

Obituaries

Douglas Neil Stinehagen

July 29, 1933 - Nov. 6, 2012

Douglas Neil Stinehagen, 79, died Tuesday Nov. 6, 2012, at his home in Colorado Springs. He was born July 29, 1933, in Big Springs, Neb., to Lewis Ernest and Sybil Rebecca (Duffey) Stinehagen. The family lived in Big Springs, Broken Bow and Ogallala, Neb., before moving to Cheyenne County, Kan. in May 1942.

Doug began his schooling in Ogallala and continued it in Cheyenne County West 10 Clough Valley, St. Francis grade school, graduated from St. Francis Community High School in May of 1951. During these years Doug was active in FFA where he took great pride in his cattle judging skills taught to him by his father and grandfather, Henry Stinehagen.

After graduating from high school, Doug worked on the family farm with his father until entering Colorado A&M in Ft. Collins, Colo. He graduated with a degree in Vocational Agriculture in June 1956.

During summer breaks, Doug's

employment included working in the oil fields of Wyoming as well as in the logging industry in California. After graduation, Doug enlisted in the Army and was stationed in Ft. Bliss, Texas, during his service years.

Doug loved the rodeo and during his free time he and his friends could always be found entering bronc busting or bull riding contests. He always carried around a saddle so when money was tight he and his friends would walk around like stove up cowboys and would get into the rodeo free.

His mother was horrified that he did such a thing, but was more so when she found out years later that his front teeth were knocked out while riding a bull; decidedly not the story he had told before. He has a great sense of humor not always appreciated by his mother.

After being discharged from the Army, Doug moved to Montana where one of his good friends Gene Taylor lived. There he worked on ranches, did substi-

tute teaching, sold insurance and was a forest fire fighter. At some point during this time, Doug met a cute little red head by the name of Sharon Tarr. They were married at Sherry's grandparents ranch in Hamilton, Mont., on April 11, 1963.

Eventually, Doug and Sherry moved to Walnut Creek, Calif., where Doug worked as an insurance adjuster. During this time their children, Steven Michael and Cynthia LeAnn, were born.

In 1967, the family moved to Colorado Springs where he continued working as an insurance adjuster and bought a book store. Several years later Doug began working in the concrete business as a contractor, eventually owning his own company, called Advanced Concrete. Doug owned his own business until he retired. He continued to be active in many pursuits until his death. He loved hunting, fishing, skiing, photography, reading and politics.

Doug was preceded in death by his parents, Lewis and Sybil, his step father, Maxon Brown, brother-in-law, Delbert Powell, sister Carol Lou and husband, Donald Crumly.

Surviving are his son Steven (Pia) and daughter Cynthia (Jay) Sparr of Billings, Mont. Grandchildren: Stephanie and Christian of Rammelsbach, Germany, Jordan and Julia Sparr, sister Rosemary Powell of Bird City, nieces: Kathy Thibedeau of Norton, Jan (Sam) Washburn, Lewisville, Texas, nephews Mark Crumly, Gray, Tenn., Mike Crumly and Dennis Kircher, Tucson, Ariz., grand niece, Corina Olliff (Verland) and family, Norton and grand nephews, Josh and Jacob Washburn of Lewisville, as well as a host of friends. He will be missed by all who knew him.

A private burial will be scheduled at a future date in St. Francis.

Anthony Joe Lee

June 24, 1986 - Dec. 23, 2012

Anthony Joe "AJ" Lee, 26, of Cheyenne, Wyo., died unexpectedly on Dec. 23, 2012. He was born June 24, 1986, in Cheyenne, Wyo.



Lee

AJ was an avid outdoorsman. He loved hunting, fishing, camping and spent every minute he could with his family and friends. He loved music and playing his guitar to his favorite old country songs.

He is survived by the love of his life, Ashley (Schlegel) Lee; father, Michael R Lee of Cheyenne; mother, Tammy (Gladson) Lee, of

Cheyenne; sister, Jessica Bryson, and her sons, Makhi Lee and Micah Bryson of Cheyenne; AJ's son Jaren Fabela of Worland, Wyo., brother, Troy Lee and wife, Tracy Lee, of Greeley, Colo., and brother, Justin Lee and son, Landon Lee, of Greeley, grandparents, Lloyd and Doris Lee, of St. Francis, as well as many aunts, uncles and cousins.

AJ was preceded in death by his great-grandparents, all of whom he loved dearly.

He will be remembered as a loving, caring, and compassionate man. He will be missed.

Services were held on Friday, Dec. 28, at Wiederspahn-Radomsky Chapel. Interment was in Manville, Wyo.

Donald Rex Curtis

March 13, 1926 - Dec. 19, 2012

Donald Rex Curtis died on Wednesday Dec. 19, 2012. He was 86 years old. Rex had been a resident of Hays Good Samaritan Center for the past two years.



Curtis

Rex was born on March 13, 1926 in Halstead, Kan. He was the son of Jett and Myrna (Antrim) Curtis. He grew up in Wellington, and graduated from Wellington High School in 1944. He and several of his classmates enlisted in the Navy. Rex served as a signalman on a naval freighter in the South Pacific during the last two years of World War II.

After discharge from the Navy, Rex and several of his Wellington friends were recruited to enroll at Fort Hays Kansas State College where he played basketball for Cade Suran, his former high school coach. Rex also ran hurdles on the Fort Hays track team for coach Alex Francis.

It was while in college at Fort Hays, that Rex met the love of his life Marjorie Lebsack. They graduated from college, and were married on the same day on May 25,

1950. They moved to St. Francis where Marge taught kindergarten and Rex taught eighth grade history and coached.

In 1953, Rex and Marge moved back to Hays where Marge taught and Rex joined Marge's brother Wayne Lebsack in the oil business, Lebsack Oil Production, Inc. He and Marge remained active with Wayne in the oil business until recently.

Rex was active in Boy Scouts, serving as Scout Master of Troop 101 in Hays while his sons, John and Jeff, were in Scouting. Rex remained active in athletics as well. He was a high school and small college football and basketball referee for 34 years.

He and Marge and the boys spent many happy times at Cedar Bluff Lake camping under the shelters at Page Creek, at their south shore cabin, and on the trusty pontoon boat, "The Double J," trolling for walleye.

In later years, Rex and Marge enjoyed traveling with their sons, children and grandchildren to Hawaii, Table Rock and Beaver Lake, Caribbean cruises, Cessna Stadium in Wichita to track meets, recitals and musicals. They enjoyed the Encore series and sporting and musical events at Fort Hays State University. And they

enjoyed quiet times together at their Cedar Bluff cabin.

Rex was a member of Hays First United Methodist Church where he and Marge were married. He was a member of the Hays Lions Club where he served as secretary for many years.

Rex was preceded in death by his parents, and by his wife, Marjorie, who died on June 25, 2012. He is survived by his children, Dr. John Curtis and wife, Laurie, of Manhattan, and Dr. Jeff Curtis and wife Connie of Hays. He is survived by his grandchildren Matthew Curtis and wife, Andrea, of Onalaska, Wis., Julie Ott and husband, Matthew, of Detroit, Minn., Lindsey Curtis of Manhattan, Christian, Cathryn, and Carter Curtis of Hays, and three great-grandchildren, Tristen, Tanner, and Ava in Onalaska. Rex's sister Colletta Dawson also survives in Wellington.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, Dec. 22, at Hays First United Methodist Church. Interment was in the Fort Hays Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Hays.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to Hays Boy Scout Troop 101, and Hays Lions Club in care of Hays Memorial Chapel. Condolences to the family at www.haysmemorial.com



ST, FRANCIS REC COMMISSION has put up a new building at the ball diamond north of the fairgrounds.

Herald staff photo by Tim Burr

Cover crops trap residual nitrogen

By Lyle Frees

Natural Resources Specialist

This is the perfect year to plant cover crops in Kansas, according to soils and agronomy experts with U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service. Besides the obvious negative impact on crop yields, the drought will leave residual nitrate in the soil at harvest time. Following harvest, residual nitrates can remain in the soil. Any rainfall above the water holding capacity of your soil can potentially allow nitrate to leach out the bottom of the root zone.

If more typical precipitation returns in November through April, the amount of nitrate lost can be much greater this year than usual, leading to nutrient loading of local waters and eventually to the Mississippi River and Gulf of Mexico.

Recycle with cover crops

This is how cover crops can help. Cover crops will scavenge residual nitrogen and recycle it through their plant biomass. When the cover crops decompose next year, some of the nitrogen taken up by the cover crops will be released for use by the next cash crop, and some will go towards building soil organic matter.

Fall-planted cover crops would be a good investment by farmers this year to benefit both their own

farms and regional water quality.

Nitrogen scavengers

The best nitrogen-scavenging cover crops include oats, cereal rye, or annual ryegrass mixed with oilseed radish. If a farmer is interested in fall grazing, then turnips or crimson clover could be mixed with the oats and cereal rye.

Cover crops will help farmers recoup part of their fertilizer nitrogen investment from last season, and will improve soil organic matter and soil biological activity.

Cover crops will also be very useful after soybeans for adding organic matter and trapping nitrogen released by decomposing soybean residues.

Producers reap benefits Natural Resources Conservation Service soils expert Ray Archuleta, recently spoke throughout Kansas to farmers and service employees. He provided farmers and employees the following key messages about increasing soil health using cover crops:

- Add living roots (cover crops) to the soil during more months of the year to increase organic matter and improve soil health, along with eliminating tillage activities.
- Legume cover crops act as natural fertilizers, while grasses act as scavengers of nutrients often lost after harvest or during winter.
- Diversity above ground im-

proves diversity below ground, which helps create healthy productive soils.

• Cover crops should be an integral part of a cropping system. They help improve soil health by developing an ecosystem that sustains and nourishes plants, soil microbes, and beneficial insects.

• Cover crops also protect soil against erosive heavy rains and strong winds.

They can provide livestock producers with additional grazing or haying opportunities, and winter food and cover for birds and other wildlife.

Get More Information

Producers are encouraged to contact their crop insurance provider and their local Farm Service Agency prior to planting any cover crops to ensure their crop insurance and United States Department of Agriculture farm program eligibility are not adversely affected since grazing of some cover crops is considered harvesting.

Those interested in planting cover crops, visit your local Natural Resources office for more information on the best solution for you. Federal, state, or local financial assistance may be available. To find a service center near you, check in your telephone book under "United States Government" or on the Internet at offices.usda.gov.

CONTEST

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a "bench mark" in the contest-calling industry. This newly designed kill block dramatically stops the chances of pooling coyotes and cheating.

The Midwest Coyote Event will have their kill blocks laser engraved with a special logo. This stops teams from making extra kill blocks of their own and also stops teams from pooling coyotes from other hunters in order to increase their harvest count.

"This is another effort that we are taking to make sure that the Midwest Coyote Calling Event is honest and promotes the rules of fair chase," Mr. Rueb said. "The masters of coyote calling just keeps getting better and stronger."

2012 results

Of the 121 teams participating in the 2012 event, only 72 teams returned Sunday for check in. The hunters reported seeing 692 coyotes and brought in 245.

Last year's top winner in the Nikon Coyote Special Class was the father-son team of Dave and Dusty Shaklee of Wray who had been hunting the calling contest for the last 15 years. the Shaklees

are entered again this year.

There was a tie in the Hornady Novice Class. Winning first place were Ryan Thompson of Pierre, S.D., and Ryan Kennedy, Gar-

den City. Local hunters, Trevor Hilt and Trent Raile, St. Francis, placed second. Both teams are returning.

SNOW

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ranchers and residents are encouraged that 2013 will be better than the previous year.

125th

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park selling food while the Music Makers performed along with other entertainers.

At 8 p.m., the Queen City Jazz Band from Denver performed. Following the performance, there was a street dance with the Delta Band playing. The drawing for a rifle and a grandfather clock was held at the first dance intermission.

The celebration ended on Sunday with worship service in the park.

Date	Low	High	Prec
Dec. 18	21	49	
Dec. 19	7	32	.25
Dec. 20	11	37	
Dec. 21	12	44	
Dec. 22	3	49	.18
Dec. 23	5	40	
Dec. 24	9	28	
Dec. 25	9	28	.15
Dec. 26	-10	12	.03
Dec. 27	-6	20	
Dec. 28	-6	19	
Dec. 29	-5	28	
Dec. 30	10	40	
Dec. 31	14	32	



Coming Soon: Winter Sports Special Section

This section will feature St. Francis and Cheylin Jr. High and High School Basketball players, Wrestlers and Cheerleaders!



Help us find Cheyenne County's Sweetheart Couple

"Sweetheart Couple"



WORKING WOMEN'S SECTION

THIS SECTION

For more details, contact Tim Burr at the Saint Francis Herald at 785-332-3162

IS PACKED WITH ADS FEATURING WOMEN.

Bird City Times

The Saint Francis Herald