

Food Check-out Day is Feb. 7

Food in America is affordable. In fact, in only about 37 days, the average American will have earned enough disposable income to pay for his or her food supply for the entire year, according to the Cheyenne County Farm Bureau.

As a result, the Cheyenne County Farm Bureau is celebrating Feb. 7 as Farm Bureau's Food Check-Out Day. According to the latest statistics provided by the Agriculture Department, the average American devotes just 10 percent of his or her disposable personal income to pay for food.

"Not only is America's food supply the world's safest, but it's also the most affordable," said Jeanne Dunn, Farm Bureau board member. "It speaks well of our nation's increasing standard of living, which would certainly be reduced without the safe, abundant and affordable domestic food supply produced by America's farmers and ranchers."

In comparison to Food Check-Out Day, Tax Freedom Day, the day the average American had earned enough money to pay federal, state and local taxes, was April 11 last year, according to the Tax Foundation.

"I find it amazing that people can pay for their yearly food supply nearly three months earlier than it would take them to satisfy their tax burden," Mrs. Dunn said. "Rather than being an economic burden, food remains quite a bargain for shoppers. That the way it should be."

Mrs. Dunn hopes Americans will come to understand that the high-quality, affordable food they enjoy is "a product of our successful food

production and distribution system, as well as America's farmers retaining access to effective and affordable crop protection tools."

"This day should hold meaning for most Americans," she said. "As food producers, we are concerned that more Americans cannot afford to buy the food they need, but we are proud of the role Kansas farmers play in making our food supply more affordable for all."

The percent of disposable income spent for food has declined over the

last 25 years. In 1970, Food Check-Out Day would have been 14 days later, Feb. 21. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, food is more affordable today due to a widening gap between growth in per-capita incomes and the amount of money spent for food. This overall decrease is made more notable by the fact that trends indicate Americans are buying more expensive convenience food items for preparation at home, as well as more food away from home.

"Producing safe, quality food is our job, and we hope that consumers take note of Food Check-Out Day and join us in this celebration of American agriculture's success," she said.

Farm Bureau will be celebrating Food Check-Out Day by having a drawing for a \$50 food certificate. Sign up will be available on Feb. 7 at the grocery stores in St. Francis and Bird City.



YES FOLKS, THE "DOC" HAS A HAND. Last week's issue of *The Saint Francis Herald* showed a picture of Dr. Reed and baby Jesslynn Houtman with the doctor's hand out of focus.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Obituaries

Reuben Rhoades

Dec. 22, 1907 - Jan. 24, 2005

Reuben Rhoades was born to James and Myrtle Rhoades north of Burlington, Colo., on Dec. 22, 1907. He was the fourth of eight children.

Reuben attended school through the eighth grade at Happy Hollow and Beaver Valley schools. Late in life, he served on the Beaver Valley School Board for a number of years.

Reuben was united in marriage to Tressie Lola Winfrey on April 12, 1936, at the Christian parsonage in Burlington. Witnesses were Jim and Jessie Winfrey, Lola's parents. To this union were born five children, Paul, Joe, Doyle, Thelma and Jean.

The couple began their married life farming and ranching north of Burlington. They moved to town in 1959, but Reuben continued to farm and ranch with their son Paul, until he was 88 years old. He was one of the original members of the Western Polled Hereford Association serving as secretary for several years. From his herd of Polled Herefords came several grand champion 4-H steers shown by his children and children in neighboring counties.

He accepted Christ as his Savior in September 1932, at Happy Hollow during a revival. Lola and he were baptized at the same time out at the Launchman. His whole life reflected his faith, which he encouraged in his family.

Reuben died on Jan. 24, 2005.

He is survived by his wife, Lola; two sons, Paul and his wife, Marilyn, Joe and his wife, Valerie, all of Burlington; two daughters, Thelma and her husband, Dennis Clark of Parker, Colo., Jean and her husband, Ron Weisshaar of Burlington; daughter-in-law, Wendy Rhoades-Taylor and her husband, Marvin of Lincoln, Neb. He is also survived by 23 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren, Lori and Richard Urie, Kelsey, Emily and Audrey of Arvada, Colo.; Brad Johnson of Greeley; Brett Johnson of

Burlington; Evonne and JC Collier and Brittany McCormick of Aurora, Colo.; Coy Rhoades of Denver; Lori and Dominic Llamas, Nicholas, Jessica and Alyssa; Shawna Hunt and Ashley of California; Kimberley Rhoades of Lincoln, Neb.; Dustin and Brandice Rhoades of Roca, Neb.; Jason and Julie Clark, Riley and Emma of Elkridge, Md.; Joanna and Keith Mauck, Daniel, Luke and Alaina of Castle Rock, Colo.; Julia and Josh Davis and Jack of Franktown, Colo.; Justin, Jonathan, Joy, Jennifer, Joshua and Jordan Clark of Parker, Colo.; Will Weisshaar of Goodland, Kan.; Jeron and Jerilynn Weisshaar of Lindsborg, Kan.; Tressie, Tyson and Carrie Weisshaar of Burlington.

Funeral services for Mr. Rhoades were held on Friday, Jan. 28, at the First St. Paul's Lutheran Church with Pastor Ron Lee officiating. Burial followed in the Fairview Cemetery in Burlington. Memorials for Reuben may be made in his name to the Kit Carson County Memorial Hospital or to the Morgan Community College in Burlington and may be left at the Bank of Burlington in Burlington.

Funeral service arrangements were by Love Funeral Home, Burlington.

Delbert Dean Crouse

Jan. 29, 1933 - Jan. 20, 2005

Delbert Dean Crouse, 71, of Lusk, Wyo., died on Jan. 20 at the Memorial Hospital of Converse County in

Douglas, Wyo. A funeral service was held on Jan. 28, at the First Baptist Church in Lusk with Pastor Tom Strock officiating. Interment followed in the Lusk Cemetery.

Del was born Jan. 29, 1933, in Wray, Colo., to Ora and Sarah Renzelman Crouse.

He enlisted in the United States Air Force from 1952 through 1955 and served in the Korean War. In 1965, Del moved to Lusk. In 1972, he started an auto dealership, which he ran until recently. In 1973, he married Barbara Wolf.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sons, Steve and Seth Crouse and brothers, Dale and Donald Crouse.

Del is survived by his wife, Barbara, of Lusk; daughters, Lois Foster and her husband, Bob, of Midlothian, Texas, Robin Barnes of Denver, Colo., and Dawn Kemnitz and her husband, Christopher, of Cheyenne, Wyo.; son, Dustin Crouse of Lusk; sisters, Wanine Browning of Colby, Margie Wiecek and her husband, Bill of Deer Trail, Colo., Dorothy Weeden and her husband, Gaylen of Kanorado, Phyllis Carson and husband, Ed of Bird City, and Carole Garmon and husband, Gene of Ulysses; and five grandchildren.

Cicmanec-Pier Funeral Home of Lusk was in charge of the funeral arrangements.

Lines From the Library

By Pat Leibbrandt

The following new books have arrived at the library: *Whiteout* by Ken Follett; *When Christmas Comes* by Debbie Macomber; *Twisted* by Jonathan Kellerman; *Falling Awake* by Jayne Krentz; *The Essential Guide to Prescription Drugs 2005*; *Sink Reflections* by Marla Cilley; *Black Wind* by Clive Cussler; *Life Expectancy* by Dean Koontz; *Opal* by Lauraine Snelling;

Christmas Gifts by Susan Heyboer O'Keefe; *Big Book of Quilting*.

The library has the following new books in the children's department: *Triple Checkup* by Michelle Poploff; *T-Ball Trouble* by Gail Herman; *Care Bears Special Delivery* by Quinlan B. Lee; *Amber Brown Is Green With Envy* by Paula Danzinger; *The Big Sleepover* by Gail Herman; *Go Away, Girls!* by Ann Hackney.

Why Relay goes through the night because cancer does not stop for nighttime

Relay for Life, the walk which raises money for the American Cancer Society research and treatment, starts at dusk and ends at the next day's morning. The light and darkness of the day and night parallel the physical effects, emotions and mental state of a cancer patient while undergoing treatment.

The Relay begins when the sun is setting. This symbolizes the time that the person has been diagnosed of having cancer. The days are getting darker and this represents the cancer patient's state of mind as they feel that their life is coming to an end.

As the evening goes on, it gets colder and darker, just as the emotions of the cancer patient does. Between 1 and 2 a.m. represents the time when the cancer patient starts treatment. They become exhausted, some sick, not wanting to go on, possibly wanting to give

up. As a participant in the Relay, people have been walking and feel much the same way. They cannot stop or give up, just as the cancer patient cannot stop or give up.

Around 1 to 5 a.m., symbolizes the coming of the end of treatment for the cancer patient. Once again, they are tired, but they know they will make it.

The sun rising represents the end of treatment for the cancer patient. They see the light at the end of the tunnel and know that life will go on. The morning light brings on a new day, full of life and excitement for new beginnings for the cancer patient. As a participant, people will feel the brightness of the morning and know that the end of the Relay is close at hand.

When people leave the Relay, think of the cancer patient leaving their last treatment. Just as the person is exhausted and weak, so

is that person after treatment.

Remember: There is no finish line until a cure for cancer is found!

Cheyenne County's Relay for Life

The Cheyenne County Relay for Life walk is scheduled for August at Sawhill Park, St. Francis. Teams are needed.

"Plan for a fun evening and a time to remember those patients who are going through treatment," said Sherry Schultz, one of the coordinators of the walk.

St. Francis News

Tyler Krien, Salina, was a visitor of his parents Billy and Karen Krien. Tyler also visited with his grandparents Bill and Leone Krien at the Good Samaritan Village.

Sylvia Queen was a Tuesday afternoon visitor of LaVera Beringer. Gertie Zweygardt visited on Thursday afternoon.

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