



Trevor John Siebert and Rachelle Linn Blattner

June wedding planned at Dodge City cathedral

Rachelle Linn Blattner of Montezuma and Trevor John Siebert of Colby plan to marry Saturday, June 16, 2012, at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Dodge City. The bride is the daughter of Jeff and Yolanda Blattner of Montezuma.

In 2007, she graduated from Haviland High School in Haviland and in 2010 from Colby Community College. She is the office

secretary for Leon's Welding and Fabrication in Hays.

The groom is the son of Kenton and Eileen Siebert of Colby.

He is a 2007 graduate of Colby High School and a 2009 graduate of Colby Community College. He plans to graduate from Fort Hays State University in the fall of 2012 with a bachelor's degree in secondary education, majoring in mathematics.

Golden Plains senior a presidential scholar

Ethan Walter, a senior at Golden Plains High School, has been selected to receive a presidential scholarship at Colby Community College.

Candidates for this prestigious award are nominated by their high school counselors. The presidential scholars are selected on the basis of leadership, academic achievement, and potential for contribution to Colby Community College.

Presidential scholars are expected to be leaders and serve as positive examples for the entire student body. They represent the office of the president and are responsible for a number of campus activities.

The presidential scholars program is designed to prepare young men and women for future leadership through active participation and service. Walter plans to major in criminal justice at the college.

Sock hop at 4-H conference nets 740 pairs for shelter

If one person can make a difference, think what 209 can do?

Leah Kimzey, a high school senior from Fredonia who often is teased about wearing what she calls "crazy socks," now has others - make that hundreds of others - doing the same.

Kimzey is a member of the Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council, a group of 20 teen leaders charged with planning and leading opportunities for youth to grow as young leaders, practice citizenship and build community by serving their communities.

Youth Council projects include holding Campference, a summer camp and conference for teens; the Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Forum at Rock Springs 4-H Center, Junction City, each November, and Citizenship in Action, a two-day conference offering opportunities for youth to learn about state government in Topeka in February.

Though new to the planning team, Kimzey noted a full Citizenship in Action schedule of caucus-

es, discussions about issues facing state leaders, meetings with legislators and the absence of a citizenship project.

Since a dance is typically a favorite at 4-H events, she proposed a sock hop, with a request that the 209 delegates attending the conference donate socks as admission to the dance.

The idea proved a hit with the planning group and teens attending the conference, including some who brought packages of socks.

As a result, 740 pairs of socks plus cash donations to buy 900 meals were presented to Mark DeGroff, director of communications of the Topeka Rescue Mission, which serves residents in need. DeGroff also served as a conference presenter.

"It's awesome," said Kimzey, who credits the Council's enthusiasm for the idea as a large part in the project's success, and for giving her career goal - majoring in agri-business, leadership studies and public relations at Kansas State University - a boost of confidence.

Good manager communicates well

This is an excerpt from Chris Reinhardt, Ph.D., Extension Feedlot Specialist's *Management Minute* newsletter that I would like to share with you on effective communication.



Clint Milliman

• Knowledge for Life

Communication - a pretty good word. Unfortunately, we (mea culpa) in the management and human resources community have so abused, infused, and over used this word in every conceivable manner that it has become impotent. Simply reading it our mind glazes over with a milky residue. We've wasted and ruined a really good word.

But although effective communication is a critical part of effective leadership, most managers are so bogged down in the grind of daily decision-making, improved methods of communication are rarely studied. There may be a perception on the manager's part that they were promoted because one of their skills is an innate ability to communicate. Or, as is often the case in agriculture, "I own this outfit so when I talk, you'll listen." That may be a reality, but it doesn't make anyone an effective leader.

We are probably by now all familiar with Jim Collins' "Good to Great" metaphor of getting the right people on the bus - it seems pretty intuitive. Even a bad manager probably gets that one, and gets it right.

But what happens after they're all on the bus and it's pointed down the road? That's when we see differences between effective management and less so. If you've gotten the "right" people on the bus, then how much management really needs to happen? Wouldn't you do everything possible to remove obstacles from productivity and give these "right" people increasing freedom to accomplish what they've been put on the bus for? This is when effective leaders give their "horses their head," and trust them to move out in the right direction and with confidence. Or else they weren't the "right" people to begin with.

Or maybe they are only considered "right" if they are automations which only perform those actions directed by the team leader. I would imagine that would be very satisfying for some managers, but it would also put a very firm ceiling on productivity. Team members couldn't function independent of the leader, and since the leader couldn't be everywhere, the bigger the team, the lower the ceiling on each member's productivity. So let's go

back to step one: getting the right people on the bus. Automations which are incapable of functioning without constant, intrusive, direction from above may be right for some types of businesses, but not many.

Now let's get back to communication. We've hired creative, ambitious, energetic, and qualified people to take the team forward. Most times the effective manager needs to get out of their way, remove obstacles and let them produce - give them their head.

But certainly other times, the manager needs to effectively communicate. You can choose two approaches at this point. One: assume all people are just like you and want to be communicated with in exactly the same manner that you want to communicate. Or, two: assume that few if any people are exactly like you and may actually receive the message more effectively if brought in a slightly (or dramatically) different package.

This is where the truly effective communicator always crosses the bridge to the person to whom they are communicating. Insisting on staying on your side of the valley separating two completely different communication styles and yelling across the chasm may be the most expeditious decision, but rarely the most effective. This may involve using a different media, a different setting, different words, or simply a different tone.

Management is hard work. But it's not just hard because it requires difficult decisions in a challenging economic environment, it's also hard because it requires homework and preparation.

The best coaches come in early and stay late - long after the players have hit the showers. Part of this homework is getting to know who you've got on your bus. The only way to achieve effective communication to a diverse audience of team members is through intentional study of each team member, knowing how they'll best hear your message, and cross the bridge.

Clint Milliman is the Thomas County agriculture and natural resources agent with Kansas State Research and Extension. A native of Illinois, Milliman works with area 4-H clubs, farmers and ranchers.

Bird call fights subway pigeons

NEW YORK (AP) - Transit officials have a new weapon in their fight against pigeons at a New York City subway station.

The MTA has installed the recorded sound of birds at the Roosevelt Island station.

According to *The New York Times* (nyti.ms/ywF32V), the \$375 bird call system releases distress and predator calls every two to 10 minutes.

The pigeons had been leaving feathers and feces around the station.

The agency had used netting, but to no avail.

The bird call system appears to be working. But one rider said he found it more annoying than the pigeons.

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

Ronald Grubb

Ronald Grubb, 51, Colby, died Tuesday, March 27, 2012, in Colby.

Services are pending with Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel in Colby.

Doris Eller

Doris Eller, 97, King City, Mo., formerly of Colby, died Friday, Feb. 24, 2012, at the King City Manor Nursing Home.

She was born Dec. 24, 1914, in Colby, the daughter of John and Anna (Williams) Eller.

In 1934, she graduated from Colby High School and enrolled in the Kansas City Dental School to become a dental assistant.

Following graduation, she was a dental assistant in the offices of Dr. John Clayton and Dr. Donald Tunks.

In 1981, she and her sister, Eu-

nice Eller, donated a farm house on the original homestead south of Colby to the Prairie Museum of Art and History, where it can be seen today.

Preceding her in death were her parents, two brothers, Dwight and Rile Eller, and her sister.

Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Monday, April 2, 2012, at Beulah Cemetery in Colby.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the museum, 1905 S. Franklin, Colby, Kan., 67701. Online condolences may be left at www.robersonfuneralhome.com.

Colby Rotary Club

Colby Rotary Club met March 20 with 23 members and guests Lauren Gasman, Carol Rahn and Leroy Ziegler.

Nick Wells furnished a cream-cream lunch.

Melany Wilks had the program. Her guest was Carol Rahn who reviewed the book "God's Secretaries: The Making of the King James Bible," by Adam Nicolson. Rahn said the book was first published in 2003 but had a resurgence in 2011 for the 400th anniversary of the publishing of the King James Bible.

She reviewed the role of politics in the history of religion as various members of the Tudor family

ruled the monarchy. King James I of England commissioned scholars from Westminster, Cambridge and Oxford to translate a Bible so all citizens of Britain would have the same Bible. That translation was preceded by the Tyndale Bible; The Great Bible; the Geneva Bible, which the Puritan Pilgrims brought to America in 1620; and the Bishop's Bible. Carol also reviewed the impact of the King James Bible on not only religion and theology but also language.

Marilyn Unger won Roto-Lotto.

Colby Rotary meets Tuesdays in Room 106 of the Student Union at Colby Community College.

Oberlin show Saturday for ragtime ensemble

The Turpin Tyme Ragsters, a seven-piece ragtime music ensemble based in Kansas City, will perform at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at The Gateway Civic Center in Oberlin.

The group re-creates, from the original arrangements, the ragtime sounds of composers Scott Joplin, James Scott, Charles Johnson, Joseph Lamb, Eubie Blake, "Jelly Roll" Morton, Tom Turpin (their namesake) and others. They say they hope to turn back the clock musically to an era of ceiling fans, ice cream socials and Sunday concerts in the park.

The Ragsters' repertoire reflects the diversity of music from turn of the century America, including songs like "Dill Pickles," "The Entertainer," "Easy Winners," "Alexander's Ragtime Band," "Tiger Rag," "The Chrysanthemum," "Peaceful Henry," "12th Street

Rag" and "Ragtime Dance."

Their presentation unfolds with toe-tapping ragtime songs, spiced with historical information and humor. In 2008, they were featured artists at the prestigious Scott Joplin International Ragtime Festival in Sedalia, Mo.

Band members are Gary Richmond, leader and cornet player; Greg Briggs, clarinet; Mark Cohick, tenor saxophone; Dan Strom, trombone; Nora Hulse, piano; Dave Swanson, tuba; and Mike Thompson, drums.

The program is sponsored by the Oberlin Arts and Humanities Commission. It is a season ticket event or \$12 for adults and \$7 for students at the door.

For details, call Ella Betts at (785) 475-3557 or Mary Henzel at (785) 470-0218.

Tomato art to decorate city

JACKSONVILLE, Texas (AP) - Dallas chose brightly painted winged horses.

San Angelo opted for decorated images of sheep.

Backers of an East Texas city hope artwork shaped like a big vegetable will help promote the community's annual Tomato Fest. More than 30 of the unpainted tomato-shaped hunks of concrete arrived March 19 in Jacksonville.

The *Tyler Morning Telegraph* (bit.ly/GBEz08) reports the 665-pound tomatoes were moved from the Corpus Christi area to GME Inc. The business will store the tomato likenesses until they are purchased by individuals or companies for decorating.

No price has been set for the tomatoes, which are available through the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op

Wheat (bushel)	\$6.30
Corn (bushel)	\$6.05
Milo (hundredweight)	\$10.32
Soybeans (bushel)	\$12.30

Monuments, Markers, Vases, Bronze Plaques, Cremation Urns.

We also have cemetery lettering available.

Robben Memorial Co.

Please Call
785-460-3124
785-443-3630

Thank You

for the many gifts, cards and good wishes from relatives and friends for my Birthday. A special thank you to my family for planning the day - we had a great time.

Margene Griffin

Kiss Unwanted Items Goodbye

Sell them in the **Classifieds - 462-3963**

SPRING OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

COMMUNITY BUILDING

9:00AM - 4:00PM

PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:

- THIRTY-ONE • SCENTSY • SALLY'S UNIQUE BOUTIQUE •
- MARY KAY • LONGABERGER • PAMPERED CHEF •
- PREMIER JEWELRY • IT WORKS • TOMBOY TOOLS •
- CONNIE MENGES MASSAGE • UPPERCASE LIVING •
- TASTEFULLY SIMPLE • HANDMADE JEWELRY • AVON •
- DIVA BOUTIQUE • DAISYBLUE • CELEBRATING HOME •
- KEESA PHOTOGRAPHY • NORWEX • VAULT DENIM •

Kiwanis Club

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT!

Saturday, March 31st • Fike Park

Ages 3 & under Ages 4-6 Ages 7-9
 10 a.m. sharp 10:10 a.m. 10:20 a.m.

In case of bad weather, listen to KXXX/Q100 for information.

The Oakley Area Chamber of Commerce

27th Annual Consumer Extravaganza Home and Garden Show

March 30th, 4-8 and March 31st, 9-3
 Logan County 4-H Building

Drawings

- Chamber Cash (1 winner every hour)
- Oakley Ambassadors drawing of 2- \$100 Oakley IGA Gift Cards, '71 John Deere Collectors Pedal Tractor, John Deere Child's Sleep Over Chair, and Gift Certificates for a child's wristband for the Logan County Fair's Home Owned Carnival in July (1 winner every hour)

Food

- The Hobo Snack Shack- Hamburgers, Pizza Burgers, Hot Dogs, Walking Tacos, Chips, Pies, Candy Bars, Deep Fried Snickers, Nachos, Pop and Tea

Exhibitors

- Woodbridge Home Exteriors, Modern Woodmen of American-Financial Services, Oakley Motors, Mische Purses, Lush Lawns, Scentsy Wickless Candles, Trail-Buster Dozer Inc., Farmers State Bank, S&T Communications, Discount Siding, Hinkle Termite, Oakley Implement, Logan County Implement