

# Music season gears up

Western Plains Arts Association is gearing up for its 40th season, featuring appearances by opera singer Sam Ramey, a Colby native; country singer-songwriter Suzy Bogguss; and a big show from Branson, Mo., "#1 Hits of the '60s."

Publicity Chair Aime Kendrick said past season ticket holders should have received a membership letter in the mail.

Anyone who doesn't get a mailing should contact Pat Ziegelmeier at Colby Community College, 460-5518; Mrs. Kendrick at 648 La Hacienda Drive, 460-3837; or any other board member.

Season tickets, available now, are \$40 for a single adult; \$15 for students; and \$90 for a family (two adults plus kids). Donors receive more tickets at different levels: Sponsor, \$160, four adults; Patron, \$350, six; Sustaining \$700, eight; Benefactor, \$1,500, complimentary.

Kendrick said the group is especially pleased that Mr. Ramey, an international star, has agreed to perform in the spring. His performance alone would be worth more than the season ticket price, she noted, adding that prices have not changed in the last eight years.

Here is the complete season lineup:

- **Boulder Acoustic Society**, 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 13, at The Gateway in Oberlin.
- **The Flying Balalaika Brothers**, Russian virtuoso musicians, 3 p.m. St. Francis, Sunday, Sept. 27, and a school program on Monday, Sept. 28.
- **Suzy Bogguss and Jim Salstrom**, singer-songwriters, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, Cultural Arts Center, Colby Community College.
- **The Free Staters**, with lively 1850s music, 3 p.m. (Central Time) Sunday, Oct. 11 Goodland High School auditorium.
- **The Noteables**, jazz ensemble from the U.S. Air Force Heartland of America Band, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18, Colby High School auditorium.
- **Wichita Children's Theater**, "Little Red Riding Hood," Oct. 20 and 21, Oberlin, Atwood, Goodland schools.
- **Voyager**, a fresh and original voice in world music, 3 p.m. (Central Time), Sunday, Nov. 1, Sharon Springs High School auditorium.
- **Tony Kenny's Stars of Irish Cabaret**, music and dance, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14, Cultural Arts Center, Colby Community College.
- **Riders in the Sky**, with a holiday show, "Christmas the Cowboy Way," 7:30 Monday Dec. 7, in the Oakley auditorium.
- **Wichita Children's Theater**, "Miss Clara's Classroom Calamity," Jan. 21 and 22, in Quinter, Winona, Sharon Springs, and Hoxie schools.
- **#1 Hits of the '60s**, a fast-paced, high-energy show from Branson, at 7:30, Monday, Feb. 8, Colby High School auditorium.
- **Route 66**, rock and roll musical revue that follows the old path of the fabled U.S. 66 from Chicago to California with music from the early 1950s and 60s, 3 p.m., Sunday Mar. 7, Oakley High School Auditorium.
- **The Singing Quakers** from Friends University, 3 p.m. Sunday, March 14, Atwood High School auditorium.
- **Church Basement Ladies**, a new musical comedy, 7:30 p.m., Friday, March 19, Oakley High School auditorium.
- **Sam Ramey**, world-renowned opera singer and native of Colby, in concert, 3 p.m. Sunday, April 11, Colby Community Building.
- **K-State Brass**, lively concert of varied selections, 3 p.m., Sunday, Apr. 25, Hoxie High School auditorium.
- **Colby Community College Jazz Ensemble**, Quinter High School auditorium, to be announced.
- American scholar Clay Jenkinson with "Theodore Roosevelt," to be announced.

Kendrick said the schedule is tentative, and all programs are subject to change. A booklet will be printed later with more definite information.

## Competing at Fun Day



IN JENNINGS on Saturday, a team of firefighters tried to push a steel barrel with a fire hose during the annual barrel competition at Firemen's Fun Day. — Photo by Erica Bradley

## Improvements at courthouse

The Decatur County commissioners approved a bid to paint and work on the plaster in the jury room and staircase between the third and fourth floors of the courthouse.

Janet Meitl, clerk of the district court, brought in four bids for the commissioners to look at during the meeting Tuesday, Aug. 11.

The bids were from Jim Sporn for

\$1,249 in the jury room and \$1,138 in the hall, from Stacy Painting for \$1,250 in the jury room and \$1,075 in the hall, from Roger Goltl for \$2,000 in the jury room and \$1,500 in the hall and Eric Swegele for \$1,450 for painting, without repairing the walls.

The commissioners approved the bid from Stacy, which included

the work on the walls and the paint. Commissioner Ralph Unger said he thought it was a good idea to have one contractor do all the work.

The areas are painted a light blue now, said Mrs. Meitl, and she thought it would be good to change it to a tan or off white.

# Board ratifies agreement with teachers

The Oberlin School Board ratified a new agreement with the teachers' union during its August meeting.

Superintendent Duane Dorshorst said the changes in the agreement include a provision that the district will continue to pay teachers more as they move on the salary schedule, but without any other pay increases. The schedule is set up so that teachers move down for years of experience and across for more education. Both involve more money.

There's always been a work day scheduled for the end of the school year, but it's never been a part of the negotiated agreement, he said. That day was added.

Before negotiations start for next year, said Mr. Dorshorst, some of the teachers and board members want to get together to study some items, including an eight-period day at the high school instead of seven.

With the staff shrinking and the requirements for kids to go to college growing, he said, the extra class in a day could help.

Before ratifying the agreement at the meeting Monday, Aug. 10, the board held a five-minute closed session to discuss negotiations.

Counselor Brenda Breth, said Mr. Dorshorst, gave the board a report on scores for the eighth-grade Explore test, 10th grade Plan test and the ACT college entrance tests.

The ACT results, he said, had dropped some from the previous year. That test, he said, isn't really a measure of whether a student will be successful in college. Although it would be nice to see a higher ACT score, it would be even better to see how the district's students are doing in college.

The Explore test, he said, is about career choices. The kids did a good job on it. Mrs. Breth did a good job with the presentation, he added.

In other business, the board:

- Approved using hard-surface routes only for busses when the

conditions don't allow for driving on the dirt roads.

- Approved requests to pick up Sheri Jacobs and Kim Easton for the Golden Plains School District and for Michelle Armbrister for the Norton School District.

- Approved the 2009-2010 district budget as it was printed in the Wednesday, July 30 *Oberlin Herald*. There was no one from the community at the budget hearing, Mr. Dorshorst said.

- Set a special meeting to set board goals at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 24.

- Set an early meeting at 4:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 14, to walk through the schools and inspect summer projects.

- Approved a milk bid of 18.5 cents per half pint for 2 percent white milk and 20 cents for each 2 percent chocolate milk from Cash-Wa Distributing Co. of Kearney, Neb. The other bid came from F&A Food Sales from Concordia for 16.5 cents for 2 percent white and 17 cents for 1 percent white milk. That company only delivers once a week, on Friday, Mr. Dorshorst said, and the other delivery day works better. Milk prices actually change monthly, while the district chooses a company only once a year.

- Looked at information from the Norton County Economic Development Council about the Neighborhood Revitalization Act. This would allow people in the Oberlin School District who are in Norton County to get a tax break for 10 years on improvements to their home or business. The board discussed the materials but didn't take any action.

- Heard that the crew has done a "really nice job" on the summer projects. Mr. Dorshorst said some of those include new concrete on the south side of the kitchen outside at the high school and work on the scholarship rooms, computer labs at both schools.

# 900

# The ~~800~~ pound Gorilla

## Just got a whole lot bigger!

That's right. The Gorilla has been growing. Already the biggest and most effective advertising medium in the Tri-State Region, **The Country Advocate** has been adding readers all year.

No more 800-pound weakling. Now **The Advocate** is the 900-pound gorilla of Northwest Kansas advertising!

First, **The Advocate** added nearly 1,550 new home-delivered households in Sherman County with readers of the all-new, all-local *Goodland Star-News*.

Then, the Gorilla picked up 1,750 new home-delivered households in Norton County when *The Norton Telegram* joined the club.

When you need to sell something, find something or notify someone, the Gorilla is your best friend. Reaching 18,200 households with nearly 42,000 readers across northwest Kansas and eastern Colorado, the Gorilla packs a punch. It can move your refrigerator or your old car. A house? No problem for the Gorilla. And all at rates that save you money.

And **The Advocate** is nearly all home delivered. Some "shoppers" count on people picking them up at the filling station. It's cheap, but it can't compare to home delivery reaching nearly every house in the area.

Just try it! The Gorilla will work hard for you. Call today with your ad.

**COLBY FREE PRESS**  
155 W. Fifth Colby, Kan. 67701  
(785) 462-3963

The **Goodland Star-News**  
1205 Main, Goodland, Kan. 67735  
(785) 899-2338

THE NORTON **TELEGRAM**  
215 S. Kansas, Norton, Kan. 67654  
(785) 877-3361

**THE OBERLIN HERALD**  
170 S. Penn Ave., Oberlin, Kan. 67749  
(785) 475-2206

**Bird City Times**  
Box 167, Bird City, Kan. 67731  
(785) 734-2621

**The Saint Francis Herald**  
Box 1050, St. Francis, Kan. 67756  
(785) 332-3162

