

Family

Community Calendar

Friday, December 28

Brown bag Al Anon (non-smoking), 775 E. College Drive, noon Senior Survivors, Meadowlark Manor, 3-5 p.m. Wings Upon the Prairie drop-in center, 1980 W. 4th, 5-8 p.m. New Hope Narcotics Anonymous, City Hall Basement, 8 p.m.

Saturday, December 29

Wings Upon the Prairie drop-in center, 1980 W. 4th, 5-8 p.m. Sixth Street Alcoholics Anonymous, 1275 West 6th, 8:30 p.m.

Deaths

William M. Flipse

William M. Flipse, 96, died Saturday, Dec. 22, 2001, at Lantern Park Manor, Colby. He was a farmer and dairyman and lifetime resident of Thomas and Logan Counties.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Oakley Christian Church, Oakley, Pastor Bob Kelly officiating. Burial will be at Oakley Cemetery, Oakley. Visitation will be from 2-9 p.m. Friday at Kennedy-Koster Funeral Home, Oakley.

Memorials are suggested to Lantern Park Manor of Colby, and can be sent in care of Kennedy-Koster Funeral Home, PO Box 221, Oakley, 67748.

Adaline (Prokop) Delzeit

Adaline (Prokop) Delzeit, 58, died Sunday, Dec. 23, 2001, at her home in Colby.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Fr. Galen Long officiating. Burial will be in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Colby. Vigil and rosary will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Kersenbrock funeral Chapel, Colby. Visitation will be from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday at the chapel.

Memorials are suggested to Thomas County Hospice. Donations may be left at any Colby bank or the funeral chapel.

LaVerene E. Rikoff

LaVerene E. Rikoff, 91, died Sunday, Dec. 16, 2001, at Citizens Medical Center, Colby.

She was born April 29, 1910, at Webster, the seventh child in a family of 11 children born to Ernest Howard and Elsie Maude (Evans) Grover.

In 1917 the Grover family moved from Rooks County to a farmstead southwest of Menlo. Mrs. Rikoff attended the Lone Valley and Liberty rural schools until consolidation. She then attended the Menlo Grade School. For two years she attended high school in Oakley, then returned to Menlo High School and graduated in 1930. She attended Ottawa University and Brown Mackie Business School in Salina.

She married Fred B. Rikoff on Aug. 1, 1934, in the Methodist parsonage in Gem. They lived with her husband's parents north of Colby until the following summer when they rented a farmstead 18 miles northwest of Colby. In 1938 they moved to a farmstead northwest of Gem that they purchased in 1941. They added to their land holdings in 1946 when they purchased and moved to a farm northeast of Colby. They lived there until retirement in 1982 when they moved to their present home in Colby. For 23 years they wintered in McAllen, Texas, where they had many friends.

Mrs. Rikoff was a farm wife, helping with chores as needed, fixing meals for large harvest crews, and preparing food for winter use. She was known for beautiful wedding cakes. Her garden, kitchen and home ceramic studio were among favorite places she shared with her grandchildren.

Mrs. Rikoff won numerous awards

Townspeople enjoyed carols by several groups

A group of people from the Rexford Community Church went around town last Sunday evening singing carols and closing with a party at the church. They sounded very good on the clear cold night. Another group of students from the golden Plains School were caroling Thursday afternoon, and they sounded great.

Graveside services were held at the Hawkeye Cemetery Thursday after-

at local and state fairs, including the 1973 state canning champion at the Kansas State Fair. She was recognized for her 55-year contribution to the Kansas Extension Homemakers in 1992. She was a long-time member of the First Baptist Church in Colby where she held numerous positions of leadership and responsibility. Mrs. Rikoff held local as well as state offices in Kansas Baptist Women's Ministries.

Survivors include her daughters Shirley and husband, Dr. Dale Taylor, Whittier, Alaska, and Norma and husband, Ron Higerd of Colby; son William and wife, Loretta of Colby; and brother, Gerald Grover of Modesto, Calif.; 13 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild.

On July 12, 2001, she was preceded in death by her husband of 67 years. An infant daughter, Joyce Ann, born Aug. 8, 1935, also preceded her in death.

Funeral services were Wednesday, Dec. 19, at Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel, Colby. Burial was at Beulah Cemetery, Pastor Bruce Burfield officiating.

Pallbearers were Wm. Tyler Rikoff, Timothy E. Rikoff, Lynn Higerd, Kent Higerd, Myron Higerd, Thane Taylor, Todd Taylor and Kevin Taylor.

Honorary pallbearers were Dr. Kenneth Ellis, Don Perkins, Dale Leopold, Jerold Bond, Doyle Zimmerman and Tom Bethell.

Vicky Waldschmidt was organist. Soloists were Tashia (Rikoff) Kuper and Myron Higerd.



Lula Thieler

• Rexford Correspondent

noon for Anna Barnett who died on Monday. She had lived most of her life in this area but had been in Dodge City lately to be near her daughter Ethel and family. This community extends deepest sympathy to all the family.

Extension to offer Master Gardener class

Thomas County Extension is accepting applications for its Master Gardener Class. Master gardeners are Extension volunteers that enjoy cultivating their own yards and gardens, while sharing their skills and knowledge to help others with these same interests, said Dennis A. Chandler, Thomas County Extension Agriculture Agent.

"Extension Master Gardeners receive a basic horticulture course in exchange for hours of rewarding volunteer time. As a master gardener, you will receive a 40 hour short course,

advance training, a resource manual, and opportunities to go on field trips," said Chandler.

The course is tentatively set to start on Tuesday, Feb. 5, and will be held on each consecutive Tuesday through March 19 at the Scout House in Hoxie.

For more information on the Extension Master Gardener Class or to re-

ceive an application, contact the Thomas County Extension Office (785) 462-4582, or stop by at 350 S. Range, Suite 16, Colby, by Jan. 2.

All Kansas Extension educational programs and materials are available to all individuals without discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability.

Club News

Leisure Hour Club

The members of Leisure Hour Club gathered in the home of Marj Brown on Friday, Dec. 21, at noon, for a covered dish salad luncheon.

For roll call each member told of a special Christmas from the past that they remembered. Many interesting stories were shared and that brought up a discussion of the differences between Christmases today and those the ladies remembered from their past.

For the program, Marj shared a story

she had written entitled *The Thorns of Bush*, about an experience she had when she was a child in Oklahoma.

The next meeting will be held at Edna Sloan's home on Friday, Jan. 11, at 2 p.m., with Hankie Beckman giving the program. Roll call will be, "Your First Airplane Ride."

We welcome your news e-mail to mnelson@nwkansas.com

Recycling encouraged to preserve landfill

Dear EnviroMike:

It is a new year, and I'd like to resolve to reduce the amount of waste my family creates and recycle items we normally throw out. Last month the holiday waste prevention tips you provided were very helpful. What types of waste reduction activities should we be doing year round? Where can I find out about what recycling services are available in my area of Kansas?

Rita Recycler

Dear Rita:

Thanks for your great question! You are right on target when you ask about waste reduction as well as recycling. In fact, in the waste prevention business we have a hierarchy referred to as the "three R's," reduce, reuse, recycle. Recycling waste should only be done when waste can't be prevented or reused. According to 2000 figures, Kansans generate about 6.4 pounds of waste per day per person. This is nearly one and one-half times as much as the 4.4 pounds per day national average, so we definitely have a need for waste reduction in Kansas.

One of the best ways to reduce waste at home is to watch what you buy at the store. By purchasing concentrated forms of detergents, cleaners, and even juice, the amount of packaging that results is greatly reduced. Purchase

items in reusable containers whenever possible. Close the recycling "loop" by purchasing paper goods or other items that are made from recycled material. Paper accounts for up to 50 percent of the waste put in landfills; so when possible, use e-mail, send electronic greetings, and remove yourself from those junk mail and catalog mailing lists. In the yard, you should be grass cycling and/or composting.

Items such as newspaper, junk mail, aluminum cans, glass, magazines, some plastics, and used motor oil can be recycled in many Kansas communities. Contact your local city, county, or environmental management office to find out about the recycling programs available in your area. If you cannot identify an outlet for recycling or have questions about the tips listed above, call our hotline at 800-578-8898.

Chapter 11 of the Kansas Home*A*Syst manual provides checklists and in-depth details related to waste management at the home. You can read or download this information by going to www.sbeap.org and clicking on Home*A*Syst. The Web site www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Publications/default.asp?cat=18 also contains useful waste reduction and recycling tips. Thanks for the question and doing your

part to reduce waste in Kansas.

MANHATTAN—Ask EnviroMike is produced by the Pollution Prevention Institute at Kansas State University. Got environmental questions? Send them to EnviroMike, KSU Pollution Prevention Institute, 133 Ward Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506, or call 800-578-8898. We'll publish the questions of interest to the most readers in future editions. Other questions will receive an individual reply. Be sure to include your name and address so we can respond personally.

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Benefits available for spina bifida

Q: Are any VA benefits available for children of Vietnam veterans born with Spina bifida?

A: Children of Vietnam veterans born with spina bifida, are eligible for a monthly disability allowance and for vocational training.

A monthly allowance is set at three levels, depending upon the degree of disability suffered by the child.

The monthly rate for Level I is \$221, Level II is \$770 and Level III is \$1,317. VA's Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment program administers a vocational training program to enable a qualified child to prepare for and attain suitable employment.

Services may include counseling and rehabilitative services, education, training and employment services. VA pays for the costs of the services up to 24 months depending on need.

For more information on spina bifida, please contact VA's web site at <http://www.va.gov/hac/spina/faq.htm>

Q. What is the first step in establishing eligibility for VA Spina birds healthcare benefits?

A: Since VA spina bifida healthcare benefits are based upon eligibility determinations made by VA regional offices, prospective beneficiaries must first contact a regional office to obtain an Application for Spina Bifida Ben-

efits (VA Form 21-0304).

The local VA regional office can be contacted toll-free at 1-800-827-1000. Upon return of a completed application, the regional office will determine eligibility and notify the applicant of the determination.

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