

Deaths

Mildred Joyce Hardy

Mildred Joyce Hardy, 78, Hay Springs, Neb., sister of Jerry (Florence) Messamore of Colby, died Wednesday, April 18, 2012, at the Box Butte County Hospital in Alliance, Neb.

She was born July 13, 1933, in Colby to James Robert and Genevieve (Wheaton) Messamore.

A 1951 graduate of Colby High School, she earned a Bachelor of Science in education from Chadron State College in 1983.

For 15 years until her retirement, she taught business, accounting, typing and journalism at the Hay Springs High School.

She was married to Donald Neil Hardy, who retired from the Army as a staff sergeant in 1973, traveling with him and their family to military posts all over the world.

She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, and

siblings Kenneth Messamore and Doris Trueblood.

Survivors also include a son, Robert (Joyce) Hardy, Chadron; four daughters, Barbara (David) Vancil and Beverly (Steven) Summers of Hay Springs; Lorri Dunsmore, Seattle; and Jennifer Ponce, Alliance; another brother, Bill Messamore, Dickinson, Texas; 12 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were Sunday, April 22, 2012, at the United Methodist Church in Hay Springs with Pastor Rod Heilbrun officiating.

The family suggests memorials to the Hay Springs, Chadron or Alliance libraries, in care of Chamberlain Drabbels Mortuary, Box 443, Hay Springs, Neb., 69347.

Online condolences may be left at www.chamberlainchapel.com.



Mildred Hardy

Harold Lefmann

Harold Lefmann, 92, Colby, a retired Colby Community College German instructor, died Friday, April 13, 2012, at the Logan County Hospital in Oakley.

He was born Nov. 24, 1919, to Jacob and Jessie (Wade) Lefmann in Johnson County. He graduated from Lawrence High School and earned a bachelor's degree from University of Kansas and a master's degree from the University of Northern Colorado.

He served in the army during World War II and was among the first troops to occupy Japan.

In June 1954, he married Phyllis Acheson from Rooks County at the Colby Methodist Church.

A German and history teacher at Colby High School for 23 years, he was one of the first teachers at

Colby Community College.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Order of Eastern Star and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Preceding him in death were his wife in 1969 and a sister, Hazel Price.

Survivors include a daughter, Julia Lefmann, Colby, and two brothers, Delmar Lefmann, New Jersey, and Delbert Lefmann, Virginia.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 24, 2012, at the Colby United Methodist Church. No visitation.

The family suggests memorials to the college's scholarship fund, in care of Baalman Mortuary, Box 391, Colby, Kan., 67701.

DAR Club

The Daughters of the American Revolution met March 28 at the home of Judith Watkins in Hoxie.

Regent Sharon Maurath open the meeting in ritualistic form. Roll call was answered with memorable women in history by members and guests Cheryl Goetz, Donna Kelley and Detta Anderson.

Watkins gave the president's message about the DAR Library Lay Light Restoration Project.

Gladys Rowley gave the treasurer's report.

Sharon Maurath reported on emergency lay items for the Red Cross. Watkins gave a report from

Women's History Review.

The chapter went to Oscars for lunch.

Watkins had a second report from *Women's History Review*. Other reports included Maurath on Red Cross month, Kay Weber on American heritage, Watkins on Women's Issues: Heart Health and Eva Lee Wheeler on the community service award.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Chaplain Delphyn Biggs.

The next meeting will be Wednesday in Oakley.

— Eva Lee Wheeler, secretary

Sale on sophomores at Golden Plains concert

The Golden Plains High School sophomore class will hold a worker auction following the Spring Concert on Thursday.

Twenty-four hard working sophomores will be up for bid. They will work eight hours for the winning bidder with all proceeds going to the class. Description of

each workers' skills and talents can be found on the school web site at www.usd316.k12.ks.us. They will also hold an ice cream social before and after the evening's events so everyone is invited to join them in Rexford for an evening of ice cream, musical entertainment and a lively auction.

Man tried to steal light pole

FREEPORT, N.Y. (AP) — A New York man is facing criminal charges after state police say he tried to steal a light pole from the side of a parkway.

William Richardson of Hempstead was arrested on the Meadowbrook State Parkway, near Sunrise Highway.

A state police press release says troopers saw the 45-year-old Richardson standing outside his van near the light pole. Police say Richardson explained that he planned to cut down the light pole to sell it.

He faces criminal mischief and grand larceny charges.

Get up to date; think compost pile

It's the year 2012, right? It's an era of unbelievable technological advances, like 100-bushel-per-acre wheat crops and federal budgets measured in the trillions of dollars and so much more. And yet, most home gardeners are not aware that unconsumed organic material carries more nutrients than it does after it has been ingested, digested and expelled.

It is not difficult to believe in this computerized age that there are very few who remember when animal manure added untold value to the soil, and it's distribution from barns and chicken houses to gardens and cornfields was what made things grow and thrive. When just an "overall" kid, I was the one to roll the trailer over to the chicken house door and scoop everything out for delivery to the garden site. It was a "twice a year" ritual, because everyone knew that manure, from all farmstead occupants, was the reason that field crops and garden vegetables thrived and produced outstanding yields.

And then came a time when the word was spread by scientists that studied such things that the manure of most farm animals is low in plant feeding elements, even when it is fresh, and then when it ages sufficiently so that it does not burn plant roots, most of the nutrients have drained away. The result is that when the gardener works the dry material into the soil, there isn't much left but fiber. That's not all bad, because fiber enhances the structure of the soil. But the truth is that cow manure, when dry, contains only about 2 percent nitrogen, and that's not enough to help the plant very much.

It was in 1940 that Sir Albert Howard of England wrote a book



Kay Melia

The Gardener

entitled "Agricultural Testament" that was the springboard for information that manure just wasn't the valuable stuff that people were brought up to believe. Sir Albert wrote that animals, in digesting and assimilating vegetable matter, actually use practically all the nutrient content for their own bodies, leaving very little recyclable value in their manure.

Therefore, organic matter of almost every kind, when plowed into the soil and allowed to biodegrade, provides more soil nutrients than manure, because most of the nutrients were used by the animal during his own growth cycle. Still, we have the fiber factor, which really helps the soil. We just have to find other ways to fertilize field and garden crops.

If gardeners really want to do something for soil enhancement, they should build and maintain a compost pile. Research shows that homemade compost provides twice the feeding elements of an old manure pile. But we must remember that the addition of any organic material, while tremendously valuable for soil structure, does not and cannot begin to equal the value of commercial fertilizers in terms of crop production.

I think back to all those years that I was the appointed one to clean out the barn and chicken house and spread it over the garden and around the fruit trees. Chopped up cornstalks would have done the job better. Now they tell me!

Daughters of Isabella

Immaculate Heart of Mary Circle of the Daughters of Isabella met April 12 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church for a meal made and served by Marge Mowry, Pat Erickson and Theresa Baker.

The meeting was called to order by Charlene Barnett.

Chancellor Joan Ziegler read a message from the spiritual reflection guide about Abraham.

For the welfare committee, Joan Albers reported visiting the sick.

Respect for life committee reported 286 known saves.

Ziegler showed a sample emblem made by Lisa Wark. Ten will be purchased to be worn as arm bands for honor guards to wear at a member's funeral.

Barnett thanked members who brought items for the "31 bag" that will be taken to the auction at the convention. Those planning to go to the convention April 21 through 23 in McPherson were Barnett, Rhonda Rogers, Baker, Rosemary Bange and Pauletta Bieker.

Laura Krejci read a letter from Jeannie Solko asking for donations to the "Swinging for the Lord" golf tournament. The group decided to support this.

The First Communion reception was to be after the noon mass April 15. Members were reminded

to bring cookies or crackers and cheese.

Kim Brier sent a letter asking the circle to set up and serve drinks for a reception after the 1 p.m. mass Sunday, May 20, for the West Vicariate in honor of new Bishop Edward Weisenberger. Those who volunteered to help were Erickson, Laura Krejci, Baker, Rogers, Barnett, Bieker and Donna Juenemann.

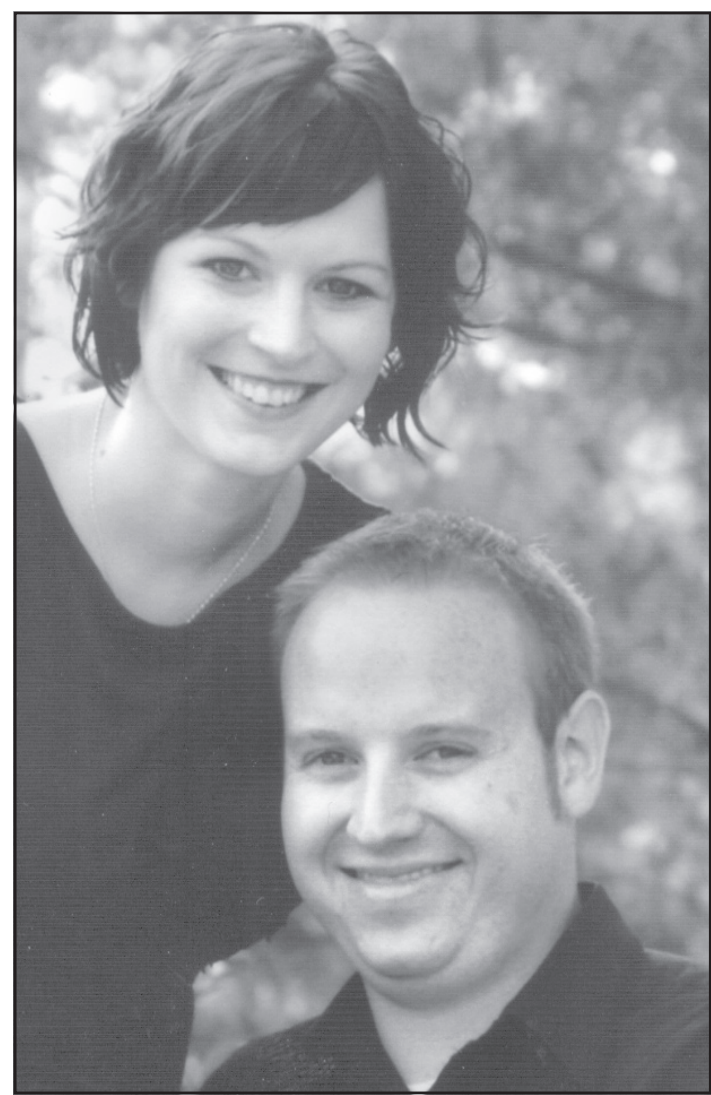
Barnett read a letter pertaining to the international meeting starting Sunday, Aug. 5, in Dearborn, Mich. More information is available for anyone planning to go.

The obligation was said as a group and the closing ode sung. Hostesses for the Thursday, May 3, meeting are Joan Albers and Nancy Barlow.

— Margaret Denneler

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$5.77
Corn (bushel)	\$5.87
Milo (hundredweight)	\$10.00
Soybeans (bushel)	\$13.07



Andrea Elizabeth Siemsen and Michael Lucas Hink

Colby grad to marry at Sacred Heart church

Andrea Elizabeth Siemsen of Overland Park, daughter of Cary and Ann Siemsen of Colby, and Michael Lucas Hink of Lenexa plan to marry Saturday, May 19, 2012, at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Colby.

The bride is the granddaughter of Al and Kit Gerstner of Colby, Jan Greenlees of San Antonio and Bruce and Donna Siemsen of Holyrood.

She is a graduate of Colby High School, Colby Community College and the University of Kansas. Andrea is currently pursuing a Masters in curricu-

lum and instruction at Emporia State University while working as a teacher of elementary art in Olathe.

The groom is the son of Mark and Patty Hink of Lenexa and grandson of Virginia Hink of Louisburg.

He is a graduate of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic High School in Overland Park, the University of Kansas and the College for Creative Studies in Detroit. He works as a graphic designer at Fern Expo in Kansas City, Mo.

The couple plans a honeymoon in San Francisco.

Corrections

An obituary for Harold Lefmann on Page 3 of the Thursday, April 19, *Colby Free Press*, listed an incorrect place of birth and date of marriage. He was born in Johnson County and married in June of 1954. His wife died in March 1969. The mistakes were due to incorrect information provided

to the newspaper. The complete obituary is reprinted in today's issue.

☆☆☆☆☆
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