KU Alumni Assoc.
welcomes new students

New University of Kansas students and their parents from Cheyenne, Decatur, Gove, Logan, Rawlins, Sheridan, Thomas and Wallace counties will be welcomed into the KU family at the Jayhawk Generations Welcome Picnic at 6:30 p.m., Monday, June 16, in Colby.

Jordan Carroll of Atwood has been invited to attend.

The KU Alumni Association and its Northwest chapter will greet the next generation of Jayhawks at the Senior Progress Center, 165 Fife Park St., Colby. 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.

Jeff Mason, chapter president of Goodland; Paul Steele, secretary of Colby; and Kurt Vollersten, student recruitment co-chair of Oberlin; and KU Alumni Association representatives Jennifer Sanner, senior vice president for communications; Lora Stoppel, vice president for special events; and Jamie Winkelmann, assistant director for alumni programs, are coordinating the event.

Association staff will arrive with the signature KU trailer full of grills, burgers and brats for the festivities. Current KU students, alumni and university representatives will mix and mingle with students to answer questions and offer advice.

For more information or to make reservations, visit www.kualumni.org, call the KU Alumni Association at 1-800-584-2957 or email kualumni@kualumni.org.
Laura Kelly files for new term in Kansas Senate

TOPEKA – Senator Laura Kelly, D-Topeka, announced today that she has filed by petition with the Kansas Secretary of State for a second term serving the Senate’s 18th District. Kelly was first elected in 2004.

“It is an honor to serve the people of the 18th District in the legislature,” she said. “I will continue to work hard to represent the values and principles important to Shawnee and Wabaunsee counties.”

As the Ranking Minority Member of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, Kelly is responsible for recommending to the legislature an annual state budget that addresses the needs of Kansas veterans, public education, working families, and services for disabled and older Kansans. In 2007, she helped pass new funding that improves benefits for Kansas veterans and provides free in-state tuition to more active-duty military personnel. “Kansas provides tuition benefits to police officers, firefighters and emergency medical service workers, as well as their dependents. These same benefits should be available to the brave men and women who defend our country.”

Senator Kelly was also instrumental in passing legislation that enhances early childhood programs. “To ensure that all children are ready to learn by the time they reach kindergarten, the Senate this year approved $23 million in block grant funding for early childhood education. These grants will also include opportunities for expanded pre-natal care, newborn screening, Parents as Teachers, and Early Head Start,” she said. “It’s important that we keep our commitment to Kansas kids in the coming years, as studies have found that for every dollar invested in education programs $17 is saved on education remediation, crime, incarceration, health care and job training in the future.”

In 2007, she was appointed by Governor Kathleen Sebelius to serve on the Kansas Council on Travel and Tourism Board of Directors, which works to promote state attractions and improve the travel industry within Kansas. She has also been appointed by the governor to serve on the Kansas Children’s Cabinet, Kansas, Inc. Board of Directors and on the Kansas Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Prior to joining the Kansas Senate, Kelly spent 18 years as executive director for the non-profit Kansas Recreation and Park Association, where she advocated for stronger communities and healthier Kansans.

She and her husband, Ted Daughety, have two daughters; Kathleen, a 2006 graduate of Kansas University, and Molly, a student at KU.
schools will provide students with the skills they need to meet today’s job market and will help boost our economy by attracting new businesses to Kansas."

As a member of the Joint Committee on Health Policy Oversight, Senator Kelly has been a strong advocate for accessible and af-
By HOWARD KEESINGER

When state Sen. Dennis Pyle, R-Hiawatha, asked when the four-lane could be extended west of Wathena on U.S. 36, first district engineer W. Clay Adams, Topeka, said that could be included in a new highway program.

The annual U.S. 36 Highway Association meeting was Friday at First National Bank, Washington.

Kansas Legislature will be faced with drafting a new highway program next session, and escalating costs, driven mostly by record costs of oil, are threatening work planned for the next few years.

Shannon Kusilek, St. Joseph, district planning engineer for Missouri Department of Transportation, said the completion of the remaining 52 miles of four lanes on U.S. 36 between Macon and Hannibal is to be completed by late 2009, a year ahead of schedule. Finish work was speeded up by a sales tax increase voted in by counties where the last stretch of two lane was under construction or scheduled for construction.

The upgrade is from rural two-lane to four-lane expressway. Costs will be about $100 million for work done from 2007 to 2011 for expansion and rehabilitation of existing lanes on the 180 miles from St. Joseph to Hannibal.

Monroe City to Hannibal, 11.5 miles of roadwork, is to be finished in September; Shelbina to Monroe City, 16 miles, is to open in November 2009; and Macon to Shelbina is to open in December 2009.

After the four lanes are completed, Kusilek said, traffic on the four lanes in Missouri is expected to pick up 10 percent in five years, perhaps more.

Adams, one of three new KDOT district engineers at the meeting, said his first district, Wathena to the Marshall-Washington line, has two more resurfacing projects on U.S. 36 this year, from Wathena west to Troy and Seneca west to K-87.

Wathena to Troy started May 19 and is to be finished in late June. Work started near Seneca June 4 and is to be finished in July.

“We try to match the action with what’s going on and spend efficiently,” Adams said.

Proposed for 2009, he said, but on the bubble because of excessive costs were two bridges between Fairview and Hiawatha and resurfacing from the west junction of K-63 to K-236 and from that junction to the Nemaha-Brown County line.

Adams is on the task force named to start meeting in later summer to consider a new highway bill. He said top equipment will be more expensive because of rising costs.

NEW PROGRAM NEEDED

State Rep. Sharon Schwartz, R-Washington, said the Kansas gas tax paid by motorists goes to fund airports, railroad yards, other modes of transportation and not just highways.

A new program is needed, she said, and this will be a topic for the Legislature, which will consider a new highway program next year.

If additional gaming is approved, Schwartz said, and tax relief and debt reduction come to pass, taxpayers could benefit.

Programs to be considered include a $450 million expansion for the KU Pharmacy School, she said, expansion of prisons, the current transportation plan, interest for universities and pay for KPERS. These have created resistance in the Legislature for additional bonding obligations.

Of the 13 counties along U.S. 36 across Kansas, asked to raise $2,000 each for a Docking Institute of Fort Hays State University study to help determine the feasibility of widening U.S. 36 to four lanes from Wathena west to Belleville, then super-two to the Colorado line, eight have paid $2,000, two more have promised to pay and the last three are to be contacted.

The funding will be needed by this fall if the association is going to try for a foundation grant, U.S. 36 president Steve Haynes, Oberlin, said. The effort may take 50-60 years to get improvements, Haynes said, just as getting U.S. 81 improvements took a long time.

William F. Horner, Plano, Texas, a native of northeast Kansas, was at the meeting and wrote a check for $200 to U.S. 36 Highway Association toward this effort.

Director Marilyn Sorenson, Scandia, noted that 1,800 new U.S. 36 brochures given out at the Kansas Sampler Festival at Concordia were well received.

Vice president Jim Erickson, Scandia, head of the fall treasure hunt along U.S. 36, noted plans are unfolding for the event.

DISTRICT 2

New district 2 engineer, Randy West, Salina, said just over $2 million has been spent in his district removing guard rail, which in snowy weather has acted like snow fence.

Another safety move has been to add rock at the edge of highways to stop erosion by semis. Rock is very expensive, he said, because it must be shipped in from other states. Thirty-foot minimum roadways are being added to help make travel safer.

Set for next year is rebuilding of the U.S. 36-K-15 Washington intersection, which doesn’t have room for semis and is to cost $1.6 million.

DISTRICT 3

Jeff Stewart, Norton construction/materials engineer, said old milling will be used for two-inch overlay for western Rawlins and western Decatur counties. To be done later this summer will be 11 miles east from the Decatur-Rawlins line.

Because of “raging costs” that have risen 20-30 percent in a half year, a wait-and-see attitude is being taken on work in At-
Schwartz asked if anyone had considered locking in prices for asphalt, and Stewart said Nebraska had done that at McCook, which is just north of Oberlin.

Engineer Adams said soaring prices can put contractors out of business, and there is no way they can guess at what prices will be in the future.

Stewart noted that contractors can’t get estimates for two years.

Schwartz noted that Southwest Airlines had locked in fuel prices for two years.

**OFFICERS RE-ELECTED**

Officers re-elected were president Steve Haynes, Oberlin; vice president Jim Erickson, Scandia; executive vice president, Cy Moyer, Phillipsburg; vice president Chad Kramer, Marysville.

**DOG SERVICE**

Judy Sifers, CEO of Kansas Specialty Dog Service Inc., Washington, told at the luncheon how she had read about KSDS in the Kansas City Star while she and her family lived at Platte City, Mo.

The family visited the place, learned it was OK, there was no charge for the service and took a yellow Lab puppy named Chopin home for about a year. They came to Washington for graduation after Chopin had received formal training. Chopin went to a Topeka-area firefighter who had fallen off a roof and was confined to a wheelchair, and the Sifers learned what Chopin would do for him.

Nine litters later, and after Sifers had retired from teaching and the family was living at Granby, Colo., the head job opened at KSDS and she got it July 1 of last year.

The Sifers learned about the involved training, which included having a trainer take a dog on busy city streets for two weeks. Guide, service and social dogs are trained to meet ADI standards, and the right temperament is important.

“Being a partner with a dog is hard work,” Sifers said.

“This is such a friendly community,” she said of Washington, and KSDS is providing freedom and inclusion for the people it helps.

KSDS has five full-time people, six part time and lots of volunteer help from the community.

Fund-raising is under way for $300,000 and a matching grant to develop six more units at Washington.

One duplex has been built and six more would provide privacy and accessibility for clients.

Sifers said she hopes to see an existing building remodeled to provide a commercial kitchen, a small community room, continuing education and restrooms.

“KSDS needs you,” she said.

About 20 clients and dogs are placed in a partnership every year.

The next graduation will be July 26, Sifers said, when seven dogs will be ready to provide independence.
Arnold and Strine attend Girls State on KU Campus

Courtney Strine and Jihan Arnold of Lebanon were chosen by the Gordon M. Brown Unit #185 of Lebanon, to attend the 66th annual session of Sunflower Girls State on the University of Kansas Lawrence campus. Sunflowers Girls State was sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary June 1st through 6th, 2008. Miss Strine is the daughter of Bret and Shelly Strine of Lebanon and Miss Arnold is the daughter of Rodney and Belinda Arnold of Lebanon.

Joining approximately 465 other young women who have just completed their Junior year of high school, Miss Strine and Miss Arnold did “Learn by Doing” the political system involved in the government of Kansas.

Beginning at the city level, advancing to county and the state, the girls registered to vote, file nomination papers, conduct political campaigns, and prepare and present speeches.

Helen Bolton, Manhattan, was the 2007 Governor of Sunflower Girls State and presided at the sessions. Rachel Van Horn, Lawrence, the 2007 Lt. Governor assisted. The girls were housed in Ellsworth Hall and the Inauguration was held in the Lied Performing Arts Center.

During the week, speakers on government at the various levels shared their expertise with the girls. They had the opportunity to ask questions about these individuals’ responsibilities in government. Speakers included: The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius, Governor of Kansas; Ron Thornburg, Secretary of State; Mrs. LaVeta Miller, Department President of the American Legion Auxiliary; and other state, county and city officials.

Mrs. Anne Werner, Axtell, was the 2008 Director of Sunflower Girls State and Mrs. Jeanne Haas, New Strawn, served as Assistant Director. A staff of 60 American Legion Auxiliary members and former Girl Staters volunteered in service.
The Chabad Jewish Student Center at KU hosted a congratulations and welcome barbecue for graduating seniors from high schools in the Kansas City area. The barbecue served as an opportunity for the many incoming freshman to learn more about Jewish life in college and the many opportunities that exist for further involvement. Pictured are Scott Bratt, (from left) Jordan Marks, Sheila Friedman and Gina Cohn. For more information on the programs and events at Chabad @ KU, visit www.jewishku.com or call (785) 832-8672.
Regents approve tuition increases

By MARÁ ROSE WILLIAMS
The Kansas City Star

The Kansas Board of Regents on Thursday approved tuition increases for six state universities and extended the University of Kansas program guaranteeing incoming freshmen a fixed four-year rate.

The tuition increases range from 4.9 percent at Emporia State University to 6 percent at the University of Kansas.

Under KU's guaranteed tuition plan, implemented last fall, incoming Kansas freshmen will pay $229.25 per credit hour through the 2011-12 school year, about $244 more a semester than 2007 compact freshmen pay. Out-of-state freshmen will pay $602.05 per credit hour.

KU Chancellor Robert Hemenway said that even with the increases, "our tuition is still not very high." Among Big 12 institutions, KU tuition cost falls in the middle.

According to a recent survey by the Board of Regents, Kansans who attended Kansas State University, KU or Wichita State University pay $822, or 14 percent, less per year than residents in neighboring states to attend similar institutions.

Still, Hemenway said, "we have to find a better way to fund higher education ... without depending as much on the student as we have been."

KU juniors, seniors, transfers and graduate students will see a 6 percent increase in tuition.

For in-state students, that means an additional $175.50 a semester for a student enrolled in 15 credit hours. Out-of-state juniors, seniors and transfers taking 15 hours will pay an additional $460.50 a semester.

K-State tuition will increase by 5.8 percent for all students in the fall, a $449-a-year increase. K-State officials said the increase is the lowest for the university in six years.

For Kansas undergraduates, Wichita State tuition is going up 5.9 percent, or $116.25 a year; Emporia State tuition goes up 4.9 percent, or $77 a year; Fort Hays State tuition goes up 5.5 percent, or $71.25 a year; and Pittsburg State tuition goes up 5.8 percent, or $93 a year.

To contact Mará Rose Williams, call 816-234-4419 or send e-mail to mdwilliams@kcstar.com
Law allows KU to lease space to companies

Under a new state law and action by the Kansas Board of Regents, Kansas University will be able to lease space to for-profit companies and not have to pay property tax on the area. The only stipulation to this rule is that KU would be required to transfer the property over to the Board of Regents, according to a board staff memo.

While no company has been picked, it is possible that the area could be given to companies that would commercialize the technology developed at KU.

— Lawrence Journal World

Compiled by Aaron Pauls
No tuition increase here

KSU-Salina is the only regents school that doesn't raise rates

Here's one more thing to add to that growing list of things increasing in price. On Thursday, the state Board of Regents approved new tuition and fee rates for the state's regents institutions.

The new costs for a college education are not good news for Kansas families. Starting this fall, two semesters with a 15-hour slate of classes will increase from $184.50 at Fort Hays State to $577.20 for incoming freshmen at the University of Kansas.

However, there is one notable exception to these jumps in tuition and fees: The Kansas State University at Salina campus will see no increase. That makes our local regents school even more attractive for those wanting basic prerequisites and for those seeking degrees in technology and aviation fields.

A year of classes at KSU-Salina will cost $6,223.32, which is $400 less than the KSU main campus in Manhattan.

We must also give credit to Fort Hays State, which is raising tuition 5.5 percent this fall, but, at $3,540 per year, remains the least expensive of the state's regents institutions.

Other campuses and their tuition increases include:
- University of Kansas: Increases differ across classes. The highest increase is 8.1 percent for incoming freshmen, who will pay $7,722.70 per year.
- Kansas State University: 6.3 percent to $6,487.30.
- Wichita State: 5.8 percent, to $5,084.50.
- Emporia State: 5.3 percent to $4,136.
- Pittsburg State: 6.5 percent to $4,322.

While we are bragging about Salina's KSU campus, we'll also throw in a plug for our community's two other degree-granting institutions of higher learning: Brown Mackie College, offering two-year degrees; and Kansas Wesleyan Univer-
Universit offers undergraduate and graduate degrees. All offer students and families options that deserve notice. But this time around, we're giving KSU-Salina a pat on the back for keeping tuition and fee rates steady while the state's other regents schools are bumping theirs.

— Tom Bell
Editor & Publisher
It seems that Kansas University isn't the only state university trying to put a positive spin on rising tuition rates. Officials at Kansas State University issued a press release recently indicating that the school was proposing a "lower tuition increase." The move, it said, was "to respond to difficult economic conditions and concerns from students and their parents."

The only problem is that the new tuition proposal actually will result in many students paying more than they would have under an earlier proposal taken to the Kansas Board of Regents. K-State initially proposed to raise tuition by 4.5 percent for resident freshmen and sophomores and 7.3 percent for resident juniors and seniors. ... The plan announced this week is to raise tuition by 5.85 percent across the board. ...

Although it seems disingenuous to portray this as a "lower tuition increase," K-State, like KU, offers various justifications for its action. The Kansas Legislature gets significant blame for not providing better higher education funding.

Officials also point out that "tuition increases are offset by additional financial aid and more scholarships." This Robin Hood approach of taking tuition money from some students and sharing it with students who supposedly are more worthy or in greater need ... displays a basic lack of fairness. ...

When the regents consider those rates, they should keep their focus on the effect rising tuition is having on the availability of higher education to Kansas students and the cost of this education for families and students who already are facing severe fiscal challenges. Regents should not be fooled by the tuition spin being served up by university officials.