

Family

Late planting? Not so late after all

If you've been trying to get your garden planted the last couple of weeks, it doesn't take very much rain to be too much rain. The same might be said for area farmers trying to plant corn.

Wheat farmers, on the other hand, must be delighted with the moisture — as long as the hail doesn't make an appearance.

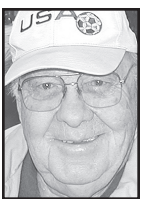
But for many of us nervous gardeners, we no sooner get past the freezin' season, and the rains begin to fall in unusually large amounts, if that's possible. And some of us begin to think about converting to a rice crop or maybe developing a cranberry bog.

However, I checked back over 10 or 12 years and quickly saw that planting some of the so-called warm-weather garden crops in the last week of May isn't as unusual as it might seem. There have been several years that I didn't plant cucumbers, squash or cantaloupe until May 25. We normally would not expect the first frost of the fall season until the October 10 to 12, so it would seem that anything planted now should have no problem with the length of the season.

Most varieties of cantaloupe require from 80 to 85 days to mature. Pumpkins take a couple of weeks longer, as do some of the older varieties of watermelon. With the length of the growing season in this area, they should be OK.

Gary Garrett tells me that his grandmother always insisted that we should never plant a garden around here until after Memorial Day, so we shouldn't dilly-dally too much longer. This weekend might be a good time to get things into high gear.

Generally speaking, my so-called cool-weather crops are average or better so far. We've had green onions, radishes, leaf lettuce and seeds of spinach. The rhubarb has been more productive than we can handle, but asparagus production has been less than we wished for.



Kay Melia

The Gardener

The potatoes, planted about April 10, have frozen back twice, but are coming back slowly with new growth. The broccoli and cabbage plants look great. The tomatoes, set out on Mothers Day, look very good at this time.

This is being written a week before your read it, so hopefully the cucumbers, beans, sweet corn, squash and peppers are all planted by now and the cantaloupe and sweet potatoes will soon follow. It has indeed been a different kind of gardening season. But isn't that what we always say?

On another subject, we have been pleased with the sighting of so many different species of migrating song birds this season, as many of you probably have been. The usual ones have graciously passed by our feeder and bird bath, plus a few we have seen for the first time.

Unfortunately, as amateurs, we just haven't been able to identify several birds. Where are John Palmquist and Ron Barkley when you need 'em?

Towhee sightings have been numerous, as have the Townsend's Solitaire. An Evening Grosbeak took advantage of our facilities for a couple of days, plus lots of unidentified warblers and other small birds that we cannot name.

But the star of the season has been the appearance of a beautiful American Redstart, with his small jet-black body and his bright orange stripes. He was darting around for a day or two, and then came the female, with a much more subdued coat of olive, gray and bright yellow markings.

I'm sure we'll see more before the migration ends, but it's been great so far this year!



The Sloans in 1950



The Sloans in 2010

Card shower planned to celebrate 60 years

The children of Maurice and Vera Sloan plan a card shower for their 60th wedding anniversary on Friday.

The couple married at the Menlo Methodist Church on June 4, 1950. Both were both born and raised in Thomas County and have lived all but seven years of their lives here. Their children are Randy

(Sherry) Sloan of Dorrance; Bruce (Connie) Sloan of Azle, Texas; Nanci (Dennis) Dye, Hebron, Neb.; and Lynda (Don) Schneider of Bennington.

The Sloans have eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Cards will reach them at 1765 Harvey Ave., Colby, Kan., 67701.

Book identifies trees

An easy-to-use tree identification booklet, "What Tree Is That?" is available from the Arbor Day Foundation to help people identify trees in a simple, step-by-step process.

The booklet features hand-drawn botanical illustrations highlighting the distinctive characteristics of many tree species. Nature lovers and professional arborists have called this pocket field guide one of the most user-friendly resources to have. Its full-color illustrations offer precise detail to depict natural colors, shapes, and textures, so users can make a positive identification in just a few easy steps.

The nonprofit foundation offers this booklet to help people identify

trees in Kansas and throughout the eastern and central regions. The booklet explains what to look for in the shape of the leaves and differences in the leaf stems and twig structures, specifics on the fruits and flowers, and the details of buds and bark.

"What Tree Is That?" is also available as an online interactive version at www.arborday.org.

To get your copy, send your name and address and \$5 for each guide to What Tree Is That?, Arbor Day Foundation, Nebraska City, Neb., 68410. You can also order the book online at www.arborday.org.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day **Hi-Plains Co-op**

Wheat (bushel)	\$3.58
Corn (bushel)	\$2.95
Milo (hundredweight)	\$4.80
Soybeans (bushel)	\$8.17

Corrections

The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

We want your local news: e-mail to colby.editor@nwkanas.com

It's time to emerge to a new life chapter

Aries (March 21 – April 20) This is a huge week, with the tide turning at work adding to greater confidence. You have finally come out of the shadows. Sunday opens the door to a new life chapter.

Taurus (April 21 – May 21) A lot of things are getting resolved, including conflicts between home and professional lives as you look outside the box. New ideas could change your world.

Gemini (May 22 – June 21) A sea change adds a different spin. Tension that has dominated home and work begins to lessen. It's easier to create a balance that ditches pressure but keeps opportunities.

Cancer (June 22 – July 22) Keep your schedule light. Professional and financial intensity demands attention. Step back to look at the big picture for a creative advantage. Seize any chance to recharge your batteries.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) The theme now is money, featuring pressure and opportunity. The fact that Uranus is in your sector of travel, adventure, learning and discovery changes everything.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 23) Regardless of activity in work, financial, social and relationship fronts, the main event happened Monday. It's the beginning of a phase to claim your future and life.

Libra (Sept. 24 – Oct. 23) Professional intensity masks a shift to your personal life. Uranus, planet



Shannon O'Brien

Weekly Horoscope

of surprise and synchronicity, promotes a fresh look at your personal and professional relationships.

Scorpio (Oct. 24 – Nov. 22) A focus on the professional is challenged by a need to make the most of luck in your romance and creativity. Find a balance between work and play to avoid burnout.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23 – Dec. 21) Things turn for the better professionally and personally. Monday kicked off important professional months. The door is open to lucky romantic and creative months.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 20) Financial tension is short-lived, with a chance to get things out in the open and establish goals. Meanwhile, focus on home and family, where unexpected opportunities develop.

Aquarius (Jan. 21 – Feb. 19) Let challenges wash off, but heed their message. In relationships there's pressure. Financial pressure takes a turn for the better.

Pisces (Feb. 20 – March 20) Smile. Despite the fact that things may be rushed at work, this motivates you. Though intense, panic is unlikely. There's a turnaround on the personal front.

RECEPTION FOR
Victor Nemechek, M.D.
Quinter, Kansas
2010 KANSAS
Family Physician of the Year
BLUESTEM MEDICAL CLINIC
4:30 - 6:30 P.M.

Cottonwood Ranch reopens

The Kansas Historical Society and the Friends of Cottonwood Ranch have plans to reopen the Cottonwood Ranch State Historic Site to the public for the summer.

Hours are 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. The site will close Sept. 30. Cottonwood Ranch is 17 miles west of Hill City and 15 miles east of Hoxie on U.S. 24.

The site is a relatively un-

changed rural ranch near the South Fork of the Solomon River. Constructed from 1885 to 1896 by John Fenton Pratt, it incorporates architectural elements from his English homeland. It was here that the Pratt family flourished and John Fenton became a successful sheep rancher and businessman.

The ranch is one of 16 sites operated by the society. For information, go to kshs.org.

Upcoming Revival Service

Reneé Moore, evangelist and missionary from Muskogee, Oklahoma, who has traveled extensively in full time evangelistic and missionary work for more than 12 years, will conduct services a 10:15 a.m. and 6 p.m. at the Assembly of God church at the corner of College Drive and Franklin Ave. in Colby.



Moore has ministered in Rwanda, Russia, Ukraine, Mexico and Jamaica. She will share her own victories over fear and depression as well as a near death experience at age three, that left her neurologically impaired for many years before she received her healing, which has been documented by doctors.

Her message is of God's power that offers hope to those who feel their situation is hopeless. Her uplifting testimonies along with music that promises to inspire, will be an encouragement to all who attend. She ministers to youth, women, single adults and various groups, and travels internationally to minister to all groups of ages. The church located at 245 College Drive. Pastor Steve Todd is a native of Muskogee. For information call (785) 462-8234.

THOMAS COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
350 S. Range Suite 14 Colby, KS
(785) 460-9152
tccf@st-tel.net
www.thomascountycitycommunityfoundation.com

2009 4th Quarter - 2010 1st Quarter Grants Awarded

Director's Fund		
Golden Plains Schools	Uniform Pride Project	\$150.00
Surprise Grant	Fundraiser Proceeds	\$433.34
Colby Public Schools	Food Program	\$500.00
Golden Plains Schools	Food Program	\$250.00
Betty G. & James Secrest Fund		
Western Plains Arts Association	Sam Ramey Concert	\$1,500.00
Wiedeman Beautification Fund		
City of Colby Tree Board	South Range Tree Project	\$1,000.00
Cory R. Wang Memorial Scholarship		
Jay Wessel	Spring 2010 Semester	\$1,020.00
City of Colby Special Law Enforcement Fund		
Jake Cox	Spring 2010 Semester	\$375.00
Rebecca Theimer	Spring 2010 semester	\$750.00

Personal Property Auction

Saturday, June 5th VFW Hall, 824 Main, Goodland
Starting at 10 a.m.

Sellers: Bob & Louise Moyer, Lloyd Studer Estate and others
PARTIAL LIST ONLY. Many boxes have been in storage, Lots of items not listed.

LAWN & SHOP EQUIPMENT
(most with manuals)
Craftsman riding lawn mower, 25hp Kohler, 48" deck, like new
Marty J 18hp mower
Craftsman self propelled walk behind mower
Troy Bilt 5hp sickle bar mower
Craftsman 22" cut wheeled weed trimmer, used one season
Craftsman 22" push mower
Gas string trimmer
Tractor Lift (use for riding lawn mower)
Craftsman 2400 psi pressure washer, 6hp Briggs motor
Air compressor
16ga finish nailer
Skill saw
Sauder 7" disc grinder
Bench grinder & vise
Wheel barrows
10' & 6' step ladders
Socket sets
Drills
Cement lawn ornaments
Set of Kitchen cabinets, works great for shops
Shade tent, 11'x11', complete

W/frame
Glider rocker
Recliner
Corner Curio cabinet
2 sets of tables W/6 chairs
Chrome Craft table W/2 chairs
Gun cabinet for 12 guns
3 TV's
Double bed
Dressers
Room dividers
Folding table
Coffee & end tables
Dirt Devil upright vacuum
Small stereo
Brothers sewing machine

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES
Several radios
VHS tapes, (some Disney never played)
R.C. Allen Manual typewriter
Portable typewriter in case
Sunkist wall sign, lighted
Coors cooler
Set of 1930's oatmeal dishes
Large toy collection including many JD toys still in original boxes
Lots of unique Coke items
NFL collectables still in boxes
32 gal cooler FULL of McDonalds & other fast food happy meal toys

HOUSEHOLD
Oak china hutch
Upright freezer
Queen mattress & box springs

The hall will be full with something for everyone so come and enjoy the day. Lunch served by VFW Auxiliary

HOMESTEAD REALTY AND AUCTION
1023 MAIN - GOODLAND, KS - 67735
TERRY RICHARDSON OWNER/BROKER/AUCTIONEER
BUTCH EWING AUCTIONEER
auctions@goodlandhomestead.com
785-899-2328 or 800-974-2426
www.goodlandhomestead.com

Estate Auction

FOR THE JOHN "OLD JACK" KRISS ESTATE
Saturday, June 5, 2010 at 10 am CT
(doors open at 8:00 am day of sale)
Auction Location: East 8th Street (South of Elevator), Colby, KS
Preview sale items between 5-7 p.m. CT Friday, June 4, 2010

SHOP EQUIPMENT: Hobart generator/welder; Welding Rod; Heavy Duty Drill; Heavy Duty Dual Grinder; C & Vice Clamps; Large Shop Grinder; Buffalo Forge w/ Tool; Branding Iron; Duracraft double Grinder; Air Bubble; Delco Model B-22323-G/3HP/208-220-440 Volt, Acetylene Torch w/ bottles/cart; Large 120lbs Anvil; Large Metal Press; Shop Creepers; Shop Weaver Engine Lift; WK Lane Shop Wench; Ladders; Tool Boxes; Vice & Benches; Pipe Threader; Gravely Tractor Mower/ accessories; Gravely Tractor Tiller; Several Push Mowers; Homelite Tiller; Walking Seeder; Floor Jack; Cub Cadet Mower & accessories; Snapper Riding Mower; Several Bolt Bins; Part's Washer; Century Charger/Booster/Tester; Assorted Hand Tools; Wagon Jacks; Ridge Pipe Wrenches; Air Chisel; Assorted Oil Cans; Air Grease Guns; Power Matic Drill Press; Hammers; Large Snap-On 21/4 -3/4" Socket Set; Screw Drivers; Pit Crew Wrenches/chisels/impact Set; Files; Dake Press #2; Dewalt Combo Kit w/drill/saws/lite/charger/grinder; Makita Pruning Saws; Remington 18V Cordless; Pruning Saw; Shop Vac; Assorted Shovels; DeWalt Table Saw; 2- Homelite Chainsaws w/ case; 2- Electric Chainsaw plus others; Drills/ Circular Saws/ Routers; Several Lawn Garden Tractor Sprinklers; Hand Saws & Pruners; Rototiller; Rope & Tarps; Live Animal Traps; Shovels/Rakes/Pitch Forks/Hoes & Axes; Log Chains/ Tow Ropes; Hydraulic Jacks; New Garden Hose; Bolt Cutters; Chain Hoist; Assorted Nail/Bolts/Screws; Horse Halters & Bits; Dog Chains & Collars; Marvel Draw Band Saw; Assorted Pipe/flat & angle iron; Transit w/ Tripod; Barrel Pumps.
VEHICLES & TRACTORS: Case Tractor 930 Comfort King / Diesel Serial# 8216244; Massey 35 Garden Tractor (Gas); Spirit II riding lawn mower, 18hp, 50" deck; Cub Cadet #125, hydraulic with attachments; 6 ft. Mower Deck; 2 Wheel Horse Trailer; 1960's Gas Pump; Ford F100 1968 (5 Speed); Ford F250 1988 XLT Lariat 3/4 ton Pickup (w/approximately 10,000 mi on rebuilt engine), 5 Speed, Long Box, Cruise, Air & Dual Tanks; Oldsmobile Bravada 1993 w/remote electric start, 146,000 mi /Cruise/Air / Leather Seats/ Power

MUCH MORE DAY OF SALE! Lunch will be served!
Tom Harrison-Auctioneer-Broker: (785) 443-0136
Tom Simpson-Auctioneer: (785) 443-1153
Bob Jones-Auctioneer: (785) 443-0138
TNT AUCTION
For complete sale bill, visit: www.tntjonesauction.com

Got news? Tell us! Call 462-3963