

# Former Stocktonites



**THESE THREE COUPLES** once called Stockton their home in the mid-1970s. Pictured are (in front) Paul and Kim Allen (Kim was an English/Drama teacher); (in back, from left) Randy and Alma Baxter (Alma taught Spanish in Stockton), and Genevieve and Mike Remus (Mike was an ED teacher in the area).

## NEWS FROM LOWELL TOWNSHIP

By Linda Melton

Phone:  
785-994-6370 (home)  
or  
785-476-5206 (cell)



We received 1.20 inches of rain on Tuesday of last week, and it dried up pretty quickly after such a muddy morning. I had to take the tractor to fix the fence, but it slipped too far with the front tires while trying to turn around in the road. However, I ended up getting out okay, just leaving horrible tracks. I was not planning on walking home in the rain.

I'm glad we only have the Highway 24 Garage Sale weekend once a year. It can be fun looking for a bargain, but it's also time-consuming. We had a work night at the museum on Thursday evening last week, preparing for the sale. I went to several on Friday morning and purchased some useful items, including steel fence posts, bags of mulch, paint, baking pans, good, heavy boots for chores, a pie carrier, and a little grinder. Also, a set of uni-

corn dishes that will find a new home in Iowa and bring happiness to a little girl. I found an old Swedish centennial cookbook dated 1848-1948, the year I was born. All the advertising is from places in Iowa, and members of a Lutheran church compiled the cookbook.

I drove to Clay Center on Saturday for the wedding of my niece, Hailey Sharp, to Ted Skalsky at the Catholic Church. Following the ceremony, the supper and dance were held near Leonardville at the 14 Hands Ranch, home of the bride's family. The weather cooperated, and it was a beautiful setting, thanks to the hard work and planning of family and friends. Several large tents were set up, chairs and tables decorated with green canning jars of wildflowers and daisies, a bar and remarkable dance floor had been built, and plenty of parking areas with lighted fencing leading down through the animal pens and even a beautiful moon later on in the evening. Wedding photos of the grandparents, great-grandparents, and parents, along with their wedding dates, were placed on pallets around additional containers of flowers and plants. The band, called "Brick Horse"

from Emporia, had been playing together for ten years. They played quite a bit of country music, and the lead singer was excellent. The wedding couple will be making their home in eastern Nebraska, where John Deere employs Ted. Before the day was over on Sunday, the tents, dance floor, tables and chairs, and site were cleaned up by the family and wedding party. Steve wasn't up for the trip, so I drove home afterward, arriving at midnight. Those lovely deer were on the move, and I saw several along the roadside, avoiding hitting two at different spots.

This is what farm women do! I shut both chicken coops and discovered I had caught another coon in my trap, so I changed clothes and hauled the angry snarling coon down to the river at 12:30 at night. On the way home, another deer was on the road. The moral of the story is do not drive after dark!

Story Time at the museum on Saturday morning, May 24, was a consolidation of both patriotic Memorial Day and honoring Father's Day. The next Story Time will be held on Saturday, June 21, the first day of summer, so mark your calendars.

Happy Birthday, Rayland! One of my favorite nephews is having a birthday on Wednesday, June 11.

Be thinking of what to give or do for your father or grandfather on their Sunday. No ties, please. Take them out to dinner or prepare their favorite breakfast or dinner. Give them a gift certificate or wash and clean their vehicle. Let them know you appreciate all they do for you.

While living in Salina, I delivered ink jets to businesses and was sent out to the Land Institute. It is a nonprofit research organization located southeast of Salina, working to change the future of farming. Led by plant breeders, ecologists, and sociologists, it was founded in 1976. I recall that, at times, there have been controversies over specific topics. The goal is to create an alternative farming system based on perennial grains that will produce abundant food while minimizing environmental harm. I have always wanted to attend some of their functions, but I never got the chance. The Institute aims to utilize perennial grain crops to minimize annual tillage and replanting. Annual crops, such as corn, wheat, and soybeans, play a crucial role in feeding the world, but they also contribute to soil erosion and pollution from the use of fertilizers and pesticides. The Institute is attempting to adapt existing crops and develop new ones, such as Kernza, a perennial grain with numerous benefits. Kernza's seed heads

# KANSAS KLIPS

## KBI arrests law enforcement officer for child sex crimes

FORD COUNTY—Agents with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) arrested a Kansas law enforcement officer for child sex crimes. On Friday, May 30th, just before 7:00 a.m., KBI agents arrested 42-year-old Erik Lalicker. Lalicker was arrested for seven counts of sexual exploitation of a child. Lalicker served as a Kansas Gaming And Racing Commission (KGRC) Enforcement Agent. Lalicker is currently on administrative leave pending the investigation. The KBI Child Victims Unit began investigation after a cyber tip was submitted to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). Following the arrest, Lalicker was booked into the Ford County Jail on a \$75,000.00 bond. All subjects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Anyone with information related to this investigation is asked to call the KBI at 1-800-KS-CRIME. Anonymous tips can be submitted online at [www.kbi.ks.gov/sar](http://www.kbi.ks.gov/sar). The investigation is ongoing. The case is expected to be prosecuted by the Clark County Attorney's Office. (KBI News)

## Suspect who shot KC area officer multiple times captured in Ellis County

ELLIS COUNTY—The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) canceled the Kansas Blue Alert that was issued after law enforcement were searching for a suspect believed to have shot a Lee's Summit police officer on Sunday night, June 1st, according to a media release from the KBI. The alert was canceled on Tuesday morning, June 3rd, after Thomas Eugene Tolbert, 27, was located and apprehended in Ellis, Kansas. In the early morning hours of June 3rd, the Ellis Police Department received a tip via CrimeStoppers that the suspect, identified as Thomas Tolbert, was staying at the Days Inn Hotel, located at 205 Washington Street in Ellis, according to a press release from the Ellis Police Department. The Ellis Police officer on duty requested that the CrimeStoppers tip line get in contact with Ellis County Communications to gather the most accurate information and broadcast it out to area law enforcement units. All available units were requested to respond to the City of Ellis so that a plan could be devised to verify the integrity of the tip that was received, the release said. At about 2:42 a.m., Ellis County Communications received additional information from witnesses who reported giving Tolbert a ride from the Kansas City, Missouri area. They stated they were enroute to Colorado and had been asked by a third party to transport Tolbert, unaware of his connection to the Blue Alert, the release said. According to the witnesses, Tolbert provided a false name and began acting suspiciously during the trip. Upon stopping to rest for the night, one of the witnesses saw the Blue Alert on social media featuring Tolbert's image and immediately contacted law enforcement. At 2:45 a.m., the Ellis Police Department requested activation of the Hays Police Department's Special Situation Response Team (SSRT). Members of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation also responded to the scene. At 4:39 a.m. SSRT began evacuating adjacent hotel rooms. Officers from the Hays Police Department, deputies from the Ellis County Sheriff's Office and KBI agents arrived at the hotel and safely took Tolbert into custody at 4:40 a.m. The KBI said Tolbert was arrested on a Missouri warrant for assault first-degree or attempted serious physical injury, armed criminal coercion, unlawful possession of a firearm, resisting arrest or detention by fleeing, and second-degree domestic assault. He was booked into the Ellis County Sheriff's Office Jail. (Hays Post)

## Water rescues after heavy rains cause flash flooding in Kansas

WICHITA—Heavy rains caused flash flooding in the Wichita area of south-central Kansas, forcing firefighters to rescue dozens of people including stranded motorists. Sedgwick County's Emergency Management Director, Julie Stimson, said at a briefing on Tuesday night, June 3rd, that the County had received anywhere from one and one half inches to seven inches since Monday, June 2nd. She warned motorists who run into flooded areas not to drive around barricades and emergency vehicles and to turn around instead. Kansas Governor Laura Kelly issued a disaster emergency declaration to enable state agencies to provide assistance. The Wichita Fire Department used boats to rescue several motorists trapped in their cars. While the water sometimes reached windshield height, some people still attempted to drive through it. With more rain in the forecast officials warned that the soil in the area is saturated and even an inch or two of rainfall could lead to localized flooding. (Hays Post)

## Road closed in Russell County due to bridge collapse

RUSSELL COUNTY—The Russell County Road and Bridge Department closed a portion of Michaelis Road, between 189th Street and 190th Street due to a collapsed bridge. The bridge will remain closed until further notice. Motorists are advised to find an alternate route and be mindful of barricades. (Hays Post)

## Arson fire at Salina bank

SALINE COUNTY—Just after 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 4th, police respond to First Bank, 1333 W. Crawford, in Salina in reference to a damage to property, according to Salina Police Captain James Feldman. It was determined when employees arrived, they located a window along the west side of the building had been broken out with an unknown object. The suspect then started a fire in the area of the window, damaging some window trim and carpet just inside the damaged window. No entry was gained into the building. The damage is valued at \$4,000.00. Salina Fire Department Inspectors are assisting with the investigation. (Hays Post)

can contain more seeds than wheat heads, and cattle can graze its leftover leaves, stems, and regrowth, and it grows back each year because it is a perennial. Some craft breweries are beginning to use this grain for the sweet nutty flavor. Some bakeries and restaurants are developing Kernza bread, pasta, crackers, and pancakes. Friday morning tours are offered from April to November for guided walking tours of the research plots, buildings, and greenhouses. Tour forms are available at [landinstitute.org](http://landinstitute.org). The Land Institute's Marty

Bender Nature area can also be visited, located one mile north of the main grounds. It is a 206-acre nature area featuring a three-mile hiking trail that winds through the prairie and along the Smoky Hill River.

I read an article about rodeo history, and the oldest consecutive rodeo in Kansas is the Strong City Flint Hills Rodeo, held the first weekend following Memorial Day. This rodeo owes much of its history to the Emmett Roberts family, with world champion performers including the oldest child, Marge Roberts, who won the women's bronc riding

in Cheyenne in 1940. Her younger brother, Ken, was named world champion bull rider in 1943, 1944, and 1945. Gerald, another brother, was the first Kansas cowboy to become the world's all-around cowboy in 1942 and again in 1948. Descendants of this family still reside and do business in Chase County, and the Roberts family hosted the regional cowboy poetry contest on Saturday, June 7, in Cottonwood Falls. I remember Ken and Gerald Roberts in connection with the Wild Bill Hickok Rodeo in

SEE **LOWELL, 10A**

Back in Shakespeare's day, mattresses were fastened to bed frames by ropes; by doing this you were able to pull the ropes which would make the mattress tighter, therefore making it firmer to sleep on... hence the saying, "goodnight, sleep tight."

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CRAWFORD COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE INTEREST OF:  
H.A. Case No. CRG-2022-JC-000092  
Year of Birth 2018 A minor child

### NOTICE OF HEARING Publication

Pursuant to K.S.A. 38-2237

TO: CODY ALLEN-and all other persons who are or may be concerned

You are hereby notified that a Motion of Unfitness and Termination of Parental Rights has been filed in this court. The Court may find that the parents are unfit by reason or conduct or condition which renders the parents unable to care properly for a child, the conduct or condition is unlikely to change in the foreseeable

future, the parental rights of the parent should be terminated, and a permanent custodian should be appointed for the child.

An Adjudication and Severance hearing is scheduled for the 7th day of July, 2025, at 11:00 AM. At the hearing the Court may issue orders relating to the care, custody and control of the child. The hearing will determine if the parents should be deprived of their parental rights and the right to custody of the child.

The parents, and any other person having legal custody are required to appear before this Court on the date and time shown, or to file your written response to the petition with the Clerk of the District Court prior to that time. Failure to respond or to appear before the Court at the time shown will not prevent the Court from finding the parents unfit, and entering an order

permanently terminating the parents' parental rights.

An attorney has been appointed as guardian *ad litem* for the child: Matthew Bonner, 405 East McKay St., P.O. Box 931, Frontenac, KS 66763, (620) 392-3129. You have the right to appear before the Court and be heard personally, either with or without an attorney. The Court may order one or both parents to pay child support. An attorney has been appointed for you: Candace M. Gayoso, 1120 Military Ave., P.O. Box 284, Baxter Springs, KS 66713. (620) 860-1771.

**Date and time of hearing: July 7, 2025, at 11:00 AM.**

**Place of hearing: Crawford County Courthouse, 111 E. Forest, 3rd Floor, Girard, KS**

County Attorney's Office  
By: Scott Tyrell, Juvenile Clerk

(First Published in the Stockton Sentinel June 12, 2025 and June 19, 2025—2tc)

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WEBSTER IRRIGATION DISTRICT #4

President: LANCE KENDIG

Vice-President: RUSSELL E. MICK

Secretary-Treasurer: TONY DIBBLE  
(First Published in the Stockton Sentinel June 12, 2025—1t)

Terry L. Cikanek  
CIKANEK LAW OFFICE  
P. O. Box 517  
Stockton, KS 67669  
(785) 425-6731  
Attorney for Petitioner

(First Published in the Stockton Sentinel June 5, 2025, June 12, 2025 and June 19, 2025—3tc)