

# Local representative given academic position at college

Rep. Ward Cassidy of St. Francis has been named assistant vice president of the Northwest Kansas Technical College, with responsibilities in academic support and outreach.

"I really like to work with kids so it's going to be a lot of fun for me," the retiring representative said.

Cassidy will head up the outreach program for the college, bringing high school students to the college and helping them take college courses before they graduate high school. This includes technical education courses, involving a number of High School students.

Not everyone goes to college, Cassidy said, and taking these courses will help these kids earn more money later on in life.

He described the position as a part-time job which "will help

with my ability to watch my grandkids play sports."

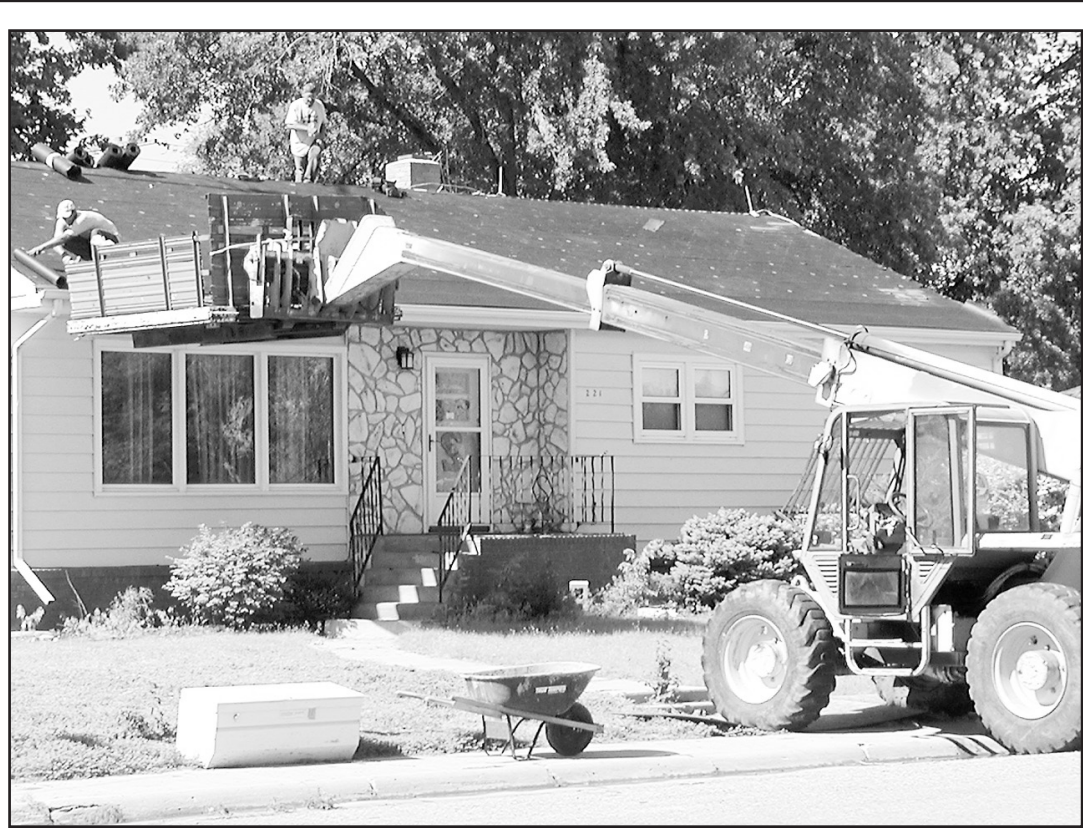
Cassidy said he would be running for re-election if he had not promised to stop missing his grandkids' games. He has represented the six northwest Kansas counties in House District 120 since November 2010 and announced earlier this year that he would not run for re-election. During that time, Cassidy said, he talked with the junior colleges in his district many times, trying to get them more money from the state.

He holds a Specialist in Education degree from Fort Hays State University, and a master's in counseling and administration and a Bachelor of Science from Northwest Oklahoma State University in Alva.

Cassidy was a secondary principal, counselor, social studies

teacher and basketball coach for many years. He has served on the advisory board for the Kansas State High School Activities Association, a member of the association's Hall of Fame selection committee and as a board member of the Kansas Secondary School Principals Association. He was Kansas Secondary Principal of the Year in 1989.

"We couldn't be more pleased that Rep. Cassidy is joining the leadership team at Northwest Tech," said college President Ed Mills. "He brings an incredibly rich educational background to the campus that will be, first and foremost, great for our students. I know he will make a great many wonderful contributions to the quality of our programs, outreach initiatives and to the future of this great college."



TIA SAGER'S house receives some roof work during the warmer weather.

Times staff photo by Tim Burr

# Start preparing for county fair parade

Amanda Miller

amiller@nwkansas.com

'From Cowboys to Cadillacs' is the Cheyenne County Fair Parade theme this year, and it's all about celebrating every kind of cowboy, from the cattlemen and drovers to the Cadillac driving ranch owner. Don't be intimidated, get your cowboy boots, black felt cowboy hat and lassos out to show your support for the fair Saturday, August 9, at 10 a.m.!

There is still plenty of time to begin decorating the parade entry, whether it be a float, an individual entry, horses, or even an antique Cadillac.

Many have asked what the theme means this year. As some country music fans know, there are a few songs about cowboys and Cadillacs out there. Cadillacs have a recurring place in the cowboy culture; a pickup truck is even called a 'cowboy's Cadillac' by some. If confused on how to decorate a float, all one has to do is decorate it to celebrate cowboy culture and you can't go wrong!

First National Bank has been the organizer for the fair parade for a number of years, with Carla Lampe assuming the position of parade coordinator. She said she is looking forward to seeing what the community will bring to this year's parade.

The floats will be judged by two to three judges who are picked locally by the parade or-

ganizer.

Mrs. Lampe said the floats are judged on uniqueness, creativity and how the float embraced the theme.

There will be three categories of entry: Family, Commercial, and Organization/Club. Each category will have a winner, and there is an overall grand champion chosen from the category winners.

"We are encouraging every individual, family, business and organization to make a float," Mrs. Lampe said.

"People enjoy seeing the kids on bikes, four-wheelers or their own special creative float. They also like the horses, antique vehicles, derby cars and 4-H winners, just to name a few."

There is no pre-registration even those that decide last minute to join are welcome. Those entering the parade just line up in front of the high school on College street in St. Francis. The parade coordinators will be at the top of Washington street to help anyone with questions.

Children on bikes and those on motorcycles will be kept in circle drive, so that they can all go at once in the parade. This is to keep the little ones safer during the parade.

For additional information, contact Mrs. Lampe at 785-332-2145 or 785-332-2913.

## Ag Talk with Jeanne

By Jeanne Falk  
Agronomy Specialist

### Controlling Weeds in Wheat Stubble

Due to rainfall across our area, weeds are rapidly growing in wheat stubble. It is a good idea to control these weeds now, before they set seed. It is also a good time to control them with the recent rains because they are actively growing and will rapidly take up the herbicides.

Weeds growing now in wheat stubble fields, without crop competition, set ample seed - which will likely cause a problem in following crops. It is especially important to prevent seed production from happening on fields that will be planted to crops with limited options for weed control, such as grain sorghum, sunflower, or annual forages. It is especially difficult to control broadleaf weeds in sunflower and grassy weeds in sorghum that emerge after crop emergence. Preventing weed seed production ahead of these crops is essential. Seed of some weed species can remain viable for several years, so allowing weeds to produce seed can create weed problems for multiple years.

In addition, as we progress to the end of July and early August, the kochia and Russian thistle will begin to flower. This is because they are sensitive to the daylength and the shortening days trigger flowering. It is important to control these weeds before they begin to produce seeds.

If the field will be planted to Roundup Ready corn or soybeans, producers may decide they can just wait and control any weed and grass seed that form now and

emerge next season with a post-emergence application of glyphosate in the corn or soybeans. However, with the concerns over the development of glyphosate-resistant weeds, kochia, Palmer amaranth, and waterhemp, it would be far better to control these weeds now in wheat stubble. That way, other herbicides with a different mode of action can be tank-mixed with glyphosate to ensure adequate control.

Producers should control weeds in wheat stubble fields by applying the full labeled rate of glyphosate with the proper rate of ammonium sulfate additive. As mentioned, it is also a good idea to add 2,4-D or dicamba (unless there is cotton or other susceptible crops in the area) to the glyphosate. Do not apply the growth regulator herbicides around cotton. Tank mixes of glyphosate and either 2,4-D or dicamba will help control weeds that are difficult to control with glyphosate alone, and will help reduce the chances of developing glyphosate-tolerant weed populations.

Often dicamba or 2,4-D tank-mixes with glyphosate may not perform well under the drier conditions of western Kansas, especially on kochia and Russian thistle; however this year with the improved moisture conditions, we may find glyphosate tank mixes will work well. If drought and heat stress set in, however, utilizing Gramoxone with atrazine (atrazine is synergistic with Gramoxone) has been a more ef-

fective treatment than glyphosate/dicamba or glyphosate/2,4-D.

Several have asked about the addition of atrazine for residual weed control in fallow. Although atrazine provides residual control of weeds, it is best applied later in the fall. At this time of year, atrazine residual is quite short and will not provide adequate control of fall emerged weeds/winter annuals. An application of atrazine needs to be made in the fall (mid October through November), depending on the weeds being targeted. Also, keep in mind that atrazine antagonizes glyphosate - just the opposite of the synergistic effect of atrazine and Gramoxone. Do not apply atrazine with reduced rates of glyphosate.

If you have any questions, please contact the K-State Research and Extension Office or the K-State Experiment Station in Colby. You can also find information on Facebook at K-State Sunflower District Agronomy or on Twitter at @cropswithJeanne. Check out the K-State Sunflower District website at www.sunflower.ksu.edu and click on the 'Agronomy' tab.

## Life with your cat

Life with a cat can be like a soap opera, with owner and pet enjoying each other's company one minute, exchanging dirty looks the next. But Dr. Kathy Gaughan, Kansas State University veterinarian with an interest in animal behavior, says that your cat isn't the vindictive villain you sometimes think it is.

Dr. Gaughan explains that cats don't need attention in the same way that dogs do. "Cats understand commands, but may not care if they please you. We can't interact with them the same way as with dogs," she said.

People may automatically assume that because cats are house pets, they behave similarly to dogs. Unlike dogs, cats do not associate human owners as part of their packs because cats aren't pack animals. Being a loner is fashionably feline and people can still benefit from having a cat around.

"Owners who are gone a lot appreciate the differences and enjoy the cat's independence. Cats typically don't require excessive social interaction or undergo separation anxiety as much as dogs," Dr. Gaughan said.

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**Tim Burr**  
Advertising Manager  
[tburr@nwkansas.com](mailto:tburr@nwkansas.com)

310 W. Washington PO Box 1050 St. Francis, KS 67756  
sfherald@nwkansas.com  
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