



In defense

MHS NETTERS SEEK LEAGUE TITLE | 1C

Marysville

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Mechanical woodland creatures to return to Koester Block gazebo

By Sharon Kessinger

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Mechanical animals will return to downtown Marysville during the Christmas season this year, more than four decades after they first appeared in the Koester Block gazebo.

The festive holiday display includes a big stuffed bear playing bells, three black squirrels with trumpet, drum and bells, a deer with bells hanging from its antlers, a red fox with bass fiddle and a raccoon. All have been rescued from storage in a second-floor hallway of the block's historic commercial buildings.

The critters are in good shape, needing only minor repairs and oiling of their electrical parts, brushing and grooming of their fur.

The gazebo, built in 1983, housed the animated display during the Christmas season but needs repair to replace its spindled Victorian railing and holiday lights. The animated display has been in storage since the early 1990s.

A group of volunteers headed by Rory Clark has been organized to support the project, and the mechanical critters were moved recently to the OneMarysville office on Broadway. Greg Suter of Wichita, who owns an extensive collection of similar mechanical displays and has experience with their restoration, came

See **Creatures, 8A** ►



Sharon Kessinger

Rory Clark, chair of a volunteer committee, inspects a fox with a base fiddle. The group plans to restore mechanical animals for a Winter Wonderland band in the Koester Block gazebo.



TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN

Combines now talk to tractors, and biomass maps compiled by satellites can prepare a combine so it has an idea what's in a field before it gets there. Technology in agriculture continues to advance. That story and a look at the career of veterinarian Russ Breshears, who has retired, are featured in the Advocate's Modern Agriculture section this week, starting on page 1B.

MHS football to drop to 2A classification

By Julie Perry

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Marysville drops to Class 2A next fall in football and will spend two seasons there while all other area schools are to remain in their current classifications.

In other sports, Marysville still will be considered a 3A school.

"I'm not really sure yet what I think of us dropping to 2A," said MHS football coach Tony Trimble. "I know that 2A and 3A both have some really good teams. Some of the downside is we will not be able to play all of our league teams as long as we stay 2A."

"If we fill all of our non-district games with league schools we will only

See **Football, 5A** ►

County approves Landoll tax abatement

By Chris Pannbacker

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A resolution for a 10-year tax abatement for Landoll Rentals LLC and Landoll Corporation for a new building and equipment in Waterville was approved unanimously Monday by the Marshall County commissioners.

In the 40-minute public hearing, commissioners heard from Landoll officials and representatives of Valley Heights USD

See **Landoll, 6A** ►

498. Because Waterville is in the Valley Heights school district, the proposed tax abatement would affect the district. In addition, commissioners had several questions during discussion.

The resolution is part of the paperwork that will be forwarded to the Kansas Board of Tax Appeals for a final determination.

Valley Heights Superintendent Sean Spoons said, "We are in support

See **Landoll, 6A** ►

Bulldog homecoming slated for Friday

Marysville High School homecoming celebrations kick off Friday with the traditional parade, pep rally and crowning ceremony plus an evening tailgate party, football game and alumni bash.

The 2 p.m. parade gets things rolling. The route starts at 13th and Broadway and proceeds to Sixth and Broadway. The pep rally follows at Pony Park at Seventh and Broadway.

At 5 p.m., the United

See **Homecoming, 5A** ►

Bank & Trust tailgate meal starts in the junior-senior high cafeteria until 7 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., the crowning of homecoming queen and king will be in Homer Hanson Stadium.

A 7 p.m. football kickoff is set for the Marysville Bulldogs vs. the Abilene Cowboys game on Pat Landoll Memorial Field.

The second annual

See **Homecoming, 5A** ►

Enrollments show decline

By Julie Perry

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A decline in enrollment is a trend this year among Marshall County schools, and Marysville lost more students than neighboring smaller schools.

Marysville USD 364 reported to the state it had 747 students, a decrease of 34 students from last year. The decline was expected, and Superintendent Darren Schroeder talked to the school board this summer about it. The district budgeted for the loss but had hoped to gain students before Sept. 22, the official day to report enrollment figures to the state.

See **Enrollment, 5A** ►

Black Squirrel Fall Fest

3 - 9 PM Saturday October 18

onemarysville.com | 785-562-3101

More info here!

Broadway Street, Marysville

3-5 pm | Games, Footloose and Platinum Dancers

5 pm | Donut Eating Contest

5-7 pm | Better Than Roadkill Band

5:45 pm-7 pm | Treats on Broadway

7 pm | Costume Contest by United Bank

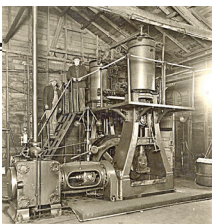
8 pm | Bulldog Band

8:15 pm | Fire Performers at Pony Park

FOOD - LIVE MUSIC - GAMES - TREATS ON BROADWAY

NEW EXHIBIT

A display of photos showing the "Art of Manufacturing" opens Sunday. 5A



Calendar	5C	Menus	6B	Public Record	3A
Classifieds	6,7A	Obituaries	4B	Sports	1C
County Kitchen	6B	Opinion	4A	Weather	3A
Crossword	7C	Public Notices	5C	Yesterday	6C

