

Columnist's grandson has surgery on intestines

I hope to get a column written before we leave for Salina. Andrew went back into surgery last evening, and this time, they did some repair work on his large and small intestine, and Kim said they even took out his appendix.

This little 2 1/2 year old has had a workout, and we just pray that this is all. The kids need someone to stay with Rebekah while Mom is with Andrew in Kansas City and Barry is at work.

LaVelle is doing better, and he has good neighbors, so we feel that we need to help out there for a while. Andrew should be home in a week, and hopefully all will return to normal (whatever that is).

Yesterday, I took Roger to the doctor for a pain in his neck and shoulders. They think it is stress — imagine that!

The annual hot dog/watermelon



sally
michael

• brewster beacon

feed will be at 6:30 p.m. Friday at Hunter Park. Be sure to attend and help out the Northwest Kansas Heritage Center, and be generous with your donation.

I better watch out, or people will think I'm as bad as Mike Baughn at collecting for this event. But all joking aside, this is an event that helps the Heritage Center to provide us with hometown information, a library and a history lesson.

The hot dog feed is the income that keeps them going, and Betty Wolfe is the person who keeps it going. I'll

wish her a happy 90th birthday. Her family wants this to be a special day for this lady, so let's help make it so.

School will be starting Thursday, Aug. 21. I hope the weather cools a little before then, but it seems the last few years have had very hot days for a few weeks.

All of us older folks remember how school didn't start until after Labor Day, but now it seems that they are all involved in sports and such long before then. No matter when it starts, we will need to watch out for those eager students as they

thank you in advance for your donations.

Wilma Burk will be at the senior center from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23, for you to stop in and

hurry to school.

The reception for Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bremenkamp will be Friday, and I hope everyone goes to meet the new girl in the Bremenkamp family. She is from Bangkok, Thailand, and I am sure she will be glad to know that Brewster is a friendly town. She and Thomas will be living in Hays while they complete their schooling.

Pam and Tony had the house to themselves for a while. Jolene was taking a course in sport injury at a camp at Garden City Community College, so that she can get her recertification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid.

Alysha was attending the Salvation Army Camp in Kansas City from July 28-Aug. 1. This was her second and last year there because she is now too old. She recommends this experience to anyone who can

qualify and would love it if they would extend the age limit.

Coleen and Marion Crumrine entertained a former classmate, Cecil Cary and wife, on Friday, July 25. Cecil and his new wife Evelyn live in Independence, Ore., and were back for family reunions in the area. Coleen said they had a great time reminiscing.

On the 28th, the Crumrines went to Lakin with their daughter Carolyn Somers and visited with Sgt. Matthew Moore. Matthew is the son of Joe and Carlene Moore, former residents, and is the Crumrines' grandson.

He will be returning to Germany for a time and then will be sent to the Middle East, perhaps Iraq, shortly. We remember Matthew and all the other young men and women with Brewster roots in our prayers, as well as all military personnel.

Mason and Betty Crumrine are the proud grandparents of Nolan, son of Darren and Sarah Crumrine of Sedgewick. The little fellow weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce, and Grandma and Grandpa will soon be there to start spoiling him. Congratulations to Darren and Sarah.

Well, that's about it. I'll have an update on Andrew the next time I write. We may be back home before he gets released from Kansas City, but I hope we are able to help out. I hope you all have a great week, and we'll see you next time.

Oh, yes, I want to remind all area drivers over 55 that Donna Farley will present the American Association of Retired Persons "55 Alive" class the last week or so in September. This is an important class, and it will usually mean a discount in your insurance rates. Come in to the senior center and sign up soon.

Campaign urges better care for children

In support of the Kansas Children's Campaign "Three Promises to Parents," I would like to share what they have to say — When families fall apart, everyone pays.



cris
lovington

• prevention center

High quality care boosts student performance and reduces dropouts down the road.

In fact, for every dollar invested to provide teachers who are specially trained to work with young children and parents, Kansas saves at least \$7 later on school failure, crime, and unemployment.

What can you do? Voice support for programs such as Smart Start and Early Head Start. Volunteer your time to read to a child.

Our children's health and public safety can be improved by accessible and affordable out-of-school services in all neighborhoods.

This helps working parents,

too, who worry most about their children between the hours when the school and the dinner bells ring, the peak times for teen drinking, drug use and car crashes.

What can you do? Support expansion of services for all children. Help communities address the problem of transporting kids to programs. Become a mentor to a child.

Studies show that when parents receive coaching and other help, the rate of child abuse and neglect drops, and as long as 15 years later, their children are only half as likely to fail school or get into trouble.

But nothing can be more important than keeping children out of

the foster care system.

What can you do? Support programs such as Parents As Teachers, Family Preservation, and Healthy Families. Stay informed about community resources. Be willing to help a

new parent.

Making and keeping Three Promises To Parents is no more complicated than building a three-legged stool:

1. Quality early care and education services.
2. Safe and constructive out-of-school opportunities.
3. Parent education and family support.

Share this information by giving it to a neighbor, taking it to a meeting and discussing the issues. Sign onto the Three Promises platform at www.ks4kids.com.

Tell everyone you know that you support policies and programs that will strengthen parents and families in Kansas.

matters of record

District Traffic

The following traffic fines have been paid in the Sherman County district court:

July 22 — Sheila Fay Ice, 51, of Sherwood, Mich., was fined \$328 for 5900 over on tandem.

July 24 — Bryan C. Walker, 26, of Lakewood, Colo., was fined \$231 for speeding, 99/70.

Brice M. Cronn, 22, of WaKeeney was fined \$204 for speeding, 81/55.

July 25 — Damian G. Rivera, 23, of Pacoma, Calif., was fined \$420

for speeding, 90/60 in a construction zone.

July 28 — Gilberto G. Montanez, 41, of Thousand Oaks, Calif., was fined \$222 for speeding through a construction zone, 88/70.

July 29 — Gerardo Castillo, 30, of Kanorado was fined \$259 for transporting an open container.

Joseph P. McDowell, 17, of Morrisville, N.C., was fined \$254 for speeding, 101/70.

July 30 — Alex D. West, 35, of Goodland was fined \$120 for speeding, 80/65.

July 31 — Clifford Isaacs, 27, of Colorado Springs was fined \$239 for speeding, 100/70.

Aug. 1 — Teresa L. Browning, 17, of St. Francis was fined \$137 for speeding, 83/65, and \$10 for no seat belt.

Goodland Police

The following crimes were reported by the Goodland Police Department:

USD 352 reported criminal damage to a glass door July 14 at 1311 Main. The window suffered \$300 damage. The case is still pending.

County agent gets national award

Dana Belshe, Sherman County agricultural extension agent, received a national award for distinguished service last month; the award stemmed partly from his efforts to develop the Leadership Sherman County program.

He was honored by the National Association of County Agricultural Agents at its 88th Annual Meeting in Green Bay, Wis., attended a professional improvement meeting and had time to tour the peninsula northeast of the city.

Belshe was cited for helping initiate a county strategic planning process showing a need for a local leadership program. As a member of the County Leadership Planning Committee years ago, Belshe said he helped develop Leadership Sherman County to train 10 new leaders per year.

Sixty individuals have completed the training through the program, he said, 10 per year for six years, establishing a network of potential leaders in the county.

Those in the program start by getting acquainted, he said, and doing personality things to understand working with other people. In the classroom setting, he said, they

learn how to interview people.

And there are tours to help them understand the issues facing the community through other people's eyes. The participants tour each other's work sites, Belshe said, and there is a day of agriculture, a day of education, a city/county day and a media day.

It helps to educate people on what the issues are of the county, he said, and get a broader perspective on what's out there. When touring the schools, he said, they talk to school officials and get their perspective of how things affect them.

Participants are nominated and apply in August, Belshe said, are selected in late September and begin the program Oct. 1. The group goes to Topeka for three days in February, he said, and graduate from the program in March. Participants in the program have to be from Sherman County, he said, and have a year's residence.

Besides the leadership program, Belshe said, the committee also saw a need for assisted living, which Goodland now has, and more recreation for youths, which motivated having the new water park built.

In addition to the leadership pro-

gram, the group said Belshe conducts a balanced agriculture and 4-H program. He has served 20 years with the Kansas State Research and Extension Service, in Rawlins County from 1982-86 and in Sherman County since 1986.

There were about 2,000 people at the banquet, Belshe said, and 81 county agents from across the country received awards. Two agents from Kansas received the award, he said; the other was Warren Bell from Coffey County.

The annual meeting is open to all county agents, Belshe said, and is a professional improvement meeting and includes a day of tours to see the area.

It was interesting, he said; there's a lot of dairy up there. And it was interesting to see the different bays, he said, and fishing boats. The peninsula is about 40 miles wide at the widest part, Belshe said, with one side being a tourist area and the other for fishing.

The association's distinguished service award is presented to the top 2 percent of county agents from each state with more than 10 years service in the Cooperative Extension Service.

Belshe's selection was made by county agents in Kansas and endorsed by the state extension director.



Belshe

LIGHT THE WAY TO A CURE

Keep the fire of hope burning by purchasing a luminaria candle in memory of someone lost to cancer, in honor of someone still fighting, or in special recognition of someone who has beaten this dreaded disease.

Relay for Life of Sherman County Friday & Saturday - Aug. 22 & 23 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. at The Sherman County Fairgrounds

Complete this form and send it along with your donation to:
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Please join us for the luminaria ceremony at 9 p.m.
\$10.00 per luminaria please!

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☐ In honor of ☐ In memory of

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McB's, corner station includes U-Haul Rentals. \$290,000
Wrecker business under contract.



Restaurant located on Highway 24. \$125,000

Park sealed bids will be accepted until October 1, 2003. Any and all bids can be rejected.

Serious inquiries only! Virgil 785-899-7375.