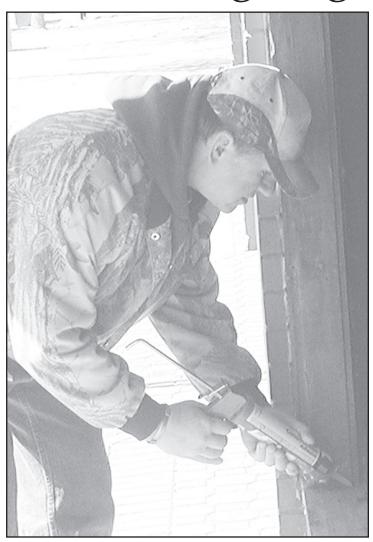
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BRENT RUEB (above) reframes the store front at 104 W. Washington Street. (right)Construction is going on at 301 W. Washington where Ross Manufacturing will be moving the majority of their business offices and machine shop.



College names student of the month

St. Francis Community High School graduate Ally Reichert has been named McCook Community College Student of the Month.

As a high school senior attending St. Francis High School, she had formed a general idea about what she did and didn't want to do with her future, she said in an article written by Brent Cobb, McCook Community College News Bureau coordinator.

"I really liked science, I thought there was a chance I could play volleyball somewhere and I didn't want to stay home and go to a dinky school," she said.

A lot has happened in the past two years she told Mr. Cobb.

A college volleyball career came and went. Her inspirational campus mentor died tragically. Now the college she once dismissed as one of those "dinky" schools has thoroughly grown on the sophomore biology/pre-med major. At McCook Community College, Allyson has she's on target to receive her associate's of science degree this May.

"I admit, at first I wasn't really too excited about coming to a small school, but I am so glad I started out here," she said according to Mr. Cobb. "That individual attention has made all the difference for me. Plus I think you have more opportunities here.

Allyson works as a lab assistant in biology where she sets up labs, cleans, and clerks. In addition, she serves as vice president for Phi Theta Kappa and was recently named to the All-State Academic team. She is also a member of Sigma Alpha Phi.

Next month she'll have the opportunity to attend the national Phi Theta Kappa conference in Phila-



Reichert

Sharon Kircher, Mid-Plains Community College Office of Student Life, has seen Allyson's dedication at work on a variety of campus projects, the Cobb article stated.

"She is the vice president of Leadership for the Eta Omicron Chapter and is an active Phi Theta Kappa member. She assisted with excelled. She was just named the the Hallmark Writing process, the college's student of the month and Campus Red-Cross Bloodmobile, Operation Green, and Honors Topic Programs," Ms. Kircher said.

> Allyson admits the transition to college didn't happen without a few glitches.

> In the spring of 2006, she was less than enthusiastic about her first informal contact with the college's officials.

> "Somehow my name got on a list of St. Francis seniors who were interested in playing college volleyball and when the McCook college's officials visited our school.

> they sought me out. At that time, the school was in a volleyball coaching transition so the recruiting responsibilities were being shared by Mid-Plains Community College Area Admissions Coordinator Kelly Rippen and Kasey

Warner, who also taught science.

"I wanted to play volleyball but I still didn't think much of the idea of attending a small school so close to home," she admits.

In the end it was the enthusiasm of Rippen and Warner that won out. They convinced her to at least come and attend spring tryouts.

She attended tryouts. She took a tour of campus. She met students and faculty members. Slowly, she began to experience the reasons why Rippen and Warner were excited about the college.

"They were right! And when I came here, I had the chance to excel," she said in Mr. Cobb's release. That "one-on-one attention" they were promoting eventually made Allyson a believer.

Her first semester on campus was filled with volleyball and classes and at times it seemed overwhelm-

"You have to study a lot more in college, and when I was playing volleyball, it was critical to manage your time right."

After a year of volleyball, Ally volleyball wasn't worth the time she had to devote to it and she decided to quit playing the sport and instead concentrate on her studies. It was her relationship with Ms. Warner that led Allyson to follow her passion for science.

"I just loved her general biology

and general zoology classes," she said.

Then, in October of 2007, she got the news that Warner had been killed by a motorist while walking on a county road near her home.

"It was absolutely devastating. She was my mentor. She was such a huge influence on what I've accomplished at the college," Allyson said in the college release.

Ms. Warner's influence – her enthusiasm for science -- lives on. When Allyson graduates this spring after finishing up classes in organic chemistry, physics, nursing and sociology, she plans to attend the University of Kansas where she will pursue a bachelor's degree in biology with an eye toward medical school, where she'd like to become an anesthesiologist.

When time allows she enjoys riding her Harley-Davidson Sportster 883, which she's ridden to Sturgis,

She is the daughter of Russ Reichert of Benkelman, and Ronee Cheyenne County. He was con-Kruger of Imperial.

Allyson's sister Lexee Reichert son decided the reward for playing is a freshman, who despite Allyson's attempts, still isn't sold on the McCook college, but Allyson isn't giving up hope.

"All she needs to do is look at what happened to me. Coming to this school is the best thing that could have happened to me," she said to Mr. Cobb.

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Obituaries

Mary Elizabeth Shahan May 11, 1925 - March 9, 2008 Mary E. Shahan was born

May 11, 1925, to Dora and Ralph Weaver Cheyenne Kan., County, and died on Sunday, March 9, 2008. Mary

tended



try school and graduated from Bird City Rural High School. She then went on to attend two years at Greeley College. After college, she taught elementary school in St. Francis for one year.

On Aug. 4, 1946, Mary united in marriage with Demi H. Shahan. They were married for 61 years. To this union, two children were born, one daughter, Diane Ruth Jordan, who resides in Abilene, and one son Vern Shahan, who resides in Washington County, Ore. Mary had four granddaughters and six greatgrandchildren.

Mary was an active participant of the local American Legion Post 352, 6th District Auxiliary President, Past State Department President of the Women's Auxiliary, Director of Sunflower Girl State, Worthy Matron of Eastern Star and Tri-State Antique Auto Club Queen. Mary was involved in Happy Larks 4-H Club, Kanred Club, was a librarian and emergency medical technician.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents, Ralph and Dora Weaver, Harold and Lessie Shahan and her great grandson, Thomas Daniel Vizcarra.

Survivors include her husband, Demi H. Shahan; sister Margaret Taylor, Greeley, Colo., daughter, Diane Ruth Jordan, Abilene, son and daughter, Vern and Victoria Shahan, Washington County, Ore., grandchildren, Gina White, Melinda Vizcarra, Melissa Whelchel and Teri Shahan; great-grandchildren Steven Madewell, Nodika Madewell, Kendra White, Andrew Vizcarra, Kathryn Vizcarra and Matthew Whelchel.

Funeral services were held at the Wesleyan Community Church on Thursday, March 13.

Ed Ruben Schlittenhardt Nov. 5, 1928 - March 12, 2008

Ed Schlittenhardt was born to Dave and Lydia (nee Wolff) Schlittenhardt on Nov. 5, 1928. He died March 12, 2008, at Hays Medical Center, Hays, Kan.

He grew up on a farm in rural firmed in the Lutheran faith at Funeral Home, St. Francis.

the age of 14 at the Salem Lutheran Church. He started school in northern Cheyenne County. His first grade teacher was Vivian Horwege.

On Dec. 6, 1950, he was inducted into the U.S. Army at the age of 22 at Fort Riley in Kansas. He was assigned to the 11th Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Ky. He then attended and completed Paratrooper School at Fort Benning, Ga. He received his airborne wings on March 23, 1951. He then took strategic training and became a member of the 511th Airborne Regimental Combat Team.

On April 9, 1952, he left Fort Lewis, Wash., bound for Korea. He was wounded on the front lines and was first shipped to a hospital in Japan, then on to Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver. His admitting doctor was Dr. E.R. Cram, a St. Francis native.

He received an honorable discharge from active duty in September 1952.

He married Lavon Trail of Atwood on May 27, 1953. They had three children: twin sons, Ronald Kim and Donald Lyn and a daughter, Michele Jolene.

Preceding him in death were: his parents, son, Donald Lyn, brothers, Ervin and Robert, and sister, Doris. Surviving him: Lavon, his

wife of 55 years; son, Ron and wife, Amelita; daughter, Michele Rohweder and husband, Dick; sister, Irene Andrist, all of St. Francis; brothers, Elroy and wife, Linda of Houston, Texas, Danny and wife Marti of St. Francis. Also surviving are his six grandchildren: Edward Schlittenhardt and his wife, Jenny of Kansas City; Donald Schlittenhardt and his wife, Jacki of Wichita; Leslie Ann Bailey and her husband, Travis of Ness City; Brian Schlittenhardt of Seattle, Wash.; Heidi Rohweder of Hays; and Devin Rohweder of Hays. Two great-grandchildren: Sapphira and Kiera Bailey of Ness City; numerous nieces and nephews, many cousins and friends too numerous to mention also survive

Funeral services were conducted by Reverend Jeff Landers at the First Christian Church, St. Francis, on Tuesday, March 18 with burial following in the St. Francis Cemetery with military honors.

Memorials may be made to the Cheyenne County Airport Authority, the First Christian Church or Good Samaritan Village, St. Fran-Arrangements were by Knodel

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