Six appointments are made to Kansas Board of Regents

By MARÁ ROSE WILLIAMS
The Kansas City Star

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius has announced the appointment of five new members to the state Board of Regents and reappointed member Donna Shank of Liberal.

"After an extensive statewide search, I have found outstanding candidates who bring broad perspectives and experience to the board," Sebelius said in the announcement released by her office Thursday.

"They are ready to embrace the challenges and work together with the current members to build on the successes of the past and put our state on a path to a future where our institutions of higher learning and our work force are second to none."

The new appointees to the nine-member board:

- Jarold Boettcher, a businessman from Beloit. Boettcher, a 1963 graduate of Kansas State University, is president of Boettcher Enterprises Inc., Boettcher Supply Inc. and Boettcher Aerial Inc. Boettcher has served on the Kansas State University Foundation for more than two years.

- Jill Docking of Wichita, vice president of investments with A.G. Edwards and Sons Inc. in Wichita. A 1978 graduate of the University of Kansas, Docking was the Democratic nominee for the U.S. Senate in 1996 against Republican Sam Brownback. In 1996, she was the first woman appointed commanding general of the Kansas Cavalry, a statewide business organization.

- Richard Hedges of Fort Scott, a retired educator and former president of Fort Scott Community College. He also has been a vice president at Ward/Kraft Printing and director of Johnson County Technical School.

- Gary Sherrer of Overland Park, lieutenant governor under Gov. Bill Graves. A graduate of Emporia State University, Sherrer has served as secretary of the Kansas Department of Commerce and was a founder of Leadership Kansas. In 2000, he received the Carl Perkins Humanitarian Award.

- William Thornton of Atchison, vice president of quality management and corporate counsel at MGP Ingredients Inc. A 1980 graduate of Benedictine College and 1992 graduate of Washburn University School of Law, Thornton is a member of the Kansas Chamber of Commerce.

Shank was first appointed to the board by Graves in 2002. She is a graduate of Seward County Community College and Wichita State University. Shank operates an insurance business in Liberal.

Boettcher, Sherrer and Hedges each will serve a four-year term ending in June 2011. Shank, Thornton and Docking will serve until June 2010. The latter three replace board members whose terms expired in June 2006 but who continued to serve because their replacements were not chosen until now.

Regent Dick Bond was one of those whose term expired last year, along with Shank and Jim Grier. Bond resigned from the board in March for medical reasons.

The others going off the board now in addition to Grier are Janice DeBauge, Frank Gaines and Nelson Galle.

To reach Mará Rose Williams call 816-234-4419 or send e-mail to mdwilliams@kcstar.com.
AS I SEE IT

NICK STUCKY ON THE HEALTH-CARE SYSTEM

WE MUST CONFRONT THE CRISIS

As a medical student, I am all too familiar with the numbers that describe our current health-care crisis:

- 45 million uninsured Americans, including 9 million children.
- In Kansas, more than 10 percent of the population, or 300,000 people, are uninsured.
- In Wyandotte County, nearly one in five residents lacks insurance.
- Nearly half of all personal bankruptcies in the United States result from medical bills.
- In 2005, health-care expenditures accounted for 17 percent of our nation's gross domestic product.

And it is not only the uninsured who bear the costs of having no insurance. The average Kansan with health insurance pays more than $700 per year in added premiums to offset the cost of uncompensated care provided to the uninsured. As the cost of insurance rises, more become uninsured, leading to higher premiums ... and so the cycle continues.

Numbers speak to the enormity of the crisis and to the economic burden placed on families, but we also must remember that raw data only tell half the story. As medical students, we are taught that tests and data are limited in the scope of insight they can provide. Any final diagnosis requires listening to the patient's story.

Each night at the JayDoc Free Clinic, we witness the true human cost of an inaccessible health-care system. The JayDoc Free Clinic is operated by University of Kansas medical students under the supervision of an attending licensed physician. There are absolutely no charges for services provided, and every effort is made to see as many patients as possible. For these patients and their families, each day of illness and lack of access means a day of opportunity lost.

Though we see as many patients as possible at the JayDoc clinic, this represents only a small portion of the true need. Together, the numbers and the stories surrounding this crisis paint an undeniable picture of injustice. But it doesn't have to be this way. The destiny of our health-care system is ours to decide. The problem is clear, and now it's time to act. It's time to make health-care reform a priority.

Nick Stucky is a medical student and co-director of the JayDoc Free Clinic at the University of Kansas Medical Center. To find out how to help the JayDoc Free Clinic, visit jaydocfreeclinic.org. Stucky lives in Roeland Park.
Hey. Watch the Eye

Larry Thomas' work, “Hide and Seek,” part of the Avenue of the Arts that kicks off Friday, intrigued Carolyn Smith of Kansas City on Wednesday. Thomas attached five vinyl cutouts of life-size figures to buildings along Central Avenue. | See Preview's cover story for an Avenue of the Arts lineup.

Post removes Bible study guides

A Web site is cleared of the material after a religious freedom group calls some passages anti-Semitic.

By DAWN BORMANN
The Kansas City Star

Fort Leavenworth removed Bible study guides from its Web site this week after a religious foundation called the materials anti-Semitic and threatened a lawsuit.

Military Religious Freedom Foundation President Mikey Weinstein said although he is disgusted that terms like “Jewish problem” were used on the site, his legal objection is not aimed at one's biblical views or interpretations.

The foundation, a nonprofit watchdog group that works to maintain separation between church and state in the military, is infuriated instead that the subjective Bible study guides were allowed to be posted to a government Web site at all.

Fort Leavenworth officials removed the study guides almost immediately after they learned about the foundation's opposition.

“We're taking the material offline to assess it,” said Fort Leavenworth spokeswoman Janet Wray.

The information was posted on the chaplain’s Web site, which is hosted by the military installation. The study guides have been availa-
Group threatens suit over Web study guides

FROM Bi
ble on the government Web site at least five years. Wray be
lieves the recent objections were the first complaints about the study guides.

The Fort Leavenworth chap
lain's office was responsible for posting the material, which has been used by Protestant Bible study groups, Wray said.

"I was massively offended by the study guide," Weinstein said.

"That's OK. I don't like cheese and butter, or the Dallas Cowboys ... but when they use the machinery of the state to push their biblical view, we strongly reject that."

He said that groups have ev
ey right to discuss religious viewpoints at a worship house or in private — provided everyone is there voluntarily.

"But they can't put all of it on the U.S. Army Web site," he said.

Fort Leavenworth said the study guides were written by retired Lt. Col. George Kuykendall, a Christian lay leader who is deceased. He wrote the guides in the mid-1980s.

The study guides ask partici
pants to ponder Bible verses.

They offer verses and subse
quent points to spark discus
sions. Some of the statements at issue were published in a lengthy file about Galatians.

"The Judiazers were zealous people (much like the zealous Moslems have become today)," the study guide said.

Other statements included:

Why did the Jews persecute Paul? Because of his teachings. The cross was an offense to the Jews. Jesus had victory over the cross (death)."

The words have a negative spin, said Tim Miller, interim chairman of the University of Kansas religious studies dep
dartment.

Miller said the study guide passages were anti-Semitic because they implied that Jews did certain things collectively.

"That's an unwarranted generalization," he said.

University of Missouri his
tory professor Gary Ebersole said the material is not likely to be found in "mainstream seminaries."

"It just seems to me there is a fundamentalist perspective the late Jerry Falwell represented," he said. Weinstein, a former counselor for the Reagan ad-

ministration and an Air Force Academy graduate, said he was pleased to learn that the study guides were removed after the publicity. He doesn't intend to stop pursuing the matter. He's settled for letters and phone calls in the past, but not this time.

Instead, he offered five words to Fort Leavenworth.

"Tell it to the judge," he said.

Weinstein wasn't surprised there were no objections.

He pointed out that most members of the military fear retribution in such situations.

"Look, it's really hard to speak truth to power," he said.

Weinstein said his agency has heard from and helped to protect Catholics, Protestants, Jews and others.

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The nonprofit foundation advisory board includes Topeka lawyer Pedro L. Irigonegaray, whom Weinstein named as a possible lead attorney in the court case he expects to file in federal court.

To reach Dawn Bormann, call 816-234-5992 or send e-mail to dbormann@kcstar.com.

The Star's Dave Helling and Sara Shepherd contributed to this report.
Juneteenth gala begins Friday

The Capital-Journal

The 31st annual Stardusters State Juneteenth celebration will begin Friday with a youth revival and gospel talent show and continue through Sunday.

The revival and talent show will begin at 7:30 p.m. Friday at the Gage Park Amphitheater, 635 S.W. Gage Blvd.

Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery in the United States.

Events Saturday are scheduled in Gage Park, Hillcrest Park and in downtown Topeka, where a parade will depart from the parking lot at S.W. 11th and Jackson at 11 a.m. and proceed north on Jackson to S.W. 6th, east to S. Kansas Avenue and back south to S.W. 12th Street. Darrell Stewart will be parade grand marshal.

Events at Gage Park on Saturday begin at 9 a.m. with a softball tournament and include live entertainment and music beginning at 12:30 p.m., flag football at 1 p.m. and a Women In Action State Business Conference from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Big Gage Shelter House.

The WIA conference will include recognition of the Juneteenth essay contest winners, Michaela Sleva, of Wamego, and Burke Slocum, of Circleville; Stardusters Man and Woman of the Year, James Arbertha, Wichita, and Rosalyn K. Brown, Kansas City, Kan.; and presentation of VIP awards to Dr. Betty Horton, Sandra Lassiter, Janel Johnson, Hattie Sherman, Norma Burnett, Mariah Sherman, Gary Slater and Wayne Franklin (posthumously).

Walgreens Drug Store will conduct an information career fair from 1 to 5 p.m. People are invited to bring a resume and meet members of the Walgreens executive leadership team. There will be refreshments and a drawing. The career fair also is sponsored by Bias Busters of Kansas.

Other Gage Park events include a car and motorcycle show, a climbing wall, talent show and more entertainment at the amphitheater.

A basketball tournament will begin at 7 p.m. in Hillcrest Park, 1800 S.E. 21st.

Sunday is Juneteenth Free Day at Gage Park. Free wrist bands can be picked up at the Westlake Shelter House, which are good for the Topeka Zoo, Carousel, Mini Train, swimming pool, pony rides and a carnival.

Church services will begin at 10 a.m. at the Big Gage Shelter House, and a Kansas African-American Community in the 20th Century Display will be presented at noon. The display will be provided by Deborah Dandridge, field archivist for the African-American collections and the Kansas Collection at The University of Kansas' Spencer Research Library, Lawrence.

Sponsors for the Juneteenth celebration are Stardusters, Women In Action, Parks and Recreation of Topeka, WIBW-TV Channel 13, the Topeka Zoo, The Topeka Capital-Journal, H.O.P.E. Inc., of Wichita, the city of Topeka, Visit Topeka, and Walgreens.
Area companies look to foreigners for skilled labor

BY JASON SHAAD | STAFF WRITER

As Congress wrestles with the issue of immigration, demand for skilled foreign workers remains strong among Kansas City-area technology and engineering firms.

Sprint Nextel Corp. and Black & Veatch Corp. topped the list of area companies that applied for H-1B foreign worker visas in 2006, the most recent year for which figures are available.

Sprint Nextel, which has its operations headquarters in Overland Park, filed 225 applications for foreign worker visas in 2006, the most recent year for which figures are available.

Sprint Nextel, which has its operations headquarters in Overland Park, filed 225 applications for foreign worker visas last year, according to U.S. Department of Labor data. That's more than any other Kansas company.

Overland Park-based engineering company Black & Veatch applied for 63 H-1B visas in Kansas and 14 in Missouri last year.

"It's about finding the highest-caliber person," said Lisa Zimmerman-Mott, a spokeswoman for Sprint Nextel. "We're not going to other countries. We're going to Midwestern universities, and these are the people who are signing up for interviews."

The H-1B visa program was created in 1990 and has become a primary way for U.S. employers to hire skilled foreign workers. The visas usually last for three years, with a potential three-year extension.

The H-1B program applies to positions that require at least a bachelor's degree. Employees working under an H-1B visa must be paid at or above the prevailing wage for their position.

The federal government has capped the number of H-1B visas granted annually at 65,000. An additional 20,000 visas are granted annually for foreign workers who graduate from U.S. colleges with a master's degree, said Mira Mdivani, an immigration lawyer from Overland Park who specializes in guiding companies through the H-1B application process.

On April 2 — the first day that companies could submit H-1B visa applications for the 2008 federal fiscal year — the government received 130,000 applications, halted the filing process and resorted to a lottery system to determine which applications to grant, Mdivani said.

"There is a horrendous shortage of
LABOR: Jobs in tech lead way
FROM PAGE 3

H-1B visas,” she said.

Sprint Nextel's Zimmerman-Mott said about half of the company's applications would be approved through the lottery system.

She said the company's applications are for positions throughout the country, not just in the Kansas City area. She could not disclose the number of H-1B workers at the company's Overland Park campus.

“Our recruiters are looking for the best-qualified candidates, regardless of their nationality,” Zimmerman-Mott said. “Most recent college graduates in technology fields are foreign nationals, and they're the best.”

Area companies applied for about 1,400 of the nearly 6,000 H-1B visa applications submitted in Kansas and Missouri in 2006.

On the Missouri-side of the state line, the Stowers Institute for Medical Research applied for 32 H-1B visas, and H&R Block Inc. applied for 20. Area companies applied for more than 360 H-1B visas in Missouri last year.

Universities were Missouri's biggest applicants for H-1B visas in 2006. As a group, universities in the state sought more than 600 H-1B visas. The University of Missouri-Kansas City applied for 58 H-1B visas, mostly for research assistants.

On the Kansas side, Sprint Nextel and Black & Veatch were the biggest area applicants. Local companies submitted more than 360 H-1B visas in Missouri last year.

“Most of the H-1B visas in both states were for high-tech jobs such as engineers and computer programmers and analysts. Missouri companies planned to pay H-1B visa employees an average annual salary of $65,000 a year, with pay ranging between $7.80 an hour for a management trainee in Columbia to $205,000 a year for a physician at Midwest Newborn Care LLC in Kansas City.

In Kansas, the average annual salary for H-1B workers was about $56,000. Pay ranged between $13.48 an hour for a programmer analyst in Leawood to $600,000 for a senior accountant in Overland Park. Black & Veatch filed at least one application for a civil engineer earning $480,000 a year.

“There is a reduced number of qualified U.S. engineering candidates available,” Black & Veatch spokesman George Minter said.

Anecdotal evidence supports that claim, Mdivani said. A typical H-1B visa application costs $2,000, not including attorney fees. Companies that don't want to wait months to get approval can pay an extra $1,000 to expedite applications.

“Most of our clients are reasonable businesspeople,” she said. “They don't want to spend thousands of dollars and jump through hoops for this process. If they could hire Americans, they would. They (apply for H-1B visas) because they have to.”

Mira Mdivani, an Overland Park immigration lawyer, says, “There is a horrendous shortage of H-1B visas.”
Local University of Kansas graduates, PART 1

The University of Kansas Class of 2007 numbered more than 6,400, including 2,125 who completed degree work in summer and fall 2006. Below, the hundreds of local students who received degrees:

**BONNER SPRINGS**

Geoffrey Maurice Collins son of Gary and Jackie Collins Music CompositionBM Senior Bachelor of Music/Music Composition&Bachelor of Music Education/Music Education
Kevin Millard Collins son of Gary and Jacqueline Collins Computer ScienceBS Senior Bachelor of Science in Computer Science High School
Leslie Katherine Gable daughter of James and Paula Gable Business AdministrationMBA Graduate Master of Business Administration
Megan Nicole Heffley daughter of Stephen and Pamela Heffley News and InformationBSJ Senior Bachelor of Science in Journalism Basehor-Linwood High School Basehor
Sharla Diane Lewis Female - Middle-Level EducationBSE Senior Bachelor of Science in Education Sperry High School Sperry OK
Can Elizabeth Lynn daughter of Max And Barb Burch EnglishBA Senior Bachelor of Arts/English High School
Brandi Danielle Mathiesen daughter of Sharon Mathiesen Social WorkMSW Graduate Master of Social Work High School
Sara Roshell Miller daughter of William and Shelly Miller EconomicsMINOR Senior Bachelor of Science in Journalism High School
Daniel Glenn Rundus son of Steve and Jo Rundus Communication StudiesMINOR Senior Communication StudiesMINOR&Bachelor of General Studies/Political Science Basehor-Linwood High School Basehor
Brian David Van Mol son of Dave and Dotty Van Mol BusinessMINOR Senior BusinessMINOR&Bachelor of General Studies/Economics Bishop Ward High School
Christine Colleen Wachter daughter of Neil Wachter PharmacyPD Prof 1 Doctor of Pharmacy High School
Edwardsville Frankie Mae Davis Female - RN to NursingBSN Senior Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Edwardsville Jared Louis Gillespie son of Larry and Sherry Gillespie Sport ScienceBSE Senior Bachelor of Science in Education High School
Edwardsville Nicholas Robert Romo son of Crespin and Cheryl Romo BiochemistryBS Senior Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry&Bachelor of Science in Microbiology High School

**KANSAS CITY, KAN.**

Yvonne Denise Brown Female - Social WorkMSW Graduate Master of Social Work
Stacy Leila Dashiell Female - MedicineMD Prof 1 Doctor of Medicine
Chanthone Khounvongsa daughter of Ma Khounvongsa Middle-Level EducationBSE Senior Bachelor of Science in Education Wyandotte High School
Jasper Vaughndale Abbott son of James Abbott Political ScienceBA Senior Bachelor of Arts/Political Science Booker T Washington High Sch Tulsa OK
Courtney Cherron Cobb daughter of Ronald and Carolyn Cobb HistoryBGS Senior Bachelor of General Studies/History Summer Academy Arts & Science
Melandrie Henning daughter of Jeanne Henning EnglishBGS Senior Bachelor of General Studies/English&SociologyMINOR Bishop Ward High School
Kenneth James Murphy son of Fred and Annette Murphy Urban PlanningMUP Graduate Master of Urban Planning Summer Academy Arts & Science
Kristi Lynn Portley daughter of Linda Cofield Health Info ManagementBS Senior Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management Turner High School
Monica R Roberts Female - RN to NursingBSN Senior Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Lauren B Sosinski daughter of Timothy and Geralyn Sosinski Elementary EducationBSE Senior Bachelor of Science in Education Summer Academy Arts & Science
Marcus Adal Walker son of Rita Walker AnthropologyBGS Senior Bachelor of General Studies/Anthropology Summer Academy Arts & Science

Watch the Kansan for more of this list next week
Yearbook staff wins awards

Bishop Carroll Catholic High School won the state journalism championship for the second straight year on May 5 at the University of Kansas. In addition, the Flyer received an All-Kansas rating – the highest ranking given.

First-place award-winners include Christian Beck in sports writing, Nathan McMillan in feature photography, and Allison Pfeifer in newspaper design.

Second-place winners are Allie Cole in newspaper design, Nick Gerik in advertising design, Lauren Halstead in cutline writing, and Allison Pfeifer in infographics.

Third-place award-winners are Nick Geric in infographics and sports photography, Allison Pfeifer in advertising design, and Sara Rajewski in editing.

Receiving honorable mention were Nick Gerik in news writing, Mary Ohm in headline writing, and Claire Sullentrop in feature writing.
Digital Boot Camps allow teens to create a persona of one of the "Harry Potter" books by J.K. Rowling. Joe Fox is undecided on his subject.

The library invited Stacey Fox, technical director for film studies at The University of Kansas, to instruct the students at the boot camp.

"I will teach them basic techniques and then it's up to the students to see where their imaginations will take them," he said.

DIGITAL BOOT CAMPS
To register teenagers for the Digital Boot Camps in July and August, call the library's Youth Services at (785) 580-4565.

The first boot camp began Monday and will continue through Friday. Monday, the students were introduced to the program. Today, Stacey Fox plans to begin teaching them how to build.

But due to what he calls "intuitive technology," they already had begun building Monday. Hermann and McNorton had built forts with landing pads, while Joe Fox had built a house and was furnishing it.

"My fort has two big cylinder things," McNorton said. "They have holes in the middle. A platform covers one."
## Camp: Age limit gives students safety net

*Continued from Page 1B*

Joe Fox, 13, found out about the program from his parents, who were looking for summer camp ideas.

"It's fun," he said of the camp and Second Life. "First of all, you make new friends."

Students can meet and talk to other users from around the world, but the program's age limit of 13-17 provides a safety net for the students. Adults must use the adult grid or have a background check to use the teen grid.

Second Life is being used in schools, universities and businesses internationally. Harvard uses it for educational purposes to conduct mock trials.

Cherylene Lovett, Topeka West High School librarian, and Leslie Weishaar, Shawnee Heights Middle School librarian, sat in on the boot camp to discover "possibilities for what we can do with it in the classrooms," Weishaar said.

*Adrielle Harvey can be reached at (785) 295-5617*
Future KU students will enjoy a picnic

New University of Kansas students and their parents from McPherson and surrounding counties will be welcomed at the Jayhawk Generations Welcome Picnic at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday.

The KU Alumni Association and its Santa Fe Trail chapter will greet future University of Kansas students during a picnic in their honor at Lakeside Cabin, 1101 E. Euclid.

The alumni association invited incoming students whose enrollment deposits were received by the Office of Admissions by May 1.

Students who qualified were Ashley Mabrey and Dana Schmidt, Hesston; Kyndel Friesen, Inman; Sarah Cook, McPherson College; Grace Chin, Andrew Claassen, Brady Crist, Elkee Erickson, Griffin Hawkinson, Bradley Lansaw, Amy Reese, Julia Snell, Danon Williamson, McPherson High School; and Rachel Norland, Arthur Nuss; Chantz Thomas, Smoky Valley High School; and Adam Williams, Canton-Galva.

Area alumni, new students, students interested in learning more about KU and parents are invited to attend and enjoy complimentary food and beverages. Each new Jayhawk will receive a free T-shirt.

McPherson's Larry Chaney is coordinating the event.

For reservations, visit kualumni.org or call (800) 584-2957.
LAWRENCE (AP) -- Police searched buildings at the University of Kansas on Friday morning after receiving a report of a man with a rifle near the center of campus, but called off the search when no gunman was found.

The university announced the all-clear on its Web site shortly before 11 a.m.

University spokesman Todd Cohen said the caller reported seeing the man near Wescoe Hall, which houses the school's English Department.

The search involved the university's public safety department as well as officers from Lawrence and Douglas County, Cohen said.

The university was not placed on lockdown, he said, but faculty, staff and students were sent an e-mail shortly after 10 a.m. advising them to stay indoors.