

Brewster firemen keep up on training

We are very fortunate in Brewster to have 11 volunteer firemen working to keep Brewster safe.

These men work hard to cover a lot of miles ranging from six miles east of Brewster and west to Edson and north and south to the borders of Thomas County. All firemen are part of the City of Brewster as well as Sherman County Rural Fire. Five are also first responders.

Firemen stay up on training, attending any available in the area. They just completed a session in Goodland put on by the University of Kansas on reading types of smoke. Today they are training in Colby on explosives.

Brewster houses one city pumper-tanker and three rural fire trucks as well as one ambulance.

Mark your calendars for some upcoming Brewster events.

The Beta Federated Women's Club of Brewster will honor the Fine Art Students of Brewster High School at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 2, at the Brewster Methodist Church. They will be serving homemade ice cream and cookies. Entertainment will be provided by the Brewster Music Students directed by Alice Collett. The art students will display artwork they have completed this year under the direction of Michele Werth. Look for further information on flyers around Brewster. Everyone is invited free of charge.

Brewster Lions Club Grade School Basketball will be Thurs-



Angie Moore

• Brewster Correspondent

day, April 4. Supper will be served at 5:30 p.m.; games will begin at 6:30. Please note the date change.

Saturday, April 6, is the annual Brewster Grocery Fish Fry. This year it is being held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the school lunchroom. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids ages 6 to 11. Under 5 is free. For tickets or additional information, stop by the store or contact any board member.

As part of the Brewster Beautification Projects, the master gardeners of Brewster (Colleen Rall, Leisha Carpenter, LeAnne Carney and Lesa Juenemann) are asking for donations to support the flower pots on the four corners of Main Street and Kansas Avenue. Last year was quite a challenge with the heat and wind so plans are to plant hardier varieties, which will need to be purchased. Donation containers will be placed at Brewster Grocery, the Co-Op, Senior Center and the Craft Peddler. For information, contact one of the gardeners.

If you have Brewster news or upcoming events you would like to share please let me know. E-mail angiem@st-tel.net, call 694-3008 or drop information off at the Prairie Land Insurance office.



Jennifer Higerd posed with one of her cells series pieces.

Ceramics on exhibit until Saturday, April 13

The Prairie Museum of Art and History will exhibit ceramic works of Jennifer Higerd, a Thomas County native and former Colby High School teacher, through Saturday, April 13.

The exhibit, "The Roots Run Deep," will close with a reception from 2 to 4 p.m. that day.

This is the first time Higerd has showcased her work at the museum, but her art has been in more than 20 exhibitions since 2007 across Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Iowa and Texas.

"It has been more than 10 years since I lived in Thomas County," said Higerd, formerly of Gem, "yet the people and the land still feel like home."

"(My works), while made with different intentions, really are about my connection to my farm roots."

The pieces displayed at the museum symbolize the circle of life on the farm, said Higerd, from the minuscule micro-organisms and cells to the plants that take root in rural fields.

Higerd, the daughter of Larry

and Kathy Higerd of Colby, received degrees in French, political science, international studies, fine arts and graphic design from Kansas State University and Fort Hays State University.

She has traveled in western Europe, particularly in France, and taught in the Ivory Coast. Higerd has taught in high school, college, adult learners and hearing impaired students. From 2002 to 2009, she taught throughout northwest Kansas, including French and Spanish at Colby High School and art appreciation at Fort Hays State.

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.

Pea planting time waits on snow melt

Somebody stopped me in the dog food isle of the local big box store the other day and asked me if I was going to plant peas in my garden this year. My rather quick retort was that of course I'm going to plant peas this year, just like last year, and the year before that, and the year ... ad infinitum.

Pea planting time, scheduled for this weekend at my house, has been put on hold due to "white stuff" that is either falling or melting in the area of the pea patch. So, I'll wait.

I have a feeling that garden peas are not the most planted vegetable in the High Plains garden. Nationally, only about 25 percent of backyard gardeners mess around with peas, which is a bit of a shame to my way of thinking. I don't plant very many, but to me, peas offer one of the first true tastes of an early spring garden, and I would miss that early unique flavor if I didn't at least plant a few.

The biggest knock I hear on peas is that they are "too labor intensive" and I suppose that's a valid assessment.

First, you must plant them early in the season. They are very definitely an early-season project because when summer heat arrives in mid-June, peas refuse to bloom. So, only two "pickings" are about all you can expect from your spring planting. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance to plant them early, like late in March, or as early in April as possible. It takes about 60 days from planting to harvest in this country. Soil temperatures should be above 40 degrees when you plant, or else the seed may delay sprouting and will tend to rot in a wet soil.

Another reason for the lack of



Kay Melia

• The Gardener

pea interest is that you not only have to pick them at the proper time, but then you have to shell them. Still, their unique spring flavor, prepared for dinner in any manner, are just delightful and well worth any effort it takes to grow them.

Thomas Jefferson, who often phoned his preference for gardening over governing, maintained a lifelong contest with his friends, James Madison and George Diver. The first to harvest fresh peas in the spring would invite the others for dinner. Jefferson and his friends, like many gardeners today, believed that peas are nature's reward for making it through the winter.

Pea growers today have a distinct advantage over Colonial cultivators. While Mr. Jefferson continually sought out new, improved varieties for his garden, he was forced to be satisfied with the likes of Black Prussian and Charleston Leadman's Dwarf.

He never had the good fortune of planting such high producers as Mr. Big, Maestro, Green Arrow or even the dependable old heirloom Lincoln. Nor did he know about today's snow peas or sugar snap peas which allow you to enjoy the pods as well as the fruit, either cooked, in raw form or in stir fry.

But Mr. Jefferson knew that a gardener's inalienable rights included life, liberty and the pursuit of the first bounties of a new spring season.

Colby names honor roll

Here is the Colby Middle School Honor Roll for the third quarter. To make the Orange & Black Club, students needed a 3.0 (B) grade average. For the Academic Club, they had to have all A's, with no more than one B. Top Academic students are the girl and boy in each grade with the highest average.

Sixth Grade

Top Academic - Kellyn Wahlmeier, Jordan Schippers.

Orange & Black Club - Scott Bogart, Macy Catlin, Thomas Cline, Marina Connor, Samantha Coulter, Sean Dinning, Emma Dixon, Kensey Garrett, Nicole Griffin, Kainin O'Malley, Josh Olson, Austin Reed, Isaac Rosales, Abby Rose, Dylan Seiwert, Carter Stanley, Nicolette Stapp, Jessilyn Weis, John Zerr.

Academic Club - Brooke Alexander, Taylor Barnett, Tucker Branum, Maia Cape, Alexis Carney, Wendy Chavez, Alex Ferguson, Kory Finley, Seth Hutfles, Zack Johnson, Paeton McCarty, Jayln Mettlen, Makenna Mettlen, RYanne Meyer, Trey Miller, Nataly Oliver, Peyton Ortnor, Trinity Pfeifer, Aaron Platt, Jordan Schippers, Kurt Schroeder, Paige Schroer, Mariah Thompson, Jakob Tubbs, Kellyn Wahlmeier, Abigail Wetter, Aiyana White, Gage Winger.

Seventh Grade

Top Academic - Alexandra Finley, Kaiser Lopez.

Orange & Black Club - Jack Albers, Julian Bixenman, Cadyn Dixon, Carianne Farrow, Desiree Foster, Anna Giersch, Austin Hamel, Zach Hart, Jatana Hurd, Dru Keen, Erin Krannawitter, Madisyn Lemman, Ethan Maier, Carson McLaughlin, Stacia Oren, Patyn Pfeifer, Larry Radovich, Camille Rager, Jaden Reeh, Hannah Rehmer, Landon Reilley, Kora Schindler, Karissa Singer, Lucas Taylor, Job Thompson, Kevin White.

Academic Club

- Austin Bricker, Bailey Britton, Bryce Brown, Lynnsey Elling, Alexandra Finley, Parker Hamel, Jordan Hartwell, Chloe Imhof, Alexys Kraft, Abbie Kummer, Destiny Liester, Kaiser Lopez, Shevin Martin, Lander Niblock, Bryce Niermeier, Natalie Oren, Sean Rall, Hayden Reinert, Rayanna Schmidt, Caitlin Tinkham, Courtney Tinkham, Rachel VanEaton, Morgan Voss, Cassandra Wells, Madison Zimmerman.

Eighth Grade

Top Academic - Brittany Alexander, Bailey Foss and Isabel Rosales, tied, and Mark Faber.

Orange & Black Club - Dylan Blackhart, Rex Branum, Christian Calliham, Tate Carney, Dalton Colgan, Brooks Curry, Rebecca Farrow, Travis Finley, Kambri Garrett, Valorie Harper, Chase Holzmeister, August Hutfles, Jordan Juhan, Elizabeth Koel, Ernest Leija, Morgan Morris, Jordan O'Malley, Grace Oard, Ashli Pruett, Tanner Reed, Emily Rogers, Tyler Schritter, Callie Siruta, Donte Whitfield, Madison Wiens, Parker Wright.

Academic Club - Brittany Alexander, Makenna Bogart, Amelia Culver, Lauren Dempewolf, Alexis Dennis, Mark Faber, Bailey Foss, Tayber Haremza, Taylen Hubbell, Brandon Johnson, Hannah Johnson, Keegan Lopez, Audrey Puckett, Devin Rogers, Isabel Rosales, Ashlyn Sager, Laura Schroeder, Alexa Sims, Jonah Thompson, Michael Vacik, Courtney VanEaton, Alex Vap, Alex Zimmerman.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day
Hi-Plains Co-op

Wheat (bushel)	\$7.21
Corn (bushel)	\$7.31
Milo (hundredweight)	\$12.52
Soybeans (bushel)	\$13.50

Emporia lists dean's honors

Haley Kistler of Monument and Jessica Leiker of Colby have been named to the dean's list of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Emporia State University for the fall semester.

To qualify, students must earn a semester average that puts them in the top 10 percent of all full-time undergraduate students and have a cumulative 3.5 average.

Bridge Club

Meadow Lake bridge winners for Tuesday were: first, Ken Ptacek; second, Larry Barrett; third, Billie Keck; fourth, Katie Melvin; fifth, Dave Ulmer.

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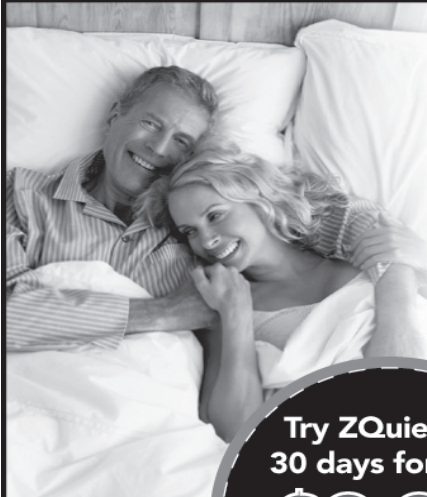
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