

# Moran supports rural health needs

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istrator, asked Moran about a change in a rule which would allow certified nurses to handle anesthesia with state approval. Jolly said the rule had been changed early this year to the state approval, but then had been changed back to the federal requirement that the doctor supervise the nurse, and he was hoping the original change to the state was going to prevail.

Moran said this has been an continuing battle, and that the change to the state was one of the final orders from the Clinton Administration.

"We like this one and wanted it to remain that way," Moran said, "but the Bush Administration in rescinding many of these changed this one as well. I have let the President know already that we wanted the original change, but the battle continues."

Jolly also said the National Rural Health Association was working on a

plan for a floor on the wage index to be at 92 percent of federal level.

"Formula driven systems over time tend to build in inequities," Jolly said. "We are at 82-84 percent now, but want to see that the system is fair at all levels."

Moran said he was one of the co-sponsors to raise the level to 92 percent. "Health care is important," he said "This district has more hospitals than any other in the country. I am a member of the Rural Health Care Coalition and the 180 members are trying to improve rural access to health care. Unfortunately 180 is not a majority of the 435 in Congress, but we do try to broker our efforts."

Ken Clouse, president of Northwest Kansas Technical College, asked if the government would be increasing the funding for vocational education.

"We are specifically interested in the Carl Perkins funding," Clouse said. "What can we do?"

Christie Rasure said she has been working with housing through Rural Development for 16 years, but suddenly the Hays office is telling her they cannot house technical college students. She was told they do not fit under the federal regulations because they are listed as dependents.

"I am having trouble filling the vacant apartments I have because I cannot house the students as we have for many years," Rasure said.

Moran said he did not know the specifics, but he would find out how he could be of help. Clouse says housing is tough to find for students this year.

Moran was asked about the effort to write a new farm bill, and if it would increase money for value-added agriculture products.

He said there would be an increase for these products as part of the new bill.

One of the continuing complaints is that the government is sending money

to big corporate farms, and not to the family farm, he said.

"We often hear about doing things for the family farm," Moran said, "but that is an elusive term which changes depending on who you are talking to. We need to do a better job of seeing who the money is going to, and be ever mindful of how we are defining the family farm."

John Golden said it would seem to be unfair to judge a farm by the size because we would have to rule out many large family farms.

"We need a fair farm bill that everyone can benefit from," said Golden.

A lady in the front said she knew that Moran was not making an announcement about running for governor before Oct. 1, but she wanted him to know that the coffee table talk was that they wanted him to stay in Congress.

Following the meeting, Moran was headed to the 50th county, traveling to Sharon Springs in Wallace County.

# Classes ready to begin at technical college

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teamwork.

Monday's session included a program showcase, Clouse said, in which instructors conducted demonstrations for groups of their colleagues. Each instructor showed his program and facilities, he said, and tried to sell the others on the program and convince them the career taught in the program is a good choice.

Student orientation will be Wednesday, Clouse said, with some of the details being completed on Thursday. The students will be welcomed with an address by City Manager Ron Pickman, the president said, and will enroll, get their books, have their picture taken for student identification cards and receive their financial aid.

Representatives from banks will be on hand in the Student Union during the orientation, Clouse said, to help students to open bank accounts.

Tuition is up slightly from last year, Clouse said, with the cost for in-state students at 70 cents per instructional hour and the cost for out-of-state students being \$4.60 per instructional hour.

Enrollment has increased, Clouse said, with about 635 students expected, up from 620 last year. The preliminary numbers indicate a considerable increase, he said.

Housing is in demand this year, he said, and students need to be willing to share rooms with bunk beds rather than having their own.

"This will allow us to house an additional 11 students," he said.

The students are tested to make sure they are at least at the ninth-grade level, Clouse said, in reading, writing and math. If a student is not at that level, he is enrolled on a conditional basis, Clouse said, and is required to use the Learning Resource Center to help catch up.

# Wichita State offers special program on Great Plains

WICHITA (AP) — In a move designed to give Kansans a sense of place, Wichita State University is offering a new program focusing on the often overlooked Great Plains.

The university's Great Plains Studies is designed to give residents a deeper understanding of how the land shaped the region's culture and how it will shape the future.

People in agriculture know they live on the prairie, but to most residents the

prairie seems remote, said Don Distler, an associate professor of biology whose field study class is part of the program.

Residents who move out to the country immediately try to alter the land by planting trees, he said.

"It has its own subtle beauty very few people living on it know anything about," he said. "The general public driving across Kansas sees it as a wasteland between the Ozarks and the

Rockies, something to cross in as short of period as possible."

The new program, which was two years in the planning, joins the Center of the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi and the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado in offering regional studies.

Emporia State University and the University of Nebraska also offer classes in the Great Plains.

Diane Quantic, the coordinator of the Wichita State program and an associate professor of English, hopes people who work and volunteer at attractions such as the Old Cowtown

Museum, Sedgwick County Zoo, Exploration Place and the Great Plains Nature Center will enroll, as well as others who need a deeper understanding of the region.

Students won't be able to earn a major or minor degree in the Great Plains. The certificate, however, shows they have developed an area of expertise, Quantic said.

To earn the certificate, students will be required to take 20 credit hours and participate in several field trips.

They can choose a mix of classes on history, literature, geology, biology, paleontology and Native American studies.

# City approves day care permit

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transferred to pay for portions of the hike and bike trail to be put in now. The trail is supposed to be done next year, Pickman said, but some parts of it would require closing the driveways to Pizza Hut and Dollar General. This change will allow the city to do those sections of the trail now while those driveways are already closed for the current construction, he said, and will not delay the project on Cherry.

- Approved an agreement with Sher-

man County allowing the cost the city pays for prisoners at the Bastille to be raised from \$30 per day to \$40 per day.

- Approved a beer and wine license for the Buffalo Inn Restaurant.
- Approved a conditional use permit allowing Topsis Tots Daycare to operate at 1019 W. 13th.
- Adopted an annual agreement stating how the city's accounting would be done and reported.

The first commission meeting for September was set for 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5, to allow the commissioners to have Labor Day off.

# Former labor activist dies

TOPEKA (AP) — Former Kansas labor leader and lobbyist H.J. "Jim" Yount died Monday at his home in Valley Falls. He was 87.

Yount was executive vice president of the Kansas AFL-CIO for 40 years and was a lobbyist for the Kansas Quarterhorse Association. In 1980, he ran unsuccessfully as a Democrat for the 2nd District seat in Congress.

In an interview with The Associated Press in 1980, Yount said lobbying for labor was once referred to as the kiss of death. That changed over the years, with legislators who held a pro-business attitude softening their views.

"If we've got a reasonable proposition, it gets fair consideration," he said in the interview.

Yount, who began working for unions in the automobile plants in Kansas City, said his biggest accomplishment was seeing the changes made to workers' compensation laws in 1974.

The regulations were changed to allow limited hospitalization and medical coverage, death benefits and disability benefits for workers injured on

the job.

He said the rift between labor and Republicans took nearly two decades to heal following passage of right-to-work laws in 1958.

Yount also served on the state unemployment review board from 1980 to 1984.

## Man gets 70 months

TOPEKA (AP) — A federal judge has sentenced an Arizona man to 70 months in prison without parole for possessing about 44 pounds of cocaine.

Gabriel Flores-Amaya, 33, will have five years of supervised probation after prison under the sentence issued Monday by U.S. District Judge Dale E. Saffels, according to U.S. Attorney Jim Flory.

Flores-Amaya, of Phoenix, pleaded guilty in February to one count of conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute 11 pounds or more of cocaine.

Kansas Highway Patrol officers found about 44 pounds of cocaine in Flores-Amaya's car in October.

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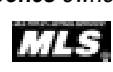
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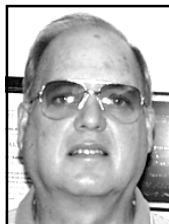
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