



Bartels and Hammond

Couple to marry in April

Valerie Bartels and Shane Hammond plan to be married April 17 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Hays.

Parents of the couple are Gary and Leslie Bartels, Oberlin, and Delmar and Janice Hammond, Syracuse. Her grandparents are Les and June Frazier, Goodland, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Bartels.

The bride-elect graduated from Decatur Community High School and from Colby Community College with an associate's degree in applied science and from the dental hygiene program. She is a registered dental hygienist at Lifetime Dental Care in Hays.

Her fiancée graduated from Syracuse High School and attended Dodge City Community College. He is a sales representative at Lewis Chrysler Jeep Dodge in Hays.

Will social reforms solve man's problems?



sharon corcoran

• use it or lose it

When I said in a previous column that Christians should obey the government's laws as long as they don't conflict with God's requirements, someone asked if I meant that people shouldn't get involved with making the world a better place.

He asked if I thought the people involved in the Underground Railroad were wrong for doing what they did. According to the law at the time, what they did was illegal.

But it's not my place to judge them for what they did, and there is no point in debating whether it was the right thing for them to do or not. These events happened over 100 years ago, and the people involved are all dead. Nothing could be accomplished by debating their actions.

My goal in saying that Christians should obey the laws was to encourage others to think before acting, to influence future actions rather than to start a debate or cause guilt over something that's already done.

There are reasons Christians wouldn't become involved in illegal social reforms. Besides the fact that the Bible encourages us to obey the laws, social reforms are not the solution to mankind's problems.

Jesus used an illustration comparing a fruit-bearing tree to mankind that shows that more is needed than addressing a few important issues to solve our problems.

He said at Matthew 7:17, 19: "Likewise, every good tree produces fine fruit, but every rotten tree produces worthless fruit. Every tree not producing fine fruit gets cut down and thrown into the fire."

If a tree does not produce good fruit, it is cut down, and a new tree

is planted. Likewise, to solve man's problems requires replacing our whole way of doing things.

At Isaiah 65:17, God promises a whole new system: "For here I am creating new heavens and a new earth; and the former things will not be called to mind, neither will they come up into the heart."

Daniel 2:44 tells us that the new way of doing things will be brought about by God's kingdom and that it will first rid the earth of the old ones that aren't working: "And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be brought to ruin. And the kingdom itself will not be passed on to any other people. It will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, and it itself will stand to time indefinite."

Psalms 72:16a says, "There will come to be plenty of grain on the earth; on the top of the mountains there will be an overflow."

Under God's kingdom, no one will go hungry or have to worry about a drought ruining their crops. There will be an abundance of food, plentiful harvests.

Psalms 37:11 says, "The meek ones themselves will possess the

earth, and they will indeed find their exquisite delight in the abundance of peace."

God's kingdom will bring peace. That doesn't just mean a lack of war. There will also be no crime or violence and nothing to worry about. People will have peace of mind.

Even hearing that God's kingdom will solve all of our problems, many may wonder if we shouldn't do something now to improve the world. There are things we can do.

Ephesians 4:22-24 tells us we should be concerned about what kind of people we are and make drastic changes if needed: "that you should put away the old personality which conforms to your former course of conduct and which is being corrupted according to his deceptive desires; but that you should be made new in the force actuating your mind, and should put on the new personality which was created according to God's will in true righteousness and loyalty."

We should also help people in need as the first century Christians did. 1 Corinthians 16:1, 2 says: "Now concerning the collection that is for the holy ones, just as I gave orders to the congregations of Galatia, do that way also yourselves. Every first day of the week let each of you at his own house set something aside in store as he may be prospering."

Matthew 28:19, 20 tells us we should share the Bible's message with others: "Go therefore and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded you. And look! I am with you all the days until the conclusion of the system of things."

By applying the Bible's counsel to become the best people we can

be, we will improve the world now and work our way closer to being the righteous people who will inherit the earth. We can teach others from the Bible how they can become better people and that they can have the hope of living under God's kingdom.

Not only will our problems be solved under that kingdom, but conditions on the new earth will be so good that our past problems, as Isaiah 65:17 says, will never come up into our hearts.

Help Wanted

Paper Inserter
8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Mon.- Wed - Fri.
Apply in Person
1205 Main St. Goodland, KS

BE CREATIVE
PERSONAL Links
ITALIAN 18KT gold Stainless Steel
Accessories from ROYAL CHAIN

interchangeable alphabet & charm links let you create your own personal one-of-a-kind stretch bracelet.

MANN'S JEWELRY & GIFTS
The distinctive difference

Hank's

Come Check Out
Our New Night Buffets

Wednesday - Italian Buffet
Thursday - Mexican Buffet
\$8⁹⁵ / \$7⁹⁵ seniors
Also check out our Friday night Fish Specials
Prime Rib Saturday, February 28
Small cut 8-10 oz. \$14⁹⁵ Large cut 15-17 oz. \$17⁹⁵
118 E. 17th, Goodland, Kan. • 785-890-HANK

Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper
February 24th, 5 - 7 p.m.



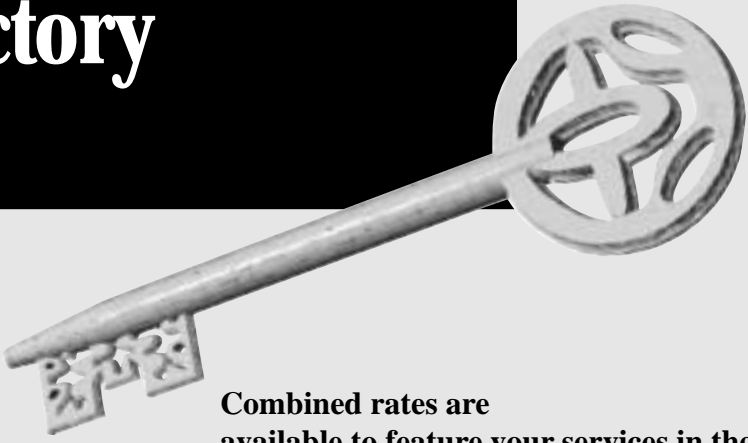
All you can eat \$5.00
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
13th & Center • 899-2115
Elevator at south entrance

The Goodland Star News Service Directory 785-899-2338

Your KEY to business success.

Have your name up front when a customer needs you.

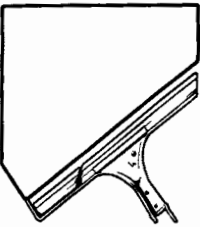
Repetitive advertising is the key to opening the door to new customers.



Combined rates are available to feature your services in the Star-News and The Country Advocate.

Schedule your Spring Cleaning Now!

Commercial - Residential
Free Estimates



NEW SYSTEM
Professional
WINDOW
CLEANING

Chris & Beth Lewon
650 N. Grant
Colby, Kan.
785-462-6995 or
1-800-611-6735

Your ad could
be here! Call Doug,
Jennifer or Anne
at 899-2338.

"Seek Shelter Today!"
LIFE • HOME • CAR • FARM • BUSINESS



Jim Alcorn, Agent
1624 S. Main Street
Goodland, KS 67735-0727
Business: (785) 899-2553
Home: (785) 899-3974
www.shelterinsurance.com



Madd Hatters Music
Emporium
Custom
Tailoring
by Marie



Open Mon. - Fri. 10 - 6
120 W. 11th Goodland, Kan.
785-890-3510

D & D Builders
Michael Downing
General Contractor

Concrete Work • Patios & Decks
• Garages & Etc. •
• Remodels & Additions •

785-626-3529 or 785-626-0060

PRO FLOOR CARE

HIGH QUALITY
CARPET & UPHOLSTERY
CLEANING
24 HOUR WATER
DAMAGE REMOVAL

462-8313 1-800-473-4138

Owners:
Shawn & Angela Stinemetz



Guaranteed
Ultra
Cleaning
Power

B's Pump and Well Service

Rex Smith, owner

- Irrigation or domestic drilling or pump service
- Pressure tanks
- Irrigation well acid
- Gearhead (new or used)

785-899-6302

Goodland Sinclair Stage Stop Towing



- Quality fuels, clean restrooms, well-stocked convenience store
- Greyhound Bus Service • Tourist information service
- Full service: 8 a.m. - noon, Mon. to Thurs. - Seniors (65+) and handicapped at everyday prices • Lotto/Lottery
- Open 7 days, Auto repair, 24 hour towing, after hours cell 785-821-1509



2320 Commerce Road
Goodland, Kan. 67735 785-890-6855

Truck Lettering 800-886-2423

AWARD WINNING SIGNS AND PINSTRIPING SINCE 1974

Hot Brush

204 W. 4th Box 309
Bird City, Kan. 67731