

## Brewster scholars team first at regional meet

Congratulations to the Brewster High School scholars' bowl team on their first place finish at the regional meet. This win qualified them for the state scholars' bowl.

Next in my efforts to tell you about local groups, the Brewster Development Fund is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing funding to local projects that benefit the community. This endowment fund will only pay out earnings from investments and is always looking for donations.

Directors are Leisha Carpenter, president, Ryan Edmundson, secretary-treasurer and Debbie Luckert, Allen Quenzer, Rex Jamison, Anita Horinek and Barney Horton.

A gift of \$1,000 from the fund was given on Friday to the Northwestern Plains American Revolutionary Bicentennial Parks Association, to supplement their assistance to the Brewster Grocery by helping purchase a new cooler. For information, contact Edmundson at Farmers Bank and Trust at (785) 694-2251.

Brewster is the host for the Western Kansas Liberty League



**Angie Moore**

• Brewster Correspondent

Junior High Tournament Thursday and Saturday. Play begins both days at 10 a.m. A bracket is available on the school website.



**Tad Holm**

Early childhood screenings will be held next Monday in Brewster. For information contact Susan Schmidt Tuesday through Thursday at the school.

There are several high school basketball games coming up. A complete schedule can be found on the school website. High school band students attended an instrumental clinic today. The concert was in Healy. Lots of activities going on - come out and support our kids.

Congratulations to Tad Holm on his second place finish at the Thomas County Spelling Bee.

If you have Brewster news or upcoming events you would like to share please let me know. E-mail [angiem@st-tel.net](mailto:angiem@st-tel.net), call 694-3008 or drop information off at the Prairie Land Insurance office.

## New catalogs come as signs of spring

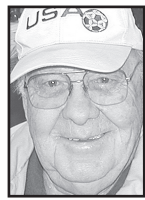
I knew a new garden season wasn't far away when the first seed catalog arrived in my mailbox a few days after Thanksgiving.

It was from Pinetree Garden Seeds located in New Gloucester, Maine, which is about as far from my garden as you can get and still be in the United States of America. But it was one of the most unique seed catalogs I had ever seen, because the listing of every seed packet tells you how many seeds are in each packet, and prices are lower than most other companies I know of. For example, a packet of 200 Jade bush bean seeds costs just \$1.75, and a packet of Crosby Egyptian beet seeds goes for just \$1.50.

I knew a new garden season wasn't far away when I received my seed catalog from Dixondale Farms, the onion people from Carrizo Springs, Texas. Dixondale offers free shipping to your front door, and you can buy 30 bunches of beautiful fresh onion plants for \$77. They'll arrive on the date you specify. But look! This is their Centennial year, and they are offering the newly developed Texas Legend onion that contains more healthful benefits than any other onion on the planet, and yet is sweeter than the famed Texas Supersweet.

I knew a new garden season wasn't far away when I received my new Burpee catalog and right there on the cover, in plain sight, was this picture of a giant tomato. It has been given the name of Super Sauce, the world's largest sauce tomato. Right next to the picture, in bold letters, was the caption "Shown Actual Size."

Can this be true? The picture showed the tomato to be 5 1/2 inches tall and 5 inches wide.



**Kay Melia**

• The Gardener

And I can receive a packet of 25 seeds for only \$6.50, plus postage and handling. Of course I've ordered a packet. What red-blooded American gardener wouldn't fall for something like that when the only thing that remotely tastes like a tomato here in the dead of winter comes from one of the jars of tomatoes you canned last summer. Hey, I may order two packets! Maybe not.

I knew a new garden season wasn't far away when my new Jung Seeds and Plants catalog arrived. The Jung catalog is my favorite because it is so well organized and I have no problem locating the stuff I'm looking for. Prices always seem to be close to reasonable compared to the others. This year, it even offers the new Francis Meiland Hybrid Tea rose, the only All-America Rose Selections winning rose of the year. No other catalog seems to have it.

I knew a new garden season wasn't far away when I glanced at the calendar and discovered that it was February already. How could that be when just a month or two ago we were storing onions and enjoying the final cantaloupe and making salsa? Time passes quickly.

I'm glad to be with you again as we prepare for the 2013 garden season. I promise to do my best to plant new ideas in your mind as we go merrily, merrily down the garden path, searching for ways to improve our gardening acumen.

## Candidates needed for silver-haired group

Elections will take place Thursday, March 14, for delegates to the Kansas Silver Haired Legislature. Anyone who wants to be a candidate must have forms filed not later than Thursday, Feb. 14.

The Silver Haired Legislature is a unicameral, or one-house, body with 125 representatives who identify policy concerns for older

Kansans while getting an educational experience. All candidates must be at least 60 by Saturday, March 9.

Registration forms and information about the elections are available from the Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging, 510 W. 29th St., Hays, Kan., 67601, or call (785) 628-8204.

## Record set for applications for concealed-carry permits

Kansans set a one-month record in January for the number of new concealed carry handgun permit applications, Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt said Friday. The Attorney General's Concealed Carry Handgun Unit received 3,167 applications last month.

The previous one-month record

was March 2012 when 1,651 Kansans applied for concealed carry permits.

The Kansas Concealed Carry Program was established in 2006, with the first permits issued in 2007. Currently, 52,317 Kansans have active permits to carry concealed handguns in Kansas.

## Writing contest announced

The start of the Kansas Book Festival Writing Contest was announced Friday by Kansas First Lady Mary Brownback.

The contest runs through Tuesday, April 30. Winners will be contacted by Wednesday, July 31 and announced at the 2013 Kansas Book Festival on Saturday, Sept. 7, at the Kansas State Capitol. Payless ShoeSource is sponsoring the contest.

The contest is open to Kansas

students in third grade through high school.

The theme for this year's contest is "Kansas Isn't Flat It's..." It asks students to use their creative minds to set straight the common myth about Kansas. There will be a first and second place winner per congressional district for each of three grade-level divisions.

For information go to [kansas-bookfestival.com](http://kansas-bookfestival.com).

## Deaths

### Rick L. Shea

Rick L. Shea, 49, a Levant farmer and over-the-road truck driver, died Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013, at his home.

He was born Aug. 19, 1963, in Colby, the son of John and Connie (Erwin) Shea.

Survivors include his parents, a brother, Randie Shea, and a sister, Bonnie Ewing, all of Phillipsburg, and a sister, Tonia Driggs, Manhattan.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Tues-

day, Feb. 5, 2013, at the Olliff-Boeve Memorial Chapel in Phillipsburg, with Pastor Joel Hiesterman officiating and burial in the Fairview Cemetery, Phillipsburg.

Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. until service time Tuesday. The casket will remain closed.

The family suggests memorials to the Phillipsburg FFA chapter.

Online condolences may be left at [www.olliffboeve.com](http://www.olliffboeve.com).

## Shakespeare Club

Shakespeare Club met Jan. 25 at the home of Diann Gerstner, who chaired the meeting. Roll call telling something about Kansas was answered by seven members and one guest, Jeannie Sheen.

Verma Wiens, treasurer, said she has paid for the two books given to Pioneer Memorial Library in memory of Helen Frahm.

Genesis was given \$100.

For the program, Gerstner told about her daughter Kelly Gerstner, who just finished an internship with the Kellogg company. She helped develop a new snack

bar, Nutri-Grain Fruit Crunch, that is now on the market. She is now doing an internship with Pepperidge Farm.

The club then played a game with a ball which had questions on it. As a player received the ball, she answered the question that was under her right thumb. We learned about each member with this game.

Diann Gerstner then served dessert and the members enjoyed a time of visiting.

- Joyce Hansen acting secretary

## Older Kansans urged to take flu precautions

As we enter February, influenza continues to be a widespread problem across the state of Kansas.

State officials are urging Kansans to take precautions to avoid getting and spreading the flu. This is especially important for older adults who are at greater risk of suffering potentially life-threatening complications associated with the flu.

Secretaries for both the Kansas Department for Health and Environment and the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services encourage older adults to get the influenza vaccine, if they haven't already, and seek treatment when they experience early signs of flu.

"The flu season is taking a heavy toll on people 65 and older all across the country," Robert Moser, M.D., Health and Environment secretary, said. "Seeing your doctor at the first signs of the flu can help prevent serious complications such as pneumonia."

The department continually monitors the percentage of individuals seeking medical care in selected outpatient clinics who exhibit influenza-like illness. Currently, 5 percent of Kansans are showing flu-like symptoms.

"Flu season has arrived earlier and impacted more people than in recent years," Shawn Sullivan, secretary for the Department for Aging and Disability Services, said. "We want older adults to know how to avoid getting sick and we want them to see the doctor quickly if they do become sick."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nationwide, older adults account for about 60 percent of flu-related hospitalizations and 90 percent of flu-related deaths. During the first half of January, the hospitalization rate for people 65 years and older climbed from just under 50 hospitalizations per 100,000 people the last week of December to almost 98 hospitalizations per 100,000

people the third week of January. Previously, the highest hospitalization rate among older adults was 73.7 hospitalizations recorded during the 2007-2008 influenza season.

In Kansas, so far this flu season, approximately 640 people have died because of flu and/or pneumonia-related complications.

### Flu symptoms

- Fever or feeling of feverish - chills.
- Dry cough.
- Sore throat.
- Fatigue.
- Muscle or body aches.
- Runny or stuffy nose.
- Some may have vomiting and diarrhea.

Note: not everyone with the flu will have a fever.

### How to avoid getting the flu

- Get the influenza vaccine.
- Wash hands frequently.
- Avoid contact with those who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs.

### How to avoid spreading the flu

- Avoid contact with others if you are sick. Stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities.
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Wash hands frequently.

At this time, some vaccine providers may have exhausted their vaccine supplies, while others may have remaining supplies of vaccine. People seeking the flu shot may need to call more than one provider to locate it.

For information on staying healthy during the flu season, go to [www.kdheks.gov/flu/index.html](http://www.kdheks.gov/flu/index.html).

## 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)	\$7.62
Corn (bushel)	\$7.42
Milo (hundredweight)	\$12.61
Soybeans (bushel)	\$13.82

TAKE A SMALL STEP TO GET HEALTHY  
[www.smallstep.gov](http://www.smallstep.gov)

Ad Council.org



### Thank You

A sincere Thank You on behalf of the family of Max G Melvin. The prayers and kindness are appreciated.

Katie, BJ, Roger and Families

### Colby Independent Baptist Church presents Evangelist Matt Pringle

To host a series of meetings focusing on Marriage and the Family.

Evangelist Pringle married his wife Tori on May 19, 1989; they have three children. He was called into full time evangelism work in August of 2007 and has traveled extensively throughout America preaching Family Conferences, revival meetings, and as a guest lecturer in bible colleges. Evangelist Pringle states: "My main goal in evangelism is to bring honor to the name of Jesus Christ by personally living an example and by preaching His infallible Word."

Attending these meetings will help your personal walk with the Lord, strengthen your marriage and assist you in building sound biblical principals for your family.

The public is invited February 6 - 8 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, February 10, Sunday school at 9:30, morning services at 10:30, evening services 6 p.m. Nursery provided at all services.

Further Information call Pastor Heinz - 785-460-0313  
Colby Independent Baptist Church • 730 E. 2nd St., Colby

Got news? Tell us! Call 462-3963



## Creating Possibility... and future astronauts.

### Easy as A-B-C!

# A

Enter our Pay-for-A's contest!

Students, bring a current report card to any Sunflower Bank. On April 1<sup>st</sup>, five lucky students from each Sunflower Bank location will win \$10 for every A, and we'll donate that same amount to your participating school!

# B

Use your debit card!

Use your school-registered debit card between January 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>, and each time you swipe and sign for a transaction, you'll earn 5¢ for the participating school of your choice. All of those nickels really add up!

# C

Open a Spend & Sign & Save account and earn up to \$100!\*

When you become a new Sunflower Bank checking customer and choose our signature Spend & Sign & Save package, you earn BIG, and so does your school!

Visit [sunflowerbank.com/abc](http://sunflowerbank.com/abc) or call 888.827.5564 for more information.



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\*Limited time offer. Available only to new checking households opening Spend & Sign & Save checking account with savings account. Minimum \$100 to open account. Spend & Sign & Save savings account annual percentage yield: 0.04% for balances under \$2,500. 0.07% for balances \$2,500 - \$9,999. 0.10% for balances \$10,000 - \$25,000. 0.13% for balances over \$25,000. No purchase necessary to enter report card drawing.