Work for Kansas / No. 14

WHAT’S GOING ON IN YOUR AREA

ELK, GRANT & HASKELL COUNTIES
Summer program brings rural teens to KU for fine arts experiences

HUTCHINSON
Jayhawk Consultants create economic impact report for Cosmosphere

INDEPENDENCE & PITTSBURG
Certified Public Manager program expands to southeast Kansas

STATEWIDE
WellCar project seeks to create ‘doctor’s office on wheels’

KU WORKS

WORKS

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SUMMER ART INSTITUTE

The Summer Art Institute is run by the Lawrence Arts Center, with support from KU and funding assistance provided by TradeWind Energy and Enel Green Power.

In previous years, the Summer Art Institute included middle school and high school students primarily from Elk County. This past July, the institute expanded to host more than 40 students from Elk, Grant, and Haskell counties.

The KU School of the Arts is home to four departments – dance, film & media studies, theatre, and visual art – and is part of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

The Lawrence Arts Center is a premier regional center for visual and performing arts, contemporary exhibitions, film, and lectures. These programs are complemented by full curricula in ballet and modern dance, theatre performance, and visual arts.

Providing a canvas
Summer program brings rural teens to KU for fine arts experiences

FOR VARIOUS REASONS, STUDENTS IN SMALLER Kansas communities sometimes don’t have access to art education or experiences. In fact, some schools don’t even offer basic art classes.

That’s why the University of Kansas supports the Kansas Counties Summer Art Institute, an annual program that brings middle and high school students from rural counties to Lawrence for a week of art experiences that might not exist in their schools or hometowns.

Summer Art Institute participants stay in KU residence halls and spend their mornings at KU learning from School of the Arts faculty. In the afternoon, students head to the Lawrence Arts Center, where they rotate through studios and experience topics such as metalsmithing, filmmaking and theatrical makeup. Evening activities include films, theatre productions or local band performances.

“The goal is to offer teens experience in a studio environment, as well as to introduce students to degree and career options in the arts,” said Mary Anne Jordan, who chairs KU’s visual art department. “We want to demonstrate to students that the arts are crucial to their education and their development as individuals.”

Teens from across Kansas can experience fine arts, including degree and career options, through the Kansas Counties Summer Art Institute.

MORE INFORMATION ➔ SOTA.KU.EDU
**EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE STAFF AT THE KANSAS Cosmosphere and Space Center needed an analysis of the center’s economic impact for planning purposes.**

So they turned to Jayhawk Consulting, a University of Kansas program that enlists top students to provide low-cost consulting services to clients throughout Kansas.

The KU student team evaluated the Cosmosphere’s economic value as a cultural and educational institution and found the center generates $103 million in tourism dollars annually, making it a significant contributor to the state’s economy. The report also estimated the center supports the direct and indirect employment of 2,200 people, who represent $70 million in total purchasing power.

The team analyzed data from the U.S. Census, Bureau of Transportation, Internal Revenue Service, previous studies, and the Cosmosphere’s point-of-sale reports to supplement its findings.

Jayhawk Consulting was asked to generate the report to assist the Cosmosphere’s revitalization task force. The study was presented to the Cosmosphere’s governing and foundation boards.

“Jayhawk Consulting provided an incredibly helpful report and third-party evaluation,” said Jim Remar, Cosmosphere president and chief operating officer. “The students’ analysis will help us make smart, data-driven decisions moving forward.”

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**MORE INFORMATION**

[JayhawkConsulting.org](http://JayhawkConsulting.org)

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**INDEPENDENCE & PITTSBURG**

**KU trains Kansas leaders to be more effective**

Certified Public Manager program expands to southeast Kansas

**WHEN BRENT NARGES, PITTSBURG’S DEPUTY POLICE chief, first considered the Kansas Certified Public Manager program, he saw it as an opportunity to improve his management and leadership skills.**

“More broadly,” he said, “I saw it as a way to become a more effective and positive influence on my agency and my community.”

Narges is one of 63 managers enrolled this year in the CPM program, a professional education opportunity for those working in government agencies, nonprofits, and service organizations. The CPM course is a nationally accredited program and certification that blends in-person classroom hours, online learning, outside assignments, and a capstone project to help managers improve their skills.

Each year, KU offers the program in Kansas City, Topeka, and a third region that has varied over the years. This year, the program expanded to southeast Kansas for the first time, giving managers like Narges a chance to build on their leadership skills.

“I’ve learned a lot,” said Narges, who will complete the program this fall. “Specifically, I’ve learned that all agencies, regardless of what community we are from, have similar challenges. To be a successful leader, one needs to continually nurture those around them.”

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**MORE INFORMATION**

[KUPMC.org](http://KUPMC.org)

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**CPM PROGRAM**

The CPM program is offered through the KU Public Management Center, the professional development arm of KU’s top-ranked School of Public Affairs & Administration.

The Kansas Certified Public Manager program has certified nearly 1,500 public managers since its creation in 1993.

This year’s program in southeast Kansas is co-hosted by the cities of Independence and Pittsburg, as well as Pittsburg State University.

In past years, the CPM program has offered classroom instruction in Hays (2012) and a southwest Kansas rotation of Liberal, Garden City, and Dodge City (2013). The program will return to southwest Kansas in 2015 and go to Hays in 2016.
Taking health care to the road
WellCar project seeks to create ‘doctor’s office on wheels’

THE DAYS OF THE KINDLY COUNTRY DOCTOR
making house calls might be long gone. But according to University of Kansas professor Gregory Thomas, the day may soon return when primary health care can be delivered to the doors of rural Kansans.

Students in Thomas’ design studio are building the WellCar, an innovative vehicle equipped with advanced medical equipment that would enable a nurse practitioner to bring an array of health care services directly to patients, no matter where they live.

“Basically, the WellCar is a doctor’s office on wheels,” said Thomas, a professor in the School of Architecture, Design and Planning. “That’s what makes this so exciting, especially for rural communities that don’t have health care access.”

The WellCar is a Ford Transit Connect van that has been equipped with numerous medical and communications devices that allow it to securely exchange data with hospitals and clinics – eliminating the need for patients to travel. Ideally, treatments and prescriptions could be provided on the spot.

Thomas and his students will finish their prototype this fall and send it on the road for testing in 2015.

“This is about better patient care, closer to home,” Thomas said. “We’re very excited about the potential to better serve rural Kansas communities.”

KANSAS’ DOCTOR SHORTAGE

• Kansas ranks 39th nationally in doctors per capita.
• 89 Kansas counties have a shortage of primary care providers.

Produced by the Office of Public Affairs, 2014.
The University of Kansas is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

STUDENTS ROLL OUT WELLNESS PROJECT

• The WellCar is being designed by KU students in the Advanced Design Studies 560 class, offered through the School of Architecture, Design and Planning.
• The WellCar project brings together many industry partners that are providing medical sensing devices, communications equipment, and expertise.
• The WellCar is integrated into a 2014 Ford Transit Connect van, which was provided to the project by Ford Motor Company.
• Other partners include Abbott Point of Care, HealthSTATS, the National Nuclear Security Administration’s Kansas City Plant, Sprint, and Voalte.

KU design students are working to improve rural health care by outfitting a van with all the communication and medical tools a health care professional needs for home visits.

MORE INFORMATION | SADP.KU.EDU/CENTER-DESIGN-RESEARCH
Engineering student Emily Cook’s interest in algae led to a discovery of new sources of environmentally friendly fuel. Her research is just one of the ways Jayhawks are changing the world.

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become.ku.edu