**Dorothy Armstrong** 

### obituaries

#### **Marcus** Martin

Marcus Dennis Martin, 85, Quinter, brother of T.J. (Patsy) Martin of Goodland, died Saturday, Oct. 21, 2006, at the Gove County Medical Center at Quinter.

He was born Oct. 19, 1921, on the family farm north of Quinter in rural Sheridan County, the son of Philip James II and Ruth Matilda (McClure) Martin. He graduated from Quinter High School in 1942 and was a farmer and stockman in Sheridan County most of his life before retiring in 1996.

On May 18, 1943, he married Anna Haffner at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church at Park. Hunting, fishing, camping and carpentry, including making toys, were his hobbies. He enjoyed making his morning visit to the coffee shop and treasured the time spent with his grandchildren.

Martin was a member of the St. Michael Catholic Church in Collyer and a former member of the Quinter Saddle Club.

Preceding him in death were two sons, Harold Lee and Kenneth R.

Martin; a son-in-law, Tom Nedbalek; and five brothers, Philip III, Lawrence, John, Rodney and Francis Martin.

Other survivors include his wife; Ridge Care Center in a son, William D. (Laurie) Martin Celina. of Wichita; a daughter, Elaine Nedbalek of Wichita; a daughterin-law, Constance Fink of Ellis; a sister, Ruth Ann Kaiser of Quinter; 15 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandchild.

Memorial services will be at 9 a.m. Mountain Time today, Friday, Oct. 27, 2006, at the Collyer church with Father Basil Torrez officiating. Inurnment will follow at Sa- Lester Lehman in Goodland. cred Heart Cemetery in Park.

American Lung Association or the Gove County Medical Center Long Term Care in care of Schmitt Fu-Kan. 67752.

Visitation was scheduled for 5 to ans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary. 6 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home, where the rosary was to be said at 6 p.m.

Isabel Lehman

Texas, a former Goodland-area bus for many years. farm wife, died Friday, Oct.

20, 2006, at the Settlers

She was born Nov. 11, 1922, in Linn, the daughter of Edwin C. and Frieda (Reissig) Schwerdtferger, and attended school in Linn through seventh grade. Her family moved to Goodland

in 1930, and she graduated from sister, Gertrude George. Sherman Community High School in 1941

On Nov. 5, 1950, she married

She was a member of Women of Memorials may be made to the the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Smoky Extension Home Unit, Soil Turners 4-H, the Naomi Circle and the Altar Guild of the neral Home, 901 S. Main, Quinter, Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Goodland and the Goodland Veter-

> She helped with the Meals on Wheels program, volunteered at the Good Samaritan Center, taught

Isabel Lehman, 83, Celina, Sunday School and drove a school

Mrs. Lehman especially enjoyed raising her chickens and being the "Egg Lady" to her many friends.

Preceding her in death were her parents and husband; a daughter, Marsha Lehman; two brothers, Gerhardt and Norman Schwerdtferger; and a

Survivors include a son, Michael

(Sharon) Lehman of Raymore, Mo.; a daughter, Mary (David) Stewart of Frisco, Texas; and two granddaughters.

Memorial services will be at 10:30 a.m. today, Friday, Oct. 27, 2006, at the church, with Pastor David Rossbach officiating and burial in the Goodland Cemetery.

No visitation. Memorials may be made in care of Bateman Funeral Home, Box 278, Goodland, Kan. 67735. The family will decide their use later.

### Sorghum not likely to mature before freeze

Some fields of grain sorghum in our area will likely not reach maturity this fall before the first killing freeze. These fields were under drought stress for most of the summer, which slowed development of the plants. This may have resulted in a buildup

of nitrates in the lower stems to levels that could be toxic to cattle.

Where there has been some rain and growth has resumed, nitrates that accumulated in the lower stems will have begun moving normally through the plant into the upper leaves and head. This should result in reduced nitrate levels in the lower stems of these plants.

Nitrates will continue to translocate into the leaves and heads, said John Fritz, Kansas State University forage management specialist, until the first killing freeze.

After the plants are dead, whatever nitrate is in the leaves and stems will remain were it is. Normally. leaves will have relatively low nitrate levels. Before grazing, a sample of the upper leaves should be tested for nitrates just to be safe. The lower eight inches of stems always should be tested for nitrate before allowing cattle to graze the sorghum.

It doesn't matter if the crop is grazed or hayed before or after the



first killing freeze, he said. If the to be sure that nitrate levels are safe. field will be used while the plants Cattle should be filled up on roughare still alive, stockmen will have to age before going out onto grain sorkeep in mind nitrate levels will con- ghum for the first time. tinue to change and may have to be tested more than once.

enough on fields of grain sorghum new regrowth, Fritz said. These that the cattle will eat only the heads new shoots growing at the base of and upper leaves and stems. Cattle the plants are tasty to animals, but sion.

stalks down to eight inches or be-

low, if possible. If the fields will be grazed heavily, farmers will have

Stockmen should not put cattle out onto grain sorghum that has re-Stocking rates should be low ceived some rain recently and has

should not be al- often have toxic levels of prussic lowed to eat the acid, commonly known as cyanide.

Because prussic acid poisoning occurs quickly, symptoms often are spotted too late for treatment. Prevention is the key to this problem. After a killing frost, wait at least four days before grazing to allow the cyanide gas to dissipate from the ruptured cell membranes. Again, cattle should be fed roughage before going out on the sorghum.

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

Dorothy Armstrong, 85, Sher- Sunday at Koons Chapel in Goodman County, died Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2006, at the Sherman County Good Samaritan Center.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday, Oct. 30, 2006, at the Goodland First Christian Church with the Rev. Ted Amos officiating. Burial will follow in the Goodland Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 3 to 6 p.m.

211 N. Main, Goodland, Kan. 67735-1555. A full obituary will follow. Fall is good time

church.

# to prepare soil



is wet, making it difficult to work soil without forming clods that remain the rest of the year.

Fall is usually drier, allowing you more time to work the soil when it is at the correct moisture content. Even if you work soil wet in the fall and form clods, the freezing and thawing over the winter will break them down, leaving a mellow soil in the spring.

Insects often hide in garden debris. If that debris is worked into the soil, they will be less likely to survive the winter. Diseases are also less likely to survive over winter if old plants are worked under. Also, the garden debris will increase the organic matter content of the soil.

Working the debris into the soil is often easier if you mow the old vegetable plants several times to reduce the size of the pieces.



land and before the service at the

First Christian Church or to Hos-

pice Services of Sherman County in care of Koons Funeral Home,

Memorials may be made to the

αg notebook

Fall is an excellent time to add organic matter. Not only are organic materials usually more available in the fall (leaves, rotten hay or silage, grass clippings) but fresher materials can be added in the fall than in the spring because there is more time for them to break down before planting

As a general rule, add two inches of organic material to the surface of the soil and till it in. Be careful not to overtill.

You should end up with particles like grape nuts or larger. If you work your garden into the consistency of dust, you have destroyed the soil structure.

Dana Belshe is agricultural agent for Kansas State University Research and Extension and the Sunflower Extension District, covering Sherman and Wallace counties



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