

Obituaries

Council members talk about recycling program problems

Lester Perry Powell
Jan. 31, 1931 - Jan. 14, 2007
Lester Perry Powell, 75, died on Sun., Jan. 14, 2007, at home in Mesa, Ariz. He was born on Jan. 31, 1931, in Cheyenne County, on the family farm northwest of McDonald, Kan.

He and his predeceased parents, Robert Perry Powell, 1952, and Martha Jane (Watkins), 1976, moved into their McDonald residence on Rawlins Ave., in the early 1950s.

On Jan. 1, 1959, Lester married Pearl Jane (Fox) and together, they raised their four girls in McDonald.

In addition to cattle and wheat farming, Lester was very active in the greater northwest Kansas rural community with custom combining, volunteer fire fighting, building a water tanker for McDonald's Fire Department, driving an ambulance as an emergency medical technician, and eventually functioning as McDonald's town judge.

He also volunteered his small plane airmanship with the Antique Threshing Show, Civil Air Patrol, Capper Foundation for Crippled Children, was a District Director of the Kansas Flying Farmers, and attended the local Masonic Lodge for 50-plus years.

He was survived by his loving wife, Pearl, of 48 years, until Monday, March 12, 2012, when she joined him at the age of 73, at their Mesa home in the presence of their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He is also survived by one of his seven siblings, Gertrude Ilene Cochran, of Silver Lake, in addition to his children with Pearl. He chose his final motto to be "From Faith to Grace in Christ."

Pearl Jane (Fox) Powell
Nov. 22, 1938 - March 12, 2012
Pearl Jane (Fox) was born at home on Nov. 22, 1938, in the

Wind River Indian Reservation City of Riverton, Wyo., to her predeceased parents, Bernard William Fox, 1972, and Eunice Louise (Loghry), 1969. Much of her World War II childhood was spent in Wyoming, Utah, Nebraska and Colorado until she eventually was placed under the care of the Catholic Nuns operating St. Ephrasias Children's Home in Denver, Colo.

Upon aging out of the foster care system, she became employed at the Powell Nursing Home in Scottsbluff, Neb., where she later met and married Lester. Aside from supporting Lester in his outreach endeavors, Pearl participated in UNICEF fundraising and Eastern Star, as well as, Tupperware, Avon, and Stanley sales. Pearl was also an artist, having made several oil and acrylic paintings under the guidance of Marilyn Frisbie, of McDonald.

Pearl was predeceased by three siblings, an infant boy, Darlene Lamb, 1982, of Prosser, Wash., and June Fox, 2007, of Provo, Utah.

She is survived by two sisters, Judy Karys of Chicago, Ill., and JoAnn Mengers, of Grand Island, Neb.

Lester and Pearl
Together, Lester and Pearl moved to Mesa in 1986, where Lester worked for Rogers Corp., at the Chandler, Ariz., site until he retired in 1996. They joined Tri-City Baptist Church, Tempe, Ariz. (now Chandler) in 2004.

Meanwhile, Pearl continued homemaking and later resumed her artistry following Lester's 2007 death. This time she took to creating and freely handing out what totals over 7,000 individual handmade cards which have gone across the nation and to several other countries, wherein, they are now being collected by some.

Dennis Alfred Page
April 12, 1926 - April 23, 2012

Dennis Alfred Page, 86, died at his home on April 23, 2012. Funeral services were held at Immanuel United Methodist Church in Bird City on April 28, 2012, with burial at Bird City Cemetery.

The service was officiated by Rev. Tom Bailey. Honorary pallbearers were J.L. Akridge and Morris Rescoe. Casket bearers were Sean Reilley, Evan Reilley, James Wallace, Roy Shrader, Terry Glasco and Gary Brubaker.

The son of Louis and Erma

(Spatz) Page, Dennis was born April 12, 1926, in his parents' Bird City home.

Dennis graduated from Bird City High School and, with the exception of two years spent in California, lived his entire life in Bird City. Like his father, Dennis was a house painter, farmhand, and handyman who earned his living by building and maintaining many households and farms in the Bird City area.

Dennis is survived by his sis-



Lester and Pearl Powell

She also provided and handed out 1,500 water bottles at a Mesa First Assemblies of God outreach before becoming bed bound in 2010. Her life motto was "Love isn't Love until You Give it Away."

Together, Lester and Pearl are survived by their four adult daughters, Ellen Marie Shultz, Mesa, Martha Louise Farley, Adair, Iowa, Debra Lea Peter, Pueblo, Colo., and Carol Ann Powell of Mesa, eight-grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Arizona services were provided by Falconer Funeral Home, Gilbert, Ariz., and Tri-City Baptist Church.

A joint Christian memorial service will be held in their honor at 1 p.m., Saturday, May 5, 2012, at the senior center (former Masonic Temple) in McDonald, with John Hines, Bar None Southern Baptist Church, Casper, Wyo., officiating. Their urns will be buried together as one in the Powell family plot at Grace Cemetery near McDonald. A reception at the senior center will follow at 3:30 p.m.

ter and brother-in-law, LaVada and J.L. Akridge of Georgetown, Texas; two daughters and their families: Sherri and Richard Cork and sons, Anthony and Alec, of Wichita; and Shela and Kelly Reilley, and sons, Sean and Evan, of Aurora, Colo.; and two nieces: Lucinda Girdner, of Tyler, Texas; and Catherine Akridge, of San Antonio, Texas.

Roger Jensen, Cheyenne County representative for the Northwest Kansas Regional Recycling Organization, was present at the April 2 Bird City Council meeting to discuss issues relating to Bird City's recycling program.

He explained that employees of the recycling center in St. Francis have been spending an inordinate amount of time sorting the recycling bins received by Bird City. Council members discussed several options to alleviate the issue including: addition of an enclosure, change of location, "open" day/hour restrictions, and additional signage.

One of the most important components of a successful program, he said, is educating the public about what can and cannot be recycled.

Betty Jo Shults and Rod Klepper, Bird City residents, reiterated the need for something to be done and offered some suggestions.

Mr. Jensen went on to reassure the council that recycling is a great program to have in a community. He said more and more people are taking part in recycling, which is a great thing, but along with that comes problems that need to be addressed as they occur.

Mr. Jensen said that the Northwest Kansas Regional Recycling Organization by-laws require that each county assign two representatives to the board. Cheyenne County is in need of one more rep. No decision was made.

Brownfields Program
Rod Klepper was present to present a summary of the Brownfields Program provided by the Environmental Protection Agency. The

program is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse a property. He said the program can be useful to assist the city with clean up of properties that may harbor hazardous substances. He explained the possible funding available for clean-up and suggested the old theater building may be an eligible site to apply for assistance. Following discussion, program was approved.

Safe Routes to School
Mr. Klepper explained the purpose of the Safe Routes to School program offered by the Kansas Department of Transportation. He said that the program offers funding for projects that include infrastructure projects such as sidewalk improvements, speed reduction improvements, bicycle facilities, and traffic diversion improvements.

The program also offers funding for non-infrastructure projects such as public awareness campaigns, traffic education, bicycle and pedestrian safety, and training of safe routes to school programs.

Mr. Klepper said he has discussed the program with members of the school board who would like to participate in the program with the city. He said Century II is willing to cover the cost of a grant administrator who can begin the application process. The program was approved.

Resident Concern
Amy McCarty, Bird City resident, was present to express concerns regarding people speeding on Park Street. She explained that

not only does the excessive speed on the dirt road pose a safety hazard for her children, the traffic also created an extreme amount of dust, making it difficult to enjoy family life outside of her home. She said she and her family have expressed their concerns before but nothing seems to get accomplished. She requested the city consider paving Park Street. Mayor Burr explained the process homeowners must complete, including the addition of the cost being assessed to each homeowner's property taxes.

Brad Schneider, city supervisor, said he will check with Bruce Nichols to find out what can be safely used on the streets, such as lime or calcium, to prevent dust.

Councilman Dennis Wright will speak with Sheriff Van Allen about increased patrol in that area in an attempt to control the speeding issue. Councilman Frank Serrano suggested placing dips in the road as a way to slow down the traffic.

Development Incentive Program
Mrs. Domsch discussed the Community and Business Development Incentive Program that was addressed during the March meeting. She said she realized it may be a better idea to separate the Incentive Programs into two separate programs; leaving the Business Development Incentive Program as is and creating a Bird City Housing Development Incentive Program. Motion was made and approved to adopt the Bird City Housing Development Program

Editor's note: This article was taken from the unapproved minutes of April 2.

Legislative News *Ward Cassidy*
120th State Representative

I had the opportunity to serve on my first Omnibus session the third week of April. The Appropriations Committee returned to Topeka to review the final budget and make adjustments based on economic forecasts, current revenues and the total amount awarded the state from the tobacco lawsuit settlement.

The state's forecast and revenues are much better. Two years ago, we were \$550 million in debt and now we are predicted to have a \$600 million ending balance. It is hard to believe, but even with the aircraft industry layoffs, there have been 22,000 new jobs created in Kansas over the past two years.

The tobacco settlement was estimated low, and it came in almost \$20 million more than was allocated for the Children's Initiative Fund. The governor is hesitant to put all of the increased revenue back into the fund. I personally will lobby for him to do so. I feel that all the programs the tobacco settlement fund supports are saving the state money in the long run; and it is not taking taxpayers' dollars to maintain them.

What was made very clear in Appropriations was that it was the Supreme Court who gave the furloughs to district judges and

clerks—not the Legislature. Chief Justice Lawton Nuss announced that he is delaying, but not cancelling, the next two furlough days. We will be done with the budget by then and, hopefully, he will then cancel the rest of the furlough days.

I attempted to reinstate the market pay package for our state employees, especially those who work in the prison system, and we were voted down 11- 8. The announcement of several jail breaks in Kansas has got the governor's attention. He has said that we need to give greater priority to our prison system.

I have visited several prisons in the last two years and realize there are many prisoners that we don't want out on our streets. The key to any well-run business is strong

leadership and good employees. The state just can't keep telling our employees they are not important.

The Legislature reconvened last Wednesday. The same items I wrote about in the first column in January are still to be decided: the budget, reform of the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (no additional updates are on my website), school finance, Medicaid reform and redistricting. In addition, about 100 bills have yet to come out of conference committees.

Add all this up and include an election year for Senate and House members, and there's a lot that's not done. I honestly believe we should be worried not about elections but about doing what is best for all of our constituents.

Across the County *Marty Fear*
County Extension Agent

Water Needs for Cattle

With summer just around the corner, or in some cases already here — it's good to remind ourselves of beef cattle water requirements and how important it becomes during those hot days.

Water requirements for beef cattle depend on weight, stage of production (such as lactation), and temperature. As weight increases, the amount of water needed also increases. The same holds true for temperature, as temperature increases, so does water intake.

Also, if the animal is lactating, water requirements also increase.

Here are some considerations for water intake that may be helpful:

1. Daily water intake may vary from 3 to 30 gallons per day depending on age, body size (weight), stage of production and the environment (mainly air temperature).

2. Water consumption will range from 1 gallon per 100 pounds of body weight during cold weather

to nearly 2 gallons per 100 pounds of body weight during the hottest weather.

3. Lactating cows require nearly twice as much water as dry cows.

4. Clean fresh water free of manure, dirt, and other debris is important.

Contact the Cheyenne County Extension office at 332-3171 or cfear@ksu.edu with questions or comments.

Till next week - Marty

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