

Radon test kits still available

At the recent county fairs, I saw many of you and visited about the importance of testing your homes for radon. At that time I mentioned the reduced rate test kits would still be available at the extension offices. Please be encouraged to act quickly. These reduced prices will only be available until Sept. 30, so call your local office or drop in to get your test kit.

You may be wondering why testing for evidence of radon gas is so important. Exposure to this gas, which is a cancer carcinogen, is unsafe at any level. It is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S., second only to smoking cigarettes. Every year 14,000 Americans die of lung cancer caused by radon exposure.

Radon is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas which occurs naturally in the soil. It is produced during the decaying process of uranium. Radon gas is sucked into your home because of the unequal air pressure



Home Time

By Tranda Watts
Multi-county Extension Agent

inside your house compared to the outside. Quite frequently it will be pulled initially into the basement. If your children have bedrooms in the basement, or if you yourself live or work in the basement, then this is where the exposure level is usually greatest and most likely to occur. Consider testing your basement, or the lowest level where you frequently live and work, to find out if you are being exposed to this potentially damaging carcinogenic gas.

In Decatur, Sheridan and Trego Counties there are only about 20 reduced rate test kits left, and in Gove

County there is only one. Act now to ensure this very economical opportunity to have the radon test done, for the safety of your family.

If you have questions regarding the kits, please feel free to contact your local extension office, or myself.

Tranda Watts is multi-county extension specialist in food, nutrition, health and safety for Decatur, Gove, Norton, Sheridan, and Trego counties. Call her at 785-443-3663 or e-mail twatts@oznet.ksu.edu. For more information, contact the county extension office, 475-8121.

Rydquist family holds reunion

Descendants of Eugene and Clara (Lundquist) Rydquist met for a family reunion on Saturday evening at The Gateway.

Those present by families included:

Goldie Raulston, Lemoin, Joyce and Hannah Raulston, Simpsonville, S.C.; and Bent and Leila Christensen, Noosa, Australia.

Eunice Dunn and Sharon Kudrna, Red Cloud, Neb.; Dave and Oma Dunn, Blue Hill, Neb.; Bob Dunn, Denver, and Pauline and

Larry Niles, Omaha.

Neva Brown, Citrus Heights, Calif.; Ralph Jacobson, Sacramento, Calif., and Lyle Jacobson, Carmichael, Calif.

Ken Rydquist, Oberlin; Rick Rydquist, Arlington, Texas; Greg, Emily and Conner, Angie and Alexis Rydquist, Colby; Mick Rydquist, Kansas City.

Carolyn Nelson, Kristi Sauvage and A.J., Don and Tina Nelson, Clay Center, Neb.

Teens to honor ministry intern

The board of Oberlin Teens for Christ will honor ministry intern Kristi Smith with a homemade ice cream and pie social from 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, at their building on South Rodehaver.

The event is being held in appreciation of the work of Miss Smith,

who has served with the group throughout the summer. She will be returning to college in late August. Everyone is welcome. A donation will be taken.

For details, contact Anita Hirsch at 475-2358 or Dennis Brown at 475-2623.

Ladies night out planned

Women will have a chance to learn more about tax and estate planning when Larry Schlappi presents a program during "Ladies Night Out" at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 26, at The Gateway.

Mr. Schlappi, a specialist on the subject, will provide information

during the free program. He has 18 years experience with Farm Bureau Life Insurance.

Those planning to attend are asked to contact Dianne at 475-2238 by Friday, Aug. 22. Desserts and coffee will be served. Decatur County Farm Bureau is sponsor.

Poker run set in Atwood

The third annual Poker Run will be held in Atwood on Saturday, as a fund-raiser for the Atwood Swimming Pool and Park Project.

Registration begins at noon with a "Show and Shine" at Atwood Lake. The poker run will depart at 1 p.m., stop at the Atwood swimming pool, then travel to Colby, Hoxie, Oberlin, Herndon and return to Atwood Lake to check in at 5 p.m. A sloppy joe feed and "Show and

Shine" until 6 p.m. will follow.

Winners will be announced at 5:30 p.m. with a 40% payout to high hand (15%); second hand (10%), third hand (10%) and low land (5%).

Hands may be purchased for \$10 each, or three for \$25. Extra cards can be purchased for \$1.

For details, contact Cathy Domsch at (785) 626-3548; Scott Chavatal, (785) 626-3251, or email to hillside@ruraltel.net.

Sunflower field day in Garden City

The Southwest Kansas Sunflower field day near Garden City is scheduled at 9 a.m. next Tuesday.

Curtis Thompson, Kansas State University Research and Extension southwest area crops and soils specialist, said the event will include plenty of information for experienced sunflower growers, as well as those considering sunflowers for their operations.

Planned in conjunction with the

National Sunflower Association, the field day offers an opportunity to learn from a lineup of experienced speakers including Rob Aiken, crop scientist; Phil Sloderbeck, entomologist; Troy Dumler, sunflower economics; Ken Berndt, representing Northern Sun Industries; and Mr. Thompson.

Lunch will be sponsored by the association. For details, contact Mr. Thompson at (620) 275-9164.

Genealogy workshop set

The Kansas Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will host a regional free genealogy workshop from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (mountain time) on Saturday, Sept. 13, at the Goodland Public Library.

The John Athey Chapter of Oakley and the Good-Land Chapter of Goodland are co-sponsors.

Instruction will be given on tracing your family back to the Revolutionary War through census and other primary and secondary records. Additional time will be given to

one-on-one assistance to help surmount problems and roadblocks.

Honorary State Regent for the Kansas Society, Ruth Keys Clark, will lead the workshop, assisted by Carol Duer Cochran.

The workshop is open to anyone. Reservations are requested at (785) 675-2267 or email CarolDuerCochran@msn.com subject DAR-Goodland. Participants are asked to bring family research, questions and a sack lunch.

New Arrivals

Candalin Marie Olson

Jonathan and Daisy Olson of Swisher, Iowa, are the parents of a daughter, Candalin Marie Olson, born Aug. 3, 2003, at 11:50 p.m. She weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces and was 19 inches long. She has a brother, Corbin, 4. Grandparents



C. Olson

are Rennie and Jeaneen Olson, Irving, Texas; Cendie Thompson, and Bret and Diane Atwood, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Bob and Sally Olson, Ludell, and Orville and Evelyn Roy, Palco, are her paternal great-grandparents. Hattie Olson, Oberlin, is a paternal great-great-grandmother.

Ashlyn Nicole Minary

Tim and Monica Minary of McCook are the parents of a daughter, Ashlyn Nicole Minary, born at 5:22 a.m. on Aug. 4, 2003. She weighed 7 pounds, 2.4 ounces and was 18 inches long. Grandparents are Tim and Mary Williams, Cambridge, Neb.; Brenda Kendall, Hagerman, Idaho; and the late Evan McCartney. Great-grandparents are Roger and Karen Minary, McCook, and Byron and Phyllis McCartney, Oberlin. Misty Phillips, Carlin, Nev., and Shad McCartney, Stockton, Mo. are her aunt and uncle.



A. Minary

Rangeland school planned

Western Prairie Resource Conservation and Development will sponsor an introductory rangeland management school on Aug. 27-29 at Scott County State Lake north of Scott City.

Topics will include grasslands of Kansas, plant community and range sites, plant physiology and ecology, soils, range condition, forage balance, livestock management and nutrition, grazing distribution, grazing systems, stocking rate, management tools and plan identification. The seminar will also provide basic tools for rangeland planning.

Cost is \$100, which includes lodging, meals and materials. For details or to register, contact the office at (785) 462-2602.



FUNNEL CAKE VOLUNTEERS Robert Ruf (left) and Duane Dorshorst were kept busy preparing the delicacies to a hungry crowd at the Decatur County Fair last week.

—Herald staff photo by Cynthia Haynes

Shaw-Carman families reunite in Selden

The Shaw-Carman family reunion was held Aug. 3 at the Selden Senior Center with 80 present.

They included: Lucille Stephenson, Carol Frohlick, Pat Carman, Tom and Cheryl Williams and Kaycee, St. Francis; Lois Hussey, Jeanne Rudman and Danielle Rudman, Goodland; Doc and Rachele Heinrich and Matt, Clayton; Traci and Brian Schroup, Hutchinson; Helen Shaw, LeRoy Shaw, Shannon Titus, Hoxie; Doris Jean Oliver, Lori and Mark Miller, Abbie and Jesse, Rexford; Randy and Adena Shaw, Granada, Colo.; Lisa Stoll and Brinna, Selden; Rex

and Myrtle Shaw, Selden; Dennis and Pat Sharp, Triston and Susan Wilson, Dighton; Kevin and Vicky Sulzman, Oakley; Joe and Kristi Hopkins and Reid, Garden City; Gary and Shirley Emigh, Russ Emigh, Kyle Emigh, Aaron and Sarah, Selden; Judy and LaVerne Rentschler, Smith Center; Dennis Rogers, Selden; Bob and Kaye Passmore, Omaha; Bruce and Linda Immel, Baliva, Ohio; Wes and Barbara Gilstrap, Wray, Colo.; Gene and Lynn Riley, Justin and Tasha,

Eckley, Colo.; Bob and Elaine Koerperich, Allie Wagoner, Donald Shaw, Selden; Carol Shaw, Selden; Stan and Ramona Shaw, Jennings; Scott and Janet Shaw, Andrea and Laura, Hoxie; Steve and Joni Shaw, Jami and Jessica, Rick and Tammy Shaw and Corey, Casey Shaw and April Riedel, Selden; Sandra Haas, Great Bend; and Doug Weidermeyer, WaKeeney.

The next reunion will be held the first Sunday of August 2004, at the Selden Senior Center.

Colleges offer four-year programs

Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University and Kansas State University, along with six community colleges, will be collaborating next semester to offer bachelor- and master-level classes in western Kansas.

The decision was announced at a press conference at Dodge City Community College. The three universities will provide courses at community colleges in Colby, Pratt, Dodge City, Garden City, Barton County and Seward County.

Students in the region have indicated the greatest need in teacher education, nursing and business.

For details, contact Brad Goebel at (620) 341-6405.

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Ain't it Nifty They made it to Fifty



Join us in a surprise card shower for Bob and Jeanice (Hickson) King's 50th Anniversary August 16, 2003

Cards may be sent to: Poplar Landing Lane #70 Ellorre, SC. 29047



It has been awhile -quite a while- and Eva Bryan will be celebrating her 90th Birthday on Thursday, Aug. 21.

All friends and relatives are invited to join her from 2 - 4 p.m. at Wheat Ridge Terrace for refreshments and reminiscing. Cards only, please.

