



'Chief' will be missed by students and parents

A new school year has started. Most of the same teachers and staff will be there to greet students as they come through the classroom doors. However, there will be a change in the superintendent's office.

Carl Werner, after 30 years, as superintendent, has stepped down and Rob Schiltz is there in his place.

Mr. Werner just "slipped out" of the office with no bells and whistles, no tributes or going-away parties. That was how he wanted it and that was how he ran the school all those years — in a quiet way, making sure the students had the best education possible by providing them a safe, well-kept facility and good teachers.

Often called "Chief" by students and staff, he was the solid, quiet figure who cared about them like they were his family. He was sad when the school year ended and happy when it started back up again.

He helped plan the track and the new wrestling room at the high school but, at the same time, made sure there were adequate funds to run the school. In his last years as superintendent, he would have liked to see a second gym added to the high school. This gym would have replaced the gym in the grade school where B-team games were played, and, if large enough, would have given St. Francis the opportunity to hold some regional wrestling and sub-state basketball tournament.

He guided the board when they began purchasing the last activity bus for the school. It is a nice, safe bus. There were people who criticized the cost but the kids can now travel to activities, whether it be sports, music or other events, in comfort. It even has a monitor where students can watch their fa-

vorite CD or DVD.

Mr. Werner, through the years, had learned a lot about activity buses. He would grin everytime he referred to the "Pickle," which was a big bus they painted "Indian green." Everyone knew St. Francis kids were there just by seeing the green bus in the parking area.

Mr. Werner had some difficult decisions to make. One of them was when the school's enrollment had dropped to where it was no longer financially feasible to have two teachers for each of the elementary grades. Those teachers who had taught long enough to take their benefits were asked to retire and they were then rehired as part-time. Mr. Werner also took this same route and retired, only to be rehired as part-time. There were many years when he did not take a pay increase, but made sure that the teachers had at least a cost-of-living raise.

When Mr. Werner was getting ready to retire, the board hired Mr. Schiltz to train under him. Because this was going to be an additional expense to the school, Mr. Werner, who was already on very limited pay, volunteered to work for practically nothing so Mr. Schiltz could easily step into the job. Mr. Schiltz, after he took over, said that he could not imagine what it would have been like if Mr. Werner had not helped him.

Now that school has started, Mr. Werner may not be in the superintendent's office but, when a contract was broken several weeks ago, there was a vacancy in the teaching staff and he stepped up to the plate. Until there is a replacement, he will help supervise the weight-lifting classes. — Again, always with the good of the students and the school in mind.

— Karen Krien



News From the Past

10 years ago - 1997

On Friday, Aug. 8, volunteers will go to the Bandel farm and help Tom, Mike and Matt pick two pickup loads or approximately 1,800 roasting ears. They will be brought to St. Francis where they will be unloaded at Ed Schultz's building and the St. Francis senior citizens will husk and clean them. This is just part of the preparation for the annual free-will barbecue held on Saturday evening at the fair.

Robyn Raile is the new high school secretary.

The 4-H Style Revue was held on Monday evening. First place winner in the Fashion Revue, junior division, was Andrea Knodel with Jamie Dunn placing second. In the senior division, Jennifer Henderson won first place and Katie Keller came in second.

Myra Miller, McDonald, was both the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Queen and the Tri-State Antique Auto Club Queen.

Erin Day, the 1997 Thresher Prin-

cess, pitched the first bundle of wheat into the threshing machine in Bird City during the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show.

35 years ago 1972

Neighbors, friends and members of the St. Francis Garden Club gathered at the northwest corner of the Howard T. Sawhill Park Friday evening to pay tribute to Glenn Zwegardt, his family and parents, for his gift of ornamental sculpture to the park and the city.

Travelers help out during fire

As a community, we are often known for being kind and doing well to outsiders who pass through. You remember the many letters shared after the Thanksgiving storm of 2005 when our community housed and fed several hundred people stranded by the weather. We often act out the biblical command to practice hospitality as we never know when we might be "entertaining angels without knowing it." Many of us do that, without knowing that such a verse of scripture exists or where we might find it. How often do we find some of these kind acts returned by the people from outside our community toward us?

A week ago on Wednesday night or early Thursday morning, we were blessed with a fantastic rain. Along with it was a lot of thunder

Letters to the Editor

and lightning. Mary and I were awakened at five in the morning by some people trying to pound our front door in. As we opened the door, a fellow stepped right in and said, "You have a fire!" Yes, we did. We think lightening hit one of the vehicles that was parked just in front of the house and caused both to burn. This motorcyclist and his two companions were from Ohio and were riding their motorcycles through the Midwest on their way to Colorado Springs. They began spraying the pickup and the car parked by it with water as we called the fire department. Thanks to these wonderful volunteers, only the vehicles were lost. The house was not

harmed nor was there any loss of life. While we will try and say "thank you" to our local fellows in another way, we did not even get the names of these three men who helped save our day. They could easily have driven past and thought our fire was of no concern to them. Sometimes people stereotype motorcycle riders in a negative way. From now on, we will be sure to give a friendly wave to cyclists and other people passing through as they may just be people waiting to help their fellow man in some way. The last words from these fellows were, "the Lord was with you." Yes, we feel that He was.

Norman Morrow

Hangin' With Marge

Husband's really do listen

By Margaret Bucholtz



This is to let the wives know that sometimes the husbands really do listen to what we say.

Kurt is a wonderful husband, but there are times when I am sure he doesn't listen to anything I tell him. However like all husbands they do have this thing about selective hearing and I experienced this a couple of weeks ago.

One morning when he was getting

ready for work I told him that I had heard on the Today Show that women who are over 50 build better bone mass by gardening than even women who run, walk or do acrobatics. He really didn't respond but that isn't anything different than any other morning.

Several days later he came home and I told him I was so tired that I had been pulling weeds and had three

wheelbarrows full.

I was a little shocked as he never looked up from the TV but said, "That is good, your bone mass should be growing." I really think I was waiting for words like, I noticed the yard looks great, but instead I got to hear the words I had told him!

I guess they do listen, even if you really don't want them too.

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



I'm going to get up on my pulpit. But I hope I'm preaching to the choir.

This is to the parents out there. Did you notice that the kids went back to school this week?

The tables have turned. Rather than having kids laying on the sofa eating a bag of chips, now they are lined up in rows of desks doing their studies.

The teachers and students may not be thrilled about the change, but for most parents, it's good to have empty homes during the day.

Back to my sermon.

The schools in this county deserve attention on the great job they

do in preparing our kids for the future.

I grew up in the Jefferson County schools in metropolitan Denver during the 1960s and 1970s. At the time, it was the largest school district in Colorado and had a good number of students graduating.

For the most part, I was ready for college. One problem was that the schools I attended were huge, compared to Cheylin and St. Francis. I often felt that I was a "number" and easily floated through classes doing minimal work.

There is an advantage to smaller schools. If a child is willing to put

in the effort, they will have more opportunities to succeed.

From a personal standpoint, I was a substitute teacher in Bird City for the first couple years I lived here. I was impressed with the school's system and I think the state requirements for graduation are above average. The same can be said for St. Francis School.

Our schools are doing a quality job and, as with most things in life, our kids will get out of it what they put into it.

Senior band has anniversary

This is a 35th anniversary tribute to the Swinging Senior Band that was organized by Edie and Carroll Reed.

The band plays all over the eastern plains of Colorado and also Kansas and Nebraska. They play for hospitals, nursing homes, weddings, anniversaries, dances and other concerns for the older people.

One wedding party the bride was 88 and the groom was 93 years old.

Twenty-four players have ex-

pired since the band started.

The hospital and nursing home staffs tell us our band is "Number 1" with the residents.

Over the years Edie and Carroll have worn out two new cars transporting the band members to and from hospitals and nursing homes. Edie has held many residents and

wiped many tears as they have expired.

My mother was one that died in Edie's arms.

We all hope they will continue the band as long as possible.

Sincerely Janet Monsito Elizabeth, Colo.

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Beverly Kite, Benkelman, Neb.; Sue Propp, Albany, Ore.; Loren Watson, Aurora, Colo.; Dixie Magley, Bird City; Robert Van Allen, Wheeler; Inez Bargo, St. Francis; Jeff Olofson, St. Francis; Lisa Krull, Hays.

GOD SAYS

Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

I Peter 5:5-7

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<p>St. Francis Community Church 332-3150 204 N. Quincy Street www.sfccfamily.com Pastor: David Butler Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Potluck & Communion - Every 2nd Sunday Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Solid Rock Baptist Church 412 S. Denison Welcomes You Pastor Allen Coon Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting, Wed. 7:30 p.m.</p>	