

## Show time changes on Sunday

By **KIMBERLY DAVIS**  
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With warmer weather here to stay, the Sunflower Cinema board has pushed back the Sunday show time, allowing people time to be outside in the afternoons and still get to see a movie.

Board member Duane Dorshorst said that means the Sunday movie will begin at 7 p.m. instead of 2 p.m. starting this weekend.

When the weather gets nice in the afternoon, he said, the number of people attending the Sunday show really drops off. In the past, the theater has just shown movies on Fridays and Saturdays in the summer, but this year the board is going to try something new.

Sunflower Cinema will be open for shows at 7 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday throughout the spring and summer. In the fall, said Mr. Dorshorst, the theater will switch back to an earlier showing on Sundays.

Mr. Dorshorst said things are going well at the new cinema, which has been open for a little over five months.

Anyone who wants to volunteer to work at one of the showings or for a weekend can contact board member Kala Bose.

Mr. Dorshorst said they can always use more volunteers. While they have had people to work, it seems they are always calling on the same ones, he said.

Showing at the theater at 7 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday will be "The Last Song," from a book by the author who also wrote "The Notebook" and "A Walk to Remember." The movie is rated PG.

The following weekend, May 14-16, the movie will be "Date Night," which is rated PG-13.

Mr. Dorshorst said for most weekends, the theater has averaged around 150 people, which is more than the old one was bringing in.

This past weekend, when "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" showed, Mr. Dorshorst said they had around 120 people. With it being a kids movie, he said, they expected a few more.

He added that they figure the theater needs about 100 people a weekend to break even.

## Speech teams brings home state trophy

The Decatur Community High School speech team brought home the third-place trophy from the Class 2A state competition Saturday.

Superintendent Duane Dorshorst said this is the first time since 2003 that the speech team has won a trophy at state. The competition, held in Wichita, was a lot of fun, he said.

The students did an outstanding job. Nine team members made it to the semifinals, while six went into the finals. The students accumulated points throughout the competition.

Coach Leigh Davis said she had 22 students on the speech team at the end of the season.

On Saturday, seven of those students went to the state speech festival and the others to the state championship.

The state festival, said Ms. Davis, is like the music festival. The students perform one time for a judge and receive ratings from one to four, with one being the best. Three students received ones and four got

twos, she added.

The speech championship is a lot like a wrestling tournament, she said. The students compete in preliminary rounds, and those with the highest point totals go to the semifinals and the finals.

The students work as a team accumulating points throughout the day. The top three point getting teams earn trophies in first, second and third.

Ms. Davis said the speech championship has begun since she started coaching. This is only the second time the Decatur Community High team has brought home a trophy.

"This was an exceptional year," said Ms. Davis. "The students peaked at the right time and had a wonderful day. They were outstanding."

She said she credits some of that to the support from the parents and former forensics students who were at the championships to support the team. It helped boost the students' confidence, she said.

## Activities pick up as school year approaches end

The end of the school year is quickly approaching, meaning there are lots of events to attend.

May holds lots of golf for the high school team and track for the high school and junior high teams, but the schedule also includes:

- 6:30 p.m. tonight, high school speech awards in the auditorium.
- Friday, Oberlin Elementary School fun day at the high school track. Kindergarten through third grade will participate in the morning and fourth through sixth grade in the afternoon.
- 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 11, junior and high school vocal concert at the auditorium.
- 7 p.m. Saturday, May 15, prom-enade on Main Street, followed by prom at The Gateway.
- Monday, May 17, high school open house.

- 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 18, high school music awards and band concert in the auditorium.
- 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 19, high school awards in the auditorium.
- 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 19, baccalaureate in the auditorium.
- Thursday, May 20, last day of school for the Class of 2010.
- 5:30 p.m., Thursday, May 20, memorial service for Col. Delbert Townsend in the gym at the high school. Open to the public.
- 2 p.m. Saturday, May 22, graduation in the high school gym.
- 6:30 p.m. Monday, May 24, junior high awards and concert in the auditorium.
- 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 26, Oberlin Elementary School awards assembly in the gym.
- Wednesday, May 26, last day of school.



**RETIRED TEACHER** Steve Cullen (above) helped Lily Marine and Emily Howland with their car made out of a watermelon for the Lunch Box Derby last Wednesday at Oberlin Elementary School. Mory Zodrow, (below)

representing sponsor Raye's Grocery, helped poke a hole through an orange for a skewer axel.

— Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis

## Veggie vehicles race

Bright blue, yellow, red and even white gummy-fruit snacks held wheels on race cars last Wednesday during the annual Lunch Box Derby at Oberlin Elementary School.

The fruit snacks were something new this year, said Mory Zodrow of Raye's Grocery. The idea was that the fruit snacks would hold the wheels made out of apples and oranges to the cars.

Students in the fourth and fifth grade, with the help of parents and other volunteers, used watermelons, cantaloupes, cucumbers, bananas, oranges, apples, pineapples, strawberries, asparagus and other fruits and vegetables to build their race cars. All the produce was supplied by Raye's.

Each team, made up of two or three students, had previously planned out what kind of food they wanted to use for their cars. Last Wednesday morning, it was time to put those plans to the test.

Skewers worked as axels and rubber bands helped keep the pieces of the cars together.

This was the 17th year for the Lunch Box Derby, originally sponsored by the Washington Apple Commission and Raye's. When the commission dropped the promotion, the store continued it. Without a national sponsor, though, there no longer is anything other than local competition.

After lunch, the students put the cars to the test, placing them at the top of a ramp in the gym and seeing how far they rolled or didn't.

### Fourth grade winners were:

- Aspen Gallentine, Kyleanna Blau and Genna Randel, first place. Their car, "The Big-Eye Buggy," went 40 feet, 7 inches.
- Kel Grafel and Kole Breth,



- second. Their car, "Tropic Thunder," went 37 feet, 5 inches.
- Gavin Lytle and Trevor Bruhn, third. Their car, "The Dragon King," went 24 feet and 1 inches.
- Ravyn Van Vleet and Haylee Hileman won the award for most creative.

- Fifth grade winners were:**
- Kelsey May and Madison Macfee, first place with the "Sassy Cucumber Machine."
- Max Diederich and Quinton Cook, second with "The Green

- Mean Speedy Machine."
- Sierra Hendrickson and Jakobi Blau, third with "Star Dude."
- Jeff Jueneman and Luke Koerperich won most creative.
- The distances for the fifth grade cars weren't recorded.

## Candidate for Congress stops here

Interested in business, agriculture and northwest Kansas, Tracey Mann of Salina is running for the right to replace U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran as congressman for the 1st District.

Mr. Mann is one of the seven Republicans running for the seat in the upcoming August primary; the winner would face the lone Democratic candidate, businessman Alan Jilka of Salina.

Mr. Mann visited Oberlin last

Wednesday with his wife Audrey. The couple walked up and down Main Street, talking with people in businesses and handing out election information.

Mr. Mann said he swept through 22 of the 69 counties in the "Big First" earlier in the month. On this trip, he toured counties in the northwest part of the district, including Cheyenne, Rawlins, Norton, Thomas, Sherman and Decatur.

While in the area, he said, he's trying to touch base with the businesses as well as the newspapers in each town. It's important to hear what the people have to say, and while he's talking to people, his wife hands out information.

"You can't get elected to office," he said, "by sitting in an office."

Mr. Mann grew up on a farm at Quinter and attended Kansas State University, where he was elected

student body president. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics.

He said after college, he moved to Salina, where he started a career in commercial real estate. He joked that his brother beat him back to the

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**PUBLISHER STEVE HAYNES** talked with Tom Dreiling (right), retired publisher of the *Colby Free Press* and *The Norton Telegram* at the Kansas Press Association meeting in Topeka. Todd Dreiling, who came from Colorado to surprise his dad, was at left; the Clyde Reed Master Editor/Publisher Award at right.

— Herald staff photo by Cynthia Haynes

## Area journalist wins state press award

By Tom Betz

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Tom Dreiling, former publisher of the *Colby Free Press* and *The Norton Telegram*, and long-time editor of the old *Goodland Daily News*, has been honored by the Kansas Press Association with the Clyde M. Reed Jr. Master Editor Award.

He becomes the 15th recipient of the award, named for the longtime editor and publisher of *The Parsons Sun*. It is the highest given by the association, recognizing career contributions to the industry and the state.

Mr. Dreiling was recognized for his 44 years in the newspaper business, beginning with his work at the *Hays Daily News*, where he was photographer, sports editor and city editor in the early 1960s before moving to Goodland to become editor of the *Daily News*.

Richard Gannon, a former Goodland resident and state senator, and Steve Haynes, president of Haynes Publishing Co., presented the award at the association's convention April 23 in Topeka.

Mr. Haynes said he enjoyed working with Dreiling after he had hired him as publisher of *The Colby Free Press* in 1998, and later as the publisher of *The Norton Telegram*.

"He turned both those papers around," Mr. Haynes said. "I couldn't say enough good things about how he handled those jobs. He got his team together and got things done. He was the boss, and people knew where they stood."

Dreiling was born in Hays, the second youngest of nine children, and attended high school at St. Joseph's Military Academy, now Thomas More Prep-Marian, graduating in 1953. He continued his studies at Fort Hays State University, opting out to join the Air Force in 1955. He was released from active duty in 1959 after service in Japan.

Returning to civilian life, he worked for a year and a half at *The Ellis County Star*, a Hays-based weekly newspaper owned by his family, before he was hired by the *Hays Daily* in 1962.

When Mr. Dreiling moved to Goodland in

1965, he recalled, he arrived at the newspaper and asked where the other reporters were. He said he was shown a desk in the corner of the front office and was told, "you're it!"

He continued to work in Goodland for nearly 24 years. He raised two sons, Lance and Todd, who were 5 and 3 when their mother Jean died of leukemia at age 37 in 1975.

When the newspaper was sold in January 1989, the new owners encouraged him to remain, but told him he would have to take a hefty cut in pay. He said he advised them to expect his keys the following morning. For several months after, KLOE radio owner Kay Melia put him to work. He later accepted a job at Thomas More Prep as director of the alumni association and development, and remained at the school for six years.

Mr. Dreiling got back into the newspaper business when he moved to Sheridan, Wyo., in 1995 to become editor of *The Sheridan Press*, a six-day-a-week publication. The publisher was Keith Kemper, who had run the Goodland and Colby papers when they were owned by the Seaton family.

He recalled that Sheridan was the only place he'd ever lived where in the winter months, he would plug his bed and his car into the same outlet so neither would freeze up. The extreme Wyoming winters helped him to decide to seek the publisher's post in Colby in 1998.

While sports editor in Hays he began a column, "Time out with TD," which he has continued writing in some form to this day.

Mr. Dreiling is known for his folksy writing style and his outspoken opinions on almost any topic. Another aspect to his columns is handing out "Thumbs up" for good deeds that people write, call or e-mail him about.

A devout Catholic, he always ended his column by inviting people to attend the church of their choice.

At the awards, Mr. Gannon read parts of letters from Don and Bonnie Smith and Goodland lawyer Ron Vignery.

"When I was much younger, it is hard for me to remember when Tom Dreiling wasn't the Editor at *The Goodland Daily News*," Mr.

Vignery wrote. "I do remember he had a most interesting writing style, which I believe could be defined more as prose than journalism.

"I especially remember the poignant writings of Tom Dreiling as his first and beloved wife Jean slowly succumbed to the effects of cancer. I would read and re-read his articles as they poured out his emotions about his love for his wife and his children and the effect of her death upon them.

"Finally, even though on more than one occasion I disagreed with Tom Dreiling in his editorials, I never doubted the power of his pen. His absolutely unique style of writing always caused me to want to read more of his article, even though I was in strong disagreement with the premise. To me, that is the ultimate compliment to be paid to the journalist which Tom was, and remains."

Mr. Gannon recalled how Mr. Dreiling has influenced him in becoming the youngest person ever elected to the state Senate.

"I was home from college," he recalled, "and both parties had asked me to run. I talked to Tom about it, and a day or two later, there was an editorial in the paper saying what a good candidate Rich Gannon would be."

Mr. Dreiling's son Todd was in Topeka to surprise his father and be present for the award ceremony. Longtime *Goodland Daily News* press foreman Jim Bowker and his wife Sharon came also.

Todd, Lance and stepdaughter Denise Burrows now all live in Centennial, Colo., south of Denver. Lance is a senior noncommissioned officer the Air Force (20 years now) and recently transferred to Buckley Air Force Base in Aurora, Colo.

Tom said he is glad the kids and grandkids are that close, and is looking forward to joining them in the near future.

Mr. Dreiling retired from the Norton paper in August 2009 and moved back to Goodland in October. He writes his column and some editorials for *The Goodland Star-News* and has also been writing a column for *The Hays Daily*.

When asked what his future plans are, he replied, "grandfathering!"

# \*Man wants to serve state in Congress

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"I currently serve as vice president and director of industrial sales and leasing for Zimmer Real Estate Services of Salina," he said. "I've represented and advised hundreds of businesses, from multiple Fortune 500 companies to smaller start-up companies in Kansas that have been an integral part of the economic development in our state."

He talks about his "Mann Plan" and one of the first things he says is it is time to quit promoting politicians and elect more people with business and farm experience to public office.

Mr. Mann says the country is in a financial mess, and that a similar situation faces the people of Kansas. He noted two of his opponents, Jim Barnett and Tim Huelskamp, are in the state Legislature, which is having trouble handling the state finances.

On health care, Mr. Mann said he feels the system needs to be changed. He said it might be tough to repeal the "Obamacare" law, but it will be up to Congress to modify the law and work to help rural hospitals, doctors and pharmacists deal with its changes and to see that Medicare does not get cut in a way that hurts rural hospitals.

He said there are more hospitals in the First District than any other district in the country.

In his plan, Mr. Mann says one of the best ways to reform Congress would be to pass term limits.

He feels that would help reduce the ranks of professional politicians and give more people an opportunity to serve.

His plan covers reforming Congress, fixing healthcare, stopping growth of the federal government, and its debt and deficits, promoting economic growth, tax relief to create jobs, help for agriculture, reform of immigration, and preserving Kansas' "common sense values."

Mr. Mann said it's important for Kansas young people to know that they can be successful by returning home to live, raise a family and work.

He said he worked for Mr. Moran during his first term in office and said the congressman instilled in him a love for the people and for the state that won't go away.

He said he spent a lot of time praying about the decision to run for Congress. Mr. Mann said he is the one candidate who understands agriculture, business and northwest Kansas.

So far, he added, he's been surprised at how well the campaign has gone. It continues to gain momentum and grows every day.

He plans to be back in Decatur County before the election.

For more information, go to [www.mannforcongress.com](http://www.mannforcongress.com).



Tracey Mann

## Board gets update on negotiations

By KIMBERLY DAVIS

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The Oberlin School Board received an update about the negotiations going on with the teachers union, including the idea of going to an eight-period day.

Board member Dan Nedland, who is helping with the negotiations, said nothing has changed since the last board meeting. There is talk about going to an eight-period day, he said at the meeting April 12, and he knows people are talking about the idea.

Superintendent Duane Dorshorst passed out a document about the benefits of a eight-period day (the high school now uses seven periods). The extra period would allow students to participate in more elective classes, allow a more creative schedule for junior high students, may allow for more individualized programs for students who are not planning on continuing their formal education and may allow for new electives to be developed.

While the eight period day is being discussed, said Mr. Nedland, nothing has been decided.

He said there is chatter about this and some are saying that the board is looking at the longer day to get rid of teachers, but that's not true.

While there was a closed session on the agenda to discuss negotiations, the board decided to table that.

Superintendent Dorshorst said he attended a meeting with super-

intendents and principals from the six schools left in the Northwest Kansas League. The group talked about league passes because those can't be used for everyone in the family to get into an event. That pass is just for the pass holder, he said, but people are abusing them.

Another discussion was that the schools need to be more consistent in the way they handle events. For example, some charge for junior varsity football games and some don't.

It's a solid league, he added. Current members are St. Francis, Goodland, Colby, Atwood, Hoxie, Oakley, Quinter. Both Goodland and Colby are leaving in the future.

The principals are going to have another meeting in May, but without the superintendents, he said.

In other business, the board:

- Approved membership dues for the Kansas Association of School Boards for \$4,571 and for its legal assistance fund for \$1,400.

- Gave Mr. Dorshorst permission to sell old computers, tables and other equipment in an Internet auction.

- Received the resignation of Robyn Wessel, who teaches English at the high school and Tyson Nicholson, who was the assistant high school boys basketball coach.

- Named board members Dan Wasson, Barb Olson and Mr. Nedland to hand out diplomas at graduation and Abby Hissong to give Jessica Fredrickson her diploma.

## Program for medical assistants to be offered

The Northwest Technical College in Goodland will begin this fall to partner with North Central Kansas Technical College of Hays and Beloit to offer a certified medical assistant program on the Hays campus.

This 10-month program now is offered on the Northwest Tech campus

in Goodland. Beginning in the fall, the program will also be offered on the Hays campus of North Central Tech. Bonnie Rupke, a registered nurse, will be the instructor on the Hays campus, which was launched last month.

A certified medical assistant works interdependently with other

health-care professionals to care for patients. The assistant is educated and trained to perform both administrative and clinical skills in a medical care environment. The profession has been recognized and supported by the American Medical Association and American Association of Medical Assistants

since 1959.

Graduates will obtain a certificate or an Associate of Applied Science degree from Northwest Tech and may test for national certification.

For details, call (800) 567-4297.

## Woman rancher protects her Colorado land

Kimmi Lewis, mother of Kelly Wasson of rural Dresden, knows how to stand up for her ranch and the rights of her neighbors in south-eastern Colorado.

A story in *Western Horseman* magazine tells how when she learned that the Army was looking to expand its maneuver site onto her land and neighboring ranches, she rallied her neighbors to sign "non-willing-seller" statements,

effectively shutting down the move. But while she's a political force to be reckoned with, she says her true passion is still the lifestyle on the ranch she's fighting to preserve.

She and her late husband Dave reared six children on the Muddy Valley Ranch near Kim, Colo. Since her husband's death on May 2, 2000, she has continued to operate the

cattle spread.

Besides Mrs. Wasson, who is married to Michael Wasson, her other children are Keith, Kenneth, Kerry, Kristine and Korry.

**Classifieds work!  
Call Pat  
475-2206!**

## \$5,000 REWARD

A \$5,000 reward leading to the arrest and conviction of person or persons involved in the burglary and theft at Leitner Farms located southwest of Atwood, Kansas. Occurred between April 23 and April 26, 2010.

Some of the stolen items are a 2003 2500 Chevy Silverado, Duramax diesel with silver rails, a green 2004 Honda rancher 350cc, an 18 foot P.B. car trailer and a yellow Hustler Fastrac riding mower.

Contact Rawlins County Sheriff's Department at (785) 626-3865.

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