Being gay isn't an illness

DEAR ABBY: I have reason to believe that a young man in my family may be gay. (He is 15.) I have been thinking a lot about it lately, and have been wondering if circumcision would cure it. What do you think?

> GRANDMOTHER IN **MISSOURI**

DEAR MISSOURI GRAND-**MOTHER:** Homosexuality is not an illness, and therefore there is no need for a "cure." I predict that your family will be happier if you accept your relative exactly the way he is, love him, support him, and stop trying to think of ways to cure him.

P.S. Circumcision is a sacred rite of the Jewish religion. If your theory were valid, then there would be no Jewish homosexuals. And yet, among the successful, gay, Jewish men who are "out" are Harvey Fierstein, Michael Feinstein, Barney Frank and David Geffen — to name a few. (Oops! And let's not forget Isaac Mizrahi.)

DEAR ABBY: My name is "Alicia" and I'm 16. About a year ago, my mom got two puppies. Although they are annoying, I have to admit they are very cute and

My problem is, ever since we've had the puppies, I have thought my mom loves them more than she loves my brother and me. For some reason, I feel replaced by them. I know she loves us very much, but it hurts to think she his arms around us and give us an



Abigail Van Buren

Dear Abby

cares more for them than she cares for us. I think that because my brother and I are getting older, she needs something else to love. Sometimes I just want to sit and cry, but I have never been a person to spill my guts out to my parents. Can you give me any advice that would my friend a kiss on her cheek and help me with this?

- REPLACED BY DOGS **DEAR REPLACED: Keeping** your feelings locked inside is no way to resolve your problems. Your mother may be an animal lover, but I can guarantee that she loves you and your brother far more than those dogs. However, the person you need to hear it from isn't me — it's her. So please clip this letter, give it to your mother and tell her you wrote it. You appear to need a long, hard hug and some reassurance, but vour mother can't know that unless you tell her.

DEAR ABBY: My friend and I have one teacher who is beginning to scare us. He says things like, 'You know I love you," and he tells us how he misses us when we're not in class. He also will come from If he hasn't been "counseled" behind and give us back rubs, put about touching students, this

occasional hug.

We have been trying to ignore it because, when we told my mom, she said he probably didn't mean anything and was just trying to be

But at a school dance, he gave put his hands on my waist.

Maybe we're overreacting, but, Abby, we are the only two in our class he does this to. Other teachers have made us sit through videos and read brochures on "improper touching," and we are beginning to wonder. Is he stretching the line?

 CONCERNED STU-DENT.

DEAR CONCERNED: Your teacher appears to be using very poor judgment. He has not only "stretched" the line, he has crossed it. It's time you and your friend visit the principal of your school. Explain that the man's overly affectionate behavior is making you both uncomfortable, and you are the only two students that it's happening to. teacher definitely needs to be.

The library is red hot this week

Change is a common word in our lives today.

In fact, we are so used to change that we now expect things to change on a regular basis. Maybe libraries were a step ahead back in the 1960s when they started rotating parts of the library collection on a monthly basis. Evidently patrons appreciated this rotating collection because it is still in effect over 40 years later. Each month we get a completely different set of books coming through our library from the Northwest Kansas Library System.

All of our rotating collection materials are marked with a red dot next to the call number. Hopefully the red dot will be red hot this week; this makes for a Dewey Decimal System of love.

Actually, "Dewey Decimal System of Love" by Josephine Carr is one of the books available on rotation this month. A picture of a cataloging record on the front cover reads "For questions about love, and more particularly, inappropriate love, go to the 306.7s." Boy, if that doesn't sound red hot and juicy.

For something in an altogether different vein, try the rotation book "Let Their Spirits Dance" by Stella Pope Duarte. Jesse promised his mother before he left for the Vietnam War she would one day hear his voice again. Twenty-nine years later in a dream, she finally does hear Jesse's voice.

In the dream, Alicia is told by her son Jesse to make a cross-country pilgrimage to the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington D.C. Only



Jeff Friesen

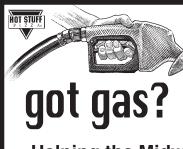
Pioneer Memorial Library Director

Vietnam War Memorial are they all able to bring closure to the many unanswered questions surrounding Jesse's death. In doing so, Jesse's family is finally able to piece together the past and move forward unhindered into the future.

For an electric read try the book "The Lightning Keeper" by Starling Lawrence. Set in early 1900s during the industrialization of indefatigable themes of history and romance.

Harriet Bigelow is the heiress to a large, but diminishing iron-making operation. Toma is an ingenious immigrant fresh off the boat. An encounter in Italy generated sparks resistance?

when Jesse's family arrives at the between the two, but a chance meeting in New York City six years later has only heightened their awareness of each other. To save Harriet's family business, Toma has designed a machine that has the ability to revolutionize electricity in America. The world and the power of capitalism however, seems to have divergent destinies in mind for Toma and Harriet, General Electric will stop at nothing to make its goal America, this book combines the of providing electricity to every home in American a reality and Harriet has put aside her true love with Toma for a marriage that makes business sense. Does this disprove the theory that electricity will always take the path of least



E. Hwy 24, Colby NO! better yet....

New Beginnings

Counseling

Services

Stop 2 Shop East

Helping the Midwest instead of the Middle East!

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

To have your ad placed in the Business Directory call Crystal or Jasmine today at 462-3963.

What's yours is theirs...or is it?

Without a proper estate protection strategy, your loved ones may not receive all you've worked so hard to achieve. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans can help ensure your assets pass according to your plan. Call today.

James (Jim) Jordan Member-Million Dollar Round Table **P**Thrivent Financial for Lutherans® 800-756-2139

Neither Thrivent Financial for Lutherans nor its respective associates provide legal or tax advice



Jim McLaughlin/Agent

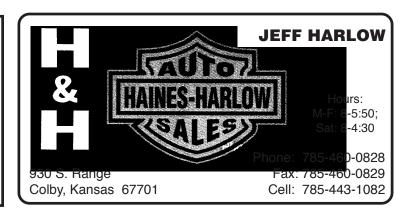
AUTO DETAILING

Available M-F 8-6; Sat. by appointment

Taylor Motors

1000 Taylor Ave. • Colby, KS 67701

785-460-3317; 800-834-2338; www.taylor-motors.com



WORLDWIDE · Vacation Packages · Cruises Tours · Groups · Flights · Hotels · Trains · Cars

Nights

Max 45

\$505

\$800 \$1,050 \$1,500

ROOFMASTERS

Your Local Roofing Contractor

425 East Hill, Colby, KS

Licensed - Bonded - Insured

RESIDENTIAL 1-800-536-6642 Tamko Shingles 1-785-462-6642 GAF Shingles Wood Shingles

FREE ESTIMATES

Built Up Systems Modified Systems

COMMERCIAL Rubber Single Ply White TPO Single Ply

Tracey Galli

Elastomeric Rubber Coating For Metal Roofs

Colby

requiring

solutions.

unique medical

Sales & Service

Southwind Plaza

Hours: 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

•Viking & Bernina Sewing Machines •Vacuums •Fabrics •Classes •Nature's Air - Air Purifiers



Sew & Vac

155 W. 4th, Colby, KS 67701

Phone: 785.462.6999

Fax: 785-460-0852

Toll Free: 1.888.690.7077

MEXICO CARIBBEAN CRUISE ALASKAN CRUISE

HAWAII LONDON, ENGLAND AMTRAK EXPLORE AMERICA

VACATION SPECIALS

DISNEY WORLD Park Passes, Air & Hotel

Air & Hotel

Air & Hotel Cruise & Air

Cruise & Air

785-460-1900



CALL IN OR FAX YOUR INTERNET

WE CAN BOOK THEM FOR YOU

WITH LOCAL, CARING SERVICE!!

Round Trip Travel

BOOK SUMMER

VACATIONS NOW!

Call for Bus Tours Schedules

All specials may be for specific dates

and are subject to availability

QUOTES AND OTHER ADS!

Now Scheduling Spring Cleaning!

Commercial • Residential

Tree Removal & Trimming · Full Insured · Careful & Prompt

Service · Late Model Bucket Truck · Free Estimates!

1114 Main, Gem (785) 462-3501

Serving NW Kansas & Eastern Colorado! New System



Chuck Saddler

Metal Roofs

Professional

Call for your FREE estimate! Window Cleaning "We do windows!"

Chris & Beth Lewon • 650 N. Grant • Colby, KS

785-462-6995 ~ **800-611-6735**

Rx compounding & Therapy Customized prescriptions for James E. Hampton, RPh, PCCA Member patients with unique medical situations

416 State Street, Suite A Atwood, Kansas 67730 (785) 626-3237

(800) 696-3214 Bison Rxcompounding@atwoodtv.net

Douglas Finley, LMSW Specializing in: Children,

Adolescent, Individual, Marital and Family Counseling

422 Smith Drive Colby, KS 67701 785-462-3308

Evening Appointments

FAMILY DENTAL CARE

JOHN'S

WELDING

· Welding & Repair

Field Service

Miscellaneous Repairs

Brewster, KS

785-694-3553

leave message

The Latest Technology and Most OREVE Complete Care Available!

· Root Canals · Orthodontics Implants · Wisdom Tooth Surgery New Patients Welcome

No Referral Necessary ~ Financing Avail. 1690 W. 4th St., Colby ~ 785-460-3999

Toll Free: 1-866-305-3999



Advanced Technology **Auto Glass**

"The Difference is Clear"

Rory Henry • 785-460-7773

Murray Roofing & Construction

Residential & Commercial (785) 462-6908

Flat & Low-Sloped Roofs Metal Retro-Fit **Energy Efficient Roofing Solutions**

Residential roofs

Free Estimates





Free Estimates Jim Murray - Owner

Vinyl & Steel Siding

Wood & Vinyl Fencing

(785) 443-1339

Decks & Patios

Soffit & Fascia

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

RENT IS BASED ON YOUR INCOME Southpark

Meadowlark **Apartments** Manor

600 S. Mission Ridge Ave. 700 S. Franklin Ave **Elderly & Family Housing Family Housing**

Colby Housing Authority 785-460-6763