

Couple talks about miracles and faith during tornado

By Linda Schneider
dublins@hotmail.com

Lynn Glasco said, "I have lived my whole life on the midwest plains, but I have never seen a tornado." Even on the evening of March 28, when a tornado that measured a half a mile across destroyed the house he and Candy, his wife, had lived in for 15 years.

Both Lynn and Candy said, "March 28 was a day of miracles." That was a strange thing to say coming from two people who had lost their home in a matter of minutes. However, on that particular evening and with that particular tornado, they witnessed things that could only be explained as miracles.

When Lynn and Candy returned home from church activities early that evening, reports had placed the tornado to pass right through the town of Bird City. They knew that the town residents were praying fervently for the tornado to pass by, Lynn and Candy were also praying for the safety of Bird City.

While talking on the telephone with their son, Terry, the phone went dead and the electricity went off. Without any form of communication, Lynn and Candy were still praying for Bird City, believing the tornado was headed toward Bird City, cutting a path through town going northwest. However,

they had no idea the tornado had suddenly turned northeast away from Bird City, and was now headed toward their own farm!

Still unaware that the tornado's path had turned toward them, they wanted to look out the window to get a glimpse of the tornado from a distance. As they watch the sky, not knowing the tornado was headed right toward them, Candy said, "We both felt a warning at the same time to go down into the basement."

Being people of faith they trusted that warning, went down into the basement and waited.

Above them, the tornado did what tornadoes are known for: destruction. However, in the basement Lynn and Candy felt sheltered and protected, not even hearing the roar that is typical of a tornado as it moved overhead.

The only thing they noticed was the smell of cedar and thought the windows had been blown out. In the quietness of that basement, together they gave thanks for the protection of Bird City residents and sang hymns.

The last time a tornado came through the Glasco farm was in the 1940s and the windmill was the only thing it took. As Lynn and Candy opened up the basement door, it was dark and they could not clearly see. Using a flashlight, they saw straw blowing down



Celebrating Christmas - Lynn and Candy Glasco hung ornaments on their tree in their new home.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

the stairs leading up to the second floor. As they climbed up the stairs, they saw sky where a roof had been. They knew not much of their farm was left standing.

Still, their faith led them to be grateful, even when all hope of rebuilding their farm was gone.

Today, Lynn and Candy live in Bird City in a home they have recently purchased. A home, they

both agree, where the timing of its vacancy was in perfect timing with their need.

The Glascos lost their house to a tornado in a matter of minutes and in the process received a stronger faith, more gratitude in the things that matter most, and experienced the power of miracles.

Extension Notes

Heifer development strategies to increase profit

I always find new things or ideas intriguing. Some new ideas are interesting. Some of them are just weird, and sometimes the same old way is the best way. No matter what though, always be ready to try new ideas. They just might work, and they just might make you money.

I recently attended the Range Beef Cow Symposium in Fort Collins. There were many interesting speakers that provided valuable information and challenged our thinking. One of those speakers was Rick Funston from Nebraska. He spoke on heifer development and how it has changed over the years.

Much of the past work conducted in the late 1960s and early

1980s indicated that only when heifers reach their target weight can high pregnancy rates be obtained. This established the guideline (that many cattlemen have used for years) that replacement heifers should be developed to 60 - 65 percent of their expected mature body weight by the time breeding starts in order to reach puberty. However major changes in cattle genetics and economy, indicate that traditional heifer development strategies should be reevaluated. In short, developing heifers to 60 - 65 percent of body weight may maximize pregnancy rates, but not profitability or sustainability. Record high corn and fuel prices have greatly increased heifer development costs. Aren't

we in the cattle business to make money? As cattlemen, maybe we should consider changing some of our traditional practices.

Also, think about the change in genetics. Cattle have changed a lot in the last 50 years in some good and not so good ways. Nonetheless these changes have impacted heifer development. In the 1980's the association between scrotal circumference in bulls and age of puberty in their female offspring was identified. Since that time there has been great change in this area, and now heifers reach puberty at earlier ages.

There are other studies that indicate developing heifers to a certain body weight is not as important as once thought. I don't want

to bore you with all the research. But, most studies showed that age at the beginning of the breeding season was more critical for a successful pregnancy than was body weight. Finally, the results indicate a savings of \$22 per pregnant heifer when heifers were developed under the restricted level of feeding. These studies indicate an opportunity to improve efficiency and decrease production costs by decreasing amount and/or quality of harvested feeds used for heifer development.

If you would like more information on heifer development strategies, please contact the extension office.

Odd Facts

- The name Jeep came from the abbreviation used in the army for the "General Purpose" vehicle, G.P.
- The highest point in Pennsylvania is lower than the lowest point in Colorado.
- The only two days of the year in which there are no professional sports games (MLB, NBA, NHL, or NFL), are the day before and the day after the Major League All-Star Game.
- Only one person in two billion will live to be 116 or older.
- The mask used by Michael Myers in the original "Halloween" was actually a Captain Kirk mask painted white.

Applications being taken for winter energy assistance

The Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services(SRS) will be accepting applications for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) from Tuesday, Jan. 22 through Monday, March 31.

The program provides an annual benefit to help qualifying households pay winter heating bills. Individuals with disabilities, elderly persons, and families with children are the primary groups assisted. An average benefit of \$293.43 was provided to 41,269 households in 2007.

"This important program helps those in need maintain safe and warm homes throughout the cold winter months," said the services secretary, Don Jordan.

To qualify, applicants must be responsible for direct payment of their heating bills. Income eligibility guidelines are set at 130 percent of the federal poverty level.

Persons with incomes within the following guidelines may receive these benefits:

Persons living at the address	Maximum allowable monthly income
1	\$ 1,107
2	\$1,484
3	\$1,861
4	\$2,238
5	\$2,615

Add \$377 for each additional person.

The level of benefit varies according to household income, number of persons living at the address, type of dwelling, type of heating fuel, and utility rates. Applicants must demonstrate they have made payments on their heating utility bill two out of the last three months and those payments must be equal to 10 percent of the household's gross income or \$40 whichever is less.

Applications for the program have been mailed to households who received energy assistance last year, along with other targeted low-income families, including those who received food assistance or cash assistance in December. Applications are available at local Social and Rehabilitation Services offices or can be requested by calling toll-free 1-800-432-0043. Visit www.srskansas.org to apply online.

Northwest Kansas Technical College



Putting your hands on the future

Northwest Kansas Technical College invites you to **Women in Technology Day**, a half-day event that introduces females to technical careers in mostly male, higher paying occupations such as auto repair, carpentry, engineering and computer networking.

- The day's events will include:
- Fun, hands-on activities
 - Meeting with female professionals
 - Free lunch

January 30 from 8 am to 1 pm
Register by **January 21**
Call (800) 316-4127 or go to www.nwktc.edu

Full-Time Help Wanted

The City of Bird City, Ks. is seeking applications for a position with the city maintenance department. Duties will consist of general maintenance with City water/sewer, street maintenance, park and recreation equipment, and other duties assigned by the City.

A High School diploma or GED equivalent is required. State Certifications in municipal water/waste water systems would be beneficial but not required. Compensation based upon experience for 40 hours per week plus occasional overtime.

Applications may be obtained from the city clerk's office at 111 E. 4th, P.O. Box 219, Bird City, Ks. 67731, or phone 785-734-2616.

All applications must be returned to the city clerk's office by Feb. 4, 2008 for interview scheduling. Applicant will be subject to drug, alcohol and background checks. The city of Bird City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Obituaries

Virgil W. Fritchel

Jan. 5, 1925 - Dec. 10, 2007

Virgil W. Fritchel, 82, of Loveland, Colo., died on Dec. 10, 2007. He was born on Jan. 5, 1925, in St. Francis, Kan., to Ed and Eva Fritchel.

He served in the Merchant Marines in World War II.

Virgil married Jo Rae Matney in 1948. He belonged to Front Range Baptist Church. Virgil was a retired realtor.

He is survived by his wife, Jo Rae Fritchel of Loveland; sister, Wainita Fritchel of Loveland; daughters, Meriam Degenstein (Tim) of Loveland, Virgie Macedo (Al) of Wheelersburg, Ohio, Vicky Hansen (Ron) of Westminster, Colo.; brothers-in-law, Dan Matney and wife, Gladys, Neil Matney and wife, Joanne, Bill Matney and wife, Karen; seven grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Wilmer Fritchel and wife, May, Delbert Fritchel; sisters, Irene Focht and husband, Pete, Jeanette Sullivan, Deloris Schaffer and husband, Wes.

Funeral services were held on Dec. 17 at Front Range Baptist Church with interment at Fort Logan National Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Missions, in Care of Front Range Baptist Church; and Hospice of Larimer County, in care of Allnutt Funeral home at 2100 North Lincoln Avenue, Loveland, CO 80538.

People may view the online obituary, send condolences and sign the family guest book at www.allnutt.com.

Anna Rosina Lippert

Dec. 1, 1911 - Dec. 21, 2007

Anna Rosina Lippert, 96, Wray, Colo., died Friday, Dec. 21, 2007.

Mrs. Lippert was born Anna Rosina Hilt on Dec. 1, 1911, in Yuma County, Colo. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Gottlieb Jr., in 1999.

Survivors include two sons, Wilhelm "Bill" of Idalia, Colo., and Gus of Cameron, Mo.; two daughters, Lillian Albricht of Spokane, Wash., and Anna Marie Lippert of Wray; 11 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held Dec. 28 at Salem Lutheran Church, rural St. Francis. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Anna Lippert Memorial Fund.

Arrangements made by Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.

Louis Lee Gipe

March 25, 1928 - Jan. 9, 2008

Louis Lee Gipe was born March 25, 1928, in Cheyenne County, Kan., to Harry Lee and Mary Edna (Burr) Gipe. He grew up on a farm 10 miles northeast of Bird City with his five sisters, Lily Ruth, Ellen, Mildred, Verna and Leona. He attended Evergreen School during his grade school years and graduated from Bird City High School in 1947.

Louis served in the United States Army from May 18, 1951, until May 7, 1953. He initially served in Company E, 53rd ABN Division as a heavy-duty truck driver in Sonthogen, Germany. He was later transferred to Metz, France, where he served in the 7867 Quarter Master Depot Group throughout the remainder of his service.

He married Ruth Evelyn Williams, daughter of Arlie and Dora Williams, on June 21, 1953, in St. Francis. They made their home in Bird City throughout their lives. To this union were born two boys, Larry Alan in 1956, and Dwayne Lee in 1959. Ruth preceded him in death on July 14, 2001.

Louis was employed by the Bird City Equity Coop Elevator and retired after 40 years of service on March 25, 1993. He found particular joy in his farming activities that at various times included dairy cattle, hogs, wheat and milo crops, calving and harvesting activities. He remained active with his crop farming and harvesting until his death.

Louis was a devoted and caring husband, father and grandfather. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, and found special happiness in finding ways to bring joy to them. He held high expectations for himself and his sons to have a solid work ethic, caring demeanor and unquestionable integrity.

He remained active until his sudden death on Jan. 9, 2008.

Funeral services were held at the Immanuel United Methodist Church in Bird City on Jan. 12.

Honorary pallbearers were Eric Ryan, Justin Gipe, Tyler Gipe, Kyle Thompson, Alex Thompson, George Gipe and Dayton Gipe.

Casket bearers were Jim Leasure, Dave Flemming, Alan Archer, Don Wright, Tim Burr and Martin Burton.

Burial was in the Bird City Cemetery where he was honored for his military service by the Fort Riley Honor Guard.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Ruth; and two sisters, Ellen Hitchcock and Verna Cormack.

Survivors include Larry and Jody Gipe of North Platte, Neb.; Dwayne Gipe of Omaha, Neb.; Lily Ruth Edmonston of Bird City; Mildred Bangerter of North Salt Lake, Utah; Dean and Leona Ross of Clinton, Utah; Merle Hitchcock of Bird City; Lyle and Alvena Williams of Emporia; Carl and Connie Williams of St. Francis; Gene and Sheryl Williams of Grant, Neb., and Doris Meyeres of Great Bend; grandchildren: Eric and Kim Ryan, Brandi Thompson, Justin Gipe, Sylvia and Tommy Smith, Tyler Gipe, Crystal Fox, Tina and Josh Johnson, Jessica Lamb, George Gipe, Dayton Gipe and Holly Gipe; eight great-grandchildren; friend ErvaGene DeAragon of St. Francis and a host of other relatives and friends.

Odd Facts

- Snails can sleep for 3 years without eating.
- Actor Tommy Lee Jones and vice-president Al Gore were freshman roommates at Harvard.
- All of the clocks in the movie "Pulp Fiction" are stuck on 4:20.
- There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar.
- Months that begin on a Sunday will always have a "Friday the 13th."
- Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the US Treasury.
- The Hawaiian alphabet has 12 letters.

Invitation to Bid

2008 CIAP Replacement of Exterior Siding at Cheyenne Manor for the St. Francis Housing Authority

Opening Bid Date: January 11, 2008
Closing Bid Date: 11:00 a.m. - February 08, 2008
Bid Place: St. Francis Housing Authority Office
200 North Ash Street
St. Francis, KS 67756-9143

The St. Francis Housing Authority is opening invitations to Bid on Replacement Siding for the exterior walls on the Apartment Complexes and Community Building with Craneboard Solid Core Siding and with all building codes. The Work includes selective Craneboard Solid Core Siding or equivalent Solid Core Siding. Bids are to include all necessary labor, materials and equipment. Please note that all bidders shall bring spec and features of Siding and to measure the buildings. Verify that they have inspected the existing site conditions prior to submitting their bid. Any bidder who has not visited the site will have his or her bid rejected.

For all construction and equipment contracts over \$25,000, the bidder shall be required to submit with the bid a negotiable bid guarantee not less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid. The bid guarantee shall be a certified check, bank draft, U.S. Government Bond at par value or a bid bond secured by a surety company. The Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the State where the project is located and must be acceptable to the Government.

Satisfactory proof of authorization to sign on behalf of the company is required.

Instructions to Bidders are contained in HUD-5369 "Instructions to Bidders for Contracts - Public and Indian Housing Programs." The competency and responsibility of bidders will be considered in awarding the contract, and the Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and waive irregularity in bidding. The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bid if reasonable, and if it is in the interest of the St. Francis Housing Authority to accept it.

Attention is called to the provisions of equal opportunity and payment of not less than the minimum salaries and wages as set forth in the specifications. This contract is subject to the conditions of Executive Order 11246, which prohibits discrimination in employment because of race, color, religion, sex or national origin on federal or federally assisted construction contracts.

This contract also is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of bids without the consent of the St. Francis Housing Authority.