

Goldilocks trumps bears



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press

Mama, papa and baby bear caught goldilocks napping Tuesday morning in their "house" at the Colby Grade School auditorium. Kids got to see the play "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," courtesy of the Western Plains Arts Association.

Librarians learn about Pete the Cat

Last week I spent some time in Topeka at the Kansas Library Conference.

One of the guest speakers was Eric Litwin, the author of "Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes," (illustrated by James Dean). We enjoyed his reading of the book while we as librarians learned actions and responses for using the materials with children.

I knew that Litwin was famous and talented, but I did not know how talented he was as a singer and composer of simple thoughts and songs. Litwin plays guitar and banjo to create his folk-style songs.

An educator, he has many types of materials that one can download for free on his website at www.ericlitwin.com/#. If you want to see his teaching through stories, music and other media, go to his video reels at the same site. The website Learning Groove, which can also be reached from that site, has been created for teachers, parents and others who work with children. A person can listen to the songs, download coloring pictures and get the music of the songs. There are free YouTube videos of Litwin at www.youtube.com/user/thelearninggroove/videos.

I am looking forward to see his new books that go beyond the "Pete the Cat" theme. We will have more to enjoy.

Illustrator James Dean's website says that "Pete the Cat," was created after bringing a young black kitten home from the local shelter (www.petethecat.com/about). Dean started just drawing the cat, but decided to make the cat blue since some people think black cats are bad luck.

When the cat started sitting on his computer, putting his paw in his coffee cup, getting in his Volkswagen bug, etc., it became the subject of stories as a coffee loving cat, and a cat that drives. He painted for 10 years before writing an adult book in 2006 named, "The Misadventures of Pete the Cat," which outlined his artwork.

He then paired up with Litwin to create their first children's book, "Pete the Cat I Love My White Shoes," in 2008. Other books in the series are "Pete the Cat: Rocking In My School Shoes," "Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons" and "Pete the Cat Saves Christmas."

What Litwin has brought to producing this series is creativity



Melany Wilks

Library Links

merged with music, actions and themes for teaching. He records these in a studio allowing the average person to download quality music and programing so that they too can use the materials for teaching.

Dean himself wrote readers entitled: "Pete the Cat: Pete at the Beach (*My First I Can Read*)," "Pete the Cat: The Wheels on the Bus," "Pete the Cat: Pete's Big Lunch (*My First I Can Read*)," "Pete the Cat: Play Ball! (*My First I Can Read*). He and his wife, Kimberly have recently co-authored "Pete the Cat: The First Thanksgiving," "Pete the Cat and His Magic Sunglasses," and "Pete the Cat: Valentine's Day Is Cool" by James Dean and Kimberly Dean, coming out Nov 26.

Dean's website (www.petethecat.com) has information on new books, as well as art work available in prints. If you like a touch of humor, go to the link, "Pete and the Masters." Pete is suddenly inside the art pieces of the masters, bringing a little humor to serious artists others might never view or enjoy. The "Blue and White Period," of Pete the Cat is crisp clean and fresh. I venture to say it was probably his initial art.

Dean has a contest entitled, "Oh the places Pete will go!" This allows people to take along a stuffed Pete to unique locations, take a picture and then e-mail the pictures to OhthePlacesPeteWillGo@aol.com with the subject: "Oh, the places Pete will go!" (www.petethecat.com/category/contests). If you don't have a stuffed Pete, you can buy it at this site or on Amazon.com. I wonder what new experiences and activities Pete will have? The winner of this contest will win a small Pete print of their choice.

Remember to come in and prepare for cooler weather. Have items at your fingertips by checking them out early. Check some extra things out and read to your cat. Send me in a picture with you and your cat reading and we will print them in the library as our local readers of great books.

Our fall hours remain: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday.

See you in the library!

Deaths

Tama Unger

Tama Unger, 48, Rexford, director of fund development and community relations for Citizens Medical Center, died Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2013, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

She was born Dec. 20, 1964, in Oberlin, the daughter of Gary and Mary Ann (Page) Erickson and grew up on a farm 30 miles southwest of Oberlin. She graduated from Golden Plains High School in 1983 and from Kansas State University in 1987.

On July 30, 1988, she married Jeff Unger in the Herndon Covenant Church of rural Herndon.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Elof and Genevieve Erickson, P.W. Page and Neva Page Campbell.

Survivors include her husband, of rural Rexford, her parents, of Oberlin, a son, Jacob Unger, of rural Rexford, and a sister, Debbie (Dale) Withington, Chetopa.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, 2013, at Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin, with Pastor Keith Reuther officiating and burial in the Oberlin Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. until service time Saturday at the funeral home.

The family suggests memorials in her name, in care of the funeral home, 121 N. Penn, Oberlin Kan., 67749.

Condolences for the family may be left at www.paulsfh.com.

Colby Women's League

Colby Women's League held its first fall meeting Oct. 9 at the home of Pat Criss. Anita Hills served as her co-hostess. Seven members were present for the lunch and business meeting.

The meeting schedule for the year was distributed. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Treasurer's report was

given by Becky White.

The members voted to cancel the annual Christmas Coffee this year.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 23, with Jo Booth. Evelyn Woofler will serve as her co-hostess.

-Pat Criss

Daughters of Isabella

Daughters of Isabella met at 6 p.m. Oct. 3 at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church for a gourmet supper.

Hostesses were Rhonda Rogers, Denise Garcia and Joan Albers. The meal consisted of lasagna, tossed salad, green beans, French bread and wine. A cheesecake dessert was enjoyed by all.

Past Regent Theresa Baker, conducted the meeting in the absence of Charlene Barnett, who was on a fall foliage tour.

Following the opening Joan Ziegler read from the Spiritual Reflection Guide about October being the month of Our Lady. It has many feast days.

Baker read a letter from Trish O'Brien, state regent. We have a newly appointed state chaplain

from the Diocese of Dodge City, Father Rene Labrador.

Darlene Hutfles thanked us for the mass said in honor of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Laura Krejci visited Richard Schroeder who had gall bladder surgery and had complications from that. Several members have visited Loretta Meitl at Fairview Estates.

Pat Erickson and Joan Ziegler are on the Christmas party committee and will report on their plans next month. The party will be Thursday, Dec. 5, which is our regular meeting night.

Joan Albers reported 89 baby saves so far from the start of "40 Days for Life." Albers had an article in the *Colby Free Press*.

-Joan Albers

Hit by train, he walks away

TOPEKA (AP) - Authorities say a Kansas man who was walking along railroad tracks wearing headphones was hit by a train that he didn't hear approaching behind him - but that he got back up and kept walking.

Shawnee County Sheriff Herman Jones says the BNSF conductor slowed down the train and blew the horn when he saw 25-year-old Kristopher Wenberg on the tracks in Topeka.

Wenberg told deputies he couldn't hear the train, which

eventually hit him. Jones says Wenberg promptly got back up and called someone on his cellphone as he walked away. He went to a hospital with cuts on his legs and shoulder.

It is against the law to walk on train tracks and Wenberg would be cited for criminal trespass.

We want your local news: e-mail to colby.editor@nwkansas.com

College finalizes deal for Kansas State transfers

Colby Community College students now have a clearer path to completing a Kansas State University degree, thanks to curriculum agreements between the two.

These agreements allow students to complete their first two years at the college and their next two through the university's distance education program.

Students can complete a bachelor's degree in several fields under these agreements, officials said.

"The key is that students in northwest Kansas will be afforded the opportunity to complete an associate degree locally at one of our campuses and then complete a four-year degree online through K-State," said college President Steve Vacik. "The access and affordability just makes sense for our community and the state of Kansas."

Sue Maes, dean of continuing education at the university, agreed: "K-State is proud to take a leadership role in addressing access to college degree comple-

tion."

Through the agreements, students with backgrounds in veterinary technology, criminal justice, physical therapy, dental hygiene or farm and ranch management can combine their course work to attain a bachelor's in technology management.

Those concentrating on history, political science, sociology or psychology can complete a bachelor's in interdisciplinary social science. Anyone focusing on sociology can also obtain a bachelor's in family studies and human services.

Students in business administration can complete a general business bachelor's degree, and those in general studies can receive either a general business or family studies degree.

The university has this type of agreement in place with all 19 Kansas community colleges. For information, go to www.dce.k-state.edu/affiliations/2+2/colby.

Mayo Clinic nurse started at Colby High

Megan E. Voss, daughter of David and the late Jeanette Voss and granddaughter of Betty Voss of Colby, was selected as the new nurse supervisor for the Gonda 10 Outpatient Medical Oncology Practice at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

Voss, a 2003 graduate of Colby High School, began her nursing career at Rochester Methodist Hospital in August of 2007 after practicing at the Mayo Clinic during the summer of 2006.

Voss holds a bachelor's degree in nursing from Fort Hays State University and a doctorate of nursing practice in integrative health from the University of Minnesota.

She was certified as an oncology nurse in 2011. As a Mayo Clinic Quality Silver Fellow, she completed the clinic's Nursing Leadership Perspectives Program in July.

Voss assumed her new role at the clinic on Oct. 9.

Diploma only 60 years late

JACKSON, Mo. (AP) - Sixty years after Dean Percival's high school classmates graduated, he now has his diploma, too.

The *Southeast Missourian* (bit.ly/16MmCEc) reports that Percival was presented his diploma from Axtell High School in Kansas during a ceremony in southeast Missouri, where the 78-year-old now lives.

Percival dropped out of school in the 10th grade to help support his family, which included five siblings, though it didn't hold him back: Percival became a member of Mensa - an organization for people who score in the 98th percentile on intelligence tests - in addition to his work as an artist, inventor, writer, builder and winemaker.

Axtell principal Bob Bartkoski made the 600-mile trip to give Percival, of Cape Girardeau, the diploma. He told about 50 friends and relatives it is based on Percival's life experiences and accomplishments. Percival's career was mostly with sign companies in several places, including Cape Girardeau.

Percival wore a paper mortar and tassel as he received the framed diploma. Barely able to speak, he admitted he was "all choked up."

"It was overwhelming," Percival said. "All my friends came out. It was gratifying to have them all here. It feels like (you were) fortunate to be at your funeral while you're still alive."

Percival earned a GED in 1972, and was told he could contact his high school to get a diploma. He did so about 15 years ago - but his request at the time was turned

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)	\$7.29
Corn (bushel)	\$4.37
Milo (hundredweight)	\$7.36
Soybeans (bushel)	\$11.76

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