

Storm spotter class scheduled, Awareness Week approaches

A storm spotter class will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 13, at the high school in St. Francis. Those unable to attend this class can also attend the Rawlins County class at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 12, at the Atwood Prairie Development Center; or at the Goodland Armory at 6:30 p.m. mountain daylight time on March 14 or the Dundy County class at 6:30 p.m. mountain daylight time on March 19 at the Benkelman High School.

Spotter classes are free and open to anyone with an interest in high plains severe weather. There is no age limit or special qualifications needed to become a spotter.

Storm spotters play a vital role during severe weather events. Spotters provide the ground truth that compliments information displayed on Doppler radar, two key components in the severe storm warning decision process. By assisting the National Weather Service in the dissemination of warn-

ing information, storm spotters provide a valuable public service to their local communities.

Each class will discuss severe storm safety, thunderstorm development and evolution, clouds and their meaning, severe weather events and reporting procedures. Classes will last about 2 1/4 hours.

There will be several advanced spotter classes in April. These classes will be open to anyone who has attended a basic spotter class within the past three years, and will go more in depth about storm types, evolution and movement.

Look for future announcements for class times and locations on our web site: www.weather.gov/goodland.

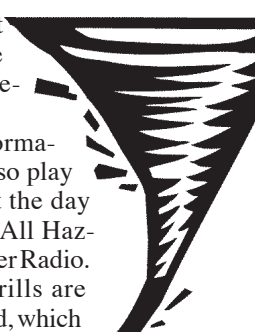
Severe Weather Awareness Week

Spring Severe Weather Awareness Weeks are also fast approaching. During those weeks, a series of daily public information statements will be issued, each covering a dif-

ferent facet of severe weather preparedness.

This information will also play throughout the day on NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio. Tornado drills are also planned, which will consist of a test Tornado Warning issued by our office. Schools and businesses should plan to use that time to review safety procedures and respond as if it were an actual warning.

In Kansas Severe Weather Awareness Week will be held March 12 through 16.



U.S. 36 CLOSED once again last Saturday as blizzard conditions hit the tri-state area. The highway was closed from Atwood both east and west bound.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

Haigler News

By Floy Ruggles



On Feb. 15, Karen Harford traveled to Denver to visit long time friends. She returned on Saturday the 17th after two days of doctor appointments and visiting.

Family members who attended the memorial service for Richard Wall at Haigler United Methodist Church on Feb. 22 included: Carol and Jay Flaming, Yuma, Colo.; Duane and LuAnn Wall, Cheyenne, Wyo; Jeannie and Alfred Zuege, Hot Springs, S.D.; Dwight Wall, Lewellen, Neb; MerryLu and Robert Simmons, Wray; Heather and Logan Klein, Yuma; Wendy and Blaine Lee, Yuma; Dustin, Christy, Sydney and Gracie Wall, Wray; Quentin and Tonya Simmons, Wray; Azure Wall, Charlie Rogers, Lincoln, Neb.; Jessica Wall, Bloomington, Ind.; Caleb, Sherrill and Allison Wall, Eustis, Neb; Lyndsay Wall, McCook, Neb. and fiance, Cody Laseter of Trenton, Neb.; Laurie, Randy, Laura, Madison and Spencer Perila of Westminster, Colo.; Kurt Zuege from Colorado Springs, Colo.; Virginia and LeRoy

Rathbun, Denver; Patricia Pickett, Golden, Colo.; Mike Rathbun, Denver; Royal and Helen Woods, Wray; Marcia Gustin, Cozad, Neb.; Woody and Stephanie Woods of Akron, Colo.; Bruce, Valerie, Brianna, Shelby and Seth Woods of Haigler; Donni Raye Clark, Greeley, Colo.; Kimberly Biegger, Erie, Colo.; Willie Wall of Benkelman, Neb.

Pastor Inez Foster of Ansley, Neb., visited Laura Pearl Wall and family last week. She returned to her home on Monday.

The respect this community had for Richard and Laura Pearl Wall and their family was expressed by the attendance at the memorial service for Richard, packing the church to capacity.

Dale and Dode Faylor met daughter Yvonne Clemons, of Burlington, at Goodland, and they traveled together to Abilene, the home of the Faylor's daughter, Sherri, on Friday, Feb. 16. The other daughter, Daneen Hilger, from Edgerton, was there. Some of the weekend was spent at Sherri's

daughter, Mindy Reynolds' home. All attended church with Sherri Sunday morning. After church Daneen went back to her home. Dale, Dode and Sherri returned to their homes on Monday. Daneen had kept an interesting journal of her trip with her husband, Phil, to China which she shared with the family. She also presented gifts, which they had brought from China, to her parents, brother, sisters and three nieces.

A Note from Elaine (Ritchey) Bird at haigler.blogspot.com

"I just found your website (The Haigler Blog) and it is great. I have been writing to Alice Gregory and her daughter Sherrie, who sent a picture of my Aunt Dorothy, Uncle Marlin and my dad, Wayne Ritchey.

"I appreciate all the info. I am still trying to find pictures of all of my Mom's side and stories of them when they lived and went to school at Haigler. I don't know much about my Dad's life when he was small or of his brother, Orral and sister, Dorothy. I grew up in St Francis. So if

others have pictures of my Dad or Mom's side of the family, I would be happy to see them or stories about them as they were children. I am working on my genealogy spiral notebooks and filling in all the family information in them. Have a lot of info but some have missing dates and names. I know that my grandparents' lived near Haigler. Dad took us out there to see where the sod house was and then home-stead. Not much left of the original home. Since Dad passed away in 2003 I have made this my project to find out as much info as I can for family, my children and grandchildren. Would appreciate any help that can be found so I will have a record of it for our future generations. Thank you so much. Elaine (Ritchey) Bird

If anyone has any information to share with Elaine you can call 308-297-3605 for information on how to contact her or e-mail to: sgregory1@neb.rr.com

Disaster application signup nears for crops

Bill R. Fuller, state executive director for the Kansas Farm Service Agency, reminds producers that March 15 is the application closing date for certain crops under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). Crops eligible for NAP benefits are limited to those not insurable in the county and are produced for food or fiber. March 15 is the final date to pay the applicable service fee and obtain NAP coverage for coarse grains, vegetable and melon crops, Amaranth, Chestnuts, Cotton, Pecans, Pumpkins, Safflower, Sesame, Squash, and Walnuts. The administrative service fee is \$100 per crop per administrative county not to exceed \$300 per producer per administrative county and a \$900 maximum fee for multi-county producers. Interested producers must pay the fee and file form CCC-471, Application for Coverage, by the application closing deadline. This coverage entitles eligible producers

to a payment of 55 percent of an average market price for the commodity if a natural disaster caused a 50 percent production loss or greater of an eligible crop. In the unfortunate event that a producer does suffer a loss on their particular crop, a form CCC-576, Notice of Loss, must be filed with FSA within 15 calendar days after the disaster occurrence, or the date the loss becomes apparent to the producer. Producers are limited to \$100,000 in benefits per person per crop year, they must certify crop acres by applicable deadlines, maintain production evidence for 3 years, not exceed the \$2 million gross revenue provisions, and must comply with conservation compliance provisions in order to be eligible. Interested producers shall contact their local Farm Service Agency at the USDA Service Center prior to the March 15 application closing date to obtain NAP coverage.

Club Clip

Classy Classics Red Hatters

December Christmas meeting
The Main Street Coffee House was the Dec. 5 setting for the Red and Purple Hat Ladies of St. Francis known as the Classy Classics. And yes, everyone was dressed in their holiday finest — red and purple.

The group of 22 ladies enjoyed a very delicious meal planned by Liz Weber, hostess. Red Hat purse calendars and calendar refrigerator magnets were placed at each table setting, a gift from Liz.

Christmas music was provided by the St. Francis High School Music Department, under the direction of Deb Fiala, and was enjoyed by all.

A short business meeting was conducted. It was voted that the Red Hatters would give the music department \$100 to aid the students going to Europe this summer. For the music students performing at the meeting, and those in the class, a theatre ticket was given to each student.

January meeting

The January meeting of the St. Francis Red Hatters (Classy Classics) was a noon soup and sandwich luncheon at the Main Street Coffee House, on Jan. 16. The 11:30 luncheon was enjoyed by 23 Red Hatters.

The tables were decorated in red and purple with Red Hatters napkins and mints.

Adventures at sea

Six members of the Classy Classics or the Red Hatters of St. Francis, joined 134 ladies (Red Hatters) from Colorado, Oklahoma

and Kansas in Wichita on Feb. 4. These ladies, Arlene Walz, Lois Leydig, Ruth Reynolds, Colleen Gardner, Liz Weber and Rose Mary Bierig, joined the group in Wichita for a seven-day cruise to Cozumel and Progreso Yucatan Islands of Mexico.

The group of 140 ladies were bused to Galveston, Texas, where they boarded the Carnival Cruise Ship "Ecstasy."

The former Norma Orsborn, who once lived in St. Francis, and two of Rose Mary's sisters-in-law from Oklahoma were with the tour.

Excluding sea sickness and a few minor happening, the group had a grand time. The tour was with Village Tours of Wichita.

The ship was overrun with 140 women wearing purple with red hats. The ladies were asked by others if they could take their pictures.

One little girl, about 8-years old, said "When I get old I want to dress like that too."

They were a very colorful sight.

Valentine meeting

Eleven Red Hatters "The Classy Classics" enjoyed a delicious dinner on Feb. 11 at the Peace Lutheran Church in St. Francis.

This is a very nice social event prepared and served by the Luther League and parents. The room looked very festive, decorated in the valentine motif.

Other members of the Red Hatters were present, but choose to eat with family members.

A very nice evening was enjoyed by all.

Congratulation to our 2007 Indian Wrestlers

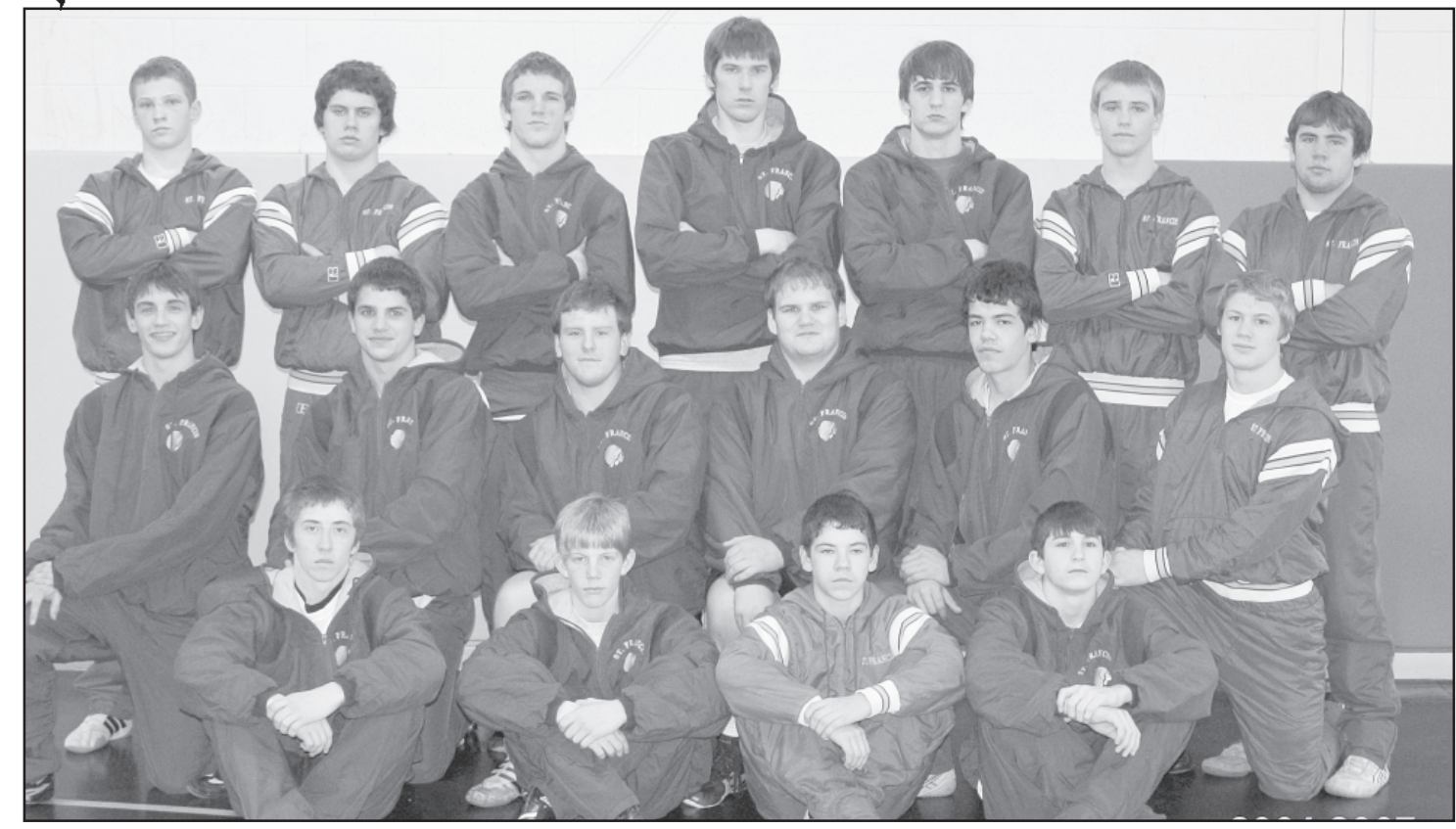


Photo courtesy of Talley's Portrait Photography



Jordan Gienger - 152 lbs
1st Place • Senior



Brennon Wilger - 285 lbs.
2nd Place • Senior



Russell Rogers - 171 lbs.
5th Place • Junior



Gavin Smull - 130 lbs.
6th Place • Senior

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- Theron & Carolyn Culwell
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- Owens True Value
- Park Hill Restaurant & Lounge
- Pizza Hut
- Brett Poling Chiropractic
- Dr. Tim & Margaret Poling
- Republican Valley Vet Clinic
- Bud & Marla Rice
- Kenneth & Janet Roberson
- Rick & Linda Rogers
- Ross Manufacturing
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- Marlin & Annabelle Rueb
- St. Francis Equity
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- Stuart's Jewelry
- Dr. Pat & Bonnie Stuart
- Talley's Portrait Photography
- Unger Chiropractic Clinic
- United Methodist Thrift Store
- Video Connection
- Video Kingdom
- Gale & Mary Walz
- Wiese Angus Farm - Kip & Deone Wiese
- Carl Werner
- Western Sprinklers
- Wheeler Equity
- Betty Jean Winston



Volunteers hold potluck

Hospice volunteers met at the Peace Lutheran Church on Jan. 29 for a noon potluck meal and presentation entitled "Nuts and Bolts of Hospice."

The meeting was hosted by Pastor Ken Hart and Alice Lampe. The speakers was Amanda McKenzie, area volunteer director. Volunteers present were John Bartlett, Donna Northrup, Dulcie Henderson and Edith Walters.

The next meeting will be held at 11:30 a.m. on March 5 at the Catholic Church, with a potluck meal and presentation.

