



Greeley County Republican

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—12 Pages—

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☞ - Greeley County now has 16 covid-19 positive cases, according to the KDHE website update on Monday, October 5th, with 8 being active at the current time. Two of those active cases were announced by the school over the past weekend — one student and one staff member.

We were hoping not to have community spread in Greeley County. Perhaps it will quiet back down now. We can strongly hope and pray that happens.

The school has taken some extra precautions in the homecoming activities this week, by moving the activities to Thursday night out in the football field. The crowning, parade and pep rally, as well as senior night, will take place beginning at 7:00 p.m.

☞ - The air was smoky and filtered/hazy Monday. There are wildfires burning in Colorado and I suppose it is the smoke from those fires we are getting. We need some rain.

☞ - There are three contested local races for election to three Greeley County Board of Supervisors seats, not to mention the presidential contest. We have the entire slate of candidates in a legal publication in THIS edition of the newspaper.

Be sure you check it out to know whom you are going to vote for.

Early voting begins October 21st, and the general election is November 3rd.

☞ - I have heard many people say they think things will calm down after the election. I hope so. We need some calm, quiet and peace of mind. Let's try to be optimistic that will happen.

■ - What a strange time we live in. With the Covid infections, every day can be a new world. We have had a few positive cases in the community this past week, and it does have an impact. If one member of the team tests positive, then all members of the team by regulations are required to go into quarantine.

So we adapt.

I am amazed at how well we do adapt. It is easy to rile at the world, but most seem to adapt and go on. I kind of like to rile every now and then, but it's just a personality quirk. I quickly get over it and then try and make the best of the current situation.

In a small community it is interesting to do the contact tracing. There are not more than 3 degrees of separation between everyone.

■ - Do you think we will ever get back to normal? A part of me believes that this is a real shift. We will get back to a normal, but it won't be the old normal.

In my wanderings I have found a lot of different views. Some are adamant about what they find to be the truth. I wrote a paradigm in 1984 so I've been involved for a long time. One of the patterns that I've observed is that something new is always introduced with a shift and it is not possible to have clarity until the new is present.

My personal choice is a shift with celebration. My vote may not count, but I'm very clear on my choice for a celebration rather than war, pestilence and plague.

And some of the new physics have placed consciousness at the starting place. So my vote may make a difference.

If not, then I will adapt.



The GCHS 2020 Homecoming Candidates and Class Representatives are l-to-r (bottom row) Seniors Josey Schmidt, Macie Lehman, and Genesis Valenzuela, (second row) seniors Blake Foster, Tyler Albers, and Jacob Miller, (Top row) Freshmen - Kashen Nelson, (Ana Trejo not pictured), Junior Danny Knelsen, Sophomore Avah Martin, Isaac Schneider (not pictured), Junior Hannah Harris.

Homecoming this week at Greeley County High School

Fall Homecoming at Greeley County High School is taking place this week, although some changes have been made to allow for additional adherence to covid-19 requirements. Two active cases were announced on Facebook by the school during the past weekend.

Senior Night will now be held Thursday night, October 8th, at the football field during other homecoming activities, to "allow for increased social distancing and an open air venue." The annual Homecoming parade will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Then the senior parents will be recognized during the scheduled pep rally, which will follow the parade. And ending the activities will be the Crowning of the Homecoming Queen and King.

The Homecoming Football game will be against the Weskan Coyotes on Friday evening, October 9th, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The Homecoming theme is Neon Retro "Rock the Coyotes!" A Spirit Week dress-up schedule has been: Monday - Neon Color Day; Tuesday - Gender Swap

Day; Wednesday - Twin/Group Day; Thursday - Red and White Day.

Homecoming Week sports events:

Junior Varsity Tennis Team had a home meet on Monday, October 5th;

High School Volleyball had a home meet on Monday, October 5th;

Cross Country was scheduled to travel to Sharon Springs on Tuesday, October 6th;

High School Volleyball had a meet at Sharon Springs on Tuesday, October 6th;

FFA was traveling to

Lakin on October 7th;

Junior High Volleyball and Football were scheduled to play at St. Francis on Thursday, October 8th;

High School Varsity Tennis will play in Scott City for their Regional Tennis match, playing for state qualifying;

Cross Country will have a meet at Lakin on Saturday, October 10th.

Good luck to the Jackrabbits during Homecoming Week!!

Medicare Open Enrollment begins October 15 and goes thru December 7

During Open Enrollment, people with Medicare have until Dec. 7th to review their health and drug plan options, and make the best decision based on financial and medical needs. Re-enrollment and plan changes will take effect on January 1, 2021. Medicare health and drug plan costs and covered benefits can change from year to year. That's why it is important for people with Medicare to review their health care plan during Open Enrollment to ensure they have the right coverage for their financial and medical needs. People with Medicare are encouraged to review and update their coverage choices before the closing date. Otherwise, they may have to wait another year to make changes.

If you're among the 1 in 3 people with Medicare who has diabetes, here's some more good news: Starting in 2021, many participating drug plans will offer a 30-day supply of insulin for \$35 or less per month. If you take insulin and enroll in one of these plans, you could save an average of \$446 per year on your out-of-pocket costs for insulin next year.

During Open Enrollment you can:

Switch from one Medicare Part D (prescription drug) plan to another.

If you didn't enroll in a Medicare Part D plan when you were first eligible, you can do so during open enrollment, although a late enrollment penalty may apply.

KEEP IN MIND that this enrollment occurs once a year from October 15 through December 7.

Any changes you make during Fall Open Enrollment will take effect January 1.

In most cases, this is the only time you can pick a new Part D plan.

If you have Medicare Advantage, you can also switch to Original Medicare and join a Part D plan.

(See Medicare... Page 3)



NATIONAL 4-H WEEK

OCTOBER 4-10, 2020

National 4-H Week is this week! With over 6 million youth participating each year in the United States, 4-H is the largest youth development organization nationwide! A wonderful program that utilizes "hands-on learning" to build and develop essential life skills in young men and women.

Although livestock is a big part of 4-H here in Greeley County, the majority of our youth participate in other non-agriculture learning. Leather, Photography, Geology, Foods and Nutrition and Shooting Sports are some of the 4-H Projects that see large participation each year. 4-H Camp, Youth Leadership Forum, Citizenship in Action, Kansas State Fair, and 4-H Days, are great 4-H events/activities that local youth participate in each year. Opportunities are endless within the National 4-H Youth Organization!

The Greeley County Fair is the annual showcase for the outstanding work our 4-H'ers do. While we are excited to see the talents and accomplishments each year at the county fair, project

exhibition is just a small part of "Why" we do 4-H.

4-H uses these "Projects, Club Meetings, and other Activities" to teach life skills. Learning the art of tooling leather for example is really cool, but it's not the ultimate goal. The goal is to use that project learning time to teach Self-Discipline, Creativity, Decision Making, Responsibility, Helping Others, Knowledge, and to boost one's feeling of Self-Accomplishment. While a career in Leatherwork would be "Awesome", the primary goal of 4-H is to teach these essential life skills using fun "hands-on" learning regardless of the project, event or activity. 4-H Club Meetings and other activities teach additional life skills like Leadership, Teamwork, Community Service, Public Speaking, Diversity, and much more.

An important part of the success of the National 4-H Youth Organization is our Volunteers. Each year, over 500,000 volunteers nationwide donate their time and talents to teach, guide, and assist our youth in 4-H. I've always said

that Volunteers are the Heart of every Community and this is especially true here in Greeley County! We are so appreciative and fortunate to have some of the best adult volunteers assisting our 4-H Program each year. Project Leaders, 4-H Club Leaders, Fair Superintendents, Extension Council Members, Fairboard Members, ALL of these volunteers (and MANY MORE!) donate thousands of hours each year to provide a fun and educational "hands-on" learning environment for our local youth.

As I said before, Volunteers are the heart of every community, but these volunteers need community support to thrive. We are fortunate here in Greeley County to have wonderful support! It amazes me each year the community's willingness and generosity in supporting not only local youth programs like 4-H, but other volunteer groups like the Fire Department, Emergency Medical Services, Recycling, Community Development, Church, School, Scouts, Pride and

all of the other groups who do vital work for our community. Thank You Greeley County for your support and service as a volunteer in our community!

4-H is much more than Pigs and Steers! While we would love to see our local youth return to the family farm as an adult, we just hope that our youth use the skills and learning opportunities that they receive in 4-H to become adults who are invested in their own community (wherever that may be) as both a supporter of community groups and maybe a 4-H youth volunteer themselves.

If your curious about 4-H and what opportunities are available, please check out the Kansas 4-H Website at www.kansas4-h.org, visit with any of our current 4-H Families, or stop by the Greeley County Extension Office here at the fairgrounds. We'd love to visit with you about this AWESOME Youth Organization called 4-H!

---Todd Schmidt,
Extension Agent

Help Celebrate Todd's 25 Years!

This is Todd Schmidt's 25th year as Extension Agent in Greeley County. To commemorate this milestone, we are compiling a Thank You album to present to Todd at the 2020 4-H Achievement Banquet in November.

If you would like to thank Todd for his service to you, to our youth, and/or to our community through his position as Extension Agent, please leave HAND WRITTEN notes with Roxi at the Recycling Center or with Kathy at the Extension Office. Or you can mail your hand written note to Greeley County Extension Office, attn. Kathy Nolan, P.O. Box 578, Tribune, KS 67879.

Thank You notes need to be received by Nov. 6. Thanks for helping us honor Todd in this way.

— Roxi Pringle