

Jazz Ambassadors to play here

The Jazz Ambassadors – America's Big Band, the official touring big band of the United States Army, will perform at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 14, in the Colby High School auditorium as a program of the Western Plains Art Association.

The acclaimed 19-member ensemble, formed in 1969, has performed America's original art form, jazz, both at home and abroad.

For free tickets, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Pat Ziegelmeier, Colby Community College, 1255 S. Range, Colby, Kan., 67701. Allow for turnaround time for the mail. Stop by her office in the Cultural Arts Center to pick up tickets.

Concerts by the Jazz Ambassadors are designed to entertain all types of audiences. Custom compositions and arrangements highlight the group's creative talent and gifted soloists. Their diverse repertoire includes big band swing, bebop, Latin, contemporary jazz, standards, popular tunes, Dixieland, vocals and patriotic selections.

The band has appeared in all fifty states, Canada, Mexico, Japan, India and throughout Europe. Notable performances include concerts at international jazz festivals in Mon-



The United States Army Field Band, of which the Jazz Ambassadors is just one ensemble, is considered by music critics to be one of the most versatile and inspiring musical organizations in the world. Its members, selected by highly competitive audition, represent some of the finest musical talent in America.

treux, Switzerland; Newport, R.I.; Toronto, the Czech Republic in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the end of World War II. The band has also been featured in unique

Jazz Festival in the Netherlands. In 1995, the Ambassadors performed in joint concerts with major orchestras, including England, Wales, Belgium Luxembourg and the Detroit and Baltimore symphonies.



Dale and Phyllis Wilcox

Card shower honors 60 years of marriage

Dale and Phyllis (Dinnet) Wilcox were married March 4, 1951, at Memorial United Methodist Church in McCook, Neb., and their family is having a card shower in honor of the couple's 60th wedding anniversary.

Their children are Joe and Linda Allen of St. Louis, Mo., Bill and Suzanne Marks of Olathe, Steve Wilcox of Colorado Springs, Colo., Kenny and Diana Wilcox of Aurora, Colo., and Janine Mills of Weatherford, Texas; 11 grandchildren; and seven-great-grandchildren. Cards of congratulations will reach the couple at 610 West F Street, McCook, Neb., 69001.

Girl Scout cookie sale crack down

SAVANNAH, Ga. (AP) — Girl Scouts are no longer able to sell their famous cookies outside the historic Savannah home of the woman who founded the organization almost a century ago.

A complaint last year ended the longtime practice of selling the cookies on the public sidewalk outside the home of Juliette Gordon Low at the busy intersection of Bull Street and Oglethorpe Avenue. Peddling on a public sidewalk is a violation of city ordinance. One city alderman said he thinks the city should consider a temporary exception for cookie season.

The city's zoning administrator, Randolph Scott, said he investigated the matter and tried to find a solution. He said he called for a survey, hoping there would be some private space between the home and the sidewalk. He said there wasn't any.

Scott said they also looked at allowing the Scouts to sell from a small courtyard on the side of the

house, but fire marshals told the Scouts they would block an exit route. The home is a National Historic Landmark open for tours.

"I know it doesn't look good," Scott told *The Savannah Morning News*. "However, other businesses won't care if it's the Girl Scouts or March of Dimes. They're going to say, 'Why can't I sit out front and solicit business?'"

City Alderman Van Johnson said he thinks the city council should consider a variance to allow temporary sales during cookie season, which usually happens in the first few months of the year.

"Juliette Low brings thousands of tourists from around the country. Juliette Low is known for Girl Scouts, and Girl Scouts are known for cookies," Johnson said. "Let's be reasonable. Let them sell their cookies."

Scouts have since started selling near some other high-traffic intersections. Girls used to be able to sell about 250 boxes in three hours outside the Low home, said

Jan McKinney, who heads product sales for the Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia.

But she says it's important that the girls learn the larger lesson of the change. She says the cookie sales are intended to teach the girls money management, public speaking, customer service and business ethics.

"We try to teach them that in business you have to adjust to things that happen, adapt to the market and follow the law," she said. "It's a real-world experience."

The executive director of the Low house, Fran Harold, said tourists loved buying cookies from the girls at the home.

"It's kind of sad for the girls, too," she said. "There's nothing cuter than some little Brownie Girl Scout selling cookies on the sidewalk in front of the Juliette Low house."

Low founded the Girl Scouts in Savannah in March 1912 after meeting Sir Robert Baden-Powell,

the founder of the Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides, and helped expand the organization worldwide.

Sternberg's new 'dig pit' draws kids to experience fossil search

"I love being a paleontologist!" said Cole Morton, grandson of Elton and Wendy Beougher, Hays. The Beougher family was visiting the new Fossil Dig Pit attraction opened recently at Fort Hays State University's Sternberg Museum of Natural History.

"This is their favorite place to go," said Wendy Beougher. "As soon as they get into town, they want to come. The Sternberg is a great place to bring kids."

In this exhibit, children can dig in sand to find fossils such as the Pliosaur from the Kansas chalk fields. They can try to identify creatures who lived in the warm seas that covered Kansas during the age of dinosaurs. Different fossils are put in periodically.

Brian Bartels, museum educator, showed the children who were digging in the pit on one recent Saturday a model of the Pliosaur they were uncovering.

Opening April 1, a Pliosaur fossil cast will take the place of the mammoth in the front entrance of the museum. The exhibit will be called "The Sea Monster." The mammoth will be moved to the second floor to join other fossils and fossil casts.

"This is a great learning opportunity and a great

hands-on tool for Ian to learn about dinosaurs," said Jan Schmidt, mother of Ian Schmidt who was playing in the pit. "When we leave, he always wants to go dig for fossils at home."

The Dig Pit, constructed at the Sternberg Museum in response to demand, is very popular based on successful traveling dig pits the Museum has had. The Museum staff wanted a permanent one. It was a project of the museum exhibits staff, Greg Walters, exhibits director, and Beatrice Bauer, exhibits preparator.

"The Dig Pit is open whenever the museum is open. This is an exhibit in itself, open to the public and very interactive," said Mark Kellerman, director of public relations.

"This exhibit is meant to make kids feel like they were George Sternberg in a tent uncovering fossils," said Morgan Lampe, a public relations intern.

For information, visit www.sternberg.fhsu.edu or call (785) 628-5298. The museum is open 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

On the Beat

COLBY POLICE
Monday
1:06 p.m. — Manager called about possible harassment. Spoke to reporting party, no report at this time.
4:44 p.m. — Assisted Colby Fire Department.
10:41 p.m. — Civil standby.

THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF
Sunday
8:31 p.m. — Brought inmate back from Rawlins County Sher-

iff's Office to Law Enforcement Center.

Monday
7:52 a.m. — Released Kirt Alan Dugger.
10:46 a.m. — Vehicle identification number inspection for Colby Dodge.
11:51 a.m. — Vehicle identification number inspections for Tubbs and Sons Ford Sales.
3:14 p.m. — Released Jason Dodson.
3:46 p.m. — Booked Andrew

Wright.
4:52 p.m. — Released Love.
5:46 p.m. — Released Terry Twilegar.
5:58 p.m. — Released Matthew Shepherd.
9:30 p.m. — Report filed on domestic call.
11:11 p.m. — Caller reported subjects keep driving by.
10:16 p.m. — Booked David L. Mayer.

Vermont woman crowned top grocery bagger

BURLINGTON, Vt. (AP) — A Vermont woman has been crowned the nation's top grocery bagger.

Twenty-four-year-old Krystal Smith of Burlington won the award and the \$10,000 prize at the 2011 U.S. Best Bagger National Championship in Las Vegas.

On Monday, Smith beat 21 competitors by filling three grocery bags in 38 seconds at the Mirage Hotel.

The *Burlington Free Press* says contestants are judged on their ability to bag grocery staples including bread, milk, eggs and

canned goods and on their bag-building technique, weight distribution, style, attitude and appearance.

Smith has worked for eight years at Hannaford Supermarket.

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