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Stafford County Economic Development's Annual Photo Contest

NEW CATEGORY WITH BLOG!!!

(St. John, KS) – Stafford County Economic Development is sponsoring its annual photography for images that may be used on promotional materials and/or its website. We again will have a grand prize winner who will receive an additional \$25 to winning category prize (\$50 total) and have their photo framed and put up in the Eco Devo office. A \$25 prize will be given to the winner in each of the three categories listed below, and an unlimited number of honorable mention winners will receive a \$5.00 prize like previous years. New to this year is an ADDITIONAL Category BUSINESS OWNER. Capture a business owner in their natural element. In addition write a short 2 paragraph blog about how the business owner started their businesses. Winners of this photo and blog category will receive \$50 with additional photo/blog combos picked getting \$25. The categories are as follows:

PEOPLE: depicting individuals interacting by conversation or work

PLACES: the areas and businesses we utilize, as well as unique locations of Stafford County

COMMERCE: business interactions within our cities or beyond city limits, but WITHIN Stafford County

New CATEGORY and BLOG:

BUSINESS OWNERS: capture a Stafford County business owner in their natural element at their place of work. Please provide a 2 paragraph essay about the business owner and how they started their business.

In all categories, consideration will be given to the clarity of the image, visual appeal, and artistic quality. Photos that include people and portray everyday life are encouraged. Images are valued for their ability to portray a vibrant, progressive culture.

2026 Contest Rules:

1. All exhibits must be entered by 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 14th, 2026, at the Stafford County Fair Building.
2. Exhibitor must be the person who took the photo.
3. Exhibitors are only allowed 2 photos per category (6 photos maximum for the contest).
4. All photos are to be 5x7 inches and mounted on an 11x12.5 studio mount. The mounting board must be vertically oriented.
5. Photos must be taken in Stafford County, Kansas.
6. Exhibitors must complete the Release Form and attach it to the back of the studio mount. Email Ryan at ryan@stafforddecodevo.com for a Release Form.
7. Photos should be full color (no black and white).
8. Winners will be selected by representatives of Stafford County Economic Development, Tuesday evening, July 14 th and be announced on Facebook.
9. A digital file in .jpg format must be provided before prize money will be paid. Only photos receiving a prize will be used for promotional materials.