

OBITUARIES

Natalee Cheyenne Gilgenbach

Sept. 23, 2013 - Sept. 24, 2013

Natalee Cheyenne Gilgenbach, infant daughter of Samantha Keenan and Alec Gilgenbach, was born Sept. 23, 2013, at the Norton County Hospital in Norton, and passed away at the hospital in Norton on Sept. 24, 2013, at the age of six hours and 24 minutes.

Natalee is survived by her parents, Samantha and Alec; her maternal grandparents, Rick and Pam Keenan, Norton; her paternal grandparents, John and Susan Gilgenbach, Norton; her

maternal great-grandparents, Lloyd and Lila Keenan, Oberlin; her paternal great-grandmother, Elaine Rule, Norton; four aunts, Jessica Gilgenbach, Tamara and Erin Haussermann, and Desiree Iiams, who was also her Godmother; and three uncles, Ash, Jon, and Jordon Haussermann; many other relatives and friends.

Natalee is preceded in death by her maternal great-grandparents, Maynard and Irene Delimont, paternal great-grand-

mother and great-grandfather, Delores Gilgenbach and Richard Rule, and great-uncle, Ron Delimont.

A private family graveside service was held Monday, Sept. 30, 2013, at 10:30 a.m. at the Norton Cemetery in Norton.

A memorial has been established to the Natalee Gilgenbach Memorial Fund.

Arrangements were with the Enfield Funeral Home in Norton and condolences may be sent to www.enfieldfh.com.

Galen M. 'Gus' Munsinger

March 17, 1925 - Oct. 1, 2013

Galen M. "Gus" Munsinger, 88, passed away Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013, in La Crosse. He was born on a farm near Harlan, in Smith County, Kansas, on March 17, 1925, the son of Roy and Emma McClain Munsinger. He attended schools in Harlan, graduating from Harlan High School in 1942 and obtained a B.S. degree in education from York College, York, Neb., in 1949. He received a master's degree in School Administration from Fort Hays State University in 1953. He married Ivalee Mizell in Clayton, Kansas, Nov. 3, 1949, and has been a member of the First United Methodist Church and the American Legion for many years.

During the Second World War, he entered the Air Force in Aug. of 1943, obtaining the rank of Sergeant before receiving an honorable discharge in March

of 1946. He was involved in teaching, coaching and administration at schools in Densmore, Long Island, Jetmore and Dighton, Kansas, before retiring and moving to Hays in 1983.

Survivors include his wife, Ivalee, of the home in Hays; a son, Terry Munsinger and his wife, Vicki, of Wichita; two daughters, Debra McClellan and husband, Steve, of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Cynthia Munsinger, of Hays; four grandchildren, Matthew McClellan of Denver, Colo., Jennifer McClellan-Fukuda and husband Kenn of St. Paul, Minn., and Trent and Katelyn Munsinger; a great grandson Matthew Paul O'Hara, Jr.; one brother, Larry Munsinger and his wife Celeste of Wichita; a nephew, Todd Munsinger, and a niece, Renee Williamson.

He was preceded in death by

his parents.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 4, 2013 at the Hays Memorial Chapel Funeral Home, 1906 Pine.

The family will receive friends from 10 a.m. until service time on Friday at the funeral home. Military honors by the Hays American Legion and VFW will follow the memorial services on Friday and will be at the funeral home.

Inurnment will be at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 27, 2013 in the Fairview Cemetery, Phillipsburg.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the medical fund of Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas or First United Methodist Church, Hays.

Top producing counties overlay aquifer

Of the 105 total counties in Kansas, the top eight counties for market value of agricultural products sold border one another. Coincidence or commonality?

According to the 2007 U.S. Census of Agriculture, those top eight Kansas counties for agricultural production are located in western Kansas. The counties Scott, Haskell, Finney, Gray, Grant, Ford, Wichita and Seward together sold more than \$4.7 billion in crops and livestock. The eight-county contribution represents about one-third of total agricultural revenue for the entire state of Kansas.

Ernie Minton, K-State Research and Extension associate director for research and technology transfer, said one very important thing that ties all of these counties together is a vast water resource, the Ogallala Aquifer. The aquifer, which encompasses more than 170,000 square miles, supports both crop and livestock production not only in western Kansas but also in the seven other states it touches, from South Dakota to Texas.

David Steward, a professor of civil engineering at Kansas State University, and a team of researchers recently completed a study that examined the future of the Ogallala Aquifer. The study found that if current usage of the aquifer continues, as much as 69 percent of the aquifer would be depleted by 2060.

Usage is exceeding the recharge of the aquifer, which has led to its depletion. This is a concern for farmers and ranchers and could also be a major factor in the viability of the Kansas economy. Irrigated corn and beef cattle are two major economic drivers in western Kansas, including those top eight counties.

"The scenario is that irrigation drives corn production that is either directly fed to feedlot cattle or run through ethanol plants, then distillers grains fed to cattle," Minton said. "Together, between cattle and crop production, this represents a significant amount of economic activity in the state that could be at risk if the aquifer can no longer support irrigation."

K-State recognizes the importance of agriculture in the state of Kansas, which is why the College of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension are committed to production agriculture and ensuring it remains resilient and commercially viable. This commitment is expressed in the recently completed K-State 2025 strategic plan for the College of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension.

Among the many goals included in the plan is the goal of addressing grand challenges in dryland agriculture, which are of particular interest in western Kansas.

"That particular goal in our strategic plan is really

about providing growers in western Kansas with cropping alternatives for dryland or limited irrigation scenarios that will help us prolong the lifespan of the aquifer," said John Floros, dean of the College of Agriculture and director of K-State Research and Extension.

A breakdown of agricultural market value for each of those top eight ag-producing counties is as follows:

- Scott: \$72 million for crops; \$691 million for livestock; \$763 million total
- Haskell: \$116 million for crops; \$602 million for livestock; \$718 million total
- Finney: \$141 million for crops; \$553 million for livestock; \$694 million total
- Gray: \$109 million for crops; \$582 million for livestock; \$691 million total
- Grant: \$64 million for crops; \$513 for livestock; \$577 million total
- Ford: \$87 million for crops; \$387 million for livestock; \$474 million total
- Wichita: no specific crop and livestock totals available; \$449 million total
- Seward: \$82 million for crops; \$280 million for livestock; \$362 million total

The 2007 agricultural census information (www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2007/Full_Report/) is the most recent data available. The U.S. Census of Agriculture is taken every five years, and the 2012 data should be available in early 2014.

Road improvement projects receive funding

Projects that will improve intersections and address road deficiencies in 11 Kansas cities will receive fiscal year 2016 funding under the Kansas Department of Transportation's Geometric Improvement program.

In addition, 30 resurfacing projects will be funded under KDOT's City Connecting Links (KLINK) program that improves state highways that extend through cities.

The state will provide \$6.23 million for the Geometric Improvement projects, which will be built at an estimated cost of \$7.7 million. The cities will provide matching funds to cover

the remainder of the costs. The percent of state funding is based on the size of the city and ranges from 75 percent for the largest cities to 100 percent for the smallest.

KDOT received 40 applications requesting \$27.7 million under the popular program. Roads selected for Geometric Improvement funding are part of the state highway system but are located within city limits.

Communities selected for the Geometric Improvement program and maximum state contribution include:

Marysville, \$750,000; Junction City, \$268,000; Clifton, \$666,000; Stockton, \$286,200;

Colby, \$800,000; Hoxie, \$30,000; Girard, \$750,000; Weir, \$700,000; El Dorado, \$570,000; Pratt, \$800,000; and Cimarron, \$700,000.



Center of attention



The Norton Public Library had a special visitor last week during story hour. In honor of National Dog Week, the Norton Animal Health Center came and read to the pre-schoolers and with them was Sadie, a 12 year old pitbull. She was a rescue dog and is certified through the American Kennel Club as a canine good citizen. Sadie loved the attention and the children relished the chance to love her back.

— Telegram photo Dana Paxton

Acreage deadline approaches

The Norton County FSA Office would like to remind producers that the acreage reporting dates for 2014 crops are as follows:

Nov. 15, 2013 - Perennial Forage crops which includes all grasses (examples: brome, fescue, native, etc), alfalfa, clover, etc.

Dec. 15, 2013 - Fall-seeded small grains which includes wheat, barley, etc.

The 2014 maps are available

for producers to pick up at the Norton County FSA Office. You can outline the acres on the maps; enter your shares, crop, intended use, and plant dates. With all of this information recorded you can just drop the maps by the office for the staff to load for your certification. If you would like to sit down with the staff to go over your acreage reports it is recommended that you make an appointment ahead of time.

Crop acreage reports are needed to maintain the history of crops planted for future farm program policies.



Darline Brown
will be celebrating her
85th Birthday
on October 4



Cards will reach her at
2502 Sherman Ave., Room 220
Hays, Kansas 67601

\$2,000 grant awarded to Almena Fire Department

Norton County Community Foundation is pleased to announce it has received a \$2,000 Community Betterment grant from the DuPont Pioneer Giving Program. DuPont Pioneer supports communities in which their employees and customers live and work. The funds will be used for an addition to the Almena Fire Department building.

"We are planning an expansion on the Almena Fire Department building so that all our emergency vehicles can be stored inside, out of the weather and safe from vandalism. This grant is a great start for the project. We are grateful for the support from DuPont Pioneer in helping small communities such as ours," said Jeff Callaway, Almena Fire Department Chief.

The DuPont Pioneer Global Giving Program is intended to improve food security by advancing agriculture through science, education, and innovation and to enhance the quality of life for farmers and their communities globally. Addressing the unique challenges of our local communities promotes

economic growth, improved health, and overall quality of life; all factors important to a healthy business climate necessary for DuPont Pioneer's continued growth and success.

Oct. 4-
Oct. 9

Showing at the
NORTON THEATRE

Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2:
Revenge of the Leftovers 1 Hr, 45 Min. (PG)

Friday and Saturday: 8:00 p.m.
Sunday: 5:00 p.m.
Mon., Tues., Wed.: 7:00 p.m.

Insidious
CHAPTER 2
1 Hour, 56 Minutes
(PG-13)

Insidious is \$7.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 12 and under. \$3/tx on Sunday. Meatballs is \$7.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 12 and under. No Sunday Discount.

Visit our Website:
nortontheatre.com

COMING SOON

Let's Go to the Movie

This ad is brought to you by The Norton Telegram

Norton Christian Church is canceling its 10:40 service!

**Sunday,
October 6th**

**Worship with us
Saturday at 7 PM
or Sunday at 8 AM**

**DON'T
GO
TO CHURCH.
BE THE CHURCH.**

**Projects begin
at 9 AM**

Projects: The Rock,
Eisenhower Elem.,
The Haven, NCHS
Football Field & More

Call 877- 2871 for
Information