

Deaths

Gerald F. Shelton

Gerald F. Shelton, 90, Russell Springs, died Sunday, July 15, 2012, at the Prairie Senior Living Complex in Colby. He was born Nov. 15, 1921, to Irl and Florence (Sparks) Shelton in Russell Springs. During World War II, he served in the Army. He lived with his wife and raised five children in Colorado Springs, where he was a mechanic, for 33

years. Following retirement, they moved to Russell Springs and lived there for 24 years. He is survived by his wife, Gertrude, five children, 10 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. A private family burial is planned. Cremation. Baalman Mortuary of Colby is handling arrangements.

Colby Rotary Club

The Colby Rotary Club met at Colby Community College on Tuesday with 27 members and guests Jason Baalman and Shelly Harms.

President Melany Wilks and Sandy Wilks presented a banner to the club from the Cheng Du Rotary Club meeting they attended while they were in China.

Program Coordinator Marla Crumrine introduced Shelly Harms, Thomas County Clerk, for the program.

Harms reviewed the election process beginning with candidate filing process to the canvassing of the ballots by the commissioners following the election. She reported Thomas County currently has the following registered voters: 686 Democrats, 21 Libertarians, two Reformed, 2,953 Republicans and 1,047 Unaffiliated for a total of 4,709.

This is an increase of 283 in registered voters from 4,426 in 2010. Harms also said Thomas

County has 487 registered voters who vote by permanent advanced ballots.

Harms reminded members that in Kansas, beginning with the Aug. 7 primary, all voters must present a photo identification before they can vote. Acceptable photo IDs include a driver's license, military ID, Kansas college ID, etc.

There are other forms of photo ID that are acceptable and Harms encouraged people to contact the Clerk's office for that information.

Advance voting for the Aug. 7 primary will be held from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday to Friday, Aug. 3, and from 7 a.m. to noon on Monday, Aug. 6, at the courthouse.

Harms noted the voter registration deadline for the Nov. 6 Presidential Election for those voters not already registered will be Oct. 16.

J.L. Evins won Roto-Lotto. Rotary meets Tuesdays in Room 106 of the Student Union.

Fair time – big event for all

It's that time of year – Fair Time! The biggest 4-H and social event of the year.

The official start of the Thomas County Fair is Monday. On that day, open class entries are due between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. and the 4-H horse show is held starting at 9 a.m.

All 4-H exhibits are due to the fair on Tuesday, which will start off a flurry of 4-H judging. All items in the 4-H Building will be judged Tuesday.

Next Wednesday, the livestock shows start. On Wednesday are the swine, sheep and goat shows. Thursday, Aug. 2, is the beef show, with the livestock auction starting at 5:30 that evening.

To keep the fair from being too congested and give 4-Hers time to participate in many different opportunities; several projects have their competition before the fair starts.

The Dog Show and Agility Competition was this past weekend. If you have never watched the dog competitions, especially the agility, you are missing a fun show. Mark your calendar for next year.

The clothing construction and buymanship judging and public fashion revue was Tuesday. This is another event that is a lot of fun to watch, as the 4-Hers build their poise and confidence to model in front of a large group and you get to see all the fun outfits they have either constructed or put together as part of their buymanship project.

Thursday, 4-H arts and crafts will be judged in the morning with the demonstrations and illustrated talks judging starting at 1 p.m. The public is invited to watch these presentations, so come on out to the 4-H Building.

You will be amazed what you might learn – perhaps how to take care of a guinea pig, dye silk scarves, halter a horse, build a rocket or how to prepare a particular food item. All project exhibits, even the ones judged early, are still displayed at the fair for everyone to see.

The county fair provides the opportunity for 4-Hers to put their best foot forward and show the knowledge and skills they have learned throughout the year. Much of the judging is "conference style" where the 4-Her and judge interact and there is the opportunity for more learning.

The judge asks questions and the 4-Her tells about their exhibit and the things they learned along



KATHRYN BALLARD/Colby Free Press

This corgi was really a pro while going through the agility competition Sunday at the baseball field for this year's fair competition.



Diann Gerstner

• Knowledge for Life

the way. Judges share tips and ideas for improving exhibits and gives encouraging remarks.

Champion ribbons are won and livestock fetch a good price at the auction, a great conclusion for a year of hard work. But we need to remember the truths stated in one of my favorite poems, sometimes called "The Important Things are not Ribbons," by an anonymous author:

Blue Ribbons, tis true, are better than white; But ribbons will fade and trophies grow old."

4-H is much more than ribbons and premiums. It is the learning throughout the year that occurs. Some learning occurs with proj-

ect matter – learning how to build a robot, how to cook different foods or the responsibilities associated with caring for an animal.

Other learning is more subtle – learning to volunteer, to give a helping hand, to run a

business meeting, to talk in front of a group, to prepare and deliver a talk or demonstration.

Learning includes patience in working with others, cooperating and going with majority rule even if you don't agree, giving in with grace and not always having your way, losing without pouting or throwing a fit, knowing that the judge is judging to his/her best belief, and winning without boasting too loud.

These are just some of the many life skills 4-Hers can learn that will serve them for many years to come.

These skills help them become caring productive citizens that live

up to the 4-H motto, "making the best better."

If this sounds like skills you want your child to learn, join 4-H. We'll tell you all about it. Contact us at our office 350 S. Range, Suite 16, or give us a call at 460-4582. You can also find information about 4-H at www.joinkansas4-h.org.

Make plans to attend the fair. See all the ribbons and attend the livestock sale making those memories and acknowledging the project and life skills the 4-Hers have gained through the year.

There are lots of fun evening events, too – Demolition Derby, rodeo, mutton busting, parade, free barbecue, Texaco Country Showdown, livestock auction and car racing.

See you at the Thomas County Fair next week.

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

HaysMed warns patients

By Stephanie DeCamp

The Oberlin Herald sdecamp@nwkansas.com

A Hays Medical Center contract worker charged with drug crimes in New Hampshire may have exposed some heart patients to the viral disease hepatitis C, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment said Friday.

Patients who received cardiac catheterization between May 24 and Sept. 22, 2010, may have been exposed to the blood-borne disease, the agency said.

The agency said David Kwiatkowski, 32, worked at the hospital as a contract radiology technician during those dates, and has since been charged in New Hampshire with obtaining controlled substances by fraud and tampering with a consumer product, according to the U.S. attorney's office in New Hampshire.

The Boston Globe reported he is accused of stealing fentanyl, a powerful anesthetic, from Exeter Hospital's cardiac catheterization lab and returning dirty syringes to treatment areas, filled only with saltwater solution. Then they were used on patients. As many as 30 people later contracted hepatitis C, officials say.

Because hepatitis C is transferred by blood, and Kwiatkowski was caught lying to obtain drugs,

the department and HaysMed are concerned, given the nature of the charges, that he might have contaminated needles or equipment at the hospital while using, said Miranda Steele, the communications director for the department.

About 460 patients received the procedure during that time, the hospital said, and those who may have been exposed are being contacted by mail to come in for free testing.

A hotline has been set up at (877) 261-7140 for anyone concerned they might have been exposed. The line is available from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Hepatitis C affects the liver, said the department, and only one in five people who contract the virus has any initial sickness. Officials are advising all patients who might have been exposed to come in for the test. Symptoms range from mild illness to severe disease, with most developing a chronic infection that can cause long-term health problems.

Around 2,000 new infections are reported every year in Kansas, the state says, and there is no vaccine against the virus.

For information on hepatitis C, go to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/C/index.htm.

Painted pig pilfered in Detroit

GARDEN CITY, Mich. (AP) – Police are on the lookout for a plump pig sculpture that was pilfered from a Detroit suburb.

The Detroit Free Press reports (on.freep.com/M31seo) the shiny, red sculpture known as "Willie" was stolen from Garden City.

The \$6,000-plus sculpture titled

"Cochon Rouge" by artist Sophie Marie has been leased to the Garden City Downtown Development Authority for two years.

The pig also referred to as "Willy" may have been taken as a prank. The Downtown Development Authority says it will take the pig back "no questions asked."

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.

Markets

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

Wheat (bushel)	\$8.13
Corn (bushel)	\$7.99
Milo (hundredweight)	\$13.75
Soybeans (bushel)	\$15.44

We want your local news: e-mail to colby.editor@nwkansas.com

Schedule of Events

2012 Thomas County Fair

Saturday, July 28th

DEMO DERBY

8:00 p.m.

Coyote Country Spin & Win \$100,000
Jackpot Giveaway & a share in over \$35,000 prizes and gift certificates

Sunday, July 29th

TODD BECKER FOUNDATION BLOCKSTOP CONCERT

5:00 p.m.

Franklin Ave. & 5th St.

Monday, July 30th

OPEN CLASS ENTRIES

4-H Building

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MUTTON BUSTING

6:00 p.m. Registration

RODEO &

QUEEN CROWNING

8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 31st

CARNIVAL • 7 - 11 p.m.

All booths will be set up

PARADE • 5:30 p.m.

Line-up at 8th & Franklin North of Fike Park

KPRA RODEO • 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 1st

ANTIQUA TRACTOR SHOW

11:00 a.m.

FREE BBQ • 5:30 p.m.

PEDAL TRACTOR PULL

4:00 p.m.

Free Entertainment

"Texaco Country Showdown"

7:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 2nd

THOMAS COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION BREAKFAST

4-H Building 7:30 a.m.

4-H LIVESTOCK SHOWS

All Day

LIVESTOCK AUCTION

5:30 p.m.

Friday, August 3rd

ROUND ROBIN JUDGING

9:00 a.m.

OPEN FFA JUDGING CONTEST

1:00 p.m.

CAR RACES • 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 4th

CAR RACES • 7:00 p.m.

CARNIVAL

Tuesday - Saturday

7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Tues. F&M Bank Wristband Night Sat. \$10 Wristband Night for all rides

The Thomas County Fair Board would like to thank McCarty Dairy for providing all the meat and processing for the Thomas County Fair BBQ.



Vote

~ Pro-Life
~ Pro-Gun

RICK BILLINGER

State House of Representatives

If Experience Counts:

~ Pro-Ag
~ Pro-Schools

- 30+ years successful business owner
- 25+ years successful farmer
- 20 years Mayor and City Commissioner
- 2 years State Representative

You can count on Rick to be your voice in Topeka!

Paid for by Billinger for Kansas. Doug Sederstrom PA CPA, Treasurer