



Lee Anthony and Ashley Darlene Weber

## New beginning ends couple's year

Ashley Darlene Zeller and Lee Anthony Weber, both of Lake Wabunsee, were married on Saturday, Dec. 31, 2011, at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Manhattan, with Father Don Zimmerman officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Larry and Nadene Zeller of Wamego. Her father is formerly of Colby and her mother is a former resident of Rexford.

The groom is the son of Thomas and Norma Weber of Grainfield. Ashley was given in marriage by her father.

She was attended by matron of honor Emily Johnson. Bridesmaids were her sister, Denise Zeller, and Amanda Ricketts. Her personal attendant was Denise Gilligan.

The best man was Lee's brother, Adam Weber. Groomsmen were friends of the groom Kyle Wolf and Mike Walters.

Guests were ushered by friends of the groom Charlie Chesmore, Nate Lager and Wade Ditter.

Ring bearer was the bride's

cousin, Bryson Rall. Flower girl was DeLanie Rhoads.

Following the ceremony, a New Year's Eve celebration was held at the Purple Wave Event Center in Manhattan.

The bride is a 2002 graduate of Wamego High School. In 2007, she received a Bachelor of Science degree in human ecology from Kansas State University. She teaches family and consumer sciences at Mission Valley High School in Eskridge.

The groom is a 1996 graduate of Wheatland High School and a 1998 graduate of Garden City Community College with an associate degree in communications. In 2001, he received a Bachelor of Science degree in physical education from Fort Hays State University. He is athletic director, physical education teacher and head football and track coach at Mission Valley High School.

The couple is living in Lake Wabunsee after honeymooning in the Bahamas.

## University names ambassadors

Four Colby High School graduates are among the 26 students selected to serve as official Fort Hays State University representatives, Anderson VIP Student Ambassadors, for next year.

Anderson Ambassadors serve as official representatives at a variety of events, including Homecoming, athletic activities, presidential dinners and other gatherings. Students must be full-time undergraduate students with a minimum 2.5

grade average and able to assist with nine to 10 events per year.

The Colby students chosen are listed below.

Kiri Kendrick, a junior majoring in chemistry. She is a returning VIP.

Jordan Krzycki, a junior majoring in psychology.

Tyson Miller, a junior majoring in organizational leadership.

Taylor Young, a junior majoring in business management.

## 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.

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785.462.3963

The children of **Jerry & Rebecca Kersenbrock** are requesting a card shower in honor of their 50th anniversary. Jerry and Becky were married on April 21, 1962 in Colby, KS.

Cards may be sent to:  
2747 Co Rd 13, Colby KS 67701

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# Supermarket 'baby' carrots mask high-tech sneaky transformation

So you head down to the supermarket, and on your grocery list, usually added as an afterthought, is carrots. Yeah, carrots. Remember them?

Carrots are those little two-inch-long orange things in the fresh produce department that are displayed in 1- or 2-pound plastic bags, and really taste good! You quietly wonder why you can't seem to grow those little beauties in your backyard garden that are so uniformly perfect and you are grateful to the commercial carrot grower for his ability to do so. They are so perfect for those holiday trays of dippers.

You have been misled. Those beautiful little carrots were harvested at full size and then machine trimmed into their perfect baby shape. They are indeed tasty. And sooo handy. No need to get out the potato peeler or the paring knife and spend a half hour cleaning them up. Say goodbye to all



**Kay Melia**

• The Gardener

that good healthful outer fiber that was peeled away in the process, although most it is saved and used for other foods or juices.

I suppose the discovery of "baby carrots" is a good thing. If their appearance or taste entices you to buy a bag of them, that's good, because most of us don't eat nearly enough carrots. They are literally jam-packed with Vitamin A. A single (full size) carrot contains enough beta carotene for our bodies to manufacture all our vitamin A needs each day.

Despite the carrot's rather benign ability to draw much attention to our shopping routine, nearly 70 percent of all backyard gardeners grow a few of them each year. I

think that's good evidence that most of us are aware of the carrots dietary value. Unfortunately, carrots aren't the easiest vegetable to grow.

The seed is very slow to germinate and must be planted in a very shallow mode, else they may never emerge. And they must be kept damp until they sprout.

Carrots need a deeply worked, fine soil in which to thrive. If the ground isn't well worked, the growing root may show deformity and grow in strange shapes – which certainly won't hurt their taste. Insects seldom bother them, except in late fall when fly maggots burrow into the roots and render them unusable.

As with several other garden vegetables, the seed of the carrot is difficult to sow evenly, and despite our best efforts, we plant it too thickly. It then becomes absolutely necessary to thin out some of the plants as they grow, else the

spindly plants will not mature into good size.

Basically, there are two types of carrots, one called Chantenay and the other Nantes. The Chantenay grow long and slender, while the Nantes types are shorter and generally smaller, which I prefer. Most of the newer introduced varieties are of the Nantes type since the shorter root seems to thrive well in shallow worked soils.

A newer Nantes type carrot that I think raises the bar for quality, sweetness, and growth habit, is one called Yaya. Yayas are smooth, offer good bright orange color, and have great carrot flavor. One more thing – when you buy your carrot seed, always look for pelleted seed. It's so much easier to handle.

Plant a short row of carrots this year. Forget about the manufactured baby carrots at the supermarket – if you can.

## Colby Rotary Club

Colby Rotary Club met Tuesday, April 3, at Colby Community College with 25 members and guests Rebel Jay and Gatlin Reichert.

The monthly collection for Genesis-Thomas County was taken.

Nick Wells had the program. His guest was Colby Community College art instructor, Rebel Jay.

Jay reviewed projects students are working on in her classes and brought several decorations students have made for the college's Endowment Auction Saturday, April 14. She noted making decorations is an opportunity for students to see that art is practical and has a place in everyday life.

Jay reviewed plans for the upcoming Second Annual Art Walk the evening of Friday, April 20. She said 19 downtown businesses will show the work of about 40 local and regional artists. There will also be music and entertainment downtown and several college departments will provide activities for children along the walk.

In addition to the downtown

area, college students, faculty and staff will have art displayed in the Cultural Arts Center and Bedker Hall on campus. Art displayed in the commons area at Colby High School will include work from kindergarten through 12th grade students at all Colby schools.

Transportation will be available to take people from downtown to the college and to the high school to view the artwork in those locations, said Jay.

Jay introduced college student Reichert who reviewed several of his art pieces. The theme of one piece was the Apocalypse – a sculpture made out of barbed wire. A second piece followed the theme of Plague and Pestilence and featured a deer skull, pieces of cement and an old wooden frame.

Carolyn Armstrong won Roto-Lotto.

Colby Rotary meets Tuesdays at the college student union, in room 106.

– Relda Galli

## Lawn and garden get boost with class

Spring has come early which has many of us scrambling to get our yards under control and figuring out what to plant in our gardens.

Many have probably already mowed their grass a few times and some have part of their gardens started. For those who haven't started gardens yet – because of uncertainty over what to plant or when to plant it, due to the crazy weather – ideas will be offered at an upcoming gardening and lawn care series.

Thomas County Extension Master Gardeners are holding the series to aid gardeners and homeowners in making sound decisions about gardening and caring for their lawn.

The series of four Thursday evening programs will begin at 7 p.m. this Thursday at the Thomas County Office Complex meeting room. The first session will focus

on weed control in lawns.

The second session, at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 19, will be held at the 4-H Building and will deal with selecting vegetables, including what and when to plant.

Back at the Office Complex, the third session, at 7 p.m. April 26, is on selecting annuals and perennials.

The final session on the schedule is at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 3, at the Office Complex. It will focus on insect control.

There will be information for all skill levels so feel free to come and learn more about gardening and caring for your lawn. Refreshments will be provided.

If you have questions or need information, call the Extension Office at (785) 460-4582 or e-mail Clint Milliman, Thomas County extension agent at milliman@k-state.edu.

## Car thief crashes while texting

KENNEWICK, Wash. (AP) – Texting and eating while driving? Not the best plan. Do those things while driving a stolen truck and the trouble mounts.

Kennewick, Wash., police say a Chevy pickup truck previously stolen in nearby Richland ran into a ditch and drove through some logs and lawns before hitting a home Wednesday.

Neighbors and the homeowner saw a man run from the scene. A Benton County sheriff's deputy in the area made an arrest a short time later.

Spokesman Mike Blatman tells the *Tri-City Herald* (is.gd/wUepmy) the arrested man said he was eating a croissant and reading a text message when he lost control of the truck.

The spokesman says 32-year-old Jeromy Kirkendall of Kennewick was booked into the Benton County jail for investigation of possessing stolen property.

It wasn't immediately known if Kirkendall has an attorney or how much damage was done to the home.

## Self-extinguishing fire 'a first'

PITTSFIELD, Mass. (AP) – In what a top department official called a first, Pittsfield firefighters arrived on the scene of a blaze this week to find it had already been extinguished by a water cooler, a fish tank and a broken water pipe.

Deputy Fire Chief Mark Cancelli tells *The Berkshire Eagle* (bit.ly/HINDHN) that the blaze started in a malfunctioning water cooler that melted, releasing water. The heat also caused a fish tank to leak.

The flames burned through the wall causing the joint on the water pipe to break, releasing more water.

He says the house sustained heavy smoke damage.

He says he's seen similar situations involving leaking pipes putting out fires, but had never seen a blaze where a fish tank and a water cooler contributed.

# Friday 13

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### COLBY FREE PRESS

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it's not a cat's fault

by TheShelterPetProject.org

