Shafer Gallery opens show of Carolyn Isern Johnson’s colorful paintings Sunday

Barton County Community College’s Shafer Gallery will exhibit the colorful landscapes and floral paintings of Ellinwood artist Carolyn Isern Johnson beginning Sunday, July 8, with a reception from 1 to 4 p.m. The exhibit will continue through Aug. 19.

As a college student entering the University of Kansas several decades ago, Ellinwood native Carolyn Isern intended to become an architect, but when she enrolled in drawing and painting classes as part of her studies, she found a new interest.

“The professors made me decide to stay in art,” Carolyn Isern Johnson recalls, almost 60 years later. “I guess they thought I had potential and they talked me into it.”

One of her instructors at KU was the well known Kansas landscape painter, Robert Sudlow. “I’ve always admired him, but in the way we paint, we are opposites,” she said. He paints in subdued colors, she explained, “and I just let it loose.”

She said her style “changed a lot” as it evolved, and she has continued painting during most of the years since her time at KU. She returned to Ellinwood and spent some years away from painting while her sons were young, but once they were grown she took up her art again.

Johnson started out painting in oils, but when acrylics became available, she started using them almost exclusively. “I paint fast, so once I found acrylics, they were right down my alley,” she said. Once in a while, she said, she uses oils on top of the acrylic, just because that is the color she’s looking for and she can only find it in oil.

She paints landscapes and florals most often. “Landscapes are my favorite, but I tend to go with flowers because I love color,” she said. “I have several friends who grow beautiful flowers and I’ll go into their yards to paint them.

“Otherwise, I see more color in the landscape in Kansas than any other place. You think of God’s palette. I see a lot more color than most people do in landscape.”

A lifelong resident of Ellinwood, Johnson has taken leadership roles in the community. She is a past president of the Ellinwood School Board and also served as president of Ellinwood Area Enterprises Garden Club and Grove Park Ladies Golf Association. She also designed the wheat banners that now decorate Ellinwood’s streets.

Johnson will attend the opening reception for her Shafer Gallery show on Sunday and will be available to answer questions.

All Shafer Gallery exhibits are presented in part by the Kansas Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday; 1-4 p.m. Sunday; closed on Saturday. Guided tours are available by appointment.
Mobilizing against TB

TUBERCULOSIS has seemed, in the United States at least, a quaint disease. The very name raises images of old-fashioned sanitariums peopled with invalids, coughing gently into linen handkerchiefs as they move with slow dignity across the green institutional lawns.

The American public had the luxury of ignoring TB because the disease had for several decades been pretty much under control in the nation. The persistent, tough lung infection was one of the deadly diseases felled by the onslaught of the "miracle drugs" that became available after World War II — the antibiotics and vaccines that turned once-deadly or crippling diseases into fading memories or, at worst, minor inconveniences.

But tuberculosis, like some of the other battered diseases, was not finished with human beings. Drug-resistant strains of TB developed over the years. Think of it as a race between the disease and the drug researchers. Right now, TB seems to be winning — developing resistance to existing drugs before new drugs can be developed.

The race became big news a few weeks ago when an American man thought to be infected with a drug-resistant strain of TB was found to have flown on commercial airlines to and from Europe and all over Europe, potentially exposing thousands of people to the disease.

That incident also shook the confidence of the American people in the Centers for Disease Control, the nation’s leading public-health agency, which had diagnosed the man’s infection before his trip. The situation got worse when it was revealed that the man was the new son-in-law of a CDC researcher. The researcher’s field of expertise? Tuberculosis.

It is true that the CDC — underfunded, understaffed and now saddled with new challenges — may not be the the best place to pin the nation’s and the world’s hopes for new cures for tuberculosis.

For that reason, the new TB research effort announced last week at the University of Kansas is most welcome news.

The International Consortium for the Study of Tuberculosis will involve researchers at KU, the state of Kansas, the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research, the University of Arizona, the University of Texas-El Paso, the Texas Department of State Health Services and Chihuahua University Medical School and Public Health Service in Mexico. The consortium will marshal immunologists, geneticists, epidemiologists, anthropologists and public health officials to study not only how TB infects people, but why people are susceptible to infection and how human populations allow TB to spread.

The consortium plan is both ambitious and innovative. The plan’s focus on complete understanding and control of a single disease
calls to mind the great public-health efforts of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Some of those efforts — before antibiotics, antivirals and electron microscopes — were amazingly successful in fighting endemic diseases.

It is not unreasonable to hope that the new consortium, working with the latest tools and the best information, may help chart a course for finally eradicating this terrible disease.

Patrick S. Kelley
Editorial Page Editor
Local youth graduate from LULAC leadership program

By RACHEL DAVIS
rdavis@getelegram.com

Garden City’s leaders of tomorrow just may be found in students like Noemi Herrera, Alicia Perkins and Claudia Ramirez.

They were three of the 21 students involved in the 2007 Youth Leadership Program, and each has a passion for change and a voice to be reckoned with.

“I look upon my fellow classmates and friends and myself, and I see future leaders — teachers, architects, artists — a future president — each and every one of them leaving a mark on history,” Herrera said Saturday during the youth presentation at the 2007 League of United Latin American Citizens Youth Leadership Program graduation.

Herrera was among area students who took part in a four-week program in which they learned how to become leaders in their communities.

The program is designed to foster opportunities for area youth to further their involvement in community life by developing their leadership skills and preparing them for future leadership roles. Focused leadership training, one-on-one conversations with leaders throughout the community and a visit to the University of Kansas in Lawrence are included in the program’s curriculum.

Perkins, 16, Garden City, said she was naive about what it means to be a leader, but now is certain that she is capable of becoming one.

“A leader has a voice,” she said. “A leader is responsible for creating new leaders to take their place.”

Martha Perkins, president of the local LULAC chapter, said the program would not be possible without community support and collaboration among agencies and sponsors.

The program began four years ago with the partnership of LULAC and the Garden City Area Chamber of Commerce.

Martha Perkins said the youth leadership program plays an important role in the lives of young people who have completed it.

“It gives them confidence to

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Youth: Graduate from leadership program

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stand for what they believe in and to know the community is behind them,” she said.

Jeanette Aldana, 19, Garden City, graduated from the program in 2006 and helped mentor this year’s graduates.

She said the program forced her out of her comfort zone with activities focused on trusting her fellow classmates, teamwork and leadership.

“It’s a really good program for someone going to college right out of high school because it prepares you for what is coming in life,” Aldana said.

Garden City Mayor Reynaldo Mesa addressed an audience of 70 during Saturday’s graduation ceremony at Fiesta Courtyard.

He stressed the importance of staying away from negative people and a negative environment.

“You can’t allow negative information to stay in your mind,” he said. “Don’t let people tell you that you can’t do something, that you’re not good enough, not smart enough or you’re not going to make it — don’t let them hold you back or keep you down,” he said.

Angelica Castillo Hahn, coordinator for the program, said community leaders are invited to share personal and professional experiences and become inspirations and role models for the young adults.

She said these discussions also give the youth an occasion to tell about their own experiences, challenges and dreams for the future.

Aldana said while she attended the program, she received an internship from St. Catherine Hospital.

She said it was through the internship that she realized she wanted to pursue a career as a pharmacist or obstetrician.

Also as part of the program, participants visit state universities including the University of Kansas, Washburn University and Fort Hays State University.

Another graduate, Ramirez, 17, Garden City, said during the two-hour ceremony that through the community’s support, she and others will make them proud.

“We do have Hispanic leaders trying to change the world,” she said. “And each one of us is a future leader capable of making that change.”
By CHRIS GREEN
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TOPEKA (HNS) — The gap between what residents and non-residents pay to attend the state’s largest universities will narrow again this fall.

In 2001, undergraduate students from out-of-state paid about four times more in tuition than Kansas students to attend the University of Kansas, Kansas State University and Wichita State University.

That disparity has significantly decreased in recent years, however, because in-state tuition costs have risen at more rapid rates than out-of-state charges.

The most recent round of tuition increases approved by the state Board of Regents last week will push the ratio to well below 3-to-1 at all three of the state’s research institutions, according to the Harris News Service analysis of tuition data.

In fact, Kansas State and Wichita State will increase tuition by the exact same dollar amount for resident and non-residents students taking a semester of 15 credits this fall — $225 at K-State and $119.25 at Wichita State.

As a result, in-state students will see an 8.7 percent increase in their tuition at K-State while out-of-state students will see only a 3 percent. At Wichita State, residents will pay 6.5 percent more compared to the 2.2 percent more for out-of-state students.

Such changes show more of the tuition burden at research schools shifting to Kansas residents at a time when such changes make up an increasing portion of university operating budgets.

Roger Lowe, vice president of administration and finance at Wichita State, said his institution has actively worked to shrink the gap between in-state and out-

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Education: Tuition burden shifts

of-state tuition.

Out-of-state students will pay 2.88 times more than in-state students to attend this fall. The university would eventually like to decrease that ratio to 2.75, Lowe said.

Lowe said the changes were designed to make the university competitive for out-of-state students and to ensure fairness.

“It’s a matter of competition but we also feel that the number we’re shooting for is to cover the costs of an education for a non-resident student, so that the taxpayers of the state Kansas don’t have to pay the costs of it,” Lowe said.

In the past, out-of-state students have paid rates that more than covered the costs of their educations, essentially subsidizing lower rates for resident students.

“What we want is a fair charge where the nonresidents students cover the expenses of their academic work,” Lowe said.

Outsider advantages?

The state’s three regional institutions — Emporia State, Pittsburg State and Fort Hays State — haven’t seen significant changes in the spreads between in-state and out-of-state tuition rates.

Out-of-state students pay 3.41 times more than in-state students to attend Pittsburg State and 3.56 more at Emporia State. The ratio at Fort Hays State is 3.77-to-1.

Nonresidents paid 3.79 times more than residents to attend all three institutions in 2001.

Fort Hays State President Edward Hammond said his institution had tried to keep its tuition at the 3-to-1 ratio. Only a small portion of the school’s undergraduate population pays out-of-state tuition because the bulk of FHSU’s enrollment comes from inside the state, he said.

Plus, many of the out-of-state students that do come here from neighboring states and qualify for a special tuition rate, which is about 1.5 times more than regular in-state tuition, Hammond said.

“We’ve basically tried not to disadvantage our in-state students,” Hammond said of the school’s approach.

The smallest gap between in-state and out-of-state tuition is at KU, where nonresident students pay $2.63 for every $1 residents spend on tuition.

KU spokeswoman Lynn Bretz said that her institution’s highest priority is to keep the cost of tuition as low as possible for the state’s residents.

However, university officials also have to be conscious of not pricing KU out of the range for qualified nonresident students.

That’s because nonresidents pay more than 100 percent of the costs of college at KU, basically subsidizing resident students, Bretz said. A decline in nonresident enrollment could adversely affect resident rates, she said.

Bretz also said that nonresident also brings other benefits to the university and its students by adding to the diversity of the student body, encouraging in-migration into Kansas and helping the
state grow its own professionals in fields where workers are in high demand.

For his part, Lowe said he doesn’t think shrinking enrollment numbers will have detrimental effects on his institution’s in-state enrollment numbers.

“I don’t really think it’s going to have any impact on it,” Lowe said. “We involve our students and they have input. I don’t think it’s going to materially affect any of the students.”
Four Goodland grads listed on honor roll

Four Goodland High School graduates were listed on the spring honor roll at the University of Kansas.

They are Lea Elise Acuff, daughter of Mark Acuff, a senior majoring in liberal arts; Kendra Jo Billinger, daughter of Rick and Rita Billinger, a senior majoring in liberal arts; Jocelyn B. Lucas, daughter of Jack and Linda Lucas, a senior majoring in education; and Jill Susanne Neitzel, daughter of Rue and Marilyn Sowers, a Pharmacy Professional I student.

Honor roll criteria vary among the university’s academic units with some schools honoring the top 10 percent of students enrolled and others establishing a minimum grade average. Students must complete a minimum number of credit hours to be considered for the honor roll.
Digging resumes at Kanorado site

By Tom Betz  ntbtz@nwkansas.com

Digging continues at 14,000-year-old Paleoindian sites near Kanorado this summer, with students from the University of Kansas and volunteers searching for more ancient artifacts and bones along Middle Beaver Creek.

The KU students, graduate and undergraduate, are staying in the dorms at the Northwest Kansas Technical College, which is an upgrade from last year when they had to camp out at Briggs Park at Kanorado.

Dr. Rolfe D. Mandel, executive director of the Odyssey Archeological Research Program for the Kansas Geological Survey and a professor of anthropology at KU, is directing the work, but is not always at the Kanorado site as he also is working with students at a site on Burntwood Creek in Rawlins County.

Shannon Ryan, a KU anthropology doctoral student from Salina, is in charge at the sites, both north and south of I-70. Ryan, who was with the group last year, said being able to stay in the dorms has been a real blessing.

She said the small group has been working on three sites along the creek. She said the work on the eastern site (known as SN-101) was mostly to recover exposed bones and rock flakes on the surface.

Ryan said a couple of students have been working at the middle site, SN-105, where some big mammoth bones were found two years ago. She said more of this site has been opened up, but no more bones have turned up. She said some bison bones appeared to have been burned in a cook fire, indicating human activity.

She said the group has two sites open at the westernmost and southernmost site, known as SN-106, where they are finding more flakes and bison bones.

This site was opened three years ago when the Kansas Anthropological Association held its annual

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KU students Adam Helfing (above right), Jolene Munger (center) and Nick Kessler scraped dirt at the Kanorado dig site south of I-70. David Unruh (bottom right) screened dirt from around the bison site to make sure all pieces of bone are recovered. Shannon Ryan, (below left) a doctoral student, brushed dirt away from a bison bone that Unruh was excavating on the north side of Middle Beaver Creek. The students have been looking for evidence of ancient Paleoindians who were in the area about 12,000 years ago.

Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News
Excavation continues at Paleoindian site near Kanorado

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Field school and about 100 volunteers helped excavate the sites.

Ryan said the flakes were created when the ancient people chipped at larger rocks to make stone tools or points. She said the flakes turn up as the group digs back into the south bank of the creek. She said this supports the theory that the site was a hide-processing area.

On the north side of the creek about 100 yards to the west, David Unruh is working on a site found two years ago which continues to yield bones.

This year, Unruh said, he has found more bison bones, including what appears to be one of the major bones that connect the skull to the vertebra. He thinks the skull is there as well.

Ryan said last year workers found two bison skulls on the south side of Middle Beaver Creek, and sent them off for carbon dating. She said the results put the age of the skulls at 8,100 years ago.

Dr. Mandel said the bison bones from the northwest site had been dated back about 10,000 carbon years, which puts them about the same age as the Folsom site being worked to the southeast, about 12,300 years ago.

He said the bison bones are older than first thought, and with the amount being found, it's possible this was a kill site, or at least a site the Paleoindians visited regularly.

He said it appears there were at least three occupations along Middle Beaver Creek. One dates about 10,300 years ago, one 10,800 years ago and the third 11,300 years ago.

Ryan said the group used a backhoe from Kanorado last year to dig two trenches along the top of the ground south of the site, and was able to determine where the creek was before channeling work done by the highway department.

"We wonder what was dug out when the I-70 work was being done more than 30 years ago," Ryan said, "but then it was because of that work the ancient sites were found."

Dr. Mandel said fossilized plant remains show the area was much wetter thousands of years ago, had a lot more trees and probably was cooler.

He said Kanorado is a unique site, with much more to be learned. He said the students would take a break this week, and then return for at least another week's work.

Dr. Steve Holen of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, who has been working with Dr. Mandel, said last year the Kanorado site is the first Clovis-era site in the state and the second Folsom-era site. Early native Americans, known as Paleoindians, roamed the High Plains thousands of years ago.

Some of the earliest were called Folsom for the fluted points they made about 10,000 years ago first found near Folsom, N.M.

Clovis Paleoindians were on the High Plains well before the Folsom, and evidence collected at Kanorado is pushing that date back towards 14,000 years ago. Points made by these tribes were before the invention of the bow and arrow.

The KU students working at the site live in Lawrence and include Adam Hefting (Halstead), Nick Kessler (Osawatomie), Jolene Munger (Cromhan, N.Y.), Ryan Johnson (Pratt), Brendon Asher (Atchison) and Emily Williams (Carthage, Mo.).
Riegel honored by KU Allied Health

With the conclusion of the 2006-2007 academic year, the University of Kansas School of Allied Health recognizes students for their exceptional accomplishments with scholarships and awards.

Aimee Nicole Riegel from Great Bend was awarded the Joan Mills Clinical Excellence Award. She was selected by the faculty as a student with superior clinical performance in combining the art and science of physical therapy during full-time clinical experience, effective verbal and non-verbal communication skills, professionalism, integrity and initiative.
KU announces spring 2007 honor roll

LAWRENCE — More than 4,690 undergraduate students at the University of Kansas earned honor roll distinction for the spring 2007 semester. These students, from the Lawrence campus and the schools of allied health and nursing at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City, Kan., represent 99 of 105 Kansas counties, 44 other states and the District of Columbia and 37 other countries.

The honor roll comprises undergraduates who met requirements in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and in the schools of allied health, architecture and urban planning, business, education, engineering, fine arts, journalism, nursing and social welfare.

Honor roll criteria vary among the university’s academic units. Some schools honor the top 10 percent of students enrolled, some establish a minimum grade-point average and others raise the minimum GPA for each year students are in school. Students must complete a minimum number of credit hours to be considered for the honor roll.

Area students are listed below:

**Barton County**
- Andrea Nicole Macy, Christopher Robl
- Jared Lee Barton, Jessica Lindsey Brozek, Carrie Lee Davidson, Aaron Eugene Gates, Sara Jean Humbug, Jessica Rose Leiker, Victor Charles Marshall, Justin Tyler Moyer, Kelsi Ann Remmert, Andrew Stuart Rodgman, Brian Christopher Schnewear, Jillian Marie Strobel, Alison Leigh Winkelman

**Hoisington**
- Jordan M. Bates, Brianne Lynn Koester, Lacey Rachelle Koester, Tanner T Polzin, Sarah Jerree Ritter

**Pawnee Rock**
- Kyle Hesed

**Ellsworth County**
- Ellsworth
- Maggie Jean Finke
- Holyrood
- Jordan Michael Robertson

**Wilson**
- Courtney Leigh Pekar, Jantzen Winter Ward

**Pawnee County**
- Garfield
- Patricia LaVonne Hunter
- Learned
- Sarah Elizabeth Best
- Megan Kathryn Foster, Katie Jane Fox, Tyler John Fox, Amber Marie Humphrey, Nicole Marie Pounds, Emily D. Schuster

**Rozel**
- Garrett Steven Blattner

**Rice County**
- Geneseo
- Ryan Andrew Stratmann
- Little River
- Rebecca J. Deeds

**Lyons**
- Mark A Filipi, Betsy Dee Proffit

**Sterling**
- Samantha Kay Irick

**Rush County**
- La Crosse
- Justin Martin Klenda
- Rush Center
- Rhonda Marie Meitl

**Russell County**
- Gorham
- Danielle Marie Rowley
- Lucas
- George Raymond DeMoura

**Russell**
- Miles L Detrich, Amanda Kay Steine, Rachel Lea Trible

**Waldo**
- Alisha Ann Ridgley

**St. John**
- Stafford County
- Casey Elizabeth Cornwell
Kansas regents freeze KU tuition rates for 4 years

TOPEKA (AP) — Incoming freshmen at the University of Kansas will pay the same tuition rate for four years under a plan the Kansas Board of Regents approved Thursday.

Under the plan, which takes effect in the fall, tuition rates at the University of Kansas will increase nearly 16 percent over current levels, then stay at that rate for four years. “Parents so far are liking it because they know what the rate is,” said Todd Cohen, a university spokesman.

For other state universities, the regents approved a 7.9 percent increase in tuition and fees for in-state students at Kansas State; 6.4 percent at Wichita State; 9.5 percent at Emporia State; 7.1 percent at Pittsburg State; and 5.1 percent at Fort Hays State.

Under the University of Kansas plan, in-state freshmen enrolled in 16 credit hours, which is considered full-time, will pay a total of $3785.75 per semester for tuition and campus fees. Out-of-state students will pay $9337.75 per semester.

The total doesn’t include course fees, which aren’t charged of students in all majors or for the full four years.

The tuition freeze is intended to encourage students to graduate on time. The school said all but four undergraduate programs can be completed in four years if students average 16 credit hours a semester.

School officials have estimated it would cost students who take more than four years to complete a bachelor’s degree an extra $1,000 per semester.

To protect against inflation, school officials have said they will ask for a new tuition rate for each incoming freshman class.

The plan also gives first-time freshmen the option of paying a fixed rate for student housing for two years.

And the plan sets course fees four years in advance for all students subject to them. The university also is working to establish a four-year schedule of campus fees. The required fees, which are set at $377.75 for the fall semester, support the student health center, the fitness and recreation center and other services.

Returning and transfer students will pay the standard tuition rate. For in-state undergraduate students, the standard rate will be $194.80 per credit hour, up from $183.75 the previous academic year. The standard rate will be less than the $213-per-credit-hour cost that incoming, resident freshmen will pay.

Christine Downey-Schmidt, the newly elected chairwoman of the Board of Regents, noted the challenging fiscal environment.

“However,” she said in a news release, “innovative cost-containment proposals such as KU’s tuition compact are certainly refreshing, and I’m anxious to see how students benefit from this plan in the coming years.”
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Students listed on the KU honor roll include Jordan Bates, daughter of Gary and Donna Bates; Brianne Koester, daughter of Richard and Pamela Koester; Lacey Koester, daughter of Richard and Pamela Koester; Tanner Polzin, son of Patricia and Duane Polzin; and Sarah Ritter, daughter of Steven and Sonja Ritter. All are graduates of Hoisington High School.