

Essays chosen to be printed

Over one-half of the students in Lisa Gibson's last year's eighth grade English class are having essays printed in an anthology book.

"This is absolutely fantastic for these eighth grade students," Mrs. Gibson said. "This is a great accomplishment for eighth graders.

There were 15 out of the 28 students in the class whose work was selected to be published. These students were among the 1,141 accepted out of the 2,000 entries.

The students are now eligible for prize money and have the opportunity to be selected for the top 10 essays.

Since over 50 percent of the class was accepted to be published, St. Francis, Mrs. Gibson said, will receive a "writing achievement award." This honor is given to the top 10 percent of the schools that have entered the contest. The schools, she said, are chosen based on the number and quality of entries accepted.

In the next few weeks, *The Herald* will be publishing all 15 essays. The first five are in this week's issue.

Alcoholism

By Clarice Neitzel

Has anyone ever come up to you with a beer saying, "Come on, it's okay, we won't get caught?" What was your answer? Many kids think that one time won't hurt. Well, that one time will hurt. Did you know if you started drinking, even one beer at a time, at the age of 14 or younger you are four times more likely to become an alcoholic than if you started at the age of 20 or older?

People say the government should raise the legal drinking age, but studies show the higher they go with the age; the younger kids start their alcohol abuse. There are more secretive parties going on and more designated drivers needed. There are even designated driver ads going on around the internet!

Say you live in Canada where the legal drinking age is 19 instead of 21. Do you think you would still drink at such a young age? Scientists did a test and it showed that only 36 percent of Canadian kids drink underage, while 58 percent of American kids drink underage.

The percentages increase the rates for drunk driving. Would you want to pass away knowing you wrecked your vehicle due to minor alcohol abuse? I wouldn't. In 2002, these rates of drunk driving increased to 40 percent. So next time you get invited to go out to a party, think how you want to live your adult years.

Preparing for Life

By Casey Keller

I bet you don't know what is going to happen to you in the next two seconds. Some people would respond, "Well, yes I do, nothing will happen. What could possibly go wrong in that amount of time?" That would have been my response three months ago. Then some traumatic events hit me that would affect my life forever.

I have always assumed my family would be together forever. Boy, was I wrong. My dad told me that he and my mom were getting a divorce. I figured that it would be hard for awhile. So now nothing else will go wrong in life, right? Wrong! Several days later the principal called me into his office with my brother and told us another shocking thing that would affect our life forever. One of my closest cousins, Carl, had died that day. It taught me one thing; live every moment like it's your last. I now realize that you have to be ready for those traumatic events.

Even though I have had some things bring me down the last few months, that hasn't stopped me from preparing for what could happen. I might think I know what will happen, but in reality I don't. The best way to live is by not knowing what will happen to you at the end of the day, but you need to prepare for that day.

Can you stand not knowing what will happen in life? Me either. That's why you have to prepare!

Electronic World

By Nathaniel Clark

In this world, almost everything involves electronics. Our society revolves around it! Whether it is banking, building a car, having fun, or even typing this essay. Some day scientists say that you will not even have to leave your home because of electronic robots that will do everything for you!

The reason I chose this topic was because I have been caught up in the electronic rush. I can't live one day without playing on my PlayStation 2, Nintendo DS lite, or on the computer. I have so many games I can't keep track of them all. I keep buying more games and more consoles. Right now, I am saving up for a Nintendo DS I, the newest one of the series that is sort of a mini-laptop computer. It can play Gameboy Advance games, Nintendo DS games, take pictures, and goes on the internet.

My sister-in-law has a PSP (Playstation portable) and a Wii. She says they are really fun and cool. My brother builds websites for his occupation. He got his start when he paid \$250,000 to build his first web site ComicSTrader.com. Now he has built three other sites from scratch on his own. I plan on going into the same business as him because he has told me I could be vice president.

Just in my family we all have or will rely on technology for our occupation. So if families' lives depend on technology, so will other American families.

Two Story Fall

By Katie Lambert

Have you ever felt the rush of falling on an amusement park ride? The rush that I felt one year was like that, but I didn't have something to catch me.

I was at my grandma's and all my cousins were there. That year there was a lot of hay bales across the road. Some of the hay bales were under a shed that was two stories high. The hay bales were piled close to the top.

We were going to climb to the top. We started to climb slowly higher. Carefully we placed our steps. We made it to the top! We started to explore and jumped from one bale to the next.

Then my sister left with my cousins. I stayed a little longer and then I jumped across the bale. When I was about to land on the other bale I hit my head on the I-beam. I fell between the bales. It was like I was in a dream. Then I hit the ground. I let out a screech of pain. Oh, the agonizing pain! It was like I had broken my back into a thousand pieces. My cousin came running. When she saw what had happened, she went for help.

It turns out that I only had to get four stitches on my forehead where the I-beam hit me. Now all I have to remember it is a scar on my head. I will never forget it, though.

A Spectacular Relay

By Foster Grant

Were you ever in a heart stopping event? Maybe you were in a race or just a normal game of tag.

Well if you haven't, you should try it. I have been in a fun, but competitive 4x200 meter relay race.

My relay partners and I were going to an invitational track meet. We got there around mid-afternoon. Our coach told us that it's about time for the relay to start. So we went to our positions.

They started the race and Mikey fell. By the time he got up, we were in last. He handed the baton to Joey; it was a great exchange! Joey caught up to one team and passed them. We're now in third. Then he handed the baton to Nate. He started running. Then it was my turn to get the baton. Just then a team dropped their baton, I was overjoyed! As I was running, I could feel the breeze run through my hair. It felt so refreshing. It was down to the final stretch and we're in second place. I could hear my teammates cheering for me. I felt a sudden burst of energy. I was in the lead. It's going to be close. I looked at the results and I WON! I was really excited.

The moral of this story is if you want to achieve something in life, you have to go 110 percent to achieve it. So try your hardest in everything you do. When you do, it feels great!



TIME TO THINK ABOUT SCHOLARSHIPS. Senior, Alex Long (left) discusses college funding options with Ward Cassidy, counselor.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Scholarships help dreams

By Karen Krien

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With a year of college costing between \$7,000 and \$30,000, many students depend on scholarships to help them pay for tuition, books, board and room.

Ward Cassidy, counselor at the

St. Francis school, has been helping students reach their college or tech school dreams by finding scholarships for the last 31 years. Several years ago, he agreed to help Winona students also.

He said there are hundreds of scholarships out there, including those offered by colleges and tech schools. Some of the best in northwest Kansas are "outside agency" scholarships such as the Dane G. Hansen and Pete Henry scholarships, which come from trusts established by the two men. Most schools have local and memorial scholarships available, he said.

There are also the "national-type" scholarships such as Veterans of Foreign Wars, Elks Lodge and Coca-Cola, just to name a few. This type of scholarship requires high grade averages, college entrance test scores and extra curricular and community service activity.

In small towns, Cassidy said, achieving high grade averages and college test scores is no problem for many students. However, by the time kids participate in sports, music, pom pom squads and all the other activities that go with being a high school student, there may be little time for community service. In many towns, she said, there may not be a lot of opportunities, either.

So, students, after filling out all of the application pages, are disappointed that they do not get scholarships because of the service requirement.

Scholarships, he said, give students the incentive to pursue further education. Cassidy sees his job as counselor to find the right scholarships for each student, then urge them to apply

"I pinpoint ever opportunity by having students fill out a criteria form," he said, adding that often, the father or grandfather was a member of a group that give scholarships, or the mother is a member of an organization.

He then goes to the computer and plugs in the information.

The computer, he said, has made his job much easier and more efficient. When he started, the shelves were lined with books, manuals and pamphlets for references.

Most of the school year is spent working with students. After a couple of class meetings, he lines up individual conferences to help each student narrow down where he or she would like to attend college, then applying for scholarships.

Cassidy has been working with colleges for years, and having personal contacts often helps when looking for scholarships.

All sorts of scholarships are available, he said, but, today, students and their parents need to visit the chosen campus, then apply early.

"It's first come, first served," he said.

At graduation, when scholarships are announced, many students receive sizable awards which help them to go on to school. College degrees and/or technical school certificates are important when students begin applying for jobs, Cassidy said.

Last year, Colby seniors received \$501,930 in scholarships; Goodland High School seniors, \$136,000; Cheylin/Bird City seniors, \$92,350; Oberlin, around \$100,000; St. Francis, \$242,000; Rawlins County, \$420,846, and Norton, \$158,420.

New techniques, technology learned

The 22nd High Plains No-Till Conference will be held Feb. 2 and 3 at the Burlington Community Center in Burlington.

Each year, producers, agricultural business professionals and educators from states in the High Plains Region come together to learn new techniques and the latest technology about products, equipment and research for no-till, minimum-till, conservation practices; and discuss current farming issues.

There will be over 50 breakout sessions and Murray Wise, chief executive officer, of the Westchester Group, Inc., a global agriculture asset management company, will be the keynote speaker. The conference is complete with a trade show of 45-50 vendors.

Membership in the Colorado Conservation Tillage Association is automatic when you register for the conference and you will receive the Association's Journal three times a year.

Registration forms will be

available mid-October on the website www.HighPlainsNoTill.com.

The association was founded in 1988 to serve the needs of producers searching for new ways to diversify their farms and better utilize their resources. The association is a collaboration of experienced farmers working with industry and university personnel whose goal is to spread research and on-farm gained information with others.

Through this association, in cooperation with the National Sunflower Association, producers have been able to utilize new technologies and techniques to enhance their overall economic position.

Traditionally a wheat-summer fallow area of the Great Plains, the High Plains region has seen dramatic change in climate, water availability, alternative fuel use, alternative crops and cropping methods...all issues will be addressed in part by the organization at the conference.



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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10th, 2009, 10:00 a.m.
Location: 4-H Building, N. Hwy. 25, Atwood, KS
Sellers: Bethel Stolte & Etal

VEHICLES/RECREATIONAL/EQUIPMENT: 1999 Mercury Sable LS, 4dr., 94229 mi., #1983 Ford Ranger XLT, 4sp, 4wd, 98921 mi., #N Ford Tractor, 2pt., LDR, New Tires, Rear Blade, 6' Cultivator • 2-8" IHC 150 Drills, (10"sp.) • 1981 Chevrolet _ Ton, 454, Auto, Trans • 1982 Mercury Grand Marquis, 4dr. • 1975 Chevrolet 1 Ton, 4sp, 350, Flabbed, Winch • 8'x 28" Drop Deck Trailer, 3-axles **SHOP & LAWN EQUIPMENT:** Makita Cordless Drills • Crosscut Hand Saws • Porter Cable Cordless Drills • 2pc. Dewalt Cordless Drill • Circular Saw • Combo • Ryobi Plate Joiner • B&D Router • Wood Vices (good) • Belt Sanders • Half Sheet Sanders • Dewalt Router • Makita Hand Drill • Makita Plunge Router • Rockwell Circular Saw • B&D Jig Saw • B&D Hand Drills • Disc/Belt Sander • Assort. of Saw Blades • Marking Gauges • Assort. of Screw Drivers • Router Table • Coping Saws • Hack Saws • Draw Knife • Spoke Shaves • Paint Scrapers • Upholstery Stretcher • Dewalt Parallel Fence • Hand Planes • Rout-A-Form • Try Squares • Braces • Drill Press Attachment • Rawhide Hammers • Delta Jig Saw • Delta Drill Press • Powermatic Table Saw, (220v) • Hand Saws • Powermatic Lathe w/36" Bed • RB1 24" 220V Drum Sanders • Makita 12" Sliding Compound Miter Saw • Rockwell Delta 8" Jointer, (220v) • Assort. of Chisels • Makita Sanders • Dewalt Sander • Sm. Chipper Shredder • Lincoln 225 amp. Welder • Engine Stand • Tap & Die Sets • Gear Puller • Oil Filters • Air Filters • Aluminum Step Ladder • Ratchet Straps • Battery Charger • Moving Cart • Bench Grinders • Torch w/Cart • Fairbanks 500# Scale • Overhead A-Frame • 4-ton Chain Hoist • Extension Cords • Craftsman Sockets • Tire Machine • Hitch Pins • Welding Table w/Vis • Handy Man Jacks • Pipe Fittings • Booster Cables • Log Chains • Log Splitter, 3pt. hyd • Makita _ " Elect. Impact • Metal Tool Box • AC Gauges • Indestro _ " Socket Set • Nuts-Bolts-Nails • Wheel Puller • Dwell Meter • Wooden Cabinet • Bending Tool • Allan Wrenches • Drill Bits • Plumbing Fittings • Floor Jacks • S-K Wrenches • Socket Sets • 14" Extension Ladder • 3" Aluminum Ladder • Pickup Tool Box • 4" Aluminum Level • Kavit • Metal Belt Cabinet • Grease Guns • Jack Stands • Motor Oil • Linseed Oil • Creeper • Assort. of Misc. Shop Tools • Snow Shovels • Dolly Cart • Trouble Light • Propane Wet Leg • Utility Cart • S-K Socket Sets • Lawn Mower • Lawn Chairs • Lawn Garden Tools **OVERHEAD DOOR BUSINESS:** Wireless, Keyless Entries • Remote Control Openers • Door Rollers • Hinges • Pulleys • Door Gaskets • Door Springs • Garage Door Tools • Electric Motor • Circuit Boards, (Delta-Lift Master-Master Mechanic) • Gear & Sprocket Sets • Misc. Garage Door Parts **FURNITURE & APPLIANCES:** Queen Size Beds • Full Size Beds • Chest of Drawers • Corner Couch • Hutch • Couches w/Hide-A-Beds • Kitchen Table w/3Chairs • Roper Deepfreeze • Maytag Washer • Maytag Dryer • Recliner Lift Chair • Coffee Tables • End Tables • RCA 25" TV • RCA 9" TV • Dining Room Table w/Hutch • Dresser w/Mirror • Office Desks • File Cabinet • Wood- en Cabinet • Metal Cabinet • Whirlpool Washer • Whirlpool Dryer • 8" Tables • Upright Freezer **HOUSEHOLD&MISCELLANEOUS:** Vacuum • Roaster • Flowers • Baskets • Aladdin Dishes • Fiesta ware • Pyrex Dishes • Display Plates • Telephones • Card Table • Typewriter • Sewing Machine • Magazine Rack • Humidifier • Meat Grinders • Toys • Kitchen Set • Paper Shredder • 2-Children's Rocking Chairs • 25 Desks • 17"x24"x24" Safe • Coolers • Pots & Pans • Dishes • Ceiling Fans, (new) • Treadmill • Fishing Poles • Tackle Boxes • 2-Runner Stairs • ANTIQUES: Round Oak Table • Oak Parlor Table • W/C • Fine East • Spiral Pine • Fire Safe • Secretary • Stewart Warner Radio • Sausage Presses • Victrola Records • Victrola Record Player • Books • Oak Chairs • Ice Saws • Chilton Manuals • Ford Manuals • Metal Dr. Pepper Cooler • Cook Stove • Assort. of Crocks • Solid Oak Pump Organ • Boot Lasp

NOTE: THIS IS A PARTIAL LISTING OF ITEMS. MANY MORE ITEMS BY SALES DAY!
Lunch will be served by the Chardon 4-H Club – Visit our web site for photos of the items – GLAD REAL ESTATE, Rocky Hayes, Auctioneer – 415 State, Atwood, KS 67730 – Home # 785-626-9600, Office # 785-626-2039 Terms: Cash day of sale. Not responsible for theft or accidents.