

Adoptions

Adrian Hope Ziegelmeier

Adrian Hope Ziegelmeier was officially adopted by Steve and Tamara Ziegelmeier of Colby on May 6, 2013.

Siblings Kellan, Brook, Brennan and Kinley welcomed her into the family. Adrian was born on July 24, 2010, and entered the Ziegelmeier home and family on July 27, 2010.

Gardeners brag about the 'big one'

Bringing in a big one is just as much a joy for the backyard gardener as it is for a fisherman.

There is something about bringing in a king-sized vegetable that brings forth the same happy feeling as netting a large smallmouth bass. It also brings forth an eagerness to talk about it. We're always ready to tell our fellow green-thumbs or other rod and reel buffs just exactly how we did it.

Take what happened in Casper, Wyo., a few years ago. As the garden season faded into late September, Virgil Smith dug one of the hills of Idaho red potatoes he had been nursing along all summer and found a potato that weighed two and a half pounds.

Never mind that the world record for Irish potatoes is seven pounds 11 ounces. Smith had carved that potato patch out of what used to be rather worthless soil. But he had done a wonderful job of building it into a rich, productive garden. He also got his picture in the paper and provided the whole family with a meal of French fries from just one spud.

Someone mention watermelon? Ed Weeks of Tarboro, N.C., produced a melon that claimed the world record at 197 pounds in 1976 in an official weigh-in conducted by the Guinness World Record people. That record has since been broken several times and now stands at 208 pounds, 12 ounces. Weeks became a full-time plant breeder, developing the famed Carolina Cross variety of watermelon, the seeds of which are sold all over the world. He, also, discovered what a good, rich soil could provide.

An English gardener by the name of Jimmy Storey of Sedgfield also discovered what deep, rich soils can produce last summer



Kay Melia

• The Gardener

by growing three-foot carrots and parsnips, as well as sleek three-foot leeks

Then there is the Rev. Cooper Goff of Galesburg, Mich., who grew a 14 1/2 inch winter radish. Lendon Clingspiel of Hudson, Fla., brought in several 34-inch long green onions, and Clarence Daily of Morrona, Wis., got in on the act by growing a six and a half pound tomato in his highly productive garden.

There are, of course, many other highly successful stories like these. It's not difficult to determine why these gardeners are so successful. All of them, everyone of them, have built an ultra-productive seed bed in which they make their plantings. They make regular soil tests to determine what their soil needs. Just listen to a few of the organic, biodegradable materials they add to their soil: sheep manure, grass clippings, dairy cow manure, leaves, cottonseed meal, compost, straw, dried blood, chicken manure, rotten hay, wood chips, ground phosphate rock and bone meal.

Good gardeners work these materials deep into their garden soil every year, nearly always in the fall. You can start with hard-packed clay soil, but plowing in large quantities of biodegradable materials can make your garden a powerhouse.

Your commitment to building a rich soil will result in larger yields and larger vegetables. That's about the size of it.

Focusing on the finish line



The runners had just one thing in mind as Ethan Zerr (left), Alec Wildeman and Tristan Ortner gave the race their all at the Colby Grade School Field Day May 20.

KATHRYN BALLARD/Colby Free Press

Solomon Valley 4-H Club

President Kurt Sloan led the April meeting of the Solomon Valley 4-H club. The roll call question was "A favorite book you have read."

Samantha Skolout led the song "Happy Trails."

Cole Zeigelmeier and Kurt Sloan talked about the fair prizes.

Leader Lisa Stramel gave out prizes to the kids who did something at county club days. Chelsea Schroeder and Carli Niemann gave some ideas for our club T-shirts design. Kelly Sloan gave an illustrated talk on lacing a shoe and Kurt Sloan gave a project talk about his sheep he will be taking to fair this year. Recreation was led by Trey Stramel. Hosts were the Neimann and Comfort families.

The meeting on May 12 was a backwards meeting. The club

started with recreation first with Kurt Sloan. Anna Stramel gave a demonstration on how to make chocolate covered marshmallows. Kamrie Miller gave a project talk about taking her horse and food to fair. Jillian Niblock gave a project talk over how to make a flannel quilt. Jay Zeigelmeier gave a project talk about the 4-H trap team. Chelsie Calliham gave a project talk about her maintainer steer she is taking to the fair. Taylor Thummel gave a project talk about her horses she is taking to fair. Julie and Laura Schroeder sang the song "Cups" from Pitch Perfect. Hayden Bellamy and Nick and Emily Delziet became part of our club. The roll call question was "what's your favorite animal;" 26 members were present.

— Christian Calliham, Reporter

Colby graduate named to national organization

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars welcomed Lacy Joe O'Neal of Colby as a new member.

O'Neal, a 2012 graduate of Colby High School, attends Fort Hays State University where she will be a sophomore, and is majoring in elementary education. Her parents are L.J. and Karen O'Neal of Colby.

The society, a member of the Association of College Honor Societies, is the nation's only interdisciplinary

honors organization for first- and second-year college students.

"Membership gives students access to a number of amazing benefits including career and networking resources, scholarships, travel and service projects both on campus and in the community," said Stephen E. Loflin, founder and chief executive officer.

Membership is by invitation only, based on grade point average and class standing.



Lacy O'Neal

Send local news to colby.society@nwkansas.com

Students win K-State scholarships

Five area students were awarded scholarships totaling \$1,300 at the Northwest Kansas Alumni/Student/Catbacker Golf Tournament and Banquet on May 16 in Colby.

The recipients are Cameron McLaughlin and Macen Shull, Colby; Angela Ritter, Dresden; Kenan Reeh, McDonald; and Cody Faulkender, Oakley.

The scholarships were awarded

by the Northwest Kansas K-State Alumni Club and the Col. Gayle Foster Endowed Scholarship fund.

"We are so pleased to congratulate these outstanding students," said Amy Button Renz, president of the Alumni Association. "The Alumni Association board of directors is committed to helping prospective students attend K-State, and the alumni club schol-

arship program is a vital component in assisting those efforts. We greatly appreciate local alumni and friends who have helped make these awards possible through their loyal support."

The scholarships are for the 2013-2014 academic year. There are more than 1,000 K-State alumni and friends in the Colby area.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$7.26
Corn (bushel)	\$6.98
Milo (hundredweight)	\$11.86
Soybeans (bushel)	\$14.60

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.

The Consumer Confidence Report for Calendar Year 2012 is available at www.cityofcolby.com. This document provides the water quality information for residents of the City of Colby for last year. If you would like a paper copy, it is available at City Hall or call Jo Strange at 460-4410.

The City of COLBY

Chemistry scholarship to Colby grad

Jordan Voss of Colby, a senior at Fort Hays State University, has received a \$500 Hospira Scholarship and a \$400 Chemistry/Pre-Professional Club Scholarship.

Twenty-eight chemistry majors at Fort Hays were recognized for scholarships at the Department of Chemistry's recent scholarship and awards banquet.

Some like it HOT... and some like to shop the COOL way!!
The Colby Free Press - 462-3963

Happy 60th Anniversary



Jim and Betty Bartlett, Colby, will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married June 7, 1953 at the Oakley Christian Church. Betty (Vogler) and Jim lived 12 mi. SW of Monument, farming and ranching for 5 years. They purchased a farm in 1958 near Colby where they still reside. Children of the couple are Brad and special friend Connie of Lawrence, Ks, Connie and husband Jim McDaniel, Quinter, and Greg and wife Carrie, Colby. The couple have 7 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren. A card shower hosted by their children can be sent to them at 1692 Co. Rd 26, Colby, Ks 67701.

Wednesday, June 5th 12:00 noon @ Fike Park

Hi-Plains Coop Hot Dog Feed to benefit the Kiwanis 4th of July Fireworks display. Free will donations.

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