



EASTER IS A FUN TIME FOR KIDS! Left - Easter bunny Dara Loyd held Matilyn Smull while brother Jordan kept a close watch. Above, Jenae Moberly thought the whole event was great fun! The Smull children's parents are Matt and Trista Smull. Jenae's parents are Josh and Peggy Moberly.

Herald staff photos by Casey McComrick

Weed becomes serious problem

Bindweed can take over a field. In Cheyenne County, it is considered a "noxious weed." With a pretty flower and green leaves above the ground, it is deceptive as its root system spreads out sprouting plants all over a field.

Dan Schlittenhardt, noxious weed supervisor, says managing field bindweed means controlling the root system. A plant and its massive root system have come from only one seed in about 6 months.

"In a test, the single seed can produce over 900 feet of total root length and start 141 new shoots," he said.

Canada thistle and burragweed have primarily the same root structure as all three are perennials. They don't need seed to survive.

"They can produce new plants from root shoots that grow horizontally 12-to 15 feet, placing a bud every 1/5 to 2 inches.

"It is imperative that, after spraying patches of these noxious weeds, tillage equipment should stay clear for at least that farming season," he said. "It takes a long time for a chemical to transfer to that many feet of root."

Recycling group reports good year

The Northwest Kansas Regional Recycling Organization had a good year in 2007. As a result of several activities during the past year, the eight-county organization expects to experience an even better 2008.

The Organization, which includes Cheyenne, Rawlins, Decatur, Thomas, Sheridan, Logan and Gove counties, recovered 149 tons of recyclable materials last year. This figure was up from the year before by 24 tons. Approximately 40 percent of the seven county region's municipal solid waste is recyclable through the Organization's current program. In 2006, 11.8 percent of the recyclable municipal solid waste was recovered. The rate increased to 12.2 percent.

"We were hoping to recover 1,000 tons in 2007, which would have increased the region's recycling rate to about 16.44 percent," said Lynette Koon, program coordinator for the Organization.

Ms. Koon commented that 2008 should be more productive for Rawlins, Sheridan and Gove counties after they receive the new recycling trailers purchased from a \$100,000 Kansas Department of Health and Environment grant received by the Organization last year. The new trailers will provide recycling service in Rawlins County to Herndon and McDonald Fairgrounds, to discuss the lease conditions and placement of the new building which the church

See GOOD on Page 9



FAIR BOARD measures area where the Christian Church ice cream stand will be located. *Herald staff photo by Candice Goodrich*

Board sets guidelines for new building

By Candice Sekich-Goodrich
cgoodrich@nwkans.com

Fair board members and members from the First Christian Church met on Tuesday, March 18, at the Cheyenne County Fairgrounds, to discuss the lease conditions and placement of the new building which the church

will be leasing from the fair board.

The building, 24 by 24 feet, will be moved from its current location on the corner of Washington and Frances streets (Western State Bank plans on building at this site). The building will sit just south of the United Methodist

Church stand on the fairgrounds and will be used to sell ice cream.

Church member, Cheryl Williams, provided a drawing of the layout of the building. Two windows will be placed on the west side for service and an entrance on the south will be used for patrons to come inside, sit, and cool off

from the mid-summer heat.

Secretary, Gary Cooper, commented that, "this is a win-win situation for everyone."

The board decided that the lease term would be tied into United Methodist's lease. The United Methodist's lease is \$1 for 25

See NEW on Page 9

St. Francis man finds people; 'tickles' a nostalgic memory

By Karen Krien
karenk@nwkans.com

Television shows, "I've Got A Secret" and "What's My Line," were popular in the 1950s through the early 1980s but, today, they are seldom seen unless the viewer has the Dish Network or Direct TV. Bob Bixler, St. Francis, started watching the shows several years ago and, since they were shown in the early morning hours, he taped them.

One day, he started to clean off the video tape. One of the people featured on that particular "What's My Line" show was a woman veterinarian from Akron, Colo.

"I wondered whatever happened to her and if she would like a copy of the tape," Mr. Bixler said.

Within 5 minutes, he was talking to her niece and found out the woman was still a vet but had moved to Denver. Minutes later, he was in contact with the veterinarian. She had been looking for a replay of the show for years. "Looking at the tape was a leap

More 'stories behind the stories' revealed

Bob Bixler learns much about the contestant while he is watching the old "What's My Line" and "I've Got A Secret" shows. However, it is hearing the "story behind the story" that makes this hobby unique and interesting. On one show in 1963, a marine pilot was featured as surviving after his parachute failed and he fell 3 miles landing in the ocean. The plane's canopy had failed to

open after an accident while refueling. He had forced it open but when he jumped out, the tail of the plane caught the parachute.

What he didn't tell on the show was how he had the experience of seeing himself outside his body, watching him try time and time again to get the parachute to work.

He had multiple broken bones but what had saved him

See STORY on Page 9

over time — 45 years," he said.

He and his wife, Colleen, went to Denver to visit the veterinarian. Now, when they are in Denver, they have a place to take their dogs if there is an emergency, he said.

Mr. Bixler asks for no fee, furnishes the DVD (he used video tapes at one time), the mailing envelope and the postage stamps. The total cost is \$1.50.

See TICKLES on Page 9



ADDRESSING THE ENVELOPE — Bob Bixler sends out anywhere from 1 to 4 DVDs a day and enjoys making people happy. *Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*

Group sings on April 6

At 7 p.m. on Sunday, April 6, a free concert will be held in the St. Francis Community High School auditorium.

Eternity Focus is a group made up of four sisters; Alika, Danika, Janika and Lainika Seaman. They sing Contemporary Christian and Praise and Worship music. Some of the events they have ministered at include: state-wide camps and retreats, youth and children's events, church services, Teens for Christ rallies, concerts and worship events. They have also led worship at the Kansas State Gideon Convention during the children's services and the Kansas state-wide Children's Workers Conference.

Eternity Focus has also been invited to compete in National Fine Arts Festival for the last 6 years. In August of 2007, their song "Unmistakable" was awarded third in the nation at Fine Arts Festival. Likewise, their song "I Still Believe" was awarded fifth in the nation in the song writing competition.