Verna Rowe, for 25 years of service to The Newton Kansan.

Chelsea Williams, for receiving a $4,500 Lew Wentz Foundation Project Award for 2007-08 at Oklahoma State University.

Joseph Gerber, Mary Adams, Carol Harrison, Jennea Heinrichs, Kenroy Wilson and Lisa Moore, for receiving degrees from Baker University.

Jeremy Koop, for being awarded a Weigand Scholarship for the 2007-08 school year from the Washburn University School of Law.

Juell Nebergall, for being awarded a Greek Week award for Washburn University fraternities and sororities.

Marie S. Voth, for being named to the spring semester dean’s list at Eastern Mennonite University.

Marlene Smucker, for being honored as a 2007 outstanding branch member by the Newton Area Branch of the American Association of University Women.

Mary Lou Abrahams, for 27-plus years as an employee in the Harvey County treasurer’s office.

Wichita Clinic Bethel, for giving $440 for the Newton Area Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament.

Habitat for Humanity, for building a house for Fabiola Flores and her daughter, Camilla.

Scott Nuss, for receiving a bachelor of arts degree from Southwestern College.

Adam Thomas Gregg, for graduating from The University of Kansas School of Medicine.

Clark Roth, for his 20 years at Hesston College.

Joel Kaufman, for being selected as interim vice president at Hesston College.

Prudential Dinning-Beard, for celebrating its one-year anniversary.

Kentucky Fried Chicken and Montana Mike’s, for supporting disaster relief.

Eric Habegger, for being awarded the doctor of education degree from Peabody College of Education at Vanderbilt University.

Meals on Wheels program, for being awarded Site of the Year during Volunteer Appreciation Week.

Joyce Fonseca, Louise Smith and Jeannine Vaupel, for being awarded the Sunshine Award during Volunteer Appreciation Week.

Elda Becker, Joyce McCormick, Faye Storrer, and Jim and Janet Zook, for being awarded the Beacon Award during Volunteer Appreciation Week.

Wayne and Mary Lou Allison, Felix Cormier, Evelyn Garrison, Carol Hill and Flo Taber, for being awarded the Phoenix Award during Volunteer Appreciation Week.

Lily Pankratz, for being placed on the dean’s list for scholastic performance at Cottey College.
KU honors students

Two Derby students were among the University of Kansas top scholars graduating with Class of 2007. Derby students were: Michelle Thi Tran, daughter of Chinh and Lan Tran, African and African-American Studies, a Senior Endowment Meritorious Scholar, and Mason Travis Tyler, son of Michael and Michelle Tyler, Summerfield Scholar.

Tran was also recognized at an honors program ceremony, where she was presented with Senior University Honors Program Cord and named a University Scholar. Also honored was Derby student Tanner Jeffrey Rinke, son of Tracy Henseler, mechanical engineering, who received a Senior University Honors Program Cord and was named a University Scholar.
District names
KU 25-year recipients

The Derby USD 260 staff members who received the Kansas University 25 Years of Service recognition are: Katherine Ann Chance, Eldon Edwards, Elizabeth Milligan, Kay Lee Morgan, John Nichols and Roger Scovell, all at Derby High School.

Cynthia Chalker and Debra Daniels, Derby Middle School; Evelyn Gieseke and Marilyn Leiszler, Swaney Elementary; Charlene Laramore, Educational Support Center; Linda Lee, Oaklawn Elementary; Carol Malashchuk, Cooper Elementary.

Rebecca McCune, Derby Hills Elementary; Mary Mueller, Sixth Grade Center; Blinda Simpler, Pleasantview Elementary; and Cheryl Zabel, El Paso Elementary.
Hunters search for elusive, tasty 'prey'
Mushroom enthusiasts enjoy the thrill of the hunt in Kansas forests

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Sherry Kay hiked through the brush and grasses at Breidenthal Biological Reserve in search of her obsession: mushrooms.

It was a warm afternoon; the floor of the woods was still damp from a recent rain. And the fungi were hiding from its hunter.

“It’s just like fishing, you never know,” Kay said.

Kay and four members of the Kaw Valley Mycological Society — Bob Bruce, Stan Schneck, Ron Meyers, Cindy Trask, all of Lawrence — walked through the 90-acre forest, scanning the ground for white or brown caps and stems. They knew mushrooms were likely to grow near oak and hickory trees and river banks.

They climbed up and down the banks of a creek on the western edge of the reserve and searched underneath fallen, rotting logs and tree limbs. As they continued their hunt, Kay talked about her obsession.

“Mushrooms are essential because they help rot wood in the forest,” she said.

She points to mycelium, a white fibrous substance, on a rotting tree trunk lying on the ground.

“It looks like white paint, but that was a mushroom,” she said. “That is the organism that later produces mushrooms.”

Suddenly, Bruce shouts that he’s found morels along the creek bed. Steps quicken toward his voice, and the hunters surround their prey. They pluck the spongy morels, which have pitted, yellowish-brown heads, and place them in their baskets. The mushrooms most likely will end up on their dinner tables, after being sauteed in butter or baked and stuffed with meats or vegetables.

“I just can’t resist them,” Kay said as she picked another one.

Kay, a retired psychologist, has been hunting and identifying mushrooms at Breidenthal for several years. Her husband, Richard “Skip” Kay, a retired University of Kansas history professor, authored "A Guide to Kansas Mushrooms," and together they have developed a checklist of mushrooms found in state.

“There are about 3,000 types of mushrooms in Kansas and we’ve identified about 1,000,” she said.

As she hiked through Breidenthal, Kay pointed out different types of mushrooms:

— Polyporus alveolaris. Its small, orange cap appears on fallen hardwood branches during the spring and may persist through summer, according to "A Guide to Kansas Mushrooms." The underside of the cap shows large hexagonal pores, and it has a stubby, nearly lateral stalk.

— Stereum. It appears as a parchment-like, shell-shaped crust on decaying tree limbs or logs. It is too leathery to eat.

— Tremella mesenterica, or witch’s butter. A yellow-orange jelly that has the consistency of half-melted butter and appears on dead deciduous trees. The guide states the jelly dries into hard, shriveled masses that are easily revived with moisture.

Kay and other members to search for new types of fungi. Occasionally, friends will give Kay mushrooms they’ve found in Kansas.

On this day, she had an oyster mushroom in her freezer that someone had dropped off a day or two earlier.

“I’m not a real big eater of mushrooms, because I’ve had them on my table rotting from identifying them,” she said.

Caleb Morse, collection manager at R.L. McGregor Herbarium on the University of Kansas West Campus, said Kay and other Kaw Valley Mycological Society members have donated hundreds of mushroom specimens to the collection.

“They had no place to deposit the specimens so we serve as the depository,” Morse said.

The herbarium has about 370,000 specimens, including plants, fungi, lichens and mosses, he said. About two-thirds are from the Great Plains. The collection includes about 6,000 fungi specimens.
I FOUND ONE — Sherry Kay (above) holds up a tiny, dome-shaped mushroom as she inspects it with a smile at the Breidenthal Biological Reserve in Lawrence. Bob Bruce, (below) another member of the Kaw Valley Mycological Society, photographs a morel mushroom during a recent hike.

(AP Wirephoto)
TAKING A BREAK — After four hours of hiking, Sherry Kay takes a break from searching for morels and looks up the long trunk of a tree. She and other members of the Kaw Valley Mycological Society observed many types of mushrooms during a recent hunt in the Briedenthal Biological Reserve at Lawrence. (AP Wirephoto)
Miss Sedgwick County crowned Miss Kansas

PRATT, Kan. (AP) - Miss Sedgwick County was crowned Miss Kansas in a ceremony Saturday night.

The winner was Alyssa George, 21, a Minneapolis, Kan., native who is a business major at the University of Kansas. She will go on to compete for the title of Miss America.

The first runner-up was Lindsay Hoover, 24, of Anthony, who competed as Miss Wooded Hills. The second runner-up Alexandra Miller, 17, of Derby, who competed as Miss Topeka.
Bill Docking received the University of Kansas School of Business Distinguished Alumnus Award at a dinner on April 12 in Lawrence.

The School of Business established the award in 1998 to honor outstanding alumni.

At KU, Docking received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1973, followed by his Master's of Business Administration and Juris Doctorate, both in 1977.

He is Chairman and CEO of Union State Bank of Arkansas City, Chairman of City National Bank & Trust Company in Guymon, Okla., and Chairman and President of Docking Bancshares, Inc., which is the holding company for both banks.

In addition, he is the Managing Member of Docking Development, L.L.C., an oil production company based in Oxford, and serves on the boards of numerous foundations.

Docking, who is also a C.P.A., was one of two alumni recommended by the school's Selection Committee to be honored for 2007. The other honoree is Robert S. Kaplan a Harvard teacher who is also the Senior Director of the Goldman Sachs Group in New York.

Both men's names will be included on a plaque outside the dean's office.
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 second part of the hundreds of local students who received degrees:

KANSAS CITY, KAN
Monet Nyree Williams daughter of Levada Davis Applied Behavioral ScienceBGS Senior Bachelor of General Studies/Applied Behavioral Sci Turner High School
Hassan Dheiffallah Al Omari Male - NursingPHD Graduate Doctor of Philosophy/Nursing
Christopher Lee Anderson Male - MedicineMD Prof 1 Doctor of Medicine Rose Hill High School Rose Hill
James Steven Bear Male - MedicineMD Prof 1 Doctor of Medicine
Scott Michael Boswell Male - MedicineMD Prof 1 Doctor of Medicine Olathe South High School Olathe
James Conrad Cisneros son of Merle Cisneros Communication StudiesBGS DECL Senior Bachelor of General Studies/Communication Studies Kickapoo Nation School Powhattan
Leah Ann Evans Female - NursingBSN Senior Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Jessica Michelle Gannon Female - MedicineMD Prof 1 Doctor of Medicine Topeka High School Topeka
Jennie Michelle Goff Female - Dietetics and NutritionMS Graduate Doctor of Science/Dietetics and Nutrition
Omar Bradley Hamid Male - PharmacyPD Prof 1 Doctor of Pharmacy Ooltewah High School Ooltewah TN
Yueping Hou Male - MedicineMD Prof 1 Doctor of Medicine
Erin Elizabeth Jeovens-Lee daughter of Robert and Sharon Lee Jeovens Theatre and Film BGS Senior Bachelor of General Studies/Theatre and Film Saint Teresa's Academy MO
Melisa Erika Jimenez daughter of Ricardo and Alicia Garcia PsychologyBA DECL Senior Bachelor of Arts/Psychology J C Harmon High School
Arkady Alexander Klykov Male - MedicineMD Prof 1 Doctor of Medicine
Katrina Marie Lang Female - MedicineMD Prof 1 Doctor of Medicine Blue Valley High School Stilwell
Logan Leo Lechner Male - MedicineMD Prof 1 Doctor of Medicine
Jennifer Lynn Oakley daughter of Alan Oakley Strategic CommunicationsBS Senior Bachelor of Science in Journalism Piper High School
Elena Michelle Price Female - MedicineMD Prof 1 Doctor of Medicine
Heidi Michelle Quilty Female - NursingBSN Senior Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Lesley Ann Rhine Female - Physical TherapyDPT Graduate Doctor of Physical Therapy
Ginger D Rhoads daughter of Robyn Rhoads DesignBFA Senior Bachelor of Fine Arts/Design
Christina Mueller Shah Female - Occupational TherapyMOT Graduate Master of Occupational Therapy Wichita Hs East Wichita
LaTonia Nichole Wright Female - Social WorkAdv StandingMSW Graduate Master of Social Work
Kelly Jo Dvorak daughter of William and Phyllis Albert Elementary EducationBSE Senior Bachelor of Science in Education Sumner Academy Arts & Science
Jessica Ann Genz daughter of Jackie Wright Applied Behavioral ScienceBGS Senior Bachelor of General Studies/Applied Behavioral Sci Sumner Academy Arts & Science
Jessica Ann Genz daughter of Kevin Wright Applied Behavioral ScienceBGS Senior Bachelor of General Studies/Applied Behavioral Sci Sumner Academy Arts & Science
Terren N. Hall daughter of Pamela Hall ArchitectureBarch Senior Bachelor of Architecture Washington High School
Le’Andra Re’Nee Hood daughter of LeAndra Hood Applied Behavioral ScienceBA Senior Bachelor of Arts/Applied Behavioral Science Washington High School
Randall Harrison Jarrett son of Regina Jarrett SociologyBGS Senior Bachelor of General Studies/Sociology Wyandotte High School
Michelle Elaine Kovac daughter of Matt and Rhonda Nava Human BiologyBA Senior Bachelor of Arts/Human Biology Sumner Academy Arts & Science
Iris Leilani Lee daughter of Iris Lee EnglishBGS Senior Bachelor of General Studies/English Saint Teresa’s Academy MO
Anita Marie Metoyer Female - Hlth ServicesAdmMHS Graduate Master of Health Services Administration Washington High School
Charles M Winslow-Bey Male - NursingBSN Senior Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Fakou Yang daughter of Levisdan Yang and Mao Thao MarketingBBS Senior Bachelor of Science in Business/Marketing Sumner Academy Arts & Science
Paulina Vazquez daughter of Cesarea Quinonez NursingBSN Senior Bachelor of Science in Nursing Sumner Academy Arts & Science
Amanda Faye Colley daughter of Bobby and Faye Colley EconomicsBGS Senior Bachelor of General Studies/Economics&Bachelor of General Studies/Psychology Sumner Academy Arts & Science
Chad A Kyle son of Deby Kyle EngineeringPhysicsBS Senior Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics Maranatha Academy Shawnee
Jessica Marie Lopez daughter of Ralph and Theresa Lopez PharmacyPD Prof 1 Doctor of Pharmacy Bishop Miege High School Shawnee Mission
Rocio Santellan Mendez daughter of Jesus and Felipa Mendez PharmacyPD Prof 1 Doctor of Pharmacy Bishop Ward High School
Elizabeth Rose Rieke daughter of Leo and Rose Rieke FinanceBS Senior Bachelor of Science in Business/Finance Saint Thomas Aquinas High School Overland Park
Adam William Ruiz son of Henry and Jerri
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ruiz</td>
<td>BS Senior Bachelor</td>
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<td>Amy C Sachau</td>
<td>Female - Medicine</td>
<td>Sumner Academy Arts &amp; Science</td>
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<td>Rachel Elise Tucker</td>
<td>daughter of William</td>
<td>Sumner Academy Arts &amp; Science</td>
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<td>Jamie Lynn Weese</td>
<td>daughter of Don</td>
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<td>Devon Rachelle Bell</td>
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<td>Jonathan Daniel Coleman</td>
<td>son of Sharla Coleman</td>
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<td>Kevin Wesley Fithian</td>
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<td>Megaen Colleen Breuer</td>
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Watch the Kansan for more of this list next week
Special to the Kansan

El Centro, Inc. and Studio 804 invite the public to visit Mod 4 Modular 4 is a prefabricated house, built in a warehouse and transported to a prepared site at 3914 Lloyd, near the University of Kansas Medical Center in the Rosedale neighborhood of Kansas City, Kan.

With the sponsorship of El Centro, Inc., a graduate class of 22 architecture students from the University of Kansas designed and built this house to represent the modern aesthetic.

In addition to its contemporary appearance, the design responds carefully to its site, addressing important concerns about energy efficiency and sustainability.

As part of its NeighborWorks® Week activities, El Centro will hold an open house at Mod 4 on Wednesday, June 6, 2007 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm, Thursday, June 7, 2007 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Friday, June 8, 2007 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Pottery, furniture, paintings, weavings, ceramics and other works from recent Kansas City Art Institute graduates Zeke Henry, Brock DeBoer, Celia Butler, Greg Dalker and current student Travis Pratt will be displayed throughout the house.

Mod 4 exterior features include the use of StabiliGrid to create the driveway and sidewalks.

StabiliGrid is a system of interlocking 100 percent recycled post-consumer polyethylene squares which create permeable driveway and sidewalk surfaces allowing water to collect and penetrate through a gravel bed where it can be absorbed into the ground rather than becoming runoff.

The interior of the house features renewable bamboo flooring, kitchen and bathroom countertops made from Paperstone, a resin impregnated recycled paper product. Densely packed cellulose fiber insulation (made of recycled newspaper) creates ratings of R-20 in the walls and R-40 in the roof.

A large south facing wall in the living area features three sliding doors with Heat Smart Plus, argon filled, low-E annealed glass.

This arrangement allows passive solar space heating in colder months while a system of three sliding exterior wooden screens blocks sun in warmer seasons.

For questions or more information please contact Jeff Fendorf at jfendorf@elcentroinc.com or 913-677-0100.
Dan Breslauer, Emeritus KU Professor, is teaching a course titled “Religion in Popular Song” on three consecutive Monday afternoons starting June 18 as part of the Osher Continuing Education Program at KU’s Edwards Campus in Overland Park. The course is said to examine the “types of religious expression found in selected examples of popular music, folk music and spirituals. (in order to) show how people think about God, human nature and religious obligations.” To sign up, or for more information, call (877) 404-5823, or visit http://www.continuinged.ku.edu/lifelonglearning.