

Seniors to receive honors in Oberlin

Students from 15 Kansas high schools will be honored by the University of Kansas Alumni Association and KU Endowment association and program at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, at The Gateway in Oberlin.

Don Steeples, a western Kansas native and McGee Distinguished Professor of Applied Geophysics, will speak to the students and their parents and guests.

Seniors from area schools include:

Colby High School: Brittany Bange, Amanda Barnum, Megan Dougherty, Audra Fleming, Kayla Hockersmith, Laura Juennemann, Katrina Kaus, Samuel Kendrick, Bailey Koerperich, Sara Martin, Tera Raymond, Shanell Sager, Anna Taylor and Shelby Terrell.

Golden Plains High School: Lucas Phillips, Devinn Ritter and Avery Spreser.

Brewster High School: Whitney Schultz.

Oakley High School: Merabeth Corbett, Hanna Hubert, Dayna Kuhlman, Joshua Llewellyn and Patrick Loftus.

Triplains High School: Conley Moorhous.

Rawlins County High School: Rebecca Reuther, Jessica Riener

and Megan Van Laeys.

Hoxie High School: Brittney Reed and Dillon Salmans.

Cheylin High School: Christopher Walden.

A total of 48 seniors from high schools in Cheyenne, Decatur, Gove, Logan, Rawlins, Sheridan, Sherman, Thomas and Wallace counties will be recognized for their academic achievements and named Kansas Honor Scholars.

The Kansas Honors Program celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. Since 1971, the program has recognized 114,000 scholars who rank in the top 10 percent of their high school senior classes, regardless of occupational plans or higher-education goals. Each year, the Alumni Association and its volunteers hold 41 programs that reach all 105 counties across the state.

During the ceremony, each student will receive an American Heritage Dictionary, in both hard-back and electronic versions, presented by Michelle Miles, assistant director of Kansas programs for the association.

Honored students will be guests of the association and endowment; parents and area alumni are welcome to attend at a cost of \$15 each.

Cosmosphere camp open to both adults and youth

The Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center in Hutchinson is offering a new camp this year that's open to adults as well as youth who have completed earlier levels of camp.

"Space 501" is scheduled for Sunday through Saturday, June 26 to July 2, for a tour multiple space facilities in California.

The camp will take participants to see the cutting edge of space exploration technology for the future while soaking up space history.

Campers will tour Space X, the Jet Propulsion Laboratories, Edwards Air Force Base, Dryden Spaceflight Center, the Columbia Memorial Space Center and the aircraft carrier USS Midway.

Special arrangements are being

made for the group, including a behind-the-scenes tour at the Jet Propulsion Labs. Interplanetary engineers at Dryden will take time for special activities with our group, and at Columbia, campers will lunch with retired engineers who helped create technology still used today.

The tour is designed to give a taste of the history of the space program, the technology putting us into orbit today and the possibilities for tomorrow.

Cost is \$1,950 per person, based on double occupancy, including travel and food. Information is available at cosmo.org, or by calling Laurie Givan at (620) 662-2305, ext. 323.

'Go Orange' reminds all of work-zone safety

The Kansas Department of Transportation urges everyone to wear orange Wednesday to support Kansas highway workers who risk their lives working on road projects and to raise awareness of work-zone hazards.

The "Go Orange" day is part of National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 4-8.

"It can be easy to overlook the importance of highway workers," said Secretary of Transportation Deb Miller, "but the work they do contributes significantly to the safety of travelers and the flow of commerce, and at times their work is done at great personal risk."

"Wearing orange on April 6 is a way to show our support for highway workers and to raise awareness of the hazards

of work zones for both workers and travelers."

More than 85 percent of the time, it's motorists who are injured in work-zone crashes, the department said. Last year, more than 500 people were hurt and seven killed in Kansas work-zone crashes.

Some tips for driving in work zones: watch for workers, follow traffic control, stay alert, changes lanes when directed to do so, expect delays and allow ample space between you and the car in front of you.

Pictures of Kansans who have gone orange can be viewed at the department's website at www.ksdot.org.

Go orange Wednesday, and remember to drive safely in work zones all year long.

Emergency plan vital to protect farm

Every farm should have a disaster plan to protect assets from natural disasters and other emergencies, said a Kansas State University Extension communication specialist.

Farmers should also develop a disaster plan as a way to find potential problems that could be costly in the event of an on-farm emergency, said Mary Lou Peter, who also serves as K-State Research and Extension's contact with the Extension Disaster Education Network.

The network is a collaborative effort by extension services across the country to reduce the impact of disasters through education.

Find Risks Ahead of Disasters
"Creating a plan helps producers find risks they may have overlooked or not thought about," Peter said.

Disaster planning starts with identifying high on-farm risks and acknowledging past emergencies. In many states, the most common natural disasters are floods, wind, fire and winter storms.

Crop insurance can be one of the best ways to protect income if field crops are damaged. Farm disaster planning should include an analysis to determine if crop insurance is best for a particular farm.

Peter also recommends farmers take steps to mitigate risks, such as buying a weather radio, labeling all truck and equipment keys, resolving electrical problems and cataloging assets that could be damaged.

Farmers, like other business owners, should back up computers and use off-site storage for electronic and hard copy records that are irreplaceable and easily protected but often forgotten. Peter suggests inviting emergency personnel to visit farm properties and help determine risks. For ex-

ample, this might help firefighters understand how to respond to a fire at a specific farm.

"If there is a fire near chemicals, it may be better to let it burn out rather than using water," she said. "Thinking through these steps before an emergency can help farmers avoid the environmental issues with chemicals getting into the groundwater."

Review Plans Annually
Once in place, disaster plans should be reviewed and exercised at least once a year.

"It does not have to be an elaborate exercise," Peter said. "Just ask questions about who is going to execute certain tasks. When disaster strikes, it won't be the plan that saves lives and money, it will be the thought process and experience gained knowing the plan."

The hardest part about creating a disaster plan can be taking the time to write it down, but two publications developed by Purdue University Extension can help.

"Plan Today for Tomorrow's Flood" is a flood response plan for agricultural retailers which farmers also can use. "Rural Security Planning" is designed to protect family, friends and farms in the event of an emergency.

Both publications are available for free download from Purdue Extension at The Education Store at mdc.itap.purdue.edu/. Hard copies are available for \$1 each.

"Using the publications and common sense," Peter said, "a producer can have a farm-ready emergency plan in about three hours."

Information for farmers and others about emergency preparedness and disaster recovery is available at www.extension.org (click on disaster issues) and www.eden.lsu.edu. More information for Kansas is available at www.kseden.ksu.edu.

Barber poles stolen in Kentucky thefts

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) — Thieves have stripped two central Kentucky businesses of a unique feature — barber poles.

The most recent theft happened March 16, when someone dismantled a 75-year-old vintage barber pole from Burke's Barber Shop in Frankfort. Owner Eddie Burke says whoever took the pole knew what they were doing because electrical wires were disconnected and bolts removed from the wall.

The other theft happened March 4 at Broadway Barber and Styling Shop. Owner Carletta Cantrell told the *State-Journal* that whoever took the pole put caps on the electrical wires.

Currently barber poles range from \$200 to \$2,000, depending on the age and condition, on eBay, the popular Internet selling site.

Frankfort Police Maj. Fred Deaton said, in Cantrell's case, no evidence of the theft shows up on security cameras from a nearby federal building.

In both cases, the thefts hap-

pened near where witnesses could have seen them. But, Office Pub and Deli owner Jon Presley, whose business is in near Burke's shop, said his employees saw nothing.

"The pole was there when we left," said deli owner John Presley, who says the thieves know what they are doing.

Burke said he bought the vintage red and white barber's symbol when he opened in 1972.

"I had it refurbished and it was lighted and revolved," Burke said estimating it will cost at least \$1,000 to replace.

Cantrell said whoever took her pole isn't afraid of getting caught, noting that Frankfort police and Franklin County deputies frequent the area near the John C. Watts Federal Building across from her shop.

"They know there is a market for them and they may even have buyers," she said. "Mine was high enough they probably even had to have a ladder to take it down."



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