

# Pumpkins to help Imagination Library

On behalf of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, Golden Plains Community Outreach is sponsoring a fund-raising pumpkin-carving contest to continue the once-a-month distribution of books to preschool kids.



**Vicki Allison**

• Rexford Correspondent

The reading program, which started about two years ago, has been well received, supporters say.

For the contest, pumpkins will be provided. These can be picked up from 3 to 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23, at the Red Barn in Rexford. The entry fee is \$40. On Halloween, Saturday, Oct. 31, your carved pumpkin must be delivered to the Red Barn between 3 and 4 p.m.

Jack-o-lanterns will be judged and prizes awarded: first place, \$50; second place, \$10; and third place, \$5. They will be displayed around town that evening. This makes for a fun and creative way to raise money for a worthwhile cause.

The community extends sympathy and condolences to Margaret AraSmith and family and friends on the passing of her husband William. Funeral services were Tuesday, Oct. 13, at the Rexford Community Church.

Sondra Barnett's grandson, Kerry Wark, married Kristin Skiles on Saturday, Oct. 10, at the Methodist Church in Colby. A reception and dance was held at the Colby Country Club. Kerry is the son of Todd and Mandy (Baughn) Barnett of Alamosa, Colo., and Kristin is the daughter of Frank and Bernice Skiles of Colby.

Golden Plains schools will have a 12:30 dismissal on Wednesday. Red Barn weekly activities:

Monday: 2 to 5 p.m., Barnswallows.

Wednesday: 10 a.m., ladies Bible study.

Thursday: 2 to 5 p.m., Come on Down.

Friday: 9:30-10:30 a.m., Kaffe Klatch.

Every second Saturday of the month there is bingo for the 50-plus crowd.

*Until next time, make your week memorable.*

# Sharathon for station starts on Wednesday

KGCR Tri-State Praise, 107.7 FM, is having its 22nd Annual Sharathon fund-raising campaign Wednesday through Saturday.

"As in past years, we've set aside 3 1/2 days to ask our listeners to share with us in providing music and programs focused on glorifying God and turning hearts toward Christ," said James Claassen, station manager.

During the event, the station will ask listeners to pray as money is raised to help operate the station another year, he said.

"We're also asking listeners to come alongside us and help support this ministry financially by partnering with us in reaching a mission field right here in our own back yard," Claassen said.

The station manager said costs have increased in nearly every budget category over the past year. And with the downturn in the economy, having people who appreciate local Christian radio support the station is especially important, he said.

Sharathon is held once a year, allowing the station to emphasize ministry the rest of the time without having to focus on fund-raising, Claassen said. During the 3 1/2 days, programs are preempted and the focus is on developing a support team to join with the station over the coming year.

To help KGCR reach the Tri-State area, call (888) 882-5427. Gifts can also be made online at [www.kgcr.org](http://www.kgcr.org).

# Meeting to explain new highway process

A proposed process for selecting highway projects will be explained at a series of meetings planned by the Kansas Department of Transportation this month, including one in Hays on Monday, Oct. 26.

The pilot process, crafted by the Governor's Task Force on Transportation, known as T-Link, evaluates projects using three factors: engineering, local input and economic impact analysis. Project selection over the past two decades has been based primarily on engineering factors such as roadway condition and traffic.

For the past month, the department's area engineers have talked with city and county officials and completed surveys for nearly 90 projects. Information from the surveys, which are posted on the Kansas Transportation Online

Community, [www.ktoc.net](http://www.ktoc.net), will be used to run economic impact models and will be explained at the meetings.

"I can't stress enough that we are piloting this process and this is simply an opportunity for us to practice and evaluate how this selection process might work," said Julie Lorenz, manager of the pilot project. "Until a new transportation program is passed, KDOT won't have enough funding to begin work on any of the projects being evaluated."

All meetings will begin at 1 p.m. with an explanation of the highway project selection process. At 3 p.m., there will be a discussion of nonhighway modes and questions will be answered about individual projects.

# Be cautious in answering 'census workers' questions

With the U.S. Census process beginning, the Better Business Bureau advises people to cooperate with Census workers, but be cautious so as not to become a victim of fraud or identity theft.

The first phase of the 2010 Census began with workers verifying the addresses of households across the country. Eventually, more than 140,000 workers will attempt to count every person in the United States and gather information about every person living at each address, including name, age, gender, race and other relevant data. The big question is - how do you tell the difference between a U.S. Census worker and a con artist? The bureau offers the following advice:

• If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, they will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering any questions.

However, you should never invite anyone you don't know into your home.

• Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census. While the Census Bureau might ask for basic financial information, such as a salary range, it will not ask for Social Security, bank account or credit card numbers nor will employees solicit donations.

Eventually, Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail or in person at home. However, they will not contact you by e-mail, so be on the lookout for e-mail scams impersonating the Census. Never click on a link or open any attachments in an e-mail that are supposedly from the Census Bureau. These are always fake, and can be dangerous.

For advice on avoiding identity theft and fraud, go to [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org).

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