# OBITUARIES

Loretta Faye Ellis Dec. 25, 1929 - Feb. 13, 2014

Loretta Faye Ellis was born the eldest daughter of Arlie and Cora Poage, on Dec. 25, 1929 in Dellvale, Kan. She passed away at Huguley Community Hospice House in Fort Worth, Texas, on Feb. 13, 2014, at the age of 84.

Loretta graduated from Norton Community High School in 1947. In 1948, she married Warren Fought. Two sons were born to this union. They farmed northwest of Lenora, until 1976.

In 1986, Loretta married Le-Roy Irey of Oshkosh, Neb. They farmed and spent the winter months in Southern Texas, where they purchased a home. She continued to live there after the death of LeRoy in 1993.

In 2000, she married Gerald



Ellis, moving later to Alvarado,

Loretta was a member of the

Lenora Rebeka Lodge # 381, life member of the Elks Lodge of Sidney, Neb., and VFW Auxiliary of Oshkosh, Neb.

Loretta is survived by her husband Gerald, of the home, two sons, Melvin and Larry Fought and wife Brenda, one sister, Joyce Mapes and husband Bob of Norton. One stepdaughter, Marjorie Selsor and one step-son, Steve Turner. Two granddaughters, three greatgranddaughters, one niece and several nephews.

Loretta was preceded in death by her parents, one brother, one sister, one granddaughter, and one nephew.

## 50th Wedding Anniversary

lames L. (lim) and Rose Ann Miller will observe their 50th wedding anniversary on March 1. They were married in 1964 at the Maple Grove Church of the Brethren and have lived in the Norton area ever since.

They have a son, Tad J. Miller, his wife Janet Driscoll Miller, and two granddaughters, Emma, age eight and Molly, age five, who live in the Charlottesville, Va. area.



# Storm spotting classes set

The annual Kansas Severe Weather Awareness Week safety campaign is coming up in March. National Weather Service (NWS) offices in cooperation with emergency management officials have designated the week of March 3-7, 2014 as Burial was held in the Lenora Kansas Severe Weather Awareness Week. This week also coincides with National Severe Storm Preparedness Week, a nationwide severe storm awareness campaign. An information packet containing interesting and educational facts regarding severe storms can be found on our website (weather.gov/goodland) in the Top News of the Day section.

> During that week, severe storm and safety information will be posted on our web and Facebook pages. The highlight of the week is the tornado drill, when Weather Service offices serving the state issue a test Tornado Warning. The test warning this year will take place Tues

day, March 4 at 12:30 pm MST (1:30 pm CST) and will air on all radio and television broadcast stations as well as National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio. Everyone is encouraged to treat the test warning as if it were an actual emergency and review preparedness procedures. Municipalities throughout the state are encouraged to sound their tornado sirens, and school officials are encouraged to send students to their designated tornado shelter and provide a review of safety information.

Storm spotter training classes in the Tri-State area will begin March 3 and wrap up on March 28. Classes are open to people of all ages with an interest in learning more about High Plains' storms, weather safety or storm spotting. Classes are free and there are no prerequisites. One class will be held in each county on a weekday evening between 6:30 and 8:45 pm.

Topics will include an update on Wireless Emergency Alerts, Impact-Based Warnings, thunderstorm organization and evolution, clouds associated with thunderstorms and their meaning for spotters, thunderstorm hazards, safety, severe weather elements to report and how to report. Elementary and high school science teachers, you might consider giving your students extra credit for attending

For information, contact me: via email: david.l.floyd@noaa.gov phone:785-899-6412.

Area spotter class locations are as follows: Hill City, 6:30 p.m. on March 4 at the Frontier Stage, 321 E. Main; Norton, 6:30 p.m. on March 11 in the downstairs of Prairie Land Electric and in Oberlin on March 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the Gateway Building.

#### Patricia Ann Swank Masden March 21, 1940 - Feb. 18, 2014

Patricia Ann Swank Masden, 73, of Eudora, entered Heaven's gates on Feb. 18, 2014.

She was born in Hill City, March 21, 1940, to the late Kathrine Brown and Ralph Swank. Patricia graduated from Trego High School in 1958; following her graduation she married her husband of 56 years Dan Masden.

and graduated from the Hollywood Beauty School in Denver,

Patricia is survived by three children: Kenneth Masden, of Las Vegas, Nev.; Melissa Bailey of Kansas; and David Masden, of Colorado. She is also survived by six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Patricia had a love of style, Saturday, Feb. 22, 2014, at

10:30 a.m. at the United Parish Church in Lenora.

East Cemetery.

A memorial has been established to the Lenora United Parish Church.

Arrangements were with the Enfield Funeral Home of Norton and condolences may be sent to www.enfieldfh.com.

## Commercial operators urged to register

Time is running out on a two month grace period for heavy trucks and trailers to renew their registration in the new Commercial Motor Vehicle system.

Jan. 1, 2014 the state switched to a new registration system for commercial motor vehicles and the current grace period through Feb. 28, 2014 for registrations that expired Dec. 31, 2013.

Farm vehicle registration is not affected by registrations.

Since Jan. 1, more than 42,000 commercial motor vehicles have been successfully registered at the 72 county and state offices offering the service. Starting March 1, 2014, commercial motor vehicles with expired tags could be ticketed by law enforcement.

"The last week of the month is always a busy time for county treasurers as many drivers wait until the end of the month to renew their tags," said Vehicles Director Lisa Kaspar. "We are urging businesses whose commercial motor vehicle registration expired in December to not wait until the last moment particularly because their county treasurer might not offer commercial motor vehicle registration or they may need to register for a U.S. DOT number."

Motor carriers operating solely in Kansas as an intrastate motor carrier will receive a new license plate. The new white and purple plate marked "Commercial" will provide an easy reference for law enforcement. Kansas-based motor carriers that drive in Kansas and other states and currently have an apportioned tag will continue to receive the license plate that is white with red marked "Apportioned."

The definition of a commercial vehicle is not changing; the federal rules have been in place since July 2000. The new system will help ensure that all commercial vehicles are properly registered and comply with existing federal and state laws. Currently, commercial vehicles

should be operating under a U.S. Department of Transportation number; that number will be used to set up the new intrastate commercial vehicle registration account.

A commercial vehicle is a nonfarm vehicle used to transport property or passengers and has a gross vehicle weight or gross combination vehicle weight of 10,001 pounds or more. Is designed or used to transport 15 or more passengers, including the driver or is used to transport hazardous material in a quantity requiring placarding.

If a vehicle meets any one of the three criteria, it is considered a commercial vehicle.

More information is available in the commercial vehicle registration section of www. truckingks.org, there operators can also check if their county treasurer's office offers commercial vehicle registration or to register for a Department of Transportation number.

#### K-State makes Everest the summit of wheat

For the second year in a row, a variety of wheat developed by Kansas State University is the leading variety in Kansas.

Everest, a variety released by K-State in 2009, has maintained its dominant position at 14.3 percent of the total acre- yellow dwarf than most varietage, according to Kansas Agri- ies, as well as more resistant to cultural Statistic's 2014 "Wheat Fusarium head scab than most Varieties" report at 1.usa. gov/1miom26. The report lists the most widely-planted varieties in the state, both overall and for each of the nine crop reporting districts, based on a survey of producers.

Everest leads the pack in terms of planted acreage in all six of the central and eastern districts, its primary areas of adaptability. It also led the state overall in terms of acreage planted to winter wheat in the fall of 2013.

Everest was developed by Allan Fritz, K-State Research and Extension wheat breeder in Manhattan, who said the highyielding variety provides producers in central and eastern Kansas with a strong combination of traits.

"It is more resistant to barley

varieties," Fritz said. "These two diseases can be serious problems in central and eastern Kansas, and there are few other varieties on the market with very good resistance to either one of those diseases."

Everest also has Hessian fly and leaf rust resistance, he said.

#### Time to thumb through the gardening catalogs

Kay Melia

vkmelia@yahoo.com

Once again, the great influx of garden catalogs has left most of us a bit bleary eyed!

When you slowly thumb your way through 15 or 20 of those wonderfully colorful publications looking for that perfect tomato, or the hardiest echinacea, your eyes become achy and watery and you wonder if those monthly eye injections are really doing the job!

But, as gardeners, we all do that, don't we? The only way to spend a cold, windy, snowy, February afternoon is to curl up in the lounger and slowly digest the gorgeous color and perfect shape of thousands of examples of today's flora and fauna.

Several years ago, it was my pleasure to visit the headquarters of the Burpee Seed Company in Warminster, Pa., just outside of Philadelphia. I half jokingly suggested to the Burpee Public Relations Director that some of those seed catalog pictures might be slightly retouched. Wrong observation! I received a good natured lecture on professional camera work and proper selection of subject matter.

I thought about that conversation last week while studying the new 2014 edition of the Burpee catalog. As was the case with last year's catalog, Burpee is featur-

ing another new, unbelievably huge tomato on the cover. Last year, it was the monstrous Super Sauce variety, and this year, it's one called Steakhouse Hybrid. It is billed as "the world's biggest" tomato. Could be true I suppose. The description says the fruit weight will vary from 24 to 48 ounces. Order a packet of 25 seeds for \$6.95, plus shipping. Of course I'll have to try a packet. I bought a pack of last year's Super Sauce, and it was far from my best producer.

But you've got to try some of these new things. The Burpee people are brilliant to put a big new tomato on their cover because they realize that tomatoes are number one in the eyes of nearly every vegetable gardener.

I'm sorry to report that Burpee dropped my all-time favorite tomato from their catalog offerings this year. There is no Northern Exposure listed among their tomato selections. I called them to ask why. They said they couldn't list 'em all.... but they still had Northern Exposure available. I felt a lot bet-

Burpee certainly has the most dramatically colored catalog of all that I have seen this year. The flowers and vegetables really jump out at you. George Gurney is doing something interesting. His prices on just about everything in his book are almost

twice the price of other Companies prices. But wait! On the front cover of the catalog there is a coupon worth 50 percent off everything in the catalogue. What?

I still like the J. W. Jung catalogue the best. Their stuff is easier to find due to an excellent job of arranging categorically. The Park Seed Company has an "easy to find" system as well. None of the ones I studied is bad! I love 'em all! I've never sent one back yet!



## Comments requested on amendment

The Kansas Department of Transportation requests comments on the amendment of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program FY 14-17.

The Improvement Program is a project specific publication that lists all Department of Transportation administered projects, regardless of funding source, and includes projects for counties and cities as well as projects on the State Highway System.

The list of project(s) being amended to the Improvement Program is located at www. ksdot.org/burProgProjMgmt/ STIP/stip1117/StipHome1117.

The amendment of the Improvement Program requires a public comment period of 14 days, which concludes March 5, 2014. To make a comment on this Improvement Program amendment, contact the Department's Bureau of Program and Project Management at (785) 296-2252.





This ad is brought to you by The Norton Telegram

The Monument's Men (PG-13