Law enforcement training center to get $16M expansion

LAWRENCE (AP) — The center providing basic training for more than two-thirds of the state’s law enforcement officers plans to start a $16 million expansion by the end of the year.

The Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center expects to open two new buildings in May 2009, including a new dormitory for 126 officers-in-training. The University of Kansas operates the center on a former naval air station about five miles south of Hutchinson.

The center has a dormitory for 107 officers, but it has been squeezing in 143 by having many of them sleep three to a room. The center also has had to rent space on the State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson for graduation ceremonies.

The second new building will house classes and have a meeting room for 800 people.

“It’s going to create more of a campus environment,” Ed Pavey, the training center’s director, told the Lawrence Journal-World. “It will tie everything all together to enhance the facilities.”

The center trains about 400 officers each year, or 70 percent of those in Kansas law enforcement. Its 14-week sessions involve classes of up to 60 people.
Bruna & Meyer Named Public Service Scholars

The Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas recently announced 128 new Sen. Robert J. Dole Public Service Scholars for the 2007-08 academic year.

The new scholars will enroll this fall at one of the six Kansas Board of Regents universities. They include KU, Emporia State, Fort Hays State, Kansas State, Pittsburg State, Wichita State and Washburn University.

Aligned with the primary mission of the Dole Institute, the scholarship program encourages young Kansans to get involved in politics, government and community service.

Recipients receive a $1,000 scholarship, renewable for three years, and commit to completing 100 hours of civic activities annually.

The 2007 Dole Public Service Scholars include the area students: Cindy Bruna, daughter of Mark and Jodie Bruna, Hanover; and Adrianne Meyer, daughter of Michael and Tabrina Meyer, Hanover.

Cindy and Adrianne are both 2007 graduates of Hanover High School. Cindy will be attending Kansas State University, majoring in Social Work. Adrianne will be attending the University of Kansas this fall, majoring in Business.

Other area scholars include Renae Weaver, Barnes; Jessica Fiser, Mahaska; Courtney Koelzer, Baileyville; Emily Koch, Clifton/Clyde; Kara Vaglio, Blue Valley; Emily Meyer and Natalie Wilgers, Palmer.
James McReynolds, M.D., has a long list of reasons for being excited about his new partnership with Central Kansas Medical Center but several are especially attractive.

McReynolds has joined Great Bend Internists (GBI), which is part of the CKMC family. His specialty is primary care for adults, and he will begin seeing patients, Monday, Aug. 6.

"By teaming up with CKMC, I can devote all my time to caring for my patients," McReynolds said. The hospital handles all the GBI administrative duties, which allows my colleagues and me to focus on our patients' needs instead of dividing our time with all the paperwork.

McReynolds also is looking forward to practicing both inpatient and outpatient medicine. "In bigger cities with multiple hospitals this luxury isn't always available," McReynolds said. "My position with CKMC will afford me the opportunity to immerse myself in patient care at the hospital and in the office.

"Great Bend is the perfect size and I understand this area's need for primary care doctors," he added. "It is good to be here and I have been gratified by the reception I have received at CKMC, GBI and the community in general. Everyone has been very welcoming."

Sharon Lind, CKMC interim chief executive officer, noted that hiring McReynolds is just one more example of the hospital's commitment to providing quality healthcare close to home.
Landplan Engineering promoted Janelle N. Phillips to director of operations in Junction City and Matthew L. Murphy, PE to engineering manager in Kansas City, Mo.

In her new role, Phillips is responsible for coordinating the activities of the day-to-day operations of Landplan's Junction City office as well as staff development and marketing. A registered engineer in Kansas, Missouri and Colorado, she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the University of Kansas and a Master of Science degree in civil engineering from Kansas State. Her current projects include the Olivia Farms development in Junction City and The Highlands development in Abilene.

As engineering manager, Murphy's responsibilities include directing the staff of engineers and technicians and ensuring the technical quality of projects in Landplan's Kansas City office. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the Texas A&M University and is registered in Kansas, Missouri, Texas and Illinois. Current projects include the Bonner Springs Library, the Sweet Life at Overland Park, New Marketplace Apartments in Kansas City, Kan., and Garden City Bank at Chapman Farms.

Landplan Engineering, PA also an office in Lawrence. They are a full-service civil engineering and landscape architecture firm specializing in all phases of land use planning, landscape architecture, surveying and civil engineering.
Madsen elected to International Honor Society

Erin Madsen has been elected to membership in the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International as an undergraduate student through Delta Chapter at the University of Kansas School of Nursing in Kansas City, Kan. Madsen received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from the KU School of Nursing in May and is from Kansas City, Kan.

Taggart elected to International Honor Society

Jessica Taggart has been elected to membership in the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International as an undergraduate student through Delta Chapter at the University of Kansas School of Nursing in Kansas City, Kan. Taggart received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from the KU School of Nursing in May and is from Kansas City, Kan.

Guilty elected to International Honor Society

Heidi Guilty has been elected to membership in the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International as an undergraduate student through Delta Chapter at the University of Kansas School of Nursing in Kansas City, Kan. Guilty received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from the KU School of Nursing in May and is from Kansas City, Kan.

McClure elected to International Honor Society

Melan McClure, RN, has been elected to membership in the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International as a graduate student through Delta Chapter at the University of Kansas School of Nursing in Kansas City, Kan. McClure, originally from Kansas City, Kan., received a Master of Science Degree in nursing at the University of Kansas School of Nursing in May.

Nusz awarded research grant by KU Honors Program

Hannah Marie Nusz, sophomore in African and African-American studies, was one of twenty-eight undergraduates at the University of Kansas to be awarded research grants by the university to help fund a summer research project. Nusz is the daughter of Christy and Ricky Nusz and graduated from Piper High School. Her research project is entitled “Evaluation of Case Study AIDS Clinic and AIDS Awareness Strategies in Uganda.” The funds average out to about $1,200 a grant.
Completes basic

Army Pvt. Robert Santoni has graduated from Basic Combat training at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla. He is the son of Paul and Tina Leighty of Americus, and mother Rhonda Santoni of Fremont, Calif.

Win scholarships

The local chapter of the American Business Women’s Association presented $500 scholarships to two area high school graduates. Dawn Hinson of Allen graduated from Northern Heights High School in May. She plans to attend Washburn University in the fall to pursue a bachelor’s degree in accounting and finance.

Lindsey Clower of Lebo graduated from Marais des Cygnes Valley High School in Melvern. She plans to attend Emporia State University to pursue a bachelor’s degree in nursing.

Nebraska athlete

Austin Braman, a graduate of Chanute High School, recently signed a letter of intent with the Nebraska Cornhuskers to throw the javelin for the Cornhuskers’ track and field team.

He is the son of former Olpe residents Clay and Kathy Scheve Braman of Buffalo and the grandson of Leland “Red” and Evelyn Rodgers of Olpe. He will attend the University of Nebraska and study agriculture economy.

Braman was the State 4A Boys javelin thrower winner in 2005 and 2007. He also played football in the Kansas Shrine Bowl on July 28.

On the honor rolls

Jeremy Ruegsegger of Osage City and Amber Schroer of Strong City were named to the Hutchinson Community College Spring 2007 Dean’s Honor Roll (3.5-3.9 GPA).

Andrea Barton of Cottonwood Falls was named to the Spring 2007 Pratt Community College President’s Honor Roll (4.0 GPA) and Joseph Augustyn of Burlington was named to the Dean’s Honor Roll.

Community News

Fort Hays graduates

The Fort Hays State University spring 2007 graduates from the Emporia area included Heather L. Hapes of Americus, bachelor’s degree in information networking and telecommunication and bachelor’s degree in justice studies; Amber M. Saueressig of Burlington, associate’s degree in general studies; Di- ana J. Nichols of Gridley, bachelor’s degree in general studies; and William R. Kline of Council Grove, bachelor’s degree in nursing.

Attends conference

Dawn Hinson, a 2007 graduate of Northern Heights High School, recently attended the National Leadership Conference for Family, Career, Community Leaders of America in Anaheim, Calif. She qualified for the competition in the area of job interview. After participating in a mock interview, application process and presentation of her portfolio, she received a silver rating and medal. She plans to attend Washburn University in the fall.

KU graduates

Here are area students at the University of Kansas students who graduated May 20:

Admire — Audra Rochelle Jenkins.


Graduation honors

Area students who received Kansas State University graduation honors in recognition of their outstanding performance as undergraduates include:

Chase County — Jessica Kathryn Kohr Webster, magna cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in business administration and Elizabeth A. Yeager, summa cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in agriculture. Council Grove — Teaha Lauren Chestnut, magna cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in agriculture and Deborah Leigh Murphy, summa cum laude with bachelor’s degree.

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<th>Eureka</th>
<th>Alexa Dawn Hayes, cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in agriculture.</th>
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<td>Strong City</td>
<td>Daniel Joseph Mushrush, cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in agribusiness;</td>
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**Semester honors**

Students who received Kansas State University semester honors for the spring 2007 semester include:

Nine Ashland Volunteer Firemen have devoted themselves over the past few weeks to taking a 93 hour classroom and hands on Fire Fighter I Class.

The Fire Fighters I Class has been under the instruction of Seward County Firefighter and former Ashland resident Gregg Freelove.

A couple of firefighters from Seward County have also been traveling to Ashland to take the class as well.

As part of the hands on class training on Tuesday, July 31 the firemen were put in a simulated kitchen fire and bedroom fire. The simulation fire got up to around 600 degrees. Pictured are the firemen beginning to enter simulated fire and the smoke that is coming out of the designated kitchen area.

This class is offered from the Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute from the University of Kansas.
Thompson taps Lacy to run committee

BY LIZ SIDOTTI
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fred Thompson says the man who saved his 1994 Senate campaign is taking over his likely presidential bid.

Thompson has tapped Bill Lacy, a former strategist for Ronald Reagan, Bob Dole and Republican National Committee, to run day-to-day operations of his committee to "test the waters" for a presidential run.

“He turned around my campaign for Senate in 1994 and, as I move toward a decision on whether to run for president, I am confident he will take our operations to the next level," Thompson, the former Tennessee senator and "Law & Order" actor, said in a statement Wednesday.

“T'I'm here for the long haul," Lacy said in an interview from the committee’s headquarters in a Virginia suburb. He said he has taken a leave of absence from his current post as the director of the Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kan.

Thompson is expected to officially enter the race Labor Day week, and is showing strongly in national polls and surveys in several early primary states. But a certain measure of turmoil has hit his preliminary campaign this summer.

The all-but-declared candidate collected about $1.5 million less than the $5 million backers had hoped to bring in during June, his first fundraising month. In July, Thompson sidelined his campaign-manager-in-waiting, Tom Collamore, and watched a few other aides follow him out the door amid consternation inside the operation about the active role of Thompson’s wife, Jeri.

At the time, aides said former senator and energy secretary Spencer Abraham and a Florida GOP strategist, Randy Enwright, would take over the unofficial campaign. But that turned out to be a temporary solution as the Thomsons sought a replacement for Collamore, who still is advising Thompson.
Thompson taps Kansas man to head campaign

By LIZ SIDOTI
Associated Press Writer

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around Kansas

Michele Fells, the 25-year-old mother, was driving on K-15 when she turned west onto 120th Avenue and pulled in front of a train, investigators said.

The train struck the driver’s side of the vehicle, pushing the car into a ditch and ejecting Aiden, still in his car seat.

Fells was released from the hospital after being treated for arm and shoulder injuries.
Lindsey Owen graduates KU

Carl and Marsha Owen of Augusta would like to announce the graduation of their daughter, Lindsey Irene Owen, a 2002 graduate of Augusta High School, from the University of Kansas, Lawrence, in May.

She graduated with a degree in metal smithing and jewelry making in the School of Design. She has a job waiting for her in Aspen, Colo. that will be in her line of degree. She is in the progress of moving this month.