

Family

Grant expands meeting services

Just prior to National Library Week, the Colby Police Special Law Enforcement Fund gave the Pioneer Memorial Library a grant for \$702.

This fund is overseen by the Thomas County Community Foundation. With this money, we were able to hang two new speakers in the back of the basement in order to improve the ability of patrons to hear during special programs. We were also able to purchase a wireless lapel microphone so that those presenting materials during Booked for Lunch, National Library Week, Summer Reading events, and youth activities and other special programs can have the benefit of being able to move freely in the basement, as well as provide a hands-free speaking environment.

Thomas County is one of the few to have an organization like this, with endowed funds to help nonprofit organizations serve, and students to get an education.

Today is the end of another month. Many of us are taking a hard look at our lives, resources and what is important. Author Stephen Covey has a book and tapes called "First Things First," talking about keeping the end in mind. This thought compels me to share resources our library has on wills, trusts and being an executor.

One item is "Estate Planning Basics," by Dennis Clifford, 2007. It is an overview of planning an estate. The publisher is Nolo, which produces legal books to help the everyday person.

Another resource is "AARP Crash Course in Estate Planning,



Melany Wilks

Library Links

Updated Edition" by Michael T. Palermo and Ric Edelman,

A third great book is "Get It Together: Organize Your Records So Your Family Won't Have To," by Melanie Cullen and Shae Irving. It covers many considerations before and after death.

The fourth item we have is "The Executor's Guide: Settling a Loved One's Estate or Trust," by Mary Randolph, published by Nolo. This book has a chapter on the first week after a death. It discusses body donation, death certificates, autopsies, burial and cremation, and other incidentals to be done in the first week. This book is a wealth of information that can be used as a mini handbook.

While I am not advocating that you avoid hiring a lawyer for these very difficult issues, these self-help books can help you ask informed questions on many issues.

On a lighter note: graduation is only a few short weeks away. If you are thinking about making a cake for the special occasion, remember that we have cake pans shaped like books, a graduate, a football, a star or balloon, among other things. We also have books on cake decorating, as well as books with ideas for a graduation celebration.



John Brewster Sears and Karla Miller Songer

Arizona couple plans wedding on showboat

Karla Miller Songer and John Brewster Sears of Glendale, Ariz., plan to marry Saturday, July 11, 2009, on the Andiamo showboat at Stillwater, Minn.

The bride to be is the daughter of Joy Gannon of Phoenix and the late Larry Miller of St. James, Minn. She graduated from the University of Phoenix in 2001 with a master's degree in counseling and psychology and works at a special education

school in Peoria, Ariz.

The prospective groom is the son of Judith and John Sears of Bella Vista, Ariz., formerly of Colby. He graduated from the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy with a Doctor of Pharmacy degree and is a pharmacist with Walgreens in Phoenix.

The couple will be living in Glendale.

Reception at Brewster honors 100th birthday

The public is invited to help Clarice Blakely of Brewster celebrate her 100th birthday at a reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 9, at the Brewster Community Church, 528 Third St.

Friends unable to attend may send cards to her at Prairie Senior Living Center, 1625 S. Franklin, Room 410, Colby, Kan., 67701.



C. Blakely

Extension sponsoring plant swap on Tuesday

By Clint Milliman

Thomas County Extension Agent
Do you have some extra plants in your landscape that you would like to get rid of but cannot bring yourself to throw away? Is there a void in your yard that you would like to fill in with plants someone else may have extra of? Do I have an opportunity for you.

The Thomas County Master Gardeners hold a plant exchange from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesday at the parking lot of the Extension of-

rice, at the Thomas County Office Complex at 350 S. Range.

Dig up and bring any extra plants that you want to get rid of and exchange them for something you do not have or may want more of. You do not have to bring any plants to see what is available, but if you can, bring something to swap. This is a free service to help people thin out existing plants.

For information, contact Clint Milliman at 460-4582 or milliman@ksu.edu.

Crafting Get-Together

Saturday • May 2, 2009

11 am to 5 pm

Come when you can, stay as long as you can, and leave when you need to.

First Baptist Church 615 W. Webster (corner of Grant & Webster) In the Fellowship Hall

Once again the ladies at First Baptist Church are planning a CRAFTING GET-TOGETHER. This is a time to get together with other ladies for a time of fellowship, time to work on crafting projects and to even learn how to do a couple of "new" crafts. Bring your craft projects (whatever that may be) you are working on - there will be plenty of table space for you to work at. We have several electrical outlets for those who sew or quilt. There will be a demonstration on card embroidery and iris paper folding. Samples are on display in the windows at Colby Photo.

There will be supplies available for you to use to make your own. Even if you are not a crafter, come for a time of fellowship. And as usual there will be light refreshments & snacks and drinks will be provided.

Bring a friend or a neighbor or a family-member - a great time for moms to get away from the house for a little while.

We hope your time that day will be blessed!

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