

# Applications for non-insured crop disaster closes Sept. 1

The deadlines for the United States Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency to accept applications under the Non insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program for this year crops have been established by the Kansas State Farm Service Agency Committee.

The application closing date of Sept. 1 applies to the following crops: All small grain crops, except oats, plus aquaculture, canola, Christmas trees, nursery crops, speltz, and turf grass sod.

Crops eligible for Non insured Crop Disaster Assistance benefits are limited to those not insurable in the county and are produced for food or fiber. Included as eligible crops are floricultural, ornamental nursery, Christmas trees, turf grass sod, industrial crops, seed crops, aquaculture (including ornamental fish), and forage crops for livestock (mechanically harvested or grazed).

Interested producers who may wish to participate in the Non insured Crop Disaster Assistance program must visit their local Farm Service Agency office to complete an Application for Coverage (CCC-471) and pay the applicable service fee by the applicable sales closing date for the specific crop.

Administrative service fees are collected in order to help offset the cost of implementing the program and range from \$100 per crop per administrative county not to exceed \$300 per producer per administrative county with a \$900 maximum fee for multi-county producers.

In the unfortunate event that a producer does suffer a loss on their particular crop, a Notice of Loss (CCC-576) must be filed with the local Farm Service Agency office within 15 calendar days after the disaster occurrence, or the date the loss becomes apparent to the producer.

Once the Notice of Loss has been approved and production evidence collected, the producer must file an Application for Payment. This is done at the local Farm Service Agency Office as well and must be filed prior to the immediately subsequent crop year acreage report date for the specific crop.

Producers are responsible for providing accurate and complete information. This includes timely certifying the unit's planted acreage and production with Farm Service Agency. In general, acreage reporting deadlines are June 1 for small grain crops, and the earlier of Aug. 1 or 15 days prior to the onset of harvest or grazing for all other crops. Production reporting deadlines are no later than the immediately subsequent crop year acreage reporting date for the crop. It's always important to check with the local Farm Service Agency office to determine what the acreage and or

production reporting deadlines are for each specific crop.

When required, producers shall provide to Farm Service Agency verifiable or reliable production evidence for the crop by practice, type and variety, and it must be provided in a manner that can be easily understood. Producers shall maintain their production evidence for 3 years after the crop year it is initially certified.

This coverage entitles eligible

producers to a payment of 55 percent of an average market price for the commodity if a natural disaster caused a 50 percent production loss or greater of an eligible crop.

Producers are limited to \$100,000 in benefits per person per crop year, they must not exceed the \$2 million gross revenue provisions, and they must comply with conservation compliance provisions in order to be determined eligible.

## Approximately 40 attend family reunion

The first of what is planned to be an annual Zwegardt family reunion was held on Sunday, Aug. 13, at the Senior Center in St. Francis. Approximately 40 people were in attendance.

Attending were Clara Meyer, Amelia and Jerry Meyer, all of Bethune, Colo.; Emma Hopp, Bird City; Melvin Isernhagen, Dorothy Rein, both of Fort Collins, Colo.; Phillip and Lydia Krien, Delmer and LaVonne Zwegardt, Alice Coffin, Betty Zwegardt, all of

Parker, Colo.; Donita Baird, Brewster; Larry and Brenda Beringer, Sharon Springs; LaVera Beringer, Gus and Martha Zwegardt, Robert and Gertie Zwegardt, Willard and Donna Zwegardt, Darrel Zwegardt, Keith Zwegardt, Ty and Brock Zwegardt, Link Zwegardt, Pete, Kay, Kandee and Trent Raile, LeRoy Neitzel, Cindy Neitzel, Kip, Deonn and Candice Weise, Royce Neitzel, Alice Lampe, Bernice Zwegardt, all of St. Francis.

## Student awarded exchange scholarship

Sara Moore has been awarded a Midwest Student Exchange Program Scholarship to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Miss Moore's scholarship is for Education and Human Sciences, pre-elementary and early childhood education.



Moore

Midwest Student Exchange Scholarships are awarded to stu-

dents from Minnesota, Michigan, Missouri, Kansas, North Dakota or Wisconsin who exhibit superior academic performance at a previously attended post-secondary institution. A student receiving this honor pays 150 percent of the institution's regular resident tuition (\$7,200 for 30 credit hours in 2006-2007). Candidates must have completed a minimum of 28 semester hours with a minimum 3.5 cumulative grade point average by the end of the academic year or 14 hours by the end of the first semester in which they submit their admissions application.



ENJOYING COTTON CANDY — KC Krien, Cassidy and Tate Busse get all sticky while Jenny Busse and Grandpa Ward Cassidy watch during the Relay For Life. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

## Second sign-up for conservation

Beginning Aug. 21, the Farm Service Agency began offering farmers and ranchers in eastern Colorado a second chance to enroll acreage in the Republican River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. The Colorado Conservation Reserve Enhancement program participation is offered to producers with eligible land located in Logan, Sedgwick, Phillips, Yuma and Kit Carson counties.

Colorado Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program represents a total commitment of \$91.6 million in state and federal funding to enhance Colorado's natural resources in both the Republican River and High Plains Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program areas.

"The Republican River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program agreement has an enrollment cap of 35,000 acres - to date, producers have offered 25,000 acres leaving 10,000 acres available for enrollment," said Drenda J Murchison, County Executive Director for the Yuma County Farm Service Agency.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program is a voluntary program that assists participants in implementing conservation prac-

tices on environmentally sensitive land. In return for enrolling eligible land for a 14 to 15-year period, participants receive annual rental payments paid on a per-acre basis, cost-share assistance and other financial incentives. Financial incentives paid through Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program are often higher than those paid through conventional conservation programs.

According to Murchison, the second Republican River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program sign-up period began Aug. 21, and continues until enrollment goals are met, or through Dec.31, whichever comes first. Acceptance of acreage in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement program is not automatic as special sign-up provisions apply for land located in the Republican River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program area.

### Colorado Republican River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

The 35,000-acre Colorado Republican River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program will conserve agricultural irrigation water use in the Republican River basin by 5 percent on the eligible 30,000-acres.

The planting of native grass and other vegetative covers throughout the Republican River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program are projected to reduce soil erosion by 374,000 tons and reduce the application of agricultural chemicals by 2,900 tons. When fully implemented, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program will restore 30 miles of riparian habitat and 500 wetland acres that will improve habitat for targeted fish species, including the stonecat, suckermouth minnow, brassy minnow and plains minnow.

Farm Service Agency estimates the Republican River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program's total cost over a 15-year period to be \$66.3 million. The United States Department of Agriculture is contributing \$52.8 million and Colorado is funding \$13.5 million, including \$11.7 million through the Republican River Water Conservation District Water Activity Enterprise.

For detailed approved Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program practice, eligibility and application information, please contact the Yuma County Farm Service Agency office at 970-332-3107 or visit the national web site at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

## Book Review

### Dark Harbor By Stuart Woods

In Dark Harbor, Maine, Stone Barrington discovers a picturesque town where the shocking deaths of three people have cast a long shadow over this island haven, a locale as mysterious as it is exclusive.

Stone Barrington hasn't heard from his cousin, Dick Stone, in years, though he has fond memories of a teenager summer spent at his house in Maine. But then the CIA's Lance Cabot interrupts an otherwise pleasant meal at Elaine's with

news of Dick's death, apparently by his own hand. It seems that Dick Stone, a quiet family man who doubled as a CIA agent, methodically executed his wife, daughter, and then himself, or did he?

With the help of his ex-partner, Dino, and his friend Holy Barker, Stone must piece together the elusive facts of his cousin's life and death as a CIA operative. Dark Harbor offers us the perfect mix of sexy intrigue and swift suspense that legions of fans have come to expect from master storyteller Stuart Woods.

### Notice of Budget Hearing

The governing body of CHEYENNE COUNTY, KANSAS will meet on the 15th day of September, 2006 at 9:00 A.M., at the County Courthouse for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at the COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE and will be available at this hearing.

### Budget Summary

Proposed Budget 2007 Expenditures and Amount of 2006 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2007 budget. Estimated Tax Rate\* is subject to change depending the final assessed valuation.

Fund	2005		2006		PROPOSED BUDGET 2007		
	Prior Year Actual Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Current Year Estimate of Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Amount of 2006 Ad Valorem Tax	Est. Tax Rate*
General	1,682,516	19.680	1,584,164	26.245	1,735,720	950,127	22.199
Road and Bridge	831,470	11.408	778,200	11.293	1,024,530	704,967	16.471
Bridge Building	49,024	2.143	52,000	0.840	32,000	2,460	0.057
Noxious Weed	43,804	0.591	37,100	0.556	44,000	28,876	0.675
Bond and Interest	299,060	7.221	303,880	5.569	317,500	285,092	6.661
Hospital	508,694	5.511	525,000	5.625	525,000	232,628	5.435
Prairie Dog	10,768		11,500		10,722		
Special Parks & Recreation	5,778		1,100		2,999		
Special Alcohol	3,401		1,000		5,300		
Health Grants	22,461		20,000		44,000		
Special Machinery	62,685						
Noxious Weed Capital Outlay	6,100						
Spec Ambulance Cap Outlay	0						
Equipment Reserve	286,344						
Multi-Year Capital Improvement	0						
Motor Vehicle Fund	0		0		27,415		
Totals	3,812,105	46.554	3,313,944	50.128	3,769,186	2,204,149	51.498
Less: Transfers	313,777		238,000		233,000		
Net Expenditures	3,498,328		3,075,944		3,536,186		
Total Tax Levied	1,398,097		1,398,097				
Assessed Valuation	38,575,739		40,501,431		42,801,106		
GO Bonds	1,204,400		925,200		636,000		
Lease-Purchase	0		0		0		
Total	1,204,400		925,200		636,000		
Fire Districts:							
No. 1 - General	44,000	1.229	41,400	1.172	41,600	39,235	1.167
No. 1 - Equip Reserve	0						
No. 1 - Special Equip	69,351						

\*Tax Rates are expressed in mills.  
Terry Miller Clerk

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