

New

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ton, Neb. She said she was always interested in the medical field but it was her family physician assistant who introduced and encouraged her to pursue a career in medicine. She attended the University of Nebraska, Omaha, where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology.

Many will remember Ms. Neuhalfen as she was in Cheyenne County this summer completing a preceptorship. She worked with Dr. Mary Beth Miller and was very impressed with the doctor and felt fortunate to be able to work with her.

Ms. Neuhalfen will be working with Dr. Allard in the obstetrics department as well as seeing patients in the clinics and hospital.

The son of Cliff and Judy Raile, rural St. Francis, Tyler was born and raised in St. Francis, graduating from St. Francis Community High School. He went on to earn a bachelor's degree in biology at Bethany College in Lindsborg.

He said Patrick Delano had played an important role in lead-

ing him to a career in medicine. While spending some time with his sister, Lisa, he took the emergency medical technician course and worked with paramedics. This also encouraged him to further his medical career.

While Kristle was in St. Francis this summer, Tyler was working with an orthopedic group in Colorado Springs. Along with his other duties, he will be working with orthopedic patients and in men's health.

Both physician assistants have worked in a number of rural hospitals and say the Cheyenne County Hospital is one of the most modern and well equipped hospitals.

"This was one of the reasons we decided to come to St. Francis," they said.

The couple said none of the rural hospitals they had worked in had the new electronic medical record equipment which is a small flat computer used by the staff. They said this equipment is much more efficient than using paper records

and felt that the staff's transition to the electronic equipment went very smoothly, noting that it has only been a year since it was introduced at the hospital.

Ms. Neuhalfen's mother is a deputy county clerk in Dodge County; her father is a project manager for a construction company in Omaha. She has a sister who is a chemical engineer in Wisconsin and a brother who is a sophomore at Doane College in Crete, Neb. She also has an aunt who is a physician in Seattle.

Mr. Raile's siblings are working in the medical field. His brother Reed lives in St. Francis and is an emergency medical technician; his sister Lisa is a physical therapist. He also has a cousin who is in med school.

The couple enjoys traveling, hunting and fishing. Kristle also likes to run.

They will be part of the open house at the hospital in November. Everyone is urged to stop by and meet them.



TRAVELERS DRIVING THROUGH Cheyenne County have seen numerous combines harvesting corn and sunflowers. This field of corn west of Wheeler is being harvested by Stan Krien.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

COACH

Continued from Page 1
son Bill). Among the State-title holders are an incredible number of 91 additional state medalists.

Coach Gabel's high school coaching success has earned him outstanding recognition throughout his career. Six times he was awarded the Kansas Wrestling Coaches Association 3-2-1A Coach of the Year in 1978, 1979, 1980, 1991, 1995 and 2005. Two times he was Kansas Coaches Association's Kansas Wrestling Coach of the Year for all classes in 1991 and 2001. Also in 2001, he was the National Coaches Association's Regional Wrestling Coach of the Year which includes a six-state area and he was nominated for National Wrestling Coach of the Year.

Coach Gabel's teams have included four Kansas Wrestling Coaches Association 3-2-1A Outstanding Senior Wrestler awards, four High School All-Americans, eight Collegiate National placers, one Junior College National Champ, one athlete inducted into the National Junior College Hall of Fame, one Pan-American silver medalist, and three wrestlers who represented the USA on Cultural Exchange Teams.

Coach Gabel's influence on young athletes and wrestling extends beyond his 32 years of coaching. For over 15 years, he has coached the USA Wrestling Kansas Junior National Team and has served as the Kansas Wrestling Coaches Association president or as the 3-2-1A Association's representative during his entire coaching career.

Coach Gabel has served as a model for many — "...always, always have your priorities right — God first, family second, school third and then wrestling or the sport you're engaged in. When priorities are out of order, then problems arise," he said.

He went on to say, "without the support of my family, none of the honors would have been possible. My wife Beth has been supportive and a driving force behind the scenes."

Brandi, his daughter, followed her father into education after years of supporting Dad and little brothers from gym to gym without com-

plaint. Bill is currently the head wrestling coach at Pine Creek High School in Colorado Springs and Kelly is in his fourth year of medical school.

Included in the family is Mr. Gabel's longtime assistant at St. Francis, Steve Jenkins.

"He was my loyal assistant for 30 years. His two sons Scott and Gabe, were just part of our family," he said. "Between our two families, the boys Bill, Kelly, Scott and Gabe won 12 state championships."

There were others recognized at the banquet on Saturday who people in the area may remember.

They include: Andy Niemczyk, coach, Beloit; Travis Baker, assistant coach, Manhattan; Kirk Baker, coach, Hoxie.

Coach Gabel left St. Francis in 2006 to take the position of high school assistant principal and the activities director, in the Colby High School. Along with his coaching duties, he had been principal of the grade school for 22 years.

While in St. Francis he was an emergency medical technician for 23 years and headed the Cheyenne County Emergency Medical Service for 16 years.

GIFT

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in a barbershop quartet, church vocal and bell choirs and family music specials. He played his ukulele while family and friends joined in many sing-a-longs. He also enjoyed attending musical and drama productions, especially when family members were participating.

Mr. Kramer died Sept. 27, 2006, at the age of 78. He was born north of Bird City and graduated from Bird City High School. He was inducted into the Army in 1954.

When he returned to Bird City, he married Twila Underwood and they had four daughters, Kellee, Natalie, Lisa and Paula. Mr. Kramer worked for Riddell Furniture and

Funeral Home, and, eventually, the Kramers became owners, changing the name to Kramer Furniture and Funeral Home.

"The arts program is important to the Kramer family as well as the school," said Mr. Schiltz. "The stage has needed new curtains for several years and the Kramers' gift will be appreciated for many years to come."

The auditorium has been remodeled in steps using memorial funds donated to the school. It is one of the nicer auditoriums in the area.



SEASON

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This year, he said he is pleased with the pheasant numbers in most areas, predicting the population is up significantly despite a hard winter.

In Cheyenne County, hunters can purchase licenses from K-Store and Majestic Service, both located on U.S. 36, St. Francis; as well as from the Cheyenne County Clerk at the courthouse in St. Francis, 212 E. Washington Street, St. Francis.

History of the bird

Ringneck pheasants were first introduced in Kansas with the release of 3,000 birds in 84 counties in the spring of 1906, according to a history from the state Department

average of 225 and 260 bushels per acre.

"The rain we had this year improved yields from past year's in dryland corn and helped mitigate some pumping costs on irrigated corn," Ms. Falk said.

The sunflower fields have turned from golden yellow to ugly brown. Ms. Falk said the irrigated sunflower yields were close to average although they were impacted this year by insects and stem diseases.

"The sustained winds prior to and during harvest caused some 'sunflower lodging' which is due

to some insect damage from the sunflower stem borer and from a stem disease called phoma and phomopsis," she said.

Joe Leibbrandt, Cheyenne County Extension Agent, said pastures are in much better shape than in year's past.

Farmers have pretty well wrapped up the wheat drilling. There was some redrilling this year because of the heavy rains and crusted soil. Much of the wheat is up and there is a good stand, however, this area could sure use some rain.

of Wildlife and Parks. The species adapted well to the state's climate conditions and populations gradually increased.

Season

The first pheasant season in Kansas was opened statewide in 1917 from Dec. 1-15. Pheasant season was closed from 1921 to 1931 but limited seasons on ringnecks resumed in 1932.

Seasons were gradually liberated over the next five decades until a stabilized season format opening the second Saturday in November was instituted in 1982.

The season runs through Jan. 31, with a bag limit of four cocks per day until last year.

Last year, the pheasant season opened on the first Saturday in November and ran through the end of January. The daily bag limit did not change.

Bag limit

The bag limit, or the number of birds a hunter can shoot in a day is four cocks at the end of day one; eight at the end of day two; 12 at the end of day three and 16 after the fourth day.

While hunters are transporting the birds, they must make sure they have plumage or a foot attached to identify them as cocks.

Hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

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