

Strange place to land



This plane was forced to make an emergency landing in a wheat field farmed by Tim Wilkening on Aug. 17. The plane was experiencing engine trouble, which required the pilot to make the unscheduled landing. Emergency responders were sent out to the field, but no one was injured. The plane was towed to the airport. Photo by Tim Wilkening

Climatologist studying climate, agricultural trends

If farmers thought last year's drought was bad, this year's has not proven better. Weather has not been favorable for agriculture recently, but that might be changing.

At least one climatologist is predicting a break for many Midwest farmers and ranchers suffering from the summer heat and dry weather. Evelyn Browning-Garriss is a historical climatologist who examines historical records, coral growth patterns, tree rings, sediment layers and glacial cores to determine previous climate patterns. She then uses the information to help explain changing climate patterns and their effect on economic, social and agricultural trends.

Speaking at the 2012 K-State Beef Conference at Kansas State University, Browning-Garriss said she expects La Niña conditions to dissipate, and El Niño conditions to develop in the South Pacific this month,

bringing welcome relief for farmers and ranchers throughout the U.S.

El Niño is an oscillating ocean current pattern that tends to shift winds and moisture eastward, bringing cooler temperatures and much needed moisture in from the Pacific.

She said she makes predictions such as this based on examinations of 100,000 years worth of yearly weather records found in nature. She searches for a five-year period exhibiting similar traits to what the world is currently experiencing in terms of natural factors shaping the weather. Then she looks at what followed that five-year period, saying there is an 80 percent chance of a similar trend developing.

Historically, a changing pattern tends to reduce production and drive up prices of mid-latitude crops, she said, with little effect on tropical crops.

Essay contest offered to students

Seventh and eighth grade students across Kansas can showcase their writing skills and win an education savings account in the eleventh annual Learning Quest Essay Contest. The Learning Quest 529 Education Savings Program is Kansas' state-sponsored 529 plan, designed to help families invest for their child's continued education after high school. Last year, more than 1,000 essays written by Kansas seventh and eighth graders were received from 61 schools across the state. This year's theme is "Small Steps, Big Dreams."

"We're very excited about 'Small Steps, Big Dreams,'" said Kansas State Treasurer Ron Estes who administers the Learning Quest Program. "This year we're asking seventh and eighth grade students to describe their future goals after graduating from high school and to

explain how they are taking steps today to reach those goals. This fits perfectly with Learning Quest's goal to help families plan today for the higher education expenses in their student's future."

The contest, open to all seventh and eighth grade students in Kansas, begins mid-August and all entries must be postmarked by Friday, Oct. 12. To learn more and download participation materials, visit the contest website at learningquest.com/essay. Also, students can get updates on Estes' Facebook page and Twitter account (@RonEstesKS).

"We want our students to realize the importance of post-high school education," said Estes. "We also want to encourage Kansas families to start saving now to meet the challenge of paying for tomorrow's college or vocational school. Learning Quest is a convenient way for them

to start today."

Prizes include \$1,000 and \$500 Learning Quest accounts for one winner and one runner-up, respectively, from each grade level. One randomly selected student will also receive a \$529 Learning Quest account, and one participating school (selected at random) will receive \$1 for every essay submitted statewide, up to \$5,000.

The Learning Quest 529 Education Savings Program was created to help families invest for their child's continued education after high school whether at a traditional four-year college, community college, or technical/vocational school. Learning Quest investors benefit from tax-deferred growth and tax-free withdrawals when

used for qualified education expenses (tax benefits may be conditioned on meeting certain requirements). Kansas taxpayers can receive a Kansas tax deduction up to \$3,000 per child (\$6,000 if married, filing jointly) on contributions to Learning Quest or any other state-sponsored 529 plan.

matters of record

Sherman County District Court

These are cases decided by the Sherman County District Court:

Dec. 21, 2010: Margaret K. Bondi, exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$179

Dec 31, 2011: Michael L. Barbosa, exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$161.

Jan. 24: Terell J. Belger, exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$275.

Jan. 29: Shane A. Boedeker, driving while license cancelled, suspended or revoked, fined \$398.

Sandra J. Bowling, exceeding maximum speed limits, fined

\$155.

Allisha R. Bremenkamp, failure to wear seatbelt, fined \$10.

Feb. 6: Juan J. Amela-Auuilera, operating a motor vehicle without a valid license exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$203.

Feb. 9: Charlotte Burpouches, failure to wear seatbelt, fined \$10

Feb. 12: Michael E. Acquafredda-Amith, unlawful parking in accessible parking and blocking access ramp or aisle, fined \$149.

Feb. 13: Kavshik D. Brahmhatt, motor carrier safety rules and regulation, fined \$213.

Feb. 16: Jason D. Brunkan, vehicles, unlawful acts, e.g., registration, fined \$158.

Feb. 18: Lauren N. Bozarth, exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$212.

Feb. 19: James T. Beckwith, unlawful parking in accessible parking and blocking access ramp, fined \$221.

Feb. 20: Lisa M. Amann, exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$179.

Feb 22: Vera Jane Barrera, failure

to wear seat belt, fined \$10.

Feb. 25: Charles A. Baker, no motor carrier regulations on person or property, fined \$213.

Danny L. Brewer, motor carrier safety rules and regulations, fined \$213.

Feb. 26: Gabriel A. Andrade, exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$191.

Estella Azdape, unlawful parking in accessible parking and blocking access ramp or aisle, fined \$197.

Michael L. Beasley, failure to wear seat belt, fined \$10.

Feb. 28: Michael T. Asmus, exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$143.

March 6: Taryn N. Bedore, failure to wear seatbelt, fine \$60.

Milan M. Brannick, failure to wear seatbelt, fined \$60.

March 9: Thomas Lloyd, Ben-

ture, exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$185.

March 11: Jonathan M. Baker, failure to wear seat belt, fined \$10.

March 13: Clifton N. Baker, motor carrier safety rules and regulations, fined \$213.

March 14: Casey A. Brown, exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$149.

March 15: Brandi Bahe, failure to wear seatbelt, fined \$10.

Crystal L. Beltran, exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$143.

March 18: Nancy A. Ashcroft, child passenger safety and restraining systems and seat belts and failure to wear seat belt, fined \$168.

March 22: Andrew J. Baugh, exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$143.

March 23: Salem N. Alaqueel,

exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$197.

March 25: Jesus Q. Buenrostro, child passenger safety and restraining systems and seat belts and exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$233.

March 26: Allen F. Bell, motor carrier safety rules and regulations x3, fined \$443.

April 14: Paul T. Brasher, exceeding maximum speed limits, fined \$224.

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Grandstand Pricing: \$10: 13 & up; \$5: 6-12; 5 & under FREE
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VISIT OUR OPEN HOUSE

The City of Goodland Electric Department would like to invite the public to an open house celebration for 75 years of continued service at the City Power Plant. The open house will be held on Sunday, September 23rd from 1-4 p.m.. Come down and take a tour of the facility and meet the staff.

HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT TODAY!
(for 3, 5 or 10 months)

Make this year the most exciting, enriching year ever for you and your family. Welcome a high school student, 15-18 years old, from Italy, France, Norway, Denmark, Spain, Germany, Brazil, Thailand or China as part of your family for a school year (or less) and make an overseas friend for life.

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World Heritage is a public benefit, non-profit organization based in Laguna Beach, CA.