

**Gerald L. Baalman**

Aug. 22, 1960 - April 24, 2009

Gerald L. Baalman, 48, Gore, Okla., died Friday, April 24, 2009.

He was born Aug. 22, 1960, in Goodland, Kan., the son LeRoy C. and Margaret Ann (Cress) Baalman. In 1979, he graduated from Goodland High School, and in 1994, he graduated from Northwest Kansas Technical College in communications technology, with the distinction of perfect attendance.

He worked at local restaurants and gas stations in Goodland; IBP in Garden City; World Communications and Williams in Tulsa, Okla.; and also as a truck driver with Schneider and PTI. He was able to stay overnight at home in Goodland on his Oklahoma to Denver, Colo., route.

He was an avid hunter, and he enjoyed fishing, archery, baseball, and all of the great outdoors.

In 1984, he met Lisa Shaurette in Garden City. In 1995, he and Janet Ritter were married in Colby. In 2006, he and Angela Moore were married in Fort Smith, Ark.

Preceding him in death were his father LeRoy C. Baalman, who died Sept. 28, 2007; uncle, Larry Baalman; aunt, Ida Cooper, and cousin, Heather Cress.

Surviving family includes his wife, Angela of Gore; mother,

Margaret Baalman of Goodland; brother, Wayne L. Baalman and Kay Holmes of Salt Lake City, Utah; his children, Tina Baalman and Cory Baalman of Green Bay, Wis.; Michelle Baalman, Nicole Baalman, and Timothy Baalman of Mannford, Okla.; father-in-law, Jerry Moore of Wainwright, Okla.; three step-children, Kayla Moore, Larry Moore, and Mike Moore of Gore; one grandchild, Nevaeh Baalman of Green Bay, Wis.; aunts and uncles, Carolyn and Larry Laursen of Amarillo, Texas; Fred and Karen Cress of Liberal, Nancy and John Cooper of Grainfield, Lyle and Rhonda Baalman of Nebraska; Nancy Baalman of Wichita, George and June Cooper of Grainfield; great-aunts and uncles Marvin and Dolores McCurdy of Lansing; Fay Wight of Bentonville, Ark.; Gertrude Jewell of Newport News, Va.; and nieces, nephews, and cousins.

The memorial service was Saturday, May 2, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Goodland, with Father Norbert Dlabal presiding. Inurnment followed in the Goodland Cemetery.

Memorials may be designated to the Gerald Baalman Memorial, and may be left at or mailed to Koons Funeral Home, 211 N. Main, Goodland, KS 67735-1555.

**Ethel May Chesnutt**

Jan. 24, 1912 - April 30, 2009

Ethel May Chesnutt, 97, longtime Goodland, Kan., resident, died Thursday, April 30, 2009, at Good Samaritan Society—Sherman County in Goodland.

She was born Jan. 24, 1912, at Denton, in Doniphan County, the daughter of Arthur A. and Myrtle V. (Burrell) Denton. She attended Lone Willow elementary school near Colby, and at a country school south of Ruleton. In 1930, she graduated from Sherman Community High School in Goodland.

On May 25, 1936, she and Jerry Murray were married in Goodland. He preceded her in death in 1961.

On May 29, 1964, she and Joel J. Chesnutt were married at Goodland, and he preceded her in death in 1966. She had been the registration clerk for the State of Kansas Ports of Entry at Tribune, St. Francis and Kanorado.

Her memberships included the First Christian Church and Order of Eastern Star.

Also preceding her in death were her parents; brothers Carl Denton; Thomas Wayne Denton and Clyde B. Denton, his first wife, Lois (Edwards), his second wife, Hope; and a sister, Reba Shores and her husband, Varo.

Surviving family include her foster son John J. Heyer of Goodland; sister-in-law Helen Denton of Goodland; and nieces and nephews: Norma Emig, Donna Hughbanks, Mary Garner, Charles Denton, Victoria Windell, Jonathan Denton, David Stanley

**Signs to be replaced**

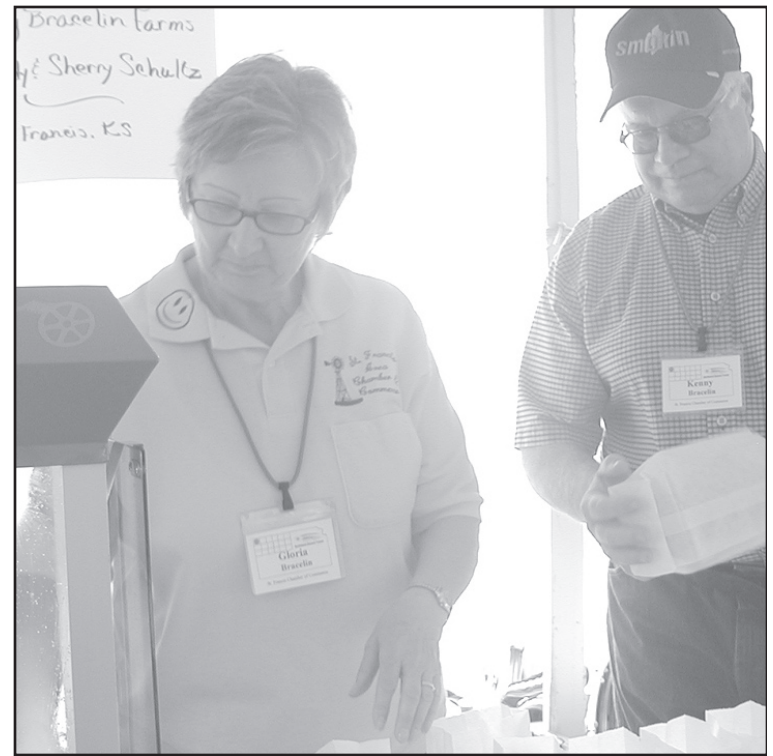
A county road signing project to replace the advanced warning railroad signs and cross-buck signs along the Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado Railroad is planned. The railroad tracks running through Phillips, Norton, Decatur, Rawlins and Cheyenne counties will begin in May.

The Kansas Department of Transportation office in Phillipsburg reported Fulsom Brothers of Cedar Vale, is the primary contractor in charge of the \$152,283 job. The project is jointly funded by Kansas transportation department and the Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado Railnet. Work will be completed by the end of July, weather permitting.

The project will update the signage with high reflectivity sheeting and improve both day and night-time visibility for travelers who encounter roadway/rail intersections.

"The project will not affect traffic, but we did want the public to be aware of the work that will take place along all the county at-grade crossings as well as the towns along the route," said area engineer Harold Schleicher, of the Phillipsburg office.

According to Operation Life-saver, a non-profit organization which works to raise awareness of at-grade railroad safety practices in all 50 states - drivers should "Always Expect A Train," and pay attention to the signs which alerts drivers of at-grade highway crossings.



CHEYENNE COUNTY representatives at the Sampler Festival included (left) Wade Carmichael and Tim Raile introducing Monty's Beef Jerky and (above) Gloria and Kenny Bracelin manning the popcorn corner.

**County represented well at Festival**

By Karen Krien  
karen.k@mwkansas.com

Cheyenne County was once again well represented at the Sampler Festival.

Held over the weekend in Concordia, the weather was nice allowing over 5,000 people to attend. From the county, Eddy and Sherry Schultz and Kenny and Gloria Bracelin manned the Popcorn Corner, giving away over 1,000 bags of popcorn.

That's about 80 pounds of popcorn, said Mrs. Bracelin.

"We could have given away more but the popcorn popper we were using was not quite big enough to keep up," she said.

Nevertheless, they said they had fun visiting with the people and talking about Cheyenne County and northwest Kansas.

They also manned the "Wheel of

Wonder," where people can spin the wheel and if they correctly answer the question about northwest Kansas, they win a prize.

"It was pretty popular this year," Mrs. Bracelin said.

Attending this year and located in the northwest Kansas tent was Monty's Beef Jerky from Bird City. Tim and Robyn Raile, Wade Carmichael and Sherry Carmichael were busy handing out samples of their product. They also sold out of their "hot" jerky. Their jerky was very popular, Mrs. Bracelin said, but she wondered if maybe it was because Tim and Wade were wearing "utility kilts."

There were also T-shirts and hats for sale in their booth.

The jerky business is located at 215 S. Bird Ave., and tours are welcome, Mrs. Bracelin said.

Becky's Bierocks had a booth sell-

ing bierocks for lunch or breakfast, as well as by the dozen. She also had cinnamon rolls for sale.

Mrs. Bracelin said former resi-

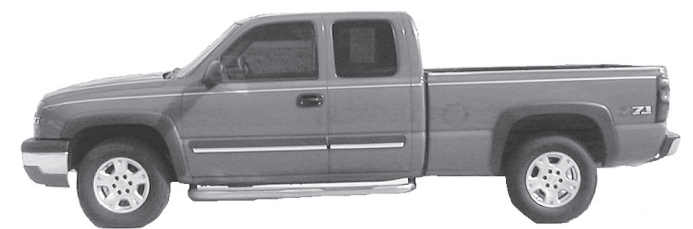
dents, Scott and Mindy Condray and Blake Waters, were at the festival and sent their greetings back to St.

Francis.

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