

New Conservation Security program set

United State Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service Chief Bruce Knight recently announced that the advance notice of proposed rulemaking and request for comments on the Conservation Security Program (CSP) will be released for publication to the Federal Register. This is a new program authorized in the 2002 Farm Bill.

The advance notice gives the public the opportunity to comment on key issues that have been raised regarding implementation of the program. The issues are presented in the advance notice.

"Comments gathered during the 30-day comment period will help develop a proposed rule," Chief Knight said. "Then, the public will have another opportunity to provide input during the comment period for the proposed rule before a final rule is published. We want this to be the best program possible."

Conservation Security Program is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to conserve and improve soil, water, air, energy, plant and animal life on tribal and private working lands-cropland, grassland, prairie land, improved pasture and rangeland, as well as certain forested land that is an incidental part of an agriculture operation.

"The intent of Conservation Security Program is to support ongoing conservation stewardship of

agricultural lands by providing assistance to producers to maintain and enhance natural resources," Chief Knight said.

Conservation Security Program has a unique role among department of agriculture conservation programs. It identifies and rewards those farmers and ranchers who meet the highest standards of conservation and environmental management on their operations, creates powerful incentives for other producers to meet those same standards of conservation performance on their operations, and provides public benefits for generations to come.

The advance notice of proposed rulemaking and request for comments on the Conservation Security Program were published in the Federal Register on February 18. Comments must be received by March 20. The advance notice and additional information on Conservation Security Program can be found at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farmbill/2002/products.html>; mail to: FarmBillRules@usda.gov; "FarmBillRules@usda.gov"; by fax to 202-720-4265; by mail to: Natural Resources Conservation Service Conservation Operations Division, P.O. Box 2890, Washington DC 20013

Additional information about the Farm Bill can be found at <http://www.usda.gov/farmbill/index.html>



BABS ANHOLTZ INSTRUCTS first graders Jeffrey Richmeier, Connor Huzuka and Casey Vandike on how to present flowers and crown to the Queen of Court.
Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

Obituaries

Elizabeth (Betty) Ann Gleason

June 18, 1928 - Feb. 13, 2003

Elizabeth (Betty) Ann Gleason, died at the age of 74, Feb. 13, 2003, in Dundy County Hospital of Benkelman, Neb. She was born June 18, 1928, in Enid, Okla., to Jesse George and Bertha May Smith Jones. Betty was the youngest child of five girls. She attended school in Bird City where she grew up. As a young girl, Betty spent a lot of her time working for different families by taking care of youngsters, cooking and cleaning.

Betty married Claude K. Gleason on June 20, 1946. Betty and Claude were true soul mates for 56 1/2 years. It wasn't uncommon to see them holding hands, talking, cuddling, and laughing as they enjoyed life together. Their days were filled with a card game every morning, laughter, talks, and an occasional "session" (that was the name Betty gave to their disagreements.) Their days always ended with a kiss and the words, "I Love You."

Their two children Claudette and Jim treasure their parents' example of good communication and a loving marriage. Although Claude and Betty shared many interests together, their love of farming and cattle stands out. Betty enjoyed doing chores such as feeding the cattle and taking care of the other animals around the farm, which they called The Little Ponderosa. They enjoyed God's Creation and the beautiful view from the alfalfa field, on top of the hill overlooking the river and trees.

Betty was the most giving person by always putting others before herself. Being a tremendous cook, she would always bake more than needed. Her famous cinnamon rolls, chocolate long johns, and fudge squares were always shared

with others to enjoy. She loved her family and delighted in having her kids, grandkids and great-grandkids home.

Betty was a woman of faith. Reading her daily devotions was important to her. She shared her beliefs and commitment to the Lord with her children, and made sure they went to Sunday school whether they wanted to or not.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two sisters, Mabel Murray and Annette Heinz.

She is survived by her husband Claude on their farm, two children, Claudette and her husband, Kermit Bear of Bird City, Jim and his wife, Annette of Bozeman, Mont.; three grandchildren, Tina and her husband, Kasey Armstrong of Parker, Colo., Jesse and Erica Gleason of Bozeman, two great-grandchildren, Haili and Taylre Armstrong of Parker; two sisters, Irene Kehlbeck of Colby, EJay Query of Bird City, one brother-in-law, Dick Heinz of Bend, Ore., and many nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be sent in Betty's name to one of the First National Banks or Forch Funeral Chapel in Benkelman.

The funeral service was held Monday, Feb. 17 in the St. John Lutheran Church, Bird City with Reverend Ron Roberts officiating.

Otto Ernest Bader

July 16, 1919 - Jan. 13, 2003

Otto Ernest Bader, age 83, died at Livingston (Mont.) Memorial Hospital on Jan. 13, 2003, following a long illness. A funeral service was held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Livingston at 10 a.m., Jan. 16, followed by burial at the Wilsall Cemetery. A reception was held at the Wilsall (Mont.) Senior Center following the graveside committal.

Otto was buried on the anniversary

date of his enlistment to the Marine Corps, January 16. He was buried with full military honors, performed by active duty military personnel from nearby bases. Two Marines and a Naval medic acted as honor guard; giving a 21-gun salute. The Marines presented the United States flag to the family as the seaman played *Taps*.

Otto, of German ancestry, was born the seventh of nine children to Michael and Sophia Bader on July 16, 1919, at their home in Cheyenne County, Kan. In 1911 his parents and three oldest siblings left their home in Nesselrode, Russia, to homestead north of St. Francis, Kan., where Otto received his education from the St. Francis public schools. Being raised in a strong Christian home, he was baptized and confirmed in the Salem Lutheran Church, in St. Francis.

A World War II veteran, he enlisted in the Marines on Jan. 16, 1942. He made staff sergeant while stationed at the Marine rifle range in LaJolla, Calif., where he was in charge of feeding 5,000 military personnel.

While home on leave in December of that year, he married Ann Imhoff. No children were born of this marriage.

Upon returning to duty, he was assigned to the Second Armored Amphibian Battalion and was stationed on the island of Saipan in the Marianas, south of Iwo Jima. When that duty was completed, he was then sent to Mauwai Island, Hawaii for rest and recuperation and to wait for his next assignment. While he was there, the war ended. After the war, he was a driver for the Denver-Chicago Transport Truck Line; worked on harvest crews in Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma and Texas; and worked as a journeyman car-

penter in elevator and commercial construction. He then moved to Denver, Colorado, where he worked for McDowl and later Mayar-Osborn in the construction of concrete grain elevators.

It was here he met Alice Ellen Frazier and they were married July 4, 1952, at his parent's home in St. Francis.

In 1955 they settled in Garden City and he started his own business called, Grain Elevator Maintenance Company, Inc. In 1978 he retired and moved to Wilsall, where he was able to fulfill his lifelong dream of raising Morgan horses.

Over the years, he has always been an active church member, first of St. James Lutheran in Garden City, then Shields Valley Lutheran in Wilsall, and finally St. Paul's Lutheran in Livingston. He has served his Lord as council member, Sunday School Superintendent, and choir member.

Otto enjoyed fishing and all types of hunting all his life, and was a member of the Sand and Sage Rod and Gun Club for several years while in Garden City.

His parents, three sisters and two brothers preceded him in glory. He is survived by his wife Alice of the home; one daughter, Charlene and husband Rollie Truax of Wilsall; two stepdaughters, Delsie Bader of Grand Island, Neb., and Shirley Ann Heaton of Lakin; one sister, Meta Dankenbring of Bird City, Kansas; two brothers, Paul of Valentine, Nebraska, and Robert of Grand Island; 10 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; nine great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family requests that memorials be made in Otto's name to the St. Paul's Lutheran Church Building Fund, 1116 W. Geysler, Livingston, MT 59047.

Years Ago

51 years ago - 1954

On Feb. 8, the Bird City city council passed Ordinance Number 146 which created a Sewer District number one and authorized the construction of a sewer system for the city complete with outfall line and sewage treatment plant.

Mr. Iron Mueller spent last week on a business trip to Chicago and New York City. He flew Transcontinental and TWA both ways.

Miss Mary L. Gritten is attending the State Delegate Assembly of the Kansas State Teachers' Association. She was elected delegate from the Sixth District at the state meeting in Hays last fall.

Bird City polio drive raises total of \$916.85. Mr. Ralph Leach was the Bird City director for the campaign.

A record crowd turned out for the Co-op supper in celebration of the Equity's 40th annual meeting in the Legion hall. Special recognition was given the charter members present including Harvey Dorsch, Henry Hickert, Jess Combs, Henry Hempler, John Rambat, C.E. Overturf and O.G. Witham. Mr. Dorsch and Mr. Hickert gave brief recollections of 40 years ago.

During 1953 Cheyenne County folks purchased Series E and H bonds in the amount of \$283,302. H.W. Hickert is the County Saving Bond Chairman.



Valdez - Bolyard

Wedding planned

Doug and Tammi Bolyard of Wilson, Texas, and Tomas and Sofia Valdez of Wilson, Texas, would like to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their children: Crystal Dawn Bolyard and Ozzie Valdez.

Crystal is a graduate of Wilson High School and a May 2002 graduate of Lubbock Christian University in Lubbock. Ozzy is also a Wilson High School graduate.

An August wedding is being planned in Lubbock.

Crystal is the granddaughter of Janice Wilkinson of Goodland and Vertie Bolyard of Bird City.

Interesting Facts

Richard Nixon's name appeared on the national ballot five times - more than any other 20th-century president. He was on the national ballot three times as a presidential candidate and twice as a vice-presidential candidate.

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