

Garden season is coming fast

I appreciate the opportunity given me by Steve Haynes, owner of Nor'West Newspapers, to jot down a few ideas about the gardening procedure that might be of interest to you each week.



Kay Melia
• The Gardener

When I was discussing this idea with Tom Betz, and as we began working out the details of the columns, we decided that about 500 words per week should be sufficient for me to get my thoughts across to you. I also suggested that it might be a good idea to be sure my column wasn't any longer than Cynthia Haynes' column, which I read and enjoy each week.

I also promised not to write about the cats that roam the rooms of our house as long as Cynthia didn't spend too much time writing about gardening.

I visited by telephone last week with old friend Tom Dreiling at *The Norton Telegram*. (Emphasis here on the old*). Tom and I go waaaaay back to our days in Hays and here in Goodland. I'm fortunate to have friends and assorted golfing acquaintances in most of the other areas where these papers reach.

Whether we realize it or not, the beginning of a new garden season is not all that far away, and for

most of us who love to dig in the dirt, it's not a bit too soon. After all, we've spent most of the winter studying those seed catalogs and watching basketball games and we need to climb down off the couch and out into the fresh air and get to work.

The average last frost date in most of northwest Kansas is about May 5, which of course is just an average. It can occur either a couple of weeks before or after that date. The early season cool-weather vegetable crops such as lettuce, onions, radishes and peas should be in the ground by April 10 to 15, if not earlier, so we definitely need to buy our seed now and do what we can to locate the shovel, the rake and the hoe in preparation for a new season of fun and good eating.

Those of us grow our own tomato, pepper, cabbage and broccoli plants know there will be work to do before we can even think about planting outside. I'll

write about that process when the time comes.

There are a number of readers who know I have a handy-dandy garden book out on the market. I published it last summer and it covers just about all facets of vegetable gardening. The book is entitled "The Gardeners Common Sense Guide to Vegetable Gardening in the Midwest." It has over 200 pages of tips and ideas about more than two dozen vegetables, plus chapters on soil, seed selection, proper watering procedures, and even some important (and some unimportant) recipes.

People who garden or are thinking of gardening, seem to enjoy it. The \$15 price tag is probably too high, but older plain-dirt gardeners on a fixed income also need to try to make a living too. The book is available within easy driving distance from where you live. And I thank you for buying it.

I look forward to visiting with you each week here in your favorite hometown newspaper. My address is: The Gardener, 1565 Road 65, Goodland, Kan. 67735. Your comments and questions are always welcome and your letters will always be answered.

Profit a hot topic to ag producers

A hot topic of discussion at the Ag Profitability Conference at the Ag Expo in Goodland on Thursday will be how to determine the cash lease values of farm and ranch land.

Ross Sloan, manager of Farm Services office, said crop-share leases are becoming a thing of the past in Thomas County, and are being replaced with cash leases.

Sloan said the average cash lease for dry land is running right at \$35 an acre with some as high as \$45, and irrigated land is averaging \$100 an acre for cash lease.

"Basically, the reason cash leases are higher in Thomas County is

because Thomas County has the highest percentage of farm ground in the state," Sloan said. "The farmers are progressive and outgoing, and there seems to be a lot of movers and shakers in Thomas County. It's a matter of outbidding each other."

"58 percent of farm ground in Thomas County is owned by non-resident land owners."

Clint Milliman, Thomas County Extension agent said his office has publications available to help farmers and landowners arrive at land values and cash rents for northwest Kansas.

He has put together a presentation for the conference on how to use the information as a valuation tool. Kansas State Research and Extension Sunflower District, along with Thomas County, Rawlins County, and Logan County extension offices, is sponsoring the conference from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday at the Max Jones

Fieldhouse.

Market trends and what drives the markets will also be on the agenda, along with the outlook for the future in the area of the 2008 farm bill, along with the grain market situation and outlook, ag mediation, managing risk using online resources, and affordability of technology.

The Ag Expo and conference is open to the public at no charge.

"Next year," said Milliman "the ag profitability conference, sponsored by K-State Extension offices in northwest Kansas, will be in Colby."

For questions or information, contact the Extension office at 460-4582.

Oakley to see 'Birdie' Sunday

Windwood Theatricals will present a large-scale production of the musical "Bye Bye Birdie" at 7:30 p.m. Sunday at the Oakley High School Auditorium.

Admission will be by Western Plains Arts Association season ticket or at the door, \$20 for adults and \$10 for students.

This memorable musical comedy includes lots of laughs and great songs. When rock star and teenage heartthrob Conrad Birdie gets drafted, the nation's teenagers go haywire, and Conrad's songwriter, Albert, faces unemployment. So, Albert and his girlfriend organize a nationwide contest in which one lucky girl wins a farewell kiss from Conrad on *The Ed Sullivan Show*.

Kim McAfee turns out to be the lucky teenager, and Conrad's whole entourage moves into her quiet Midwestern home — much to the chagrin of her ever-irritable father and her jealous boyfriend. The hit tunes include "Put on a Happy Face," "A Lot of Livin' to Do," "One Last Kiss," the riotous lament of parents with teenagers, "What's the Matter With Kids Today?" and the salute to Ed Sullivan, entitled "Hymn to a Sunday Evening!" The musical, by Charles Strouse and Lee Adams, won eight Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

Windwood represents an eclectic blend of properties produced on and off Broadway.

MOVIE PASSES
Watch for your name in the Wednesday movie listings for 2 free passes.
(Passes must be used within 7 days.)
Pick up your passes at your: **COLBY FREE PRESS**

JMB Angus & Rains Simmental
Bull Sale
Thursday, March 5
1:00 PM CST
At Hubert Sale Facility
2 miles South of Monument, KS
Selling:
37 Angus Bulls • 15 SimAngus Bulls
5 Angus Heifers
Angus Sires:
Mytty In Focus, HSAF Bando 1961, Traveler 004, Boyd On Target 1083, Dr. J Analyst, Mill Brae 338 RT 4048, E&B Predestined 650
Simmental Sires:
In Dew Time, Triple C Invasion, Dream On, Top Dawg, Trademark, Mr. Madison
For Catalog Or Information
Joel or Mary Banker - 785-852-4229
Mike or Celeste Rains - 785-672-0010
or visit us at www.jmbangus.com

SAVE TIME, EFFORT AND MAYBE EVEN SOME MONEY ON YOUR TAXES. VISIT IRS.GOV
<http://www.irs.gov>
Make this your first stop before you do your taxes.
Everything you want to know is all in one place—irs.gov. You'll find all the tax information and forms you need. There are easy online tools to help you calculate your eligibility for tax credits and track your refund. And it's all free. Prefer the phone? Call 1-800-829-4477 for 150 tax topics in English or Spanish. Either way, you know the information is good because it's from the official source—the IRS.
irs.gov. See how it can help you.
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

LOCAL TV LISTINGS

sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

WEEKDAYS FEBRUARY 24 - MARCH 2

	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	Good Morning Kansas		Good Morning America				The Martha Stewart Show		The View		Millionaire	News
KSNK/NBC (3) (8)	News Cont'd		Today						Live With Regis and Kelly		Today	
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	News Cont'd		The Early Show				The 700 Club		The Price Is Right		The Young and the Restless	
K15CG (2)	Lions	Maya & Miguel	Curious George	Side Science	Super Why!	Clifford Red	Martha Speaks	Cailou	Sesame Street		Dragon Tales	Word-World
ESPN (28)	SportsCenter	Varied	SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
USA (37)	Varied Programs				Texas Ranger		Varied Programs					
TBS (38)	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince					Home Improve.	Home Improve.
WGN (39)	Changing	Believer Voice	Hillbillys	Hillbillys	7th Heaven		Matlock		In the Heat of the Night		Nash Bridges	
TNT (40)	Angel		Charmed		Charmed		ER		Las Vegas		Las Vegas	
DSC (42)	Paid Program	James Robison	Paid Program	Paid Program	How It's Made	How It's Made	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	Overhaul'n'		The New Detectives	
A&E (47)	Third Watch		Crossing Jordan		The Sopranos		American Justice		Cold Case Files		Cold Case Files	
HIST (48)	Varied Programs											
NICK (55)	Barnyard	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Dora the Explorer	Backyardigans	Go Diego	Wonder Pets	Dora the Explorer	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Olivia	Dora the Explorer	Go Diego
DISN (56)	Handy Manny	Mickey Mouse	Einsteins	Tigger & Pooh	Mickey Mouse	Handy Manny	Imag. Movers	Einsteins	Charlie & Lola	The Wiggles	Movie	
FAM (58)	Sister, Sister	Sister, Sister	Sabrina-Witch	Sabrina-Witch	Step by Step	Living the Life	The 700 Club		Gilmore Girls		Full House	Full House
HALL (60)	Paid Program	Paid Program	I Love Lucy	I Love Lucy	The Waltons	Varied	Little House on the Prairie		Little House on the Prairie		Touched by an Angel	

WEEKDAYS FEBRUARY 24 - MARCH 2

	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	All My Children		One Life to Live		General Hospital		Rachael Ray		News	Access H'wood	News	ABC Wld News
KSNK/NBC (3) (8)	News		Days of our Lives		The Ellen DeGeneres Show		The Doctors		Jeopardy!	Deal or No Deal	News	NBC News
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	News	Bold-Beautiful	As the World Turns		Guiding Light		Dr. Phil		Oprah Winfrey		News	Evening News
K15CG (2)	Reading Rainbow	Barney-Friends	Varied Programs		Lions		Arthur	WordGirl	Fetch! Ruff!	Cyber-chase	Maya & Miguel	Business
ESPN (28)	SportsCenter		SportsCenter		Outside-Lines	Football Live	NFL Live	Rome-Burning	Around the Horn	Interruption	SportsCenter	
USA (37)	Varied Programs				Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		NCIS		NCIS	
TBS (38)	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Just Shoot	Just Shoot	Yes, Dear	Yes, Dear	King of Queens	King of Queens	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Friends
WGN (39)	WGN Midday News		Be-witched	Be-witched	Dream-Jeannie	Dream-Jeannie	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Scrubs	Scrubs	Becker	Becker
TNT (40)	Without a Trace		Law & Order				Charmed		Charmed		Bones	
DSC (42)	The FBI Files		A Haunting		A Haunting		Varied Programs		Cash Cab	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	Cash Cab
A&E (47)	CSI: Miami		Crossing Jordan		The Sopranos		American Justice		Cold Case Files		Cold Case Files	
HIST (48)	Modern Marvels		Varied Programs									
NICK (55)	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Wow! Wubbzy!	SpongeBob	OddPar-ents	Varied Programs				Barnyard	SpongeBob	Drake & Josh	Drake & Josh
DISN (56)	Movie Cont'd	Zack & Cody	Zack & Cody	Zack & Cody	Varied Programs							
FAM (58)	Sister, Sister	Sister, Sister	Sabrina-Witch	Sabrina-Witch	Full House	Full House	What I Like	What I Like	Gilmore Girls		My Wife and Kids	My Wife and Kids
HALL (60)	7th Heaven		7th Heaven		Little House on the Prairie		Little House	Varied	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 24

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	News (N) (CC)	Entertainment	Homeland Security USA (N) (CC)		State of the Union The president addresses Congress.		Prime-time Live		News (N) (CC)	Nightline (N) (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (N) (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (N) (CC)
KSNK/NBC (3) (8)	News (N)	Wheel of Fortune	The Biggest Loser (N) (CC)		State of the Union (Live) (CC)		Law & Order: SVU		News (N)	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (CC)	Late Night	Late Night
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	News (N) (CC)	Inside Edition	NCIS An agent is gunned down. (CC)		State of the Union The president addresses Congress.		Two/Half Men		News (N) (CC)	Late Show With David Letterman	Late Late	Late Late
K15CG (2)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Doctors On Call	Second-Health	Frontline The Soldier's Heart (PA)		Nova Rat Attack (N) (CC) (DVS)		World News	Romance	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)
ESPN (28)	College Basketball: State. (Live) (CC)		Penn State at Ohio State. (Live) (CC)		College Basketball: Florida at LSU. (Live) (CC)		SportsCenter (Live) (CC)		SportsCenter (Live) (CC)	NFL Live (N) (CC)	Basketball Final	Basketball Final
USA (37)	NCIS Identity Crisis (CC)		House DNR (CC)		House Histories (CC)		House Detox (CC)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: Criminal Intent	Law & Order: Criminal Intent
TBS (38)	Seinfeld (CC)	Seinfeld (CC)	Family Guy (CC)	Family Guy (CC)	Family Guy (CC)	Family Guy (CC)	The Office	The Office	10 Items or Less	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Movie: The Badlands (CC)
WGN (39)	Star Trek: The Next Generation (CC)		Star Trek: The Next Generation (CC)		Star Trek: The Next Generation (CC)		America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		Scrubs (CC)	Scrubs (CC)	The Bob & Tom Show (CC)	The Bob & Tom Show (CC)
TNT (40)	Leverage The Mile High Job (CC)		Leverage The Two Horse Job (CC)		Leverage The First David Job (CC)		Leverage The Second David Job		Bones (CC)		Leverage The Second David Job	Leverage The Second David Job
DSC (42)	How It's Made	How It's Made	Dirty Jobs Locomotive Builder		Dirty Jobs 200 Jobs Look-Back (N)		Wreck. Nation		How It's Made	How It's Made	Dirty Jobs Locomotive Builder	Dirty Jobs Locomotive Builder
A&E (47)	The First 48 Wrong Turn; Deadly Dance		The First 48 (CC)		The First 48 (CC)		Manhunters	Manhunters	Manhunters	Manhunters	The First 48 (CC)	The First 48 (CC)
HIST (48)	Modern Marvels The Alcan Highway		Decoding the Past (CC)		How the Earth Was Made Krakatoa (CC)		The Universe Light Speed (CC)		Mega Disasters The eruption of Krakatoa.		Decoding the Past (CC)	Decoding the Past (CC)
NICK (55)	Zoey 101 (CC)	Drake & Josh (CC)	SpongeBob	Drake & Josh	Home Improve.		George Lopez	Family Matters	Family Matters	Family Matters	Home Improve.	Home Improve.
DISN (56)	Zack & Cody	Hannah Montana	Movie: Beethoven's 5th ** (2003) John Larroquette.		Phineas and Ferb		Wizards-Place	Life With Derek	Zack & Cody	Hannah Montana	That's-Raven	Cory in House
FAM (58)	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		The 700 Club (CC)	Kyle XY Chemistry 101 (CC)
HALL (60)	Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)		Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)		Movie: The Nanny Express (2009, Drama) Vanessa Marcil. (CC)		Movie: The Nanny Express (2009, Drama) Vanessa Marcil. (CC)		Murder, She Wrote Armed Response		Murder, She Wrote Armed Response	Murder, She Wrote Armed Response

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 25

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	News (N) (CC)	Entertainment	Lost 316 (CC)		Lost (N) (CC)		Life on Mars (N) (CC)		News (N) (CC)	Nightline (N) (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (N) (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (N) (CC)
KSNK/NBC (3) (8)	News (N)	Wheel of Fortune	The Biggest Loser (N) (CC)		Life Hit Me Baby (N) (CC)		Law & Order Rumble (CC)		News (N)	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (CC)	Late Night	Late Night
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	News (N) (CC)	Inside Edition	Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Criminal Minds (N) (CC)		CSI: NY No Good Dead (N) (CC)		News (N) (CC)	Late Show With David Letterman	Late Late	Late Late
K15CG (2)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Monarchy: The Royal Family		America's Ballroom Challenge Top couples compete across dance styles. (CC)		Challenge Top couples compete across dance styles. (CC)		World News	As Time Goes By	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)
ESPN (28)	College Basketball: Marquette. (Live) (CC)		Connecticut at Marquette. (Live) (CC)		College Basketball: Duke at Maryland. (Live) (CC)		SportsCenter (Live) (CC)		SportsCenter (Live) (CC)	NFL Live (N) (CC)	Basketball Final	Basketball Final
USA (37)	NCIS Designated Target (CC)		House Sports Medicine (CC)		NCIS Shalom (CC)		NCIS Escaped (CC)		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: Criminal Intent	Law & Order: Criminal Intent
TBS (38)	Seinfeld (CC)	Seinfeld (CC)	House of Payne	House of Payne	House of Payne	House of Payne	House of Payne	House of Payne	Seinfeld (CC)	10 Items or Less	Sex and the City	Sex and the City
WGN (39)	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		Coach (CC)	Coach (CC)	Becker (CC)	Becker (CC)	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Scrubs (CC)	Scrubs (CC)	The Bob & Tom Show (CC)	The Bob & Tom Show (CC)
TNT (40)	Law & Order Identity (CC) (DVS)		Movie: Men in Black monitor extraterrestrial activity on Earth.		Star Wars	Star Wars	Star Wars	Star Wars	Trust Me Way Beyond the Call		Cold Case The Badlands (CC)	Cold Case The Badlands (CC)
DSC (42)	How It's Made	How It's Made	The Detonators Foxburg, PA (N)		MythBusters Coffin Punch (CC)		MythBusters "MacGyver." (CC)		How It's Made	How It's Made	The Detonators Foxburg, PA	The Detonators Foxburg, PA
A&E (47)	CSI: Miami Double Jeopardy (CC)		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Exterminators	Exterminators	Exterminators	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter
HIST (48)	Modern Marvels Money (CC)		MonsterQuest Cattle Killers (CC)		MonsterQuest Devils in New Jersey		UFO Hunters Area 51 Revealed (CC)		UFO Hunters Abductions (CC)		MonsterQuest Cattle Killers (CC)	MonsterQuest Cattle Killers (CC)
NICK (55)	Zoey 101 (CC)	iCarly (CC)	SpongeBob	Drake & Josh	George Lopez	Home Improve.	George Lopez	Family Matters	Family Matters	Family Matters	Home Improve.	Home Improve.
DISN (56)	Zack & Cody	Hannah Montana	Movie: The Color of Friendship ** 1/2 (2000) (CC)		Wizards-Place		Wizards-Place	Life With Derek	Zack & Cody	Hannah Montana	That's-Raven	Cory in House
FAM (58)	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	Movie: Matilda (1996) A child uses her amazing abilities against uncaring adults.		America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		The 700 Club (CC)		Whose Line? Whose Line?	Whose Line? Whose Line?
HALL (60)	Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)		Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)		Movie: Before You Say I Do (2009, Romance-Comedy) Jennifer Westfield.		Movie: Before You Say I Do (2009, Romance-Comedy) Jennifer Westfield.		Murder, She Wrote Funeral at 50-Mile		Murder, She Wrote Funeral at 50-Mile	Murder, She Wrote Funeral at 50-Mile