 1854 when Seth Hayes founded a cattle ranch on the Cottonwood River close to the mouth of the Diamond Spring Creek. The area around the town was organized as Chase County in 1859, and Cottonwood Falls was designated the temporary county seat.

*Chase County Courthouse* (NRHP and 8 Wonders of Kansas Architecture): 220 Broadway. The Chase County Courthouse is the oldest, active courthouse in the Midwest. Completed in 1873, it's built from native limestone that was quarried and hand-cut in the Flint Hills. The limestone blocks, some weighing nearly seven tons, were brought to the courthouse by horse-drawn wagons. John Haskell, the main architect for the Kansas state capital, chose the Second Empire style for the courthouse.

*Chase County Historical Museum (NRHP)*: 301 Broadway. The 1882 Chase County National Bank building is now the museum's home, which includes exhibits about the 1931 plane crash that killed eight people, including famed Notre Dame football coach, Knute Rockne. 10 am–3 pm

**Strong City (pop. 480)** The city was named in honor of William Barstow Strong, General Superintendent of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway.

*1900 Limestone Opera House* on the corner of Fifth Street & Cottonwood Street.

*Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve* (8 Wonders of Kansas): The mansion was built in 1881 for Stephen and Louisa Jones at a cost of \$25,000. The massive, three-story barn cost \$15,000 and was completed three years later. The property changed hands many times until 1994 when the National Park Trust purchased it. In 1996, the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve was created to protect the once vast tallgrass prairie ecosystem. Visitor's Center open 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Park open 24 hours/day.

**Saffordville (unincorporated)** In 1871, the AT&SF Railway built a main line through Saffordville. The Santa Fe depot still stands but has been closed for decades. The city population was of over 200 by 1921. The Cottonwood River flooded the town many times with the flood of 1951 submerging the town under five feet of water. Residents were evacuated and only a handful returned.

## Biking Across Kansas 2022

Thursday, June 16

## Hillsboro to Olpe

**Lyon County (33,179)** Organized June 3, 1886 and named in honor of Gen. Nathaniel Lyon, the first union general killed in the Civil War.

**Emporia (pop. 24,139)** Founded in 1857 as a business venture of G.W. Brown from Lawrence, who saw an opportunity to help immigrants settle into Kansas. Brown described the location as “the loveliest site in the world for a town.” The Emporia Town Company was formed, and it was promoted through the newspaper. Emporia is named for a city-state in Northern Africa in ancient Carthage. Today it’s home to a national disc golf retailer, professional courses, championship events, and more disc golf baskets in the ground per capita than anywhere in the world.

*Anderson Memorial Library (NRHP):* 1220 C of E Drive. This is the second oldest Carnegie library in Kansas and one of the most unique with its symmetrical domed limestone design and its temple-front rendering it a “temple of knowledge.”

*Emporia State University:* Founded in 1863, the university was known as Kansas State Teachers College from 1923-1974.

*National Teachers Hall of Fame:* 1320 C of E Dr. Visser Hall, Room 114 on ESU campus. Exceptional teachers from around the nation are honored at this facility. Noon –4 PM, donations accepted.

*National Memorial to Fallen Educators,* 18 & Merchant, To honor their lives and everlasting contributions, the names and dates of public and private k-12 educators who literally “gave their all” are inscribed in a permanent monument.

*Red Rocks State Historic Site (NRHP):* 927 Exchange. William Allen White, the progressive newspaperman (8 Wonders of Kansas People), called this red sandstone home for 45 years. 10 am-5 pm. Donations welcomed.

*Lyon County Courthouse:* 430 Commercial, this modern style structure was completed in 2002 and built for \$13 million. The 1954 courthouse at the south end of the complex is still being used for county and social services.

*Lyon County Historical Museum (NRHP):* 711 Commercial St. This 1904 Carnegie Library's leaded windows and woodwork create a backdrop for honoring Emporia as the Founding City of Veteran's Day. Look for the original drinking fountain of terracotta tile.

*Emporia Downtown Historic District (NRHP):* It covers 18 city blocks and includes 169 buildings. Look for the buildings with terracotta trim in the 700 block of Commercial and historic homes on the residential streets near downtown.

*All Veterans Memorial:* Soden's Grove Park, S Cottonwood. A Vietnam Huey helicopter and a WWII Sherman army tank accompany the memorial, as does the Purple Heart Memorial.

*David Traylor Zoo of Emporia:* 75 Soden St. (Commercial & Soden) One of the country's smallest accredited zoos, you'll find beautiful botanical areas as well as bald eagles, lemurs, prairie dogs, a mountain lion and birds. 10 am-4:30 pm. Free admission.

**Olpe (pop. 548)** Founded in the late 1850's by German immigrants just north of the current town site and named Olpe after their hometown. Further south, a town called Bitlertown was named after a man who built a grocery store and post office in 1886. When the Santa Fe Railroad came through, the towns combined to become Olpe. It is the only town in the U.S. with this name.

*Olpe Chicken House:* 8 E St. It was established in 1958 and renown regionally for fried chicken, onion rings, and fresh cut fries.

*St. Joseph Church:* 306 Iowa. Early German Catholic settlers established a parish here in 1885 and built the church in 1910. Inside is a beautiful altar, stained-glass windows, ceiling, and original woodwork.

Today's Destination City: Ottawa

Indoor Lodging at: Ottawa High School, 1120 S. Ash

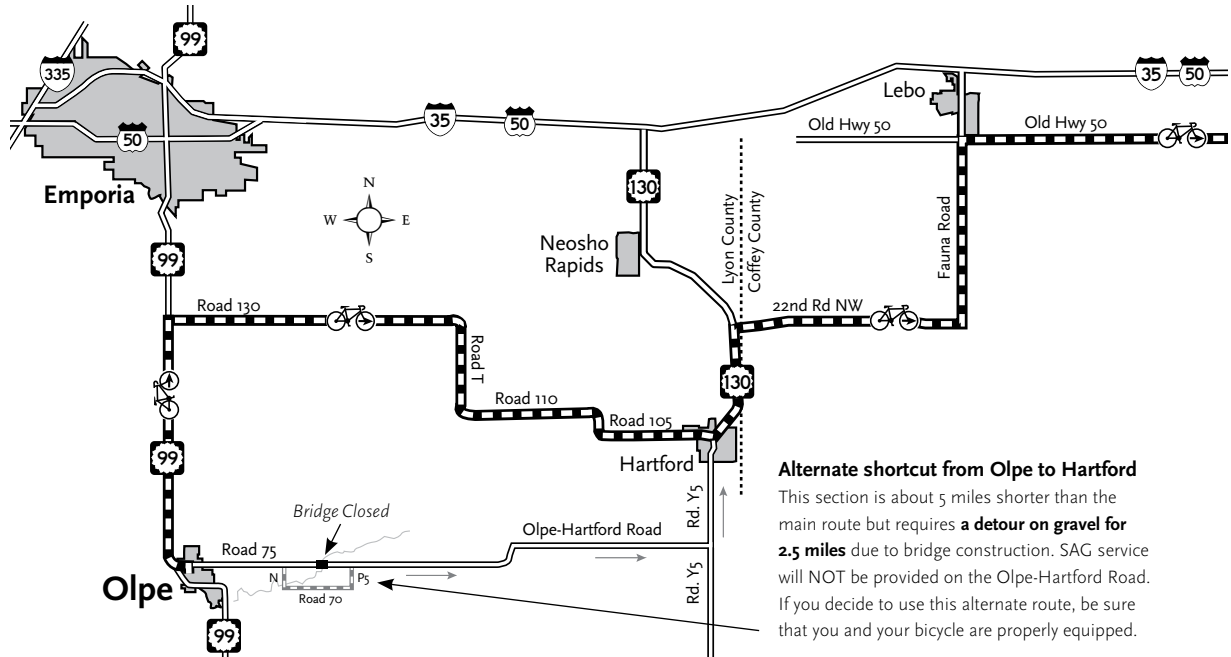
BAK Food Stop: *Waverly City Park: Main St & K-31/25th Rd.*

Total Mileage: 71

**Directions:** Leave Olpe and return to K-99, heading north towards Emporia. At the junction of Road 130, turn right and head east on this paved road which joins K-130 at Hartford. Left turn on K-130 through Hartford to junction with 22nd Road NW. Turn right onto 22nd Road NW and head east to junction with Fauna Road. Turn left on Fauna Road and head north to junction of Old Highway 50. Turn right onto Old Highway 50 and continue east/northeast past Waverly and through Williamsburg. At junction with Eisenhower Road, turn left and continue north to 15th St. Turn right onto 15th and continue to Ash St. Turn left onto Ash and continue to Ottawa High School.

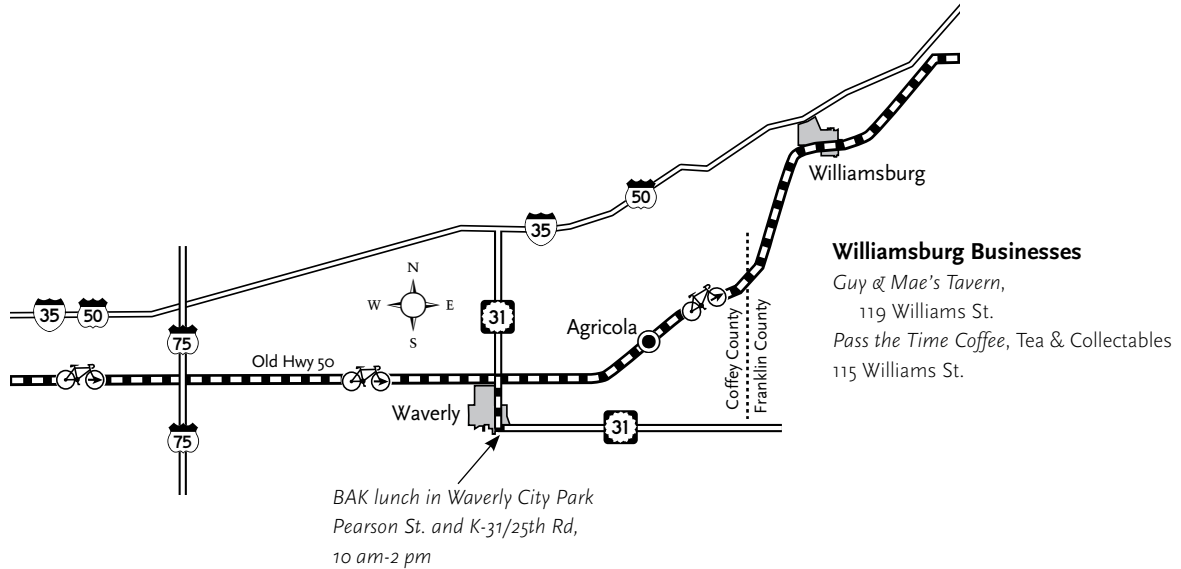
## Point-to-Point Mileage

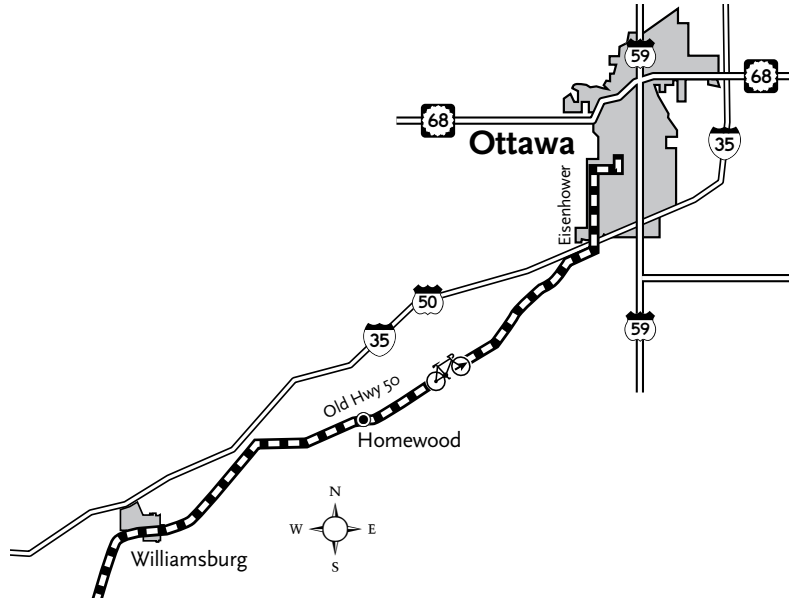
Olpe to Hartford	21	Waverly to Williamsburg	10
Hartford to Lebo	11	Williamsburg to Homewood	6
Lebo to Waverly	14	Homewood to Ottawa	9

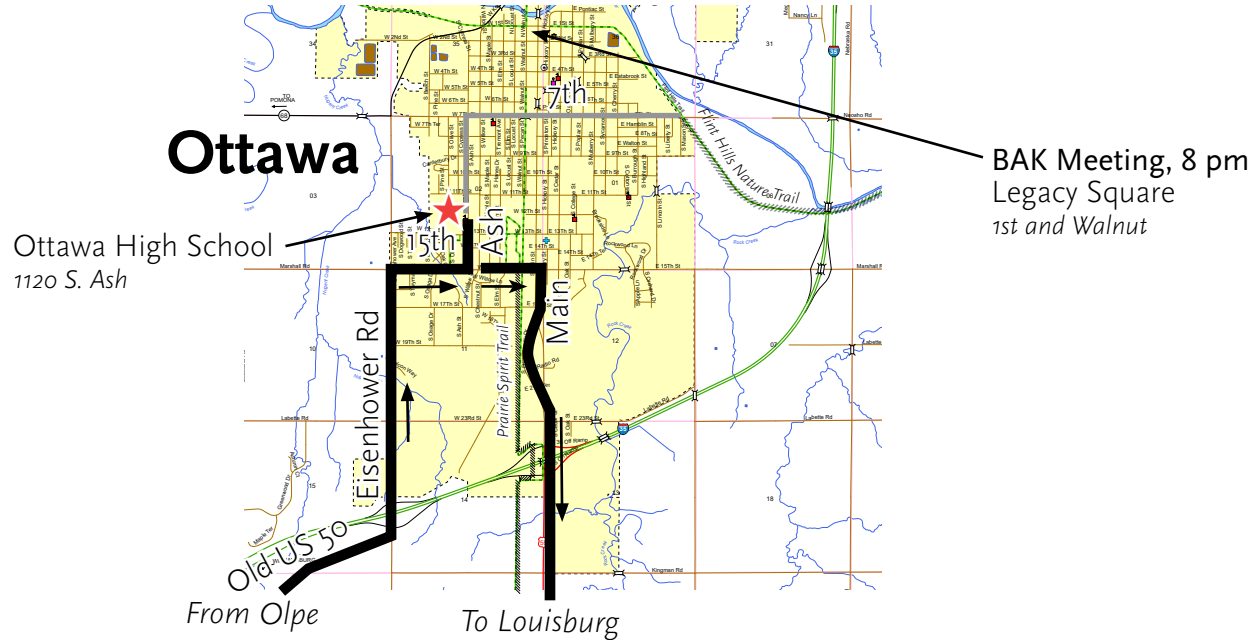


**Alternate shortcut from Olpe to Hartford**

This section is about 5 miles shorter than the main route but requires a **detour on gravel for 2.5 miles** due to bridge construction. SAG service will NOT be provided on the Olpe-Hartford Road. If you decide to use this alternate route, be sure that you and your bicycle are properly equipped.







**Final BAK All-Participant Meeting**

Friday, June 17: 8 pm,

Legacy Square in Downtown Ottawa  
1st and Walnut

**Supper Friday, June 17**

Multiple food trucks will be at the Concert in Legacy Square  
Legacy Square, 125 S Walnut St., 6:00–10:00,  
multiple food choices

**Breakfast Saturday, June 18**

*Ottawa High School Culinary and FFA students*

Ottawa High School (OHS), 1120 Ash St., Saturday morning

**Ottawa Restaurants**

*Grub & Chug*, 306 S Main St., Fri. 11am–9pm / Sat 8am–9pm

American Cuisine, beer, etc.

*Maggie's Popcorn and Nuts*, 230 S Main St.

*El Mezcal*, 402 S Main St., Mexican

*El Sol*, 210 S Main St., Mexican

*Maria's Mexican Café*, 314 S Main St., Mexican

*Pizza Hut*, 2314 S Princeton St.

*Pizza Time*, 208 S Main St., Pizza

*Pizza Village*, 330 S Main St., Pizza

*Applebee's*, 2340 S Oak St.

*South Beach Cove*, 1608 S Main St.

*Cosentino's Price Chopper & Deli*, 120 E 19th St.

*Daylight Donuts*, 1644 S Main St.

*Luigi's Italian Restaurant*, 127 S Main St., Italian

*Roasted Café*, 123 E 2nd St., American Cuisine

*Nagoya Japanese Sushi & Steak*, 2140 S Princeton Circle Dr.

*Old 56 Restaurant*, 2227 S Princeton St.

*Primetime Grille*, 2204 S Princeton Circle Dr.  
*Wray's Bulk Food & Deli*, 221 S Main St., Deli subs  
*Not Lost Brewing Company*, 229 S Main St., Bar food  
*Corner Market*, 401 S Main St.  
*Mug Shot Coffee*, 110 S Main St., Ste B, Coffee & muffins  
*Casey's Deli & Pizza*, locations at:  
 334 N Main St., 940 N Main St., 1019 W 7th St.  
*Dairy Queen*, 1444 S Main St.  
*Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers*, 2121 S Princeton St.  
*Hardee's*, 203 E 27th Ave.  
*Burger King*, 601 E 23rd St.  
*McDonald's*, 2214 S Princeton Circle Dr.  
*Sonic*, 1535 S Main St.  
*Subway*, 902 S Main St.  
*Taco Bell*, 2304 S Princeton St.  
*Wendy's*, 2310 S Cedar St.

## Points of Interest & Other Amenities

*Ottawa Bike and Trail*, 130 S Main St.,  
 Bike store & support services  
*Old Depot Museum*, 135 W Tecumseh St.  
*Plaza Cinema*, 209 S Main St.  
*Swimming Pool*, Forest Park  
*Fusion Alley*, Bowling Alley, 2204 S Princeton Cir. Dr.  
*The Gun Guys*—Indoor shooting range, 412 S Main St.  
 Open until 8pm, Rentals available  
 ATM, Bank Midwest, 434 S Main St.  
 ATM, Kansas State Bank, 236 N Main St.  
 ATM, Arvest Bank, 119 E 3rd St.  
*Public Restrooms/Showers*, Legacy Square, 125 S. Walnut St.  
*Laundromat*, Mrs. Kleens, Inc., 1600 S Main St.  
*Laundromat*, Mrs. Kleens, Inc., 1120 N Main St.  
*Wi-Fi at Legacy Square* (FREE), 125 S Walnut St.

Biking Across Kansas 2022

Friday, June 17

Olpe to Ottawa

## **Special Events in Ottawa for BAK**

*Shuttle Service: Ottawa High School to Downtown, 3 pm–9 pm*

### **Final BAK All-Participant Meeting**

8 pm, Legacy Square in Downtown Ottawa  
1st and Walnut.

*Live Music in Downtown Ottawa,*

Haley Park, 2nd & Main Streets, 3–5 pm

*Travis Marvin Concert, Legacy Square, 6–9 pm*

*Old Depot Museum, 135 W Tecumseh St.*

Open into the evening

## History Notes: June 17

**Hartford (pop. 355)** Founded in 1858, some of the original settlers were from Hartford, Connecticut and carried the name forward. Located at 208 Mill Street in Hartford is an All Veterans Tribute.

Along today's BAK route you will see the Tallgrass Prairie Historical Marker, located on State Highway 130 just south of 22nd Rd NW.

*Historic Jail:* Commercial & Plumb. Circa 1880, this strap-iron jail is an open-air relic.

*Neosho River Bridge (NRHP):* From Commercial, ½ mile east on Plumb. This 1926 Marsh rainbow double-arch bridge leads to the Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge.

**Coffey County (pop. 8,360)** Organized in 1859 and named in honor of Col. A. M. Coffey, a member of the first Territorial Legislative Council. Colonel Coffey died at Dodge city in 1879.

**Lebo (pop. 940)** Established in 1883, the first train rolled through Lebo on February 11, 1884, and the town was incorporated in 1886. Proud of their Welsh Heritage, Lebo has a mural depicting the early development of the town at Ogden St. (K-Hwy 131) and Broadway. The intersection is also home to a World War II memorial.

**Waverly (pop. 592)** The first homes here were built in 1878, and the town was chartered in 1880. Waverly got its name after Mr. Isaac Pierson, the original owner of the land, suggested naming it after his hometown of Waverly, Indiana.

*Outdoor Mural:* 3rd & Pearson (K-31) on the C.L. Foster building. Mural honors Ohio Days, which started in 1896 when the townspeople hosted a reunion for the Ohio settlers that had made Waverly their home.

*Agricola* (unincorporated) Once home to a train station and post office. The post office was in operation from 1875 to 1974 and operated under the name Hardpan for a period of time.

**Franklin County (pop. 25,996)** Named for Benjamin Franklin, this county was one of the original thirty-three Kansas Territorial Counties established by the First Territorial Legislature of 1855. It was founded by Baptist missionaries, Reverend and Mrs. Jotham Meeker. A branch of the underground railroad went through the country.

**Williamsburg (pop. 397)** Settled in 1855 by and named for the Englishman William Schofield. The town was incorporated in 1867 and saw great growth due to its promise as a manufacturing hub. Businesses such as a flour mill, saw mill, and a cheese factory were all powered by steam supplied by coal which was mined nearby. Even a silk factory (Silkville) operated just southwest of the city.

*Guy & Mae's Tavern* (8 Wonders of Kansas Cuisine): 119 W William. Famous for its ribs served on foil and newspaper, the tavern has drawn celebrities such as Bill Self and George Brett.

**Ottawa (pop. 12,649)** Named for the Ottawa Indian tribes, the town was laid out on the reservation in 1864. A treaty to obtain the land was connected to the founding of Ottawa University. The university was to educate Native Americans and non-Indians. In 1867, the Ottawa tribe sold the rest of their land and moved to Indian Territory in Oklahoma.

Ottawa is proud to be at the Intersection of the popular Prairie Spirit and Flint Hills rails-to-trails system.

*Flint Hills Trail:* This 117-mile former rail line passes through Ottawa from Osawatomie to the east, to Herrington in the west. It was originally developed in the late 1880's as the Council Grove, Osage City & Ottawa Railway but later became the Missouri Pacific Railroad. The line was discontinued in the 1980's and then abandoned. It was acquired in 1995 by the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy and later transferred to the Kanza Rail-Trails Conservancy, who has since been developing it in sections.

*Prairie Spirit Trail*: This 52-mile long trail was built on the railbed of the old Leavenworth, Lawrence and Fort Gibson Railroad, the first north-south rail line in Kansas. It runs south from Ottawa to Iola, where it connects with 9-mile long Southwind Rail Trail ending in Humbolt.

*Downtown Historic District* (NRHP): East side of S Main St. from No 135 to 3rd St.

*Franklin County Courthouse* (NRHP): 315 W Main St. Built in 1893, this blend of Romanesque Revival and Colonial Revival architecture was designed by George P. Washburn. The Statue of Justice and ornate cupolas with a clock and a bell adorn the roof. The interior features beautiful oak woodwork and an 1890's courtroom.

*Old Depot Museum* (NRHP): 135 W Tecumseh St. Built in 1888, it served as the division headquarters of the Kansas City, Lawrence and Southern Kansas Railway. Inside, a model railroad, recreations of a schoolroom, general store, dentist office, and Victorian parlor can be viewed along with displays of Native American artifacts. Information and a display regarding Bleeding Kansas and John Brown are located here. 10 am-4 pm.

**BAK Spirit Day!** Celebrate and show your BAK spirit by wearing your BAK 2022 jersey or t-shirt during today's ride into Louisburg.

Today's Destination: Louisburg

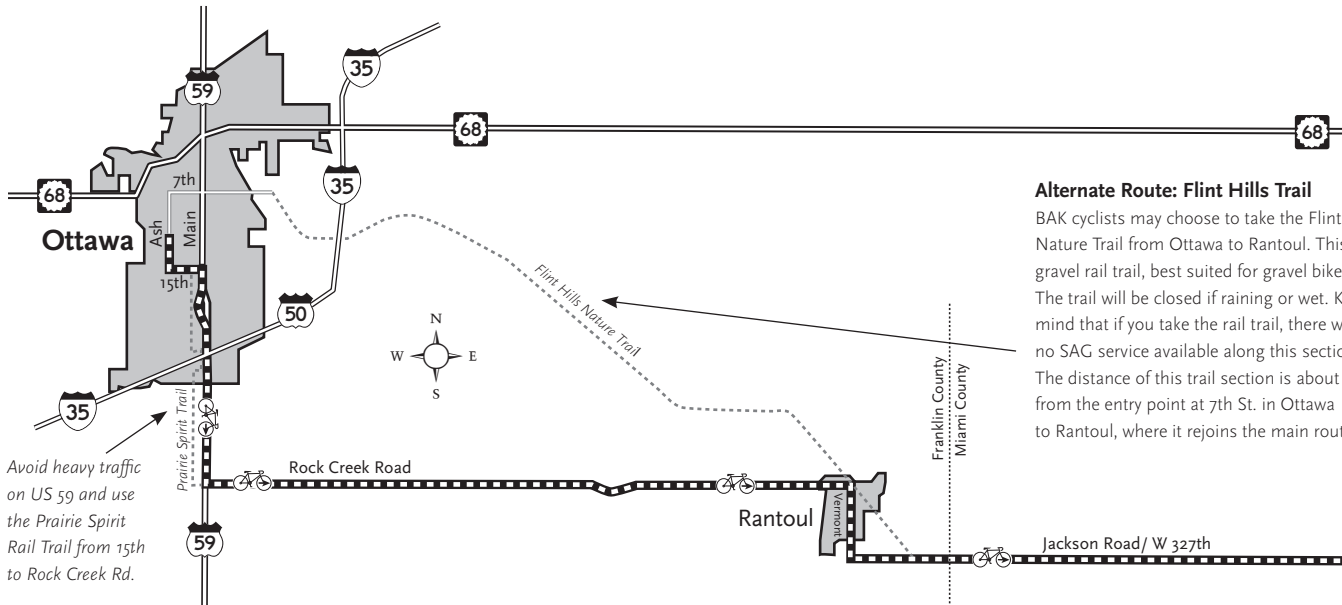
Celebration: Middle School

Total Mileage: 47 (+3 miles return to Celebration Picnic)

**Directions:** Leave Ottawa High School heading south on Ash St. to 15th St. Turn left onto 15th St. Continue east on 15th St. to Prairie Spirit Trail, turn right and follow this rail trail to Rock Creek Road. Turn left at Rock Creek Road and continue east to Rantoul, right turn onto Vermont. Continue south on Vermont to Jackson Road and turn left. Continue east on Jackson Road, which becomes 327th. Continue east to Hospital Road and turn left. Head north to intersect with 311th and turn right. Continue east to junction with Metcalf Road. Turn left, continue to junction with 5th St., turn right (*through neighborhood streets on map*) emerge on K-68 and ride east to Missouri border. Return west on K-68, turn left on Aquatic Dr. to Wildcat Dr, turn right onto Countryside Dr to Louisburg Middle School.

## Point-to-Point Mileage

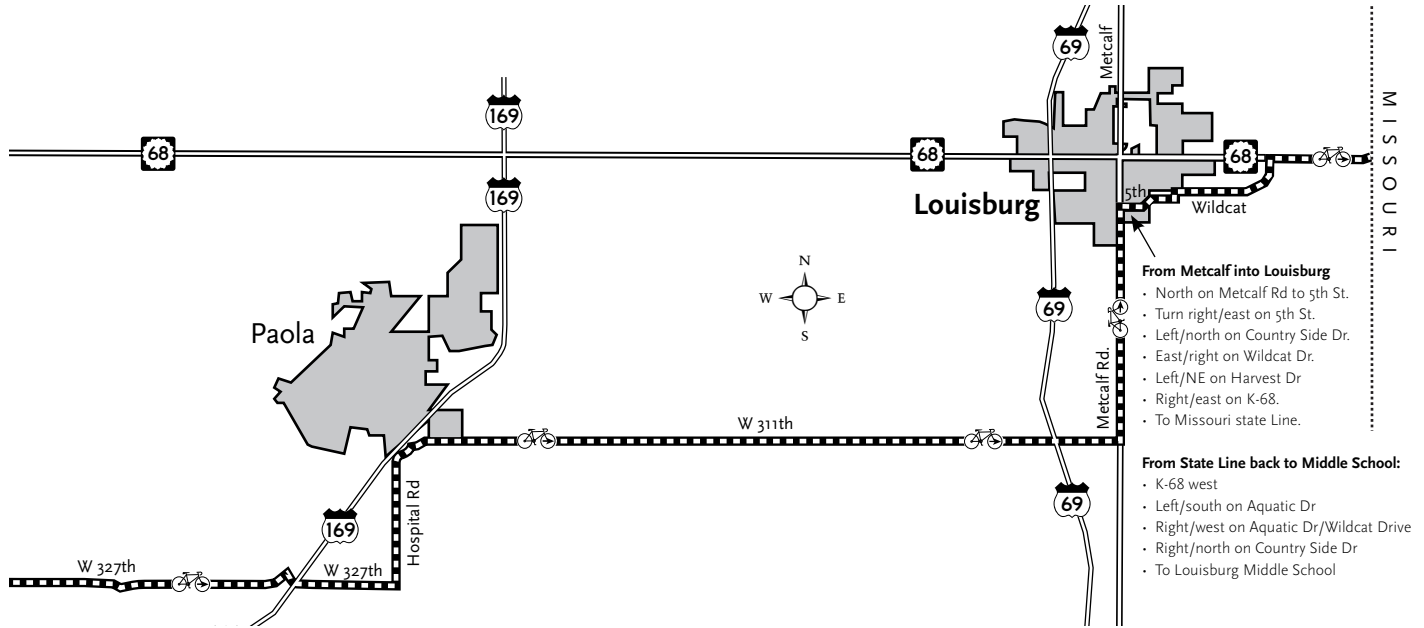
Ottawa to Rantoul	13
Rantoul to Paola	17
Paola to Louisburg	14
Louisburg to Missouri State Line	3
Missouri State Line to Louisburg Middle School	3
<b>Total BAK Mileage</b>	<b>512</b>



**Alternate Route: Flint Hills Trail**

BAK cyclists may choose to take the Flint Hills Nature Trail from Ottawa to Rantoul. This is a gravel rail trail, best suited for gravel bike tires. The trail will be closed if raining or wet. Keep in mind that if you take the rail trail, there will be no SAG service available along this section. The distance of this trail section is about 10 miles from the entry point at 7th St. in Ottawa to Rantoul, where it rejoins the main route.

Avoid heavy traffic on US 59 and use the Prairie Spirit Rail Trail from 15th to Rock Creek Rd.



## History Notes: June 18

**Rantoul (pop. 184)** The town's site was determined when the Missouri Pacific Railroad laid track in the area. A post office was established on Daniel Cutler's farm in 1859 and his wife named it "Rantoul" after hearing a stirring speech by Robert Rantoul, Massachusetts legislator and lawyer.

*Dodson International:* 2155 Vermont. Since 1984 the company has "de-manufactured" more than 3,500 aircraft of every shape and size as one of the world's largest aviation parts suppliers. Look for the Jetstar plane on the pedestal in front of the property on Vermont St. (drive/bike by only)

**Paola (pop. 5768)** The town plat for Paola was laid out in 1855. It is the county seat for Miami County.

**Louisburg: (pop. 4,315)** Around 1827, the Confederated Tribes of Wea, Peoria and Kaskaskia Indians lived in the area. Around 1854, the first

pioneer settled in what was called the Little St. Louis area. When the railroad came, the name was changed to Louisburg in the early 1870s to avoid confusion with St. Louis, Missouri. Louisburg experienced some disorder because it was a boom-town and the conflicts between Free-State Jayhawkers and pro-slavery Missouri Raiders.

*Louisburg Cider Mill:* 14730 K-68. In 1977, an 120-year old, neglected barn was renovated and the first jug of apple cider was produced. Today apples are still pressed, made into cider, and sold with other local products from the adjacent barn.

*Powell Observatory:* 26000 Melrose St. Built in 1985 by the members of the Astronomical Society of Kansas City along with a grant from the Powell family of Kansas City. It's home to the Ruisinger telescope, one of the largest in a five-state area available for public viewing on 1st and 3rd Saturdays each month.

*Cedar Cove Feline Conservatory and Education Center:* 3783 K-68. Home to many large cats including tigers, cougars, and even wolves. 10 am-5 pm by appointment.

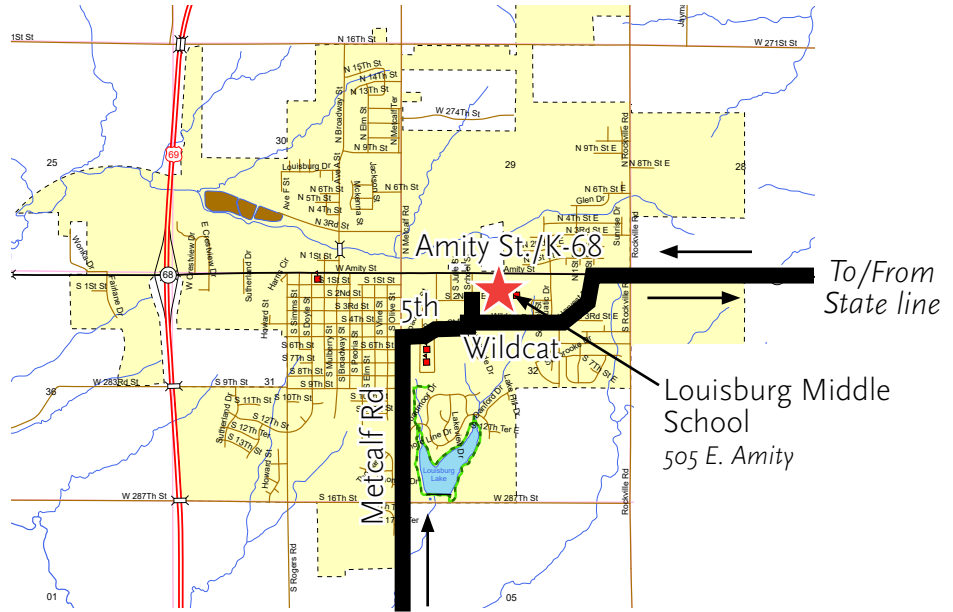
# Louisburg

## BAK Celebration Festivities

### Celebration Picnic

*BAK Picnic begins at 12 pm at the Louisburg Middle School, 505 E. Amity*

*Your BAK name badge is your ticket to lunch. Must show name badge. Yellow name badge needed for vegan/vegetarian meal. Guest tickets can be purchased at the BAK Information Station for \$10.*



From Ottawa

To/From State line

Louisburg Middle School  
505 E. Amity

**BIKING ACROSS  
KANSAS  
2022**

This certifies that

\_\_\_\_\_

Successfully crossed the  
State of Kansas by bicycle  
on Biking Across Kansas,  
the week of June 11–18, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_ miles completed.

**Thank you for joining us on BAK 2022!**

Please offer us your feedback by taking a survey at:

**<https://bit.ly/3M2mvzi>**



**Mark your calendar for  
Biking Across Kansas 2023  
June 10-17, 2023**