



BACK TO THE GRIND!!! Jeremiah Neitzel, above, and Taryn Zwegardt are busy working on activities in their second grade classroom.

Herald staff photos by Karen Krien



## Administration studies safety plans

By Karen Krien

In recent years, shootings and terrorism in schools have made all school administrators more aware of the steps they need to take in case there is a crisis in the school. The St. Francis school administrators are no exception and the school board members were informed about the plans when they met Thursday evening.

Rob Schiltz, assistant superintendent, and Scott Carmichael, principal, recently returned from a crisis-planning seminar.

They said that the St. Francis schools do have a number of entrances but these can be locked. They also noted that, St. Francis schools are small and if there is a stranger in the hall, they are immediately recognized as such.

An evacuation plan will be drawn up so students and teachers will know where to go in different situations and what to do in the case of a "lock down."

"We have the fire and tornado drills down to about 2 minutes because the kids know exactly what to do," Mr. Carmichael said. "We can do the same with the new plans."

Web site

Mr. Schiltz reviewed the school's new web site and the guidelines which are being developed to protect students. For instance, last names of students will not be given.

He said Kent Kechter, technology coordinator, has done an excellent job in developing the new site which has a tremendous amount of information. The list includes: school activities, sports information as well

as scores from games played, articles by teachers, breakfast and lunch menus, and the history of the school, just to name some.

People, parents and students are urged to go to [www.usd297.org](http://www.usd297.org) and see what is going on in the schools.

Proposed gym

Building a second gym at the high school. See PLANS on Page 7

## Family gives scholarship

By Karen Krien

The St. Francis Board of Education accepted a \$700 scholarship from the Gary Brown family when they met on Thursday evening.



Brown

Superintendent Carl Werner said he had met with Helen Brown, wife of Mr. Brown, and the details of the scholarship had been worked out so a \$700 scholarship can be given to a graduate in the class of 2007. The

scholarship will be given each year until the memorial funds run out.

The scholarship fund, given in memory of Mr. Brown who died in an accident on Nov. 8, 2005, is matched by an equal donation from Mr. Brown's employer, the St. Francis Equity (\$350 each).

Criteria for the senior receiving the scholarship includes:

- 1) Must have been active in vocational agriculture and FFA during high school and/or plans to pursue additional schooling in agriculture. The schooling may be at any school — university, college or vo-tech school.

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## Running for office? File by Tuesday

By Karen Krien

The deadline for filing for one of the seats on Bird City or St. Francis city councils and Cheylin or St. Francis school boards is noon on Tuesday, Jan. 23. The position of mayor of St. Francis will also be up for election.

Terry Miller, county election officer, reported that those filing are coming in slowly. As of Tuesday, the two present city council members up for election, Dale Weeks and Roger Jensen, along with mayor Scott Schultz have filed. St. Francis

Board of Education members filing for another term are Bonnie Zwegardt and Sherry Weeks.

In Bird City, only Frank Serrano and Loren White have filed for the position of city council. No one has filed for the Cheylin Board of Education.

Those filing will need to either pay a \$5 fee or submit a petition with the required amount of signatures. If the candidate is thinking of submitting a petition, he or she should check with the county clerk to find

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## Sainty schools receive awards

The State Department of Education has released the "Building Report Cards" which indicate how schools did on the Kansas Assessment tests compared to other schools in the state. St. Francis schools did very well.

"Several of our grades scored exceptionally well on the 2005-2006 assessment," said Rob Schiltz, assistant superintendent.

Each year schools across Kansas are required to administer the Kansas Assessments to students in various grades and subjects. Last school year, schools were required to give reading assessments in grades three through eight and grade 11, and math assessments in grades three through eight and grade 10. The state department uses a Standard of Excellence formula to recognize individual classes of students within a building for excellent performance on the tests.

They also recognize buildings for achieving the Standard of Excellence Award if individual class scores are high enough throughout the building to meet the requirements of the Building Standard of Excellence formula.

The individual classes receiving the 2005-2006 Standard of Excellence Award for the St. Francis Schools are as follows:

- 1) Fourth grade reading — teacher, Becky McAtee.
- 2) Seventh grade reading — teacher, Marti Schlittenhardt.
- 3) Seventh grade math — teacher, Carla Schiltz.
- 4) Eighth grade reading — teacher, Kathy Rainbolt.
- 5) Eighth grade math — teacher, Carla Schiltz.
- 6) Eleventh grade reading — teacher, David Morrow.

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## Additional honor presented in Salina

The St. Francis Schools were informed this past week of one additional honor as a result of the Kansas Assessment scores.

The Confidence in Kansas Public Education Task Force announced that St. Francis Junior-Senior High School has been awarded a Certificate of Merit for its performance on the 2005-2006 eighth-grade Kansas Mathematics Assessment.

Carla Schiltz is the instructor and noted that, while the recognition is nice, there are many teachers who work just as hard

and are equally qualified for the award.

The award will be officially presented to the school at a special banquet and ceremony in Salina on Jan. 31. Administrators, selected school board members and teachers will be invited to attend to receive this prestigious award.



Schiltz

## Students proud to be part of honored classes

A few of the students in the classes earning the Standard of Excellence award were asked what they thought when their class was given the award. They all said they were honored and Randee Grover went so far as to say she was surprised as well as being excited!

Drew Zwegardt, who was an eighth grader last year and in Carla Schiltz's math class, said he had learned everything he could and got the most out of the class. He has already found that what he learned last year has helped him



Zwegardt



Lucas



Schlepp



Grover

in Algebra I this year. Drew is the son of Darci Unger and Keith Zwegardt.

Brittany Lucas is a senior this year but her English teacher last year was David Morrow. What she learned most in the class was reading and re-

acting on the stories. She feels that her training in Mr. Morrow's class will help her in reading comprehension in college next year. Brittany is the daughter of Rick and Dawn Lucas.

Aubree Schleppe had Mari

Schlittenhardt in English last year. She said Mrs. Schlittenhardt was a good teacher and felt like she learned everything she needed to know when the tests were taken. "It really felt good to be in one of the winning classes," she said. Aubree is the daughter of Spencer and Lisa Schleppe.

Randee Grover's fifth grade teacher was Becky McAtee. She said she learned a lot in Mrs. McAtee's reading classes but, of course, she really likes to read. Randee is the daughter of Shannon and Raquel Grover.

## Gifts from the kitchen; recipes to share at cooking show

One of the greatest compliments any cook can receive is a request to share a special recipe.

Taste of Home knows people treasure recipes and they value the connection they feel with other cooks just like themselves, who want their families leaving the table full, happy and raving about their

meals now and for generations to come.

Taste of Home Cooking School brings great food and real people who take pride in what they cook together for an evening of sharing recipes and having fun.

A demonstration filled with 10 fresh springtime recipes is coming

to Goodland at 6:30 p.m. mountain time on Tuesday, Feb. 20, at Max Jones Fieldhouse when Taste of Home Cooking School and *The Goodland Star-News* present a culinary adventure to savor the flavors of the season.

Watch culinary specialist Kristi Larson prepare recipes you'll be

anxious to try at home and proud to share with family and friends.

Follow along in the complimentary *Taste of Home Cooking School Classic Cooking* magazine received in a gift bag. Listen for food-preparation tips and shortcuts, then wait to hear if your name is called to take home one of the dishes.

"Watching and winning are main ingredients of the cooking school experience," says Ms. Larson, "but I like to add a sprinkle of humor, too. I know you will come away with a batch of great recipes. There's sure to be one that will become your signature recipe for special gatherings."

Sheila Smith from *The Star-News* said they are expecting a crowd.

"Tickets are \$8 each and are available at *The Star-News*, *Colby Free Press*, *Norton Telegram*, *Oberlin Herald*, *The Saint Francis Herald* and *Western Times* in Sharon. See RECIPES on Page 7