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Find photos from Uniontown High School's prom on page 9.



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Tired of the same ol' potatoes for supper? Try Jeanie Hart's recipe on page 4.



INSIDE:

The Uniontown High School art students are winning again. See results from a recent contest on page 10.

FSCC Trustees work on plan to hire president

BY JASON E. SILVERS

The Fort Scott Tribune

The Fort Scott Community College Board of Trustees on Wednesday received an overview of the process being used to find the college's next president.

During a work session, the board met with representatives of the team that is helping to facilitate the presidential selection process, but took no official action.

On March 31, the board voted during a special meeting to approve a proposal for the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center at Greenbush in Girard and the Education Services and Staff Development Association of Central Kansas (ESSDACK) in Hutchinson to facilitate the presidential search. The proposal comes at no cost to the college.

During that meeting, Richard Proffitt, director of superintendent services and educational leadership consulting for Greenbush, and Randy Corns, executive director of Greenbush, explained the proposal and process for hiring a new president, which consists of three phases.

Sara Sutton, currently the interim president at FSCC,

announced March 25 she plans to step down in June.

Board of Trustees Chairman Bryan Holt told the Tribune Thursday there have been 24 applicants for the position, which is now closed. Representatives of Greenbush recently met with the college's administrative and executive teams, the President's Cabinet, as well as college faculty and staff.

Holt said the team highlighted steps to take in choosing the college's next leader, which include consideration of experience and characteristics.

"We're trying to outline the characteristics the employees of the college want to see in the new president," he said. "They met with the board last night and outlined the process. From here they are going to go through the applicants and narrow it down to the ones they feel like we should look at. They will do some reference checks and things like that."

Holt said the top characteristic that has been determined is a "focus on student success," with the second most important characteristic being "financial acumen," or an understanding of the college's finances.

SEE PRESIDENT SEARCH ON PAGE 8

Students gain new life experiences in Fort Scott

BY MARTI WELLS-SMITH

Special to the Tribune

Fort Scott is a destination place for students from around the world through the efforts of Greenheart Exchange and local volunteers who offer their homes, support and friendship.

Maya Gevrey from France and Brittany Ledezma from Bolivia are two of three students enjoying the opportunity to travel abroad to this community and experience American life at Fort Scott High School and through local and area activities.

Maya is staying with her sponsor Barbara Woodward and is a sophomore involved in forensics and swimming. She's from the French Alps, near Switzerland, and is from a family of four.

"I love traveling and my dream is to see the many countries of the world. I like seeing how people live differently and wanted to experience an educational system other than my own," Gevrey said. "I love my time here in Fort Scott and have made new friends. Barbara, my host parent and exchange student and host sister Eva from Australia, have been very nice. Although I miss my family, it is very rewarding for me."

Maya will be in Fort Scott until the end of May before returning home. She said she recommends this opportunity to any student wanting to travel and learn a new culture, although it comes with its challenges.

"You need to be an independent individual who can overcome being homesick as well as the differences in daily life," Gevrey said.

Britanny Ledezma, a junior from Botosi, Bolivia, resides with Haley and Jordan Woods for the duration of the semester.

"It was always my big dream to travel and learn new ways and cultures. The education system here is so different from my home country. My own high school is only in session for four hours a day through the week and classes are rotated, with seven varied subjects per day. Here, it is eight hours a day, with 14 subjects per day," Ledezma said. "I, too, miss my family, although I am enjoying my stay here very much. I have five siblings and will also return to my family in May."

Both students expressed their appreciation and said they would stay in touch with their new friends and never forget their time in Fort Scott.

Information provided by Kristen McNeal, Greenheart local coordinator,



Marti Wells-Smith/Special to the Tribune

Britanny Ledezma, left, and Maya Gevrey are foreign exchange students this year at Fort Scott High School.

states host family responsibilities, after training and a stringent process to gain approval, include providing all basic needs such as safe housing, a quiet study area, meals, transportation, parental supervision and an atmosphere of understanding and patience.

Greenheart written information states each student must have a good scholastic standing, be able to speak English and provide their own spending money. Annually, Greenheart sends and receives approximately

10,000 participants through high school exchanges, work travel, intern, trainee and teach programs,

The host benefits include choosing their student or students who will stay with them, experiencing other cultures, making lifelong friends, receiving discounted Greenheart travel abroad opportunities, receiving orientation and support materials and charitable Federal Tax deductions.

For more information, contact McNeal at 417-880-2929.

County's public works announces proposed asphalt plan

BY JASON E. SILVERS

The Fort Scott Tribune

Bourbon County Commissioners plan to review the county's 2025 asphalt plan after an April 7 work session with representatives of the public works department.

Public Works Director Eric Bailey and Assistant Public Works Director Dustin Hall provided commissioners with a plan for each district, including potential extra chip and seal and asphalt projects, as well as information on road ratings, numbers of asphalt produced and sales tax figures.

Bailey said a plan has been created based on an analysis of the roads by public works staff, although the commission will make the final determination on the plan. He said the numbers provided are costs of materials as labor is figured into a different budget line.

The 2025 asphalt plan includes the following projects and estimated costs, with a total cost for all three districts projected to be

\$804,330.18:

District 1

Milling to gravel on 120th from Hackberry to Kansas and on Hackberry from 120th to 130th; a 4-inch asphalt base on Yale Road from 95th to 115th and from 115th to Mapleton; and seal coat on 125th from U.S. Highway 54 to Osage, Osage to Poplar, Poplar to Quail, Quail to Range, Range to Ridge, Ridge to Sycamore, Sycamore to Tomahawk and Tomahawk to Valley, at a total cost of \$530,902.08.

Bailey said 120th from Hackberry to Kansas is a "major road failure, clear down to where the sub-base is pumping up. We have battled and battled it. It's to the point now it needs to be milled up, taken back to gravel and we will rework the sub-base then look at asphaltting the next few years."

Bailey said chip and seal would provide the "best bang for the buck" for roads that were asphalted in 2021. He said chip and seal is the recommendation for the seal coat.

District 2

A 2-inch asphalt surface

on 267th or State Line Road, and Eagle Road from Garland to the state line; seal coat on 250th from Arrowhead to Birch, Birch to Cavalry, Cavalry to Deer, Deer to Eagle, Eagle to Fern; seal coat on Fern from 250th to 245th and 245th from Fern to Grand at a total cost of \$155,580.48.

Bailey said he was contacted by Vernon County officials regarding combining efforts for State Line Road. Bailey said he would find out the costs and timeline for that project, then bring it back to the commission.

"We own half and they (Vernon County) own half," he said. "They were willing to pay for the asphalt if we would lay it."

"If they pay for the materials, there's no reason for us not to lay it," Whisenhunt said, adding the cost to the county would be for fuel and labor.

"A lot of people use that road," Bailey said.

Eagle Road from Garland to the state line needs a 2-inch seal coat, which crews did not get to last year due to lack of funding, Bailey said.

"It needs to have a surface coat put on. The rest is chip and seal we laid in 2021," he said.

Bailey said a "tighter" sealing surface would be installed on Eagle from the railroad tracks in Garland.

"It has a base on it," he said. "We will go back and put a surface. The rest are chip and seal."

District 3

A 2-inch asphalt surface on Soldier from 215th to 225th and on 215th from Xavier to Yale at a total cost of \$117,847.62.

Bailey said the Xavier to Yale project would address last year's flood damage on the road from the railroad tracks to the bridge.

"We need to go back," he said. "We milled it up last year. It looked like a zebra through there when the water went over it. We need to go back and lay that."

The Soldier Road project was not completed in 2023.

"I feel if we don't overlay that in the near future, we're going to lose it," Hall said.

Extra chip and Seal

Extra chip seal projects, at a total cost of \$632,635.36,

include a seal coat on Jayhawk from 240th to 245th; on 215th from Grand to Hackberry, Hackberry to Indian, Indian to Ironwood, U.S. 54 to Native; 218th from U.S. 54 to Native, Native to Native; 195th at Lake Fort Scott; 227th from Kansas to the city limits; 232nd from the dead end to Jewel and 232nd Terrace from the dead end to Jewel; 233rd from Jayhawk to Jewel; 240th from Indian to Jayhawk; 245th from Soldier to Tomahawk and from Tomahawk to Unique; 45th from Maple to Native; 55th from Yale to Zinc; Eagle from U.S. Highway 69 to 230th, from 230th to 240th and 240th to 250th; Grand from 215th to Kansas Highway 39; Native from 205th to 215th, from 215th to 218th and 218th to 225th; Noble from 225th to 235th; Indian from 187th to 190th, from 190th to 195th, 195th to 215th and 215th to U.S. 69; Jayhawk from U.S. 69 to Liberty Bell Road and Liberty Bell Road to 230th; Jayhawk from 230th to 240th and 240th to 245th; Jewel from 230th to 233rd; Limestone from 240th to 250th and 250th to 255th;

Maple from 45th to 55th; Native from 35th to 45th; Soldier from 225th to 235th and 235th to 245th; Valley from 245th to 255th, 255th to 265th and 265th to 267th; Yellowstone from 15th to Kansas Highway 3; and North National Avenue from the Fort Scott city limits to 215th.

Extra asphalt

Extra asphalt projects, at a total cost of \$1,813,678.02, include a 2-inch surface on Eagle from 180th to 190th; Cavarly from 170th to 180th; Jayhawk from 245th to 260th, from 260th to 267th, and from 187th to 195th; 125th from Redfield to Maple; 180th from Cavalry to K-39; 187th from Indian to Jayhawk; Justice Lane from 205th to the dead end; 215th from Quail to Range; Locust from 195th to 205th and from 205th to Second Street; 205th from Locust to Maple and from Locust to U.S. 54; Maple from 235th to 240th; Native from 25th to 35th; Range from K-7 to 155th; Soldier from 215th to 225th;

SEE EXTRA ASPHALT ON PAGE 2

WEATHER

Showers and possibly a thunderstorm. High near 56. Northeast wind 10 to 13 mph, with gusts as high as 21 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%.



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