



2024 SPRING CONFERENCE

April 4-5, 2024 | Olathe, Kansas



Wonderful attendance by members from all across our great state!

PRECONFERENCE HUNT

Those arriving in Olathe on April 3rd were greeted with a Downtown Olathe Scavenger Hunt. It was a little windy, but participants were still able to enjoy many of the great sights, experience the charm of small businesses along the way, and check out Olathe's impressive scavenger hunt app.

Along the trail were extra treats, including wine tasting at Marco Polo and some shopping at Junque Drawer Boutique-Studio!



Next time you're in Olathe, check out Marco Polo at 106 S Cherry St!



So many unique gifts!
Junque Drawer Boutique-Studio at 233 S Cherry St

Thank you to our Olathe hosts for the tour and treats. Not pictured is their beautiful library with a fantastic rooftop experience; what a wonderful place for residents and visitors of all ages to enjoy!

PRECONFERENCE DINNER

The food and atmosphere at Red Crow Brewing Company (1062 W Stanta Fe) did not disappointment!
What a great evening to gather with old friends and make new ones.



CONFERENCE DAY 1

Overnight guests were treated to a shuttle ride from the hotel to City Hall to start the conference. Who needs ice breakers when you can have chocolate at 8 a.m.? Everyone was asked to grab a piece of their favorite candy and find that sweet treat's table -- these were your people who got the first challenge right!

After a warm welcome from Deputy City Manager Susan Sherman, we were off to learn valuable things!



KORA impacts us all, regardless of our duties. We may not all work with fielding KORA requests, but we all help maintain information and data in accordance with rules and regulations.

Thank you to Olathe City Clerk Brenda Swearingian and Assistant City Attorney II Rachelle Breckenridge for this wonderful KORA session. Your real life examples of what to do and not do were informative with just the right hint of humor!



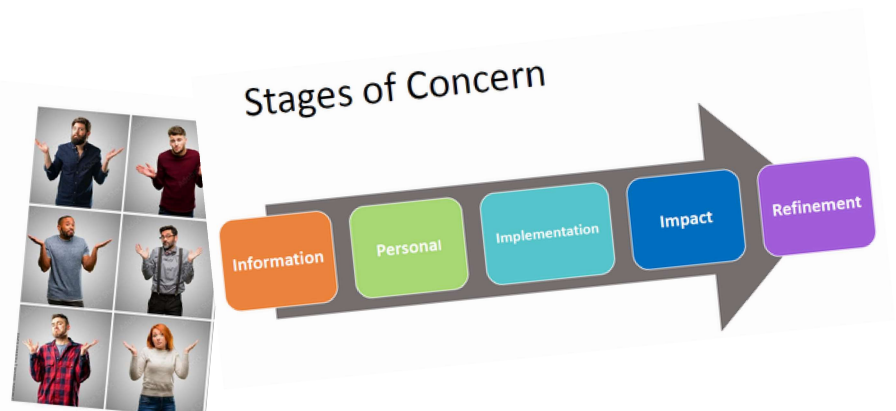
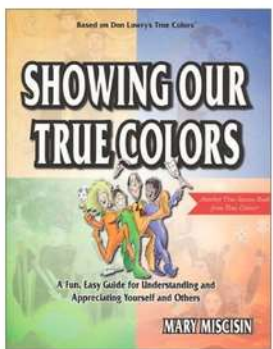
BLUE	GOLD
emotionally driven seeks harmony in groups enthusiastic creative sympathetic	loyalty driven respects rules and authority responsible organized appreciative
ORANGE	GREEN
short-term driven welcomes change and variety adventurous competitive impulsive	logically driven independent thinker focused efficient analytical

We deal with personalities 24/7, in every hat we wear in life, and even when we're alone... our own personality!

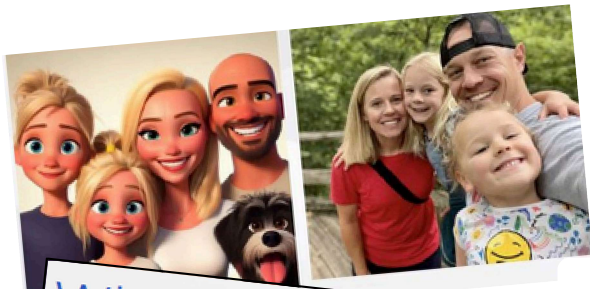
Jill Maxfield is the Learning & Development Program Manager for Olathe and introduced True Colors. This invaluable knowledge about ourselves, and thinking about those we know, undoubtedly shifted each of our perspectives when thinking about a challenging person in our work-life. The office is a melting pot of personalities and understanding goes a long way!

Jill also presented 'Working Through Change at Work', teaching us about the stages of concern.

Thank you to Jill for giving us all some perspective!



CONFERENCE DAY 1



What is AI

- ▶ Artificial intelligence essentially means computers imitating human intellect and behavior.
- ▶ AI can be fed statistical algorithms to help predict data or probable outcomes
- ▶ AI can be generative and create new content
 - ▶ Must be fed information
 - ▶ Garbage in/garbage out?

We've all heard of artificial intelligence, and likely about how it's taking over human functionality in the workplace. City of Olathe Chief Communications and Marketing Officer, Cody Kennedy, talked with us about how AI is about information in, meaning we as the humans have to feed it with good information. See, we're not becoming obsolete! Cody shared with us tips and tricks on how to use AI to help us create more efficiently, or simply to help us brainstorm...but, he reminded us that garbage in can equal garbage out, so always take a moment to fact check, but don't be afraid to use programs like ChaptGPT, Adobe, LogoAi, as **helpful** tools in the workplace.

It's not all work at an AAKC conference! Wrapping up day 1 took us to Mahaffie Farmstead for a tour, including stagecoach rides!



CONFERENCE DAY 1 - TIME FOR FUN

After a day of learning, collaborating...and sitting!...everyone was invited for an evening out for dinner and bowling at the Main Event at 11950 S Kansas City Rd.



CONFERENCE DAY 2



Our final learning session was presented again by the lovely Learning and Development Program Manager, Jill Maxfield, discussing vulnerability in the workplace. Jill showed Brene Brown's 'The Power of Vulnerability' Ted Talk, again reminding us about human connection and perspective.



Councilmember Marge Vogt began her ninth term on the City Council in January 2022.

- She was first elected in April 1997, to represent Ward 4.
- She is a nurse practitioner at the Reproductive Resource Center of Greater Kansas City.

Additional Service

- Mid America Regional Council
- Olathe Transportation Committee
- Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop & Farm Foundation Board
- Johnson County Transportation Coordination Council

Thank you to Olathe Councilmember and Mayor Marge Vogt for sharing her stories and experiences of being a woman in the field of nursing and then as an elected official since 1997.

BUISNESS MEETING



Meeting Highlights:

Congratulations to Terice Watts on being named the Nancy Crain Admin Professional of the year!

In lieu of a gift exchange, attendees were asked to bring a game to donate to Northview Elementary Title 1 school. Thank you for the overwhelming response!



PHOTO GALLERY

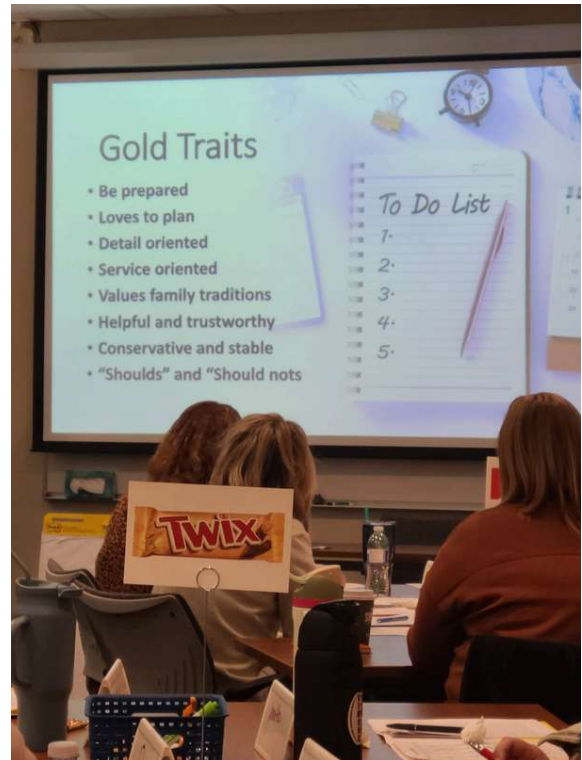
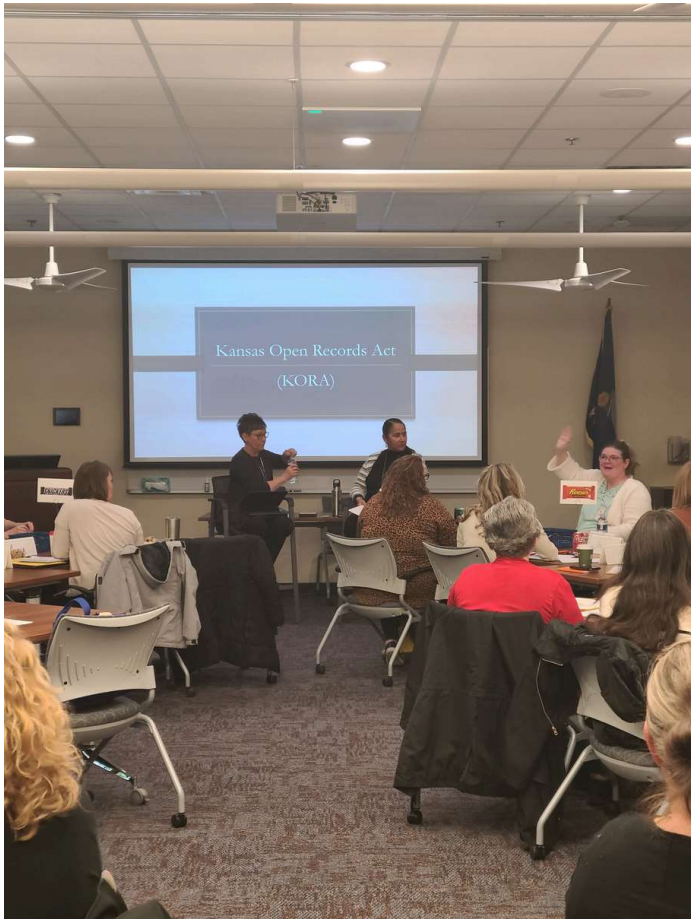
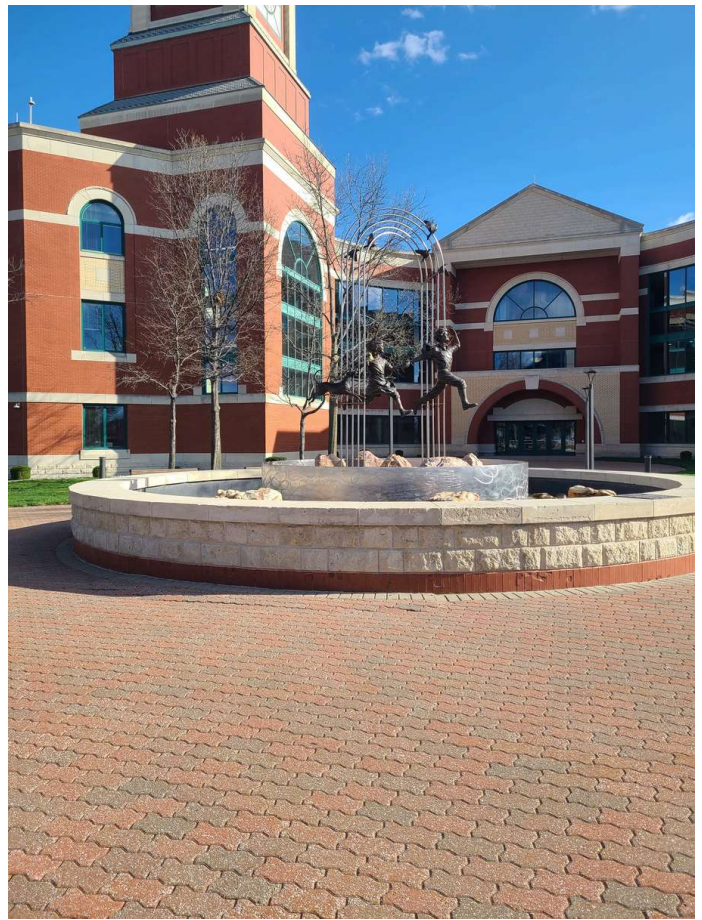
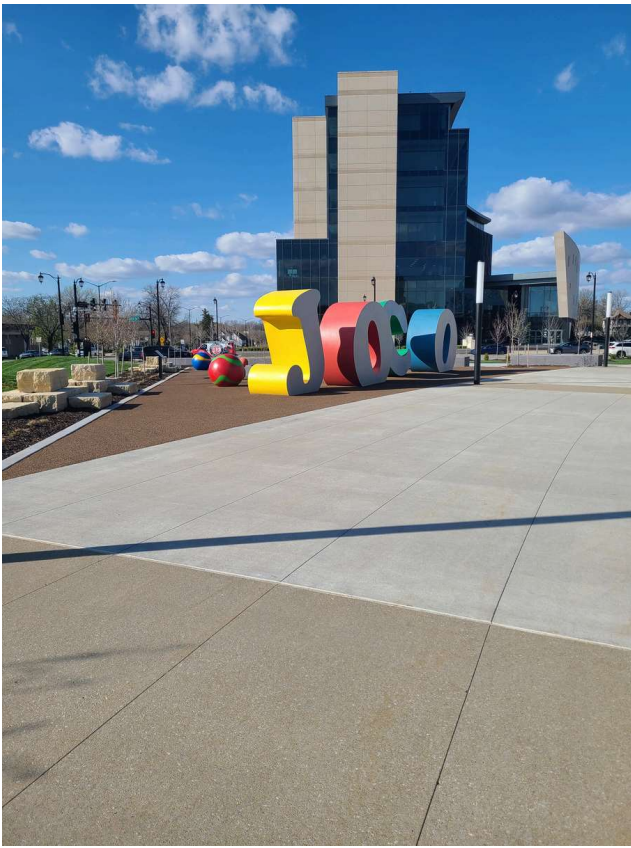
All the fun can't possibly be captured in one well organized newsletter...here are more snaps from along the way!!

Our Olathe members know how to host a conference and ensure guests are comfortable! The stay at the Hilton Garden Inn at 12080 S Strang Line Rd was relaxing, and breakfast vouchers to their beautiful restaurant started us off right and ready to learn and network all day long! Thank you!









THE AAKC CONNECTION



FALL 2024 CONFERENCE
Sept 12-13



**Paula Hayes, City of Independence, was our
Fall 2024 Conference hostess.
Home to Laura Ingalls Wilder, author of "Little House
on the Prairie", we found Independence to be
welcoming, warm and full of character; just like Paula!**

**The Fall Conference kicked off with a walking tour
of historic downtown.**





Highlights of Downtown Independence included stops at:

- Apricot Lane Boutique
- Stone & Sage
- Magnolia Scents by Design
- Casey's Creations Bakery & Deli
- Cask & Grove Balsamic Vinegars & Olive Oils



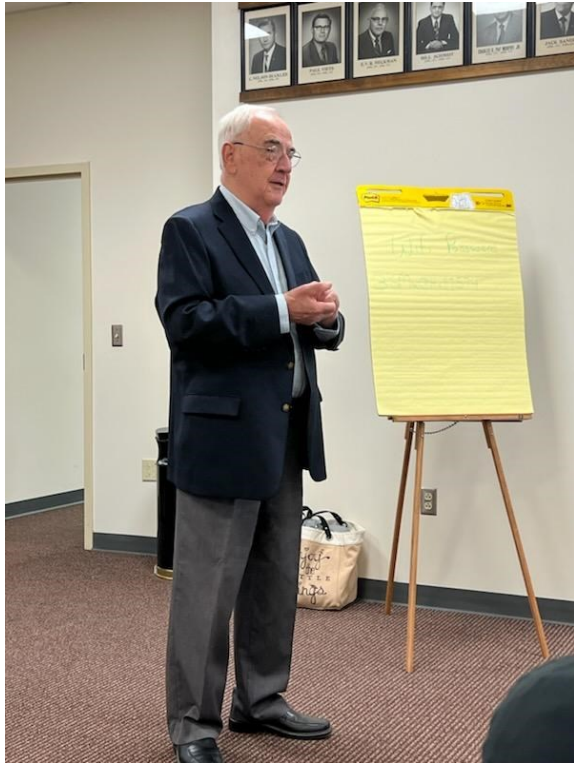
**Uncle Jack's was ready to
quench our thirst and refuel our
bodies at dinner.**



**Then we topped off the night
at Twigs Floral & Gifts,
(over)indulging on chocolates,
sorbet and other treats.**



DAY 2: CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Mayor Tim Emert gets us underway with a warm welcome



Montgomery County Attorney Melissa Johnson provided a thorough KOMA refresher



Yvonne Hull—Neosho County Community College—Director of Development explored our personalities and how that affects our communication style

DAY 2: BUSINESS MEETING



AAKC President Terice Watts (Ark City) is presented the 2024 Nancy Crain Administrative Professional of the Year award by previous recipient, Jennie Hiatt (Abilene).
CONGRATULATIONS TERICE!!!

**Welcoming our
new Executive
Board Vice-
President Melissa
Meiners (Olathe),
and Treasurer
Amanda Morris
(Salina)**





GROUP PHOTO OPS



SNAPSHOTS

