



Bob Bixenman

Man celebrates 90th

Bob Bixenman will celebrate his 90th birthday with an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 22, 2012, at the Law Enforcement Training Center, 360 N. Franklin Ave. He was born April 22, 1922, at home on the family farm near

Menlo, the son of Peter A. and Lucy (Nordman) Bixenman. Friends and family are invited to stop by and wish him a happy birthday. Those unable to attend may send cards to 1725 W. Fifth St., Colby, Kan., 67701.

When storms hit, will you be ready?

My main topic today is the tornado outbreak in Kansas and the mid-west this past weekend. Yes, this is the season for severe weather and you never know when or where it might strike. I believe the reason Kansas had no fatalities this past weekend was the advance warning.



Diann Gerstner

• Knowledge for Life

Many times, meteorologist Dave Freeman, said something like, "If you have items you need to collect before seeking shelter, now is the time to do it." That made me think about the fact that even with the bad situation those people were in, how lucky they were they had the time to collect items of importance or items needed for survival. That isn't always the case.

If this alert came across the television and radio right now, "A confirmed tornado is on the ground at the edge of Colby, it will be a direct hit, and all persons must seek shelter immediately," would you be ready? What do you even need to be "ready"?

Often the first things you think of are the items that you need to get you through the severe weather time period - snacks, water, flashlight, radio, etc. Those are very important but I want to focus on some things you may not have thought about - the important "after the event" items you may need. Gather the items listed below and keep them in a small suitcase stored in the storm shelter area of your home or where it can be grabbed and carried to the storm shelter or evacuation site. Some of the important papers you may want to keep in a safety deposit box.

- Stash some cash in your emergency kit; take cash, credit and debit cards and checkbook with you if you seek shelter, but be aware that you may not be able to use electronic methods of payments immediately after a disaster. That is why it is important to have some cash. The amount is up to you. A suggested amount is around \$200.

- Life documents, including birth, marriage and other certificates, deeds, titles, insurance policies, Social Security cards, military discharge papers, wills and estate planning documents. If documents are stored in a safety deposit box, having copies available can be beneficial.

- Identification for each family member.
- Copies of addresses and phone numbers of family and friends.
- Medical records, copies of prescriptions, a supply of medications, extra pair of glasses and a first aid kit.

- Copies of keys, including the key to the safety deposit box.
- Suitcase with at least one change of clothes, shoes, jackets, rain gear or warm coats, depending on the season, for each family member, blankets and tent if you have one.

- Food for emergency meals or snacks. Choose non-perishable foods such as crackers, cereal bars, cooked and canned or otherwise packaged (sealed pouches) of meats, poultry and fish, dried fruit, canned vegetables (remember a can opener) and bottled water. Rotate food and water with respect to

use-by dates.

- Household Inventory: a list and pictures of contents are preferable, but in the interim, take a photo of each room, or view of each wall in a room, precious objects and/or sentimental pieces. Remember to photograph the exterior of the home or other buildings and equipment, vehicles, yard or patio area. Store these photos in a safety deposit box or at another site, perhaps with a relative or friend who lives elsewhere. (Also a great idea for copies of your precious family photos.) Check with your insurance agent to make sure that you are up to date on coverage.
- Carry a cell phone, but use it sparingly, so as not to exhaust the charge. Have a spare charger in the emergency kit in case you do have access to power at some time.

For a list of items needed to endure the storm period and other weather safety tips and information, contact me at the Extension Office, 460-4582 or diann@ksu.edu or Susan McMahan at the Thomas County Emergency Management Office, 460-4516.

Now is the time to collect these items. Being prepared could save you a lot of time and trouble in the event of a tornado or other severe weather.

Finally, a few notes. The long awaited walking trail is started. We on the Healthy Communities Design Committee and others who have worked toward this vision are excited. You will see more information soon; I just couldn't help mentioning it.

This morning was our first Safe Routes to School walk. With the warm weather and parents encouraging healthy habits for their children, there may be many children walking or riding their bike to school. As you drive to work, please be extra watchful.

Speaking of walking, remember the Art Walk is from 6 to 9 p.m. this Friday. It is a great time for exercise, socializing and enjoying art. I really enjoyed it last year and I'm looking forward to it again this year. Hope to see you all there!

Diann Gerstner is the family and consumer sciences agent for the Thomas County Extension office.



Josh Miller and Christy Campbell

Beloit church chosen for Selden native's rite

Christy Campbell and Josh Miller of Wichita plan to marry Saturday, April 28, 2012, at St. John's Catholic Church in Beloit.

The bride is the daughter of Terry and Charlotte Campbell of Beloit and granddaughter of Cliff and Faye Campbell of Beloit and the late Sylvester and Helen Gengler.

Now a photographer in Wichita, she is a graduate of St. John's High School in Beloit and received a business degree from Washburn University.

The groom is the son of Mark and Lori Miller of Selden. His grandparents are Gary and Shirley Emigh of Selden, Larry Miller of Colby and Marge Miller of Longmont, Colo. He is the great-grandson of W.A. "Bud" and Tressie Rogers of Selden.

A graduate of Golden Plains High School in Rexford, he received a degree in sports administration from Fort Hays State University. He is the assistant golf professional at Cherry Oaks Golf Course in Cheney.

Rexford has busy week, from hunting to prom

It's been a busy week in Rexford, with many organizations holding or participating in events. Shepherd's Staff had turkey hunters from Fort Scott this week. After experiencing the full gamut of Kansas spring weather, eventually each shot a turkey. They enjoyed their time here.

Rexford Community Church held its annual missions conference this weekend, with plenty of activities for everyone.

Youth came to meet missionaries during a pizza dinner on Friday night and the entire community was invited to a pancake breakfast cooked by the church men on Saturday morning.

There was also a dinner Saturday night while people got to know the missionaries better. Finally, the missionaries shared in Sunday school classes and Sunday morning worship, followed by a carry-in dinner. Rachel Walker and Geoff and Tina Casteel were the missionaries present at this conference.

Saturday night was prom for Golden Plains, and from what I've heard, everyone had a good time. Saturday night was also the last bingo night for the season.

On Sunday, a number of Rexford residents traveled to Oakley



Gwen Griffiths

• Rexford Correspondent

to see the Spencer Theatre of Illusions, brought in by the Western Plains Art Association, enjoying the illusions and tricks.

The Girl Scouts from Rexford and Selden met on Sunday afternoon. The younger girls explored famous paintings, then tried different painting techniques. Middle-sized girls planted flowers, dyed flowers and made a bouquet of flowers from found household items. The oldest girls made a snack of tacos with homemade flour tortillas.

Coming up this week is the Spuds and Splits event on Thursday at the Red Barn. This is a potato bar and banana split bar for the 40-and-older crowd.

It's looking like a beautiful week, so get out and enjoy the weather if you can. And don't forget to send your news to griffithsgang@gmail.com, call it in to 687-2076, or leave it in the jar by the door at the Red Barn.

Have a great week!

Private space visit on track

By Marcia Dunn
AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. - A private U.S. company is on track to become the first commercial visitor to the International Space Station.

NASA said Monday there's a good chance that Space Exploration Technologies Corp., or SpaceX, will make its April 30 date to launch a cargo ship to the space station. More software testing is needed before a final "go" is given. Managers said they will meet again Monday to review everything.

The Dragon spacecraft will be

hoisted aboard the company's Falcon rocket from Cape Canaveral.

The company's chief executive officer and chief designer, Paypal co-founder Elon Musk, said the Falcon and Dragon are proven vehicles. What's new is getting the supply ship to the space station. Musk was hesitant to give out odds for success, stressing that this is a test flight.

NASA has paid \$381 million to SpaceX to get this far, under its post-shuttle push for commercially provided cargo, and in three or more years, possibly crew. Musk said the company has put about \$1 billion of its own money into the venture.

Meadow Lake Bridge Club

Meadow Lake bridge winners for Tuesday were Joy Davis, first; Gail Vacca, second; Mary Mol-

stad, third; Lyle Worthy, fourth; Dave Ulmer, fifth; Jean Snyder, sixth; and Ken Ptacek, seventh.

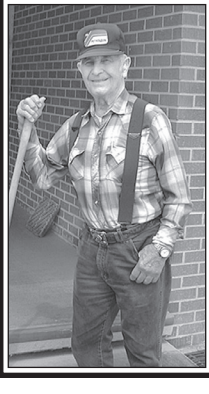
Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day
Hi-Plains Co-op

Wheat (bushel)	\$5.83
Corn (bushel)	\$5.91
Milo (hundredweight)	\$10.07
Soybeans (bushel)	\$12.86

Corrections

The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.



Friends & family are invited to stop by and wish **Bob Bixenman** a **Happy 90th Birthday** on Sunday, April 22nd from 2-4 p.m. at the Law Enforcement Training Center at 360 N. Franklin, Colby KS. Those unable to attend may send cards to 1725 W. 5th, Colby KS.

2nd Annual Celebrity Waiter Dinner

This is a benefit for the:
CHS BAND (new uniforms) & FFA GROUP (redo park on Copeland)
April 26, 2012
5:30 - 8:30 PM
At the American Legion

CHS BAND & FFA


Celebrity Waiter Teams	
Group 1 5:30-7:00 PM	Group 2 7:00-8:30 PM
Travis & Jessica Vaughn	Sacha Sanguinetti & Chad Jones
Pat & Deanna Mallory	Bob & Susan McLemore
Ed & Pam Geihlsler	Joey & Jill Nickols
Tom & Nancy Rundel	Reagan & Katie Coulter
James & Tricia Carney	Paul & Jenny Niblock

1st come first choice on celebrity's section

Whichever celebrity team makes the most tips, wins a prize
\$10 per plate
-Lasagna Dinner
-Served with green beans, garlic toast & dessert

Farmers & Merchants Bank of Colby

For any questions or to RSVP, please call the Chamber office at 460-3401. Make checks to: CHS and please write donation on the memo line.



CHS Forensics Presents:
COFFEE HOUSE NIGHT
A showcase of CHS Forensics performances combined with coffee, tea and many choices of homemade desserts.

Monday, April 23rd
7:00 p.m.
Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall

Enjoy an evening of relaxation and entertainment.
(free will donation)