

*An after-hours gathering at Perkins County Fairgrounds on Wednesday, March 28, 5:30 p.m., will feature short talk on how to support and promote business growth. Drinks, hors d' oeuvres.*

**By Jan Rahn**

*Managing Editor*

Business owners, entrepreneurs and interested members of the public are invited to an event Wednesday, March 28, hosted by Chamber on how to promote growth in Perkins County.

“Connect Perkins County” is a newly formed organization to support business growth through mentoring, communication and connections with resources.

The after-hours event next week will take place at 5:30 p.m. at the Perkins County Fairgrounds on the west edge of Grant where participants can enjoy drinks and hors d' oeuvres while listening to an informal presentation by Don Macke.

Macke, the founding co-director and director of strategic engagement and project director of the Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, will answer questions about the organization's efforts on how Perkins County can benefit from “Connect Perkins County,” which formed last fall through a series of webinar trainings.

The trainings were held by the Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, an outgrowth of the Rural Entrepreneurship Initiative (REI) supported by the Kauffman Foundation, the National Rural Development Partnership, Partners for Rural America, and the Nebraska Community Foundation.

Committee members of “Connect Perkins County” are Val Foster, Debi Osler, Dr. Tori Gengenbach, Tyson McGreer, Denny Hansen, Kevin Poppe and Chamber President Bernie Deaver.

The webinar trainings were made available through the joint efforts of Southwest Nebraska Community Betterment Corporation and Mid Plains Community College.

Come support the effort of those laying the groundwork to bolster business development through “Connect Perkins County.”