

A place to find your marbles

By Ron Wilson
Huck Boyd Institute

Have you lost your marbles? If so, I know a place where you can replace them. You can also learn about how marbles are made, find some vintage toys and games, and have fun, right here in Kansas.

Lynda Sproules and Bruce Breslow are the owners of the Moon Marble Company in Bonner Springs. This remarkable company specializes in marbles and more.

Lynda is from Canada originally, although she has been in Kansas since the 1970s. Bruce Breslow is originally from Connecticut. Lynda met Bruce when they were working at a greenhouse in the Kansas City area. Bruce left the greenhouse when he opened his own custom woodworking shop and Lynda eventually joined him in the business.

Bruce was building custom furniture in his woodworking shop, but he and Lynda also had an interest in games and toys. Using the scraps from his wood projects, he decided to make game boards out of the scrap wood. Some of those games needed marbles.

"Bruce called a company back east and ordered marbles to go with our games," Lynda said. "We got a whole truckload, a thousand pounds of marbles. I thought we'd be drowning in marbles forever."

But the games and marbles proved popular. Bruce and Lynda decided to focus their business on the games and toys. In

1995, they opened this new business in Bonner Springs.

What should the business be named? As Lynda and Bruce considered this, they thought about a popular design of marble called a "Moonie." This evolved into the name Moon Marble Company. Now the company logo features a big smiling face on a round, full moon - shaped like a marble.

The Moon Marble Company began in 1995. Interest in this unusual business has taken off. "It is the quirkiest, weirdest thing," Lynda said. The store now employs 11 people. Lynda lives in the nearby rural community of Linwood, population 378 people. Now, that's rural.

According to the Kansas Sampler Foundation, Moon Marble Company is the only store in the nation where a person can buy toy marbles and handmade marbles and watch marbles being made. Bruce Breslow is the artisan who creates these glass marbles in the shop as people watch.

The store now includes a Wall of Marbles where a person can pick out an amazing variety of styles and colors of marbles in different sizes. In fact, a person can get a foot-long plastic tube in which to carry them.

In the back is Bruce's shop where he creates new marbles. A display counter exhibits other beautiful marbles which can only be described as works of art. These are created by artisans around the country. There are also other glassworks such as hearts and paperweights in

various colors and sizes.

Another part of the business is the toys and games. These are not generic games as might be found in a big box chain store. Many of these are vintage games and toys which some of us remember, such as the Slinky, Spirograph, Etch-A-Sketch and Rock'em Sock'em Robots. Doesn't that bring back memories? Almost no battery-operated toys are in the store, but there are modern types of toys such as a wall of bling for girls as well as brainteasers, gag gifts, and a junior scientist section.

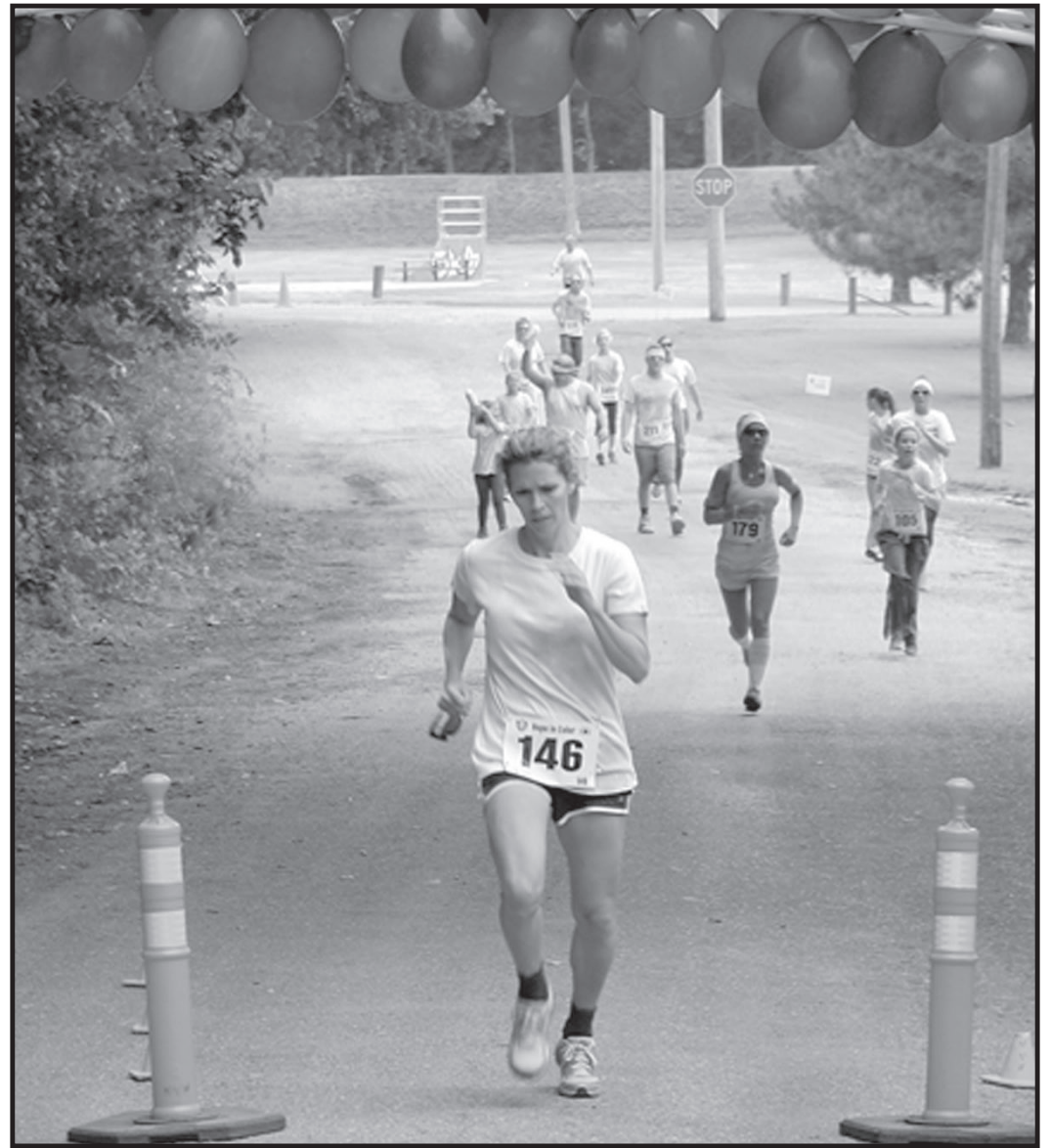
On the first weekend of March, Moon Marble Company sponsors an annual event called Marble Crazy, when artists and craftsmen from around the nation will come display their wares. The store regularly hosts tours. In fact, one page of the guest register showed visitors from Texas, Virginia, Colorado, Ohio, St. Louis, South Dakota, Germany, Ireland, and Japan.

Remember that initial load of a thousand pounds of marbles? This amazing company now regularly buys 4,000 to 5,000 pounds of marbles at a time.

For more information, go to www.moonmarble.com.

Have you lost your marbles?! If so, or even if you haven't, go to Moon Marble Company in Bonner Springs, Kan. We commend Lynda Sproules, Bruce Breslow and all involved with this business for their creative entrepreneurship. This is a store where one can find marvelous marbles and more.

Hope in color!!



Mindy Jones is seen here crossing the finish line at the Norton Valley Hope's, Hope in Color run that took place last weekend. Mindy placed first in her age division in the 5K race with a time of 28:18.

- Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Norton Valley Hope held their first annual 5-K Hope In Color Run last weekend.

There were twelve divisions based on age and separated between male and female.

In the men's division, three of the six age classes had runners. In the twelve and under group, Clayton Berry took first with a time of 25:59 and Blake Berry in second. There were no participants in the 13-17 age group. In the 18 to 35 division, Kirk Urban placed first with a time of 24 minutes flat, the fastest time of the day. Jacob Hess was second and Trevor Frontown third. For the 36-50 group,

Patrick Hall took first with a time of 29:14 followed by Travis Adams and then Doug Thraikill. There were no runners in the 51-70 or the 71-100 age division for the men.

In the female division, every group had runners with the exception of the 71-100 age division. For the 12 and under category, Ella Carter took first with a time of 27:47 followed by Catherine Hall and then Lilly Beikman. For the 13-17, girls Makensy Schroeder placed first in a time of 24:50, the second fastest runner of the day, male or female. She was followed by Nicole Thraikill

and then Audrie Burge. In the 18-35 group, Sarah Molzahn placed first, followed by Vallene Berry and Mercedes Thomas. In the 36-50 division, Mindy Jones took first in a time of 28:18 followed by Erin Smotherman and then Cheri Brooks. The last group was the 51-70 age group and Susan Engelbert took first in 37:17, followed by Randa Vollertsen and then Sue Ann Glusenkamp.

Larry Black and Steve Horney, both Valley Hope staff, said that they hope this will be the first of many color runs in the future.

SCHOOL MENU

NCHS-NIHS

- Monday, Sept. 23
Breakfast-Biscuits and gravy, bananas, grape juice and milk.
Lunch-Roast beef and cheddar wrap, corn, carrots, pears and milk.
Tuesday, Sept. 24
Breakfast-Cherry frudel, pears, grape juice and milk.
Lunch-Chicken wrap, onion and grilled peppers, lettuce and tomato, strawberries and bananas and milk.
Wednesday, Sept. 25
Breakfast-Assorted cereal, toast w/margarine, peaches, grape juice and milk.
Lunch-Chili Frito pie, carrots and celery sticks, rosy applesauce and milk.
Thursday, Sept. 26
Breakfast-Biscuit w/sausage and cheese, bananas, apple juice and milk.
Lunch-Chicken fry patty, whipped potatoes, rolls w/margarine, broccoli and cauliflower, Mandarin oranges and milk.
Friday, Sept. 27
Breakfast-Assorted hot cereal, Mandarin oranges/peaches, orange juice and milk.
Lunch-Stuffed crust cheese pizza, combo salad, pork and beans, applesauce and milk.

- Monday, Sept. 23
Breakfast-Oatmeal muffin, whole grain cereal, strawberries and milk.
Lunch-Taco crunch, peaches, tossed salad, chocolate cake and milk.
Tuesday, Sept. 24
Breakfast-Star Spangled pancakes, sausage links, orange juice and milk.
Lunch-Ham and cheese, homemade bun, pepper strips, pork and beans, pears and milk.
Wednesday, Sept. 25
Breakfast-Whole wheat bagel, oranges and milk.
Lunch-Chicken supreme, green beans, baby carrots, fruit cocktail and milk.
Thursday, Sept. 26
Breakfast-Breakfast pita, salsa, hash browns, kiwi and milk.
Lunch-Ham and beans, celery stick, cornbread, rosy applesauce and milk.
Friday, Sept. 27
Breakfast-Sausage breakfast sandwich, fruit cocktail and milk.
Lunch-BBQ beef, homemade bun, 1/2 broccoli salad, sweet potato french fries, apricots and milk.

Northern Valley Menu

- Monday, Sept. 23
Breakfast-Bagels w/toppings,

- fresh oranges, juice and assorted cold cereal.
Lunch-Sierra chicken, tossed salad w/dressing, seasoned peas and frosted pear.
Tuesday, Sept. 24
Breakfast-Cinnamon coffee-cake, fruit, eggs, apple juice and assorted cold cereal.
Lunch-Lasagna, tossed salad w/dressing, fresh relish plate and apple wedges.
Wednesday, Sept. 25
Breakfast-Breakfast pita, hash browns, kiwi and assorted cold cereal.
Lunch-Baked chicken drumstick, savory rice, seasoned mixed vegetables, oatmeal roll w/jelly and sliced peaches.
Thursday, Sept. 26
Breakfast-Western omelet quesadilla, potato rounds, pear half and assorted cold cereal.
Lunch-Nachos with ground beef, tossed salad w/dressing, seasoned peas and carrots and cantaloupe.
Friday, Sept. 27
Breakfast-Pancakes, syrup, fruit, sausage links, grape juice and assorted cold cereal.
Lunch-Turkey and biscuits, mashed potatoes, fresh relish plate, jell-o and sugar cookie.

Damar. Come in and check out his beautiful watercolor and oil paintings.

Don't forget the 40th Annual Hansen Arts & Crafts Fair on Saturday, Sept. 21. The craft show runs from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

HANSEN MUSEUM

The Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum presents "The Eckman Method® of Fine Art Cast Paper Sculpture" on Aug. 16, through Oct. 6.

Patty and Allen Eckman have been creating wonderful, high-detail works in their handmade, acid-free cast paper sculpture since 1988. They have become internationally recognized as not only masters in the medium, but at this time, the sole masters. The Eckmans have shared their work with millions of art enthusiasts over the years.

The Eckmans have developed a revolutionary process that allows the artists to turn their museum quality paper creations into bronze, while retaining the archival paper (in its original state). This process is only available through Eckman Fine Art. No other artists or foundry in the world knows how to do this.

Our September Artist of the Month is Virgil Deges from

PRAIRIE MUSEUM OF ART & HISTORY
1905 S. FRANKLIN, COLBY, KAN. WWW.PRAIRIEMUSEUM.ORG

Party for the Pottys BARN DANCE & BBQ FUNDRAISER

Fundraiser for Cooper Barn improvements, agricultural programming and a new "High & Dry: Agriculture on the High Plains" exhibit

Saturday, September 28, 2013

\$20 Includes Ticket + Meal

Buy tickets at the door or in advance at the Prairie Museum

Reserved VIP Tables

\$250 seating eight people

Does not include admission

6p.m. - BBQ
8p.m. - Home's Boys Opening Act
10p.m. - Barn Crow Band Headlining Performance
Junior Traeger Wood Pellet Grill Drawing, must be present to win

SCHOOL CALENDAR

- NCHS
Monday, Sept. 23
Kansas Scholars Press Association at FHSU
Fall play practice begins
Drama Club, A.P.
JV Football vs Plainville, 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 24 and 25
FCCLA SEAC at Hesston
Tuesday, Sept. 24
Jay Singers, 7:45 a.m.
Hearing and vision screening
Homecoming Royalty pre-election, 8:30 a.m.
MCL meeting at Hill City, 10 a.m.
Student focus group, A.P.
JV Tennis at Goodland, 3 p.m.
JV/V VB at Hill City with Hoxie, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 25
FFA Regional Land Judging

- at Cheylin
S.A.C. meeting, A.P.
Thursday, Sept. 26
Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m.
JV Tennis at Trego (re-scheduled from Sept. 12), 1 p.m.
Varsity Tennis at Russell, 1 p.m.
JV/V CC at Hill City, 5 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 27
Registration deadline for Oct. 27 A.C.T.
Spanish Spelling Bee, A.P.
Football vs Oberlin, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 28
CC at Rim Rock/Lawrence, 9 a.m.
JV Tennis at Phillipsburg, 9 a.m.
Varsity Tennis at Trego, 9 a.m.
NIHS
Tuesday, Sept. 24
Hearing and vision screening
Wednesday, Sept. 25

- Gifted seminar in Minden, Neb.
Thursday, Sept. 26
VB and FB vs. Oakley, 4:30/5:30 p.m.
EES
Monday, Sept. 23
Girls basketball practice begins, 3:45 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 24
Body Venture set-up at East Campus, 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 25
S.I.T., 7:45 a.m.
Body Venture at East Campus (K-5), 8:45 a.m.
Thursday, Sept. 26
Title I parents meeting and book swap, 5:30 p.m.
Northern Valley
Schedule unavailable at time of printing.

NEEDING TO ADVERTISE?

Send your Ad to The Norton Telegram via FAX or EMAIL

All We Need is Your Contact Information!



OR



EMAIL ADDRESS:

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com
or dpaxton@nwkansas.com

FAX NUMBER:

Norton Telegram
785-877-3732

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

215 South Kansas Avenue
Norton, Kansas, 67654
Phone: 785-877-3361

