

Babies

Trenten Lee Preston

Trenten Lee Preston, son of T.J. and Tosha Preston of Selden, was born Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2013, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. He weighed 8 pounds, 9 ounces and measured 21 inches. Grandparents are Terry Preston of Selden, Michele Preston of Goodland, Amber and Randy Mogridge, both of Castle, Okla., and Lori Burke of Ontario, Ore.



Trenten P.

Chloe Autumn Pope

Chloe Autumn Pope, daughter of Christopher and Tara Pope of Hoxie, was born Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2013, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce and measured 21 inches.

Brother Corbin Pope welcomed her home. Grandparents are Lynn and Kathy Fulwider of Brewster and Russ and Linda Pope of Hoxie.

Marcus Ryan Johnson

Marcus Ryan Johnson, son of Douglas and Melissa Johnson of Colby, was born Thursday, Feb. 14, 2013, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. He weighed 6 pounds, 5 ounces and measured 19 inches.

Brother Brandon and sister Emma welcomed him home. Grandparents are Joe and Sheryl McInay of Colby and Jane and the late Theron Johnson of Colby. Great-grandmother is Doreen Kennedy of Hoxie.

It's murder night at the library; new murders in the stacks as well

Some of our active readers will be happy this week that we received several bestsellers.

In honor of our ninth annual Murder Mystery, let me tell you about the newest book written by foremost writer James Patterson. For those of you who have been reading the *Alex Cross* series, book No. 20 is in. It is "Run."

Detective Alex and a multitude of other detectives, police officers and such have just knocked on the door of an apartment full of youth, some of age and many not. Everyone is pretty wasted. They bust them while looking for just-released ex-con and plastic surgeon Elijah Creem, running and working with modeling agency owner Joshua Bergman. Both are known to operate both openly and in the dark underworld.

Alex Cross is about to learn just how dark. Soon he is knee-deep in investigating three homicides and may be the target for a fourth murder. This is another great thriller Patterson has written.

The second item is "Hit Me," by Lawrence Block, fifth in the *Keller* series. Keller, world class stamp collector - philatelist - is examining the Obock J1 stamp for its originality. Using tools to esti-



Melany Wilks

Library Links

mate whether this is the real deal, he decides it is and that at the auction he will purchase this stamp.

There is a hitch. He must kill someone before he has the money to purchase this rare stamp. Keller himself is a rare hit man. His true identity has been masked for some time under the name of Nicholas Edwards. But with the economic pressure he is feeling, he finds it necessary to recapture his true self and identity.

The third item is "Guilt," by Jonathan Kellerman, book 28 of the *Alex Delaware* series. Holly, five months pregnant, and her husband have just purchased a home in a nice neighborhood. While they are buying this 1927-vintage home a large tree in their house almost topples on the home. The previous owners have it cut down, but do a less than adequate job and Holly is snooping around when she finds a metal box in the roots

of the tree. There she finds an infant's body carefully wrapped in a blanket. Soon other discoveries are made in the neighborhood and people begin to really squirm.

The next mystery is by J.A. Jance, the eighth in the *Allison Reynolds* series. Protagonist Ali Reynolds has been asked to run a side investigation of the death of a woman Lynn Martinson, who has been dating the ex-husband, stands accused of killing. Reynolds has done plenty of investigating, since she was trained at a local police academy and worked as a reporter. Reynolds began investigating when a teenager found a dead body and some poker chips. These two cases begin to merge, but Ali must find out how without getting in the way of the local gendarmes.

The next book is "Calculated in Death," by J.D. Robb. Lt. Eve Dallas has been told that a recent killing is merely a mugging, but she knows it is clearly murder. Marta Dickenson, an accountant found dead, did audits for large corporations and was working on three. Her husband is a mere billionaire in New York; her sister-in-law is also famous. Over many suppositions is the question of

who killed Marta and why. When the files from Marta's office are stolen, Eve solves it without getting herself killed.

Other best sellers we are adding are: "Easter Bunny Murder," by Leslie Meier; "A Week in Winter," by Maeve Binchy; two science fiction items, "Ever After," by Kim Harrison and "Rise: A Nightshade Novel," by Andrea Cremer; and an inspirational book, "The Storyteller," by Jodi Picoult.

Don't forget to get your tickets to the Murder Mystery. It is named "To Wake the Dead" and is at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, so if you do not have your tickets, come into the library and get them.

Also, come see our wonderfully decorated chairs done by local artists for the special fund raiser and silent auction "Art Friendsy-Chair-ish Your Library." They can be seen in the library until 5 p.m. Monday, March 11, when the auction ends.

Our normal winter hours are now 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday.

See you in the library!

Sweethearts crowned



JUDY ROGERS/Golden Plains High School Sweetheart Queen Angela Ritter crowned her king, Jose Bermudez, during the Sweetheart ceremonies Saturday at Golden Plains High School. Angela is the daughter of Greg and Stephanie Ritter of Dresden and Jose is the son of Ruben and Elisa Bermudez of Rexford.

Fort Hays awards scholarships at program

Several Colby Community College students planning to transfer to Fort Hays State University next year received scholarships at a student recognition program Feb. 11 at Colby High School. They were joined by students from Colby High and several other area high schools.

Colby Community College

Abigail Rohr, 2011 Colby High School graduate and a Colby Community College transfer student, accepted a \$1,000 Transfer Scholarship. The daughter of Bill Rohr, Colby, she plans to major in medical diagnostic imaging.

Kyle Berggren, 2011 Ukarampa International School graduate and a Colby Community College transfer student, accepted a \$1,000 Transfer Scholarship. Berggren is the son of Ken and Melissa Berggren, Colby, and plans to major in physics.

Chase Berg, a Colby Community College transfer student, accepted a \$1,000 Transfer Scholarship. The son of James Berg, Gem, he plans to major in industrial technology.

Colby

Rockell Bedore, Colby High senior, accepted a \$900 Academic Opportunity Award in psychology and a \$500 Copper Academic Award. The daughter of Rock and Jacque Bedore, she plans to major in psychology.

Mishaela Benson, Colby High senior, accepted a \$900 Academic Opportunity Award

in psychology and an \$800 Hays City Silver Academic Award. Benson is the daughter of James and Denni Rehmer and Tom and Tina Benson. She plans to major in psychology.

Kaitlyn Flanagin, Colby High senior, accepted a \$900 Academic Opportunity Award in art and design and a \$700 Fort Hays Bronze Academic Award. Flanagin, the daughter of Jay and Luetta Flanagin, plans to major in interior design.

Alexa Schindler, Colby High senior, accepted a \$500 Academic Opportunity Award in teacher education. She is the daughter of Raymond Schindler and Tiffany Mader and plans to major in elementary education.

Hailey Fryback, a Triplains High School senior, accepted a \$900 Academic Opportunity Award in art and design and an \$800 Hays City Silver Academic Award. Fryback is the daughter of Jeff and Mindy Fryback, Colby, and plans to major in graphic design.

Brewster

Ben Baird, a Brewster High School senior, accepted a \$500 Academic Opportunity Award in history. The son of Kathy Baird, he plans to major in history education.

Dan Brown, Brewster High senior, accepted a \$900 Academic Opportunity Award in health and human performance and an \$800 Hays City Silver Academic Award. Brown is the son of Mike Brown and Peggy Ohlrogge and plans to major in athletic training.

Michael Schmidt, Brewster High senior, accepted a \$500 Academic Opportunity Award in agriculture. Schmidt is the son of Stuart Schmidt and plans to major in agribusiness.

Oakley

Faith Charles, an Oakley High School senior, accepted a \$900 Academic Opportunity Award in music and theatre and a \$700 Fort Hays Bronze Academic Award. Charles is the daughter of Dave and Dana Charles and plans to major in music education.

Ethan Plummer, Oakley High senior, accepted a \$500 Academic Opportunity Award in health and human performance. The son of Kevin and Andrea Plummer, Oakley, he plans to major in health and human performance.

Hoxie

Brady Bainter, a Hoxie High School senior, accepted a \$700 Fort Hays Bronze Academic Award. Bainter is the son of Mike Bainter, Grainfield, and Janet Bainter, Hoxie. He plans to major in business.

Sarah Farber, Hoxie High senior, accepted a \$900 Academic Opportunity Award in the College of Business and Entrepreneurship and an \$800 Hays City Silver Academic Award. The daughter of Randy and Nicola Farber, she plans to major in public accounting.

Marlee McKenna, Hoxie High senior, accepted a \$500 Copper Academic Award. McKenna is the daughter of Greg and Paula McKenna, Selden, and plans to major in biology.

New jewelry business offers custom twist

Wendi Lea Ehlers of Colby is launching a new business as an independent designer with Origami Owl Custom Jewelry, a direct sales company with a twist.

As a designer, she holds interactive events where she helps guests create one-of-a-kind personalized jewelry that reflects their style.

Origami Owl was founded by a 14-year-old entrepreneur, Isabella

Weems, with the goal of saving enough money to buy her first car. In 2010 she introduced the "Living Locket," a necklace that can be customized with charms.

"Women absolutely love creating unique pieces of jewelry that reflect their own style," said Weems. "We closely follow the latest styles to ensure that each item in our exclusive line is fash-

ion-forward and on-trend."

For information about the jewelry or holding a party, contact Ehlers at wendilea.owl@gmail.com or go to www.wendilea.origamiowl.com.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$7.05
Corn (bushel)	\$7.08
Milo (hundredweight)	\$12.02
Soybeans (bushel)	\$13.62

Blog targets Kansas flowers

Short, dark winter days have gardeners dreaming about spring and the chance to try out new flowers in the landscape.

To help gardeners find varieties that work in Kansas, Kansas State University scientists launched a new blog, www.prairiestarflowersblog.com and Facebook page www.facebook.com/PrairieStarFlowers.

Prairie Star is a collection of annual flower varieties tested by K-State to determine those best suited for the challenging prairie climate. The list includes flowers that exhibited superior performance for two or more years in bedding plant research trials in Olathe, Wichita, Hays and Colby.

"All varieties on the list grow well across the state, east to west and north to south," said Alan Stevens, horticulture specialist with K-State.

"Growing flowers in Kansas is not like growing them in Florida or California or Illinois," said Stevens. "Everything on the list has not only endured, but thrived in the sometimes harsh Kansas growing conditions."

Plants are rated for vigor, defined as how fast and strong they

grow and how much substance they have. They are also rated on floriferousness - the visual impact of the flower and foliage display.

Varieties include such names as Petunia Surfinia Wild Plum, Canna South Pacific Scarlet and Marigold Hero Series.

"We wanted to give people a way to learn about flowers ... in Kansas, as well a way to interact with us," Stevens said.

The blog is one of several ways K-State's Department of Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources is using social media. William Reid, a research and extension pecan specialist for Kansas and Missouri hosts a blog about northern pecans at northernpecans.blogspot.com. The department has a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/kstate.hfrr, as does the nursery production extension program at www.facebook.com/NurseryWorks.

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.

Meadow Lake Bridge Club

Meadow Lake bridge winners for Feb. 19 were: first, Elaine Ptacek; second, Cookie Koenig; third, Gail Vacca; fourth, Ken Ptacek; fifth, Katie Melvin; sixth, Thelma Shalz; and seventh, Larry Barrett.

On Tuesday, winners were: first, Elaine Ptacek; second, Cookie Koenig; third, Bob Renner; fourth, Billie Keck; fifth, Dave Ulmer; sixth, Katie Melvin; seventh, Jean Snyder; and tied for eighth, Lyle Worthy and Larry Barrett.

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