

*I’d would be
a sin to miss
‘Nunsense 2’
this weekend
at FJ/SHS*

“Nunsense 2” comes to the Fredonia Jr./Sr. High School theater this weekend, with 7 p.m. curtain times on Friday and Saturday.

Back by popular demand, this musical comedy follows up on the lives of the Little Sisters of Hoboken and their “Thank You Program” being presented at Mt. St. Helen’s School — but a production of “The Mikado” is also sharing the stage.

The cast, pictured at right, includes many students reprising their roles from the previous production of “Nunsense” last December. Look for Harlee Blackwell as Reverend Mother Mary Regina; Piper Corle as Sister Mary Hubert; Elin Odell as Sister Robert Anne; Rigby Fox as Sister Mary Amnesia; Dylan Adams as Sister Mary Leo; Chloe Compton as Sister Julia, Child of God; Callista Romans as Sister Mary Brendan; Emily Cornett as Sister Mary Luke, Kennedy DeVietro as Sister Mary Wilhelm; Charlotte Jenkins as Sister Virgil; Caleb Anderson as Brother Timothy; Kyler Anderson as Brother Donald; Evelyn Shinkle as Sister Mary Clarence; and Millie McKenney as Sister Mary Francis.

The chorus includes Abigail Alexander, Vada Huser, Carissa Parker, Maddison Goodman, Jaxton Gile, Carleigh Compton, Quinn Baker, Madison Long, Faithe Decker, and Sadie Miller. Izzy Cole is the sound manager; Riley Reynolds and Neveah Speaks, lights; Marissa Waggoner, percussion; and on keyboard and directing, Theresa Fischer.



BOE members observe classrooms, approve plan for Class of ‘25 Senior Trip

Fredonia USD-484 board of education members got to see things from a student’s point of view at the Feb. 10 meeting, the annual “daytime” session for the board.

Initially convening at the board office, board members attending the session were President Adam Kiblinger; Miranda Dinkel, Merlyn Ramsey, Jonas Fink, Seth Fox, and Jill Gillett. They were joined by Principal Brian Houghton, Superintendent Brian Smith, Board Clerk Mandy Houchin, and Senior Class officer Harlee Blackwell, who presented the concept for the Class of 2025’s Senior Trip to Osage Beach, Mo., in May.

An itinerary of activities, and two options for travel plans, were outlined; Blackwell informed the board that the

class had the funds to cover this trip. Board members approved the option for departing on a Friday evening, as presented.

Superintendent Smith discussed ideas being considered for the 2025-2026 school calendars and asked for input regarding the rough draft that was submitted to the board. Smith will work with the calendar committee and present options to the board in April.

Traveling to the buildings of their choice, board members were able to participate in classroom activities or tour the building with the principals; they enjoyed spending time in the classrooms with students and staff. Dinkel observed the 1st grade instructors teaching the same reading lesson in each of the classrooms, which meets one of the district’s goals to

have aligned lessons. Some of the highlights were elementary math lessons, 5th and 6th grade rotations, Culinary Arts and Science classrooms. and seeing the leafy container hydroponic project. Currently, this system is providing salad items to both of the district’s lunchrooms.

Board members ate lunch with students, and noted they were impressed with the upgrades of the menu and in the inclusion of locally-produced beef.

Returning to the board office for the rest of the meeting, members were joined by KASB Leadership Services Director Alma Henry, with whom district goals were discussed.

In other business, the board:

- Accepted, with thanks, donations from: Artso-

nia, \$122 for Lincoln Elementary School; General Mills, \$22 for LES; Andrew and Ashleigh Hall, \$100 for Circle of Friends; and the 1910 Club, \$10 for band and \$10 for FC-CLA;

- Heard about legislative bills being introduced that impact the district;

- Heard a Tri-County board meeting report from Ramsey;

- Approved the consent agenda which included minutes from the Jan. 13 meeting, warrants totaling \$582,648, the district treasurer’s report, LEC and Jr./Sr. High financials, resignations of Madeline Woolsey as an English teacher and Terry Cunningham as a bus driver, supplemental employment of assistant spring sports coaches, Cody Hickox

for baseball, Matt Camacho for softball, Dakota Woodall and Myra Barnett for junior high track, and Tim Clausen for high school track, menus and the monthly enrollment update.

WMC urges early screening for colorectal cancer month

Wilson Medical Center supports National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month this March, emphasizing the life-saving importance of early screenings.

“Colorectal cancer is now the leading cause of cancer death among men under 50, yet many remain unaware of their risk.

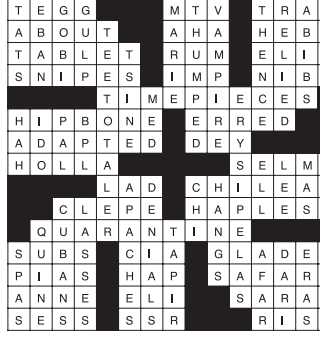
The American Cancer Society recommends that adults at average risk begin regular colorectal screenings at age 45, with earlier screenings for those with family history or additional risk factors. Detecting colorectal cancer early — before symptoms appear — can significantly improve treatment success and survival rates.

“Screening is the most powerful tool we have to prevent and detect colorectal cancer early,” said Libbie Oakes, RN and Director of Surgical Services at Wilson Medical Center.

“Don’t wait for symptoms—talk to your provider today about the right screening for you.”

Wilson Medical Center offers comprehensive colonoscopy services to help patients take charge of their health.

For more information or to schedule a screening, visit wilsonmedical.org or call 620-325-8390.



Legislative Update

(Continued from Page 2)

election day if SB 4 passes into law. The bill passed the Senate and was sent to the House,

where it was amended to delay the start until 2026 elections instead of 2025. While this

delay is disappointing, the Senate opted to concur instead of having a conference committee negotiate the start date. The Senate passed the change 30 to 10. I voted Yes to send the bill to the Governor.

The Property Tax Board of Tax Appeals (BOTA) currently charges for some appeals. Some tax protesters must pay a filing fee each year until the case is heard. SB 269 would change this so that the fee is good until the case is heard, no matter how many years it takes, resulting in a one-time filing fee. It is just common-sense. The bill passed the Senate unanimously.

BOTA also needs more staff to deal with all the appeals. SCR 1603 would help decrease the number of appeals, limiting taxable valuation increases to a maximum of 3% each year. The Senate passed this measure in February. I spoke with some constituents this week who want the opportunity to vote on on this measure since it is a constitutional amendment. First, it must pass the House with a two-thirds majority before appearing on the ballot for voters. If it passes, it would take effect January 1st, 2026.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as your 12th District State Senator.

Caryn

Agent’s notebook by Wendie Powell,

Livestock Production Agent, Wildcat Extension District

Why soil test a pasture?

I chatted last week with Dr. Tina Sullivan, the new northeast area agronomist with K-State Research and Extension, about soil testing and application timing in pastures.

Dr. Sullivan discussed how pasture managers should prioritize taking the time to get a soil sample pulled and analyzed.

“Seeing what our phosphorus, potassium (P and K levels) and then our pH is for our pastures is, even if it is a pasture situation compared to a tame forage, we still need to know what those levels are in order to keep our pastures as productive as possible to support the livestock we are trying to raise off of them. As we kind of think about forages as a whole, especially of pastures, we want to support those livestock that are on it, but if we’re not supporting our forages by providing them the nutrients that they need through N, P, and K applications, then the forage can’t be as productive thus our livestock can’t be as productive.”


When discussing the timing of fertilizer applications, Dr. Sullivan recommends applying it during the correct season.

After reviewing the soil test results, decide where the most limiting factors might be as far as soil nutrients, and then apply those nutrients at the right time of the year to get the most cost-effective use of that application.

“We like to apply our lime products, for changing our pH, phosphorus, and potassium products in the fall. Those products take longer to interact with the soil so our plants can uptake them. Whereas when it comes to nitrogen, we want to apply that product when the forage is greening up. Nitrogen can leach through and we don’t want to lose that precious product we’re applying,” says Dr. Sullivan.

To learn more about pasture fertility, plan to attend the pasture soil health field day on March 25 at the K-State Southeast Research and Extension Center.

We’ll discuss soil amendments and tools for forage management and feature a panel of experts.



Celebrate the Season of Lent

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

conducts Stations of the Cross

at 6 p.m. Fridays, March 14, 21 and 28
and April 4 and 11

followed by supper in the Hall.

*All are welcome to follow in Jesus’ steps
during the last day of His earthly life.*

FREDONIA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
INVITES YOU TO A

CASINO NIGHT FUNDRAISER

at Fredonia Golf Club

9711 Harper Rd. Fredonia, KS 66736

FRIDAY, MARCH 14TH

Award Ceremony & Cocktail Hour 6:30 - 7:30
Gambling starts at 7:00 - 9:00
Dessert Dash at 8:00

Enjoy a Chamber themed Cocktail and some amazing local Charcuterie food.

At the conclusion of the evening, please submit all chips. For every \$20 worth of chips returned, you will receive one raffle ticket, giving you an opportunity to win a prize.

Sponsorship Opportunity Available

*** NO MONEY WILL BE WON AT THIS EVENT ***

FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO BUY CHIPS IN ADVANCE CALL THE FREDONIA CHAMBER 620-378-3221

