

Family

Grassroots efforts make up for cuts

It seems that the state of the economy on a national, regional and local level is on everyone's minds these days, as it probably should be. As we look to solutions to solve these budget problems, it is a little overwhelming to think about what a difference we can make on a national basis, other than voting, visiting with our representatives and paying our taxes, so one of the easiest issues we can choose to focus on is something we can more fully grasp and truly make a difference – our local community.

What can we do right here in Thomas County? We have recently seen some great grassroots examples of people finding ways to improve our community and schools, such as the Colby Walking Trail, Kansas Quick Lube "Lube-a-Thon for Big Brothers Big Sisters" and the Tubbs & Sons "Ford Drive One for Your School." Speaking of our schools, our hearts go out to our local educational facilities as they strive to give our children a quality education in order prepare them to be the future leaders while working with a slimmer budget each year.

I started thinking about this and began to crunch some numbers. Did you know that if 1,000 people set aside \$10 per week for a year to go to their school, at the end of that year



Melinda Olson

• Thomas County Community Foundation

our schools would have \$520,000 more dollars for operations? \$10 a week! I know I am probably guilty of "wasting" \$10 a week on items I don't need, whether it be an afternoon snack or a splurge at the store. That's just a little under \$1.50 per day. How many of us buy a pop or a coffee each day that costs about that much? What if those who were able, made that choice to give to our schools to educate our youth?

Moreover, what if those that could chose to endow funds as well as provide pass-through funds for our schools? What if for every dollar that individuals gave to schools for their current budget crisis, they also donated 25 cents in endowment dollars? Using the example above, after one year, not only would the school have \$520,000 more dollars for the current year, they would also have \$130,000 in endowment, providing \$6,500 each year forever.

Now let's say that same pattern was repeated for 10 years. For 10 years, we have 1,000 people committed to giving \$12.50 (\$10 for

immediate use, \$2.50 for endowment) a week each year. That result would be \$520,000 each year for a total of \$5.2 million in pass through monies, and \$1.3 in endowment monies, which would have provided for \$357,500 in those ten years. After 50 years, without one more dime being put into that endowment, the total amount granted from this endowment will be \$2.95 million to provide education for our schools, assuming a 5 percent annual return on that \$1.3 million.

We have endowment funds set up for all of the public school districts in Thomas County at the Thomas County Community Foundation, and we would love to serve all schools in Thomas County in this manner. Both pass through and endowment donations may be given to these funds for the area of interest within the school that you are passionate about. There is beauty to strength in numbers. Everyone can give a little and together, united, we are able to make a difference.

Melinda Olson is executive director of the Thomas County Community Foundation, 350 S. Range in Colby. To contact the foundation, call (785) 460-9152 or go to www.thomas-countycommunityfoundation.com.



Phyllis and George Elliott, 1941

Couple to celebrate 70 years with reception

There will be a reception in honor of the 70th wedding anniversary of George and Phyllis Elliott from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 19, 2011, at the Colby United Methodist Church.

The couple was married June 19, 1941, in the rose garden of Iowa State College in Ames. They lived in many states, moving to Colby in 1975, following George's retirement from Sandia Laboratories in Albuquerque, N.M.

In Colby, he owned and operated McKee Engineering and Culligan Water Conditioning until retiring for a second time in 1994. Phyllis worked in the library at Colby Community College until 1984.

The couple has three daughters, Nancy LePell, Colby; Susan Elliott-Bryan, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and Georgia Laboratories in Albuquerque, Newkirk, Denton, Texas.

Spray grasshoppers now while they are vulnerable

Central U.S. grasshoppers started hatching in late May.

That could be worrisome. Kansas, for example, has a history of grasshopper "plagues," and it's home to about 115 different species.

"Fortunately, only a few of our grasshoppers are a true economic concern – a threat to field and garden crops, as well as lawns. Plus, now is the ideal time to start managing their population numbers," said Bob Bauernfeind, entomologist with K-State Research and Extension.

Grasshoppers deposit eggs in undisturbed areas, among grass and weed roots. Their preferred nurseries include fence rows, weed patches, field margins, ditch banks and roadside areas. That's also where the newly hatched nymphs start feeding in spring.

They look like tiny grasshoppers, Bauernfeind said. But, they have to grow a while and molt before they develop wings.

"They aren't very tough yet, either. So, if you can find a hatching area, you have a good chance of limiting their numbers with a con-

tact spray," he explained.

The two-striped grasshopper is generally the first species to hatch. On average, differential, red-legged and other grasshopper types start to emerge about three weeks later.

"That's why you have to repeat applications, three to four times through June and into July, to eliminate new hatchlings as they appear," Bauernfeind said. "The most effective time tends to be just before or at sunrise. You have to spray each nymph directly to achieve control, and grasshoppers become much more active as daytime temperatures rise."

Numerous products are available to control grasshoppers in turf, ornamental plants and/or vegetables. Buyers must read insecticide labels to find a product that's safe and legal to use in a particular site, he warned. If they'll be spraying near food crops, they'll need to observe any label-specified harvest restrictions.

Bauernfeind's illustrated grasshopper fact sheet is online at www.ksre.ksu.edu/library/entml2/L868.PDF.

Traffic report released

The Kansas Highway Patrol's Memorial Weekend Holiday reporting period ran from 6 p.m. May 27 through 11:59 p.m. May 30. During that time, the Patrol worked three fatal crashes, which resulted in three fatalities. None were alcohol-related.

Information kept by the Highway Patrol for the holiday weekend is shown below in comparison to 2010's data for the same reporting period. One distinct difference is in the seatbelt categories. This is due in part to the primary seatbelt law, which was not yet in effect

Activity	2011	2010
Total Fatal Crashes	3	0
Total Fatalities	3	0
DUI Related Crashes	3	4
DUI Related Fatalities	0	0
DUI Arrests	35	43
Speed Citations	1,132	1,336
Speed Warnings	1,168	1,387
Adult Seatbelt Citations	855	154
Adult Seatbelt Warnings	120	104
Teen Seatbelt Citations	29	7
Teen Seatbelt Warnings	3	0
Child Restraint Citations	55	57
Child Restraint Warnings	10	8
Motorists Assisted	1,220	1,280

Property Transfers

Real Estate recorded May 31 to June 7

The following real estate transactions have been reported by the Thomas County register of deeds:

• April 22, Mark D. and Rebecca S. Peterson to Dale E. and Alana S. Tubbs; Lot 1, Block 1, Colby Woofert Addition.

• May 30, quit claim deed, Mordecai Management Group to Laura Sims; Lots 16-18, Block 6, Levant.

• May 31, quit claim deed, Daniel J. and Amber M. Dennis to Daniel J. and Amber M. Dennis; three tracts of NE/4 of Sec. 13, T9, R34.

• May 31, Loren and Kristie L. Jacobs to Loren and Kristie L. Jacobs; Lot 3, Block 2, Colby Pine Hill Addition.

• June 1, Paula and James Donald Davis to Norman L. and Betty J. Behring; Lot 3, Block 4, Colby Pioneer Subdivision.

Parents warned drowning is quick and quiet

It's a warm summer day and you're at the beach with your kids. Your cell phone rings and you answer it, shifting your focus from your kids to the conversation.

Good idea? Not at all, according to Safe Kids Kansas, and it could even be deadly. Children can get into trouble in a matter of seconds when around water, so Safe Kids Kansas recommends that parents actively supervise – with their eyes on their kids at all times – when they are in or near the water.

Drowning is the second highest cause of unintentional death for children ages one to four and 10 to 14 in the U.S. From 2000-2009, there were 73 unintentional drowning related deaths in Kansas age 14 years and younger. Three-quarters of these deaths occurred to children ages three and younger.

"Kids drown quickly and quietly," said Cherie Sage, state director for the organization. "A drowning child cannot cry or shout for help. The most important precaution for parents is active supervision. Sim-

ply being near your child is not necessarily supervising."

To help keep kids safe this pool season, always actively supervise children in and around water. Don't leave, even for a moment. Stay where you can see, hear and reach kids in water. Avoid talking on the phone, preparing a meal, reading and other distractions.

• If you have a pool or spa, or if your child visits a home that has a pool or spa, it should be surrounded by a fence at least five feet high with gates that close and latch automatically.

• A pool or spa should be equipped with an anti-entrapment drain cover and a safety vacuum release system to prevent children from being caught in the suction of the drain.

• Don't leave toys in or near the pool, where they could attract unsupervised kids.

• Enroll your kids in swimming lessons around age four, but don't assume swimming lessons make your child immune to drowning.

• Don't rely on inflatable swim-

ming toys such as "water wings" and noodles. If your child can't swim, stay within an arm's reach.

• Learn infant and child CPR. In less than two hours, you can learn effective interventions that can give a fighting chance to a child whose breathing and heartbeat have stopped.

• Keep rescue equipment, a phone and emergency numbers by the pool.

These guidelines apply to inflatable and portable pools, not just in-ground pools. A child can drown in just an inch of water. Kiddie pools should be emptied and stored out of reach when not in use.

Even a near-drowning incident can have lifelong consequences. Kids who survive a near-drowning may have brain damage, and after four to six minutes under water – the damage is usually irreversible.

"A supervised child is in sight at all times with your undivided attention focused on the child," said Sage. When there are children in

or near the water, adults should take turns serving as the designated "Water Watcher," paying undivided attention.

For information about drowning and water safety, call Safe Kids Kansas at (785) 296-0351 or visit www.safekids.org.

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.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$8.00
Corn (bushel)	\$7.26
Milo (hundredweight)	\$12.30
Soybeans (bushel)	\$12.79

Colby American Legion Post 363

Biscuits and Gravy Breakfast Feed

When: Saturday, June 11
Time: 7:00 - 10 a.m.
Where: American Legion

Biscuits & Gravy
 Hashbrowns
 Scrambled Eggs

★ ★ Free will donation ★ ★

Richard Lane

Richard (Dick) Lane, age 80, of Overland Park, Kansas, passed away on June 6, 2011 at the Kansas City Hospice House after a long struggle with cancer. Richard was born on August 20, 1930 in Mountain Lane Minnesota to Anne Thiesen Lane and Harry Lane. He was raised in Mountain Lake by his uncle Jacob J. Thiesen and his grandmother Marie Penner Thiesen. Richard graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter Minnesota. After college he served in the US Army during the Korean Conflict, finishing his service in the Finance Corp in Tokyo Japan. He returned to Mountain Lake to run the family farm implement business. He married Donna Marie Blahosky in January 18, 1958. In January of 1961 Dick and Donna's daughter Karen Suzanne arrived. In May of 1962, while Dick was training at Merrill Lynch in New York, their son Thomas J. was born. While living in Miles City, Montana in December of 1966, where Dick owned and operated a John Deere dealership, a second daughter Kristen Marie was born but passed away shortly after birth. Dick and Donna's youngest son, Jonathan Jay was born in Kansas City in December of 1968, where Dick was working for Merrill Lynch. The Lanes moved to Colby, Kansas in 1970 where Dick owned and operated the John Deere dealership. After a successful career as an implement dealer and farmer, Dick and Donna retired in 1994 and moved to Overland Park, Kansas.

Richard is survived by: Donna Marie, his wife for 53 years, his daughter Karen Resley, his son-in-law Kelly Resley, his grandchildren Madison, Gabrielle, Ethan, and Mikayla Resley, his son Thomas Lane, his grandchild Jacob Lane, his son Jonathan Lane, and his daughter-in-law Karla Kannon. You will live on in all of our hearts. Richard was preceded in death by: his parents Harry and Anne Thiesen, his uncle Jacob Thiesen, and his daughter Kristen Lane.

A memorial service will be held Friday June 10, 2011 at 9:00 AM at the Porter Funeral Home, 8535 Monrovia, Lenexa, Kansas. A second memorial service will be held in Colby, Kansas at a future date. Internment will be at Levenworth National Cemetery in a private service. In lieu of flowers, memorials should be sent to the Kansas City Hospice House 12000 Wornall Road, Kansas City, MO 64145 or to the Salvation Army, PO Box 412577, KCMO 64141. (Arrangements: Cremation Society of Ks & MO, www.kccrema-tion.com, 913-383-9888)



Thank You

A special thank you to everyone for the cards, flowers, phone calls, food and memorials for Kenneth Denton. We appreciate all of your support.

~ The family of Kenneth (Kenny) Denton ~

Ride Against The Wind

JUNE 10 & 11



VAN'S BODY & FRAME DICE RUN

\$1000 HIGH HAND • \$250 LOW HAND

Awards to be given for: **The oldest running bike & Bike that traveled the longest distance** (both must be entered in Dice Run)

Helicopter rides around Colby all day Saturday
 Sponsored by Colby Convention & Visitors Bureau
 Many vendors throughout both the days.

Sore Loser Tattoo & Piercing from Hays will be available for services Friday & Saturday
 Drag main Friday night 5:30 - midnight
 All motorcycles and vehicles welcome!

For more information contact: Nick Quenzer • 785-443-0240



Something Rotten is in your Natural Gas... And We Put It There!

It's a harmless chemical with a distinctive odor so you can detect even the smallest amount which might escape. It smells BAD...but that's GOOD! You see, natural gas has no odor, that's why we add one. Everyone should recognize this built in safety signal. **If you smell this odor rising intensely, or it seems everywhere...**

Outdoors - Call Midwest Energy immediately.
Indoors - Leave the premises immediately...don't strike a match, use the phone or your cell phone or flip on the lights. Go to the nearest phone other than where you are and call us.

Remember...natural gas has an excellent safety record and with your help, we can keep it that way.



Midwest Energy, Inc.

"A Customer-owned Cooperative...Making Energy Work For You"
 1-800-222-3121 www.mwenergy.com