

Colby Community College graduate shows age does not matter

At the age of 73, Alice Goetz has achieved a remarkable goal. The mother of four, grandmother of 15 and great-grandmother of two, recently received her associate's degree from Colby Community College with a perfect 4.0 grade point average. Two of her granddaughters also graduated from Colby May 13 and another granddaughter was attending her own commencement at the University of Nebraska in Kearney.

"My granddaughters Mandy and Michelle Goetz received their degrees in equine production and management from CCC," said Alice. "Granddaughter Christin received her bachelor's degree in journalism from Kearney."

Alice Goetz began her college career in 1985 when she enrolled in an outreach class offered by Colby. "I enrolled in a computer class because I was doing the books for our feedlot operation," said Goetz. "I enjoyed it so much that I took some additional business classes. I just really liked it."

A severe car accident injured her husband Jerry that resulted in a several year hiatus while Alice cared for him.

"I just didn't have time to take classes until Jerry recovered from his injuries," said Alice Goetz. "A few years ago I received an outreach flyer from CCC and decided it was time to return to college."

Goetz did not attend any classes on the Colby campus. She attended classes at several outreach locations and completed some independent study courses. She was the first student selected to receive an outreach scholarship from Colby Community College.

"I traveled to Grainfield, Grinnell, Norton, Quinter, Oakley and Hoxie," said Goetz. "I am so



Michelle G.



Alice Goetz

grateful to all my teachers. When I enrolled in English Comp II at Hoxie, I was the only 'non-teenager' in the room. After class I went up to Mrs. Schulte and told her I couldn't do it. She assured me I could and it went very well."

Christine Ellison is the coordinator of the CCC outreach program. "Alice is really sweet and she deserves a great deal of praise for her dedication," she said. "She is a wonderful example for everyone. It has been such a pleasure to work with her."

Goetz said there are some courses which required a little more effort. "College algebra was the toughest class I took," she said. "Jack Woodyard was the instructor and he was so helpful. He met with me at the Norton Library for two to two-and-a-half hours every week. My grandson's wife also helped a great deal. She tutored me and I made it through the class."

Goetz works at the family feedlot, Jerry Goetz and Sons Feedlot, and owns her own machine quilting business, Alice's Country Quilting. "I have always wished I would have gone to college, but instead I

married my high school sweetheart," said Goetz. "I don't regret getting married for one minute. It has been a wonderful life with four children and now 15 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Now, having graduated from CCC, I have the best of both worlds. I have enjoyed school so much. Who knows, I may continue two more years or I may just enjoy what I have."

Goetz said she thought several times that she had reached a dead-end. "Chris Ellison was so helpful and so nice to me. When problems appeared, she always figured something out. Although it's a good feeling to finish my degree, I'm really going to miss Chris and the other people. I hope that what I have done will encourage many young people to stay in school."

Drought conditions hurting Nebraska's wheat

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska still needs soaking. A spate of severe thunderstorms last week brought hurricane-force winds, but missed the driest part of the state — North Platte, Imperial and Broken Bow barely got wet.

"We really didn't get the rainfall in the areas we need," meteorologist Brian Hirsch with the National Weather Service in North Platte said after the storms.

The dry spell has been tough on duce yields due to the dryness," said Brian Fuchs, a climatologist for the National Drought Mitigation Center in Lincoln.

The problem has been a long time building. There has been little rain and a lot of hot weather in April and May, and June looks to be hot as well.

"It's not missing one rainfall event that puts you in the hole," Hirsch said.

The southwestern part of the state is in the worst shape, but the Panhandle also is dry.

The National Weather Service expects above-normal temperatures in June with normal rainfall, Hirsch said.

As corn and soybeans are planted, timely rain is even more important, because the young plants don't have reserves to survive such dry conditions, said Doug Anderson, extension educator in Perkins, Keith and Arthur counties.

Statewide, the drought picture isn't as grim as it once was.

Anderson said. "There's not much optimism out there. I don't think they're pessimistic. I think they're realistic."

Former GOP chairman switches parties

TOPEKA (AP) — Former Kansas Republican Party Chairman Mark Parkinson switched his party affiliation to Democrat on Tuesday, fueling speculation that he will be named Gov. Kathleen Sebelius' running mate.

Parkinson came into the Johnson County election office shortly before noon Tuesday and switched parties, said Brian Newby, the county election commissioner. Newby said Parkinson did not say why he was switching parties. But his name has been widely circulated as Sebelius' choice to run for lieutenant governor after she announced Friday she was seeking a second term without a running mate in tow.

Sebelius spokeswoman Nicole Corcoran declined to comment about Parkinson, but the governor planned to announce her choice for running mate Wednesday morning at the University of Kansas campus in Overland Park, near Parkinson's home in Olathe.

"Traditionally, you do see that the first stop would be in or around that person's home base. It would be safe to assume that she would be choosing someone from the Johnson County area," Corcoran said.

Parkinson, 48, wasn't available for comment and didn't return a telephone message left at his home.

In 2002, Sebelius announced in Wichita that her running mate would be John Moore, a Republican who had a long career as an executive with Cessna Aircraft Co. in Wichita. Moore is retiring when his term expires in January.

Moore switched from Republican to Democrat days before being introduced on the Sebelius ticket. For years, Kansas Republicans have been split between moderate and conservative factions, and both Moore and Parkinson are moderates.

House Speaker Doug Mays said he was disgusted by Parkinson's lack of loyalty to the party that made him chairman.

"To me, one of the most valuable traits that a person can have, particularly a person who find himself in a position of authority is loyalty," said Mays, R-Topeka. "I think he's being opportunistic on a personal basis. The Republican Party had been very good to Mark Parkinson."

Also among prominent Kansas Republicans who have switched parties is Johnson County District Attorney Paul Morrison, who switched to challenge conservative Republican Attorney General Phill Kline in the November general election. Parkinson is co-chairman of Morrison's campaign.

A former House member also recently switched from Republican to Democrat to challenge the woman who beat her in 2004. Cindy Neighbor of Shawnee filed for office as a Democrat and faces Rep. Mary Pilcher Cook in a rematch in November.

Besides serving as GOP chairman from 1999-2003, Parkinson served in the House from 1991-92 and the Senate from 1993-97.

Senate Minority Leader Anthony Hensley, D-Topeka, has known Parkinson since he was a teenager and served with him in the Legislature. He said Parkinson is qualified to be lieutenant governor and that his party switch was significant.

"My guess is that he's been thinking about this for a long time, that this isn't a fly-by-night decision to change parties," Hensley said. "It's not a case of them leaving the party, they feel the party as left them for a long time. This is not an isolated deal."

Mays said Republicans need to find common ground rather than defecting. He doesn't consider the rift in the party surprising, considering the GOP has dominated Kansas politics since statehood. Mays said while the party recently has shifted to the right, it inevitably will shift back to the left.

Sebelius is courting Parkinson's

CLASSIFIEDS

Vehicles for Sale

- 2006 Chevy Cobalt SS.** 2 door, black, must sell, \$19,900. 785-672-7392. --5/31-6/13---
- 1997 Dodge Ram.** 1500 sport, 4x4, extended cab, white, auto, V-8 magnum, short bed, highway miles, mint condition. 785-673-4664. --5/30-6/23---
- 1987 Chevy,** 4x4, 5.7 EFI motor, auto trans, many extras. 785-672-4117, cell 785-672-7175. --5/24-6/7---
- Must sell:** race car - cruiser or bomber. Comes with everything race ready, fast, winner of 2 track championships. Price reduced. Call 785-672-0003. --5/22-6/9---
- 2000 Chevy 2500.** Extended cab, 4x4, 5 speed, Silverado. 785-672-2424. --5/22-6/9---
- 1993 Dodge 3/4 ton pickup.** Club cab, 5 speed manual, Cummins diesel, 80k miles, mounted pop-up camper with air, stove, refrigerator, heater and stool. Call 785-899-3439. --5/18-5/31---

Services

- Trees stressed from drought?** Free estimate on our root fertilizer program. JM Tree & Lawn Service, 780 E. 4th St., Colby. 800-794-3204/785-443-1339. --5/30-tfn---
- Free estimates** on fully automatic, computer operated, underground sprinkler system. JM Tree & Lawn Service 780 E. 4th St., Colby. 800-794-3204/785-443-1339. --5/30-tfn---
- Free estimates** on landscaping, tree trimming and removal. JM Tree & Lawn Service, 780 E. 4th St., Colby. 800-794-3204/785-443-1339. --5/30-tfn---
- Free estimates** on vinyl siding, windows, doors, and insulation. Murray Enterprises, 780 E. 4th St., Colby. 800-794-3204/785-443-1339. --5/30-tfn---
- Free estimates** on new roofs, flat or shingles. Murray Roofing, 780 E. 4th St., Colby. 800-794-3204/785-443-1339. --5/30-tfn---
- We service** and repair all makes of hot tubs. Sundance Spas & Saunas, 780 E. 4th St., Colby. 800-794-3204/785-443-1339. --5/30-tfn---
- Need help building fence?** Rent our post punder for \$200 a day and get the job done fast. Call Jeff Vap, 785-626-3121. --4/10-6/2---
- We buy guns.** Collections or one at a time. Cash paid. Northwest Arms and Service. 785-626-3700. --4/25-tfn---

Pets / Supplies

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- Adorable registered Weimaraner puppies.** Loyal pets, outstanding bird dogs. 2 males, 4 females. \$225/\$275. Ready June 7th. 785-462-0706, 785-586-2210, leave message. --5/25-6/7---
- Purebred Pomeranian puppies.** 2 male, 3 female. 785-754-2225. --5/25-6/7---

Seed & Feed

- Alfalfa for sale:** big rounds, no grass or weeds, 2nd and 3rd cutting, \$120 per ton. Contract now 785-462-5325. --5/17-5/30---

Wanted

- Failed wheat acres?** Need some extra income and eliminate some volunteer problems? I'm buying failed wheat that's tall enough to swath and bale. Call Dale Oard 785-586-2372. --5/24-6/7---
- Will do custom swathing** and baling in Sheridan county area. Call Chris at 785-675-1330. --5/22-6/16---
- Someone to remove portable classroom** from Herndon, Kansas school grounds. Contact Mark Wolters, USD 105 District Office, 205 N. 4th, Atwood, KS 67730. Phone 785-626-3236, fax 785-626-3083. --5/18-6/7---

Garage Sales

- 1002 Court Ter.** Friday 2:00 - 8:00 p.m. Queen mattress, new complete candle making kit, antiques, much more. --5/31 & 6/1---
- 1285 E. 8th St.** Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Microwave, dehumidifier, furniture, baby items, name brand children's clothes, toilets. --5/31-6/2---
- Grinnell PRIDE** community-wide garage and bake sale. Saturday, June 3, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. No early birds. Maps may be picked up at the Home-town Grocery Store and check out their in-store specials. --5/30-6/2---
- Colby 4-H Building.** Saturday, June 3, 8:00 a.m. - noon. Multi-family garage sale. Something for everyone. --5/30-6/2---
- Mather Ranch** in Russell Springs. Trail Ride weekend, Friday, June 2nd, Saturday, June 3rd, 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Harness, tack, guns, antiques, lots of miscellaneous. --5/30-6/2---
- 480 N. Franklin Ave.** Good Shepherd. Tuesday - Friday 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. New trailer of quality brand name items every week. --5/5-tfn---

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MAY 26 - JUNE 2

OVER THE HEDGE
Fri. & Sat.: 7:15 & 9:00 (PG) 1:30
Sun. - Thurs: 7:15

DA VINCI CODE
Fri. & Sat.: 7:00 & 9:45 (PG-13) 2:35
Sun. - Thurs: 7:00

COLBY THEATRE

MAY 26 - JUNE 2

X-MEN 3
Fri. & Sat.: 7:00 & 9:00 (PG-13) 1:50
Sun. - Thurs: 7:00

POSEIDON
Fri. & Sat.: 7:15 & 9:15 (PG-13) 1:45
Sun. - Thurs: 7:15

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For Classified Word ads are as follows:

1-2 days	25¢/word
3-4 days	18¢/word
5-9 days	17¢/word
10-14 days	16¢/word
Monthly (tfn)	15¢/word

(*Price reflects 15 word minimum ad. Ads must be in our office by 12:00 noon the day before. In case of error, call us the FIRST day your ad runs since we will not be responsible for errors after the first day/week.)

COUNTRY ADVOCATE
\$9.45 for the first 15 words & 55¢ each additional word (per week). Your ad will run 1 time in the Advocate and 1 week in the sister paper of your choice.

ADS MUST BE IN THE OFFICE BY 12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY.

DISPLAY (box) AD DEADLINE FOR FREE PRESS IS 3:00 P.M. TWO DAYS BEFORE AD RUNS.
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