Frank Basgall, son of Lloyd and JoAnn Basgall, Otis, has been awarded a Glen W. Dickinson Scholarship in Law for the 2008-09 academic year at the University of Kansas.

He was recognized during an October 23 scholarship reception. He is a graduate of Otis-Bison High School and Kansas State University.
Becky Dorman receives Heart of Healthcare Award

Barb Glover
Oakley Graphic

Becky Dorman, recipient of the Heart of Healthcare Award presented by the KU School of Nursing, believes God created her to be a nurse.

"I am one of the lucky ones," she said. "The creator planted the seed. I honestly never have wanted to do anything else. I love what I am doing and look forward to going to work each day."

Dorman said that the decision to become a nurse was an inspiration.

"No one in my family was a nurse," she said. "One of the girls I knew from high school went to nursing school and she came home and talked about her experiences. Something just clicked and I thought that was something that I would like to do."

After completing nursing school, Dorman worked in a 3 bed intensive care unit in Manhattan and then at a Mennonite Hospital in Beatrice, NE. When they moved to Oakley, she worked for part time at St. Thomas Hospital in Colby.

"When my children were young I got out of nursing to stay home with them," she said. "I did a lot of volunteering at the Monument School, that was before they had paras. I was out of nursing from 1981-88."

In 1988 Georgetta Schoenfeld approached her to come work with her at the county health department.

"I told her I had let my nursing certificate go inactive," Dorman said. "I started there as a secretary. It did not take me long to know that I did not like being behind a desk."

She quickly got recertified and became the county health department.

"Working at the health department allows me to be a real nurse," Dorman said "I get to touch the lives of all ages. Every day is different. I go into the people's homes and when you do that you develop relationships with families."

She said that spends most of her days out of the office making house calls while Schoenfeld handles the administrative duties of the office.

"I get to do the things I do because Georgetta is very progressive and aggressive to provide people with health care services they need," Dorman said. "This department is not like many in the state. We offer a lot of services that they don't. She has allowed me the opportunity touch lives.

She has a lot of elderly patients. It is her goal when working with the elderly, to allow them to stay in their homes for as long as possible.

"It is really satisfying to see people stay as independent as long as possible," Dorman said. Dorman was nominated for the award by her grown children--Melissa, Erica and
Matt.

"Melissa read about the award in an ad in the Oakley Graphic," she said. "She called her sister and brother and said that they should nominate me for the award. They did it without telling me. When I received a letter stating that I had been nominated for this award I almost threw it away thinking it was a form like the Who's Who letter. But a few days later I read it again and answered the questions and mailed it in never giving it another thought. I was very surprised when I found out I was chosen as one of the ten recipients."

Her daughters wrote the following:

Eric--My mom, Rebecca Dorman, has and is the heart of health care in Logan County and beyond. Her influence as a nurse in life began in my childhood. Her impact on me influenced my

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choice of professions as well. Seeing this example of caring and mercy encouraged me to become an RN as well.”

Melissa--Some people spend their whole lives searching for purpose, their place in the world. Some eventually find it, some never do. But when God made my mother, He created a masterpiece of gentle mercy, compassion, selflessness and touch of humor.

“IT humbles me that my children would do this for me,” Dorman said.

She was presented the award on Oct. 24 at the Hyatt Regency in Kansas City, MO. The Heart of Healthcare Award was created in 1989 to recognize outstanding registered nurses contributions to their communities, patients and professions. Dorman was one of 10 who received the award.
Five piano students from McPherson Area Piano teacher's League District 6 performed solos in the Kansas Music Teacher's Association Auditions Saturday, November 8 in Murphy Hall at the University of Kansas at Lawrence. All students received Certificates of Recognition.

Students performing were Carolyn and Elizabeth Beckman, who received I ratings and medals; daughters of Bradley and Tisha Beckman, Lindsborg, Abbey Bengtson, who received a I rating and medal, daughter of Kenneth and Stephanie Bengtson, Lindsborg; Amy Janzen received a Certificate of Recognition; daughter of Mark and Betsy Janzen, Lindsborg, Anneliese Reinert received a I rating and medal, daughter of Arne and Christine Reinert, Lindsborg.

Piano teachers of students are Muriel Gentine and Maridene Lunstrom, Lindsborg.
Moundridge High School Graduate Joins KU’s Alpha Delta Pi Sorority

FOR THE LEDGER

MOUNDRIIDGE - Jacey Kate Krehbiel, daughter of Ken and Cheri Krehbiel of Moundridge, has joined a University of Kansas sorority. Krehbiel is a graduate of Moundridge High School and has joined Alpha Delta Pi. She is a freshman majoring in pre-sports science and comm. health.

The KU Panhellenic Association has announced that 611 women joined sororities at KU through the fall formal recruitment process.

The number represents an increase from fall formal recruitment last year, when 567 women joined KU sororities.

All 13 of the Panhellenic Association’s sororities added new members.

Membership bids were extended to women who completed the nine-day recruitment process.

About 900 women took part in the recruitment, nearly 150 more than in recent years, said Colleen Drazen, assistant director for greek life and leadership programs at the Student Involvement and Leadership Center.

"With the largest freshman class in KU history, we were hoping for a large increase in enrollment for Panhellenic recruitment," Drazen said. "We were excited to see 150 more women register for formal recruitment and 50 more women join sororities as compared to 2007."

Sororities that are part of KU’s Panhellenic Association are Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Gamma Delta, Chi Omega, Delta Delta Delta, Delta Gamma, Jamma Phi Beta, Kappa Alpha Theta, Kappa Delta, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Pi Beta Phi, Sigma Delta Tau and Sigma Kappa.

"In addition to the high enrollment numbers, there was a large change in the structure of formal recruitment that included moving the process a day earlier and not having events during the first two days of classes," Drazen said. "All the recruiting events ended prior to the first day of class, and women did not receive their bids until Saturday, which allowed both the new members and active women to focus on classes."

In addition to the 13 groups with Panhellenic Association affiliation, two sororities with student chapters at KU are members of National Pan-Hellenic Council.

They hold membership activities throughout the school year, and new members that join in the fall will be announced in the spring.

These sororities are Alpha Kappa Alpha and Zeta Phi Beta.

Sigma Lambda Gamma is a member of the National Association for Latino Fraternal Organizations and also will hold membership activities throughout the school year.
Honoring Veterans on Veterans Day...

Tomorrow, our county celebrates Veterans Day. In cities and towns across America, we dedicate this day to honoring veterans of all generations who have given so much and who continue to give on our behalf so that we may live in the greatest country in the world. If you have a veteran in your life—whether it is a family member, neighbor, or coworker—make sure to tell them thank you for their service to our country.

Touring Construction of Fort Riley State Veterans Cemetery in Junction City...

This week, I toured the progress of the construction of the Fort Riley State Veterans Cemetery, which began last fall. The VA provided an initial grant in November 2007 and a final grant in March 2008 to provide funding for the construction of the cemetery. The cemetery is located west of the Manhattan Regional Airport on 90 acres that were donated by Fort Riley. It includes space for approximately 10,000 burial sites. It will open next year and will serve as an honorable burial space for Kansas veterans.

There are four state veterans cemeteries in Kansas. These state-operated cemeteries provide space for burial for those who have served a term of active duty and been honorably discharged from the military, reserves or National Guard, as well as their dependents.

Thanks to Kafer Peele III, cemetery program director for Kansas Commission on Veterans’ Affairs (KCVA), for inviting me on the tour. I was joined on the tour by State House Representatives Sydney Carlin and Barbara Craft. Also on the tour were Lana Oleen; Kile Morrison; Ed Wiegars, KCVA Board Chairman; and Ken Kallenbach. Click here to view a photo from my visit.

Visiting VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinic in Salina...

It is important to make sure veterans have access to health care services in their communities. On Monday, I toured the VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) in Salina. Opened in 2001, this CBOC allows veterans in north central Kansas to receive primary care services closer to home rather than having to drive to a VA hospital in Wichita or Topeka. CBOC’s play an important role in delivering quality VA health care in rural areas.

Visiting Kansas Communities...

I continued my efforts to remain informed about issues important to Kansans by visiting with folks in several Kansas communities this week. The conversations I have while I travel across our state give me direction in our nation’s capital.

Luray: While in Luray this week, I spoke with area residents at Luray Grocery, the post office, UMB Bank and Midway Co-Op. I got an update from several farmers on the fall harvest and discussed the economy and the presidential election with others.

Lucas: I stopped in Lucas on Monday and talked with community members at Lucas Motor Company, Brant’s Meat Market, Troy’s Grocery, Pony Express Community Bank, the post office, Leach & Naegle hardware store, the civic center and the Conoco service station. During my visit, I learned that Golden Living Center Nursing Home in Lucas closed in October. My staff has been in contact with Russell County Economic Development to learn more about the situation and offer support.

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Solomon: On Monday, I was in Solomon to visit with folks in Dickinson County. I spoke with members of the community at DS & Q Rural Electric Co-op, Solomon State Bank, Solomon Corporation, Solomon Senior Center and the post office.

**Speaking to Kansas Students...**

Visiting Fort Hays State University: On Tuesday evening, I went to Forsyth Library at Fort Hays State University to visit with students about the national elections. More than 200 students who were affiliated with the American Democracy Project (ADP) were there to watch the national election results. During my visit, I thanked them for their interest in national issues and the voting process.

Speaking to Ellis High School: On Tuesday, I visited John Kohl’s government classes at Ellis High School. I talked with students and listened to their comments and concerns on current political and government issues. I discussed the current state of the economy and the presidential election. I was very encouraged to see the students involved and interested in the political process.

Delivering Agriculture Lecture at Kansas State University: On Friday, I made a surprise visit to Dr. Barry Flinchaugh’s Agriculture Policy class at Kansas State University. Dr. Flinchaugh has taught Agriculture Policy at Kansas State for 38 years and influenced many Kansas farmers, agribusiness managers and political leaders. I spoke with students about my role as a member of Congress and my experiences serving on the House Agriculture Committee in Congress. I also discussed with the students what the recent election results mean for the future of agriculture.

**Attending USD 475 School Board Meeting...**

On Monday, I attended the USD 475 School Board meeting in Junction City to discuss the education priorities for the district. I visited with the board about the need to fully fund special education programs, the importance of Congress making reforms to No Child Left Behind and the unique challenges of educating students from a military base. I appreciate the leadership shown by school board members Russ Boland, Bob Henderson, Daphne Maxwell, Becky Bramlage, Dr. Anwar Koury, Mark Rosen, and Rep. LTC David Chase and by superintendent of schools, Dr. Ron Walker.

**Visiting with the Kansas Farm Bureau in Manhattan...**

On Friday evening, I joined nearly 800 members of the Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) at their annual meeting in Manhattan. This year the group honored me with their “Friend of Farm Bureau” award. It has been an honor to work with the KFB. I will continue to work hard to represent Kansas producers so that we can provide the next generation of farmers an opportunity to experience the way of life we enjoy. Thanks to President of Kansas Farm Bureau Steve Baccus. Also in attendance was Congresswoman-elect Lynn Jenkins.

**Attending Jayhawk Roundup...**

On Saturday, I joined University of Kansas alumni and supporters in Wichita to raise money for Jayhawk Roundup Scholarships. These scholarships provide funds for KU students that include undergraduate students in Lawrence and a third-year medical student at the KU School of Medicine-Wichita. A special thank you to Dave and Janet Murfin for hosting the event and the KU Endowment Association for the invitation.

**Touring Bombardier Learjet in Wichita...**

On Wednesday I toured the Bombardier Learjet facility in Wichita to learn more about the facility. I serve on the House Transportation Subcommittee on Aviation, so it was interesting for me to learn that the site will take on assembly of the new Learjet 85 and expand production of the Learjet 60, which will produce hundreds of additional jobs in Wichita. The company will now have four aircrafts that will be either in design or production on the site. The Wichita facility currently employs approximately 2,700 people.

Thanks to Stephanie Allen for setting up my visit for that occasion.
Report projects hotter, drier climate

By CHRIS GREEN
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TOPEKA (HNS) — By the beginning of the next century, human-induced global warming could make Kansas, particularly its western half, a much hotter, drier place, according to a report released Tuesday.

The study by two University of Kansas scientists projected that average temperatures in southwest Kansas could jump by as much as 8 degrees Fahrenheit by 2100 because of increased greenhouse gas emissions.

Throughout the state, temperatures are expected to rise by 2 to 4 degrees, a change punctuated by more intense storms and a more variable climate.

One of the report's authors, KU climatologist Johannes Feddema, said a hotter, drier, less predictable climate could make water a scarcer resource, affecting the growth of natural vegetation and agricultural productivity.

"Ultimately in Kansas, water is probably the most important factor in our climate," Feddema said.

Drought patterns are already intensifying throughout the state, according to the study, and western Kansas will likely see the greatest decrease in soil moisture, putting more pressure on irrigation.

Water need — the measure of how much water plants must have to grow — will increase by as much as eight inches because of rising temperatures, the scientists concluded.

Feddema and fellow scientist Nathaniel Brunsell, an assistant professor in KU's geography department, led the

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state: Report projects hotter, drier, less predictable climate

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study, which was commissioned by The Land Institute in Salina.
Nancy Jackson, executive director for The Land Institute’s Climate and Energy Project, said her group hoped the report would better answer Kansans’ questions about how climate change would specifically affect their state.

The KU scientists began by choosing models reflecting the historic variability of the Kansas climate from 1950 to 2000. They created projections based on “middle-of-the-road” assumptions from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on future increases of atmospheric greenhouse gases.

Feddema said the projections could be used to inform the planning decisions of policy makers. Future warming, he said, also could be averted by making the political decision to reduce amount of carbon dioxide emissions and other greenhouse gases being put into the atmosphere.

While scientists have disagreements over global warming, as a group most agree that it is happening and that human-made emissions from the use of fossil fuels are a prime cause, Feddema said.

“That includes some well-known climate skeptics,” Feddema said.

Next month, though, the Kansas Livestock Association will hear from a scientist who dissent from those conclusions at its convention.

Dennis Avery, director of the Hudson Institute Center for Global Food Issues, questions humankind’s role in causing global warming.

Members of the cattlemen’s group are concerned about changes that could handicap the economy even while there is doubt remaining about the causes of global warming, spokesman Todd Domer said.

Allie Devine, vice president and general counsel for the Kansas Livestock Association, saw both positives and negatives for Kansas agriculture being set out in the study released Tuesday.

Projections that the state will experience fewer frost days, which might help lengthen the state’s growing seasons, and lower heating bills could be viewed as positives, she said.

However, Tuesday’s report concludes that the benefits of longer growing seasons would be canceled out by the problems associated with global warming, including less access to the water that determines crop yields and more resilient weed growth.

But Devine said changes in the state’s climate could present opportunities to better maximize the state’s agricultural output and that Kansas farmers and ranchers are used to unpredictable weather:

“Frankly, we in agriculture in Kansas have dealt with unpredictability virtually all of the time that Kansas has been an agricultural producing state,” Devine said.
KU employee accused of stealing

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — A longtime University of Kansas employee is accused of stealing more than $31,000 of equipment from campus buildings over a four-year period.

Prosecutors said Tuesday that Robert Lee Sample faces multiple felony charges in the theft of cameras, computers, cleaning items and musical instruments. Douglas County District Attorney's Office spokeswoman Cheryl Wright said additional charges may be filed.
Suspect in death of woman in custody

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Topeka police say they have a 24-year-old man in custody as a suspect in the death of a Topeka woman whose body was found Sunday behind a Manhattan motel.

The man, who was arrested Tuesday in connection with first-degree murder, has been in custody since Monday. Police say he was an acquaintance of 18-year-old Alheli Alcantara, who was last seen alive Saturday night in Topeka. The minivan she was driving was found early Tuesday morning in Topeka.

Alcantara graduated from Manhattan High School in December. An uncle says the teen had been living in Topeka for about two months so she could be closer to the University of Kansas in Lawrence.
Becky Dorman, a registered nurse from Oakley, was one of the 10 recipients of the 18th annual "Heart of Healthcare Award" from the University of Kansas School of Nursing.

Dorman has worked for the Logan County Health Department for the past 20 years, said Director Georgetta Schoenfeld.

The school has sponsored "The Heart of Healthcare" award since 1989 to recognize registered nurses’ contributions to their communities, patients and professions. Over the past 18 years, there have been 180 winners from more than 6,500 nominations.

Nominations are accepted from patients, patients’ families, colleagues, employers, supervisors and the nurse’s family and friends. A committee composed of former award winners and health care and business leaders selected the 10 winners.

Every nurse who was nominated will receive a certificate of recognition. The school honored the 10 who received the award this year by presenting them each with a $1,000 check. The awards were given Oct. 24 at a banquet at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Kansas City.

"My children noticed a story in the Oakley Graphic asking for nominations of nurses to receive the award," Dorman said. "They asked many of the people I work with and some of my patients to write letters to the School of Nursing to nominate me for the honor.

I had no idea they were doing this until I received a letter telling me I was a recipient."

Dorman, a 1970 graduate of Wesley School of Nursing in Wichita, said she has taken several classes at Wichita State University in the field of biological and physical science.

In the early 1970s, she worked in the old St. Thomas Hospital in Colby.

In her work as a staff nurse at the health department, Dorman visits patients in their homes, sets up their medications and coordinates care between their doctors and families. She also helps at the office, giving injections and working with patients.

She and her husband Chris have two daughters, Melissa Jones of Harlingen, Texas, and Erica Burnett of Centreville, Va., and a son, Matt Dorman of Beloit, and seven grandchildren, plus one on the way.

Dorman was the only western Kansas nurse to receive the award. Accompanying the Dormans to the banquet in Kansas City were Schoenfeld and her husband Robert, Dorman’s mother, Betty Schneider of Luray, and a sister-in-law, Joleen Schneider, of Florissant, Colo., who also is a nurse.
Pharmacists in demand

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — Thirty-one of Kansas' 105 counties have only one pharmacy, while six others have none.

Experts say those numbers could get even worse if state budget cuts delay a $60 million expansion of the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy.

The pharmacy project — which includes a new building on the Lawrence campus and expansion of a building at the university's Wichita campus — has been approved this year for $20 million in bonds from the state. Lawmakers also planned to spend $15 million of expected gambling revenues in each of 2010 and 2011 on the project.

The University of Kansas is raising the other $10 million. Of that, $5 million would pay for a second floor to the university's School of Medicine campus in Wichita to train 40 pharmacists.

The new building in Lawrence would add space for about 45 more students on top of the 105 already enrolled.

But Gov. Kathleen Sebelius' budget office has asked the Board of Regents to cut $15 million from its budget, a cut the regents have voted to appeal.

The budget is so bad for 2010, if they only cut $15 million, they're going to be lucky," said state Sen. Jean Schodorf, a Wichita Republican.

Also, prospects aren't as clear that the gambling revenues will be there to pay for later phases of the expansion project.

University spokeswoman Lynn Bretz said the university needs the bulk of the pharmacy school money before construction starts and the bonds it will receive this year are only enough for the initial design phase.

She said if the money for the later phases isn't there, it brings up the question of whether plans for the expansion should continue.

Merlin McFarland, who owns Kingman County's only drug store, said he almost had to close last year because he couldn't find anyone to fill two open pharmacist positions.

"If I hadn't put the staff together, I maybe would have looked at closing the store down," said McFarland, who has owned Kingman Drug Store for 34 years.

He filled the positions with a University of Kansas pharmacy student he had recruited for a few years and a former pharmacist at the store whom he rehired.

Pharmacy staffing problems could shrink access to quality health care and even lead to mistakes that can harm customers, experts say.

Debra Billingsley, executive secretary for the Kansas State Board of Pharmacists, said the number of complaints to the state board this year is about twice as high as in recent years. Most of those involve customers who received the wrong medicine or dosage, she said.

Some of that increase, though, she attributed to people becoming aware they can report problems to the board.

Billingsley said the pharmacist problem in Kansas could grow worse as pharmacists, especially in western Kansas, reach retirement age and their positions become harder to fill.

"There are people out there who would like to retire but feel like they can't," she said.