



Couple plans to marry at Methodist Church

Jordan Florian Spreser of Rexford and Randa LaShelle Lewis of Colby plan to wed Saturday, Sept. 7, 2013, at the Colby United Methodist Church.

The bride is the daughter of Douglas and Bonnie Lewis of Colby and works at Western State Bank. She graduated from Golden Plains High School in 2009.

The groom is the son of Carl and Debra Spreser of Rexford and works at McCarty Family Farms in Rexford. He graduated from Golden Plains High School in 2010.

The couple plans to live in the Colby area.

Babies

Lorelei Dorene Brocklehurst

Lorelei Dorene Brocklehurst, first-born daughter of Mike and Nicole Brocklehurst of Levant, was born in Hays on Saturday, July 13, 2013, at 6:43 p.m. She weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 19 inches.

Grandparents are Stan and Jan Sommerfeld of Sharon Springs and David and Susan Brocklehurst of Vernon, Texas.



L. Brocklehurst

Tristan Wyatt Roeder

Tristan Wyatt Roeder, son of Taranie-Tanea Touslee and Timothy Roeder of Colby, was born Thursday, July 11 at 1:46 p.m. at Citizens Medical Center. He weighed 5 pounds, 10 ounces and measured 17 1/2 inches.

Grandparents are Tracie Touslee of Colby, Michele Johnson of Goodland, David Roeder of Goodland and Terry Mason of Topeka. Great-grandparents are Barb and Delbert Touslee of Colby.



T. Roeder

Gardens a no-brainer for older people

Ask just about anyone why they began planting a garden in their backyard and you'll probably get a blank stare. Either that, or they'll tell you "it's because I like fresh tomatoes." That, of course, is reason enough.

There are approximately 50 million gardeners in the United States today. The average age of an American gardener is 50. That may surprise you because most people figure only old blokes like me go outside and play in the dirt. Fifty years ago, that was basically true, but not anymore.

Young people are finding their way out the back door and into the backyard in increasing numbers these days. And it's not only because they're hankering for a fresh tomato. They're beginning to understand that homegrown



Kay Melia
• The Gardener

fresh garden delicacies are paramount in their family's everyday diet. They also understand that working up a little perspiration can actually be satisfying, knowing that they are accomplishing something good for the family.

It set me to thinking the other day. (Really!) How great would it be if every family planted, tended and harvested the bounty of their own backyard garden? Probably not going to happen. And why is that? It's because the majority of the nation's young, school age people have never been exposed

to the joys of gardening by their parents and are not really aware of how to get started when they get out on their own. I think I have the answer to this problem.

Let's introduce a course in school pertaining to gardening.

I propose that Gardening 101 be a semester-long course, and be required study for all sophomore or junior students in high school for both boys and girls. It should be scheduled in the second semester when spring begins and students can get outside and get hands-on training as well as in the classroom. High school students would be allowed to take the course either their sophomore or junior year. My book, entitled "The Gardener's Common Sense Guide to Vegetable Gardening in the Midwest" would make an excellent

textbook. A teacher with gardening experience could surely be found in the community. I have drawn up an outline for the course for the entire semester.

I think it makes sense that Gardening 101 be offered to 15- and 16-year-olds rather than kindergartners or first graders. I believe the older students would feel a closer connection to fresh homegrown food than the younger kids, and would more easily learn the importance of learning about gardening.

I know nothing about high school curricula these days. But I submit that this idea makes as much sense as some courses available, or forced upon, our students today. What do you think?

High Plains Art Club

The High Plains Art Club met July 9 at the Methodist Church with 13 members present.

Maxine Nelson had the program featured a short biography of cowboy artist, Tim Cox. When she began to read about Cox, the article kept referring to a "cutting horse" and she was unfamiliar with the term. Nelson brought magazine, calendar and Internet pictures of several paintings he created. His painting "Dance of the Blue Cayuse" was discussed.

President Marlene Carpenter led the meeting.

Carpenter read an invitation from Goodland Arts Council to their Christmas in July Celebration at the Carnegie Art Center.

The publicity committee for the club's art show scheduled for Friday to Sunday, Oct. 18 to 20, reported sending over 50 brochures with entry forms to individuals. Art instructors in the area high schools and colleges will be sent the information as soon as school

begins. Local newspapers will also be contacted. The committee is visiting with chambers of commerce within a 200-mile radius for a contact person in each area. For the show to grow, more entries will be needed. The work sign-up schedule for the show was again passed around and completed.

The Buffalo Bill Cultural Center will Display paintings by club member Don Denning through the month of July.

Club members discussed possibilities for a future workshop or interesting program by someone

in this area. Karen Reed will invite Shirley Houston, who owns the Black Bird Gallery and Studio in Goodland, to attend the Tuesday, Aug. 13, meeting.

Margaret Danneler reminded members to enter artwork in the Thomas County Fair.

The next meeting will be the annual salad luncheon. Each member is to bring a salad. Anyone interested in joining the club is welcome to attend at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 13, at the church.

-- Alice Wolf, Secretary

Colby Rotary Club

Colby Rotary Club met last Tuesday with 28 members and guests Marc Alwin, Tenille Hankin, Austin Moser, Nancy Rundel, Brennen Ziegelmeier and Brook Ziegelmeier.

Thanks were read from the Northwest Kansas Foundation for Hope and the Citizens Medical Center Foundation for recent donations.

Marla Crumrine introduced Thomas County Fair Board members Austen Moser and Nancy Rundel for the program. Moser and Rundel gave an overview of the events already underway for this year's fair and the entertainment planned for the July 30 to Aug. 3 fair dates.

They also showed photos of the recently installed archway, fence, handicapped parking and sidewalk at the fairgrounds. Moser said the sidewalk connects the 4-H Build-

ing to the Commercial Building. Plans for future improvements include additional lighting, trees and benches.

Moser and Rundel invited members to attend the various 4-H and fair activities planned for this year's Thomas County Fair.

Brook Ziegelmeier told members about the projects he will be entering in this year's fair. He is an eight-year member of the Abilene Hustlers 4-H Club and is currently serving as vice-president. He will be entering his goats in the fair along with a variety of gardening projects. He said he is a champion potato and zucchini gardener.

Nancy Rundel won Roto-Lotto. Colby Rotary Club will hold its next meeting at noon on Tuesday at the Thomas County Fairgrounds.

-- Relda Galli

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$6.81
Corn (bushel)	\$6.42
Milo (hundredweight)	\$10.18
Soybeans (bushel)	\$12.33

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.

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Thank You

Thank you from April Swartz and all her furry friends at the Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter. The Lemon-aid stand was a HUGE success due to the generosity of all the pet lovers out there!!

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We welcome any inquiries or visits to the school. The first day of classes is Tuesday, August 20th. Visit our website at usd314.k12.ks.us, and contact us at 785-694-2236 for more information.