

# Patriotic speeches needed for contest

The Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary "Voice of Democracy Program" will have the theme "Freedom's Obligation" this year.

Local Veterans of Foreign Wars posts must complete judging by Friday, Nov. 1. Entries must be received by the Goodland post before this date.

High school students in public, parochial, home study or private schools are eligible to compete in the 56th annual audio essay program. Exchange students and past first place department winners are not eligible.

Students can voice their opinion on

a patriotic theme through the script-writing program, express their thoughts to the American people and win scholarships.

The Department of Kansas program will have scholarships and other awards amounting to \$3,450.

First place is \$1,000 and paid trips to Washington, D.C., and the Freedom's Foundation at Valley Forge. Second place is \$750, and third place is \$500.

In 2003, the Veterans of Foreign Wars National Scholarships totaling \$141,500 will be awarded. The first place scholarship will be \$25,000.

# Rock Island Railroad holds 25th reunion

The 25th reunion of the Rock Island Railroad was held Sunday at the Goodland Senior Center, and 42 people attended the potluck dinner.

Margaret Baalman donated a crocheted doily of the Rock Island emblem which her husband LeRoy designed. Jeanne Nestor won the doily. Wilma Pfau and Ethelyn Smith

each won a set of Rock Island postcard sets. Juanita Fell and Elaine Winslow won decorative candles.

Gary Garrett and Bob and Shirley Soellner hosted the event with help from Margaret Baalman and Wilma Pfau.

The 26th reunion will be held Sept. 21, 2003.

# Veterans of Foreign Wars seeks scholarship applicants

The Kansas Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary offers college and vocational school scholarships to the children and grandchildren of its members through its endowment association.

Each applicant must have a parent or grandparent who is a life member, a member whose dues are paid for the current membership year or were so at the time of his death.

Applications for scholarships are available through local posts and ladies auxiliaries and are submitted through the post or ladies auxiliary that can verify the membership affiliation of the parent or grandparent.

In 2002, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Endowment Association had \$55,000 in scholarship commitments, ranging from \$50-\$4,000 for durations of one to four years.

# Kansas' unemployment dropped from 4.6 to 4.4 percent in August

TOPEKA (AP) — The state is still feeling the effects of a slow economy, but its unemployment rate dropped in August because of normal seasonal trends.

The Department of Human Resources reported Tuesday that the jobless rate was 4.4 percent, down from 4.6 percent in July.

The rate for August 2001 was 4.1

percent, and joblessness in Kansas remained slightly higher this year than last year.

In January, it jumped to 4.9 percent from 4.1 percent in December 2001,

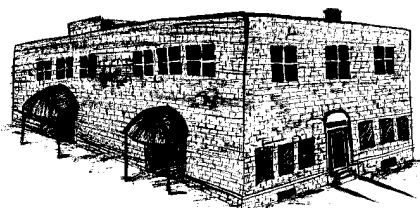
reflecting layoffs, particularly in communications and aviation.

The department said normal seasonal trends were responsible for the decline last month.

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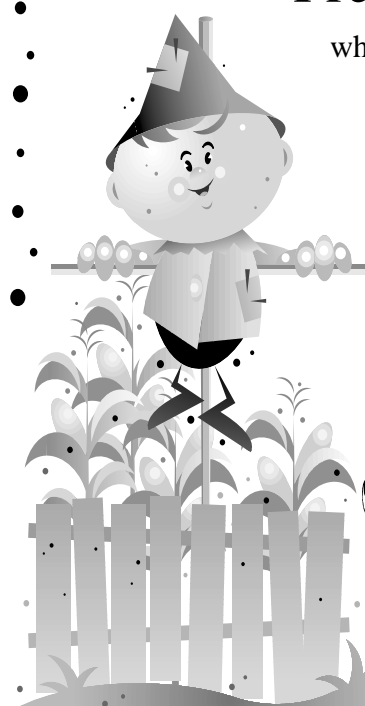
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