



JUDY ROGERS/Golden Plains High School
Queen Morgan Walz and King Andrew Luna shared a hug after being crowned Homecoming Royalty at Golden Plains on Friday. Walz is the daughter of Bryan Walz of Colby and Parker and Mindy Christensen of Rexford. Luna is the son of Bill and Mary Luna of Rexford.

Homecoming parade begins busy weekend

It's been a fun week in Rexford. We got to attend the homecoming parade on Thursday night. Lots of hard work went into the floats, and everyone enjoyed the experience, whether they watched the parade or rode on the floats.

Shepherd's Staff held a Ladies Night Out on Friday night. A good group of ladies came to worship, enjoy vendors, and just relax together in preparation for the Beth Moore simulcast on Saturday. More area women joined in for the simulcast on Saturday and learned from the good teaching of Beth Moore.

Spuds and Splits will be at 6:30 Thursday. Anyone age 40 and over is welcome to come enjoy baked potatoes, banana splits, and lots of

Graduate from Goodland

Lexi David, Goodland, graduated from Colby Community College this spring, though her name was inadvertently omitted from the list of graduates. She received her Associate of Applied Science Degree in criminal justice.

David also was named to the

Veterinarian joins board

Wade Taylor, a veterinarian from Oakley, has been appointed by Gov. Sam Brownback to the Kansas Animal Health Board, which acts as an advisory board to the Livestock Commission.

Taylor is a managing partner of Production Animal Consultation, LLC. He earned a doctorate of veterinary medicine from Kansas State University, and a Great Plains Veterinary Educational Center Beef Cattle Certificate from the University of Nebraska. He also attended the Pharmacia

Fall Festival

Winona United Methodist Church
501 Bellview Ave.

Sunday, Sept. 23

Games, Cakewalk
Home-made Ice Cream
Farmer's Market
Country Store
Crafts and Bake Sale

Begins at 4 p.m.
Bar-B-Q with Salad
& Dessert Bar from
5 - 6:30 p.m.

Love Offering
Drawing for Gift
Basket at 6:30

Everyone Welcome!

Thank Your
Newspaper
Carrier
Today

Master gardeners show up everywhere

You will see them just about anywhere in the area, especially during the summertime.

They seem to enjoy lurking around some of our nicest gardens, and they particularly are noticed prowling the flower beds that have been created in our city parks.

Sometimes you'll see them gathered around newly planted trees located in special areas of your hometown. I've seen them this summer in Colby, in Burlington, in Goodland, and in Sharon Springs, and I know they have been spotted in Phillipsburg and Atwood.

No, we're not talking about a scourge of insects here. Not by a long shot.

We're talking about master gardeners, those volunteer amateur horticulturists who spend their free time doing things to make your community more beautiful. They are men and women who not only tend their own garden at home, but somehow find time to help others appreciate some of the finer points of growing fruits, flowers and vegetables.

So just exactly what is a master gardener, and why are they so busy? Master gardeners received their special designation after completing several weeks of training from the specialists in the Extension Service, as well as utilizing the knowledge they have accumulated over the years in their own backyard.

The master gardener program was created by the Extension Service to meet an enormous increase in requests from home gardeners for horticultural information. Fifty years ago, a county extension agent dealt with the questions of a limited number of families. Now the number of families interested in growing some of their own fresh food, and their hunger for learning a little more about tending a healthy lawn, has made it al-

Cub born to giant panda

By Jessica Gresko

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A giant panda at the Smithsonian's National Zoo is a mother for the second time, giving birth to a cub after years of failed pregnancies.

Scientists at the zoo had all but given up on Mei Xiang's chances of conceiving, but late Sunday, the 14-year-old Panda gave birth to a hairless cub that is about the size of a stick of butter. The next few days will be critical and the newborn, as part of Chinese tradition, will be named when it is 100 days old.

Just four zoos in the U.S. have pandas, and Washington's pandas have special significance. They were the nation's first set of pandas in 1972, a gift from China to



Kay Melia

• The Gardener

most impossible for an extension agent to spend as much time as is needed to answer all the questions presented to him.

And so, the master gardener program was created in 1972 in the state of Washington. Since then it has spread to 49 states. Master gardeners have become a vital part of Extension's ability to provide consumers with up to date reliable knowledge so that they can enjoy and protect the value of growing things around their home.

Master gardeners receive an intensive seven-week period of instruction in just about all facets of horticulture, with instruction in everything from fertilizer to insect control. The schools are held at different locations each year as the Extension people strive to make it a little more convenient for interested students to receive the training. I drove to Hoxie from Goodland in February and March several years ago to receive the instruction and obtain my credentials.

We should remember that master gardeners are certainly not the know-all, do-all representatives of gardening and other forms of horticulture. They are strictly unpaid volunteers who have received some important training, who do what they can to make our communities more beautiful, and to answer occasional questions from backyard gardeners just like you.

If you see one prowling around the area in which you live, shake their hand and thank them for volunteering.

If you would like to become a master gardener, call the Extension office in your county.

commemorate President Richard Nixon's historic visit to the country.

The current panda couple, Mei Xiang and her mate Tian Tian, are only the second pair of pandas to live at the zoo. They're treated like royalty, and any offspring gets immediate star status.

"There's something very special here with our pandas," giant panda curator Brandie Smith. "Everyone is part of our family. We, Washington, D.C., have had a baby panda cub."

Mei Xiang gave birth to her first cub, a male named Tai Shan, in 2005. Zoo officials tried artificially inseminating her five times since 2007. But each time there was no cub.

Scientists at the zoo worried she had become infertile.

Deaths

Laura Nunez Fletcher

Laura Nunez Fletcher, 33, Salina, sister of Sandra Nunez Lobato of Selden, died Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012, at the Salina Regional Health Center after a long battle with cancer.

She was born Oct. 18, 1978, in San Antonio, to Raymond Gutierrez and Gloria (Piedra) Nunez.

She had worked for True Value Hardware, Durham School Services, Brown and Brown Construction and Salina Blueprint over the past several years.

She was active in her children's lives, including their school activities. She was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Cathedral, the Mama Knights, the Cathedral Ladies Guild and volunteered at St. Mary's Grade School. She was an active advocate for the Shriners Children's Hospitals, helping to arrange care for sick children.

Survivors include her husband, James C. Fletcher, two sons,



Laura Fletcher

James Thomas Nunez Fletcher and Brandon Michael Nunez Fletcher, and a daughter, Janie Rae Nunez Fletcher, all of the home; her parents, Pratt; a grandmother, Severa Flores Piedra, San Antonio; a brother, Raymond Piedra Nunez, Kansas City, Kan.; and another sister, Delicia Nunez Timm, Pratt.

Services were to be at 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, 2012, at the cathedral, with Father Frank Coady officiating and burial in All Saints Catholic Cemetery, Salina.

A vigil service was held Friday at the cathedral.

The family suggests memorials to the Laura Fletcher Children's Educational Fund, in care of the family.

Ryan Mortuary, 137 North Eighth St. in Salina, was in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be left at www.ryanmortuary.com.

Solomon Valley 4-H Club

The monthly meeting of the Solomon Valley 4-H Club was held Monday, Sept. 10, at the 4-H building.

The meeting was called to order by the president at 7 p.m. The flag salute was led by Kurt Sloan and the 4-H pledge led by Jillian Niblock. Secretary Kelly Sloan went through roll call with 14 members telling their favorite school activity. Sloan then read the minutes of the July meeting, which were approved as read. Kurt Sloan gave the treasures report.

Club leader Danita Comfort talked about the achievement banquet, which is the club's responsibility for the next 4-H year. A committee was put together to come up with ideas to go with the theme, "Go for the Gold with 4-H," which was chosen by the club.

The program consisted of elections for new officers. Those elected are: Kurt Sloan, president;

Cole Ziegelmeier, vice president; Kelly Sloan, secretary; Chandler Comfort, treasurer; and Christian Calliham, reporter. Junior officers were also elected.

President Dana Wilson presented out going club leader Danita Comfort with a "thank-you" and gift certificate, then introduced new club leaders Lisa Stramel and Lori Wilson.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and carried.

— Chandler Comfort, Reporter

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day	
Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$8.75
Corn (bushel)	\$7.66
Milo (hundredweight)	\$13.25
Soybeans (bushel)	\$16.49

Public Notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS
CIVIL DEPARTMENT

MetLife Home Loans,
a Division of MetLife Bank, N.A.
Plaintiff,

vs.

James D Hickert, Laura M Hickert,
Jane Doe, and John Doe, et al.,
Defendants

Case No. 12CV53
Court No.
Title to Real Estate Involved
Pursuant to K.S.A. §60

NOTICE OF SUIT

STATE OF KANSAS to the above named Defendants and The Unknown Heirs, executors, devisees, trustees, creditors, and assigns of any deceased defendants; the unknown spouses of any defendants; the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendants that are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any defendants that are or were partners or in partnership; and the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants that are minors or are under any legal disability and all other person who are or may be concerned:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition for Mortgage Foreclosure has been filed in the District Court of Thomas County, Kansas by MetLife Home Loans, a Division of MetLife Bank, N.A., praying for foreclosure of certain real property legally described as follows:

WEST 3/5 OF LOTS ELEVEN (11), TWELVE (12), THIRTEEN (13), FOURTEEN (14) AND FIFTEEN (15), BLOCK ONE HUNDRED THIRTEEN (113), NORTH ADDITION TO THE CITY OF COLBY, THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS, AS SHOWN BY THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF.
Tax ID No. 097109310300500600001

for a judgment against defendants and any other interested parties and, unless otherwise served by personal or mail service of summons, the time in which you have to plead to the Petition for Foreclosure in the District Court of Thomas County Kansas will expire on October 22, 2012. If you fail to plead, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the request of plaintiff.

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ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC AS ATTORNEYS FOR METLIFE HOME LOANS, A DIVISION OF METLIFE BANK, N.A. IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

(Published in the Colby Free Press on Monday, September 10, 17, 24, 2012)

Thank You

The Labrado family would like to thank each and every one of the communities including Selden, Rexford, Hoxie, Gem, Scott City, and any other not mentioned for the magnitude of help received on these hardship moments among Jaime Labrado's Loss. May God bless all of your help today and always.

Robert "Bob" Potter

Robert "Bob" Potter, 81, of Colby, beloved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather left this world on Thursday, September 13 at his home surrounded by his family. A lifelong resident of northwest Kansas, Bob was born September 27, 1930 in Monument, KS to John and Nellie (Cunningham) Potter. He married Barbara Medford on May 11, 1957. Bob was a railroad lineman, Korean War combat veteran and businessman. He co-owned Winona Lumber and Supply and was the owner of Potter's Market in Winona. After retiring from business life he went to work for Triplains School as a custodian. He was also a member of the Colby VFW and was active in his community serving on the Winona City Council, Fire Department and School Board. Bob also devoted time to the youth by coaching little league and was a Hunter's Safety instructor for 30 years.

His parents John and Nellie Potter, sister, Jeannine Lewallen and great grandson Talon Mackley preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife Barbara; children Tawney (Ross) Stover, Gardner, Blake (Debbie) Potter, Winona, Tracee (Bob) Mackley, Colby, Tyler (Laura) Potter, Lynchburg, VA; nine grandsons Shiloah Stover, Heath Stover, Trey Potter, Dillon Potter, Preston Mackley, Mason Mackley, Carson Potter, Logan Potter, Ethan Potter and 8 great grandchildren. His presence will be sorely missed but he leaves behind a legacy of steadfast love and devotion to his family and community.

Visitation will be 3-7 p.m. on Sunday, September 16, 2012 at Baalmann Mortuary, Colby. Funeral will be 10:30 a.m. on Monday, September 17, 2012 at the Colby United Methodist Church. Burial will follow at Beulah Cemetery in Colby. Memorials are suggested to Winona United Methodist Church and Hospice Services of NWKS in care of Baalmann Mortuary, PO box 391, Colby 67701.

SPECIAL SPECIAL SPECIAL

\$9.99 Storewide Sale

- Excluding Formal Wear -

Amy's Fashions

Red Roof Mall
I-70 & S. Range, Colby

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Monday - Saturday

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- * Schedule course work around family and work obligations.

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