

Applications high for leadership class

It's already July and hotter than a firecracker. In addition, we have great news.

We have enough interest in requests for application forms that it looks as if we will have an adult Leadership Thomas

County class. Applications must be returned by Friday, July 20; the class will be announced Aug. 3. If you want an application or have questions, call me at 460-7643 or Cindy Black at 462-8255.

Sessions for the opening retreat are 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 14, and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15. Later sessions will be from 8 to 4 on Wednesdays through August and September. There is also a mandatory trip to the Kansas Leadership Summit Wednesday through Friday, Sept. 19 to 21. Last year there were 300 participants from 30 communities.

We have a busy July planned in Colby. You will not want to miss a single minute of the planned activities.

The Kiwanis Fourth of July fireworks display at the fairgrounds has been postponed due to the high fire danger. The High Plains Lions is still having their free hot dog feed beginning at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in the air-conditioned 4-H Building at the fairgrounds, with entertainment, free hog dogs and watermelon, bingo and prizes.

A special program is coming to Pioneer Memorial Library Thursday. They are inviting you to bring your blankets or lawn chair to the east lawn of the library for the Flying Debris show by Richard Holmgren. This is to be a fun family show.

Speaking of entertainment, Picnic in the Park continues at noon Wednesdays in Fike Park. Enjoy Margie Schoenfeld from Oakley on July 11, Sappa Strings (Wayne and Millie Lauritsen) on July 18 and Larry McLemore as the final entertainer on July 25. We thank all of you who attend, the entertainers who shared their talent and the Colby Free Press for cosponsoring this year's picnics.

Pickin' on the Plains Bluegrass Festival comes your way Thursday through Sunday, July 19 to 22. The event begins with a potluck supper and jam session at the 4-H Building at 6:30 p.m. Thursday the 19th. This is free and open to everyone.

The actual festival begins at 6 p.m. Friday evening. Saturday's evening show begins at 6 p.m.; Dailey and Vincent will be performing at 9:20 p.m. Sunday's show begins at 9 a.m. with the Bluegrass Gospel Homecoming from 11 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.

There will be workshops, an open stage, children's games,



Leilani Thomas

• On the Road Again!

crafts, ponies and food for all. You won't want to miss a second of this year's festival. Advance tickets are available at the Chamber office or F&M at Dillon's.

The Thomas County Fair also begins in July. Kicking off the evening events is the Demolition Derby at 8 p.m. Saturday, July 28.

The Todd Becker concert will be at 5 p.m. Sunday the 29th on Franklin Street between Fourth and Fifth.

Monday the 30th brings us the 4-H Horse Show at 9 a.m. and at 8 p.m. the Kansas Professional Rodeo Association rodeo. The rodeo will also be Tuesday night at the same time.

The fair parade will be at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday the 31st, beginning at Eighth and Franklin and proceeding to the fairgrounds. Parade registrations are available at the Chamber office. The carnival opens at 7 p.m. Tuesday and will be open every evening through Saturday, Aug. 4. 4-H exhibits, car races, TEXECO Country Show-down and an antique tractor show are all planned.

There are also new July events. The Prairie Museum of Art and History is holding Night at Museum Summer Camp at 1 p.m. daily next Monday through Friday, July 13. Participants will be performing their historical characters on Friday, July 13, at the Prairie Museum.

A Zumba-thon is being held at 6 p.m. Friday, July 27, at the Colby Fire Station. You can either watch or join those who zumba as well as partake in a watermelon feed, view the Guardians of the Pink Ribbon fire truck coming to Colby from Wichita and take tours of the fire house. This is a benefit for a local cancer patient.

Girl Scouts are having a Jamboree on the Colby Community College campus Thursday and Friday, July 19 and 20.

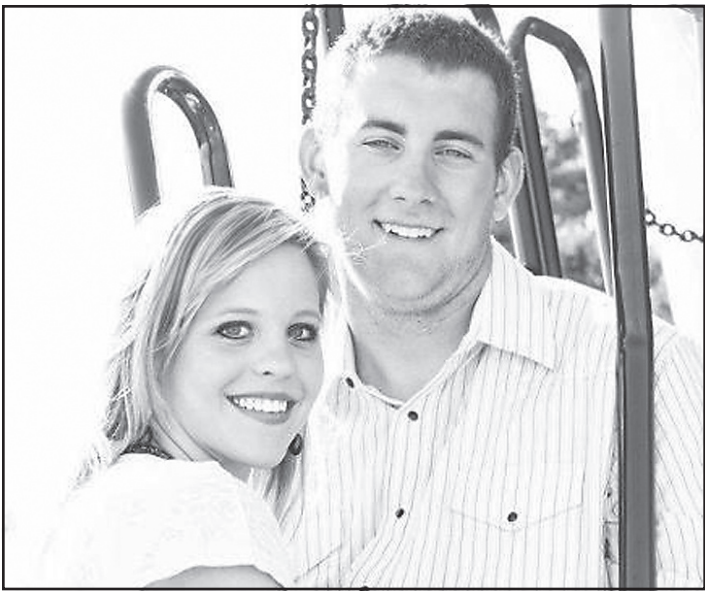
Car races will be held at 7 p.m. Sundays, July 15 and 22, at the Thomas County Speedway.

Pioneer Memorial is holding their book sale Monday through Saturday, July 30 to Aug. 4.

Once a Month Lunch will be held at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, July 14, at the Presbyterian Church.

July is a great month to be in Thomas County. Get out and experience the activities and events.

Leilani Thomas is director of the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau, a long-time civic volunteer and a passionate observer of the tourism industry.



Sarah Jane Flanders and Andrew Millard Starns

Winona couple to wed at Kuhrt Ranch, Edson

Sarah Jane Flanders and Andrew Millard Starns of Winona plan to marry Saturday, Aug. 11, 2012, at the Kuhrt Ranch in Edson.

The bride is the daughter of Brent and Diana Flanders and the granddaughter of Jim and Annette Flanders, all of whom live north of Edson, the late Jan Flanders, Eileen Wahl, of Brewster, formerly of Kanorado, and the late J.B. Wahl.

She graduated from Brewster High School in 2007 after being home schooled through the sixth grade. In 2009, she graduated from Le Cordon Bleu in Orlando, Fla., with an associate degree in culinary arts. The owner, baker and chef of Flying Flour, which specializes in cakes and catering, she is

also a receptionist for Woofter Construction and Irrigation in Colby.

The groom is the son of Terry Starns of Brewster and Jon and Carrie Starns of Winona. He is the grandson of Warren and Lois Starns of Green Valley, Ariz., and the late Bud and Norma Mariman of Polk, Neb.

A 2007 graduate of Brewster High School, he received an associate degree in diesel mechanics in 2011 from Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology in Okmulgee. He works for Starns Farms north of Winona.

Following the wedding, the couple plans to live north of Winona, not far from where the groom grew up.

High Plains Lions Club

President Melinda Morton conducted the meeting of the High Plains Lions June 11 at the Colby Community College Student Union, getting off to a late start due to a bierock dinner served by Susan's Gourmet Goodies. Susan Slinger talked about her homemade bierocks and how they could be offered from the Lions' concession trailer.

Morton called for volunteers to go to Hoxie with the concession trailer June 23.

Mary Hurtt reported that the Relay for Life committee did not accept the club's offer to have a cake walk. The club decided to purchase luminaries for members who are cancer survivors and in memory of those who had not survived.

The menu and activities were planned for the free watermelon and hot dog Fourth of July celebration.

Sheryl and Larry Brenn reported on the convention in Wichita, commenting on the entertainment and speakers. Lions International Director Gary Anderson of Michigan was the main speaker. They

were complimentary of the Lions State Band, with 205 members from 105 Kansas high schools. The High Plains club sponsored band members Alex Juenemann and Bridget Bickner from Colby.

Justin Burrus reported five hours of community service.

Kelli Burrus, Donna Lawver, Don Morton, Susan and Mason Slinger and Byron and Diane Fritz's grandchildren were guests.

Diane Fritz won the drawing. Last Monday, the Lions met at the student union for a carry-in supper before the meeting.

President Morton conducted the meeting. Donna Lawver was a guest.

Most of the business meeting was devoted to the Fourth of July celebration. Virgil Jones is going to try to have a Powerpoint of song lyrics so everyone can sing.

Norm Whittaker showed his trophy for the People's Choice Award at the Hoxie Rod Show, which he won with his 1958 Custom Royal Dodge.

Morton reported on the Relay for Life. She did not know how much money was brought in.

Four hours of recycling was reported and 43 hours were reported as community volunteer projects.

After the meeting, Larry Koon served ice cream and Caroleta Herl served a cake.

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.

Heat hits people, gardens holding up

At this ripe old age, I don't go outside very much when the thermometer registers 100 degrees or better.

It shot up to 110 the other day as I ventured out to retrieve my mail. It's only about 130 steps out and back from my mailbox out in the driveway, but I swear I was sorry I didn't have my affairs in order when that shot of super-charged heat hit me in the face. Today, I will wait until the mercury settles down to about 95 before I venture out there to rescue my bills and other junk mail.

Most of us have never witnessed such an onslaught of heat. In most of the communities where these words are printed, we have had seven or eight consecutive days when the temperature has exceeded 100 degrees, and there doesn't seem to be a whole lot of relief in sight, as they say down at the coffee shop.

It's not a pretty sight, but we'll probably survive, just as they did last summer in southwest Kansas when residents there witnessed over 30 days of at least 100 degrees.

So I'm sitting here in air-conditioned comfort, trying to assess the damage in my approximately 3,500 square foot garden after I went out there very early this morning to apply the daily dose of precipitation to just about everything. You know what? I couldn't see any serious deterioration.

Sure, the cabbage wasn't in very good shape due to the cabbage worms. A large cucumber vine had mysteriously died almost overnight, and the sweet corn was hurting, which is a problem that haunts me almost every year, heat or not.

But the tomatoes look great, despite the lack of fruit set when daytime temperatures are over 90 degrees and it never gets below 70 at night. The plants are doing well as they reach for the tops of their cages.



Kay Melia

• The Gardener

The green beans are setting up nicely, as are the cucumbers, cantaloupes and watermelon. The potato vines are beginning to show some brown, right on schedule and the beets and carrots look good. The earliest of the big slicing onions are flopping, just as they are supposed to, and the zucchini, unfortunately, is extremely fruitful.

I'm amazed at the steady growth of nearly everything, despite the searing heat. It just goes to show you what happens, even under adverse conditions, when you tend, on a timely basis, the necessities of a vegetable garden. Those requirements include constant water application, a careful and complete mulching program, instant awareness of those troublesome little (or big) insects, and a forced desire to keep the garden as weed free as possible.

I remember the indescribable summers of 1935, 1936 and 1937. Everyday, nearly all summer, saw temperatures over a hundred. There were scarcely any crops because there was no irrigation and very little rain. There was no air conditioning, and no money to buy some even if it had been available. There were few cattle on the farm, because pastures were incapable of producing forage and there wasn't any grain to feed them.

But every family had a garden, usually a large well-tended garden that produced most of the year-round family food supply.

It may be too hot this summer, but if you have a productive vegetable garden, life seems just a little cooler.

Partnering To Bring Medical Specialists To Colby

Colby Outreach Clinic Schedule

Citizens Medical Center
Specialty Clinic
100 E. College Drive - Colby

Cardiology - Dr. Christine Fisher
Monthly

Oncology/Hematology
Dr. January Fields
Twice Monthly

Orthopedic - Dr. Robert Bassett
Monthly

Orthopedic/Spine
Dr. Vivek Sharma
Monthly

Urology
Dr. Wallace Curry
Dr. Darrell Werth
Monthly

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Colby Medical Surgical Center
175 S. Range - Colby

Urology
Dr. Wallace Curry
Dr. Darrell Werth
Monthly

NE CALL
1-855-HAYSMED

haysmed.com

Thanks for hard work, Rexford firefighters

It's been another hot, dry week in Rexford.

We are thankful to our volunteer fire fighters, many of whom have been out almost every night in the past week to fight fires. The department could always use more volunteers to answer the needs of the community; if interested, contact Dave Williams or Chris Bailey.

I hope each of you has a fun Independence Day with family and those close to you. Don't forget



Gwen Griffiths

• Rexford Correspondent

about the Fourth of July picnic at the park on Wednesday. The main dish and drink will be provided

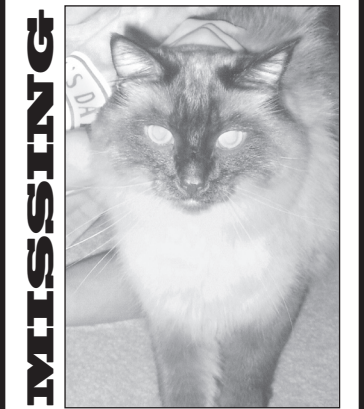
— bring a side dish and dessert to share, along with table service.

Rexford is still under a burn ban, so please remember that fireworks are not allowed.

That seems to be the news this Rexford. I'd love to publish your special events. Just send your news to griffithsgang@gmail.com or call 687-2076.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day	
Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$6.91
Corn (bushel)	\$6.43
Milo (hundredweight)	\$10.86
Soybeans (bushel)	\$13.51



MISSING
Lost medium haired siamese in the area of East Plum.
\$500 Reward
Call 785-443-1356

You're Invited



DARRELL PABST

PLEASE JOIN US IN CONGRATULATING DARRELL

July 5 | 1PM - 4:30PM

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE



Sunflower Bank | Colby 500 N. Franklin | 785.462.3313

Retirement Reception