

Concert to benefit community college

The Music Department at Colby Community College is holding a live concert by The Mama's Boys from 9 to 11 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 27, in the college's Student Union Multi-Purpose Room. Members of the group are Brock Wagoner, Brandon McLemore, Blake McLemore, Jordan Sharp and Rusty Helin. "The group volunteered to do this concert to benefit the music department," said instrumental music director Tony Schroer.

"They are very talented and we are so pleased they have agreed to perform. Members of the group are well known in the area and it will be a fun evening for everyone." Cost is \$20 per person, and \$10 for college students with an ID. All proceeds will benefit the music department. Refreshments will be provided. For information, contact Schroer at 460-5519.



Marilyn and Ron Walz in 1961



Ron and Marilyn Walz now

Dinner celebrates 50 years of marriage

Ron and Marilyn Walz of Colby celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a dinner for family and friends on July 24 at the College Drive Assembly of God Church in Colby. The dinner was hosted by their children and families: Beth (Tony) Snodgrass of Colorado Springs and their children Tyler and Allison; Marcy (Rod) DeKoning of Andover and their children Matthew, Adam and Benjamin;

Christi (Jason) Gordon of Parker, Colo., and their children Courtney and Jet; and Bryan Walz and his children Morgan and Maddy Walz of Colby and Rexford. The couple was married on July 30, 1961, at the First Christian Church in El Dorado. They lived in Beloit and Westmoreland before moving to Colby and have been residents in the area for 24 years.

Immunization protects all, says state health department

In its work to help Kansans protect themselves from serious diseases, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment is participating in National Immunization Awareness Month. Immunizations can prevent infectious diseases like chickenpox, whooping cough and meningitis. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, each year immunizations save thousands of lives and billions of dollars throughout the United States. Immunizations work, but in order to work correctly it's important to know which immunizations or vaccinations you need and when to get them. "We all need a variety of immunizations to not only help protect us throughout our lifetime, but to also help protect those around us," said Mike Parsons, immunization outreach coordinator with the Department of Health's Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention. "August is a busy time for immu-

nizations as children head back to school and we enter into the influenza (flu) season. Contact your health provider or local health department to see what immunizations you may need today." Everyone over age 6 months needs to be vaccinated against seasonal flu every year. Other vaccinations work best when they are given at certain ages. Here are some general guidelines:

- Children need a series of vaccinations from birth to age 6.
- Pre-teens need recommended vaccinations at age 11 or 12, as well as teenagers as they enter into high school and college, vaccinate before you graduate.
- All adults need a variety of vaccinations to prevent diseases such as whooping cough, pneumonia, influenza, shingles and more.

 For information on immunizations, visit www.kdheks.gov/immunize/index.html.

Babies

Emery Elaine Johnson

Emery Elaine Johnson, daughter of Kevin and Jenny Johnson of Colby, was born Saturday, July 30, 2011, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She weighed 9 pounds and measured 20 inches. Sister Dayton welcomed the baby home. Grandparents of the baby are Vic and Jeana Johnson of Julesburg, Colo., Sheryl Davis of Goodland and Curtis and Beverly Hurd of Goodland.



Emery J.

Corrections

In the baby announcement for Emery Elaine Johnson on Page 3 of Monday, Aug. 8, *Colby Free Press*, the paternal grandmother of the baby was incorrectly spelled. Her grandmother is Jeana Johnson. This was a transcribing error. Also, an omitted letter resulted

in an incorrect pronoun in the statement of the baby's weight. This was an editing error.

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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.



Jeffrey Ribordy and Sara Pollet

Couple to marry in Elm Mills Saturday

Sara Pollet of Tonkawa, Okla., and Jeffrey Ribordy of Colby plan to marry Saturday, Aug. 13, 2011, in a private lakeside ceremony in Elm Mills alongside Pollet's children, Jesse and Allison Pollet. The bride is the daughter of Ken and Dianne Smith and the late John Strecker, all of Tonkawa. She is the granddaughter of the late Otto and Maxine Strecker and the late Bob and Joan Hodges. Pollet is a graduate of Tonkawa High School and received a bachelor's degree in 2009 from Park University in social psychology. She works at Tonkawa Elementary School. The groom is the son of Jenny Ladenburger of Colby and Bob and Vivian Ribordy of Topeka. He is the grandson of Loretta and the late Elmer Weeks Jr. of Colby. Ribordy is a graduate of Oakley High School and received a bachelor's degree in accounting from DeVry University online in 2008. He is currently working towards his master's degree and is an account controller at Pioneer Equipment Rental in Ponca City, Okla. The couple plans to live in Tonkawa.

More counties added to list for drought irrigation permits

The Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Water Resources has expanded the opportunity to apply for a 2011 Drought Term Permit to include water right holders in Marion and McPherson counties. The one-time, drought-focused term permit allows holders of existing water rights the flexibility to borrow a portion of next year's authorized quantity in order to complete the 2011 growing season. "We are committed to serving our customers and are particularly concerned about the severe drought that is taking a toll on many Kansas farmers and ranchers," Kansas Secretary of Agriculture Dale Rodman said. "By being flexible and adding to the areas eligible for term permits we hope to improve Kansas agricultures ability to adapt and recover." The term permit allocation will be based on the sum of the quantity authorized for 2011 and 2012. Permitted use during the two years is expected to be aquifer neutral as participants will agree to deduct their 2011 overage from what they are permitted to pump in 2012. Drought Term Permit Applications must be filed on or before Dec. 31. Due to continuing dry conditions in much of Kansas, strong interest has been shown in the emergency term permits. The option was first introduced June 30 for the counties in Kansas that had received a U.S. Department of Agriculture emergency drought declaration for 2011. Qualifying counties include Ellis, Gove, Logan, Ness, Norton, Sheridan, Sherman, Thomas, Trego and Wallace counties, among others. Details of these options, application forms and instructions with a fee schedule are available on the department's web page at 2011 Drought Options or from the Division's field offices. For information, contact Water Appropriations Program Manager Lane Letourneau at lane.letourneau@kda.ks.gov or (785) 296-3710. Information is also available from field offices in Garden City, (620) 276-2901, Stafford, (620) 234-5311 and Stockton, (785) 425-6787.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

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Summer's end still holds some fun

The fair is over and school will start before we know it. Here are some ideas for how to fill the last summer weekdays, or weekends, with fun for your family.



Diann Gerstner

• Knowledge for Life

- Attend classes being held in the community.
- I'm working with the community garden to have a Kids-a-Cookin' class for kids in third through fifth grades from 10 a.m. to noon on Thursday, Aug. 18, at the Community Building. We will be learning about peppers and making pepper jelly.
- Sign up by calling the City Recreation Department at 460-4440 by Tuesday. There's a minimum of five and a maximum of 20 participants. After hours, call the Extension Office at 460-4582 - we have an answering machine. Please give us the name of child and a contact number.
- Make balloon critters or crowns. A trip to the library for a how-to book and a stop at the store for some skinny balloons and you're ready to turn plastic into poodles, swords or headgear.
- Walk around the Northwest Kansas Research and Extension Center (also known as the Experiment Station) gardens, including the community garden that is out there.

- Play "camp" during the day and cuddle up in sleeping bags when it's time for lights out.
- Create rubbings. Tuck a pad of newsprint and soft pencils, chalk or art charcoal in your backpack when you go for a walk and rub the patterns and type from manhole covers, bricks, plaques, tree bark and wood fences.
- Watch a sunrise or moonrise. Check an online site such as the U.S. Navy's Astronomical Applications Department page for the official time of sunrise or moonrise. For sunrise you will need to roll out of bed at least a half hour earlier so you can see dawn break.
- Look at the stars and see if you can find some constellations. You may look online or check out a book from the library to get started. When my children were really small, we enjoyed just looking at the stars and singing "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."
- Research the history of the name of your street, county or city. Chickamauga Street is a block west of Franklin. Do you know where that word came from?
- Organize a water balloon battle. Boys against girls? Kids against parents? West side of the street vs. the east side? Designate a line that can't be crossed by either team and get out the balloons or super squirt guns.
- Build a volcano. A little vinegar, a little baking soda - and the how-tos from an Internet site like About.com.
- Write a "chain" letter. Cut a couple of sheets of notebook paper into strips, using the lines as guides, and then write each sentence of your greeting on a different slip of paper. Fasten them together as a chain, and deliver in a box. What a special way to create a birthday message.
- Draw a calendar. Map the time from the current date to New Year's with a continuous calendar decorated with drawings or stickers for all the events you look forward to: school starting, state fair, harvest festivals, family birthdays, Halloween, Columbus Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving, the winter solstice - maybe even Leif Erikson Day!
- Enjoy the last days of summer!

- You can smell the roses, touch the lamb's ears, look at the different size and shape of leaves, colors of flowers and talk about what it takes to make plants grow. By the way, Horticulture Night, when you can learn all kinds of horticulture information, will be Wednesday, Aug. 31.
- Walk to a park. Colby has five or more parks. You could walk to them all on different days. Walking is a lifelong healthy habit to encourage. Be sure to talk about walking and traffic safety and observe nature along the way. A picnic lunch is always a good idea.
- Dress yourselves up. Use what's in your dress-up and costume box to transform yourselves into clowns, monsters or cartoon characters, or get formal and hold a tea party.
- Cook dessert in a cardboard box oven or in your fire pit. You'll find lots of how-to's when you type "cardboard box oven" in an Internet search engine.
- Decorate edible mud pies with worms. "Dish" into a different dessert when you crumble chocolate wafers for a layer of "dirt" atop chocolate pudding. Even better if your dishes look like flower pots. Pop in a sprig of mint for a "seedling" and then add your favorite flavor of gummy worm.
- Pitch a tent in your backyard.

Diann Gerstner is the family and consumer sciences agent for the Thomas County Extension office.

The Family of Clara M. Richers would like to extend our sincere thanks for the care she received at Prairie Senior Living Complex. Also for all the cards, visits, phone calls, and memorials. We thank Pastor Chris Farmer for his message. The Rebekah Lodge for their heartfelt graveside services. The Knodel Funeral Home for all their help. The ladies at the Peace Lutheran Church for the wonderful lunch. Your thoughts and prayers, and concerns made this difficult time easier to get through. We will all miss her very much.

Kenneth Richers & family ~ Ruth Gotchall & family
Mary Hanna & family ~ Linda Orth & family

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Contact the **Thomas County Learning Center** for eligibility and enrollment information:
485 N. Chickamauga, Colby, 465-7900

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