

Field day and wheat plot tour are both just around the corner

Two important agricultural events are coming soon, the K-State Spring Field Day and the Thomas County Wheat Plot Tour. More information on both of these follows.

The 2013 K-State Spring Field Day will be Tuesday at the Northwest Research-Extension Center in Colby. Registration is at 9 a.m. with programming starting at 9:30 a.m. There will be something for everyone: wheat response to tillage practices, evaluating intensive crop rotations, and a session on an emerging insect pest called the wheat stem sawfly.

Participants will have a chance to visit the plots for many of these sessions and get a look at the same thing that the K-State agronomists are seeing. As of yet, K-State has not come up with a magic formula for growing wheat without moisture, but hopefully the wheat plots don't look too bad even after the beating it has taken from Mother Nature this year.

Mark your calendars for Tuesday and join K-State specialist to discuss wheat production in northwest Kansas. The program will wrap up with lunch provided by Monsanto.

Another date to put on your calendar is two weeks later, Tuesday, June 18. That is the day the Thomas County Wheat Plot tour will be held. The tour will start at 7:30 a.m. at the shop on the Solomon Creek Farm, (Mike, Jeane and Tanner Brown) five miles south of the Levant-Interstate 70 interchange. The shop is on the east side of the road. Then the group will proceed south to the field. Guest speakers



Diann Gerstner

• Knowledge for Life

are Jim Shroyer, K-State Extension Specialist, and Dan O'Brien, Extension Agricultural Economist. Feel free to bring wheat samples for Shroyer to look at.

We sure appreciate Mike and Tanner Brown for planting the wheat plots and holding the tour. Mattson Farms and the Kansas Wheat Alliance provide the morning snack and beverages.

Because Mother Nature has not been particularly kind this year, I also want farm producers to know about the help they can receive from the Kansas Ag Mediation Service.

With the Kansas wheat crop damaged by a late freeze and drought, livestock operations struggling with pasture, feed costs and water issues and all producers dealing with high input prices, the ability to make payments on loans and accounts may be impaired.

The Kansas Agricultural Mediation Services offers free or low-cost services to farmers that are particularly helpful in such situations.

This year Department of Agriculture disaster designations due to drought have been

declared in all 105 counties in Kansas. As a result, many farmers and ranchers may be unable to make payments to creditors. Mediation Services offers advice and assistance in a variety of ways:

- Mediate/negotiate with banks, suppliers and other creditors to restructure debt.
- Develop feasible, objective restructure plans.
- Determine loan restructure options on Farm Service Agency direct and guaranteed loans.

Services offered by Mediation Services include: low cost on-farm computer analysis of options through the K-State Research and Extension Farm Analyst Program; low cost legal advice under the Farm Mediation Legal Counseling Program through Kansas Legal Services; and mediation assistance. These services are available to all parties – both producers and lenders – to help analyze, generate options and resolve difficult financial situations.

The mediation service has more than 25 years of experience in helping Kansas farmers, ranchers, and their lenders to improve financial stability for the producer's operation.

Ag producers, creditors and others interested in accessing these services can call (800) 321-FARM (3276) or go to their website at www.ksre.ksu.edu/kams/.

Diann Gerstner is the family and consumer sciences agent for the Thomas County Extension office.

Growing dry beans simple, productive

Strangely enough, the KLOE Home and Garden Show took place in Goodland. Our staff at KLOE originated the show back in the early 80s, staging it at the Elks Club. When the show grew too large for that fine facility, we moved it to the Max Jones Field House, and it was a "full house" there for more than 20 years.

In the later years, the Extension Service organized afternoon discussion groups for the show, conducted by Master Gardeners who discussed various and sundry garden topics of the day. One year I led the discussion about "Growing Your Own Baked Beans," which played to a nearly empty room that day. Since you weren't there to hear the presentation, I decided to try to garner your attention here in the paper 10 years later, because I think it's something all gardeners should be aware of, or not.

Obviously, when we're talking about baked beans, we're talking about the cooking treatment we give to the many varieties and types of the bean seed, which results in a staple food that is prepared in different ways all around the world. For many years, farmers and gardeners have known about the powerhouse of nutrition contained in the seed of the bean, not to mention the soluble fiber abundance, as well as being virtually fat free with no cholesterol. Most importantly, beans just plain taste good, prepared in so many ways.

Unfortunately, very few gardeners grow their own dry beans. Sure, most of us plant a row or two of green beans. But we just don't mess around with dry beans. What a shame!

Growing dry beans is much eas-



Kay Melia

• The Gardener

ier than raising green beans, because you don't have to pick them until the plants reach full maturity and the filled bean pods begin to dry out before the first freeze in late October. Then, you simply pick the dry pods, shell them, and store them for winter use.

Normally, when most good cooks go to the store to buy a pound or two of dry beans, they buy pintos or great northern because they are grown here and we are most familiar with them. Good choice. But there are others that backyard gardeners should try, not only for their cooking qualities, but because of the sheer beauty of the seed. We absolutely should grow the Anasazi, also known as Jacob's cattle bean. They are simply beautiful in hand, and the taste is wonderful. There are those who firmly believe that the very best baked beans are made with the Vermont cranberry bean. Other winners, each with their own presentation, include the black turtle bean, the appaloosa, the yin yang, the calypso. Perhaps the most unique is the soldier bean. Every white bean contains the perfect outline of a dark maroon soldier on the eye of the bean.

There are dozens more varieties, all heirlooms, all containing their own designs and consistencies. Baked beans, ham and beans, bean soup, etc., all taste better when prepared with the beans from your own garden. So what else is new?

Garden-in-waiting



DENISE SINGER/Community Garden Coordinator
These plants started by the Colby High ag class were waiting for transplanting last week at the Community Garden. Denise Singer says that while some are in the ground, volunteers are still needed to get the rest planted.

Markets

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

Wheat (bushel)	\$7.18
Corn (bushel)	\$7.02
Milo (hundredweight)	\$11.93
Soybeans (bushel)	\$14.59

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.

Too many pickles, she said

QUINCY, Mass. (AP) – Police say a Quincy woman is facing charges for allegedly punching a restaurant worker who put "too many pickles" on her steak and cheese sandwich.

Police say Drouin started loudly complaining, used a profanity, and demanded a refund.

Tina Drouin ordered the sub from Nathan's Famous Hot Dogs in the Quincy Center subway/commuter rail station on Saturday afternoon.

Police say Drouin started loudly complaining, used a profanity, and demanded a refund.

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Deaths

Floyd W. Dinning

Floyd W. Dinning, 62, Colby, a retired truck driver for the state, died Tuesday, May 28, 2013, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

He was born March 8, 1951, in Oakley.

Survivors include his wife, Melissa J. Dinning, of the home; a son, Roger Dinning, Colby; two daughters, Melody Dinning and Marjory Els, both of Benkelman, Neb.; two sisters, Vera Williams of Colby and Cleo Durant of Kearney, Neb.; and four grandchildren.

Memorial services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 1, 2013, at the Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel in Colby, with Pastor Gene Rothfuss officiating.

No visitation. The family suggests memorials in his name to be designated later, in care of the funeral chapel, 745 S. Country Club Dr., Colby, Kan., 67701.

Condolences for the family may be left at www.kersenbrockfuneralchapel.com.

Oliver Henry Lusk

Oliver Henry Lusk, 78, Oakley, a retired City of Oakley employee and stepfather of Pam (Ken) Moser of Colby, died Friday, May 24, 2013, at the Logan County Manor in Oakley.

He was born June 9, 1934, in Ninaview, Colo., to William and Gladys (Higgins) Lusk.

On July 29, 1967, he married LaDonna Isabelle Wright, in Oakley.

When he retired, he helped his sons-in-law, Ron Siruta with his cattle herd and Ken Moser at the feedlot. He enjoyed watching his grandchildren show cattle, sheep and hogs and going to their sports events and other activities.

Preceding him in death were his parents; his wife in 2007; three brothers, Levi Lusk, Lloyd Lusk and James Lusk; and three sisters, Florence Lusk, Reecey Tanner and Essie Lusk.

Survivors include two other stepdaughters, Gayle Williams and Dee (Ron) Siruta, all of Oak-

ley; four brothers, Robert Lusk, Camyo, Texas; Paul (Esther) Lusk, Beaver, Okla.; Carl Joe Lusk, Idaho Falls, Utah; and David Lusk, Larned; a sister, Alice Berger; a brother-in-law, Elmer "Bud" Wright, Oakley; a sister-in-law, Lucille Lusk, Brighton, Colo.; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Services were to be at 10:30 a.m. today, Wednesday, May 29, 2013, at the Kennedy-Koster Funeral Home in Oakley, with Pastor Bob Kelly officiating and burial in the Oakley Cemetery.

Visitation was to be Tuesday at the funeral home.

The family suggests memorials to the United Christian Church of Oakley, the Logan County Emergency Medical Services on the manor, in care of the funeral home, Box 221, Oakley, Kan., 67748.

Condolences for the family may be left at www.kennedykosterfh.com.

Elizabeth Hale

Elizabeth Hale, 61, Hamilton, Mont., sister of Donna Sweet of Colby, died Wednesday, May 22, 2013, at her home.

She was born June 14, 1951, in Pocahontas, Ark., to James and June (Herbert) Sweet.

On Nov. 25, 1981, she married Rodney E. Hale in Ventura, Calif.

A cardiac vascular technician, she enjoyed gardening and being outdoors. Fond of all animals, she especially loved her dogs

A brother, Jimmy Hale, preceded her in death.

Survivors also include her husband, four children and nine grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Tuesday, May 28, 2013, at the Cowboy Church in Grantsdale, Mont.

Condolences may be left for the family at www.dalyleachchapel.com

Colby Rotary Club

Colby Rotary Club met May 21 at Colby Community College with guests Bruce, Janice and Karlyn Frahm and Saki Higashida.

Vice President Marilyn Unger conducted the meeting.

It was announced the Walking Trail is nearing completion and should be ready for use in the near future. Rotary is helping provide the entryway for the trail.

Pat Sloan asked members to mark their calendars for Tuesday, June 25, for an Ann and Andy event.

Ken Frahm had the program. His guest was Higashida, an exchange student from Japan. She gave an informative talk about her country. She attended Colby High School as a junior during the school year; her host family was Bruce and Janice Frahm. Ken Frahm noted that the first student in the program arrived in Colby in

1960.

Mike Tubbs won Roto-Lotto. Rotary meets each Tuesday in Room 106 of the Student Union.

—Relda Galli

The Lily Plummer Family: Would like to thank everyone for their phone calls, cards, food, flowers and donations to Mom's Memorials. And most of all their prayers.

Thank you all.

Anna Dean Rodenbeck
Larry Chambers
and our families



Colby Community College and Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks 5th Annual Fishing Derby

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS



Pheasants Forever (Buddy Van Horn, Van Koon) for 250 lbs. of Catfish



Cindy and Mike Shubert for donating 100 fishing rods and reels the past 4 years

David Spalsbury, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Fisheries Biologist, and Andrew Karlin



Hi-Plains Co-Op ~ John Strecker for fishing worms

Tubbs and Sons Ford, Colby Ag Center and The Bank (cash donations)

Penny Cline, Caitlin Cline, Lynn Cameron and Kathy Britton for their assistance before and during the event

