

Family



Mr. and Mrs. Blake Krien

Couple wed in Colby

Cassandra Lei Barnett of Colby and Blake Alan Krien of St. Francis were married at 3 p.m., Sept. 29, 2007, at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Colby.

Parents of the couple are Tim and LeiAnn Barnett of Colby and Dennis and Iva Krien of St. Francis.

The father of the bride, Tim Barnett, gave his daughter in marriage.

The bride is a 2005 graduate of Colby High School and is employed in the office of Melvin Dunn, D.D.S.

The groom is a 2003 graduate of St. Francis Community High School and received a degree in welding from Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland in 2004. He is employed by Prairie Land Electric.

The couple lives in St. Francis.

Spring cleaning: New options for airing your laundry

For The Associated Press

Taking care of your dirty laundry used to be as simple as wash, rinse, spin and dry.

New advances in washer-dryer technology, however, are giving consumers cleaning options that border on science fiction. We're talking washers that harness the power of steam to lift stains, machines that rely on nanotechnology to release billions of silver ions to destroy odor-causing bacteria, and front-loader washers that conserve energy and water.

The advances are light years ahead of the electric washing machine that Alva J. Fisher invented in 1908 in Chicago — itself quite an improvement on the 19th century tub of water, corrugated washboard and rubber wringer. Before that, people pounded soiled laundry with rocks along streams that would wash the dirt away.

STEAM

The Whirlpool Corporation last fall introduced a new washer-dryer combo that relies on steam. The company says its Duet Steam washer can sanitize towels and sheets without bleach, while still killing 99.9 percent of common bacteria. The front-loading washer also has a dizzying spin speed that can reach up to 1,200 rotations per minute while the drier is said to get rid of odors and wrinkles without chemicals.

Other competitors, including LG and Electrolux, also offer dryers that employ steam to cut down on wrinkles and ironing.

Later this spring, Whirlpool will offer its next-generation steam-based washer-dryer combination, the Cabrio, that is designed for families who do tons of laundry. The high-efficiency washer can take three baskets of laundry in a single load.

"Consumers already believe in the pure power of steam, and our latest introduction will help by saving time and money and relying less upon chemicals," said Whirlpool executive Drew Fraser.

SILVER
On another front, South Korean conglomerate Samsung in 2006 unveiled its SilverCare washing

machine that unleashes 400 billion silver ions to clean clothes in cold water, without bleach, at a nearly molecular level. The technique involves a 99.9 percent pure silver plate inside the washing machine that emits billions of silver ions. The silver nano particles kill 650 different types of bacteria and also create an anti-bacterial effect on clothes that can last for up to 30 days.

Consumer Reports in its February issue tested washers and found that silver ions released in a Samsung model might slow the growth of odor-causing bacteria. The magazine also noted that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has found that silver in wastewater could harm sea life and that Samsung is expected to provide the regulatory agency with data to prove the technology doesn't harm the environment.

GOLD MEDALS

Consumer Reports reserved its top rating for the LG Tromm SteamWasher, a \$1,500 front-loader. It also boasts of a 1,200 rpm spin speed and a digital display panel for monitoring the wash. Other front-load models that performed well in the magazine's tests included models from Whirlpool, Miele and Kenmore, all with prices that ranged from \$800 to \$1,900.

The magazine recommended top-loaders for the cost-conscious buyer with prices as low as \$400 for the Estate washer, which is made by Whirlpool.

HUNG TO DRY

There are also some other promising advances in dryer technology, which has grown since black U.S. inventor G.T. Sampson received a patent for a clothes dryer in 1892. There's a Chinese product, for example, that allows clothes to be placed on hangers where they can be dried and steam ironed in a portable mini-closet that also acts as a room heater.

One thing's for certain, we've come a long way from pounding our dirty laundry with rocks and hanging them on lines for the sun to dry.

More than 10,000 stopped in Colby in 2007

By Leilani Thomas, director
Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau

The 2007 activity report for the convention and tourism committee is complete and perhaps some highlights are in order.

There were 10,219 registered visitors at the Colby Visitor Center in 2007. We packed and distributed 1,016 welcome packets and traveled 7,336 miles to attend meetings, conferences, work trade and travel shows and other related events.

The amount of \$195,464 was collected in transient guest tax at Colby motels, which is up from over \$184,100 in 2006.

We just returned from the Wichita Sports and Travel Show which was very well attended again this year except for Saturday night when Wichita got snow.

There was more interest than usual in the attractions of north-west Kansas, although hunting and

fishing are still very important.

We are pleased to announce a new class for Leadership Thomas County 2008. This will be the 2008 Student Leadership class composed of sophomore students from Thomas County.

There are five students from both Brewster High School and Golden Plains High School and seven students from Colby High School.

Those participating from Brewster are Braden McKee, Ryan Allen, Ashton Domsch, Emily Klemm and Katherine Bear.

Golden Plains is sending Michael Roehl, Shaun Gilbert, Aisha Walter and Dylan Moss. Colby High School students are Ann Juenemann, Jake Rose, Jill Withington, Collin Rous, Dani Dietz, Jaylea Black and Allison Boyd.

Class members will be learning leadership capacities and skills during four sessions. Two will be held in March and two in April.

The first class or opening retreat was held at Shepherd's Staff in

Rexford Wednesday. Cindy Black and Leilani Thomas, program directors, are very excited about this program and the opportunity to work with 17 students from Thomas County.

We thank the school principals for being so very supportive and working with us on this program. There are many events taking place in March.

The Gun, Coin and Collectible Show will be held Saturday and Sunday at the Colby Community Building.

The Better Home and Living Show will also be held at the Community Building, March 27-29.

This will be a great opportunity to see what is new for this spring and summer.

Easter is March 23 so that means the Kiwanis Easter Egg Hunt will be held Sunday, March 16 in Fike Park.

The Friends of Pioneer Memorial Library are holding their dinner and solving the "Murder

of the Mystery Detective," Saturday, March 15. Tickets are by reservation only so call the library at 460-4470 today for yours. It promises to be a fun evening.

The Colby Diplomats are hosting their annual Ladies Luncheon at noon, Wednesday, March 26, at City Limits Convention Center.

This one promises to be great fun with a delicious menu and an all male revue for entertainment.

Plan to attend and get your tickets immediately. You won't want to be left out of the fun.

Finally Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday. It is already time to set those clocks one hour ahead.

Round out the activities in March with baseball and softball seasons, track and tennis and a week for spring break.

Hopefully warmer weather will follow suit and we will be in spring soon. In the meantime, we encourage you to take advantage of the many activities planned.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat	\$10.96
Corn	\$5.30
Milo	\$8.98
Soybeans	\$13.30

Spray away tomato sauce stains in containers

By The Associated Press
In the kitchen or out in the garage, here are three ways to combat stains using cooking spray: **TOMATO SAUCE:** Tired of tossing plastic containers because you can't get out the red haze left

behind by tomato sauces? Apply a light coating of nonstick cooking spray on the inside of the container before you load it up; wash as usual when through.

WHEEL GUNK: That fine black gunk on the wheels of your

car is brake dust produced when brake pads wear against the disks or cylinders.

First clean wheels, then give them a light coating of cooking spray and the next round of yuk will wipe right off.

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