



Julie Platt and Clark Nelson

# Couple engaged to be married

Julie Platt, Alma, and Clark Nelson, Long Island, are engaged to be married.

Miss Platt is the daughter of Larry Platt, Alma, and the late Susan Platt. She is a 2007 graduate of Alma High School.

Mr. Nelson graduated from Northern Valley High School in 2006 and is the son of Terry Nelson, Republican City, and Sara Nelson, Norton.

Both are enrolled at Kansas State University, Manhattan. Mr. Nelson is majoring in agricultural

economics with a specialty in animal sciences and industries. He plans to graduate in May. Miss Platt is majoring in animal sciences and industries with a business option. She plans to graduate in May of 2011.

The wedding ceremony will be May 22 at the Peace Lutheran Church in Alma.

The couple plans to be involved with the groom's family's farming and ranching operation near Long Island.

## Accident Reports

November 2 - Rose Bromley was traveling west on Road I when she came over a hill and saw two cows in the roadway. She swerved to miss the cows, hit some loose gravel, lost control and rolled over. She was transported to Norton County Hospital by Norton County Emergency Medical Services

November 2 - Russel Gibson was west bound on County Road O when a deer ran out in front of his vehicle. He could not avoid the collision. Damage was over \$1,000.

November 2 - Beverly Miller was west bound on Highway 36 when a deer ran out of the ditch. She was unable to avoid contact. Damages were over \$1,000.

November 2 - Jolene Weiser was backing out into an alleyway when she struck a vehicle belonging to Marilyn Donahey. Damage was less than \$1,000 and the accident occurred on private property.

November 3 - Rachele Donovan was stopped waiting to exit Norton Community High School parking lot when she was struck from behind by a vehicle driven by Jeremy Meyers. Accident occurred on private property.

November 6 - Joan Hale was waiting to turn onto US Highway 36 when an unknown Semi and trailer started to turn onto N Second St. She started to back up to let the truck turn onto Second St. and did not see a vehicle driven by Chelsea Hamel behind her. Ms. Hamel was unable to back up to avoid the collision. Damage was over \$1,000.

November 6 - Daniel Hoff was traveling south bound on South Archer pulling a 5th wheel camper. The top of the camper struck the railroad bridge. Mr. Hoff stopped and backed from under the bridge to avoid further damage. Damage was under \$1,000. There was no observed damage to the bridge.

November 7 - Jason Keith was south bound on Road E8 when he swerved to avoid a deer. His vehicle entered the east ditch and hit several tree stumps in the ditch. Damages were over \$1,000.

November 7 - Cynthia Schemper was traveling south bound on Road E3 when a deer running west came out of the east ditch onto the roadway. Ms. Schemper could not avoid the collision. Damages were over \$1,000.

November 11 - Tanner Morel and Bethany Winkel were backing out of parking spaces in the East Campus parking lot at the same time and backed into each other. Damages were over \$1,000 and the accident occurred on private property.

November 17 - Ardith Scheetz was traveling east bound on K-9 Highway when a deer entered the roadway from the south ditch. Ms. Scheetz was unable to avoid striking the deer. Damage was over \$1,000.

November 25 - Preston Herman was backing south west from a private drive. Mr. Herman did not see a vehicle driven by Carolyn Colip traveling north bound. Ms. Colip swerved but was unable to avoid the collision. Damages were over \$1,000.

## Club News

On Nov. 12, Norton FFA traveled to Smith Center, along with 12 other teams, for a myriad of contests. These included Ag Sales, Job Interview and Leadership School. In Ag Sales, Norton had six entries: Robert Blecha, Cody Cook, R. J. Ellis, Emily Juenemann, Chris Maddy and Kegan Vanover. The team did very well, winning first on a team basis and a number of personal places. Cody Cook received first, Chris Maddy received fourth, Emily Juenemann received fifth and R. J. Ellis received sixth. Also, Cody Cook, R. J. Ellis, Ashley Esslinger, Emily Juenemann, Meaghan Peterson and Jessica

Reeves participated in Job Interviews. This team won second with Cody Cook in fourth, Emily Juenemann in eighth, and Ashley Esslinger in ninth. In addition, the officer team participated in Leadership School. They received second in Parliamentary Procedure Demonstration, second in Parliamentary Procedure Information and third in Opening and Closing Rituals. Overall the Officer team received second as a team. Chapter officers are Emily Juenemann, president, Chris Maddy, vice-president, Jessica Reeves, secretary, Cody Cook, reporter, Miranda Mock, sentinel and Caleb Vanover, historian.

## Christmas lists



Santa and Mrs. Claus listened to several children's wish lists last Friday when they visited Norton for the first time this year. Some kids came prepared with lists to read to Santa, while others had to be reminded by their parents. Santa

will return at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday at the Norton County Courthouse.

—Telegram photo by Erica Bradley

# The Thanksgiving that almost wasn't

"Well, shoot," Mama said as she read the letter she had opened so eagerly just moments ago. I knew right then something must be wrong because Mama didn't use slang very often and especially not "shoot."

When I had arrived home with the mail after school she had been all smiles to see that letter from her sister. "Trouble?" I asked.

"Oh, not really," she said. "It's just that with Ann in Louisiana, Roger and Betty living in Denver, and Jack and Mabel visiting in Idaho until Christmas, I was counting on Florence and Jim for Thanksgiving dinner and now they can't come either. I guess it'll be just the three of us."

Mama always looked forward to a table full of family for holidays, so even as a thoughtless teenager, I realized she was really disappointed.

We three decided on a favorite menu, meatloaf and acorn squash, with a mince pie to make it seem like a celebration of sorts.

On Wednesday Mama made a couple of meatloaves, planning to eat one and freeze one, as we customarily did, and baked the pie. No early rising on Thanksgiving morning to get the bird in the oven would not be such a bad thing.

Holiday morning dawned crisp and clear. Dad went out to putter in the yard while lunch baked. Pretty soon he was back in.

"Is that meatloaf big enough for one more? I just invited old Mr. Brandenburg for dinner. His kids are all down with the flu so they aren't coming and they were

## Child of the 40's Liza Deines



bringing his dinner." "Sure," Mama said. "Hmmm. . . ." She went to the phone and called her friend Carrie from up the block. "Uh huh, uh huh . . . no, I won't hear of it," I heard her say. "You just come right down, we have plenty."

She came into the kitchen, smiling. "Put another leaf in the table, honey," she said. "Carrie was planning on a turkey TV dinner so I insisted she come down."

She slid the second meatloaf into the oven beside the first and began cutting more acorn squash. "I believe I'll whip up a batch of cornbread," she said thoughtfully, pulling out her blue mixing bowl.

"We could make cinnamon apples," I suggested and ran downstairs to fetch canned apples. And picked up beet pickles and bread 'n butter pickles while I was down there.

"Are there any carrots? I can do carrot sticks and we can have a relish plate."

Dad came back in, sort of sheepish. "Edie, I . . . uh . . . well, I asked the priest to dinner. He was over at the church and I asked and . . . well, he's alone, too. . . and . . ." We're Presbyterian but we live across the corner from the local Catholic church.

"We'll set another place," Mama assured him. Back for another table leaf, more china, more silver. "I can't believe no one asked the priest for Thanksgiving dinner," my mother said as we bustled around the kitchen. "I wonder if . . ." and she was back to the telephone, leaving me to finish up the cornbread measuring and mixing.

A few calls, another leaf in the table, several more plates. We opened jars of home canned green beans, doubled the cornbread batch, put out sand plum jelly and rhubarb jam.

Mr. Brandenburg showed up with a large, fancy fruitcake and a gallon of ice cream, Carrie contributed zucchini nut bread from her freezer.

Various other interesting spur of

the moment edibles arrived with our spur of the moment guests, including our new friend, the priest, who brought three bottles of wine and a happy demeanor.

My bluenose Prohibitionist father blanched, but accepted the gift with grace. We truly had a "groaning board" by the time we sat down to dinner.

Thanksgiving blessings were apparent and abundant around our table that day.

The uniquely unconventional feast was delicious, and the conversation and laughter went on late into the afternoon through an impromptu dessert buffet accompanied by several pots of coffee.

And best of all, a group of lonely people weren't lonely at all that day.

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## SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Hosted by the St. Francis of Assisi Altar Society

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2009**

from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.  
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Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 7 p.m.

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