

Reception to celebrate retired teacher's 90th

Cecilia "Ceci" Allen of Brewster will celebrate her 90th birthday with a reception and card shower from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 2, 2012, at the Brewster Senior Center.

Her children invite family and friends to the celebration and request no gifts.

Ceci married Everett Allen, Jr., on Aug. 10, 1954, in Atwood. He died July 11, 2009. Together, they had three children: Nolan (Gerald) Allen of Hays, Anita (Tony) Horinek of Colby



Ceci Allen

and Donard (Colleen) Allen of Brewster.

A school teacher for over 40 years, she has 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Her daughter Anita Horinek suggests that those who cannot attend send a card sharing a favorite memory with her mother as a friend, former teacher or family member.

Cards may be mailed to her at Box 204, Brewster, Kan., 67732.

Make the most of expensive hay

Hay is extra expensive and hard to come by this year.

Let's identify what you need to know to get by with using as little as possible and where to find it.

First off, let's discuss where or how to find hay for the winter. Many of you probably have most of your hay lined up - but do you have enough? If not, where are you going to get it?

Conservation Reserve Program land was released for haying. However, in northwest Kansas where it has been dry, even Conservation Reserve land has produced less tonnage. With a shortage of hay in our area of the state, how can we find other resources from an area that may have extra hay?

A website sponsored by the Kansas Farm Bureau can help you make that connection. The Hay and Pasture Exchange at www.kfb.org/hayandpasture/default.htm is helpful for finding hay sources across the state and in surrounding states. It is also a place where you can list any hay you may have that's extra and would want to sell - if you happen to be so lucky.

Minimizing the amount of hay you feed over winter is wise when hay is as expensive as it is this year. You don't want to be wasteful. But you shouldn't short your cows just to save a few dollars, either.

The two most important bits of information you need are (1) what does my cow need, and (2) what can my different feedstuffs provide.

A dry beef cow fed winter range, corn stalks or even straw rarely needs more than one pound of extra protein per day. Just six or seven pounds of average alfalfa hay will provide this protein; feed-



Clint Milliman

• Knowledge for Life

ing any more probably is wasting extra protein.

Once she calves, or if you have grass hay instead of alfalfa, the feeding system will be drastically different. Lactating cows need more nutrients and grass hay usually has less protein than alfalfa.

With hay as expensive as it is, forage testing is just common sense. It is the only way - let me repeat - the only way you will know for sure how much protein, energy and other nutrients your hay can provide. One more healthy calf, one more bred cow, one bale of saved hay will more than make up for the cost of testing your forages.

One final thing - store and feed your hay to reduce weather losses and waste. Outdoor stored hay in Kansas loses about one percent of its nutrients every month when stored properly; those losses can more than double if hay is stored carelessly.

Feeding waste can be similar. Don't give animals free access to your precious hay. Control the amount and location of the hay so little of it gets stomped into the ground.

Remember - expensive hay deserves extra management.

Clint Milliman is the Thomas County agriculture and natural resources agent with Kansas State Research and Extension. A native of Illinois, Milliman works with area 4-H clubs, farmers and ranchers.

Loan program directed toward new, minority farmers

The U.S. Farm Service Agency is reaching out to minority and women farmers who want to buy or operate a family-size farm.

"Each year, FSA targets a portion of its farm loan funding for socially disadvantaged applicants," Adrian J. Polansky, state executive director, said. The targeted funds are available to minority farmers, women farmers and beginning farmers.

A beginning farmer or rancher is someone who has not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 years, does not own a farm greater than 30 percent of the median-size farm, meets eligibility requirements, participates in the operation and has participated in a farm for at least three years.

Polansky said loan approval is neither automatic nor guaranteed. He said, "In Fiscal Year 2011, Kansas obligated \$8,316,818 for a total of 131 loans to qualified farmers under the Socially Disadvantaged Persons Loan Program. We also obligated \$45,685,152 for a total of 512 loans to qualified farmers under the Beginning Farmer Program."

Applicants must be U.S. citizens, have a satisfactory history of meeting credit obligations, have sufficient education, training or experience managing or operating a farm, possess legal capacity to incur debt; and be unable to obtain

credit elsewhere.

In addition to direct loans, loan guarantees to commercial lenders are available, typically for up to 95 percent of the loan.

Applicants can use operating loans to purchase livestock, equipment, feed, seed or pay other business-related expenses. Operating loans are usually repaid in one to seven years. Ownership loans provide capital to purchase or enlarge a farm, construct or improve buildings; promote soil and water conservation and pay closing costs. Direct ownership loan terms are up to 40 years. Guaranteed loan terms are established by the lender.

To help retiring farmers with intergenerational transfers, Farm Service also has a new program called the Land Contract Guarantee Program, a tool to transfer farm real estate to the next generation of farmers. Guarantees can be offered to the owner of a farm who wish to sell real estate through a land contract to a beginning farmer or farmer who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group. The guarantee provides an incentive to sell to individuals in these groups as it reduces the financial risk to the seller due to the buyer default on the contract payments.

For information, contact the county Farm Service Agency at 462-7671.

Historic fort to stage weekend activities

Experience a working frontier fort as Fort Larned National Historic Site holds Labor Day weekend activities Saturday through Monday. Living history demonstrations and activities will be held all three days from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free.

Activities include soldiers performing rifle and cannon demonstrations, blacksmiths working raw metal into finished products and cooks preparing meals for the troops. Living history interpreters throughout the site include ladies of the post wearing elaborate Victorian dresses and soldiers in historical uniforms.

This year's event will also feature music by Chris Day and Janet Armsted at 1 and 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in the park theater. Their music specializes in great songs and funny little sayings from the 1860s and 1870s.

Special demonstrations and talks are scheduled as follows.

Saturday
11 a.m. Artillery and small arms program.

1 p.m. Music by Armsted and Day.

2 p.m. "Preserving the Past" by

Ranger Roy Hargadine.

3 p.m. Music by Armsted and Day.

4:30 p.m. Flag retreat program.

Sunday
11 a.m. Artillery and small arms program.

1 p.m. Music by Armsted and Chris Day.

2 p.m. "Military Uniforms of Larned" by Ranger Karl Grover.

3 p.m. Music by Armsted and Day.

4:30 p.m. Flag retreat program.

Monday
11 a.m. Artillery and small arms program.

1 p.m. "Weapons through the Years" by Ranger Mike Seymour.

2 p.m. "History and Making your own Corn Husk Doll" by Ranger Ellen Jones.

3 p.m. "Life and Death of the Bison" by Ranger Roy Hargadine.

4:30 p.m. Flag retreat program.

Fort Larned National Historic Site is six miles west of Larned on K-156. For information on visiting, go to www.nps.gov/fols, call (620) 285-6911, or e-mail fols_superintendent@nps.gov.

Federal Employees

President Mary Reitcheck of Hoxie conducted a luncheon meeting for the National Association for Active and Retired Federal Employees on Thursday at Montana Mike's in Colby.

Present were Alvin Volk, Merrell Mikesell, Florene Messamore, Joanne Oelke, Wanda Davis, Cordelia Jespersion and Maxine Nelson. Nelson gave the invocation, followed by the flag salute.

The group discussed the association's magazine articles and the state of the economy. They agreed if federal employees and retirement payments are to be reduced,

they should start with the higher-paid ones at the top.

Nelson brought door prizes, enough for every member.

The association's purpose is to safeguard and enhance the benefits of active and retired federal employees. Membership totals 300,000.

The next meeting will be at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 27, at Montana Mike's. All current and retired federal employees are invited. Guests and new members are welcome.

- Maxine Nelson

Plan to ban non-native wood for campfires at Perry Lake

TOPEKA (AP) - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is taking steps in Kansas to prevent the spread of a beetle that is killing ash trees in the Northeast and Midwest.

Starting Friday, campers at Perry Lake in northeastern Kansas will be barred from bringing in firewood that did not originate in surrounding Jefferson County. The Corps is also banning all firewood from ash trees, no matter where it comes from.

The goal is to protect Perry Lake's trees from the emerald ash borer beetle, which was recently detected in northwestern Missouri's Platte County. The Corps says that's the beetle's western-

most confirmed presence.

Visitors who bring non-native firewood to Perry Lake will be able to exchange it for native wood to use during their stay.

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.

Thank You

We wish to thank our many relatives and friends for the flowers, cards, telephone calls and visits sent to Faye in honor of her 90th birthday, our 65th wedding anniversary and Bud's 93rd birthday.

With our appreciation,
Bud and Faye Goeken

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Deaths

Jance H. Kruse

Jance H. Kruse, 21, Oakley, died Saturday, Aug. 25, 2012, as the result of an vehicle accident north of Colby.

He was born Dec. 24, 1990, in Oakley to Lawrence "Sam Jr." and Julie (Sowers) Kruse. In 2009, he graduated from Oakley High School.

With a heart for animals, he was active in 4-H, FFA, livestock judging and high school rodeo and working at the Oakley Livestock Commission Col.. He was living his dream working under E.J. Lawb-scher, training horses.

His father preceded him in death Oct. 31, 2001.

Survivors include his mother and step-father, Julie and Marshall Rhea; a brother, Jody Kruse; and

a sister Jade Kruse, all of Oakley; two half-brothers, Brad Weese, Wray, Colo., and Brian Weese, Greeley, Colo.; step-siblings, Samantha Repshire, Oakley; Travis Rhea, Fort Collins, Colo.; and Trent Rhea, Liberty, Mo.; and his grandmothers, Ada Kruse and Jeanette Sowers, both of Colby, and Eileen Rhea, Oakley.

A memorial service was held Monday, Aug. 27, 2012, at the Colby College View Assembly of God Church in Colby, with Pastor Steve Todd officiating and burial in the Sowers family plot in Thomas County.

The family suggests memorials in his name in care of Rhea Farm, 2258 County Road C, Oakley, Kan., 67748.



Jance Kruse

Bertha 'Bert' Dible

Bertha "Bert" Dible, 96, Colby, a secretary for Great Plains Electric (now Midwest Energy) before she retired, died Monday, Aug. 27, 2012, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

She was born Feb. 15, 1916, in Rexford, the daughter of James Young and Bertha E. (Meeks) Gilchrist.

Her husband, Francis Dible, preceded her in death on April 17, 2002.

Survivors include a daughter, Kay (Ben) Benham of Arvada, Colo.; a stepson, Larry (Patty) Dible of Colby; a step-daughter,

Linda (Ivan) Pechanec of Wichita; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Aug. 31, 2012, at the Rexford Community Church, with Pastor Lane Purcell officiating and burial in the Rexford Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 2 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel in Colby.

The family suggests memorials to the church or to the Pioneer Memorial Library in Colby, in care of the funeral chapel, 745 S. Country Club Dr., Colby Kan., 67701.

Colby Rotary Club

Colby Rotary Club met at Colby Community College Tuesday with 34 members and guests Orvella Romine, John Schmidt and Vern Unruh.

Marla Crumrine had the program. Her guests were Orvella Romine, Thomas County Big Brothers Big Sisters program coordinator, and John Schmidt, former Big Brothers participant.

Orvella thanked the members for the club's support and noted the Big Brothers is now also a school-based program. The current theme is "Reach out and touch a child's life; become a mentor today." The mission of the program is to help at-risk boys and girls achieve their full potential through long-term personal relationships with volunteer mentors, or "Bigs." Romine said there are six "littles" waiting to be matched, most of them boys,

and she expects more referrals with school starting. A community awareness day is being planned for Thursday, Sept. 23, and she encouraged everyone to attend.

Schmidt spoke about the difference the program has made in his life. He was matched with his "big" in 2000 and still stays in touch with his mentor. Schmidt commended his mother for his upbringing but noted his "Big" was a good role model and helped provide him with confidence and courage to deal with opportunities and challenges. He said because of mentoring, he made better decisions, learned to be involved in a variety of school activities and used the resources made available to him.

Gary Adrian won Roto-Lotto. Rotary meets weekly in Room 106 of the Student Union.

Public education lawsuit set for final arguments today

TOPEKA (AP) - A three-judge panel is set to hear final arguments in a lawsuit by parents and school districts challenging the way Kansas funds public education.

Today's hearing was expected to last all morning in Shawnee County District Court.

Attorneys for a coalition of 54 school districts and parents filed suit in 2010. They contend the state has failed to live up to its promises to increase K-12 funding as ordered by the Kansas Supreme Court in 2006.

Lawyers for the state argue the Legislature did its best to mitigate the effects on schools of the recession that began in 2008.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$7.98
Corn (bushel)	\$7.94
Milo (hundredweight)	\$13.43
Soybeans (bushel)	\$16.12

The Colby Free Press will be

Closed
LABOR DAY
September 3rd, 2012

(there will be no paper Monday, September 3)
We will reopen for normal business hours Tuesday, September 4th



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