

On the Plains

Beecher Island News

By Bessie Dent



There were 49 at Sunday school. Perry Allen and Jessica Willard each gave special numbers. Trevor Hurlburt and Logan Willard gave their birthday offerings.

Mary E. Allen, Judy Shively, Mary J. Allen and Doris Osmus went to Holyoke for lunch Saturday to help Doris celebrate her birthday.

New Year's Day dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Allen

were Mr. and Mrs. Jim Mertens and Jessica and Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Hurlburt and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Hurlburt and family spent the Christmas week in Johnson with Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Hurlburt then this past week they visited Mr. and Mrs. Travis Allen and family in Colorado Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. Walt Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Smith were Sunday, Dec. 30, guests of Mr. and

Mrs. Matt Johnson and family in Aurora. They brought Hannah and Matt home with them to spend a few days. They were celebrating their post-Christmas diner.

Mr. and Mrs. Danny Brown and family were this Sunday afternoon visitors of Violet Brown for their Christmas gift exchange.

Mr. and Mrs. Pete Osmus were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bowman and family in Parachute, Colo., for their belated Christmas

Thursday and Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Todd Novak, Cade and Brittany, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Jackson, Jake and Raygan and Mr. and Mrs. Ron Scott were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Mansfield, Ellen Mansfield joined them Saturday for their belated Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Kinnear were Saturday and Sunday guests of Nettie May Welton.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Soehner and Phil Heath were Monday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Strangways.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Allen and Dennis Allen were New Year's Eve guests of Mr. and Mrs. Rex Shaver.

Trevor and Garrett Hurlburt spent Saturday afternoon with Mr.

and Mrs. Harvey Allen.

Thursday evening Mr. and Mrs. Bill Stroh and Jake, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Allen and Bill Hull enjoyed a music jam session at Mr. and Mrs. Rowe Shivelys.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Smith were New Year's Day dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Walt Smith.

Thursday visitors of Nettie May Welton were Mr. and Mrs. Roger Wieser and Katie and Roberta Helling.

Monte and Gary Mansfield visited Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mansfield Tuesday and Friday. Mr. and Mrs. Gary Mansfield and Mr. and Mrs. Todd Novak, Cade and Brittany were visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Wieser and Katie were Thursday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Strangways.

Mr. and Mrs. Quentin Simmons were Friday visitors of Nettie May Welton.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dent were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Brown and Riley.

Rev. and Mrs. Jackson were Sunday afternoon visitors of Nettie May Welton.

Enjoying the Christmas until New Year's week at Branson, Mo., were Mr. and Mrs. Rowe Shively, Major and Mrs. James Kennedy and family, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Bowman and family, Mr. and Mrs. Tyler Bond and Devin, Maranda and Todd Shively, Carol Whomble and Daren.

Haigler News

By Floy Ruggles



Mike Pihlgren, grandson of Gerald and Betty Myer, is in a hospital in Germany following an injury during a suicide bomb attack in Iraq. He suffered some light brain damage but they think he will be all right. He is with Special Forces.

Deloris Zuege spent most of the month of December visiting her daughter and husband, Louise and Harry Thomsen, in Watts, Okla. Their four children live nearby and stopped in occasionally while Deloris was there to visit their parents - and grandmother.

One of the nice things about being in the hospital is receiving cards and letters from folk who enjoy the same things you

do. Laura Pearl Wall received a telephone call from Dallas Adams of Camano Island, Wash., on Sunday. Dallas is interested in the goings on of Haigler and the 67 South Schoolhouse project was the topic of the conversation. Weekend visitors included Tonya and Quentin Simmons, Royal and Helen Woods, MerryLu and Bob Simmons, Dusty Wall and Willie Wall.

Ray and Floy Ruggles were dinner guests of Mel and Norma Fisher at their home south of Laird on Sunday, Jan. 13. After dinner, Mel entertained them with a slide show of the Christmas activities with Norma's family in Juarez, Mexico. Mel had spent his

Christmas vacation there basking in the sunshine, escaping the cold and snow.

Sherri Gregory, the Haigler Blog editor, is proposing a story contest for the Blog. It begins now. During the week of Feb. 17 to Feb. 23 readers will vote for the best story. Saturday Night in Haigler is the subject to write about. If you have a good story you would like to share but do not have internet access to the www.haigler.blogspot.com, contact Ray or Floy Ruggles at 297-3605 or someone else you know that would be willing to submit it for you.

Idalia News

By Angela DeLeon



Marlene Miller and Denice Baucke will be back on Jan. 30 from 9-11a.m. at the Prairie Vista Cafe! Hope to see you there. This is a free service so please stop in!

Committee News

The Idalia School Accountability Committee will meet Monday, Jan. 28 at 6 pm in the Superintendent's Office. The Accountability Committee serves as a link between parents, community and school. Anyone with comments or concerns may attend the meeting or contact a committee member. Members to contact are Sandi Waitman, Steve Knodel, Linda Evans, Crystal Juhnke, Nancy Helling, Jeff Hurlburt and Kathy Wiley.

Idalia weather by Tom Mandis for Dec. 2007: average high, 34.3; average low, 10.9; warmest day, 72 on Dec. 5; coolest day, -5 on Dec. 16; precipitation for month, 1.2 inches; precipitation for year, 17.45 inches.

Women's Fellowship will have a sewing night on Wednesday, Jan 23 at 5:30 p.m. Bring finger food. Anyone who likes to sew is welcome to come.

Family Community Education will have a meeting Thursday, Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. Hostesses will be Sheryl and Laura. Installation of officers and sign up for committees and refreshments for the year is planned for the night.

Idalia School news:

Artist in Residence High School on Jan. 17.

Starting to go full days until 3:30 Monday -Friday to make sure they have enough days just in case they get bad weather before winter is over.

Also, there is no school Monday Jan. 21 for Idalia students, so enjoy a three day weekend.

Basketball game at Hi-Plains will start at 4 p.m. Junior High, Junior Varsity, V plays Friday, Jan. 18. and Saturday, Jan. 19 a game with Arickaree at 2 p.m. Junior High, Junior Varsity, and Varsity games.

After Prom Pitch Party will be Jan. 20 at the Homestead Building starting at 4-8 p.m. Anyone needing tickets can call Sherri Ramseier or Cyndie Weyermer for more information 354-7298.

FFA Day at National Western Stock Show will be on Jan. 22.

Plain Sense

Plain Sense from High Plains Mental Health Center

Students Mental Health

In 1999, the US Surgeon General reported that one in five children and adolescents will experience a significant mental health problem during their education years. When students experience mental health problems, conflicts with peers and adults increase, completion of schoolwork decreases, and students who are struggling emotionally and behaviorally are more likely to drop out of school. Research shows that students with good mental health are more successful in school.

It is important that school administrators promote school climates that support positive mental health, including training for all staff on emotional and behavioral needs of students, the early warning signs of problems, and policies and procedures when those

reach crisis proportions. School mental health professionals such as school psychologists, should have specific training in school systems, educational learning theories, school law, and intervention and prevention in school environments. When other community-based professionals provide services for students, they should coordinate closely with their school counterparts.

Prevention programs designed for students, or that target students who are at risk for failure, need to be a part of any school mental health program. Examples of these include school violence prevention, bullying prevention, social skills training, developmental asset building, conflict resolution, and social norming campaigns. Along with formal means of assessing students, such as depression screenings, informal approaches also need to be encour-

aged. Checking in with certain students, and observing and listening to student interactions in the lunchroom and hallways can help determine on a daily basis how everyone is doing. Emotional issues and crisis in the school setting are inevitable. Having staff that are well informed and trained about mental health issues will result in calm, caring interactions with students and everyone involved.

Contributed by Karen Schueler, MS, LCPC, Manager, Consultation and Education Dept.

The views expressed here are those of the individual writer and should not be considered a replacement for seeking professional help.

Mail questions to: High Plains Mental Health Center, Plain Sense, Consultation and Education Department, 208 East 7th, Hays, KS 67601

Book Review

Book review from St. Francis Public Library

What Matters Most

By Bernadette Rice

Sister Bernadette Ignatius has returned to Ireland in the company of Tom Kelly to search for the past - and the son - they left behind. For it was here that these two long-ago lovers spent a season of magic before Bernadette's calling led her to a vocation as Mother Superior at Star of the Sea Academy on the sea-tossed Connecticut shore. For Tom, Bernadette's choice meant giving up his fortune and taking the job as caretaker at Star of the Sea, where he could be close to the woman he could no longer have but whom he never stopped loving. And while one miracle drew them apart, another is about to bring them together again.

For somewhere in Dublin a young man named Seamus Sullivan is also on a search, dreaming of being reunited with his own first love, the only "family" he's ever known. They'd been inseparable growing up together at St. Augustine's Children's Home, until Kathleen Murphy's

parents claimed her and she vanished across the sea to America. Now, in a Newport mansion, that very girl, grown to womanhood, works as a maid and waits with a faith that defies all reason for the miracle that will bring back the only boy she's ever loved.

That miracle is at hand - but like most miracles, it can come only after the darkest of nights and the deepest of heartbreaks. For life can be as precarious as a walk along a cliff, and its greatest rewards reached only by those who dare to risk everything...for what matters most.

Public Notice Notice to creditors in Hixon Estate

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CHEYENNE COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of

PAULINE L. HIXON, Deceased

Case No: 2008-PR-02

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on January 2, 2008, a Petition for Probate of Will and Issuance of Letters Testamentary was filed in this Court by Joseph Charles Hixon, a/k/a J. C. Hixon, an heir, devisee and legatee, and executor named in the Last Will and Testament of Pauline L. Hixon, deceased.

All creditors of the decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the latter of four months from the date of first publication of notice under K.S.A. 59-2236 and amendments thereto, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Joseph Charles Hixon, a/k/a J. C. Hixon, Petitioner

MICHAEL J. DAY, #8523
KITE & DAY
112 W. Washington, P.O. Box 575
St. Francis, KS 67756
(785) 332-3323
Attorney for Petitioner

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