



Santa stops off at center

CEDAR LIVING center resident Eva Marie Vacura (above) received a gift from Jolly Old St. Nick Rose Riffle at the "Christmas in July" party on Monday. Darlene Stanley (right) donned a Santa hat and joined in the festivities.

—Herald staff photo by Dave Bergling



Smoky Hills names new director

Smoky Hills Public Television has named Nancy Griffiths of Russell as director of education, effective Aug. 1, says Lawrence Holden, general manager and chief executive officer.

"Supporting educators by providing materials and training, and helping children and parents discover the joy of reading and learning together is a very important part of Smoky Hills Public Television's educational outreach effort," Ms. Griffiths said. "I'm excited to be part of this rewarding experience that really does make a difference in the

lives of young children." Ms. Griffiths has been coordinator of the station's "Ready to Learn" program since 2001. She has over 30 years of classroom teaching and school library experience.

"We conducted a regional search, interviewed several applicants, and found the best candidate right here," Mr. Holden said. "I'm certain Nancy will perform as strongly for the station in her new position as she has in her previous responsibilities."

The Smoky Hills education department covers learning programs and provides materials and outreach

to schools, preschools and libraries, and workshops for parents and teachers. The "Ready to Learn" program encourages adults to seek out books and activities to reinforce the information found in public television's educational children's programming that helps young children learn school readiness skills.

Smoky Hills Public Television serves 70 counties in central and western Kansas and one in Nebraska. Its programs can be found at www.shptv.org.

Bridal shower held Friday

Keely Witt, who will be married on Aug. 6 to Chris Wilson of Kearney, Neb., was honored with a bridal shower on Friday evening. Hostesses were Barbara Olson, Sarah and Mary, and it was held at their home.

Invited guests included: Vicki League, Kate Powell, Angie Fisher and girls, McCook; Kathy Tacha, Jennings; Jeri Anne Zwegardt, Colby; Carolyn Schultz and Martha Schultz, St. Francis; E.J. Query, Bird City; Mary Lou Olson, Hernon; Helen Riepl, Cimarron; Sally

Sign-up ends Sept. 9

Decatur County farmers who suffered crop losses from weather in 2003 or 2004 have until Sept. 9 to sign up for benefits under the U.S. Farm Service Agency's Crop Disaster Program.

Signup for the program opened March 14, said County Executive Director Diane Barrett, and to meet the deadline, farmers must submit a completed form CCC-750, Crop Disaster Program application, and all supporting documentation by Sept. 9.

To be eligible, a farmer must have a loss greater than 35 percent in production or more than 20 percent in quality in a covered crop.

Payment rate is 65 percent of the established commodity price for insured crops and noninsured crops, and 60 percent of the price for uninsured commodities.

Farmers may apply for crop disaster payments for any crops eligible for coverage under the Federal Crop Insurance or the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance programs.

For details, contact the county office at 475-3131 or visit the agency's website at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov/>.

Committee nominations are needed

Nominations are being sought for the area 3 seat on the Decatur County committee of the U.S. Farm Service Agency.

The position, held by David Meitl since 2002, covers Summit, Custer, Jennings, Pleasant Valley, Cook, Prairie Dog, Dresden, Lyon and Allison townships.

Nominees must sign a form indicating they are willing to serve the three-year term. These must be post-marked or returned to the county office by the close of business on Monday.

Elections are conducted by mail. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters beginning on Nov. 4 and must be returned to the office by Dec. 5.

Nomination forms are available at the office at 410 South Buffalo or on-line at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publication/elections/>.

Club News

Club tour held Sunday

By **SAMANTHA ANDERSON**

On Sunday, a very hot Sunday, the Stick-to-it 4-H club had our club tour. Everyone met at the city park. There were only 29 members present.

We car pooled to save on gas. At the park, many kids showed some of their projects, then we had a short meeting. Roll call was

"What is your favorite swim stroke?" Bret Marietta likes the doggie paddle. It made lots of us laugh.

Please remember that on Friday, Aug. 5, we will be cleaning the open class building, then some of us can go out to the Sappa Park to help clean up. Have a safe and fun fair. Good luck to all 4-Hers. Happy 100th!

P.E.O presents awards

The July 14 morning meeting of P.E.O. Sisterhood was held at the home of Doris Pauls with Marlene Moxter assisting.

Following the business meeting, the chapter welcomed their two Senior Girls Award recipients, Justine Miller, daughter of Stan and Carol Miller of Nor-

catur, and Kelly Olson, daughter of Gerald and Connie Olson, and their mothers.

The girls learned about the history of P.E.O. and the local scholarship program, then were presented their award checks. A social hour followed.

Oberlin Jaycees help with service projects

Oberlin Jaycee members are gearing up to work at the Decatur County Fair, just one of the many community services they do throughout the year.

They will man the food stand to serve porkburgers, Polish, brats and pop each night beginning at 7 p.m. at the fairground. Members can volunteer to work two shifts from 6:30 to 9 p.m. and in return pay a reduced membership fee of \$20.

Memberships will renew on Aug. 15, said President Greg Unger. The service club is open to both men and women 20 to 40.

Members just completed the Day/

Night Golf Tournament at Oberlin on July 16 which included 16 four-man teams, along with three state Jaycee members. It will be held again next year, although the date has not been set.

Another project is to support Jessica Soderlund, who recently attended camp at the Kansas Jaycee Cerebral Palsy Ranch near Augusta.

Other Jaycee officers are Brett Jennings, secretary, and Cody Richards, treasurer. Young men or women interested in becoming members or learning more about Jaycees should contact Mr. Unger or Travis Hissong.

New Arrivals

Gage E. Slabaugh

Gwendolyn and Grace Slabaugh are happy to have a new sister, Gage Elizabeth, born June 11, 2005. She weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces, and was 21 inches long. Her parents are Scott and Angela Slabaugh of Quinter. Grandparents are Marvin and Sharon Slabaugh, Oberlin, and John and Mary Cubit, Garnett. Great-grandparents are Glendon and Eula Barrett, Cottonwood Falls; Helen Cubit, Garnett; and Albert and Ramona Maas, Frankfort.

Payton Jean Kelley

Lance Cpl. Nate and Jaime Kelley of Lakeside, Calif., are the parents of a daughter, Payton Jean, born July 14, 2005. She weighed 5 pounds, 11 ounces, and was 19 inches long. Her father is stationed at Miramar Marine Base in San Diego. Grandparents are Kevin and Debbie Kelley and Uncle Seth, Topeka; and Col. Jim and Maryann Ring, Pensacola, Fla. Great-grandparents are Jean Smith, Topeka, and the late Dennis Smith; and Dick and Donna Kelley, Oberlin. Great-great-grandmother is Eva Bryan, Oberlin.

Samantha M. Diederich

Shawn and Kathy Diederich of Colby are the parents of a daughter, Samantha Marie, born June 17, 2005, at Hays Medical Center. She weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces. Grandparents are Alice Urban, Colby, and the late Kenneth Urban, who was a native of Oberlin, and Tom and Cheryl Diederich, Lenora.

Internet Tonight!
475-2206

Couple plans wedding in May

Andrea Joyce Shaw and Christopher Michael Glenn plan to be married on May 27, 2006, at the United Methodist Church in Hoxie.

Parents of the couple are Scott and Janet Shaw of Hoxie, and Ron and Susan Graham of Council Grove.

Grandparents of the couple are Carol Shaw, Selden; Melvin and Frances Wienck, Barnes; and the late Floyd Shaw, George and Margaret Karnes, and Francis and Leona Graham.

The bride-to-be is a 2001 graduate of Hoxie High School. She graduated from Fort Hays State



C. Glenn and A. Shaw

University in May 2005 with a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education. She is a Title I reading and math/At-Risk teacher at Palco Grade School.

Her fiancé is a 1998 graduate of North Central High School in Morrowville and a May 2002 graduate of Fort Hays State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. He is an English teacher and coach at Logan High School.

Watercolor workshop set

Award-winning artist Earl Kuh will be teaching a four-day watercolor workshop at the Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum, 110 W. Main, Logan, on Aug. 4, 5, 6, and 7.

His watercolors depict our great ranching heritage and his favorite subjects are the cowboy, his livestock, and the landscapes surrounding them. His studio is located at The Sagebrush Gallery of Western Art in Medicine Lodge, which he and his wife, Kaye, have owned and op-

erated since 1979.

He will be teaching a unique transparent watercolor style and will also be covering how to market your product. Classes are open to the public and are aimed at intermediate to advanced artists. Sponsored by the Hansen Museum's continued education program, these classes are offered at discounted rates to the public.

For details, call Lee Favre at (785) 689-4846.

Band director honored

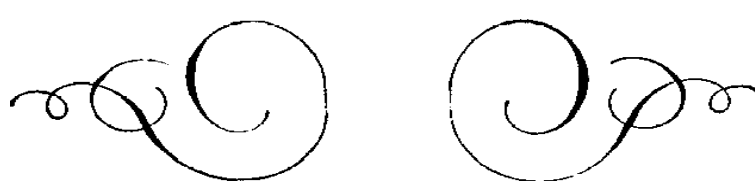
Dr. David Mruzek, director of bands at Colby Community College, has received national recognition as a musician, composer and author.

In addition to his original composition, "College Anniversaries," a piece in honor of the 40th anniversary of Colby Community College, Dr. Mruzek recently authored "Kansas Bandmasters March," which premiered at the Kansas Bandmasters Association Conference held July 15 in Wichita.

The march was performed by the 312th Army Band, commanded by CW3 Robert N. Claggett.

Dr. Mruzek will be the assistant band director from July 25-Aug. 3 at the National Boy Scout Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill near Washington, D.C. Over 43,000 scouts will be attending the nine-day event.

For 11 years, Dr. Mruzek was a member of the 122nd Army Band of the Ohio Army National Guard, advancing to the rank of sergeant.



CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

The Kansas State Department of Education announces the participation of the sponsoring agencies in the Child and Adult Care Food Program for the current program year. By participating in this program, Norton Area Child Care Association, 110 N. State St., Norton, KS 67654-2047, will receive Federal funds for serving nutritious meals to enrolled participants. The amount of Federal reimbursement paid to centers is based on the number of meals served to eligible enrolled participants who qualify for free, reduced price or paid meals. Day care homes are reimbursed at varying rates, depending on the location of the home and household income of the provider.

Annual Income Eligibility Guidelines
Effective July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006

Household Size	Free Meals	Reduced Price Meals
1	\$0 to \$12,441	\$12,442 to \$17,705
2	\$0 to \$16,679	\$16,680 to \$23,736
3	\$0 to \$20,917	\$20,918 to \$29,767
4	\$0 to \$25,155	\$25,156 to \$35,798
5	\$0 to \$29,393	\$29,394 to \$41,829
6	\$0 to \$33,631	\$33,632 to \$47,860
7	\$0 to \$37,869	\$37,870 to \$53,891
8	\$0 to \$42,107	\$42,108 to \$59,922
9	\$0 to \$46,345	\$46,346 to \$69,953
10	\$0 to \$50,583	\$50,584 to \$71,984
11	\$0 to \$54,821	\$54,822 to \$78,015
12	\$0 to \$59,059	\$59,060 to \$84,046
Each Additional Family Member	+4,238	+ \$6,031

The same meals will be made available to all enrolled participants at no separate charge. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5694 (voice and TDD)

USD 294 Special Services

State and federal court decisions and legislation have specified that all exceptional children have a right to a free, appropriate public education based on their needs. This means that USD 294 will identify all exceptional children; pre-school as mandated, elementary and secondary, and provide the needed special education for these children in the most normal educational setting possible. Exceptional children are defined as mentally retarded, specific learning disabled, gifted, hearing impaired, language or speech impaired, personally and socially maladjusted, deaf, blind, visually impaired and physical and other health impaired.

All of these special education services are available through USD 204, or the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center, of which USD 294 is a member. Specific steps in identifying and providing special education services are followed. All parent and student due process rights and confidentiality will be provided. All parents will be informed as soon as their child is referred for one of the special programs. Parents and, in some cases, the child, will be closely involved with the school's special service team decision. Parents may request a due process hearing. This is ordinarily not necessary if parents and school personnel work closely together for the child's benefit.

The state's goal of an appropriate educational program for all exceptional students is a reflection of the philosophy of USD 294 to provide quality educational services for all children. For more information concerning the special education programs, contact your building principal or the superintendent of schools. The State Department of Education can be reached by calling , which may be called for additional information of resource materials on special education services, rights, and procedures.