

Family

Deaths

John A. Carpenter

John A. Carpenter, 67, Brewster, died Monday, Feb. 7, 2011, at his home. Kersensbrock Funeral Home of Colby, 462-7979, is in charge of arrangements.

Ruth G. Havel

Ruth G. Havel, 93, Oberlin, formerly of Atwood, mother of Dorothy (Phillip) Harry of Colby, died Sunday, Feb. 6, 2011, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

She was born Sept. 7, 1917, in Brush, Colo., the daughter of Fred L. and Mary Viola (Lilly) Allen.

She graduated from eighth grade in 1933 at the Kansas Public School and attended Atwood Community High School for two years.

On Feb. 4, 1936, she married Ralph Havel at St. John's Catholic Church in Beardsley. They lived on a farm southeast of Atwood, where she enjoyed embroidery, making pies and jelly, and polka dancing.

She had worked at Lakeside Grocery, Bob's Café, Chris's Café and Taylor's Rest Home.

Preceding her in death were her parents, Fred Allen and Mary Allen Taylor; her husband; two sons, Leonard and Raymond Havel; a brother; a sister; a step-brother, Delbert Allen; a grandchild; and

four great-grandchildren.

Survivors include four other children, Edward (Karol) Havel, Imperial, Neb.; Janis (Gary) Carson, Duncan, Neb.; Gary Havel, Atwood; and Beverly (Marvin) Withington, Atwood; a brother, John "Bill" Allen, Red Cloud, Neb.; two sisters, Dorothy Brown, Atwood; and Betty Jean (Ernie) Wicke, Ludell; a stepsister, Mary Taylor Waldo, Oberlin; 24 grandchildren; 48 great-grandchildren; and 23 great-great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 10, 2011, at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Atwood, with Father Nick Parker and Father Dana Clark officiating and burial in Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Atwood.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. today at Williams Funeral Home in Atwood, with a parish vigil and rosary at 7 p.m..

The family suggests memorials in her name in care of the funeral home, 109 N. Second St., Atwood, Kan., 67730.

Senator on program

Constituents will get a chance to ask U.S. Sen. Jerry Moran a question while he's on Smoky Hills Public Television from 7 to 8 p.m. Sunday.

The new senator will answer questions while Dr. Chapman

Rackaway, associate professor of political science at Fort Hays State University, moderates the conversation.

Anyone wanting to ask Sen. Moran a questions can call (800) 337-4788.

Writers invited to enter

All Kansas writers are encouraged to enter the 22nd annual Kansas Voices Writing Contest, sponsored by the Winfield Arts and Humanities Council. Writers may enter either youth or adult divisions in two categories: poetry and prose (short story). Youth Division must be enrolled in high school or under 18 years of age.

Submit your short stories, prose, or poetry. Winners will be invited to read their work at a presentation on May 7 in Winfield as a part of the Kanza Days celebration.

To be eligible, writers must live in Kansas. All entries must be postmarked by March 15. No subject matter is required and all entries are judged by professionals entirely on literary merit.

Entries must be unpublished stories or poems accompanied by an official entry form and a \$3 entry fee for each submission. Guidelines and entry forms are available through the Winfield Arts and Humanities Council, 700 Gary, Suite A & B, Winfield, Kan., 67156, (620) 221-2161, Ext 10 or download entry form from our web page: [www.winfieldarts.com](http://www.winfieldarts.com).

Prizes total \$1000: \$275 each for first prize in adult poetry and prose, \$100 each for first prize in youth poetry and prose, and a total of \$250 in honorable mentions.

Three books have been published and are available by mail order or from the web at [www.winfieldarts.com](http://www.winfieldarts.com).

Learn distressed wheat options

Many fields of wheat in western Kansas are not in very good condition at the moment, primarily due to ongoing drought conditions. Some of the wheat did not emerge last fall. Of the wheat that did emerge, some has had below-average growth and development. The extreme cold this week, combined with a lack of snow cover in most of western Kansas, will not help matters.

Some producers have ripped their wheat fields to prevent blowing and many more may be wondering whether they should be planning to abandon the fields as failed wheat and move on to a spring-planted crop. Crop insurance must be taken into account when planning any such actions, of course. But what about purely agronomic considerations?

At this time, it is too early to give up on any field of wheat, even wheat that has not yet emerged, unless you know for sure the wheat has died. To find out if emerged wheat is still alive, simply dig up a good representative sample of plants – including roots – and bring them indoors. Live plants will begin to green up after about a week, provided they have been given some water. To find out if un-emerged wheat seed is still alive, dig up some seed and see if it is still firm. If the coleoptile has begun to grow but not yet emerged, the plant may or may not still be viable. If the seed has not germinated, or only slightly cracked the seed coat, it is probably still alive. As with the plants, the only way to know for sure is to bring some of the seeds inside and see if they will come up.

If the wheat is alive but poorly developed, or if stands are thin, the difficult decisions lie ahead. For the moment, the best advice is to not give up. With favorable conditions in the spring, even wheat with poor growth or thin stands at this point in the season can make a



Clint Milliman

• Knowledge for Life

remarkable comeback and yield from 40 to 60 percent of normal.

It is important that producers who normally plan on topdressing wheat with nitrogen should still plan to do so, though the final rate may need to be adjusted to reflect conditions later this spring. If weather conditions become favorable this spring, the surviving plants will need nitrogen to tiller as much as possible and form as many spikelets per head as possible.

It is going to be especially important that fields planted last fall with little or no nitrogen applied before planting or at seeding have some applied before green-up to stimulate potential tillering and spring growth. It may be prudent to consider a split topdress program in those fields. Apply some, 30 to 40 pounds of nitrogen, soon. Then if conditions improve, a second application may be warranted. Where 20-30 pounds or more of nitrogen was applied last fall, producers can wait as long as possible (up to shortly before jointing) to evaluate stands and stand conditions before topdressing. If conditions do not improve and the wheat fails, most or all of the topdress nitrogen should still be available for a spring-planted crop.

Herbicide decisions on questionable wheat stands can be difficult. Thin, late wheat is not competitive with weeds, so weed control is important to minimize yield loss and harvest problems. On the other hand, using a long-residual herbicide might interfere with alterna-

tive crops planted on failed wheat acres. Use of residual herbicides should give the best weed control in thin wheat and might be the best choice where you are committed to harvesting the crop. If unsure about the crop, herbicide applications can be delayed until the status of the wheat crop is determined, or short-residual herbicides can be used. The use of MCPA between two-leaf and boot stage, dicamba prior to jointing, the Affinity products, Express, or Harmony Extra between two-leaf and flag leaf emergence will allow more recropping options. Also, 2,4-D can be applied between full-tiller and boot stage. But be especially careful not to apply 2,4-D too early on thin stands because it will stop tillering, and you want as much tillering as possible in this situation.

Additional information on herbicide options, crop rotation restrictions and application guidelines can be found in K-State Report of Progress 994 "2011 Chemical Weed Control for Field Crops, Pastures, Rangeland, and Noncropland" at [www.ksre.ksu.edu/library/crpsl2/srp1045.pdf](http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/library/crpsl2/srp1045.pdf).

Be sure to read all product labels for growth stage application timing and rotational crop restrictions.

The bottom line is, do not destroy your wheat until you know it's potential. Do the test to see if it is still alive. Then make your decisions from the knowledge you have to determine whether the wheat is viable and could yield. Again, always check with your crop insurance to see what your options are before taking any drastic measures.

Clint Milliman is the Thomas County agriculture and natural resources agent with Kansas State Research and Extension. A native of Illinois, Milliman works with area 4-H clubs, farmers and ranchers.

Goodland college signs agreement with Ottawa

Northwest Kansas Technical College has signed an articulation agreement with Ottawa University.

Northwest Tech Vice President of Academic Affairs, Brenda Chatfield said, "We have been working with Ottawa University for approximately one year to articulate a program that will allow our students in the respiratory therapy

and medical assistant programs to continue seamlessly to earn a bachelor's degree if they choose." This also allows a general transfer agreement for other programs at Northwest Tech.

Brian Messer, campus executive and Associate Vice President for Online Education for Ottawa said, "We are excited about this partnership." The agreement will

allow students to receive their degrees online – a benefit to those needing to work full-time.

Ottawa University, established in 1865, is a private, nonprofit, faith-based liberal arts university that offers bachelor's and master's degrees. The online classes offered by Ottawa are unique in providing a student success team with their online programs.

"We continue to look for ways that we can enhance the learning options and opportunities for our students..." said Dr. Ed Mills, president of Northwest Tech. The school will be working with Ottawa in developing additional programs in the future.

For information, contact our Northwest Tech at (800) 316-4127 or go to [www.nwktc.edu](http://www.nwktc.edu).

Cards honor 95th

Bertha L. "Bert" Dible will celebrate her 95th birthday on Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2011. Her daughter, Kay Benham of Arvada, Colo., invites friends and family to honor her mother on the occasion with a card shower.

Cards will reach her at 1850 South Country Club Drive, Colby, Kan., 67701.

She has two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



Bertha Dible

Friendly Neighbors

The living here is very nice with friendly neighbors and visitors with good eats. I was married 64 years and I have traveled alot. When I started losing my sight, I needed a safe place to live. I am living a good life here. I can still get around and I love talking to my apartment neighbors.

Oscar Jones

Fairview Estates Retirement Community  
Independent & Assisted Living  
1630 Sewell Ave. • Colby, KS • (785) 462-2154

ATTENTION...

Colby High School, Brewster High School, Golden Plains High School and Heartland Christian School



Senior Parents & Homeschoolers  
Hurry in!!



We will automatically feature your student's picture and information, but this will be your chance to put in a baby picture to show how much *your* senior has really changed over the years!

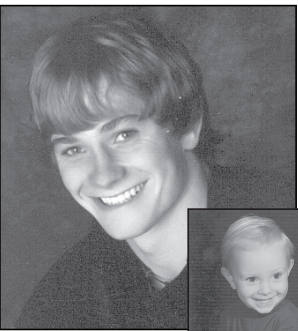
Call Andrea, Kathryn, or Tammy at 462-3963 for more information or stop by the office at 155 W. Fifth in Colby.



COLBY  
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HEATH STEPHENS



Love You Heath!

I plan to attend College for Pre-Optometry or Engineering.  
Parents: Leo and Shawn Stephens

Corrections

The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$8.37
Corn (bushel)	\$6.08
Milo (hundredweight)	\$10.42
Soybeans (bushel)	\$13.09

Pride of the Prairie

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3:30 pm (cst)  
CCC Frahm Theater

Admission by Friends of the Orchestra Membership or at the door - \$7 Admission/\$3 Students/Seniors

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Valentine's Day  
February 14