

Family

Grade school friends meet after 55 years

By MAXINE NELSON

Colby Free Press

An area man recently met an old school friend after 55 years. Henry Siebert of Colby tells about how he met an old friend whom he had known while attending grade school in Luton, Iowa.

Luton, Iowa, is an unincorporated village located 15 miles southeast of Sioux City.

In 1941 it included a grain elevator, a hotel, a grocery store, a post office, a Methodist church and a consolidated school.

The school had an enrollment of about seven or eight pupils per grade, K-12.

Into this community in the spring of that year there moved a group of Mennonites from drought-stricken Nebraska. In this group was a 2nd grade boy, Henry Siebert.

At the east end of the Luton School District lived a family named Uhl. They had twin girls named Jeanette and JoAnne in the second grade. An older sister, "Elaine," taught the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades for two years while Henry and the twins were in the 3rd and 4th

grades. "Soon after my family moved to Luton, Jeanette and I became special friends and this friendship continued until the Uhl family moved to another school," said Siebert. "I do not know how this happened, but it did. It was strictly a school thing.



Henry Siebert

"Her family was Roman Catholic, mine was Russian Mennonite. Her family lived in the hills just east of the Missouri river while ours was in the river bottom, flat as a table. The hill people called us 'web foots.' We did not exactly call them 'hillbillies' but we said their legs were of unequal length.

"The thing that might have drawn us together was a rivalry in grades. We were at the top of our class. It was a friendly rivalry. I never felt bad when she won. I think over all she did win. I also remember that in the 5th grade our superintendent had us demonstrate

some mathematics skills in front of the high school. I remember crying miserably when at the end of the 4th grade Jeanette's sister, our teacher, announced that she would not be back."

In the spring of 1946 the Uhl family moved to Hinton, Iowa, which is north of Sioux City. Jeanette and Henry corresponded for a short time but due to pressure from his parents this soon ceased.

After graduating from Luton High School in 1951, Siebert received a bachelors degree from "Grace Bible Institute" in Omaha, Neb. In 1957 he married Leona Flaming of Medford, Okla.

"I never forgot Jeanette," he said. "In 1983 I received her address from her sister 'Anna Mae' at a school reunion. I wrote Jeanette a letter but received no answer. After another school reunion in 1996 I sent her another letter, again no answer - until Jan. 30. I was stunned. I immediately called her via telephone. Leona and I met Jeanette and her husband, Bill, on Feb. 14 and had dinner with them in their home in Norwalk, Calif. It had been 55 years."

Tree care workshop set at the airport

There will be a **Tree Care Workshop** Thursday, March 29, at the Colby Municipal Airport. Registration and refreshments will be at 9:30-10 a.m. *Tree Planting Tips* by Jim Strine at 10:10:30; *Common Insect & Disease Problems* by Bob Buhler at 10:30-11; *Basics of Corrective Pruning* by Jim Strine at 11-11:30; Lunch will be provided; Corrective pruning demonstration at the airport at 12:30-1:30; Pruning established trees and tree care discussion at city park 1:45-2:45; wrap up and adjourn by 3:00. To plan for lunch, pre-registration is required to Dennis Chandler, Thomas County Extension Office, 350 S. Range, Suite #16, Colby, 785-462-4582. Registration is due by Thursday, March 22.

A free parenting seminar, *Fostering the "Spirit" of Working With Children during "Tuff" Times* will be pre-

Happenings

sent Friday, March 23, 7-9 p.m., at the **Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center, 703 West 2nd, Oakley.** This parenting seminar stresses the importance of developing relationships with children that will facilitate the embracing of values and the effectiveness of rules and restrictions. Seminar leader will be Ron Willis, Beloit. Ron is president and CEO of Green Porch Swing Productions and a men-

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day	
Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat	\$2.81
Corn	\$1.90
Milo	\$3.10
Soybeans	\$3.95

Deaths

Rita Irene Palmer

Rita Irene Palmer died Saturday, March 17, 2001, at Salina. She had been a Colby resident from 1972 to 1990. Her husband, Junior G. Palmer, preceded her in death in 1998.

A memorial service will be at 5 p.m. Tuesday at Ryan Mortuary, Salina, the Rev. Paul Robbins officiating. The Ryan Mortuary, 137 N. 8th, Salina, is in charge of arrangements in Salina. Mrs. Palmer was cremated. There will be no visitation.

A graveside service will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Stockton Cemetery. Smith-Moore-Overlease Funeral Home, Stockton, is in charge of arrangements in Stockton.

Jesse F. Brainard

Jesse F. Brainard, 84, of Selden, died Friday, March 16, at Hays medical Center, Hays. He was born Jan. 25, 1917 at rural Selden, attended rural Selden schools, graduated from Selden Rural High School in 1934, and served in the Air Force in WWII.

HE worked at the Selden Post Office, as the Selden City Clerk, and as a dietitian at Sheridan County Hospital in Hoxie.

His first wife, Dorothy Sloan, died in 1975. He married Evelyn Williamson Dec. 14, 1977 in Oberlin. She survives.

Other survivors include sons Tim of Phoenix, Ariz., Kimball of Buhler, and stepsons Albert Rall of Brewster, Melvin Rall of Goodland, and Robert Rall of Goodland; daughters Camille Applegate, Littleton, Colo.; and stepdaughters Sharon Bragg of Ringwood, Okla., Marty Hines, Agra, Shirley Brenn, Garden City, and Judy Easley, Gentry, Ark. .

A private family memorial service will be held Monday at Selden Methodist Church, the Rev. Gary Fisher officiating. Burial will be at a later date. There will be no visitation.

Pauls Funeral Home, Selden, is in charge of arrangements.

Ada Mae (Saddler) Hopper

Ada Mae (Saddler) Hopper, 83, died Sunday, March 18, 2001, at her home in Wheatridge, Colo.

She was born June 9, 1917, in Bogue. Arrangements are pending with Harrison Chapel, Colby.

Keith Munk

Keith Munk of Grinnell, 48, died Friday, Mach 16, 2001, at Scott County Hospital, Scott City. He was a farmer and rancher and lifetime area resident. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the United Methodist Church in Oakley, Pastor Bill Korf and the Rev. Glenn Patterson officiating. Burial will be in Gaeland Cemetery, Orion.

Visitation will be from 2-9 p.m. and wake service at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Kennedy-Koster Funeral home, Oakley. Memorials are suggested to Oakley Country Chapel, KSU Center for Basic Cancer Research and Scott County Hospital of Scott City, and can be sent in care of the funeral home.

Hospital

CITIZENS MEDICAL CENTER

Friday, March 16, 2001

Admissions

Fay Galden, Edson

Melvin Wilson, Colby

Dismissals

Emma L. Denny, Colby

Lulu Grady, Colby

Saturday, March 17, 2001

Admissions

Sharon Brian, Colby

Jay Northam, Colby

Venetia Holmes, Hill City

Dismissals

Melissa Johnson and infant female,

Goodland

Sunday, April 18, 2001

Admissions

Jerald Wolf, Colby

Dismissals

Thelma Yingling, Colby

Interesting News!

Falling interest rates should be of INTEREST TO YOU!



Donnie Hughes, Kristen Ostmeier and Jenifer Sanderson

Current interest rates are looking good. Loan rates have moved steadily downward, and the opportunity to lower your monthly payments may make sound financial sense. Give us a call - we'll work out the numbers and don't be surprised if the news makes for some very interesting reading!



1195 South Range
Colby, KS
785-462-2000
www.fnb.com



We want your local news 1-785-462-3963

Alltell Small Talk
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Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Genesis Thomas County pickup, 350 S. Range, 10 a.m.-noon & 1-4 p.m.

Peek 'n Read, Pioneer Memorial Library, 9:45 a.m.

Preschool Fun, Pioneer Memorial Library, 10:30 a.m.

Colby Lions, Student Union, noon

TeleFriend Information meeting, 5:30 p.m. (call 462-6996)

Gem Lions, Gem Community Building, 7 p.m. (2nd & 4th Wednesdays)

The Herd, Junior High Youth Group, Armory, 7-8:30 p.m.

Pinochle, American Legion, 7:30 p.m.

Tobacco Quitters Support Group, CMC Cafeteria, 7-8 p.m.

Sixth Street Alcoholics Anonymous & AIAnon, 1275 West 6th, 8:30 p.m.