

Family

Moral nature more than cultural norms

In last month's column I suggested that the presence of a moral nature within us is evidence for the existence of the God who placed it there.

But those who do not believe in God have long argued that our moral nature was shaped by our parents and culture. Unfortunately for the skeptic, a growing body of scientific evidence is making this position more and more difficult to maintain.

According to an article appearing in the London newspaper, *The Daily Mail*, "An astonishing series of experiments is challenging the views ... that our morality is shaped by our parents and experiences." Instead they suggest that the "differences between good and bad may be hardwired into the brain at birth."

One of the leading researchers in this area of study is Dr. Paul Bloom, a professor of psychology at Yale University. According to Dr. Bloom, "You can see glimmers of moral thought, moral judgments and moral feeling even in the first year of life ... some sense of good and evil seems to be bred in the bones."

Dr. Bloom's conclusions pose a serious challenge to the assumption that moral "truth" is a social construct. This is not to say that there is not a great deal of diversity among the various cultures of the world. There is no question that these differences exist. However, there are many similarities too, especially when it comes to the human race's basic under-



Mark Carlton

• From the Pulpit

standing of right and wrong, and these similarities are too great to be ignored.

One scholar who has noted these similarities is University of Texas philosopher, J. Budziszewski. In his excellent book, "What We Can't Not Know," Dr. Budziszewski has pointed out that in spite of differences in detail and application; there is a surprising underlying moral consensus among the world's various cultures and religions. He makes and defends another observation that may surprise some; this moral consensus bears a striking resemblance to the Ten Commandments. Like Dr. Bloom, Budziszewski believes that it is hardwired into us.

The evidence, then, would tend to suggest that the apostle Paul was correct; God has written His law on our hearts. But there is something else that seems to be universal; guilt, the inward sense we have failed to live up to this moral code. Who among us has not felt the noisy accusations of conscience? This leads to more questions, before whom are we guilty and what can we do about it? We'll be addressing these questions next month.

Mark Carlton is pastor of the Colby Berean Church. You can reach him at pastormark@colby-berean.com or 460-2763.

Teachers to study energy at Sternberg Museum in July

A two-day energy classroom workshop for Kansas teachers is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, July 20 and 21, at the Sternberg Museum of Natural History in Hays. The Fort Hays State University Science and Mathematics Institute and the National Energy Development program have joined to provide teachers with curriculum and training opportunities. Additional support will be provided by Midwest Energy Inc. The workshop will run from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days. Re-

sources and training will be provided to help teach energy in the classroom while meeting state and national education standards.

The \$20 fee includes lunch, snacks, a model solar-powered race car and a curriculum packet. An optional one-hour graduate credit is available.

For information and to register, go to www.fhsu.edu/smei/teacher-education-workshops or call (785) 628-5449. Registration deadline is Wednesday, June 30.



Margie and John Flanagin

Open house to honor Gem couple's 50th

John and Margie Flanagin of Gem will celebrate their 50th anniversary with an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 19, at the Gem Community Building.

The couple was married June 26, 1960, in Gem.

Their children and grandchildren invite friends and family to

join them in their celebration.

Children are Kim (Tom) Commerford of Stanley, Randy Flanagin of Bloomfield, Ind., Ralph Flanagin and Krystil (Justin) Brown, both of Wichita.

They have four grandchildren, Noah, Johan, Daniel and Judah.

Rotary Club

Colby Rotary guest Steve McNinch told 28 Rotary members on Tuesday that the ethanol plant at Campus produces 50 million gallons of ethanol a year.

As program presenter, McNinch said nationally the industry has doubled three times since 2006, and that during the 2009 fall harvest, Western Plains Energy in Campus took in 4.2 million bushels of corn and milo.

Gary Adrian was accepted into membership and was inducted by Mike Tubbs. He was sponsored by Glen Kersenbrock.

Jerry Arensdorf shared a thank

you note from Sabrina Eicher and her mother Vanessa for the third-grade dictionary project which the club sponsors each year.

The Colby Rotary club meets at noon each Tuesday at the Colby Community Student Union.

Markets

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

Wheat (bushel)	\$3.27
Corn (bushel)	\$2.84
Milo (hundredweight)	\$4.60
Soybeans (bushel)	\$8.20

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.

Deaths

Kenneth Rohn

Kenneth Rohn, 68, Colby, died Thursday, June 10, 2010, at the Logan County Hospital in Oakley.

Services are pending with Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel in Colby, 462-7979.

Fort Hays dean's list names local students

Thirteen students from Colby were among those named to Fort Hays State University's Dean's Honor Roll for the spring 2010 semester.

To be eligible, students must be full time and have a minimum grade average of at least 3.60 for the semester.

Below are the students listed from this area.

Colby: Sarah Elaine Berens, senior, sociology; Tisha Noelle Bieker, junior, accounting; Kelli Lee Burrus, senior, music education; Regina Marie Heier, senior, communication, teacher education; Kiri J. Kendrick, freshman, chemistry; Jordan E. Krzycki, freshman, psychology; Amanda Lynn McIlroy, senior, early childhood education; Brandon James McLemore, senior, marketing; Christina Francis Schmid, senior, public relations; Ashley Michelle Schriener, senior, general studies; Trevor John Siebert, junior, mathematics, teaching; Kristin Renee Theimer, special student, speech-language pathology; Taylor Suzanne Young, freshman, biology, bio-medical laboratory.

Brewster: Amber Renee Fulwider, senior, elementary education.

Levant: Shea Lynn Henderson, senior, agricultural business.

Menlo: Caitlyn J. Moss, sophomore, nursing.

Rexford: Brandy L. Bussen, junior, elementary education; Scott A. Johnston, senior, animal science.

Hoxie: Carissa Anne Heim, senior, political science; James A. Kaufman, freshman, technology studies; Amy Elizabeth Patmon, senior, early childhood education; Michelle R. Thummel, senior, psychology; Kimberly C. Weber,

sophomore, education.

Selden: Megan M. Juenemann, senior, speech-language pathology.

Atwood: Justin Michael Chessmore, senior, radiologic technology; Katelyn J. Clark, junior, nursing; Sara A. Miller, sophomore, radiologic technology; Jessie Mizer, senior, speech-language pathology.

Herndon: Rachel R. Mullen, sophomore, nursing.

Oakley: Callie M. Baalman, junior, biology; Megan Marie Baalman, junior, early childhood education; Brittany A. Brenner, junior, nursing; Jenna L. Rudell, senior, English teaching; Chad C. Zerr, senior, banking; Jackie A. Zerr, senior, elementary education.

Winona: Jordan Russell Barrett, junior, health and human performance; Amberly L. Gfeller, sophomore, art education.

Medication Aide Class

Starting June 14

Must have a current Kansas CNA License

For more class information and to sign-up, please contact, Gary Stewart at or call:

Fairview Estates

Retirement ~ Community

785-462-2154

MOVIE PASSES

Watch for your name in the Wednesday movie listings for 2 free passes.

(Passes must be used within 7 days.)

Pick up your passes at your:



MOVIES

NOW SHOWING

Digital/3D Cinema
June 11th - June 17th

ROBIN HOOD
Starring: Russell Crowe
Genre(s): Adventure/Drama
PG-13 2 Hours, 20 Minutes
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:35
Sunday -Thursday 7:00

LETTERS TO JULIET
Genre(s): Comedy/Romance
PG 1 Hour, 45 Minutes
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:10
Sunday - Thursday 7:00

COMING SOON
Eclipse (starts June 30th)
Toy Story 3 (Starts June 18th)
Marmaduke
Killers

Colby Cinema

1935 S. Range • 785-460-9600
www.colbycinema.com

LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES!

BEAD SHOW

JUNE 18 & 19 • FRI. 8 A.M. - 6 P.M. • SAT. 8 A.M. - 4 P.M.
FREE ADMISSION • OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
COLBY COMMUNITY CENTER, UPSTAIRS

Huge selection of semi-precious beads, czech glass beads, over 400 colors of seed beads, vintage German buttons and beads, cowboy crystal crosses, Swarovski crystal pearls, vintage Swarovski, Lampwork pendants, sterling silver and copper beads and findings, beading wire tools, and more. AND THE HOT NEW RED VELVET CRYSTAL!!! A room full of beads!
INFO: 520-907-5124 • Bead helper wanted • We buy old beads and jewelry!!

Mingo Vacation Bible School

Age 4 - kids just out of 5th Grade
Friday, June 18 6 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.
Saturday, June 18 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Lunch served on Saturday



Mingo Bible Church
420 Main Mingo, KS
785-462-2930 or 785-462-2992

Picnic In The Park

Bring your lunch and lawn chair and enjoy the musical talent of....

Shannon Meyers



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16TH
12:00 noon @ Fike Park

Come for an Ice Cold Watermelon Feed during Picnic in the Park! Watermelon provided by Heartland Christian School. Free will donations accepted.

SPONSORED BY COLBY/THOMAS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, COLBY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU AND YOUR COLBY FREE PRESS.