

NTBA Gazette

Member Spotlight

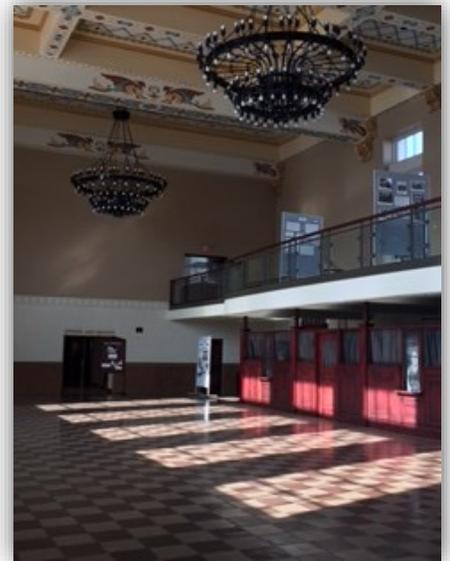
Jared & Emily Rudy & Adam & Melissa Rosdahl, Norsemen Brewing Co.

Jared and Emily Rudy and Adam and Melissa Rosdahl opened the doors for Norsemen Brewing Co. October 14th of 2016. All four work full-time jobs outside of running the business. Jared works at Westar Energy and Emily works as a art teacher for Seaman High School, and has been a teacher for about eleven years. Adam works at Wolfe Construction and Melissa at the State of Kansas. Jared and Emily have two kids age six and sixteen. Jared has lived in Topeka most of his life and Emily was born in Wichita and raised here. Adam is from Topeka and Melissa is from New York. Jared is a Washburn grad back in 2007 and Emily graduated from KU. Jared and Adam have been long time friends and do everything together including opening a business and traveling on vacation. One of the guiding decisions Jared mentioned that was important in deciding to open the business is that both Emily and Melissa would be a part of running the business. With everyone having full-time jobs it was important that they spent time together, even if they were technically working. Jared said they have been working upwards of 95 hours a week between their full-time jobs and running the brewery. Family friendly was key in all that Jared mentioned and I could tell that these were two families that believed in family first.

In 2010 Fat Back Brewery was the initial business name as well as Rudy Properties. Fat Back was a name given as a nickname to Jared when he used to play rugby. Each of the families befriended some local breweries and enjoyed crafting beer in their own time, so it only made sense to start talks with the Small Business Development Center and NOTO about opening another brewery in the downtown and NOTO area. Many patrons have asked whether they serve food and in fact they do have a food truck called KB's Smokehouse that will serve food, but crafting beer is their specialty and their passion. He talked about pushing the boundaries when creating new beers because that's what sets them apart. I could also tell that they as well as the other local breweries do not see each other as competition as they work closely on certain events and sharing of resources. Norsemen currently has seven part-time employees as well as the four owners. They do have space for events at their location and are open all days besides Sunday and Monday. Besides being NTBA members they are also Chamber members.

Why NTBA: They are part of the North Community and want to support other local businesses, and he also knows Ben Tenpenny and was encouraged to join.

Most interesting fact: Besides running a brewery they are big Disney fans and like to take a couple trips a year. I almost didn't ask this question because who has the time working 95 hour work weeks!



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Speaker/Sponsors

- Martha Piland/MB Piland

Sponsor Words of Wisdom

Darrell Six, Six Auto

There is nothing as sure as change. Six Auto Sales and Service has almost 25 years of experience. The industry has had so many ups and downs and many changes in economy, safety, style, price, and models. It can be challenging to find the right car with the right price, the right color, the right options, and the right dealer. Doing your home work is more complicated today with technology at every corner. You need to get a history report like CAR FAX, and check values with NADA Guides when looking at buying a vehicle. The most important component is to do business with a reputable company that has been around for a few years and has good reviews. So many make a mistake by purchasing the cheapest vehicle, when most often spending a little more will provide you more satisfaction and value. There is typically a reason why its cheaper. Darrell and Ralph Six have combined 70 years of experience in Sales, Service, and Details.

Visit us on North Topeka Boulevard or SIXAUTO.COM an Award Winning Dealer and proud North Topeka Business Alliance member for 17 years.



"It can be challenging to find the right car with the right price, the right color, the right options, and the right dealer."

Financial Insights

[April Financial Newsletter](#)

Click link above for Financial Newsletter

Neighborhood News

Mars Plant Makes Twix

Mars has decided to begin making Twix at its Topeka location adding 60 full-time jobs and 50 part-time jobs. This is a fifty-five million dollar investment that shows an even greater commitment to the Topeka community. Out of the fifty-five million dollar investment, 4.9 million will be spent on the facility while the remainder will focus on new equipment. It is expected that they will begin producing Twix by the second quarter of 2018. According to USA.com Topeka's growth rate has been around 4.32% since 2000. This ranks 237th out of the cities and towns in Kansas. As most people would agree Topeka has not always been known as a growth community. According to Sperlings Best Places although job growth has been at .11%, future job growth over the next decade is predicted to be 35.61%. Obviously this is just a prediction, but we are seeing more companies like Mars making a commitment to jobs in Topeka. As with any town we have to battle the loss of jobs as well as the growth of new jobs. Payless laid off 165 employees earlier this year 110 of which worked in the Topeka locations. The new jobs for the Mars plant is expected to bring 37 million per year to the Topeka community. The company has an April 14th hiring event planned at the Topeka Workforce Center to help with the increased production.



What's on your calendar?

April Calendar of Events

- First Friday Artwalk on April 7th @ NOTO
- YMCA Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 15th @ 1:17 @ 1936 N Tyler Kuehne Family Branch
- Check out B & B Backyard events at <http://www.bbbackyard.com/#shows>.
- Check out the YMCA at <http://www.ymcatopeka.org/> (Click on link to view upcoming programs).

*Please feel free **click on this link** www.topeka365.com/events/list/ for other local events.

* If you have additional info you want included please e-mail eclaspill@wradvisors.com.

March Speaker

Martha Piland-

Transformation:

Do you ever feel stuck in a rut? Do you wish for better ways to innovate in your business? Join our April meeting with Martha Bartlett Piland. She'll tell us about her new invention: Transformation™ in a Box, and how it can help you break out of stale, old thinking habits. Martha will also lead us in a hands-on exercise that we can use for smarter, better brainstorming.