

THE DAILY UNION.



HANNA TAKES AIM AT BAHAMAS, IKE NEXT

Officials keep eye on tropical storms heading for U.S. coast. **PAGE 2A**

SERENA TOPS VENUS

SERENA TAKES 9-8 LEAD IN ALL-WILLIAMS MATCHES. **PAGE 1B**

LOCAL VOLUNTEERS PLAN TO LAY WREATHS

Fallen soldiers to be remembered this holiday season. **PAGE 3A**

VOLUME 147, NO. 306, 2 SECTIONS, 14 PAGES, 2 INSERT

50 CENTS >> JUNCTION CITY, KANSAS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2008

EVENTS RESCHEDULED DUE TO OPERA HOUSE OPENING

Special to The Daily Union

Two events previously scheduled to appear in the renovated Opera House this month have been rescheduled — one to a different location and another to October performance dates.

The Flint Hills Film Festival

Awards Show will still take place at 7 p.m. Sept. 13, but will be in the Junction City High School auditorium instead of the Opera House. The event is free to the public.

The Junction City Little Theater's season opener, "The Music Man," has been

rescheduled for performances in the Opera House at 8 p.m. Oct. 16, 17 and 18 and at 2 p.m. Oct. 18 and 19.

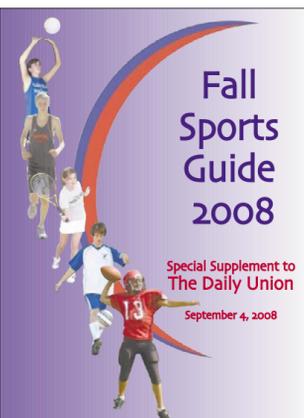
The Flint Hills Film Festival Awards Show will feature winning teams and videos following presentations by special guest speakers and their videos.

Guest speakers will be Kevin Willmott, Kansas Film Commission President Jason Opat and Jim Mock.

Willmott will discuss his newest film projects and show two short video clips. As a screenwriter, Willmott co-wrote "Shields Green and the Gospel of John Brown,"

later purchased by Chris Columbus' 1492 Productions for 20th Century Fox.

He also co-wrote "Civilized Tribes" for producer Robert Lawrence and 20th Century Fox, wrote "Little Brown Brothers" about the Philippine Insurrection for producer. Please see **EVENTS**, Page 6A



Fall Sports Guide 2008

Special Supplement to The Daily Union

September 4, 2008

INSIDE:

FALL SPORTS GUIDE 2008

Guide to area high school football, volleyball, cross country, tennis and soccer teams with team photos, rosters and schedules.

JUNCTION CITY

POLICE TO SET UP SATURATION PATROL POINT

Junction City police officers will conduct a DUI saturation patrol throughout the city Friday and Saturday, according to Capt. Tim Brown. The patrols are designed to identify intoxicated drivers. Those motorists stopped for traffic violations who are suspected of intoxication will be given on-site sobriety field tests. Confirmed impaired drivers will be arrested.

The purpose of such patrols, according to Brown, is not to harass motorists but to increase overall motorist safety.

DETROIT

DETROIT MAYOR PLEADS GUILTY, WILL RESIGN

Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick pleaded guilty to felony charges today in a sex scandal and will step down after months of defiantly holding onto his job leading the nation's 11th-largest city. He was ordered jailed for four months and fined \$1 million.

The plea deal brings to an end a seven-months-long ordeal that led to felony charges against Kilpatrick and plunged the city, region and state into political chaos.

During a separate hearing moments after Wayne County Circuit Court Judge David Groner accepted the mayor's plea, Kilpatrick offered a no contest plea in an assault case.

The judge also accepted that plea, which called for Kilpatrick to serve a four-month jail sentence that would run at the same time.

ARMA, KAN.

CAREGIVER ACCUSED OF BILKING WOMAN

A caregiver is accused of bilking a 97-year-old southeast Kansas woman for almost 1 million dollars.

The Kansas Attorney General's Office said Wednesday that it charged 74-year-old Ernestine Anselmi with felony mistreatment of a dependent adult, Lena Zanichelli. Both women are from the Crawford County town of Arma.

Anselmi was arrested last week and posted \$50,000 bond.

Attorney General Stephen Six's spokeswoman Ashley Anstaett said Anselmi and her husband, Ernest Anselmi, had been acting as "unofficial guardians" for Zanichelli since May of this year.

The charge alleges that Ernestine Anselmi used "undue influence, coercion, deception, and false representation" to make payments to herself and others with Zanichelli's money.

WICHITA

PROSECUTOR DEFENDS ACTIONS IN CASE

A federal prosecutor on Wednesday mocked defense attorneys for a Kansas doctor charged with illegally prescribing narcotic painkillers linked to 58 accidental overdose deaths.

The government's court filing Wednesday came amid escalating personal attacks by attorneys on both sides against each other in the case against Dr. Stephen Schneider and his wife, Linda.

Defense attorneys last week asked a federal judge to remove the prosecutor and an investigator from the case, contending they violated professional ethics by improperly contacting defense expert witnesses and lying to the court.

The government had previously tried three times to remove some or all of the defense attorneys.

Daily Union wire services

ACCURACY WATCH

The Daily Union is committed to accuracy in all of its news and feature reports. If you see something that requires a correction or a clarification, call (785) 762-5000.

WE WANT YOUR NEWS

The Daily Union wants to know what is happening in Geary, Riley, Dickinson, Morris, Clay and Wabunsee counties. Share with us news from your schools, events, businesses, clubs and churches. If you have a news item, e-mail it to m.editor@dailyu.com.

VISIT US

The Daily Union's news meetings are open to the public. The meeting is 12:45 to 1:15 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday. The Daily Union is at 222 W. Sixth St., Junction City.

WEATHER TOMORROW



73
52

Partly sunny, 40% showers, SW winds around 5 mph.

Details >> Page 4A

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TAXES UNPAID



BRANDY CRUZ >> THE DAILY UNION

Homes in Patriot Group's Prairie Ridge No. 1 line the street of Victory Lane today. The developers of Prairie Ridge No. 1 has the largest unpaid property taxes in Geary County, according to County Treasurer Kathy Tremont.

DEVELOPERS OWE COUNTY \$10,619 IN TAXES

By ALISHA COOPER
The Daily Union

Developers account for nearly half of the \$1.257 million in delinquent taxes for real estate listings with special assessments in Geary County for 2007, County Treasurer Kathy Tremont said this week.

For real estate and personal property taxes, 5 percent remains uncollect-

ed, a total of \$1,263,366, she said.

Historically, the county has a 3 to 4 percent delinquency rate after the final collections are made, Tremont said. In 2006, the collection rate was 97.82 percent.

Of the \$610,619 owed by developers, Patriot Group, developers of Prairie Ridge No. 1, is the most delinquent, owing \$231,886 —

more than a third of the total amount. Craft Builders LLC is next highest, owing \$71,467. Craft Builders has properties in the Doc Hargreaves Addition and Hickory Hills Addition.

Of the approximate 620 parcels belonging to developers with tax delinquency, the amount owed by Patriot Group and Craft Builders represents half of

the approximate \$1.257 million uncollected, Tremont explained. Regarding special assessments only, 30 percent of the paving specials are uncollected, a total of \$374,554 of the \$1.264 million originally billed.

Properties that remain delinquent can be sold by the county to try to make up for lost revenue. County Please see **TAXES**, Page 6A

KIDS DONATE MONEY TO CHAPMAN

By DIANA DEAN
Special to The Daily Union

Pierce Hayden, a third-grader at Chapman Elementary School, and Taylor Dean, a ninth-grader at Junction City High School, recently presented USD 473 Superintendent Tony Frieze with a check for \$1,100 to go toward the Chapman School Tornado Fund.

Pierce and Taylor, 4-H Club members, each sold a purple-ribbon project item at the Geary County Free Fair auction in July and allocated 100 percent of the proceeds to the Chapman School Tornado Fund.

Pierce sold a Chapman

Fighting Irish Tornado Volunteer Bucket, which included homemade snacks and things a volunteer in Chapman might need, including bug spray, sunscreen, water, Gatorade, gloves, etc.

The bucket was purchased by Flinthills Roof Systems of Junction City for \$550.

Pierce is the son of Ted and Joanie Hayden and the grandson of Ed and Audrey Hayden, all of Chapman.

Taylor sold a Chapman Tornado Cherry Pie. The cherries from the pie were from his grandparents' cherry tree in Chapman. During the June 11 storm,

both the cherry tree and his grandparents' home were destroyed.

While sifting through the rubble, about 20 quarts of cherries were discovered in the freezer, still frozen and unharmed. Taylor used these cherries to make his pie.

His pie was purchased by Hi-Tech Automotive in Junction City for \$550.

Taylor is the son of Randy and Diana Dean of Junction City and the grandson of Ron and Marilyn Meyer, formerly of Chapman and now living in Abilene, and Yvonne Taylor of Abilene.

VENTRIA BIOSCIENCE BRINGS RESEARCHER BACK

By ERIC H. VOGEL
Special to The Daily Union

Ventria Bioscience has announced the hiring of Weiqiang Zhang, who will manage plant breeding and nursery operations and be based in Junction City.

Zhang will work to successfully increase protein yields and adapt plant varieties to local production areas. He also will manage Ventria's nursery operations, which are operated under U.S. Department of Agriculture regulations.

"Ventria is very pleased to hire a person of Dr. Zhang's stature to help with our expanding plant breeding program," said Greg Unruh, Ventria's vice president and general manager of operations.

"We believe Dr. Zhang has the aptitude, field experience and skills to be a major contributor to our entire breeding program. His extensive experience in rice breeding and genetics, agronomy, crop physiology and molecular biology will be extremely beneficial and will help to maximize Ventria's production efficiency," Unruh said.

Zhang was a research scientist at Kansas State University in 2000 and 2001. Since that time, Zhang received his PhD in agronomy from Louisiana State University in 2005. Please see **VENTRIA**, Page 6A



BRANDY CRUZ >> THE DAILY UNION

LEAKING LINES

Larry Biggs of Veolia Water breaks up the asphalt at the corner of Jefferson and Ash Streets Wednesday. Veolia was repairing a leaking water line, but decided to replace it instead.