

Family

High Plains Lions Club

Larry Koon surprised the High Plains Lions Club with a home-made chicken-and-noodle dinner, complete with mashed potatoes, at their July 13 meeting at the Colby Community College Student Union.

New President Justin Burrus introduced five guests after calling the meeting to order: Burrus' wife Kelli, Gay Henry, Donna Lawver, Fred Britt and Jim Oliver.

Oliver and Britt gave a presentation to the club on the Motorcycle Honor Charity Run across America, which will come through Colby on Aug. 31.

The group will be riding their motorcycles from Washington to California, led by Dave Barr, a former Marine who is a double amputee. Barr is a motivational speaker, author of motivational books and has ridden his motorcycle around the world.

Oliver, who is the state coordinator for the Honor run, said the group is paying their own way and hopes to raise enough money to build one or more Fisher comfort homes for military families of hospitalized veterans.

Oliver and Britt are members of the newly organized Colby American Legion Riders, which is sponsoring an overnight stay for the charity riders.

"How many riders will there be?" Oliver said, "is a question I am constantly asked." He said he has no way of knowing at this point in time, because riders will be joining and dropping off along the way. He said he plans to ride with them from here to the West Coast.

Oliver and Britt said they were asking the Lions to help welcome the riders to Colby, by doing a balloon release over Interstate 70 near the Hills Feedlot, and again in the Walmart parking lot, as the riders go by.

He said the welcome to Colby will include a police-escorted tour of the town and a meet-and-greet session at 6 p.m. in Fike Park.

Olive said he hopes everyone, including students, will help welcome Dave Barr and the riders at 6 p.m. at the Senior Center's north deck.

"Barr is just a great motivational speaker, and has something to offer to everyone in the area of hope and courage," Oliver said.

The American Legion will hold

Corrections

The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day	
Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$4.74
Corn (bushel)	\$2.92
Milo (hundredweight)	\$4.39
Soybeans (bushel)	\$9.89

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a social hour for the riders around 8:30 p.m. at the post hall, he said, and the public is invited to all of the activities.

Britt told Lions that as a boy he had spent lots of time sleeping in Veterans Administration hospital lobbies and cars when his dad was a patient.

"How nice it could have been to have a comfort house my family could have stayed in," he said. His father was a Vietnam prisoner of war, he said, and he expressed a desire to help make this event a memorable one for the riders. He told the group the comfort homes are much like the Ronald McDonald Houses across the country.

Gray Henry told the Lions about his high school trip to Albany, N.Y., to participate in the National Forensics competition. He thanked the club for helping him and Kayla Sloan to attend the event.

He said more than 2,500 students from across the nation participated.

He gave the Lions his national presentation of prose and poetry, which was a 1920s interpretation of "Death in Harlem." Gray, a senior at Colby High next fall, said he is excited about using the things he learned at the national event this year.

Lions who were celebrating birthdays were Norm Whittaker, Sheryl Brenn and Donna Lawver. Lion Melda Moore served birthday cake and ice cream.

Members receiving Lions International pins for 100 percent attendance for the year were Larry and Sheryl Brenn, Francis Britton, Roger Hale, Virgil Jones, Elmer Lawver, Melda Moore and Norman Whittaker.

Sheryl Brenn reported thank-you notes had been sent to contributors for the free Fourth of July celebration. She presented a work schedule for the Thomas County Fair.

Winners of the tickets to the "Pickin' on the Plains" concert were Norman Whittaker and Sheryl Brenn. Melda Moore won a ticket to the Oak Ridge Boys concert provided by Shawn Carney and Virgil Jones won the money drawing.

President Justin and Kelli Burrus invited the club to participate in the celebration of their son Mavrick's birth date at 7:30 p.m. at the Colby cemetery on Tuesday, July 21. It would have been Mavrick's first birthday, he said.



Brett Daniel Spresser and Nikki Renae Welsh

Couple to wed in Sharon Springs

Nikki Renae Welsh and Brett Daniel Spresser plan to marry at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, July 25 at the United Methodist Church in Sharon Springs.

The bride is the daughter of Darrell and Christine Welsh of Sharon Springs. She is the granddaughter of John and Elaine Welsh of Weskan and

Richard and the late Edna Heyl of Sharon Springs.

The groom is the son of Daniel and Annette Spresser of Gem. He is the grandson of Donald and Bernadine Spresser of Leoville and Lawrence and Mary Ann Juenemann of Rexford.

Thomas County Jail

Booked into the Thomas County jail:

- Ernest Woodley Triplett Jr., 35, Colby, June 22, failure to appear, Madison County Tenn., released July 3 to other agency.
- Darci Elaine Brown, 20, Colby, July 1, possession of drug paraphernalia, minor in possession, Colby Police, released July 2 on bond.
- Christopher John Gary, 28, Colby, July 2, giving a worthless check, Thomas County Sheriff's Office, released same day for fines and court costs.
- Christopher Eugene Geissert, 32, Colby, July 2, disorderly conduct, Thomas County Sheriff, released July 3 on recognizance.
- Liscia Louise Lawrence, 49, Colby, July 3, driving without a license, Colby Police, released

same day on notice to appear.

- Matthew Michel Krapp, 25, Jamestown, N.D., July 4, driving under the influence, Colby Police, released same day on notice to appear.
- Edward Francis Martin II, 39, Colby, July 5, domestic battery, Colby Police, released same day on notice to appear.
- Brandon John Rietcheck, 19, Colby, July 5, battery, Colby Police, released same day on notice to appear.
- Jeffrey James Wade Jr., 23, Atwood, July 5, theft of services, Colby Police, released same day on notice to appear.
- Bryan David Walz, 35, Colby, July 5, criminal trespass, disorderly conduct, fireworks violation, Colby Police, released same day on notice to appear.

Babies

Jaxon and Jayden Danford

Jaxon Donald and Jayden Howard Danford, twin sons of Lee-Roy and Amber Danford, were born July 6, 2009, at the Medical Center of Arlington, Texas. Jaxon weighed 3 pounds, 1 ounce and Jayden weighed 2 pounds, 9

ounces. Sister Aleeya Joi is waiting to welcome the babies home. Grandparents are Ruthie and Donnie Hughes of Colby, and LeeRoy and Helen Danford of Lubbock, Texas.

Four-wheelers unsafe; kid's parents cautioned

While all-terrain vehicles are part of daily life for many families, Safe Kids Kansas recommends that children under 16 should never ride on, or operate, all-terrain vehicles of any size – including youth-sized models.

"ATVs are inherently difficult to operate, and children do not have the cognitive and physical abilities to drive or ride these vehicles safely," said Cherie Sage, state director of the organization. "If you're not old enough to drive a car with safety belts on a paved road with traffic-control devices, you're certainly not old enough to drive a powerful open-seat vehicle at speeds up to 70 mph over rough terrain."

Nationwide, about 130 children die each year from all-terrain-vehicle injuries, she said, and an estimated 40,000 are hurt. While a helmet can reduce the risk of head injuries, there are no safety devices to protect against other common injuries.

The number of injuries per year more than doubled between 1993 and 2006, she said. In 2007, a quarter of those injured were children. Beginning in 1998, the industry followed voluntary guidelines restricting the sale of adult-sized four-wheelers for use by children, but testing showed the ban was not working well.

The Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act, signed into law

in 2008, made the voluntary standard mandatory as of April. The new federal law prohibits companies from recommending, marketing or selling new adult-sized four-wheelers for use by anyone under 16. It uses maximum speed, rather than engine size, for determining age-appropriateness, and requires that new all-terrain vehicles include labels with safety information. However, the manufacture of youth-sized four-wheelers is still allowed.

"Previous efforts to make ATVs safer for kids have ... not kept children out of the emergency room," said Sage. "Children can be seriously injured even on ATVs manufactured ... for kids."

Rollovers, collisions and ejections involving all-terrain vehicles can cause fatal head injuries as well as serious injuries to the head, spinal cord and abdomen. A child is four times more likely to be seriously injured than a rider over the age of 16.

"We know it's not the advice a lot of parents want to hear... but it's the conclusion we've drawn from extensive and ongoing review of the data," said Sage. "If you want our opinion as safety experts, there is simply no way to make ATV riding a safe activity for children."

For information, call Safe Kids Kansas at (785) 296-1223 or go to www.usa.safekids.org.

Colby's 14th Annual

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Workshops 11-3
Shows 12-11 p.m.
Sunday: 9-30 Gospel
Sing-a-long
11-10-2:30 Shows

9 Bands! Programs begin Friday night, 6:00 p.m.; Festival ends Sunday, 2:30 p.m. CT
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Check our website: www.colbybluegrass.org

Admission:
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Gate, \$35 • Youth (12-18), \$10
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