

Best time to plant trees is now

Gardening instincts are to plant in the spring, but fall is often the best time to plant trees. The months of September through mid-December have distinct advantages. Fall planting follows the heat of summer, and precedes a cool winter season. Trees and shrubs planted use this to good advantage. Plant roots grow anytime the soil temperature is 40 degrees or higher.

Fall planting does have some limitations. Bare root plants should only be planted in late winter or early spring while the plants are still dormant. Evergreens should be planted earlier in the fall, no later than the end of October as the permanent foliage increases water needs and watering ability may be limited.

Fall-planted trees require frequent watering. Initially, once a week is recommended when we don't get rain and after a couple of months watering frequency can be reduced to twice a month. During periods when the soil is frozen watering isn't needed. Watering shouldn't be a limiting factor in most landscapes using hoses. In large plantings with irrigation systems, this could be a concern depending on what type of



Clint Milliman

• Knowledge for Life

pipe is used, how easy it is to drain the line, etc. However, with a little effort it is even possible to use most drip systems during the winter with little chance of damage.

Freezing and thawing of the soil can cause some problems the first winter with fall-planted trees. It may open up air pockets that dry out the roots, or in some cases it can even push the root ball to the surface. These problems can be minimized by placing a 2 to 4 inch layer of mulch around the trees at planting time.

Fertilizing any trees in the fall, especially newly planted ones is not recommended. Save your fertilizer for late winter or spring. Fall fertilizing may encourage excessive growth that newly planted trees can't support. Freeze

damage and winter desiccation are two problems that may increase with fall fertilizing of trees.

Tree nuts can also be planted in the fall. This is an excellent way to establish trees like bur oak and walnut. Simply collect the nuts and plant them one to three inches deep. With black walnuts, leave the husk on. With oak acorns, soak the seed in water for 12 to 24 hours then drain and store in a cool, dark place until planting. Make sure they're stored in a container that breathes – not plastic bags or buckets. Germination won't be 100 percent, so plant two or three nuts near each other where you want a tree. Then simply remove the weaker extra trees that might emerge or transplant to another spot where you want a tree.

For information on tree planting contact the extension office at (785) 460-4582.

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.

Deaths

Eileen L. Brier

Eileen L. Brier, 85, a retired Colby dry cleaning presser, died Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2011, at her home.

She was born May 14, 1926, in Genoa, Colo., the daughter of Henry and Bessie (Heller) Tanner.

She had lived in the Colby area since 1946.

Preceding her in death were her parents and a son, Donald J. Delzeit, in 2000.

Survivors include her husband, Jack J. Brier, of the home; a son, David A. Delzeit, of Colby; four

grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 16, 2011, at Harrison Chapel in Colby, with Pastor Mark Carlton officiating and burial in Beulah Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday at the funeral chapel.

The family suggests memorials to the Genesis-Thomas County Food Bank, in care of any Colby bank or the funeral chapel, Box 634, Colby, Kan., 67701.

William Ward Fisher

William Ward Fisher, 89, Tulia, Texas, father of Lou (Scott) Sheets of Brewster, died Friday, Sept. 9, 2011, in Amarillo, Texas.

He was born Oct. 17, 1921, in Ridgeway, Texas, to C.R. and Ada Fisher. He attended school in Commerce, Texas, before joining the Army in 1942. During World War II, he served as a medic in North Africa, Italy, and France until 1945.

In 1948, he married Lula Blaine Barnes in Dallas. They moved to Tulia in 1949, where he worked for Hipp Elevator. He later became a farmer and rancher. At 65, he went to work for Swisher County in road maintenance for 15 years while still farming.

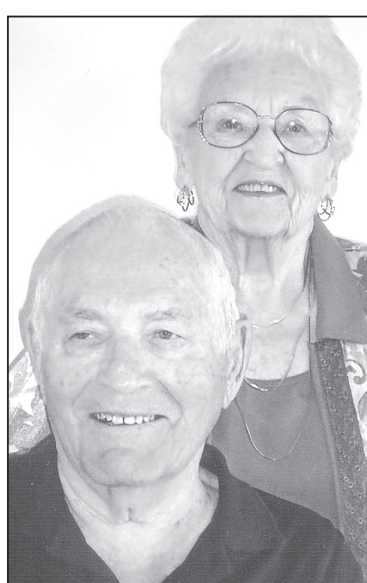
Following his first wife's death on Nov. 17, 1973, he married Nancy Fambro on June 10, 1975. She died on March 11, 2011.

He was preceded in death by two wives, his parents; four brothers, Luke Fisher, Lovell Fisher, L.D. Fisher and Billy Joe Fisher; three sisters, Fenton Gibby, Joyce Quary and Mary Sue Payne; a stepson, Tommy Fambro; and a granddaughter, Lisa Gunkey.

Survivors also include a son, Jimmy (Debbie) Fisher; two other daughters, Linda (Bobby) Shipp and Jan (Jimmy) McCaslin, all of Tulia; a stepdaughter, Cathey (Phillip) Gunkey, Tulia; 15 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren.

Services were Monday, Sept. 12, at the Kornerston Funeral Chapel in Tulia with Lay Minister Lee Moore officiating and burial in the Rose Hill Cemetery in Tulia.

The family suggests memorials to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation at www.jdrf.com.



Duane and Ethel Woofter in 1941 (left) and 2011 (above).

Former Colby couple to celebrate 70 years

Duane and Ethel Jean Woofter, formerly of Colby, will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary with an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2011, at the Chatelaine Residences senior living community in Lincoln, Neb.

Their family would like to invite family and friends to join them in

celebration.

Hosts are their children, Jim and Glenda Bade of Lincoln, Neb.; Dennis and Sheila Woofter of New Market, Md.; John Woofter of Colorado Springs; and Wayne and Gera Lou Woofter of Hays.

For those unable to attend, cards may be sent to 6201 Normal Blvd. Apt. 327, Lincoln, Neb., 68506.

Golden Plains seniors sell magazines for projects

The Golden Plains Senior Class kicked off their annual magazine sales last week. The project is to help raise funds for graduation costs and for the senior trip taken in the spring.

"Magazine sales are one of the most important fund raisers for the senior class," Trey Schwarz, senior class president, said. "We appreciate all those who support the class by purchasing or renewing the magazines they enjoy."

Magazines can be purchased

from any senior class member including Hannah Antholz, Jackie Armstrong, Viri Beltran, Alex Campbell, Cole Christensen, Sandra Galvan, Katrina Griggs, Julia Rogers, Trey Schwarz, Tyler Stevenson, Emily Wachendorfer, Ethan Walter and Kalyn Weber.

Magazines can also be purchased or renewed online at qsp.com by entering the code 1076446 and naming a favorite class member or by contacting Golden Plains High School at (785) 687-3265.

Society to induct daughter of Rexford native at university

Mariah Bastin of Monument, Colo., daughter of Rexford native Dale Bastin and his wife Dagmar Stark-Bastin of Monument, has accepted membership in the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. She will be inducted to the society at Texas A&M University.

Her focus at the university is international studies, along with French and German. This summer

she worked in the Air Force Academy's diversity office. In addition to speaking English, German and French fluently, Bastin is studying several other languages. She is a member of several student organizations.

The society is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day	
Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$7.18
Corn (bushel)	\$7.00
Milo (hundredweight)	\$11.66
Soybeans (bushel)	\$12.61

Foundation accepting scholarship applications

The Dane G. Hansen Foundation will make 275 scholarships available in five categories to students in 26 Northwest Kansas counties for the 2011-2012 academic year. Residents of Cheyenne, Decatur, Logan, Norton, Rawlins, Sheridan, Sherman, Thomas and Wallace counties, among others in northwest Kansas, are eligible.

The Hansen Vocational Education Scholarship has been renamed the Hansen Career and Technical Education Scholarship. There are 100 career and technical education scholarships available. These \$2,000 nonrenewable awards are available to encourage high school seniors who seek competence through career training. Applicants must complete an application form available from high school counselors. The scholarship committee is interested in the student's character, activities and goals. Applicants are not required to take a qualifying test, nor is there a minimum grade average to apply for this scholarship. Recipients may enroll in any career and technical education program, in any Kansas school, as long as it is not leading to a four-year degree.

In addition to the scholarships offered to high school seniors, the foundation will also award 15 community college scholarships of \$2,000. These scholarships are available for Kansas community college students who have com-



pleted 32 hours of college credit by spring and are transferring to an accredited four-year public, private or church related Kansas college or university. Each may be renewed for one year. Applications are available at the office of the college's dean of student services or at www.hansenfoundationscholarships.com.

Scholarships available for students who will graduate this year also include the Leaders of Tomorrow, the Hansen Scholar and the Hansen Student scholarships. In varying amounts these renewable awards have minimum grade average requirements along with a minimum qualifying ACT test score. Registration materials and testing information has been provided to all schools.

Through scholarships the Trustees of the Dane G. Hansen Foundation encourage good citizenship and high achievement in academic endeavors. Improvement of educational opportunities for students in Western Kansas ranks high among the objectives of the Trustees of the Hansen Foundation.

All students interested in the scholarship program are encouraged to visit the website for current information and application forms for the Hansen Career and Technical Education Scholarship and the Community College Scholarship at www.hansenfoundationscholarships.com.

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Give Jeff your shopping list. He will be leaving October 1st.

Send local news to colby.society@nwkansan.com

50th Anniversary

Ron and Sharon Stramel of Colby will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception from 2 - 5 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2011, at the Heartland Christian School in Colby.

The couple has four children who would like to invite family and friends to join them in celebration: Tami (Lynn) Goossen, Lori (Lonnice) Wilson, Todd (Melissa) Stramel and Bert (Lisa) Stramel. They also have 14 grandchildren: Shawna and Clint Goossen; Kayla, Amy, Brenda, Sally, Dana and Brent Wilson; Nathan, Anna and Emilee Stramel; and Trey, Brody and Sophia Stramel.

The couple was married in the Lutheran Church in Page City on Sept. 9, 1961. Throughout their married life, they lived on a farm south of Colby until 2000 when they moved to a residential area north of Colby where they live today.

For those unable to attend, cards may be mailed to the couple at 225 La Hacienda, Colby, Kansas, 67701. They prefer no gifts.

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