

Windbreaks, shelterbelts target topics for field day on 'agroforestry' at WaKeeney

With the current drought in Kansas, it's important for landowners, farmers, ranchers and natural-resource professionals to focus on conservation and management.

Next Wednesday, the Kansas Forest Service will hold the 2013 Agroforestry Field Day near WaKeeney in Trego County to educate participants on current issues facing agroforestry in Kansas.

The field day, on the farm of Dave and Mary Hendricks, will focus on the wildlife habitat the Hendricks have created through planting and renovating windbreaks and establishing native grass and wildflower plantings. Suggestions on row removal, selective thinning, watering and establishing additional tree rows will be provided.

The Hendricks are known throughout western Kansas for their wildlife habitat and conservation achievements. The couple will be recognized by the Kansas Forestry Association and the Kansas Forest Service as recipients of the 2013 Kansas Agroforestry Award. The award is presented to landowners who do an exceptional job implementing agroforestry practices on their property such as riparian forest buffers and shelterbelts.

Issues to be covered at the field day include:

- Jim Strine and Bob Atchison, Kansas Forest Service foresters, will provide tips on how to maintain and renovate older windbreaks and shelterbelts. Participants also will receive the latest information on financial assistance available to implement windbreak renovation projects.
- Stacie Edgett-Minson, K-State Research and Extension watershed specialist, will speak on water quality and quantity issues and offer practices to implement.
- Burning the prairie helps ensure the health of grass and range lands.

Unfortunately, many landowners are hesitant to burn or do not plan adequately. Windbreaks on the Hendricks' farm have been damaged by wildfire for that very reason. Michele Witecha, Kansas Forest Service wildlife ecologist and rangeland fire specialist, will provide a session on how to develop a burn plan that accomplishes specific management interests while lowering the risk of wildfire potential.

- Nikki Opbroek, Kansas Forest Service forest health specialist, will offer an update on potential health threats to trees and shrubs, including drought, and provide both diagnosis and control recommendations for the major tree problems people encounter in western Kansas.

- Dave Hendricks will show participants how windbreaks can be used as a fawning area for mule deer and discuss how landowners can encourage mule deer habitat on their properties.
- Randy Rogers and Helen Hands will provide both landowner and professional wildlife biologist perspectives on how to improve habitat for upland birds.
- With a population decline of more than 90 percent since settlement, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is considering listing the lesser prairie chicken as a threatened or endangered species.

Mark Witecha, a Pheasants Forever biologist, will be on hand to discuss the habitat needs of this important species and suggest conservation practices that foster lesser prairie chicken and other important grassland birds.

Registration for the field day will begin at 8 a.m. A hot lunch will be provided as part of a \$10 registration fee. To register, checks should be written to Kansas State University, and mailed to the Kansas Forest Service, Agroforestry Field Day, 2610 Claffin Road, Manhattan, Kan., 66502-2798.

For information, call Atchison at (785) 532-3310 or go to the News and Events section on at www.kansasforests.org.

Not all hot air comes from talking



GOLDEN PLAINS MIDDLE SCHOOL
The Golden Plains eighth-grade science class tested out the hot air balloons they made while studying energy sources. "Being able to work as a team was fun," said Cole Bingham. "It was exciting when it worked after a week of preparing."

Traveling Wall to be in McCook May 16-19

The American Veterans Traveling Tribute will be in McCook, Neb., with the Traveling Wall. It will be on display from noon on Thursday, May 16, until 3 p.m. Sunday, May 19, at Weiland Field.

The main sponsor is the Chris Hansen American Legion Post, along with the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce and other interested organizations. Donations are being accepted by the front desk at McCook National Bank and are tax deductible.

The mission of the project is to travel the nation to honor, respect and remember men and

women who served, and to pay specific tribute to those who gave all in that service. Since the tribute is mobile, it allows people to honor and respect veterans and active military personnel without having to travel great distances to do so.

The Traveling Wall is an 80 percent-scale version of the Viet Nam Memorial Wall in Washington D.C. Across its 360-foot length the wall contains every name etched on the original. At its apex the memorial is eight feet tall.

The Traveling Wall was completed in early

1998 and began traveling that year.

The American Veterans Traveling Tribute is a veteran-owned project committed to travel to honor, respect, and remember those who served, and pay specific tribute to those who gave all.

It is not government sponsored or affiliated, but funded through sponsorship fees, donations and sale of merchandise at events.

For information, contact Maggie Repass at (308) 340-0256 or the Chamber of Commerce at (308) 345-3200.

DEADLINE IS THURSDAY, MAY 2ND

ATTENTION

Senior Parents and Homeschoolers

• Colby High School • Brewster High School • Golden Plains High School • Heartland Christian School •

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Follow your dreams!

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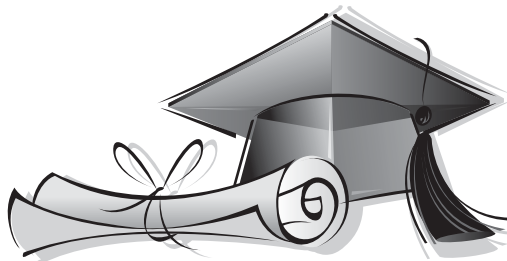
Class of 2013



2x2 Sample - \$25

The Colby Free Press is now planning the Senior Graduation Tab and will be giving parents a chance to put a baby picture in along with a short message from the family for a small fee.

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 Sharon or Kathryn, at **785-462-3963** for more information or stop by the office at 155 W. Fifth in Colby.



CLASS of 2013



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2x4 Sample - \$40

McDonald 125th Celebration Road Races

MAY 25
8:00 AM
\$15 FEE
Main Street, McDonald, KS

- 10K & 5K races for runners & walkers (2-hour cut-off)
- 1-mile fun run for all ages

Registration is open until the morning of the race but May 10 is the deadline to guarantee your official race t-shirt.



Go to www.nwksrunning.webstarts.com for registration forms & information.

May Day May Day

SPRING SAVINGS

May 1-4 • 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

End of Bolt Sale Fleece Closeout

Janome Sewing Machines Marked DOWN (Just in time for Graduation & Mothers Day)



1525 S. Range
785-462-3375

The public is invited to a Retirement Reception Honoring CCC Employees

Connie Davis
Sandy Hill
Tom Moorhous
Bob Selby
Joyce Washburn
Diane Williams

The College will also bid farewell to those employees who are leaving to pursue new opportunities elsewhere.

May 2, 2013
Student Union, Room 108
Beginning at 3:00 p.m.



Colby Community College