

Business/Community News



News Hound
Taylor Bailey
www.fstribune.com

Celebrating the Miami County Campus

The Miami County Campus will host a Chamber Coffee and open house Thursday, May 1. Attendees can enjoy refreshments and learn about the programs offered in Paola, as well as tour the shops, classrooms and other campus facilities.

Fort Scott Community College first began offering courses in Miami County in 1976 by partnering with the Adult Education Center of Paola. Courses focused primarily on secretarial sciences. Four years later, the college began offering basic allied health courses, such as geriatric aide and medication aide. In 1983, it established its first technical training program for an electrical contracting company in Miami County. Shortly thereafter, the college began providing more occupational training and general core academic courses.

In 1990, continuing its partnership with the Adult Education Center, Fort Scott Community College moved into a facility specifically constructed to house both organizations. This facility

enabled the college to offer more general core educational courses. Three years later, the college began offering the same general education courses for dual college credit at Paola High School. In 1995, Roy Moriconi was hired as the full-time coordinator; he had overseen Adult Education Center classes since 1976. Moriconi managed the Miami County extension site and oversaw nearly 260 students who earned approximately 1,400 college credits.

In 2003, with the assistance of Miami County, the college remodeled the west wing of the old Miami County Hospital. In August 2004, the Miami County Campus was formed when Fort Scott Community College moved its Paola campus to this new site. This expansion nearly doubled the size of the campus, creating more opportunities for programs in the northern part of the college's service area. In addition, nearly half of the recently remodeled wing was available for

future expansion.

The campus added more classroom space during the spring 2012 semester. The college used federal Recovery Act stimulus funds to build two additional classrooms on the east wing of the building. This space allowed the college to provide 20 more seats in each of the new classrooms, which were much needed. At that time, enrollment increased by 25% from the previous academic year.

Through generous donations made by the Gump Foundation, the Dean & Clela Smith Foundation, and the Luis W. & Dolpha Baehr Foundation, the campus expanded again in 2014. On Oct. 7, 2014, students, staff and community members celebrated a ribbon-cutting ceremony inside the new science lab. After a decade of expansion, the campus could now offer all the courses required to earn an associate degree.

In fall 2015, the college partnered with high schools in Louisburg, Osawatomie and Paola to offer technical courses at the Hillsdale Learning Center in Hillsdale. The schools transported juniors and seniors to Hillsdale for technical training in manicuring, environmental water technology and criminal justice.

In 2017, the Hillsdale location was closed, and the environmental water technology and criminal justice programs were moved to the Paola location.

In fall 2018, two more technical programs were added: construction trades and welding. These courses are currently part of the CTE Excel initiative and are available to high school juniors and seniors at the Miami County location.

Today, students at the Miami County location can earn an Associate of Science, General Studies, Technical Studies or Arts degree. The college also offers certificates in allied health, criminal justice and welding. Onsite advising and placement testing are available.

Don't miss the Spring Music Fest on Sunday, April 27, at 4 p.m. in the Ellis Fine Arts Center. The BakBeatz will join the Dog Tracks Studio Band, Choir, Sound-Dawg Pep Band, Student Guitar Class and others for an evening of outstanding musical performances.

Next week, on Wednesday, April 30, the Spring 2025 Phi Theta Kappa Induction Ceremony will take place at 4 p.m. in the Ellis Fine Arts Center, followed by the final community forum of the semester at 6 p.m.

Thank you to all the community members who continue to support Fort Scott Community College and our students.

Briefs

Garden Club plant sale

The Bourbon County Garden Club will hold its annual plant sale from 8 a.m. until noon on the opening day of the Downtown Farmers' Market, Saturday, May 3, at the north end of the pavilion.

Proceeds from the sale support beautification efforts throughout the community, including the city pool islands, Heritage Park, and the North Main area.

The garden club partners with Tri Valley Developmental Services to sell a wide variety of plants, all of which are geared to our area's challenging weather. Club members offer plants freshly dug from their own gardens.

DAR to host genealogy day

SUBMITTED TO THE TRIBUNE

As America approaches the 250th anniversary in 2026 of the ratification of our Declaration of Independence, the local Molly Foster Berry Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is planning activities to commemorate this significant anniversary. The first event will be a free genealogy workshop on from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 17, at the Fort Scott Community College Library in Bailey Hall, 2108 S. Horton St., Fort Scott.

A visiting team of genealogists from the Kansas Society of Daughters of the American Revolution will be at the workshop to present and assist attendees with researching their family history.

"If you have ever wondered if you have an ancestor who contributed to American independence, either by serving as a soldier or by providing civilian assistance to the war effort, this is your opportunity to get help with research," chapter Regent Barbara Ritter said.

Attendees are requested to pre-register by contacting either Barbara Ritter (913-636-4892, ksbritts@gmail.com) or Jean Strader (620-778-0266, jest10166@gmail.com). RSVP by May

14. Anyone who is interested in DAR but is unable to attend the workshop, please contact Ritter. There is no charge for the workshop.

Upon pre-registration, attendees will be emailed a generation chart to be filled out and brought to the workshop. The chart covers three generations (yourself as the first generation, your birth parents as the second, and your great-grandparents as the third). Information needed includes full names, birth dates and places, marriage dates and places, and death dates and places, or as much of that information is available to you for all three generations. If attendees have information on any earlier generations, they are encouraged to also bring that to the workshop.

Any woman 18 years or older may join DAR by documenting her lineage to an ancestor, male or female, who aided in the cause of American independence through military, civil, or patriotic service. Founded in 1890, the DAR is one of the largest women's lineage based, nonpartisan, and patriotic nonprofits in the world, with 185,000 current members and approximately 3,000 local chapters. The DAR mission encompasses three key areas: historic preservation, education, and patriotism.



Wednesday Writers Club

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Wednesday Writers Club is open to all ages and all levels of writers. There is no fee to attend and attendance is "as you can come." It is a group to encourage writers, not a critique group. The club meets at 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the Fort Scott Public Library, 201 S. National Ave. For more information, contact Jennifer Gum-Fowler, 620-223-2882 or Wednesday Writers lead Kathy Probis, 620-215-0223.

Mary-At the Crucifixion

By Mary Ann Buller

Disclaimer: Although Bible based, the story is fictional.

I was standing among the crowd when they nailed Jesus to the cross. Even the murmuring of the crowd couldn't stifle the tearing of flesh as they drove the spikes into the hands of Jesus. The clanging of the armor of the soldiers added to the cacophony noise. Jesus's face was etched with pain and agony. Not a sound came forth as he quietly lay there.

That was my child out there! I couldn't stand it! I moved to push that cruel Roman soldier away and cradle Jesus to my breast. The disciples must have sensed my feelings and gently held me close.

My thoughts wandered back to what seemed like yesterday when I knew I was with child. Everything was different with Jesus. I was in such turmoil as I thought of all the different events that had happened. I went to stay with my cousin Elizabeth who also had a story to tell. Elizabeth was pregnant in her old age. Zacharias named the baby John. John baptized Jesus.

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, shepherds came and worshipped him. Wise men from the east followed a star and found us. Simeon and Anna both declared he was going to be the redemption of Israel. What did this all mean? I pondered these in my heart.

When he was 12, as cus-

tom, we went to Jerusalem for Passover. When we left, we thought he was with family and friends. It was three days before we found out he had stayed in Jerusalem at the temple when we left. He said he had to learn His Father's business. What did that mean? Joseph was a carpenter. What did the temple have to do carpenter work? So many puzzling things.

When they ran out of wine at the marriage feast, I knew Jesus could do something. He turned water into wine. Then miracles upon miracles happened. How people loved him! We thought that here was truly a king to save us!

And then.

The knock on our door as friends rushed to tell us that the soldiers had taken Jesus. How excited they were! Now Jesus would show his power! A dreadful uneasiness filled my heart, I knew something awful was going to happen. At his trial, Pilate found no fault in him, yet the angry mob wanted Jesus to die instead of Barabbas the robber. How they mocked him and gave him a terrible scourging.

The past suddenly became present as they dropped the cross into the hole with a thud and put it upright. You could see the anguish it caused Jesus. So cruel and hard. The disciples and friends thought for sure Jesus would save himself! I too,hoped he would. Then he looked at me standing beside the disciple he loved.

With eyes full of love and sadness he said to me, "Woman behold thy son," and turning to the disciple, "Behold thy mother." I knew then he would die on the cross. He wasn't really my son. He was the son of God.

The veil of the temple was torn from top to bottom; the earth shook, graves opened, and the bodies of saints arose. There was total darkness for three long hours! Surely now they would believe! But alas, it was then as it is now. I look at some of you people holding your dear little children in your arms. The human mother part in me wants to cry out "Look at them! Would you let your child be nailed to the cross for the sake of people? Ah, I see you hold them a little closer,

Some of you are so concerned about your material things, prestige, honor and what people say. They are so busy belonging to this and that, going here and there, with no time to visit the sick or feed the hungry. Many of you go to church every week thinking that is enough. It isn't. Oh, my friends, I would like to shake you! My child suffered and died on the cross for you and you don't care! You're letting my child die in vain!

And then, it's so real I can feel his hand on my shoulder and hear his sad voice say, "Mary, Mary, you're wrong you know. You can't make people serve me, they have to want to If they don't, my father and I don't want them. Yes, you're right, too. Many people don't put me first, but there are a few that do and will. Those few

are worth the agony on the cross. They're the ones who will dwell in the mansions prepared for them forever."

So, friends, let me change my cry. It wasn't really my child who died on the cross for you. It was the Son of God.

Should I go or should I stay?

By Patricia Hartford

Should I go or should I stay?
I am making a list for the day.
Things I need for the week.
I must go for the things I seek.

Should I go or should I stay?
I can clean house another day.
My friend called for she is in need
I must go for her request, I heed.

Should I go or should I stay?
I will go and meet people on the way.
Many things I carry in the cart.
And cherish the memories in my heart.

Should I go or should I stay?
Now is the time to pray.
My friend has already gone there.
Until then I will have to stay here.

Items from the past

Transplanted sapling grows to 12 foot circumference

25 Years Ago
2000
April 24
The Fort Scott Community College concert band and orchestra will join in a free concert at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Buck Run Community Center. The band will provide one half of the concert program, and the orchestra will provide the other.

50 Years Ago
1975
April 24
Bicentennial commemorative flags will be offered here to businesses and individuals. Gene DuVall, chairman of the Fort Scott Bicentennial Commission, said he hopes that "Fort Scott will be covered with the flags to show our enthusiasm for America's Bicentennial.

75 Years Ago
1950
April 24
On the Bennett Cook farm near Mapleton stands a giant elm tree which is more than 12 feet in circumference. The tree was set out about 60 years ago

by James Valk, a cousin of Cook, Valk dug up the sapling from the bank of the Osage River, transplanting it on the Cook property.

100 Years Ago
1925
April 24
The Home Economics Club of the Fort Scott High School rounded out its second year last night with a lovely springtime dinner. There are 55 members in the club with the following officers: Juleta Boosinger, Wilma Kipp, Elizabeth Kingsbury and Helen Trotter. Sponsors are Helen Madison and Colleen Fowler.

125 Years Ago
1900
April 24
On each evening, a chorus of singers comprised of both ladies and gentlemen hold song services at the corner of Main and Wall streets, which attracts large crowds. They are Holiness people who also hold religious services each evening on Scott Avenue.

Tribune emails

Advertising
Teresa Klumpp
(classifieds/legals)
tklumpp@fstribune.com
Andy LaSota
(display ads)
alasota@fstribune.com
News
Tammy Helm
thelm@fstribune.com
Jason E. Silvers
jsilvers@fstribune.com
Sports
sports@fstribune.com

THE FORT SCOTT
TRIBUNE

Lorie Harter
Publisher

Tammy Helm
Editor

Chris Jones
Production
Supervisor

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The Tribune reserves the right to edit letters to correct spelling or grammar or due to space constraints or policy guidelines. Preference is given to letters of local interest. **Letters for or against political candidates or issues will be not be accepted.**

It also reserves the right to refuse to publish, in part or whole, any letter that the editor determines to be libelous or to violate accepted standards of good taste.

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