

New staff welcomed to Golden Plains team

By Judy Rogers
Golden Plains High School
judy@usd316.org

Golden Plains Middle/High School welcomes three experienced educational professionals to their staff. Theresa Luce, Lonnie Phifer and Becky Butts have joined the school as para-professionals who will be helping students meet academic goals.



Lonnie Phifer



Theresa Luce



Becky Butts

Becky Butts graduated from Colby High School and attended Colby Community College in the vet-tech program. She has previous experience working at Colby Grade School. She is married to Scott and has three sons; Preston is a senior at Colby High, Bryce is a freshman at Golden Plains and Kole attends Golden Plains Elementary as a fourth grader. Becky said, "I love working with kids. I was looking for something new and have heard good things about the people at Golden Plains."

Theresa Luce graduated high school in Lenox, Iowa. She has served Oakley and Grinnell schools in the past. Her family includes her husband, Ken, three children, four grandchil-

dren and three great-grandchildren. Theresa said, "I came to Golden Plains school because it is where I was most needed. I enjoy working with students in any way I can."

Lonnie Phifer has an associate degree in education from Colby and a bachelor's degree in social sciences from Emporia State University. He has served as a substitute teacher in the Hammond, Ind., school

system for the past two years. His wife, Amy, is still in Indiana and he is living with his sister and her husband in Oberlin for the time being. He has many family members in the northwest Kansas area. Phifer said he is working at Golden Plains because that is where the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center needed him. He added, "I am really excited for the opportunity and look forward to this experience."

Other staff position changes include Traci Bruggeman who has replaced Tammy Shaw as the elementary secretary and Nichole Schiltz who transferred from the middle/high school to the elementary school to assist in the preschool classroom.

September has plenty of activities, starting with weekend golf tourney

Thirty days hath September and there are going to be plenty of activities to fill each and every one of those days.

Before listing those activities we want to let you know new materials were bought for the Tour Kansas Showcase in Colorado Springs. The Convention and Visitors Bureau has a brand-new, colorful, retractable banner featuring photos of the Visitor Center, Aquatic Park, Cooper Barn, Prairie Museum of Art and History and the Experiment Station.

We feel it is full of energy and will entice visitors to come to our community. We also have purchased bottle wraps, luggage tags and mints featuring the Oasis On the Plains logo for conventions, travel shows and the showcase.

We will be attending the Kansas Leadership Center Summit Wednesday through Friday, Sept. 19 to 21, in Wichita along with the 2012 Adult Leadership Thomas County class, who will meet other class members from across the state.

September begins with the Labor Day weekend.

Weekend activities in Colby include the Colby Community College volleyball team golf tournament Saturday at Meadow Lake Golf Course with registration at 4 p.m. and a twilight tee-off at 5 p.m. Dinner will follow with a night time tee off at 8:30 p.m. The four-person scramble uses glow balls and glow sticks.

The college's Volleyball Classic will continue Saturday at both the Community Building and Colby High School.

On Sunday, the Jeff Hartwell memorial race will be at 7 p.m. at the Thomas County Speedway. This will be the final race of the season.



Leilani Thomas

• On the Road Again!

Special events in September include the college's Max Pickerell lecture featuring Dr. Mark Hansen on "Coming Together or Coming Apart: America and the 2012 Election." It will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Northwest Kansas Cultural Arts Center. Hansen, a graduate of Colby High School and the college, is one of the nation's leading scholars on American politics.

The Walk to End Alzheimer's will be Saturday, Sept. 8, in Fike Park. The theme is "Make An Impact ... Join Us Walk to the End." Registration will be at 9 a.m. and walking begins at 9:30 a.m.

Next Friday and Saturday, Sept. 8, the World's Largest Truck Convoy to benefit the Special Olympics will be held. At 7 p.m. Friday, the convoy will have a welcome party with food, entertainment and fireworks at the Oasis Travel Center. On Saturday, the Truck and Bike Convoy will leave Oakley and Goodland at 10 a.m. arriving in Colby at about 10:30 a.m. at the Oasis Travel Center. The Truck and Bike Show will be held there.

Friday through Sunday, Sept. 21 to 23, the college's regional rodeo will be held at the Thomas County Fairgrounds; stay tuned for times and events.

Saturday, Sept. 29, the Kiwanis Club is

presenting your former Harlem Globetrotter Stars. This is a fundraiser for the Kiwanis Christmas Toy and Youth Project. Doors will open at 6 p.m. and the game is at 7 p.m. at the Colby Community Building. This promises to be an evening of fun and laughter for young and old.

Recurring events include booked for lunch at noon Wednesday at the Pioneer Memorial Library. Once a Month Lunch will be at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at the Presbyterian Church and everyone is invited.

The first Colby High varsity football game will be against Scott City at 7:30 p.m. next Friday at Dennen Field.

Other high school highlights include the girls golf invitational at 3 p.m. Monday, Sept. 17, at Meadow Lake Golf Course.

Tuesday, Sept. 25, brings us the Colby High varsity girls tennis tournament at 3 p.m. at Fike Park and the college tennis courts.

Homecoming events begin with the jersey auction and bonfire at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 27, at Dennen Field. The homecoming parade will be at 2:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 28. The parade will travel Franklin and then turn onto Third Street. The homecoming game will be played with Holcomb at 7:30 p.m. at Dennen Field. Homecoming dance will be from 8 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, at the high school.

Enjoy the beautiful fall days of September and we encourage you to participate in as many activities as you can.

Leilani Thomas is director of the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau, a long-time civic volunteer and a passionate observer of

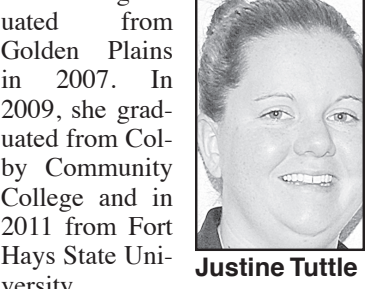
Two teachers join Golden Plains Elementary

By Taylor Todd
Golden Plains High School

This year, Golden Plains Elementary School welcomes two new teachers. Brandy Bussen is a teacher and Justine Tuttle works in the resource room.

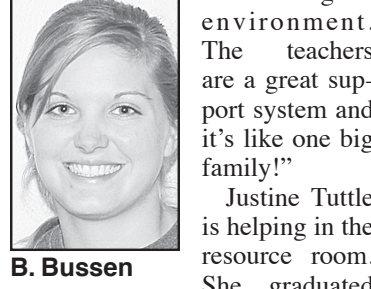
Bussen was a student teacher with Lori Miller in the fall of 2012 and is now taking the position of the fourth grade elementary teacher. Her parents are Rob and Serena McCurdy, and she has

10 siblings. Bussen graduated from Golden Plains in 2007. In 2009, she graduated from Colby Community College and in 2011 from Fort Hays State University.



Justine Tuttle

Plains she said, "It's close to home and it's a great environment. The teachers are a great support system and it's like one big family!"



B. Bussen

Justine Tuttle is helping in the resource room. She graduated from Emporia State University with a bachelor's

degree in 2009. Her husband's name is Casey, and her daughter's name is Jade.

Prior to working at Golden Plains, Tuttle taught preschool from 2009 to 2011 and taught first grade last year. Tuttle said she chose to come to Golden Plains because it's a small community and district.

Golden Plains is pleased to have both of these ladies on staff to help further students' education.

Pickup swarmed during lunch

JOHNSTOWN, Pa. (AP) - A beekeeper had to remove a swarm of insects from the pickup truck cab of a woman who had briefly stopped for lunch at a western Pennsylvania restaurant.

Crystal Smith tells the *Tribune-Democrat* of Johnstown (bit.ly/PgQu4l) that she was inside the Main Moon Chinese Restaurant in Richland Township for about 15 minutes when employees spotted the bees swarming in her pickup cab on Thursday.

Local beekeeper Greg Berkebile was called in and says swarms can form when the queen bee moves from a hive. He says it's likely the queen flew in through an open truck window and her drones followed, attracted by pheromones - a secreted chemical from the queen.

Berkebile lit a cigarette inside the cab to produce smoke to confuse the bees, which he then shooed outside.

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						1
2	3	4	5 Volz Cossette Huston Sharma Forschner	6 Werth Nagamani Reeves Larsen Keats	7 Frankum Keats	8
9	10 Huston	11 Bazaz Birney Fields	12 Kennedy Pham Tirre	13	14 Frankum	15
16	17 Clifford Foot Clinic	18 Holmes Fisher	19 Bassett	20 Larsen	21 Challens	22
23	24 Huston	25 Fields Parks	26 Volz Annest Kennedy	27	28 Frankum	29
30						

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