

The Riley

Countian

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May
2006



Kansas State University students researching Riley for their Social Work class were Shanda Draper, Colby; Inger Leslie, Manhattan; Michelle Havercamp, Topeka; Amy Topliff, Jewell; Becky Spachek, Wichita; and Laura Wiltrout, Kansas City. *photo furnished*

K-State students research the heart of a small town

By Donna Sullivan

What happens when a group of enthusiastic Social Work majors are assigned a community diversity assessment project that includes some sort of service to that community? Big things happened in the case of Riley and the Community Food Basket when six K-State college students were given that assignment last fall.

According to Shanda Draper, a senior in the Social Work program, the girls chose Riley for their assessment project, with a focus on the economic diversity of the town. "The instructor had intended for it to be racial or ethnic diversity," Draper explained. "But Riley doesn't really have that, so we chose economic diversity."

One of their first stops in town was the Riley Countian office, where they met Brenda Kientz, secretary of the Riley County Larger Parish Presbyterian Church and food coordinator for the Community Food Basket. That chance meeting helped form the basis of the girls' project.

"She's been a big help to us," Draper said. "I talked to her almost weekly."

Also assisting the students was Kevin Larson, who provided historical information on the town. The initial assessment was to include information on available resources of the town, businesses and churches. "It's what the community had to offer it's people," Draper continued.

While last semester's objective was the assessment, this semester's goal was the community project. Since economic diversity was their focus, the Community Food Basket was the logical choice for their service project. The girls are currently doing a hygiene product drive, as that was a need identified by the Food Basket. They've collected items from within the Social Work Department as donations from Manhattan businesses. On Wednesday, the American Academy of Cosmetology committed to assembling 50 baskets of hygiene products for the cause.

"They're new to the community and were looking for some sort of project to work with," said Amy Topliff, one of the project members.

Another aspect of the service project that the girls are working on is raising funds for a cabinet to hold food at the Community Food Basket. Once enough money is collected, local resident Archie Inskeep has agreed to donate his labor to build the cabinet.

The girls presented their project to their class on May 5, where they'll share what they've learned from their visits to Riley and the information they've collected. Of the six members of the group, only two hail from what would be considered small towns. Draper is from Colby, and Topliff is from Jewell. For the others, this glimpse of small town living was a new experience. "It was eye opening for some of them," Draper stated. "Because they were completely unfamiliar with small towns and how people fit the community work together to help each other,"

Bluegrass and Gospel music program to be held in Bala

The Bala Heritage Society will hold a Bluegrass and Gospel mu-

has speech and hearing programs as its main sponsorship. The Sertoma Luncheon Club has purchased Earobics software and test materials for U.S.D. 383's Speech and Hearing Department through its various fund-raising activities. Club members also have devel-

Sertoma Luncheon Club to sponsor tamale dinner

The Sertoma Luncheon Club, in cooperation with Texas Star Café, is sponsoring a tamale dinner from 4-7 p.m. Saturday, May 6, in Pottorf Hall. Club members will serve tamales, rice, beans and beverages. The price for adults is \$5 and for children 12 and under

Have you entered your Mom in the Countian's Mother's Day Contest?

Give your Mom the gift of appreciation this Mother's Day by entering Hand that Rocks the Cradle contest. Submit your letter of 200 words May 9 to be included in the contest and special Mother's Day page your Mom is special and the impact she's had on your life. Photos are will be drawn at random to receive an incredible prize package furnished. Prizes include:

- A Car Detailing by Bittersweet Auto Sales
- A Photo Session and an 8x10 family portrait by Fleming Fotos
- A Gift Certificate from the American Academy of Cosmetology
- A Gift Certificate from Homestead Floral
- 2 Sunday Buffets from the Green Cafe
- Haircut and Style from Guy's and Gal's Styling

Letters and photos may be emailed to countian@twinvalley.net, Riley, KS 66531 or dropped off at the office at 207 S. Broadway available after hours.

Here's your chance to let that special lady know just how much Countian's Hand That Rocks the Cradle contest!

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RILEY LIONS CLUB HIGHWAY PICKUP

The Riley Lions Club will have highway pickup, 7:30 a.m., Saturday, May 13. Meet at the Corner Store. Rain date, May 21.

CO-REC SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT/BBQ DATE CHANGE

The date for the Leonardville PRIDE sponsored Co-Rec Softball Tournament has been changed from April 29-30 to May 6-7. There is a \$100 entry fee. Contact Kim Nelson, 485-2896 or Larry Glessner, 293-5750.

A community BBQ will be held May 6, 5-?

PAN FRIED CHICKEN NIGHT

Randolph Restaurant Pan Fried Chicken Night, Wednesday, May 10, 5-? at the Randolph VFW Hall.

LEONARDVILLE PRIDE UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming events for Leonardville PRIDE are Movie Night in the Park, June 10 and the Leonardville Hullabaloo on August 19. For more information contact Lori Rogge at 293-5242.

KEATS LIONS CLUB AUCTION

Keats Lions Club Consignment Auction, Sunday, June 4, 12 noon at Keats Park. Consignments accepted from 9 a.m.-12 noon.

No clothes or large appliances. For more information, call 785-539-6569.

BACCALAUREATE SERVICES

Baccalaureate Services will be held as follows: Sunday, May 7 at 7:00 p.m. at Blue Valley High School and Wednesday, May 17 at 8:00 p.m. at Riley County High School.



A young cowboy awaits his turn in the ring. Many youngsters etiq

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