

A very special older sister

Every girl needs an older sister to be a role model and I was blessed to have the best one ever. I never tell how much older my sister, Ann, is, mostly because she looks better than I do these days. Let's just say she was enough older that she was mortified when she learned our Mama was to have a new baby at the ripe old age of 40. We truly never lived together as most sisters do, since she left home to go to work when I was only four, but she was still the major influence in my life.

From the very beginning Ann was trained to resist our father. He and Mama had made a deal that he would choose the girl names and she would choose the boy names. He chose Virginia and Mama said that was nice, would go well with Ann for a middle name, then proceeded to call her Ann the rest of her days! Dad and Ann fought it out for years over every issue from good, sensible tie-up brown oxfords to where she could work and who and when she should marry. Oh, the battles they had. By the time I came along she had him pretty well "broke to the saddle".

Her first trip home after she started working in Salina, she stepped off the bus wearing spike heels and a kelly green coat, complete with a huge fur collar. Her formerly brown hair had a suspicious tint of auburn, which looked grand with red lipstick and green eye makeup. Mama wasn't sure Dad would

Pieces of life's puzzle

Liza Deines



even claim her but I thought she looked spectacular.

Born on the brink of the Dust Bowl days in Kansas, Ann went to a country school with all boy classmates, then was transferred to three different high schools as Dad jumped from job to job trying to make a living. It made it very hard for her to keep her excellent grades, much less make any friends. Then just to put the frosting on the cake, WW II broke out during her last years in high school and all the boys her age enlisted, many never to return. She referred to herself as a "bachelorette" until she met a square dancing Cajun she just couldn't resist and married late in life.

From the time I can first remember I wanted to look like my sister, dress the way she did, work as a secretary in an office just like . . . well, you get the idea. Ann made sure I got all the luxuries in life she never had as a girl, bringing or sending lovely gifts from hair ribbons to my first nylon stockings. My best doll, Marjorie Jean, came from Ann, and each year she stitched up a new dolly wardrobe. She also brought me sparkly Woolworth finery, dress materials

and great hand-me-down clothing for Mom to make up or remodel for me.

Mom always saved projects for the weeks Ann came home on vacation. One year it was drapes and reupholstering, once they put Mexican decals on freshly painted kitchen cabinets, another year Ann made Mom an elegant formal for a special occasion. Using roses from the yard she did all the flowers for my wedding. Her talents never failed to impress me; she sewed her own business wardrobe, did complicated needlework, progressed to oil painting, then on to designing handmade jewelry. After retiring she spent fifteen years on the southern craft show circuit selling her Ann Wright Creations line and traveling all over the world between shows. In the last few years she has limited her production to custom designs and selling in galleries.

Happy June Birthday, dear Ann. Forgive me for the creamed spinach I spit up on you, all the diapers you changed and the various other embarrassments I visited on you over the years. You truly are the best sister a girl ever had. I am only sorry I was unable to give my daughter a sister like you to light her way as you did for me.

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Taking the time



The American Red Cross held a blood drive on Thursday at the 4-H Building in Norton. (Pictured) Jordan Hartwell of Norton did his part to help out, as Danielle Katt, Collections Tech II, prepares to draw Hartwell's blood.

-Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

Bridges Group honored at conference

Bridges Group Inc., was recognized at the Nationwide® Agribusiness Insurance Company national sales conference held in Las Vegas, NV as among the company's leading writers of farm insurance. Bridges Group operates offices in Norton, Hill City, and Winona.

The annual FAST Track Conference was held in recognition of top-producing agents in sales of new farm insurance policies during 2012.

"Farm coverage is a highly specialized line of insurance," said Jerry Hillard, Farm Sales Associate Vice President, Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Company, Des Moines. "Only agents who specialize in this highly complex type of business

can provide our farm customers with important advice and counsel. Our FAST Track Conference recognizes agents who have made this commitment." While more than 9,300 agencies write farm insurance for Nationwide Agribusiness, only 94 qualified for the 2013 FAST Track Conference.

"Congratulations to Bridges Group on reaching this level of recognition," said Hillard, "and for their ongoing dedication to protecting Northwest Kansas farmers."

Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Company, and its

affiliate, Farmland Mutual Insurance Company, are part of Nationwide®, Columbus, OH. Nationwide Agribusiness, rated A+ (Superior) by The A.M. Best Company, is the country's #1 farm insurer, and a leader in insurance and risk management solutions for commercial agribusinesses in the food and fiber chain. For more information, visit www.NationwideAgribusiness.com. Nationwide Agribusiness offers the AgriChoice® farm policy which provides customized coverages for farm operations of various sizes and types.

Caution needed on roads during harvest

Harvest season is underway in part of the state, and the Kansas Highway Patrol would like to remind motorists to use more caution and patience when traveling around farm trucks, tractors, combines, and other farm implements.

"As harvest quickly approaches and is underway, each traveler in Kansas needs to be more aware of this important summertime event. In Kansas we have many trucks exiting and entering the roadways all the time. During harvest, we have more large equipment and trucks on our roadways than we typically do, and traveling around these vehicles requires added precautions," said Technical Trooper Casey Simoneau, assistant public information officer for the Patrol.

Most farm equipment is not designed to travel at highway speeds, and may only be designed to travel 15-25 miles per hour. Farm equipment is often wider than other vehicles, and is sometimes wider than the lane of traffic, so extra room should be allowed when traveling near a farm implement on the road. Extra caution should be practiced on all roads, but especially on the busy rural roads with unmarked intersections.

Annually in our state, there are crashes involving farm vehicles,

in which drivers are injured or killed. It is important to share the road safely, for both the sake of the farmers out working, and for the sake of the driving public. Here are some safety tips to keep in mind when sharing Kansas roads with farmers:

- Don't assume the farmer knows you're there. Most operators of farm equipment regularly check for vehicles behind them, however, most of their time must be spent looking ahead to stay on the road and to watch for oncoming traffic. Implements are extremely loud, hindering the farmer's ability to hear your vehicle.

- Pass with extreme caution. Don't pass unless you can see clearly ahead of both your vehicle and the farm equipment you are passing. If there are curves or hills blocking your view of oncoming traffic, wait until you can clearly visualize the area you're passing in. You should not pass in a designated "No Passing Zone," even if you are stuck behind a farm vehicle. Do not pass if you are within 100 feet of any intersection, railroad grade crossing, bridge, elevated structure, or tunnel.

- Allow extra room when following farm equipment. With slow moving vehicles, a passenger vehicle can close in on the empty space much more quick-

ly. Just because a farm vehicle pulls to the right side of the road does not mean it is turning right or allowing you to pass. Due to the size of some farm equipment, the farmer must execute wide left turns, so allow it plenty of room and time to turn, and be alert to see if there might be a driveway or field they may be turning into.

- Be patient. Don't assume that a farmer can move aside to let you pass. Shoulders may be soft, wet, or steep, which can cause the farm vehicle to tip, or the shoulder may not support the weight of a heavy farm vehicle. The farmer understands you are being delayed and will move over at the first safe location available.

- Think of the slow moving vehicle emblem as a warning to adjust your speed. When you see the slow moving vehicle emblem, you should immediately slow down. While the emblems are visible from a long distance away, it is often difficult to judge the speed at which you are closing in on a vehicle, especially at night.

- Pay attention. When you are not focused solely on the road, you increase your chances of a collision, especially if you should come upon a slow moving farm vehicle.

HANSEN MUSEUM

The Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum presents "Pueblo To Pueblo, The Legacy of Southwest Indian Pottery." This exhibit contains approximately 60 objects and 10 photographs and graphics that date from the mid-nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century and will be on display June 21 - Aug. 11.

Pottery making in the American Southwest is a tradition that first emerged about 2,000 years ago. Some of the pieces in this exhibit are very conservative and adhere to the traditional style of a particular pueblo while some of the others portray innovations specific for the market.

Our Artist of the Month for June is Michelle Lytle from McCook, Neb. She has an acqui-

site display of ink drawings on bone and feathers. You have to see it to appreciate the beauty.

Our next continuing education

class will be the Vollbracht Oil Painting workshop. It runs July 10, 11, 12 and 13. For more information contact us.

Sudoku Puzzle #2943-M

1			2					3
	4		1					5
6		2	7	8				9
		1		5		2		
7			9		6			1
		3		1				9
4				3	1	9		6
	2				4		7	
	9				2			8

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"So Clumsy of Me!"

ACROSS

- Cooperstown charter member Ty
- Contracts, as an illness
- Porker's meal
- Baltic Sea feeder
- Jazzman Chick
- Transport by truck
- Soldiers who drop into battle areas
- Grid great Graham
- "Atlas Shrugged" author Rand
- Martini's partner
- Cast a ballot
- Maine politico Olympia
- "The Biggest Loser" contestants
- Whodunit plot element
- Phone listing abbr.
- Castle of the ballroom
- Goya's "Naked ___"
- Thirty minutes of football
- Not of the clergy
- Googol's hundred
- ___-Day (vitamin brand)
- Cornerstone word
- Off-ramp
- "___ a million years!"
- Prefix with lead or fire
- Earth tones
- Road to conflict
- Ump's broom
- Troy, to Homer
- Run ___ of the law
- "There's ___ in 'team'"
- Disney's "___ & Stitch"
- Toucan Sam's cereal
- Seemingly bottomless
- Gems from Australia
- Plot unit
- Wraps up
- Roly-___
- Hebrides island
- External
- Walks wearily
- Russell of "Les Misérables"
- Treasure store
- Neckline type
- Knuckleheads
- S&L offerings
- Uris's "___ 18"
- Seaport of Algeria
- Tex-___ cuisine
- Meyers of "Kate & Allie"
- Scribble down
- Gasoline additive
- "Star Wars" princess
- Autograph seekers
- Tabasco quality
- Noel who played Lois Lane
- Fleming who created 007
- Locks up
- "An Ideal Husband" playwright
- "Star Trek" extra
- Rubbed the wrong way
- Mute Marx
- "___ Bully" (1965 hit)
- Stable babe
- C&W mecca, with "the"
- Words of understanding
- Stylish dresser
- Intl. group since 1948

DOWN

- Barry Manilow song locale
- Anita who sang with Krupa
- "West Side Story" composer
- Playtex product
- Christmas bird
- Cupid, to Plato
- Not so hot
- Carrier to Oslo
- Plays b-ball
- Coffeshop order

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