Inventor's name remains on canning jars

One of my garden heroes is a gentleman by the name of John Landis Mason, because on Nov. 30, 1858, Mason was issued a patent for what is known today as the Mason jar.

Mason wasn't even a glass blower, but a rather obscure tinsmith who plied his trade in New York City. You'll not find his name in the encyclopedia, or in books about famous inventors, but his name has been perpetuated on fruit jars to this day. He died in 1902, penniless, a New York charity case, but his invention will live for the ages.

Those of us who preserve food in jars are greatly indebted to this man. And that may be the understatement of the day. Mason did not invent canning. Actually, finding a



melia

the gardener

way to preserve food in jars and cans took place during the reign of Napolean. The French were looking for a way to protect Napoleon's troop rations and actually found ways to extend the life of certain foods. Not too long after that, American housewives began experimenting with early jars called wax sealers, that were topped with cork or because the top lip of early hand blown glass jars just wasn't smooth enough to guarantee an unbroken seal.

Then, along came Mason who introduced a square-shouldered jar that closed with a zinc cap and a rubber ring that indeed created an airtight seal. Mason's sealing process had certain disadvantages such as a zinc taste in the food caused by the cap, plus uncertain sealing if a reused cap was damaged along the edge. And there was also the difficulty in getting the jar open once it was sealed.

metal lids and melted wax. None of weighed all the problems and that was the of factories make fruit jars dwindled, until the experiments were very successful fact that the square-shouldered jar was the easiest and cheapest of all fruit jars to make, and the zinc cap could be used over and over again. Home canners were quick to adopt the system because of the assurance of safely stored food. Public demand for Mason jars grew by leaps and bounds.

Mason, however, did not profit from his invention. He sold his patent right to the Consolidated Fruit Jar Company for a very small price, and when those patent right expired, 40 or 50 different companies began to make the jars, using Mason's name. As the fruit jar industry gradually But there was one advantage that out- turned to machine made glass, the number

there are only a few major producers today. The most prominent company today is the Ball Company, who bought out the Kerr Company several years ago, but produces jars and lids today under both names.

About the time of this region's settlement, Mason jars became the major method of storing fresh food for later use. Lets hear it for John Landis Mason, the inventor of the modern fruit jar in 1858. He unknowingly changed the way the nations' gardeners preserve food!

Money to firefighter funds being distributed

Kansas Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger is currently making the annual distribution of funds to state and local firefighter relief organizations.

More than \$9.7 million will be distributed among 580 local Firefighters Relief Associations across the state. That is \$500,000 more than

"This fund assists firefighters and their families when an accident or death occurs in the line of duty," Commissioner Praeger said. "We in the Kansas Insurance Department are honored to assist in its distribution."

The local association funds are used for purchasing accident and health, disability and life insurance premiums to assist firefighters and their families. The money is gener-

Canned Goods For

Relay For Life 2010

Please donate canned goods to the following loca-

tions for this years Relay for Life so that we may

use them to keep our luminaries in place. There are

Gleason's Chiropractic

First National Bank

Prairie Rose Floral Co.

Jacque's Hallmark Store

The Goodland Star-News The canned goods that are donated will be given to the Genesis Program here in Goodland following the

conclusion of Relay for Life. Please help in collect-

ing canned goods not only for one cause but two.

collection bins at the following locations:



sandy praeger insurance comm.

ated by a two percent tax paid by insurance companies on fire and lightning insurance premiums written in Kansas for the previous calendar year. It is collected by the department, on behalf of the Kansas Firefighter Relief Act and passed on to the Firefighters Relief Associations.

Also, the Kansas State Firefighters Association will receive \$408,981 for education and research purposes and to replenish the state association's death benefit fund. These funds also come from the insurance company premium assessment.

Of the state association total, \$308,981 is earmarked for educational purposes and research in to fire pre-

fund. One Kansas firefighter died in nearly \$634,000 went to dependents the line of duty during 2009 and 120 firefighters were injured as a result of a fire, according to the Kansas State Fire Marshal's Office.

Nearly \$1.3 million in benefits vention and firefight- was paid in 2009 to firefighters for ing and \$100,000 is lost wages as a result of firefighting-

of firefighters.

Most of this year's distribution was deposited electronically into the relief association bank ac-

"The electronic transaction is cost efficient and quick," Commissioner

used to replenish the death benefit related injuries or disability and Praeger said. "The FRAs receiving the money can put it to good use immediately."

> Classifieds work! 899-2338

Worship warms the heart

Calvary Gospel Church

Pastor: Randy Payne Fourth & College • 890-3605 Saturday night: 6 p.m. **Sunday:** Kid's Church: 10 am

Morning Service: 10 am Prayer and Praise: 6:00 p.m. Wednesday: Royal Rangers Missionettes 6:30 p.m. Adult mid-week service: 7:00 p.m. Youth @ the Rock House: 6:30 p.m.

Small Group Ministries meets through out the week. www.calvarygospel.net

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Pastor: Father Norbert Dlabal 307 W. 13th • 890-7205

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 5-5:45 p.m. Saturday or by appointment

Mass Schedule: Saturday: 6 pm, Sunday: 10:30 am Spanish Mass:

Sunday: 12:30 pm



Word of Life

10th & Clark • 899-5250 Pastor: John Coumerilh

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. - Morning Star Cafe Opens 10 a.m. - Worship Celebration

and Kids' Church

Life Groups - call for times and locations www.wordoflifegoodland.org A Foursquare Gospel Church

Pleasant Home Church Serving the rural community

for over 100 years

Rt. 1, Box 180 • 694-2807 • 3190 Road 70 **Pastor**: Perry Baird *890-3375*

Sunday: Worship Service: 9 a.m. Sunday School: 10 a.m.

Sunflower Contest

• Write down as many words (at least 3 letters) that you can think of using the word "Pericarp" • Do not use proper names

• Bring your completed list to The Goodland Star-News

office at 1205 Main by 12:00 p.m. by Monday, August 16th Vinners will be announced in the Friday, September 3 edition.

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Bible Baptist Church

Pastor: Clifford Middlebrooks Fifth & Broadway 890-7368 **Sunday**: Sunday School: 9 a.m.

Morning Service: 10 a.m. Evening Service: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday: Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO (719) 346-7984

Sacrament Meeting: 10 a.m. Sunday School: 11:15 a.m. Priesthood/Relief Society: 12 a.m.

Iglisia Del Dios Vivo

La Luz Del Mundo Spanish Speaking Church Minister: Esteban Ortiz B. 1601 Texas • 899-5275

Daily Prayer: Sunday thru *Saturday: 5a.m.* & 6 p.m. Sunday: Sunday School: 10 a.m.

United Methodist Church Brewster:

Pastor: Dorine Chambers Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. CST Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. CST

Winona: Minister: Sheryl Johnson

Worship Service: 9 a.m. CST Sunday School: 10:15 am CST

Pastor: Bob Willis

Third & Caldwell

899-2080 or 899-3797

Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:50 a.m.

Evening Service: 6 p.m.

Wednesday: Evening Service: 7 p.m.

First Baptist Church

Pastor: Travis Blake

1121 Main

890-3450

Sunday:

Coffee fellowship: 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship: 10 a.m.

Sunday School: 11:15 a.m.

Thursday: Bible study 9:30 a.m.

Wheatridge Center

Seventh Day Adventist Church

1160 Cattletrail

Pastor: Jerry Nowack

Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service: 11 a.m.

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Pastor: Rev. Carol Edling Jolly Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233 Sunday: Worship Service: 10:30 a.m. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

Activities: Junior High & High School Youth Groups, Adult Bible Study, Choir, Men's and Women's Groups, Devotions Study, Monthly Fellowship **Special Notice:** Handicap Accessible, Hearing
Assistance Equipment and Infant and Toddler
Nurseries Available

Kanorado **United Methodist** Church

Pastor: Leonard Cox 399-2468 **Sunday**: Sunday School: 9 a.m. Worship Service: 10:15 a.m.

Goodland United Methodist Church of the Nazarene

Church

1116 Sherman 899-3631 **Pastors**: Dustin and Shelly Petz Saturday: Worship: 5:30 p.m. Sunday: Adult Classes: 9:15 a.m.

Worship: 10:30 a.m. **Wednesday**: Wednesday Nite Live 5:45 - 6:45 p.m. Simple Supper "Free will Offering 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Classes for all ages

Goodland Bible Church

109 Willow Road • 899-6400

Pastor: Chad DeJong Sunday: Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship: 10:45 a.m. Evening Worship: 6 p.m.

Wednesday: AWANA (Winter) and prayer: 7 p.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

13th & Center Church 890-2115 or Rectory 890-6969 **Priest:** Father Hal Lycett

Holy Eucharist: 10:00 a.m. Sunday 10:00 a.m. Thursday

Daily Morning Prayer For emergencies 890-6969

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

13th & Sherman • 890-6161

Sunday: Christian eduction/fellowship: 10:15 a.m. Worship Service: 9 a.m.

Harvest Evangelical Free Church

521 E. Hwy. 24 • 890-6423 **Pastor**: Brian Fugleberg Sunday: Worship: 9:30 a.m.

No Sunday School this summer. Wednesday: Senior high 6:30 p.m. at Chuck and Janet

Redlin's www.goodlandefree.com

Church of Christ

401 Caldwell

890-6185 Sunday: Bible Study: 9:45 a.m. Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. Wednesday: Bible Study: 7 p.m.

The following sponsors urge YOU to attend your chosen House of Worship this Sabbath:

Short & Son Trucking Hwy.24

Kansasland Tire

1402 Main St.

Koons Juneral Chapel North Main

Good Samaritan Center 208 W. 2nd

AJLAC Insurance

KLOE/KKC9/KWGB 3023 W. 31

111 W. 12th