

District staff seeks public opinions

The Kansas offices of Congressman Tim Huelskamp announced that district staff will host local office hours in 46 towns across Kansas' Big First.

During these local office hours, a member of Congressman Huelskamp's staff will be available to hear constituents' opinions, ideas, and concerns about issues being debated in Washington. A representative will also be available to help constituents who need assistance with federal agencies and programs, including Social Security, Medicare,

Veterans' Affairs, and visas. Constituents with questions should contact Congressman Huelskamp's Salina office at 785-309-0572 or visit <http://huelskamp.house.gov/events>.

July 31

Cheyenne County - 11 a.m. to noon at the St. Francis Library, 121 N. Scott, St. Francis. Following his visit in St. Francis, the representative will travel to Sherman County where he will be at the Goodland Public Library, 812 Broadway, from noon to 1 p.m. mountain standard time.

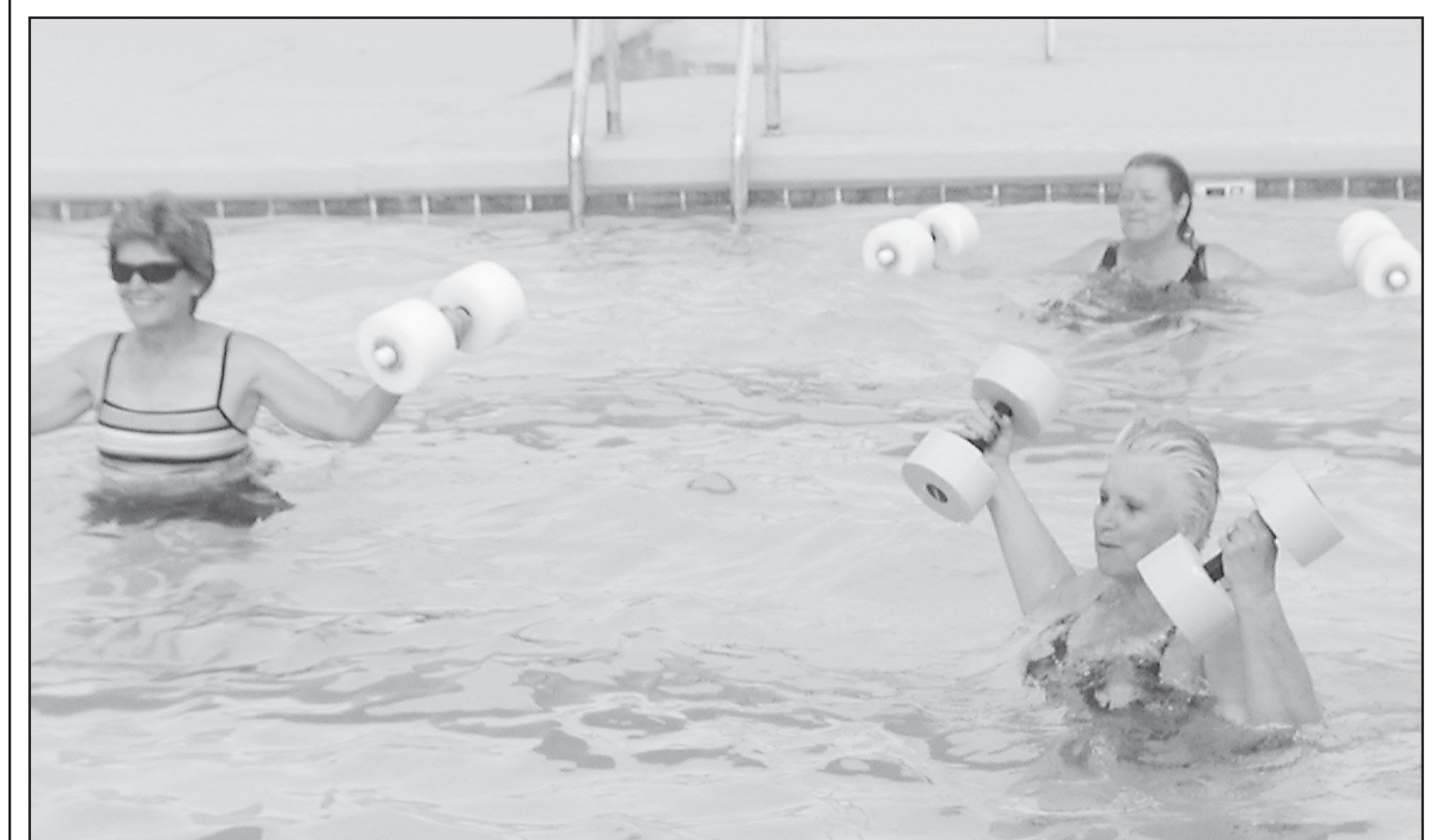


Antholz — Cook

Couple plans wedding

Cass Antholz and Anthony Cook are planning to marry on Aug. 4, 2012, in Franklin, Neb. Cass is the daughter of Eric and Melody Antholz of Riverton, Neb. Anthony is the son of Vaughn and

Laurie Cook of Minden, Neb. Grandparents are Roma Lee (Mellick) Blau of Hays, Mo. Moots of Minden, Neb. and Sharon Cook of Norfolk, Neb.



BIRD CITY Mermaids aerobics group; Sharon Hendricks, Jan Damn and Barb Gerdes exercising upper body.

Bird City Times photo by Norma Martinez

Across the County By Marty Fear

Early Calf Weaning May Prove Beneficial This Year

Dry conditions through large swaths of the Plains states are forcing management decisions on cattle and other agricultural operations. Among them may be the decision to wean calves earlier than usual.

"Most areas have gotten a reprieve from the 2011 drought, but others are still feeling the lingering effects of low rainfall and high feed costs," said Kansas State University animal scientist, Chris Reinhardt. "Early weaning is an effective way to save on summer pasture and preserve cow body condition going into the winter. In fact, weaning earlier may be worth considering every year regardless of summer pasture conditions."

Reinhardt, who is a beef specialist with K-State Research and Extension, said a calf's rumen begins to develop at the first opportunity to consume solid food. Although calves rely on milk as their primary nutrient source as long as the supply is abundant, they also will begin to graze alongside their dam at a few weeks of age. This is when their mother teaches them what to eat and what to avoid.

The grass that is consumed

early in life enters the rumen and begins to be fermented by bacteria which the calf picks up from its mother and the world around it, he said. As this fermentation progresses, and the calf consumes greater quantities of grass, the rumen grows in size and develops papillae, or finger-like projections, which aid in nutrient uptake from the rumen. So the suckling calf is actually a fully functioning ruminant by 90 days of age.

In addition, the six- to seven-month weaning age window may have disadvantages compared to weaning at a younger age, Reinhardt said. The passive immunity provided by colostrum remains active for three to four months but then wanes, after which time the calf must rely completely on its own immune system. But in many cases its system is not fully competent to battle all antigens that attack the newly-weaned calf, such as viruses, bacteria, dust and internal parasites. So it is possible that the 90-day-old calf may have an immunological advantage to the 205-day-old calf in battling

pathogens.

"Weather also plays a large factor in weaned calf health," he said. "If we could guarantee sunshine and moderate temperatures throughout the fall weaning season, calf health would not be an issue. But, cold temperatures, precipitation, wind and mud in the fall further suppresses an already incompetent immune system—a perfect recipe for respiratory disease."

Finally, the elimination of milk production after weaning allows the nutrients consumed by the

cow to go back into rebuilding body condition. This could result in substantial reductions in winter feed requirements because nutrients harvested by the cow are nearly always lower cost than feeds harvested and transported to the cow, and forage quality in late summer and fall is nearly always greater than during the winter.

Please contact the Cheyenne County Extension office at 332-3171 or cfear@ksu.edu with questions or comments. Till next week - Marty

Swim team results told

Bird City swimming team results for the June 23, meet in Atwood are:

Amber Manners from the first team placed first in the Back Stroke,

John Serrano from the second team placed first in the Front Crawl/Free Style, and first in Back Stroke.

First team consists of Diana Garcia, Mary Anne Orten and

Amber Manners.

Second team consists of John Serrano, and Jacob Serrano.

They have one more regular meet in Atwood, and the championship meet in Lexington, Neb.

Jessica Turner says, "the team in general is doing well", she adds, "They might not place everytime but at least they are enjoying swimming and having fun competing."

Business Directory

To list your business, call 785-332-3162.

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Cheylin Entrepreneurship Camp Registration Form

Child's Name: _____

Age: _____

Grade: _____

Contact Number: _____

I hereby give permission for my child to attend the Cheylin Entrepreneurship Camp sponsored by the Bird City Century II Development Foundation. I hereby give permission for my child to be transported within two miles from Bird City to visit local businesses if applicable.

Parent Signature: _____

July 16 & 17: Upcoming 5th- 8th graders

These Grade School & Junior High students will learn an Introduction to the Concept of Business & Entrepreneurship, "Common Traits of Entrepreneurs", advertise their own products, as well as local businesses!

July 17 & 18: Upcoming 2nd- 4th graders

The Elementary students will learn about entrepreneurship, starting a business, and creating a commercial for a business!

LOCATION: Robertson-Griffin-Bacon Memorial Building, 315 South Bird

TIME: 9:00 a.m. – Noon

Please return to Bird City Century II Development Foundation Building by Wednesday, July 11th.

Upcoming Promotions

For more information contact Tim Burr at:



The Saint Francis Herald

Bird City Times

P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 • 785-332-3162

Tri-State Antique Engine & Thresher Show

July 26 - July 28

Featuring stories about the demonstrations, buildings, history, shows and Queens.



Cheyenne County Fair

Aug. 1 - Aug. 4

Featuring 4-H'ers, fair and carnival activities, schedule of events and other interesting happenings at fair time.

