

Family

Talk of gardens never boring

It was 25 years ago last January that I began writing, recording, and broadcasting a brief daily garden program on about a dozen Kansas radio stations. I did that for 20 years and enjoyed it very much because it kept alive my love of gardening and broadcasting on a daily basis. For the past couple of years, I've been taking up valuable newspaper space with a gardening column and have satisfied another whim of writing about gardening.



Kay Melia

• The Gardener

times, the question is asked with a smile, and occasionally with just a little bit of doubt, like maybe he doesn't even have a garden.

If someone were to ask me that question today, and they probably will, my answer would likely be that things don't look so good out there. The problem is not disease nor insects nor heat nor drought. It's a problem most Northwest Kansas gardeners ordinarily don't worry too much about. My problem is simply too much hard rain — believe it or not!

From May 18 to June 20, I have

measured just a little bit short of 8 inches of rain in my official handy-dandy National Weather Service approved rain gauge, located about 30 feet from my garden. During that period, rain was measured on only eight different days, but on two different 24 hour periods, almost three inches, accompanied by light hail and stiff winds, hit the garden crops pretty hard. The newly emerging cucumber and cantaloupe seedlings were pounded back into the ground from whence they came and just about everything else suffered at least a bit of damage, raising questions about their maturity.

Like most of you haven't ever had a problem like that! I shouldn't complain much because I've gardened this same plot for 38 years and only twice before have I ex-

perienced severe weather-related problems. As the weather settles down and we move into July, I should still have a decent crop of vegetables. Before the storms, I had a good run of the early stuff like spinach, lettuce, radishes, and peas. The potatoes and tomatoes are coming back with a vengeance, but the cucumbers are hurting so I may need to borrow some of your dill pickles next winter.

I've learned, after living in Kansas for over 80 years, that you shouldn't complain about too much rain. Never! I just feel like it's OK to gripe a little bit about too much of it falling at once. But go ahead. Ask me anytime about how my garden is doing. My answer today might be a little different than I'd like it to be.

Babies

Maria Therese Schroeder

Maria Therese Schroeder, daughter of Mike and Kathryn Schroeder of Colby, was born Monday, June 13, 2011, at Hays Medical Center. She weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and measured 21 1/4 inches.

Brothers Dominic, 7, Gabriel, 6, Benjamin, 4, Jonathan, 3, and Joseph, 1, welcomed the baby home. Grandparents are Mike and Diane Sis of Atwood and Dan and Janet Schroeder of Colby. Great-grandparents are John and Virginia Burk of Atwood.



Maria S.

Cambria Reece Rhymer

Cambria Reece Rhymer, daughter of Cassandra McPhail-Rhymer and Josh Rhymer of Colby, was born Thursday, June 16, 2011, at Citizens Medical Center. She weighed 6 pounds, 12.6 ounces and measured 19 1/2 inches.

Sister Makenzi and brother Xander welcomed the baby home.

Grandparents are Butch and Barb McPhail of Cimarron, Roger Rhymer of Quinlan, Okla. and Nancy Wicker of Rochester, Ind.

Compensation available to women, minorities

If you are a woman or Hispanic farmer or rancher and you believe that the U.S. Department of Agriculture denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are female or Hispanic, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

"We want all producers who may be eligible to be aware of this claims process for female and Hispanic farmers and ranchers, as well as the recent settlements with Native American and African American farmers and ranchers, so they can come forward and participate in these processes," said Adrian J. Polansky, state executive director of the Farm Service Agency.

To receive a claims package, call the Farmer and Rancher Call

Center at (888) 508-4429 or go to www.farmerclaims.gov. The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.

The claims process provides up to \$50,000 for each woman or Hispanic farmer who can show they were denied a loan or loan servicing for discriminatory reasons between 1981 and 2000. Successful claimants may also be eligible for money to pay the taxes on their awards and for forgiveness of certain existing loans.

There are no filing fees or other costs to participate in the program. Participation is voluntary, and individuals who opt not to participate are not precluded from filing a complaint in court.

High Plains Art Club

The High Plains Art Club met Tuesday, June 14, at the Colby United Methodist Church. Marj Brown gave the lesson, "Getting Feeling into Your Art," from "Color Structure and Design" by Richard G. Ellinger. She explained basic art design using the Munsell Color System and handed out a syllabus to help members follow along.

Co-president Bev Kern chaired the meeting.

Marlene Carpenter said she had talked with Rebel Jay, Colby Community College art instructor, about giving a workshop in July. Tentative plans would be to make a 3D painting using acrylics applied to a board. Jay said

the club could use the art room at the college if it is available. Club members also want to arrange for a workshop with John Scott of Hoxie. Anyone who is interested in attending the workshops may contact Carpenter.

Shirley Baker read a letter regarding the walking trail and the club voted to donate \$25.

Kern reminded the club that it is committed to a display at the Prairie Museum of Art and History in November and December.

Others present at the meeting were Margaret Danneler, Barb Highland, Ruth Hughes, Fritz Ostmeyer, Karen Reed, Marian Boyd and Alice Wolf.

— Maxine Nelson, secretary

Social network for kids gives control to parents

Skid-e-Kids Networks (www.skid-e-kids.com) is raising the bar in social network for kids, by introducing a unique feature that puts the remote control in the hands of parents, called "track my kid." It will essentially allow parents to see everything going on in the kid's dashboard, including contents and friend request.

"We hit upon the idea that most parents, who reluctantly allowed kids to join Facebook and other social media, find themselves locked out of the kid's profile," says Mickel Godwin, founder of the network. "We strongly feel that for Skid-e-kids to be a place where kids could benefit from a social community strengthened by parents and teachers, it must also be a place where parents and teachers would want to spend time.

The new website is designed not only with parents in mind, but also similar to Facebook. Kids would have the same experience of Facebook, without actually being on Facebook. They can invite friends and classmates, play games, watch movies, share pictures, upload

videos and many more.

Skid-e-Kids also offer fun educational activities, like articles for parents, video tutorials, and question and answer page. Members can post questions on any subject and get answers from other members, or from one of the so called Skid-e- teachers.

With these types of initiatives, Skid-e-Kids is quickly becoming the ultimate safe and fun playground for kids and parents all over the world — www.skidekids.com. Thanks to input from kids and parents themselves. Skid-e-Kids is fun, safe and very educational.

"We are very excited to provide a fun and safe place where kids can learn and interact with each other. We hope that parents all over the world will check out the site and see for themselves what Skid-e-Kids is all about," says Godwin.

To learn more about the Skid-e-Kids Network and its initiatives, visit www.skid-e-kids.com.

Ceiling fans cut costs

Installing ceiling fans is a familiar recommendation when it comes to cooling a home or other room, but the fans, themselves, are not cooling units, Bruce Snead, K-State residential energy specialist, said.

Fans produce a cooling effect that can reduce reliance on an air conditioning unit and yield a savings on overall utility costs, said Snead, who encouraged using the

fans while rooms are occupied, but turning them off when the rooms are unoccupied for additional savings on utility bills. Reading the instructions for ceiling and other fans to adjust airflow is recommended.

Energy-efficient tips in cooling a home are available at the Extension engineering website: www.engext.ksu.edu/home.asp.

Judge's recorder leads to arrest

KITTANNING, Pa. (AP) — Police have charged a western Pennsylvania man with joyriding in three stolen boats after they say they found a judge's stolen cassette recorder in one of the boats — on which the suspect recorded an account of his crimes.

State police say 21-year-old Jesse Shipley, of South Bend, remains in a hospital psychiatric unit. He'll be arraigned on theft and other charges once he's released. Online court records do

not list an attorney for Shipley.

Police tell the *Leader-Times* newspaper that Shipley drove the boats on the Allegheny River on Friday, two days after he allegedly stole the recorder from the office of Kittanning District Judge James Owen, about 35 miles northeast of Pittsburgh.

A fanny pack found on one of the boats contained the recorder, on which police say Shipley recorded his account of the events.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$6.81
Corn (bushel)	\$6.40
Milo (hundredweight)	\$10.80
Soybeans (bushel)	\$11.98

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.

Danette Mary Ryan

Danette Mary Ryan, age 69, and longtime resident of rural Colby, Kansas was welcomed home to the Lord on Sunday, January 30th, 2011. Danette was surrounded by her brother and 6 daughters when she left this earth.

Danette was born February 27th, 1941 in Salida, Colorado to Daniel and Elizabeth (Starr) McEachern. Danette attended St. Mary's Grade School and Lake County High School in Leadville Colorado where she participated in activities such as Drama and Dance. After graduating high school in 1959 she went on to attend St. Joseph's School of Nursing in Denver, Colorado. She graduated with her Diploma in Nursing in 1962. Danette returned to Leadville after graduation and worked at St. Vincent's Hospital. In 1965 she married Robert L. Graff. Robert was tragically killed in a hunting accident on October 22, 1966, only 10 days after their daughter, Elizabeth was born.

On April 12th, 1969 she married Rodney Michael Ryan at Annunciation Catholic Church in Leadville, Colorado. She and Rodney started their lives together in rural Colby, Kansas where they built their family home. They remained there for the next 41 years together being stewards of the land and raising their 6 daughters whom they considered blessings from God.

Danette was actively involved in her daughters' lives. She participated and volunteered in many of their activities such as teaching CCD and sponsoring many CYO events. She was an active member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Colby and served on various committees with one of her favorites being the Funeral Dinner Committee.

Danette had many talents such as sewing, crocheting, cooking, baking and caregiving, just to name a few. She enjoyed teaching her daughters and grandchildren these talents, especially spending time in the kitchen with her grandchildren by her side baking and cooking their favorite dishes. She also was considered a "second Mom" to many of her daughters' friends, always giving them motherly advice and wisdom.

She was preceded in death by her devoted husband Rodney in November 2010, her parents, sister Myrna Windorski and brother Charles. She is survived by her daughters, Elizabeth (Lee) Moore, Olathe, KS, Celine (James) Wright, Great Bend, KS, Veronica, Shawnee, KS, Collette Morris, Colby KS, Patricia (Tyler) Samuelson, Olathe, KS and Katera (Thomas) Mowry, Springfield, MO, brother James McEachern, Leadville, CO, 10 grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Arrangements were provided by Harrison Chapel. Services were February 5th, 2011 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Colby, Kansas with interment at Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery. Memorials were given to Sacred Heart Church Remodeling Fund and Hospice Services of Northwest Kansas.

Richard and Rosalee Pinkston's Household - House - Vehicles SALE

July 1 - 2nd • 614 N. Hoeb • Oakley, KS

Sale will include nice furniture, piano, clothes, canning supplies, dishes, kitchen supplies, etc. Also including 2 Cadillac cars (2004 Deville and 1989 Fleetwood), 2003 Chevy Silverado pickup and house at 614 N. Hoeb in Oakley.

Questions: Call Rhonda Pinkston Barley at 316-201-8716.

Dale L. Taylor, Ph. D.

Dale L. Taylor, Ph.D. was born on September 30, 1936 near Tasco, in Sheridan County, Kansas, to Orval and Bernice (Haynes) Taylor. He lost his battle with prostate cancer on June 8, 2011 at his home in Grand Junction, Colorado.

He grew up on a farm, and began doing chores and running the tractor at an early age. Whenever they weren't working, Dale and his brothers could be found playing football, basketball, or baseball, or pitching horseshoes. His brothers said that Dale always had his nose stuck in a book, especially when it came time to work. Dale was educated in the rural schools of Sheridan County, and earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Kansas State University. He received his Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Wyoming.

He married Shirley K. Rikoff of Colby, KS on January 26, 1958. Dale taught at Kansas State University, Augustana (IL) College, the University of Wyoming, Millikin (IL) University, and was Biology Department Chair at Sterling (KS) College prior to joining the Department of the Interior as a Research Scientist. Dale worked on the ecology of fire in national parks, and predicted that if some fires were not allowed to burn, large devastating fires would occur. His work in the Everglades resulted in a change in burning strategies that saved 50% in the cost of the prescribed fire program. He was Co-Chair of the Alaska Interagency Fire Management Team that did fire planning on 360 million acres of government and private lands. The plan has been in effect for nearly 30 years, and is estimated to save \$5 million per year.

During 20 years in Alaska, Dr. Taylor worked on walrus, sea otter, and polar bear conservation. He was science advisor on the International Beringia Heritage Park Project established to develop an international park with Russia. The park commemorates the natural and cultural history of the land bridge between North America and Asia. Dale enjoyed hosting many delegations of Russian scientists, Native people and resource managers who brought exciting information, rich culture, and laughter to their home.

Dale and Shirley retired to Grand Junction, Colorado, in 2002, where they built their dream home, complete with a pond, where he spent many happy hours watching all the birds who visited their yard. He was active in the Thunder Mountain Camera Club, and won several awards for his outstanding photography. Dale also volunteered at the Science Center in Grand Junction, was active in the Grand Junction Newcomers Club, and was a loyal member and staunch advocate of the Audubon Society for many years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sisters Ellen Mae Taylor and Ruby Smith, sisters-in-law Ina Taylor, Kathleen Taylor, and Loretta Rikoff. He is survived by his wife Shirley, of the home; children Thane and wife Ronda, Jacksonville, FL, Todd and wife Julie, Stuttgart, Germany, and J. Kevin and wife Elvira, Anchorage, AK; nine grandchildren: Brandon, Ivan, Brooke, Brian, Erik, Daniel, Andrew, Michael and Bradley; and two great-grandchildren: Aaliyah and Glorianna; Dale is also survived by brothers: Harold and wife Arvilla of Studley, KS; Marvin of Hoxie, KS; Ralfe and wife Lorena of Peoria, AZ; Larry and wife Brenda of Overland Park, KS; Keith and wife Paula of Overland Park, KS; brothers-in-law: Bob Smith of Westminster, CA; William Rikoff of Colby, KS; sister-in-law Norma Higerd and husband Ronald, of Colby, KS; and many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Dale's life will be held on Friday, July 1st, at 7:30 in the evening in the Fellowship Hall at the United Methodist Church, 900 S 12th St, Hoxie, Kansas.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to Hospice of Northwest Kansas or the Sheridan County Historical Society.



Goaldsel welcomes Savannah Eisenbart ~ Has been doing hair in Colby for two years ~

Taking appointments Monday through Wednesday, Friday & Saturday

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July 1 & 2 • 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
July 3 & 4 • 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Interior Connection Quilt Cabin 1525 S. Range 785-462-3375

Send local news to colby.society@nwkansas.com