

Kansas ag leadership class accepting applications now

The Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership program is accepting applications now through Friday, April 15, from Kansans interested in participating in the program's 2011-13 class.

The two-year program includes three study tours, as well as nine 48-hour seminars at sites across the state, said director Jack Lindquist. The program schedules its two national seminars and a "capstone" international tour for November-March - generally known as production agriculture's "off season" in Kansas.

"KARL alumni and current class members both have gone out of their way to tell me that the 50-

day commitment (over two years) is much more than just well worth the investment. It's needed in today's changing and competitive environment," he said.

Adrian Coberly, a Gove County farmer, recently spoke about the program's "wow factor."

"The KARL class seminar experience guarantees that you will take home at least one gem of an idea or piece of knowledge. And you will have the opportunity to network with some very sharp people," he said.

The 2011-13 class will begin its training in August with a weekend retreat. This will be the 20th Anniversary of the program.

Applicants must submit a completed profile form, which is available online at www.karlprogram.com or call the program office at (785) 532-6300.

The new 30-member class will be announced on June 1 after going through a selection process. The criteria for eligibility are leadership experience and a devotion to Kansas agriculture and rural communities, Lindquist said.

"Dedication to a more positive future is the key to being selected," he said.

Tuition for the not-for-profit training program is \$1,500 per year or a total of \$3,000. Donors pay the rest of the expenses.

Apply for noninsured crop assistance before the fast-approaching deadline

Tuesday, March 15, is the application deadline for crops covered under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program.

Adrian J. Polansky, state executive director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency in Kansas, said crops eligible for program benefits are limited to those not insurable in the county that are produced for food or fiber. These include coarse grains, vegetable and melon crops, cotton, pecans, pumpkins, safflower, sesame, squash, and walnuts.

The program gives eligible farmers 55 percent of an average market price if a natural disaster caused them to lose more than half of a crop.

The administrative service fee is \$250 per crop per county, but not more than \$750 per producer

per county. There is also a \$1,875 maximum fee for multi-county producers. Anyone interested must pay the fee and file an application by March 15.

If a farmer does suffer a loss on their particular crop, a notice of loss must be filed within 15 days of the disaster, or the date the farmer finds the damage.

Farmers are limited to \$100,000 in benefits per person per crop year. To be eligible, they must certify crop acres, maintain production records and meet income and conservation guidelines.

Producers must get program coverage on non-insurable crops and buy crop insurance on insurable crops to remain eligible.

For information, call the Farm Service Agency in Colby at 462-7671 prior to the March 15 deadline.

Webinars cover sorghum research

Developed with backing from the United Sorghum Check-off Program, three open-access "webinars" are available on the Web-based Plant Management Network. The learning modules cover recent research results that could help growers manage sorghum more profitably. (See www.plantmanagementnetwork.org/ed-center/)

The Web seminars, from 11 to 24 minutes long, feature the on-farm implications of research as discussed by university agronomists who participated in each of the three projects:

- Curtis Thompson, weed scientist at Kansas State University, explains what's ahead in terms of herbicide-tolerant sorghums, scheduled for limited release in 2012 and full release in 2013. The tolerant sorghums are no silver bullet in terms of overall weed control. Combined with good management practices, however, they can meet the high-priority need of post-emergence herbicides for controlling grassy weeds.

- Scott Staggengborg, K-State Research and Extension crop sys-

tems scientist, describes research that included 13 years of corn- and sorghum data from stress-prone environments in Kansas and Nebraska. The study also included Kansas' and Nebraska's typical production budget for each of the 13 years, as well as its annual average sorghum-to-corn price ratio. This data revealed both agronomic and economic factors that can help producers determine when grain sorghum is likely to be more profitable to grow than corn.

- Rick Koehenower, crops and soils scientist, Oklahoma State University, helps viewers see the advantages of growing grain sorghum in a no-till system. Yes, crop residue helps reduce moisture evaporation and prevent runoff. In the southern High Plains that can almost double sorghum yields in some years. On average, test

weights are higher, too. In fact, the least efficient use of moisture in the Oklahoma Panhandle is continuous, convention-till wheat. In contrast, Oklahoma State research has found that increasing cropping intensity to include fallow plus no-till wheat double-cropped with grain sorghum and soybeans can take evaporation losses below 10 percent. Note: success will also depend on proper weed control and fertilization.

The Plant Management Network is a nonprofit, online publisher jointly managed by the American Society of Agronomy, the American Phytopathological Society, and Crop Science Society of America. Its mission is to develop and offer science-based resources for students, consultants, educators, researchers and growers.

Bomber squadron chronicled in new book

Joanne Pfannenstiel Emerick of Hoxie has released a new book chronicling the men of a World War II bomber squadron.

Squadron's historian. Her late father Wendell Pfannenstiel of Ness City, served overseas for 36 consecutive months as a medical corpsman with the squadron.



J. Emerick

"Courage Before Every Danger, Honor Before All Men: The History of the 31st Bombardment Squadron in World War II... in their own words," follows follows the young men of the 31st Bombardment Squadron as they fight the air war in the Pacific Theatre during World War II.

The 421-page book, packed with original photos and maps, transports the reader back in time, living day to day with the men who flew the US Army Air Corps' B-17s and B-24s as they knocked out Japanese shipping, airfields, supply depots and personnel areas on the islands of the Pacific. The book is the culmination of 18 years of research by Emerick, the 31st

The book contains a multitude of personal interviews, letters, diaries and excerpts from the official Squadron records.

Emerick is planning book signings on April 11 and the WaKeeney Public Library and April 14 at the Norton Public Library.

The book can be ordered from the website www.couragebeforeeverydanger.com or by sending a check or money order to: Emerick Historical Productions, c/o Joanne Emerick, Box 254, Hoxie, Kan 67740.

For information, call You may contact Emerick at (785) 675-3088 or e-mail joanne@couragbeforeeverydanger.com.

Golf for state games

The Sunflower State Games, a statewide amateur sports festival for Kansans of all ages and skill levels, is registering contestants for the Spring Fever Golf Tournament Friday, April 15, at Lake Shawnee Golf Course in Topeka.

A shotgun start is set for noon with lunch before the event. The tournament, a fund raiser for the games, is a four-person scramble. Cost is \$240 per team, including greens fees, cart, range balls, lunch and prizes.

Hole sponsorships are avail-

able for \$200. A business special is being offered at \$400, which includes a four-person team and hole sponsorship. Call (785) 235-2295 for information.

For online registration, go to www.sunflowergames.com. Mail-in registration forms may be printed from the site.

The Sunflower State Games are held in July to promote physical fitness, personal health and wellbeing for Kansans. The 2011 Games will be July 8 to 24.

Property

Real Estate recorded Feb. 21 to Feb. 28

The following real estate transactions have been reported by the Thomas County register of deeds:

- Jan. 4, Bradley S. and Marie L. Skolout to Bartlett Grain Company LP; tract of SW/4 of Sec. 2, T8, R35.

- Feb. 4, Terry L. and Jennifer Moss to Shane Gosselin; Lot A and Lots 1-6, Block 2, south 150' of E/2 of Block 3, McVeys Addition Menlo.

- Feb. 6, quit claim deed, Pope Inc. to Tanner L. and Aisha M. Moss; Lots 13-14 and south 21' of Lot 15, Block 11, Original Menlo.

- Feb. 14, Dorothy A. Bourquin Trust to Keith O. Farmer; Lots 7-8 and north 10' of Lot 9, Block 38, Colby South Park Annex.

- Feb. 18, Jerry J. and Rebecca L. Kersenbrock to Jeremy L. Kersenbrock; tracts less tracts of NW/4, SW/4 of Sec. 19, T6, R34.

- Feb. 22, George T. Jr. and Terrel S. Harrison to Patsy K. Ziegelmeier; Lot 9, Block 4, Colby Eastern Heights Addition.

- Feb. 22, Patricia Miller to Patricia Miller Trust; Lot 8, Block 14, Colby South View Addition.

- Feb. 23, Mitchell and Lola Baalman to Charles M. and Patricia L. Williams; NE/4 of Sec. 3, T6, R31.

- Feb. 23, Norman L. and Betty J. Behring to Ronald P. Jr. and Clementina R. Roeder; Lots 6-7, Block 5, Colby Gilmore and Larson Subdivision.

- Feb. 23, quit claim deed, Armon F. and Della M. Rucker to Juanita J. and Thomas Aschenbrenner; Lots 15-16, Block 9, Original Brewster.

- Feb. 23, Raymond G. Schroeder, Donald and Dorothy Schroeder and Schroeder partnership to Donald Schroeder; NE/4 of Sec. 33, T10, R33; W/2 of Sec. 17, T10, R31; W/2 of Sec. 18, T10, R31.

Weatherization Workshop for Homeowners

2- Hour Energy Workshop for Home-Owners will provide quick and easy energy saving fixes and repairs.

Held at Colby Community College
March 7, 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Cost: \$22 includes hand-out material.

To register contact Amy Smith at 1-800-729-6222, ext 205.



Sell it in the classifieds 462-3963

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