

Late August brings surprise of lily bloom

It had to be at least 15 years ago that someone gave me a nice looking flower bulb, and when I inquired as to what kind of bulb it was, the answer was something like, "Just plant it in your perennial garden and expect a surprise next summer."

I dutifully planted the bulb about this time of year, and watched with interest when it emerged in the spring, about the same time as the allium plant nearby. Before I knew it, I had a very healthy light green plant that was really quite nice. And



Kay Melia
the gardener

then, without producing a single bud, let alone a flower the foliage began to die back and I forgot about the nice little bulb that someone had given me.

An then, toward the end of August, something almost magical

happened. On a single stalk, a gorgeous pink flower appeared where that bulb had been planted last spring, the one I had given up as dead. The bloom was four or five inches across, and has bloomed every year at about the same time, and always a surprise, thus the reason for assigning the name Surprise Lily to this wonderful bit of horticulture.

are called "Lycoris" although some flower catalogs list them only as Surprise Lilies. In my opinion, they are the most incredible beautiful, fragrant flowers you can grow, despite the fact that they are only with us for a week or 10 days of bloom. They are now available in several other colors, and are said to be much more viable now than they were a decade and a half ago when I planted mine. I will plant three more this fall.

time. I say almost because I prefer to wait until about the first of November before planting the spring flowering bulbs such as tulips, hyacinths or daffodils. Always buy the largest bulbs you can find if you expect to see large flowers the first year. Smaller bulbs will probably bloom next spring, but flowers will be smaller, at least for the first year. And while you're at this bulb planting procedure, go down to the supermarket and buy a large bulb of garlic. Separate the cloves from

the bulb and plant yourself a row of natures favorite flavoring agent for your cooking and pickling pleasure next summer.

It is best to buy the bulbs of garlic that are sold as seed, but they are sometimes hard to find, and are much more expensive. Plant the cloves about three inches deep in damp soil just about any time now, and the green tip of the growing plant will be absolutely the first growing thing you will see in your garden next spring.

Opening grocery store in rural area bucks odds against success

By Ron Wilson

Director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University

"Rural grocery stores fading into history - Since 2006, 82 out of 213 stores have closed," said the front page headline. Against that grim backdrop, imagine finding a small town grocery store that was newly opened, just eight years ago. Why would someone in a small town open a grocery store against these odds? It's the subject of this week's Kansas Profile.

Mary Jane Constantin is owner of Main Street Market in Bucklin, Kansas. She opened this store in 2002.

Mary Jane is an Oklahoma native. She and her husband Jules moved here 14 years ago when he took a position as the shop teacher in the Bucklin school. Mary Jane commuted to work at a dentist's office in Dodge City, some 25 miles away.

There had been a grocery store in Bucklin, but it had changed hands several times. In 2000 the store burned down and the owners chose not to re-open it.

"A committee was put together to see about getting another store and I volunteered to be on it," Mary Jane said. "The old store closed at '66, which meant I usually couldn't make it back here in time to shop after work. I'd have to shop in Dodge

City and I got tired of it."

The committee deliberated for a couple of years with no solution. Finally Mary Jane decided to take it on herself.

"It takes someone to throw caution to the winds," Mary Jane said. "I didn't have any business experience, but I wanted our community to have a store."

Mary Jane got a Small Business Administration loan to buy and equip a building in downtown Bucklin. The Bucklin Community Better Life Foundation provided a low-interest loan so she could buy stock in the supply company, Affiliated Foods.

Mary Jane had a community painting day when local people were invited in to help paint the walls. Meanwhile, a grocery store had closed in the rural community of Burdett, population 247 people. Now, that's rural. Mary Jane bought that equipment. The John Deere dealer in town, who had served on the committee with her, volunteered to provide trucks and trailers to transport that equipment to Bucklin, where she furnished her new store.

On Dec. 2, 2002, Main Street Market opened in Bucklin. The store offers a full line of meat, produce, dairy and consumer items with weekly specials. It also demonstrates Mary Jane's creative touch. Antiques of various kinds line the tops of the displays on the walls.

Pinatas hang near the front doors. A pizza counter and deli area in one corner offer hot food with a place to eat it.

In order to install a new freezer and coolers, a section of the outside wall had to be taken out. Instead of replacing a solid wall, Mary Jane had the creative idea to install a walk-up window. Then when customers in town wanted pizza or ice after the main store had closed, they

could pick them up at the window.

This old building has a hardwood floor, with a large grate from a furnace that was removed long ago. One day a girl near the pizza counter saw a pan in the basement below that grate.

Mary Jane said, "The kid had her change in hand and she could see that pan below the grate, so she had to try to drop her change into that pan. After that, everybody else had

to try it too."

It became a game and then a tradition. (For the record, I hit the pan on my third coin.)

"At the end of the school year, I buy ice cream for all the school kids with the change that gets dropped through that grate. Last year I bought ice cream for 250 kids," Mary Jane said.

Rural grocery stores are closing, as a recent headline pointed out,

but Mary Jane Constantin is making a difference by bucking that trend. She is using her ingenuity to develop fun and creative ideas to engage the community. These are vital if rural grocery stores are to survive.

And there's more. Mary Jane opened another business in Bucklin. We'll learn about that next week.

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

Iglesia 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

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Pastor: Rev. Carol Edling Jolly
Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233
Sunday: Church School - All ages 9:15 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Youth Group: 1st and 3rd Sundays 5-7 p.m.
Wednesday: Prayer Class - Noon
Pastor Carol's Class 5:45 p.m.
www.goodlandfcgcdoc.org

Kanorado United Methodist Church

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

Church of the Nazarene

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.

Goodland United Methodist 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.

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

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

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

Seventh Day Adventist Church

1160 Cattletrail
Pastor: Jerry Nowack
Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service: 11 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

13th & Sherman • 890-6161
Sunday: Christian eduction/fellowship: 10:15 a.m.
Worship Service: 9 a.m.

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.

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