

Older drivers brush up on skills at senior center

The Brewster Senior Center is going to be busy the next few weeks, and I hope I keep you up on everything that is scheduled to go on.

Donna Farley directed a class that the American Association of Retired Persons is sponsoring for older drivers. It was a defensive driving class, and I am certain that if you missed this class, there will be others in the area and perhaps even here at the senior center again during the next few months.

The class will be 1-5 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday at 2431 Walnut in Goodland and 1-5 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 14 and 15, at the Goodland Senior Center. Call 890-6638 to register.

Once again, there are negative headlines about older drivers, and I am certain that new requirements will become mandatory. Anyway, it can't hurt us to brush up on our defensive driving.



sally michael
• brewster beacon

It seems like we are the only ones aware that we don't make mistakes while driving; it's always the other guy. We've got to be ready for the "other guy," right?

Seriously, we all make errors while driving, and we shouldn't be too hard on others when we do; next time it may be us.

On Tuesday, Sept. 30, Laura Withington will present the Retired and Senior Volunteers Program awards during "The Big Blue Bash" at 2 p.m. at the Brewster Senior Center.

Be sure to invite a friend who may not know what a neat group of

people the organization's members are, and we can all enjoy the afternoon of games, prizes and refreshments.

Pam Bremen-kamp will have a showing of her line of Avon holiday products Thursday. There will be Halloween as well as Christmas items, and she will be at the senior center at 9 a.m. to show the products and take orders.

Flu shots will be available at the Brewster Senior Center from 9-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 21. There will be forms to be filled out, and the center will try to have the forms early to speed the process up.

comes in, so it may be awhile before we will have them available.

The fire trucks and such have been very busy, and from the news reports, it seems that our law enforcement is keeping more than busy. I don't understand why so many people think they can get away with breaking the law, but there are a lot of them that think they can make their own rules, I guess.

We can't say it isn't our business because these people indirectly affect our lives with the travel inconveniences and the dangerous situations we are placed in.

This is on my mind because when we were returning from Hays, we were diverted into Oakley due to a high speed chase and shooting that occurred earlier. If we had not been driving carefully, we may have been involved in a dangerous roadblock situation.

I don't like to sound melodramatic or raise alarms, but in this day

and age, there seems to be more things to think about than in former times. Be prepared.

If it all works out, we may get to spend a little time in Cedar Bluff with some of our kids next weekend. The summer has gone so fast, and the nice weather is just about over, so we have to go when we can.

The area towns are also busy with their annual events. I can't begin to number all the older vehicles that were on the road, mostly going west, when we were traveling Sunday and Monday last week.

They were pretty neat looking older cars, and I imagine their worth is probably ten times more than when they were new, but it's easy to see that a lot of work goes into them. It's another one of those "high priced" hobbies that keep men busy.

Everyone that was in the hospital when I wrote my last column seem to be home and doing fine at this time. Barbara Springsteen is

still gaining strength, as is Mary Farber.

LaVelle is getting his strength back, and it is good to see that. I talked to my sister Harriet a few hours ago, and she is back home and enjoying all the neighborly attention they are getting. I think she is happy with the results of the tests and the surgery she is recuperating from.

The area pastors were treated to a luncheon sponsored by KGCR on the 19th at the Colby Community College lunch room. Christian Comedian Ken Davis was the special guest and presented a program prior to his night time entertainment.

Roger and I enjoyed visiting with other pastors from the area, and it is good to know that the Lord is blessing this area with many fine and dedicated preachers and teachers.

That's about it for this week, and we pray you will all have a great week. We'll see you next time.

Kanorado to hold Octoberfest parade

Food, games, craft booths, more food, a parade, a tractor pull, more food and a street dance will keep people full and entertained at the Kanorado Octoberfest Friday and Saturday.

The event will begin with a chili cook-off at 6:30 p.m. Friday in the senior center. Anyone who wants to be a contestant needs to bring a pot of chili for judging. There will be cash prizes.

Saturday's activities will begin with the Kanorado Development Committee's pancake breakfast from 7-10 a.m. at the café. There will be craft booths on Main Street and in the senior center starting at 9 a.m.

Cal Zimbelman will provide music on Main beginning at 10 a.m., and the parade will begin at 10:30. The theme is the "Fabulous '50s," and floats need to line up at the north end of Main. There will be cash prizes.

After the parade, there will be a

cake walk and bake sale in the fire house, a volleyball tournament on Main Street, game booths north of the senior center and food booths on Main. The museum will be open with a quilt to give away.

S&T Communications will sponsor a hamburger feed at noon at the senior center.

The tractor pull will begin at 1 p.m., at a location to be announced. The pedal tractor pull will be at 1:30 p.m. on Main. Children 12 and under can sign up at the PRIDE booth on Main.

There will be street games at 2 p.m. and an alumni reception from 2-4 p.m. at the senior center. A horseshoe tournament will be at 3 p.m. at the city park by the school.

A Mexican dinner will be from 4-7 p.m. sponsored by the Emergency Medical Technicians.

The evening will conclude with a street dance from 7-10 p.m. with Josh Vaughn as the disc jockey. No alcohol allowed.

Bomb's away!



J.P. McCool threw a pass to Eric Linnell (white Colts) as Kevin Amthor and Ryan Fisher (blue Colts) defended in the Goodland

Activities Center flag football demonstration during half-time of the Cowboys/Bufaloes game Friday.

Photo by Liz West/The Goodland Star-News

Magazine nominates Thomas County track promoters for award

The racing publication *Colorado Dirt Magazine* has nominated Thomas County Speedway track promoters Kerry and Leeza Wark as "Track Promoters of the Year."

The publication sponsors awards each year. The Warks were nominated in the promotor category, along with Butch Speicher of I-76 Speedway in Fort Morgan, and Mike Mathis of Rocky Mountain National Speedway just outside of Denver.

Located near more populated areas, both of these tracks are supported by a much larger fan base than Thomas County Speedway, said Shoshana Surek, editor and owner of the magazine, so the competition is tough.

In her description of the nominees, Surek said of the Warks, "Typically, I stay within Colorado for *Dirt* Award nominations, but I made an exception this time. Sherman County Speedway in

Goodland, Thomas County Speedway in Colby and McCook (Neb.) Speedway are now going to be regulars in *Dirt*, so I have traveled there often to cover their races.

"Wark's nomination has much to do with Goodland's track and Lloyd and Rebecca Koel, the track's new promoters. So why didn't I nominate the Koels? I almost did; however, as I got to talk with them longer I realized that Lloyd had taken over the management of a

track that had been run into the ground, a racetrack that was once a gem in western Kansas. He did turn it around completely in one season and while there is still work to do, it looks to be in better shape next year.

"Wark receives the nomination because it was his mentoring that led to the success of Goodland. He stepped in with his officials and track crew at every race this year. Goodland's success is due, in part,

to the fact that it was mirroring Colby. Wark did all of this while working a full-time job and successfully running his own track, whose fair race brought in 64 Modifieds on Aug. 1 and 2.

"He has successfully run Colby for 14 years with his wife Leeza. It is evident that he loves what he is doing and that he is willing to put whatever it takes into making dirt track racing successful in Kansas, whether it is at his track or his

friend's. That is the mark of a true promoter: the one that promotes for the sake of the race."

In addition to all of the accomplishments, Surek mentioned that Kerry Wark also spearheaded the group that successfully brought a home-owned carnival to the Thomas County Fair.

He also supports his two sons, Cade and Cody, in all of their school events, including sports, piano and go-kart racing.

Toddlers who fib from time to time not headed for life of crime

Parents of 3- and 4-year-olds wonder why their children tell lies and often worry that this behavior is a sign of more serious issues.

However, a child is not headed for a life of crime just because he tells a fib now and then. A toddler doesn't quite understand the concept of lying, because he doesn't quite understand the idea of truth and facts.

Toddlers' overactive imaginations add to their desire to embellish a situation.

Another reason a preschooler might stretch the truth is due to "magical thinking". That is, wishing an event had taken place in an-



high plains mental health

• plain sense

their children, that is, just what is each child is capable of understanding at various ages.

Parents who put unrealistic expectations on young

children may be creating problems that are bigger than a few little lies. Understanding parents' expectations, as well as the rules of proper behavior, is quite a task for very young children.

Don't expect a "confession" from a toddler. Point out the obvious, such as "you took your sister's

doll," rather than asking detailed questions that are beyond the child's understanding.

Then include the child in the process of returning the doll to where it belongs. Be sure to point out when your child is being honest, such as when he immediately shows up with a broken or missing item.

Then again, talk about and act upon the solution in a constructive rather than critical manner.

Most important at any age, be a positive role model to children. Keep your word when making promises; be truthful and honest in your own actions; and apologize when you too make a mistake.

Contributed by Karen D. Beery, Consultation and Education Department. The views expressed here are those of the individual writer and should not be considered a replacement for seeking professional help.

Mail questions to: High Plains Mental Health Center, Plain Sense, Consultation and Education Department, 208 East Seventh, Hays, Kan. 67601.

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