

# Colbyite teaching in Oakley achieves highest honors

OAKLEY — Jerrilee Shuman of Colby is one of 8,195 elementary and secondary school teachers nationwide who achieved National Board Certification in 2003, said officials with the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. “The organization celebrates and congratulates all teachers who went through the rigorous National Board Certification process,” said Board Chair Roy E. Barnes. “This impressive achievement is widely recognized at the national, state and local levels as a benchmark for teacher quality.”

This achievement brings the total number of National Board Certified Teachers to 32,130.

Shuman is the music teacher at Oakley Elementary.

She is the only teacher in Kansas to receive National Board Certification in the music subcategory this year.

In recognizing Shuman, Barnes said she has taught music for 17 years since earning her bachelor’s in music education in 1977 from Emporia State University. Shuman has taught pre-school through college age students in Kansas and Colorado, alternating as a part-time and full-time teacher. She has been a full-time music teacher in Kansas for 10 years. She received a grant from the state of Kansas for \$1,000 to help her pay the \$2,300 initial fee for applying for national board certification. The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards paid \$1,000 and Shuman paid \$300.

Few teachers earn the certification in only one year, and Shuman was no exception. She paid \$600 to redo two entries for the second year.

“This is an indication that policy-makers, educators, business and community leaders, and parents recognize that when it comes to a quality education, quality teaching matters,” Barnes said.

Founded 16 years ago, the organization is an independent, non-profit, nonpartisan and non-governmental organization dedicated to advancing the quality of teaching and learning. National Board Certification is the highest credential in the teaching profession. A voluntary process established by the board, certification is achieved through a rigorous performance-

based assessment that takes between one and three years to complete and measures what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do.

“Teacher quality has never been more important, and the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is the only organization of its kind helping states to identify and certify highly accomplished teachers,” said the organization’s president, Joseph A. Aguerrebere. “Through National Board Certified Teachers, states and communities are realizing the enormous benefits of using National Board Certification as a tool to attract, reward and retain highly accomplished teachers as required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act,” he said.

Forty-nine states and more than 500 school districts across the nation have implemented policies and regulations to recruit, reward and retain National Board Certified Teachers.

“In this environment of economic concern, the National Board is extremely grateful to the growing number of states, school districts and municipalities that support this certification and the impact it has on the teaching profession,” Barnes said.

“National Board Certified Teachers distinguish themselves in the field of education by their dedication to their profession and their demonstrated abilities in the classroom,” says Edward B. Rust, Jr., chairman and CEO of State Farm

Insurance Companies®. “As a member of the business community, we will continue to support the National Board because we know that creating more opportunities for teachers to attain this credential will help lead to a stronger teaching force, higher student achievement and an economy that benefits from skilled and productive citizens.”

“It is important to understand that the National Board Certification process not only identifies accomplished teachers, but also is a profound professional development experience,” says Aguerrebere.

“This is a process that forces teachers to demonstrate how their activities, both inside and outside of the classroom, improve student achievement.”

In its effort to measure the impact of National Board Certification and the effects of NBCTs on the quality of teaching and student achievement in America’s schools, NBPTS has engaged in an independent, rigorous research agenda. There have been more than 140 studies, reports and papers commissioned on the value of the National Board Certification process, as well as its standards and assessments. Findings and results from a number of research studies are expected to be completed in 2004 and 2005.

## Century-old club marks the end of an era last month

When the members of the Leisure Hour Club gathered at Colby Country Club on Friday, Dec. 12 for their Christmas luncheon, they knew that they would be marking the end of an era, because it would be their last meeting.

Leisure Hour Club, the oldest women’s club in Thomas County, held their first meeting on June 4, 1897. Many of the ladies in the area at that time had come to Thomas County from the East and were looking for some form of entertainment and social life.

At that time, the programs of Leisure Hour Club consisted of literature, art and current events, and the club has changed very little since that time.

The current members have been trying to get more young women to join them, but found that the young women today are too busy working and going to school events for their children to take part in afternoon meetings. Also the need for information has decreased since the creation of television, daily newspapers and radio.

The membership of Leisure Hour Club has been slowly dwindling in the past few years, and this year they lost one member who died, one who moved away to be with her children, one now in the nursing home and often not well enough to come to meetings and a couple of others have often missed due to illness. Most of the other members are in their late 80s and 90s.

Marj Brown, president of the club and the only member above the age of 70, says that she joined the club many years ago when her mother-in-law, Polly Brown, who had been a member of the club for many years, was having difficulty getting

### Clubs

to the meetings because of her health. Marj joined the club in order to take Polly to the meetings. After Polly died Marj remained in the club because she enjoyed the other members so much and enjoyed hearing their stories of how things were when they were young housewives and raising their children in a different time and without television as a baby sitter.

After a traditional Christmas meal of turkey and pumpkin pie the ladies retired to the TV area of the Country Club and viewed a National Geographic video entitled Lewis and Clark’s Great Journey West. Since 2004 will be the bi-centennial celebration of that expedition.

Brown, program chairman for the day, thought the video would be timely.

The ladies followed the expedition on a map as they watched the video to help them be more aware of where Lewis and Clark traveled.

According to the video, the expedition started at St. Louis, Mo., in May of 1804 with the purpose of exploring the areas of the North West where no other humans had gone before, with the exception of the many tribes of Native Indians in that area.

Head of the expedition was President Thomas Jefferson’s Chief Aide, 28 year-old Merewether Lewis, a skilled soldier and woodsman. Lewis invited William Clark, a 32 year-old Army Commander, who was a proven leader, an expert mapmaker and river man, to help him lead the crew. Clark brought along his slave, York, who had been his companion since childhood.

Their purpose was to chart a north-west passage to the Pacific Ocean.

They traveled by boats on the powerful, unpredictable Missouri River and lost one of their men, a Sgt. Floyd, due to natural causes when they arrived at the area of what is now Omaha, Nebraska.

At the South Dakota area they met up with a French interpreter who had several Indian wives. They asked him to leave one of his wives, a 16 year-old pregnant woman, named Sacajaweha, with them as a guide and interpreter. She gave birth in February to a son named Jean Baptiste.

Sacajaweha proved to be a great help by showing them edible plants and roots and she even saved some of their most valuable supplies when a boat overturned.

They came to a fork in the river at what is now Pleasant Bay, Montana where they had to make a detour of over 17 miles around a massive waterfall carrying their boats. They were now looking for a Shoshone Tribe that they were told would supply them with horses, because the Missouri river had come to an end. When they found the tribe, Sacajaweha was surprised when she discovered that the Chief of the tribe was her long lost brother.

From there they had a long grueling trip over the Shoshone Mountains. This area of the country was claimed by Spain and Russia at that time. After coming through the mountains they had to cut trees and

make boats so that they could travel the Columbia River.

They finally came to the shores of the Pacific Ocean after they had traveled a total of 18 months. That night the whole crew voted on where they would make camp. That was the first time in history that a woman and a slave were allowed to vote. They then spent a long winter of four months on the Oregon shore. During that time they had only 12 days without rain, adding to the depression of the crew who were homesick for their relatives who assumed, by now, that they were all dead.

The return trip took only six months, and they arrived back in Missouri in March of 1806. In his notes, Lewis described 178 plants and 122 animals new to science, and Clark had made accurate maps to guide the next generation.

Lewis was named the Governor of Louisiana Territory, but he later fell into a depression and it was rumored that he took his own life three years later.

Clark became Governor of Missouri Territory, married and had ten

**Our phone number has changed.**

Our new phone # is 460-7588 and our fax is now 460-2396

**Heartland Rural Counseling Services, Inc.**



**BICKNER ELECTRIC**

**Genie Garage Door Openers**

**Open ~ Mon. - Fri.**

**785-462-6692**

**1205 S. Country Club, Colby**

## Residents attend two-day Jehovah’s Witness assembly

Jehovah’s Witnesses attended a recent two-day Circuit Assembly in Hastings, Neb. Delegates from 19 congregations were present.

The theme for this assembly was “Rejoice in the Hope, Endure Under Tribulation,” based on Romans 12:12.

Two symposiums were part of the program. The first was entitled “Bear Fruit With Endurance” in which several were interviewed on how they were able to bear “spiritual” fruit. The second symposium carried the theme “Run the Race With Endurance” and it made it clear how our life course is like running a race.

## Carrier retires at 84 from nearly 30 years of delivering

PRETTY PRAIRIE (AP) — The new year brought a big change in the daily routine of 84-year-old Elmer Flickinger. For the first time in nearly three decades, he didn’t have to complete his paper route.

“There’s a tinge of sadness with a little relief,” he said Wednesday, his last day on the route. “I’ve got a lot of things to do.”

For 27 years, Flickinger has worked the paper route in this far southern Reno County town that he took over from his father, who gave it up at age 81 in October 1976. It is a job that’s been in the family for almost four decades.

Elmer and his wife, Veda, 76, thought of the route as their “retirement” job; she filled in when Elmer was feeling ill, and in recent years his health problems have included diabetes and arthritis.

“It was time,” Veda said. “It wouldn’t be a bad job if the weather was nice and it was later in the morning.”

His main career was as a bricklayer, and his first project a retire-

It highlighted that as a runner, to be successful to the finish, one needs to put off every weight so as not to tire out in the race for everlasting life.

Eldean Griffith the presiding overseer of the Colby congregation of Jehovah’s Witnesses stated that there were 904 delegates in attendance.

The featured speaker, Richard Allen from the World Headquarters of Jehovah’s Witnesses in Brooklyn, N.Y. spoke on the subject “In Whose Name Should the Nations Hope?” It encouraged the audience to “Rejoice in the Hope, Endure under Tribulation.”

ment home in Pretty Prairie built 50 years ago. In a career working for the state and later with his own company, Flickinger built schools, churches and homes. He also has worked as a milkman, collecting from area dairy farms, and even delivered trailer houses for two years.

But delivering the paper meant getting up at 4 a.m. — folks in Pretty Prairie like having the paper to read along with their morning coffee and many of them go to work pretty early, Flickinger explained.

And without fail, said neighbor Evelyn Graber, her paper arrived every morning just after 5:30 a.m. It was something she depended on for “years and years and years and years.” By 6 a.m. he was done after making 125 deliveries.

Even though he won’t have papers to deliver anymore, he still expects to get up early.

“I have a lot of things to do: fishing, hunting, golf, wood carving. I’m looking forward to a little time off,” he said.



# Less hot air. More hot deals.

**Come in and save by January 11th.**



**Great deals on Absolutely Everything in the store.**

**Phones, headsets, cases, faceplates and much more.**

**FREE Motorola v120**

New 24-month service agreement required.



Additional guarantee terms and conditions apply.

**1-800-GO CELLULAR [462-3558]**      **www.unicel.com**

**Unicel Retail Stores:** **Colby:** 1933 South Range, Suite 1    **Great Bend:** 1101 Main St.    **Hays:** 4325 Vine St.

**Unicel Authorized Agents:** Atwood: Decision Weather    Goodland: Mobile Connections    Great Bend: Bass-X Sounds    Hays: Horizon Appliance • Midwest Drugs    LaCrosse: Dean's Auto Sales    Larned: Ralph Baird Motors, Inc.    Ness City: Ness City Monument & Sign Co.    Norton: Computer Pro • Felton's Ace Building Center    Oberlin: Decision Weather    Osborne: Simmons Company    Phillipsburg: Computer Pro    Plainville: Saven Video    Pratt: T Communications    Russell: Russell Video    Sharon Springs: Amber's Hair Design    Smith Center: Simmons Company    St. Francis: Poling Chiropractic • Steven's KS Territorial    St. John: Huston Floral & Glass Palace    Stockton: Primetime    Wakeeney: True Value

Unicel is a service of RCC Holdings, Inc. Fees will be added to your bill for each line of service to help defray Unicel's costs of complying with federal and state regulatory obligations; these fees are not taxes or government-required charges. Subject to terms of wireless service agreement and calling plan details. \$25 activation fee required on all new activations. \$200 early termination fee applies to each line. Credit check and security deposit may be required. Must meet applicable legal age requirements, present valid ID and have user address within the Unicel Home Area (see in-store maps). Federal, state and local taxes and surcharges apply. Limited time offer; good while supplies last. Additional restrictions apply. See store for details and guarantee terms and conditions.

