

Atwood technician wins national honor

Adam Ketterl of Atwood, a 2003 automotive technology graduate of Northwest Kansas Technical College, has been named as the Gates/ASE Master Automobile and L1 Technician of the Year for 2010.

Gates Corp., a manufacturer of industrial and automotive products, made the announcement with the National Institute for Automotive Service.

Ketterl is the son of David and Judy Ketterl of Hemdon. He and his wife Angela live in Atwood.

The institute, a nonprofit organization established to improve the quality of vehicle repair and service through the testing and certification of repair and service professionals, joins each year with original equipment manufacturers and aftermarket industry sponsors, including Gates, to recognize outstanding technicians. Winners in auto, truck and collision categories are selected based on their certification test scores,

on-the-job excellence and community service. Ketterl and other winning technicians were honored at a ceremony in Scottsdale, Ariz., last week.

Ketterl, who has been certified for the last six years, is the foreman and head technician at Dave's Oil Service in Atwood.

"It's an honor," he said. "I've put in a lot of hard work, and it's so nice to be recognized. It's also great to have the Gates name behind me."

"I had a great experience at Northwest Tech as a student," he said, "and give a lot of credit to my instructors there for teaching me what I needed to know to be a great automotive technician."

Curt Goodwin, automotive technology instructor at the college, said he was excited about the award.

"Adam was a top notch, serious student focused on school," he said.

Shakespeare Club

Shakespeare Club met at the home of Diann Gerstner on Oct. 22. She called the meeting to order. Roll call was a Halloween memory. Attending were Kathy Calliham, Verna Wiens, Cheryl Brenn, Phyllis Elliott, Sheila Frahm and guests Irmalee Fleckenstein and Myrna Schroeder.

September minutes and treasurer's report were received and approved.

Members voted to give a donation to Genesis for Christmas baskets or other needs.

The November and December meetings will be with the Three of Clubs on Friday, Nov. 12, at Pioneer Memorial Library and a Friday, Dec. 10, luncheon organized by Sorosis Club. This meeting has been moved to 12:30 p.m. at Prairie Museum of Art and History.

The remainder of the afternoon was spent listening to Lee Fleckenstein recall her early days in Thomas County and Colby. Everyone was engrossed in her stories, adventures and memories. Lee got started by noting the Gettysburg address had 107 words, the Lord's Prayer 100 and President Obama's health care plan thousands of

pages. She said she thought her remarks would be somewhere in between, which got the members smiling as she began.

She also recalled stories told to her by friends who served in various ways during World War II:

- Margo Schiefen went to be with her husband Charles when he was stationed in California. Each morning, she wrapped her hair in a bandana and bicycled to the assembly plant as one of those "Rosie the Riveters."

- Esther Rogers was an air combat triage nurse.

- Helen Donelan was a Navy nurse and went on combat rescue missions. The rescue teams flew as close as they could, walked many miles to the crash site, and then carried the wounded back to safety, often at night.

- Natalie Urbom was an Army nurse stationed in England.

- Virginia Banberry worked in the Washington area as an Army nurse.

- Betty Brenn Lowe was a part of the Women's Army Corps and proudly showed her beautiful uniform to her friends.

— Sheila Frahm, reporter



Paul Schiferl received a rose from Laura Juenemann during the National Honor Society induction while Caitlyn Wark looked on.

Honor society welcomes 25

Colby High School's annual induction ceremony for the National Honor Society was Tuesday, Nov. 16, in the auditorium.

This year, 25 juniors and seniors were inducted into this prestigious organization.

Senior inductees included: Megan Dougherty, Kayla Hockersmith, Katherine and Katrina Kaus, Bailey Koeperich, Kate Ostmeyer, Kylie Reitcheck and Anna Taylor.

Junior inductees were: Morgan Bell, Andrea Dizmang, Emilea Finley, Madison Gawith, Katera

Harter, Julia Hutfles, Rachel Juenemann, Brenna McKee, Christina Ostmeyer, Jordan Rasmussen, Paul Schiferl, Megan Schroeder, Jennifer Schwanke, Kayla Skiles, Haley Stickel and Michael Tubbs.

Tubbs was the speaker. Music was provided by society students and Chace McNinch, who did "Welcome the Traveler Home." The ceremony was attended by the high school staff, as well as family and friends of the inductees and present members.

Thanksgiving traffic campaign focusing on seat belts, alcohol use

The Kansas Highway Patrol, working with city and county agencies, plans a Thanksgiving Enforcement Campaign from now through Sunday, hoping to minimize traffic injuries and fatalities.

The program will focus on drunk and impaired drivers, child passenger safety violations and seat belt use, the patrol said. Money from the Kansas Department of Transportation will be used to put more officers on Kansas streets and highways during the holiday week, one of the heaviest travel times of the year.

During the 2009 Thanksgiving reporting period, Kansas recorded 590 collisions resulting in 153 injuries and six deaths. Of these, 44 were alcohol related, resulting in 30 injuries and four of the deaths.

"The Kansas Highway Patrol and other law enforcement agencies across the state join KDOT in recognizing the importance and life-saving value of extra law

enforcement presence during the high-travel holiday season," said Col. Terry Maple, superintendent of the patrol.

Those driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs endanger not only themselves, but also their passengers, other motorists and pedestrians, Maple said.

"Keep in mind that if you are going to be drinking — any amount at all — don't consider driving home," he said. "Arrange to ride with a nondrinking acquaintance."

"Don't let pride or convenience endanger your life and the lives of innocent others. Always wear your seat belt, and don't move the vehicle until each person riding with you is restrained. It is your best defense ... and it's the law."

Failure to buckle up is responsible for more needless death and injury, the superintendent said. Those who don't buckle up are about 12 times more likely to be killed and almost twice as likely

to suffer injury as those who do. Injuries suffered by the unbuckled are likely to be much more severe than those suffered by an occupant who is restrained.

Unfortunately, he said, many people associate danger with speed. The feel safe driving around town unbuckled and save buckling up for the faster roads. The Department of Transportation says, however, that crashes are most likely close to home, and low-speed crashes can turn unbelted occupants into human torpedoes.

Travel can safer if you allow extra time to get to your destination, check road conditions before leaving and keep vehicle maintenance up to date. Updated weather and highway conditions are available by calling 511 in Kansas or (866) 511-KDOT from out of state. To view online road conditions, go to: www.ksdot.org/offTransInfo/511Info/511traffictavel.asp.

On the Beat

COLBY POLICE

Thursday

1:41 a.m. — Transported subject from Twister's.

2:15 a.m. — Check on clerk at Sleep Inn.

2:20 a.m. — Check on clerk at Days Inn.

7:36 a.m. — Subject reported man assaulted her boyfriend. Spoke to subjects, no report.

8:59 a.m. — Clerk at Wendy's reported two men were kicked off Greyhound Bus; one appeared intoxicated. All OK; had subjects move along; neither was drunk.

9:37 a.m. — Assistant manager at 1000 E. Willow called about two men there in reference to complaint at 8:50. All OK; gave ride to 1985 S. Range.

9:38 a.m. — Accident in parking lot at Dollar General.

9:54 a.m. — Subject came to station about being scammed. Report filed.

12:58 p.m. — Subject flagged down officer with older wrist-watch found in roadway. Report filed.

3:13 p.m. — Two subjects in parking lot at 247 becoming aggressive. Spoke with subjects, said they were leaving town.

6:26 p.m. — Two contained stray dogs at Orscheln's turned over to Colby Animal Clinic.

6:26 p.m. — Two-vehicle collision at Second and Range.

9:16 p.m. — Assisted motorist in the west parking lot at 2260 Southwind Ave.

Fake grenade a showstopper

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A juggler performing near San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf caused a bit of a stir when onlookers worried he might be using a grenade as part of his performance.

Police closed off a block near the popular tourist spot around 5 p.m. Nov. 13 so investigators could take a closer look at the device.

It turned out to be a replica. The area was reopened around 6:15 p.m.

The juggler was detained, but a police spokesman did not know if he had been arrested.

Police did not identify the man. It was not known if he was a regular performer in the area, or had used the replica grenade before.

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