



# The Galena Sentinel-Times

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## Take Note!

Notices for Take Note should be turned in to the Sentinel office no later than 10 a.m. Tuesdays. Call: 783-5034 Fax: 783-1388 Email: gstimes@kans.com

**Rich McCready will be back on Feb. 26th at the Elks Lodge.**

**Galena Little League will be offering Girls Softball through the Little League this year. Any girl ages 5-12 interested in playing should contact Diana Adams at 783-5215 to sign up.**

**Anyone interested in managing a Tee Ball, Farm Club or Little League team this year for Galena Little League should contact Diana Adams at 783-5215 by Saturday, February 26.**

**There will be a meeting of the Galena Little League Board on Sunday, February 27 at 4:00 pm at the Community Room. The public is invited to attend.**

**The GHS Class of 1985 will be having a meeting Sunday, Feb 27th, 3:00 pm at the community room. To discuss reunion plans. All interested classmates please come. Any questions call Faith Holt 783-5911 or email holtgf@joplin.com. Hope to see you there.**

**Choir Day at Mt. Olive Baptist Church.** The officers and members of Mt. Olive Baptist Church invite the public to attend a program on Sunday, February 27, 2005 at 3:00 in observance of our 2nd Annual Choir Day. You are assured of a spiritual uplifting for the afternoon, when you hear our guest choir - the Unity Missionary Baptist Church Men's Choir of Joplin, Missouri.

## Local Deaths

- Arzie O'Banion, Galena, age 71
- Evelyn Slimp, Galena, age 80
- Eva Dunkin, Columbus, age 86
- Silver Jones, Joplin, Mo., age 64
- David Newby, Grove, Ok., age 90

## Sebelius tours the Mt. Carmel Medical Center

by Alan Thompson



**Governor Sebelius had a relaxed meeting with the press on health care after touring the Mt. Carmel Medical Center in Pittsburg, Ks.**

Governor Sebelius made a trip to Pittsburg, Ks. last Tuesday to tour the Mt. Carmel Medical Center. The Medical Center was her only stop in Pittsburg. After the tour she had a short question and answer session with local press.

It was a very relaxed meeting with the governor sitting down in an up close and personal meeting with members of the Kansas Press and representatives from the Mt. Carmel Medical Center.

Sebelius said the two most important state issues which need dealt with are school funding and health care. She says we have a quiet crisis in health care services and delivery.

The governor is convinced that the state can play a large role in making insurance affordable for small businesses. Small businesses have a huge difficulty in providing health care for their employees. Sebelius called small businesses the "backbone" of Kansas economy, stating that 70% of Kansas businesses have 25 employees or less.

She would like to see more affordable options for small businesses to provide health care such as grouping "mom and pop" operations.

Sebelius would also wish

that medical clinics would have a payment scheme for every patient. If a patient is unable to pay for their medical care, the bill will be paid by some other means, probably tax dollars.

Medicaid is the largest insurer of women and children in Kansas. Sebelius says cutting the state's dollars would be devastating as it would cut people off of medical services. If the dollars to provide health care services disappear, the need for health care will still remain as it has always been. This would produce even more unpaid bills.

Sebelius believes a tobacco tax would be a win, win situation for Kansas. She says it would help stop kids from using tobacco and raise dollars to help pay for health services. She says one of the most costly health decisions you can make is smoking, so it would only be right for you to help pay for the medical attention you would then be more likely to need.

However, Sebelius believes we don't have the luxury to focus on just one need in the state. Focusing on health care alone would leave school funding in the dark. Or if focus on school funding is exclusive, then health care is left in the dark.

The governor stressed a strong disagreement for "shifting" dollars from one fund into another. After funds are shifted from one source they will need to be shifted from another. She believes we need an ongoing source of money for educational funding.

She believes a tax increase is an option to address Medicare and Education, but she is open to all suggestions and would rather not raise taxes.

For example, she is a supporter of enhanced gaming in Kansas. She does believe that the enhanced gaming has a better chance of making it in Kansas at the present time than in the past, due to the funding that is needed.

She is upset that the Riverboat Casino parking lots in Missouri are filled with Kansas vehicles and are taking Kan

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Railing has been put up around the gazebo in the Howard "Pappy" Litch Park. A Kansas Route 66 sign hangs on the front of the gazebo. A photo of the layout of the park when finished can be found on page 2.

## First Rt. 66 brick sold for \$102.50 on Ebay

By V. Hopkins



This brick was baked in Pittsburg, Ks. Story on page 2.



## Troy Newman is interim police chief

by Virginia Hopkins

Troy Newman, age 30, former Galena police officer, has been appointed interim

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## USD #499 school board primary election set for Tuesday, March 1

Since there are three individuals running for Position 5 on the USD#499 School Board, a primary election will be held on Tuesday, March 1.

The three candidates are Bill Colgrove, 4520 SE 100th St., Douglas R. Steele, 803 E. 5th

St., and Troy Wade, 2907 Shoal Creek Ridge.

Other candidates, without opposition, are David E. Ryan, 217 W. 19th St., Position 4, and Mike Gibson, 4274 SE 105th St Ave., Position 6.

## Goodrich drops charges against Hoaks twins

By V. Hopkins

Remember Birdie Jo Hoaks, age 34, who posed as a boy, Chris Gomes, age 13, at the Galena Schools last January? In early February, 2004, then County Attorney Joanna Derfelt filed charges against her and her identical twin sister, Becky Jo Hoaks, who allegedly aided and abetted the scheme, for making false writing and theft of services.

The women were arrested and spent some time in the Cherokee County jail until they were freed after posting \$25,000 bonds. After their preliminary hearing in mid April, Birdie Jo Hoaks was bound over for trial on two counts of making false information and one count of theft of services. Her sister was bound over on two counts of aiding and abetting making false information, and one count of theft of services.

The trial had been scheduled for three days in early February, 2005, but Cherokee County Attorney Michael

Goodrich filed the motion to dismiss the charges, saying the case against them "was weak" and it would be a "waste of time" and taxpayer's money to pursue it when more important cases were waiting to be heard.

Galena school officials reportedly are in favor of Goodrich's decision.

A Joplin Globe inquiry found that Birdie Jo Hoaks has had 12 convictions in seven states across the country. Included is a 1996 case in Salt Lake City where she posed as an abandoned/abused 13 yr. old boy. She was convicted of theft and impersonation on that charge.

Currently the women face felony stealing charges in Jasper County, Mo., for allegedly stealing on November 18, 2004, a wallet containing credit cards belonging to Angela Hartman at Missouri Southern State University.

The twins are now living at 910 S. Jackson in Joplin., Mo.

## Galena 7th Grade Boys go undefeated in regular season



Front row (left to right): Colton Leet, Jacoby Martin, Josh Walker, Sergio Lopez, Coleton Caverner, and Anthony Gifford. Middle Row (left to right): Coach Beau Sarwinski, Bobby Thomas, Casey Hunter, Troy Albright, Manager Taylor Haynes, and Manager Courtney Anderson. Back row (left to right): Shiloh Murphy and Cody Clark.

The Galena 7th grade boys basketball team has finished the regular season 10-0. They ended the regular season by defeating Columbus 41-22.

Troy Albright lead all scorers with 16 points. Shiloh Murphy had seven, while Jacoby Martin and Casey Hunter added 6 a piece. "This was a good win.

We came out with a great amount of intensity and had control of the game from the beginning. This was a total team effort." Coach Beau Sarwinski added.

The 7th graders begin the league tournament by hosting a first round game Thursday at 6:00.

Congratulations!