

# Roses America's favorite bloom

Thousands of gardeners, much more capable than I, devote a great deal of their time in the garden growing roses. I have noted over the years that there are many who grow very little else than roses.

Small wonder! The rose has long been America's favorite flower, and while they can sometimes seem to be a bit obstinate in their growing demands, they will probably always be America's favorite.

This year, the American Rose Society has announced that there are many new roses to plant, cultivate and enjoy. The most prominent development for the year 2013, and the only All America Selection for the year, is a beauty named "Francis Meilland Hybrid Tea Rose." The name alone is magnificently significant because



## Kay Melia

### • The Gardener

it's named after the famed French rose breeding Meilland family. The family notoriety began in the 1940s when they introduced the most famous rose of all time, one called "Peace," which adorns more gardens today than any other rose.

While the Francis Meilland Hybrid Tea Rose was actually bred by the Meilland family in the year 2006, changes in the structure and habit of the rose have improved upon it in the past seven years. It is being introduced this year as the All America Selection by the

Conard-Pyle Co., a leading horticultural innovator for 150 years, based in West Grove, Pa. The rose is available now on the 100th birthday of the late Francis Meilland, the leader of the prolific rose breeding family.

The rose is truly breathtaking. It produces soft pink to white blossoms set on long stems and glossy green leaves. The plant will grow to six feet tall in warm environments, but about half that in areas such as ours. It produces a strong citrus-like fragrance that always lets you know it's there.

I notice that several mail order houses have it available for \$19.95 plus shipping, and you might see it in your favorite greenhouse and garden center. This introduction may be the most coveted rose to come along for many years. If you

love roses, you must have this one.

It is noteworthy that the aforementioned distributor of quality rose stock for many years, the Conard-Pyle Co., is also the home of today's most popular general line of roses, the "Knock Out" rose. The Knock Out rose family is introducing two new roses this year. There are a number of named Knock Out roses, and seem to be readily available around the area. They are perhaps best known for their almost total resistance to "black spot," one of the greatest enemies of roses, and also their seemingly adaptation to the environment in which they are grown.

Plan to plant a rose or two this spring. Always look for the potted bushes that are a minimum of 2 years old. Roses, properly cared for, are forever.

## Deaths

### Mary Belle Grabenstein

Mary Belle Grabenstein, 87, Colby, died Wednesday, May 8, 2013, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

She was born July 29, 1925, in Rawlins County, the daughter of Jake J. and Mary (Pfann) Brooks. In 1943, she graduated from Colby High School.

On Jan. 20, 1946, she married Raymond C. Grabenstein in Atwood.

A homemaker, mother and grandmother, she was a lifetime member of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars. While her husband was living, they enjoyed frequent trips to the mountains. In recent years, she shared an apartment with her sister at Fairview Estates in Colby.

Preceding her in death were many immediate family members, including a granddaughter, Shayleen Brown.

Survivors include two sons,

Darryl (Mary) Grabenstein, Klamath Falls, Ore., and George (Irene) Grabenstein, Savannah, Ga.; two daughters, Cheryl (Carl) Wederski, Colby, and Barbara (Mike) Magers, Grand Junction, Colo.; a sister, Doris Voisin, Colby; a brother, Ike (Carol) Brooks, Zephyrhills, Fla.; five grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, May 16, 2013, at the Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel, with Pastor Ronald Williams officiating and inurnment in Beulah Cemetery.

No visitation.

The family suggests memorial in her name to be determined later, in care of the funeral chapel, 745 S. Country Club Dr., Colby, Kan., 67701.

Condolences for the family may be left at [www.kersenbrockfuneralchapel.com](http://www.kersenbrockfuneralchapel.com).

## Selden grad to perform

Andrew Broeckelman of Selden, a bachelor's degree candidate in biological systems engineering, will perform the national anthem and alma mater at the Kansas State University College of Engineering commencement

ceremony on Saturday.

The ceremony will be at 6:15 p.m. in the Bramlage Coliseum in Manhattan.

A live webcast of the ceremonies will be available at [www.k-state.edu/graduation/](http://www.k-state.edu/graduation/).

## Colby bank ranks high

Seifried & Brew LLC, a community bank risk-management firm, named Farmers and Merchants Bank of Colby in its 2012 top 15th percentile of community banks nationwide.

Farmers and Merchants, an independent local bank based in Colby, has a location downtown and a branch at Dillons. Last year, the bank celebrated 125 years in Colby, giving over \$125,000 in donations to support the community.

Velma Goodheart, vice president of the bank, says community

banks tend to give back more to the community than national or chain banks. Chain banks, unlike community banks, are publicly traded, national corporations.

To earn its ranking, F&M Bank demonstrated balancing of risk and reward based on the bank's total risk-return composite ranking, thriving in the the current financial climate. According to Seifried & Brew, this supports the idea that conservative, traditional community banking is the strength of the financial system.

## Thomas County Jail

Booked into the Thomas County jail:

- Mark Albert Sandoval, 56, Rexford, April 30, driving under the influence (second offense), Thomas County Sheriff, released same day with charges pending.

- Christopher Ryan Gatz, 27, Colby, May 3, aggravated intimidation of a witness or victim, domestic battery, Colby Police, released May 4 on recognizance.

- James Allen Dirks, 41, Grinnell, May 4, failure to appear, Highway Patrol, released same day on bond.

- Tyler Eugene Stieben, 23, Colby, May 4, driving under the in-

fluence, Thomas County Sheriff, released same day to responsible party.

- Robert Oliver Fossum, 29, Colby, May 5, driving under the influence (second offense), Colby Police, released same day on recognizance.

- Schelly Lynn Chelsea, 28, Madison, Wis., May 7, possession of hallucinogenic drugs, Thomas County Sheriff, released same day on recognizance.

- David Andrew Roberts, 26, West Bend, Wis., May 7, possession of hallucinogenic drugs, Thomas County Sheriff, released same day on recognizance.

## Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$7.23
Corn (bushel)	\$6.56
Milo (hundredweight)	\$11.09
Soybeans (bushel)	\$13.49

### RECOVERY.....

The Bright Side of Addiction

**Narcotics Anonymous**  
is there for you and your family!

Meetings are Open to the Public  
City Hall Basement

## Thank You

My heartfelt thanks to my friends for the cards, phone calls and e-mails wishing me a Happy Birthday. And to my family for a wonderful weekend celebration! I have been truly blessed!

Peggy Saddler

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## Reception to honor 50th anniversary

Raymond H. and Frances M. Bange will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 19, 2013, at the family farm, 14555 W. U.S. 24, Menlo.

The couple was married May 11, 1963, at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Colby.

Their children are Anna (Scott) Reese, Becky (Robert) Wuerdeman, Paul Bange, the late Sandy Bange and Matthew Bange. They have eight grandchildren.

Cards can be mailed to 1630 Sewell Ave., Apt C-8, Colby, Kan., 67701. The couple requests no gifts.



The Banges in 1963 and in 2013

## Colby High forensics team places 15th at State

Eighteen Colby High School students competed May 5 at the Class 4A Speech and Drama State Championships, held at Washburn Rural High School in Topeka, and the team placed 15th overall of 49 schools.

Colby had 116 points. Sumner Academy of Kansas City, Kansas, was first with 298; Tonganoxie High School second at 287; and St. George-Rock Creek High School third, 273.

Three Colby students earned enough points to qualify for the semifinals: seniors Cameron McLaughlin and Gabby Browne and junior Madison Tubbs.

McLaughlin and Browne, both competing in serious solo acting, received top marks and positive feedback from judges.

McLaughlin performed "2.5 Minute Ride" by Lisa Kron. In the first round, she got second place and received 25 quality points – the maximum allowed; in the second round, she took third place with 22 points; and in the third round, she first with 25 points.

"Wow," said one judge. "I don't even know how to express how amazing this was. I cried. I wanted to bawl, really.... You embodied this character perfectly! And I swear I could see your slides. I even looked to see it once."

Browne also gave three top performances throughout the day, qualifying her for compe-

tition in the semifinals round for her solo, "Just Checking" by Emily Colas.

Her scores for the first, second and third rounds were second place, 23 points; third place, 24 points; and second place, 22.

"This is a great piece," said one judge. "I love the build of emotion to the end when she takes the pill. The old woman was so realistic – you truly captured the character from voice to gestures, etc. Great work."

Browne also competed in the Original Oration of Poetry event at state with a piece that combined two poems by Andrea Gibson: "Dive" and "For Eli."

The third Colby student who qualified for semifinals, Tubbs, gave a powerful performance of "A Few Words About Breasts" by Nora Ephron in the Humorous Solo Acting event. Her scores were third place, 23 points; fourth place, 22 points; and first place, 25 points.

One judge said, "Very funny and real. A piece so controversial, you made it very reachable and acceptable."

Only one point away from moving forward, senior Walter Vacik gave an informative speech called "The Perfect Cup." He got second, fourth and third places respectively.

Also one point from moving forward, soph-

omore Sterling Miller gave three impromptu speeches. With only five minutes to prepare after being given a topic, he presented first on the American Revolution, then on the topic of hate and finally regarding the quote, "Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak out and remove all doubt," by Abraham Lincoln.

Senior Matthew Dickman presented a humorous solo piece called "Dirk, the Angry Scotsman," by John C. Havens.

Juniors Ashley Coleman and Sarah Lamm competed in the impromptu speaking, while Senior Tomi Miller and Sophomore Eric Schutte did extemporaneous speaking.

Giving an informative speech called "The Body Fantastic" was sophomore Brooke Wark.

Colby took three improvised duet acting teams to state competition: freshmen Andrea and Rachel Browne, senior Brady Rose and sophomore Cheyne Weis, and senior Blake McNinch and sophomore Aaron Faber.

Rounding out the Colby team was junior Suzanna Huang, who gave an original oration called "The Cut."

Available to participate as alternates were senior Daniel Valdez for impromptu speaking and junior Abby Friesen for extemporaneous speech.

## Photo contest to showcase natural beauty of grazing lands

The Ranchland Trust of Kansas invites professional and amateur photographers to submit photographs for its second annual photo contest to showcase the natural beauty of ranching and grazing lands across the state.

The competition, open to anyone, offers Kansans the chance to explore the many activities, seasons and faces of Kansas ranching tradition.

"We are excited to continue our photo contest after the overwhelming quality and quantity of photos we received last year," says board chairman Heather Fuesz of Eureka. "The grassland in our state has a story to tell, and photos are a great way to tell those stories with others who share a

love for agriculture and those who want to learn more."

The contest runs through Tuesday, Sept. 10. Participants should submit photos expressing the mission of the trust: "To preserve Kansas' ranching heritage and open spaces for future generations through the conservation of working landscapes." This may include livestock, people and landscapes, with preference to grasslands, grazing lands with cattle, ranchers, ranching families and more.

"All ages and skill levels are welcome," Fuesz says. "The photo contest is all about capturing the beauty of Kansas' grassland, cattle and people."

The contest is open to anyone with an original photograph taken

in Kansas since Jan. 1, 2011. Participants may enter up to five photos. Categories include landscape, livestock and people. Entries will be judged by a panel of professional photographers and by RTK representatives.

Ten prizes will be awarded, sponsored by Wolfe's Camera of Topeka. The single image selected as the overall winner will receive Promaster Catalina 8x30 Binoculars, a \$25 Wolfe's Print Services Card and a certificate for 10 photo cards of the winning photo from Wolfe's. Youth (ages 5-17), Fan Favorite via Facebook voting, Kansas Livestock Association member and three honorable mentions each will receive a \$25 Wolfe's Print Services Card and

a certificate for 10 photo cards of the winning photo from Wolfe's.

For information or to enter, go to [www.ranchlandtrustofkansas.org/2013photocontest.aspx](http://www.ranchlandtrustofkansas.org/2013photocontest.aspx) or call Mike Beam at (785) 273-5115 or [rtk@kla.org](mailto:rtk@kla.org).

### 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.*

We want your local news:  
e-mail to  
[colby.editor@nwkansas.com](mailto:colby.editor@nwkansas.com)

## Colby Junior Golf

Sign up at Meadow Lake Golf Course  
**Thursday, May 30 • 9:00 a.m.**

The first practice will follow sign up.

*Practice every Thursday starting May 30 - July 25 from 10 - 11:30 a.m.*

**Ages 7-17 • Members: \$15 • Non-Members: \$65**

– scholarships available –

**Golf Coach: Kevan Taylor/Sara Betz/Ed Schmitt**

**Contact Person: Sara Betz - 785-269-7394 or 785-460-9855**



## Thank You

Heartfelt thanks to all who helped us in any way. Also a very special thanks to Prairie Senior Living Complex for the excellent care of Roger.

Roger Binder  
Families