

ANN MINER/Prairie Museum of Art and History

Linda Garret guided an activity at Prairie Fair beside the Nicol School building at the museum.

Prairie Fair expanded by college's involvement

If you saw all the school buses parked at the museum on the first Friday of this month, or have noticed the chalk drawings on the front wings of the main building, you've seen the evidence of our Fourth Annual Prairie Fair. Prairie Fair began in 2008 as a way to provide a fun, educational field trip for school groups in a way that maximized the use of staff and volunteer time. Both 2008 and 2009 Prairie Fairs were held on the Prairie Museum grounds.

In 2010 and 2011, we worked with Colby Community College, offering a program in which school groups spent half a day at the museum and the other half at the college. Though a bit more logistically complicated, this collaboration was intended to broaden the scope of educational themes that could be offered the students.

Believe it or not, the weather for this year's Prairie Fair on May 6 was as near perfect as we can ever hope for in a northwest Kansas spring. Previous "survivors" of this annual May event probably recall trembling in the cold or dying in the heat - sometimes within the same day - and, of course, having their hair constantly restyled by the wind. But this year, the 300 children and adults who participated in Prairie Fair 2011 enjoyed a calm, warm day that was perfect for picnicking outdoors at lunchtime.

Our theme for this year's event was "community," and grades one through four were invited to attend. Sessions at the museum included activities on community history, communication, recycling, the natural community and the general store. Clint Milliman, Lynette Koon, Nanette Baumfalk, Carol Thiel, Linda Garrett, Nancy Arendt and Linda Davis-Stephens all did a great job working with the kids.

Colby Community College held sessions on art, health, the college community and pet care. Ruth Wolfram made all the arrangements at the college, and Pat Erickson, Jennifer Martin, Bobette Maier,



Around the Museum

Nikol Nolan and Rebel Jay rounded up students from their departments to help with their sessions. By all reports, kids and adults enjoyed the day very much.

Next year's Prairie Fair will be on May 4, and we are already planning for it!

We will be displaying Thomas County school kids' art during the latter half of May and into June. Artwork is just beginning to trickle in, and should be up by at least the last week of May. This is one of our favorite exhibits and we look forward to seeing what this year's crop of young artists has produced. We hope community members will come out to en-

Parents are invited to enjoy free admission when accompanying their preschoolers to the museum the week of May 16 to 20. This will be a chance to explore the museum inside and out and there will be a number of self-directed activities available. These include pretend play and dress-up, toys, games, and pioneer chores.

One of our ongoing goals is for the Prairie Museum to be a kid-friendly - and adult-friendly - place where learning and fun go hand-in-hand. We are continually adding activities and materials that move us

There are many stories to tell about life in northwest Kansas, and our inside and outside exhibits will change from time to time as we highlight these different stories. If your last visit was a year or two ago, you should come on out to see what's new around the museum!

Historical Society plans conference

The Kansas Historical Society ervation Conference and Kansas keynote speaker at a banquet Fri-State Historical Society Spring day night, June 3. Conference fees Meeting Wednesday to Friday, range from \$30-75. June 1-3, at the Historical Society,

6425 SW Sixth Ave. in Topeka. tion Works: Respecting Our Past, techniques, and social studies in conjunction with Topeka's First Protecting Our Future." The con- the classroom. ference features Kansans talking about Kansas history and the preservation of Kansas places.

Additional activities include a walking tour of downtown Topeka or call (785) 272-8681, ext. 227. buildings that have been rehabili-

National Geographic photog- tated; behind the scenes tour of the will hold the 2011 Kansas Pres- rapher Jim Richardson will be the Kansas Historical Society's museum; a bus tour of historic sites that have benefited from preservation programs; Kansas Preserva-Conference sessions will ex- tion Alliance reception and annual plore Kansas' architecture, lead- awards ceremony; and Kansas This year's theme is "Preserva- ing by example, rehabilitation Historical Society reception in Fridays ArtWalk.

For information visit kshs.org

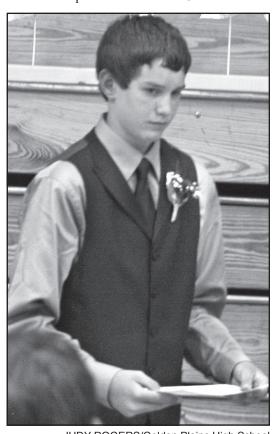
Rexford middle school presents academic honors

By Judy Rogers

Golden Plains High School

Golden Plains Middle School students' academic accomplishments for the year were recognized at the awards ceremony on Tuesday.

Russ Aumiller talked about the Scholar Bowl season. The sixth grade team placed second in the Rexford competition and third at Grinnell.



JUDY ROGERS/Golden Plains High School Golden Plains eighth grader Joseph Koerperich received his certificate for the male Citizenship Award at the Golden Plains Middle School Awards ceremony Tuesday.

The seventh graders were undefeated first place champions at the Rexford meet and the eighth grade placed second at Rexford. They had ups and downs throughout the season and both teams were Freedom League Champions. Aumiller said this was the first time since he's been coaching that both grades won league championships.

Ashley Arnberger recognized the students who participated in the Thomas County Spelling Bee: Ana Bermudez, Shania Finlay and Austin Rivera.

Karen Hibbs announced the results of the 2010 Kansas State Assessments. The seventh grade and eighth grade each achieved standard of excellence in reading and mathematics, along with the middle school as a whole.

Sixth graders awarded exemplary certificates included: Jesus Aragon, reading; Nicholas Brown, reading and mathematics; Morgan Ritter, reading; Austin Rivera, reading; and Dawson Spresser, reading and mathematics.

Seventh graders receiving exemplary certificates were Kami Miller, mathematics; Tayler Petersen, mathematics; Brianna Stoll, reading; Madison Walz, reading and mathematics; and Cole Ziegelmeier, mathematics.

Eighth graders awarded exemplary certificates included Rebecca Bange, reading and mathematics; Ana Bermudez, mathematics; Shania Finlay, reading; Lucas Hapke, reading and mathematics; Joseph Koerperich, reading and mathematics; Braden Korte, reading and mathematics; Benny Martinez, reading; Rachael Ritter, mathematics; Alondra Rivas, mathematics; Taylor Todd, reading; Chance Uehlin, reading, mathematics, and science; and Brooke Wark, mathematics.

Arnberger then announced the two eighth graders who received the citizenship award, Joseph Koerperich and Rachael Ritter.

Aumiller named the top two scholars from each grade: sixth graders Gabrielle Schiltz and Morgan Ritter, seventh graders Kami Miller and Madison Walz, and eighth graders Rebecca Bange and Joseph Koerperich.

On the Beat

COLBY POLICE

Thursday 12:03 a.m. – Security check at

Truck Town. 12:18 a.m. - Security check at

Twister's. 1:39 a.m. - Security check at

Twister's. Truck Town.

7:08 a.m. - Assisted stalled motorist in parking lot at 1135 S. Range.

11:15 a.m. - Funeral block for Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel from westbound I-70 Exit 54 to Beulah

12:12 p.m. - Accident in parking lot at Dillon's. Report filed.

1:07 p.m. – Caller reported two subjects trying to sell magazines

door to door. Report filed. 4:05 p.m. – Caller reported suspicious subject asking about ve-

hicle rental. Spoke with subject, information provided.

7:40 p.m. – Caller reported pos-

sible narcotics possession. Spoke to have owned contacted to move. with subject, no report. THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF Castell.

Last Monday 11:09 a.m. – Funeral block.

5:22 p.m. - Caller reported sexual assault. Report filed.

9:11 p.m. - Caller reported ha-3:16 a.m. - Security check at rassment. Provided information. **Thursday**

1:34 a.m. - Caller reported being assaulted by her boyfriend. Report file for domestic battery. 2:40 a.m. - Booked Jeffrey V.

Garcia. 2:40 a.m. - Booked Jose J. Val-

dez-Castell. 9:12 a.m. - Caller reported possible phone harassment. Spoke to

11:13 a.m. - Report filed for indecent solicitation of a minor.

reporting party, no report.

Heritage Shingles

Wood Shingles

IR Shingles

Stone Coated Steel

Metal Panels

11:24 a.m. - Clerk at J&J Oil called about vehicle parked on lot for five days; would like owner contacted to get it moved. Contacted Oakley Police Department 12:02 p.m. - Released Valdez-

12:54 p.m. - Warrant arrest: report filed for arrest and detain order on Seth Ryan DeHart on traf-

1:29 p.m. – Booked DeHart.

5:52 p.m. - Caller reported miscellaneous auto parts scattered all over roadway on U.S. 24 about mile 59.



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