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51 VOL. 128 ISS. 9 - 50 PAGES **SUNDAY APRIL 28, 2013** **SO LONG GENE!**
 Community says goodbye at Gene Austin's retirement reception **PAGE 4A**

LEADER & TIMES
 Your daily news & view in 127 pages

INSIDE
 GARDEN CITY: **Planting tips, when real spring arrives**
 GARDEN CITY: **Garden City school district community approach differs from that of Liberal**
 GARDEN CITY: **Check out Kansas Sampler Festival exhibitors**

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Becky Davis, Garden City school district superintendent, speaks at a recent meeting. She is seen here with a young boy, who is helping her with the alphabet blocks.

Planting tips, when real spring arrives

By David H. Jones
 Despite an early start to the spring season, it is still a long way off from the conditions that gardeners would like to see. The weather is still in the "gray" area, and it is not yet time to plant. Gardeners are advised to wait until the weather is more consistently warm and sunny. The best time to plant is when the soil temperature is consistently above 50 degrees Fahrenheit. This usually occurs in late May or early June. Gardeners should also watch for signs of frost, as a late frost can damage newly planted seedlings. It is best to start plants in containers and move them outdoors as the weather warms up.

Garden City school district community approach differs from that of Liberal

By David H. Jones
 Garden City school district superintendent Becky Davis says the district's approach to community engagement is different from that of Liberal. Davis notes that Garden City has a more "open-door" policy, allowing parents and community members to visit the school district's offices at any time. In contrast, Davis says that Liberal has a more formal process for community input, often involving scheduled meetings and a more structured agenda. Davis emphasizes that Garden City's goal is to build a strong, collaborative relationship with the community, ensuring that the district's decisions are informed by the needs and concerns of its residents. She mentions that Garden City has a dedicated community liaison position to facilitate this process.

Check out Kansas Sampler Festival exhibitors

- ADULTS \$5 • CHILDREN 7-12 \$3
 6 AND UNDER FREE**
 Weekend saver pass \$9 adults/\$4 child
- Are you looking for hiking trails, off-the-beaten-track nature, historic sites, live/recorded performing artists, specialty shops, unique products or Kansas events? This festival is for you!
- Washington County - 2PM**
 Garden City School District, Garden City Public Library, Garden City Community Center, Garden City Senior Center, Garden City Historical Society, Garden City Parks & Recreation, Garden City Chamber of Commerce, Garden City Art Center, Garden City Music Center, Garden City Theater, Garden City Opera House, Garden City Community Center, Garden City Public Library, Garden City Community Center, Garden City Senior Center, Garden City Historical Society, Garden City Parks & Recreation, Garden City Chamber of Commerce, Garden City Art Center, Garden City Music Center, Garden City Theater, Garden City Opera House.
 - Southwest Kansas Tourism Region**
 Garden City School District, Garden City Public Library, Garden City Community Center, Garden City Senior Center, Garden City Historical Society, Garden City Parks & Recreation, Garden City Chamber of Commerce, Garden City Art Center, Garden City Music Center, Garden City Theater, Garden City Opera House.
 - Bank Center Region**
 Garden City School District, Garden City Public Library, Garden City Community Center, Garden City Senior Center, Garden City Historical Society, Garden City Parks & Recreation, Garden City Chamber of Commerce, Garden City Art Center, Garden City Music Center, Garden City Theater, Garden City Opera House.

DINOSAURS INVADING LIBERAL
 After a week in water storage, dinosaurs are beginning to crawl out of their shells in Liberal. This event is a chance to see these prehistoric creatures up close. The dinosaurs will be displayed in a large hall at the Garden City Historical Society. Tickets are available at the door. **APRIL 5 - 5:00 P**