

Lyons News

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Cultural exchange nears completion, students return to Spain

BY MANUEL GOMEZ

People often dream of spending a good portion of the lives seeing the world. If that ever happens it's usually later in life when the necessary financial resources are available and time is not an obstacle.

However, for 21 students from Canet de Mar, Spain, the opportunity came much sooner as they arrived in Lyons on March 23, accompanied by two administrators from Institut Sunsi Mora High School, to complete the cultural exchange that began when Lyons High School students and staff members arrived at their Spanish village on March 10.

Tomorrow the group will return home with many wonderful memories and stories to share and many of the exchange students did find time to discuss their trip Monday morning at Lyons High School.

Jordi Canalda, principal of the Spanish High School who along with his Assistant Principal Francisco Sanchez accompanied the students to Lyons said he had been to the United States before. He said he actually lived and worked in Los Angeles and Philadelphia but he had never been to the rural regions of the country.

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Students from Lyons High School and Spain gather for photo on downtown square during week-long visit. (Photo by Manuel Gomez)



Lyons High School and Spanish students Monday worked on a document detailing what they learned from both cultures during their cultural exchange. Picture above are (Front Row) Gabriel Domenech, Javier Prats, Enia Figuerola, Nil Bilbeny (Back Row) Marc Sole, Victor Escobedo, Colby Keesling. (Photo by Manuel Gomez)

County employers discuss current labor market

BY MANUEL GOMEZ

The Rice County Community Foundation, Rice County Economic Development, and the cities of Lyons and Sterling Friday and Saturday hosted the second Rice County Job fair at the Celebration Centre. The fair began last year to aid local businesses in locating potential employees at a time where the labor pool had seemingly shrunk.

An added event to this year's job fair was a business roundtable in which employers were able to gather with other county business leaders to discuss the current job market and share their ideas on attracting and retaining employees.

Lyons Community Development Coordinator Alicia Hommon moderated the meeting and told participants that the job fair had a diverse group of employers taking part in the event. She said that diversity could lend itself to a multitude of thoughts

and ideas capable of solving the problems that Rice County employers currently face.

"When we need answers and solutions to problems, I would wager that about 99 percent of the time the answers are sitting across the table," Hommon said.

Hommon began the meeting by asking employers to share the challenges they currently face hiring employees and strategies they believe could be useful in drawing prospective employees to their business. Ideas shared were:

- Keeping students aware of jobs available in the community which could also aid in the retention of county residents;
- Continuing to promote the good lifestyle and available resources already in place in Rice County;
- Creating a sense of ownership for employees;
- Meeting regularly with employees to keep

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Skimmer possibly used in Lyons

The Lyons Police Department is investigating several cases of fraudulent debit/credit card purchases at fuel pumps, according to an LPD press release.

Police believe a device known as a skimmer was placed on a fuel pump card reader. The skimming device is used to capture the magnetic strip containing a customer's personal information, name and credit card number.

Police advised, when using credit or debt cards at fuel pumps, check to make sure the card reader is secure to the pump. If you find that the card reader is not secure please contact Lyons Police Department immediately. 620-257-2355

Accident south of Lyons leaves one dead

A late evening two-car accident three miles south of Lyons March 21 killed one passenger and left the driver with serious injuries when their vehicle was struck at Avenue Q and K14.

According to the Kansas Highway patrol, at 8:30 Hua Lin of Wichita was driving a Hyundai Palisade westbound on Avenue Q and failed to stop at a posted stop sign and collided with a Ford Focus driven northbound on K14 by Christy Morrison of Lyons.

Morrison's passenger, Christopher Morrison of Lyons, was transported to the Rice County Hospital where he was pronounced dead. Kristy Morrison was transported to St. Francis Hospital where she remains with serious injuries.

Neither Lin or the two passengers in the Palisade were injured in the crash.

County approves final payment

The final payment for the Sterling Emergency Medical Services (EMS) building was approved by the county at Monday's meeting.

EMS Director Greg Klein presented the invoice totaling \$139,705,

with the county paying \$49,347 and the city of Sterling paying \$90,357, which includes the revenue from the sale of the old EMS building.

Klein reported the

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LHS Honors 97 students

BY MANUEL GOMEZ

Lyons High School recently released its third nine weeks honor rolls for the 2022-23 school year.

Seniors led all classes with 30 students recognized on either the All A's, honor roll or honorable mention. The Junior class was close behind with 29.

Of the 97 students honored, 43 were listed on the honor roll, 35 received honorable mention and 21 made the All A's list.

All A's
Seniors: Caitlyn Belote, McKayla Brandt,

Emma Elliott, Sam Schmidt, Jarrett Smith, Samuel Steele

Juniors: Addison Silva, Valeria Valenzuela De LaRosa, Treven Webb

Sophomores: Marianna Boese, Cherish Galliard, Edgar Landeros, William Miller, Deacon Showalter

Freshman: Nevaeh Becker, Tiffany Cereceres, Fred Chuen, Sierra Gustus, Gilberto Silva-Paez

Honor Roll
Seniors: Mallorie Blank, Nevaeh Boyd, Victoria

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Lyons High School senior Adrian Gamez Friday visits with Raechel Manley and Susan Griffin about employment opportunities at First Bank in Lyons during the Rice County Job Fair at the Celebration Centre. (Photo by Manuel Gomez)



Briseno Construction employees and friends gather around Junior Briseno during a Lyons Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting celebrating the Grand Opening of the company's brand new facility at the corner of East 4th Street and Wabash. (Photo by Manuel Gomez)

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