



Daniel Blake of Goodland, who plays lead character Artie Shaughnessy in the Colby Community College spring play, rehearsed with Tina Schmid (left) and Regina Heier (right) Monday for "House of Blue Leaves." Heier plays the female lead Bananas Shaughnessy, Artie's wife, and Schmid plays Corrina Stroller. The play will be at 6:30 p.m. Mountain Time tonight and Saturday in the Northwest Kansas Cultural Arts Center on the college campus. Tickets will be available at the door.

Photo by Debbie Schwanke/ Colby Community College

Goodland graduate to play lead

A Goodland High School graduate will play the lead role in the Colby Community College spring play this weekend.

Daniel Blake, son of Rod and Peggy Blake of Goodland, will play the part of Artie Shaughnessy in John Guare's black comedy, "The House of Blue Leaves." The play was to open at 6:30 p.m. Mountain Time Thursday and will be at 6:30 tonight and Saturday in the Northwest Kansas Cultural Arts Center on the college campus. Tickets will be sold at the door.

Artie is a married, middle-aged father having an affair with the very stout and talkative Bunny Flingus.

His wife, Bananas Shaughnessy, has lost all touch with reality and is in a troubled mental state while their son Ronnie plots to blow up the Pope. Artie just wants his family to live happily every after.

The play is set in 1965 in New York where, though it is not quite dawn, people are lining the streets hoping to see the Pope and receive blessings as he passes on his way to speak at Yankee Stadium.

"Artie is looking to be a hopeful performer even while family issues at home deprive him of his way to stardom," Blake said.

Artie is a musician; he can play the piano, sing and write songs,

which presents a challenge for Blake.

"I can sing and play the piano, but I don't read notes, and that makes it quite a challenge to play the piano pieces," he said. "I have never played the piano for an audience."

The cast has been practicing for several weeks for two to three hours each night, said Director Deb Bickner.

"The most difficult part of playing the lead character of Artie is memorizing the many lines," said Blake. "The acting part isn't so difficult — this is my eighth production. I hope everyone comes to the play because it is really funny."

Corn planting getting into full swing

Planting season is getting into full swing, and corn is going into the ground.

Many factors can signal the start of planting, but a lot of farmers use soil temperature as a guideline for planting corn.

Planting corn when the soil temperature reaches 55 degrees at a two-inch depth seems to be an excellent guideline. This corresponds to the Kansas State University general recommendation for planting corn in northwest Kansas from May 1 to May 20.

The speed of germination and emergence depends on the planting depth and soil temperature. Corn emergence at 50-55 degrees may take 18 to 21 days.

Soil temperatures ranging from 60-65 degrees encourages seedling emergence in eight to 10 days. Early plantings will emerge quicker from planting depths of 1.5 to two inches than if planted deeper into cooler soils.

Planting deeper, in the two- to three-inch range, has its benefits. This will help prevent drying in the seed zone, if dry weather follows planting. Planting over 3.5 inches deep, in any type of soil conditions, could result in emergence and stand problems.

When cool soil delays germination, there is increased risk of seed

or seedling injury from insects. Several soil insects attack planted seed, destroying the germ or the germinating plant tissue.

Possible culprits include seed corn beetles, seed corn maggots and wireworms. Seed-applied or planting-time insecticides will help prevent these insects from feeding on seed corn.

Poor or uneven emergence can result from planting early corn too shallow and not having all the seed planted into adequate moisture for germination. This seems to occur most often in no-till conditions, where variation in residue cover can cause variable surface moisture.

In no-till corn, it is important to make sure you are getting through the residue and getting the seed down to a uniform desired planting depth to get uniform emergence.

Use of additional weight and down pressure springs can help ensure penetration of the residue and soil to place the seed at the proper depth.

All of these factors can influence germination, emergence and the final plant stand. If you have any questions, call the Sherman County



jeanne falk

• agron notes

Extension office at 899-4880.

Jeanne Falk is area crop production and economics specialist for Sherman, Cheyenne and Wallace counties with Kansas State University Research and Extension.

Volunteers care for dying, families

An article by Jack Gordon, chairman and chief executive officer of the Hospice Foundation of America, talks about the role of hospice volunteers and lists some of the services they provide.

Excerpts from the article:

The 96,000 hospice volunteers at work in hospices throughout the United States are an essential part of the hospice philosophy of care which recognizes that dying is not just a medical event but a personal one as well.

These volunteers are important members of an interdisciplinary team working to "de-institutionalize" the dying experience and provide a more humane system of care for the dying and their families.

In fact, federal law requires that at least five percent of patient care hours be provided by volunteers.

Volunteers in hospice find it personally gratifying, intellectually stimulating and emotionally meaningful to assist those in need at a critical point in their lives.

Many of these volunteers were introduced to hospice through the death of a family member and understand firsthand the value of hospice care. Volunteers consistently report that helping the terminally ill through hospice is not about dying but about living.

Hospice Services has opportunities for volunteers. Participants may range in age from teens to senior citizens. While volunteer opportunities can vary greatly from one hospice to another, all hospices strive to constructively utilize the time and talents of those who answer the call to serve.



sandy kuhlman

• hospice services inc.

Some volunteers may have professional skills or specialized expertise, but most are special people who want to help their friends and neighbors and serve the community.

For information about volunteering with hospice families, contact Amanda McKenzie, director of volunteers, at (800) 315-5122 for more details on specific needs.

Some of the wide range of opportunities available for hospice volunteers can include:

- Support for patients. This can include visiting, reading, taking walks, writing letters, bringing in music, supervising visits with pets, even touch therapy for volunteers with the necessary skills.

- Respite and support for family members. Volunteers can assist with shopping or household maintenance or allow family caregivers the opportunity to take care of necessary errands and get some time away from the house. Family members also appreciate a visit from a compassionate friend who understands what they are going through.

- Child care assistance. This can include help with baby-sitting, picking up children from school or providing necessary transportation to club meetings or sporting events and practices. Volunteers have also

made invaluable contributions with family pet care.

- Bereavement support programs. Hospice vol-

unteers can work closely with Hospice's professional bereavement staff in a variety of duties that range from personal contacts and/or visits to supporting group education efforts.

- Fund-raising and administrative work. A volunteer with clerical skills can serve a hospice by helping in the office with simple administrative duties. Fundraising responsibilities can range from preparing flyers or brochures to mail or thank you letters to organizing fundraising events and contacting possible donors.

To ensure that all volunteers are equipped for the challenge of working with the dying, hospices require that volunteers complete extensive orientation and training sessions.

It is important that volunteers understand the history of hospice and are aware of the specific ways Hospice Services works to serve the community. To volunteer or for more information, call Hospice Services at (800) 315-5122.

Sandy Kuhlman is the executive director of Hospice Services Inc., Box 116, Phillipsburg, Kan. 67661. Contact her or Julia Schemper at (800) 315-5122. Hospice serves northwest and north central Kansas and has been providing end-of-life care for more than 23 years.

matters of record

Municipal Court

These are cases decided by the Goodland Municipal Court:

April 12: Jeffrey M. Aultman, driving while suspended, fined, \$236, five days in jail suspended, six months unsupervised probation.

Jeffrey L. Holmes, Salina, no driver's license, fined, \$136. \$40 of fine suspended with proof of valid driver's license.

Zachary A. Potterf, illegal registration, fined \$76.

Shannon Butler, driving while suspended, fined \$236, five days in jail suspended, six months unsupervised probation.

Levi W. Hemphill, ran stop sign, fined \$76.

April 13: Amber N. Cowan, speeding 49/30, fined \$112.

April 17: Dennis L. Malsom,

speeding 55/40, fined \$96.

Taylor W. Frazier, speeding 40/30, fined \$76.

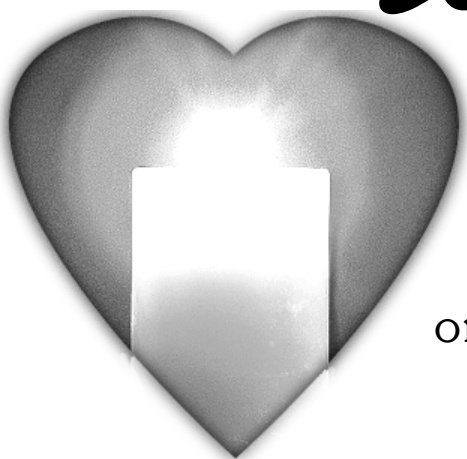
April 18: Julian R. Vela, Hutchinson, disorderly conduct, fined \$136.

District Traffic

The following fines were paid in the Sherman County District Court:

March 12 — Mark J. Gruenthal, \$195 for speeding.

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