



CITY WORKERS Glenn Schliep and Paul Larson repaint the cross walks around the school.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien.

Joining PTA helps students and staff

By Karen Krien

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The St. Francis Elementary has an active PTA, working with the school and staff for the betterment of the school and to help students and staff.

For more than 30 years, research shows that children do better when their parents and families are involved both at home and at school. Their grades are higher, test scores rise and self-esteem grows, all the while, the schools improve.

PTA is a forum for exchanging ideas. By being a member, the parent can effectively suggest changes and be involved in making them happen. Through PTA, the parent can be a more effective advocate for their child and all children.

Through the years, PTA has been a driving force in establishing school lunch programs, after-school programs, community-wide safety initiatives, television and internet rating standards and more.

Out of the \$5 paid for dues, only \$1.25 goes for the Kansas PTA which speaks in behalf of children and supports PTA in Topeka. Another part, \$1.75, goes to the National PTA which has 6 million members.

Jo Rogers, PTA president, in a power-point presentation on Aug. 28, said the St. Francis PTA, in the last 3 years, has given:

- \$600 to sixth grade essay contest winners. This year's theme "To be a good citizen means to" Another \$200 will be given this year.
- \$125 to local Spelling Bee contest winners. Another \$50 will be given this year.
- \$1,000 was donated to the teachers to use as they wished for

special classroom equipment that they can share.

• 750 worth of free RIF (Reading is fun) books to match the school's contribution.

• \$150 scholastic books given to the grade school library.

• \$775 for cash prizes given away at the spring 2007 talent show. More cash prizes will be given this year.

• \$150 was given for the classroom Box Tops for Education collection contest winners. Ramona Raile's second grade class has been the winners for the last 3 years.

• \$200 in Box Tops for Education rewards to all students in movie treats on the last day of school.

• \$170 for the Christmas movie and teas. The PTA also donated over 80 dozens cookies.

• \$500 given away in fall carnival and door prizes.

• \$130 in movie passes for door prizes and participating in the spring talent show.

• \$350 for Teachers Appreciation Week gifts.

• \$150 for school supplies for students.

• \$50 for the After School program co-sponsored with the county Extension.

• \$200 for scholastic books given away to the kids at the book fairs.

The total is \$5,400 and this does not include cookies, drinks, party favors and teacher treats the PTA members have provided.

Parents, grandparents and other family members as well as people in the community are urged to join the local PTA chapter. Check the ad located on Page 5 in this issue of The Herald. People can join by just filling out the form and sending in the required amount of money.

Chairman announced

The Roberts for Senate campaign reports Rodney Shay of St. Francis is the Cheyenne County chair for Senator Roberts' reelection campaign.

"I am honored to have such a fine Kansan become a member of my team to support my reelection effort as we join together to build a better Kansas," Senator Roberts said. "I am excited by the support from those who share

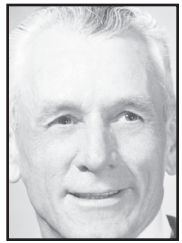
my vision for a strong national security, greater tax relief, a sensible farm policy and a growing economy.

"I believe a strong local grassroots effort is key to success in Kansas and our folks are top-notch. I will continue to rely on them to help guide our campaign to victory this fall."

Senator Roberts is running for his third term in the U.S. Senate.

Eldon "Babe" Paul Catt

Oct. 8, 1916 - Sept. 1, 2008
Eldon "Babe" Paul Catt, 91, of McMinnville, Ore., died Monday, Sept. 1, 2008, at the Alterra Wynwood Assisted Living.



Catt

Mr. Catt, the son of Raymond and Mary Klepper Catt, was born Oct. 8, 1916, in Wilsonville, Neb.,

He attended grade school in St. Francis, Kan.

He married Wanda Awalt on March 3, 1939, in St. Francis,

and farmed for many years before moving to McMinnville in September 1955.

Mr. Catt worked for Alderman Farms, Peavey Oil for 10 years, Valley Feed for 7 years, and retired from Co-op creamery in 1969.

He was a member of B.P.O.E. 1283 since 1957.

Gardening and mowing lawns for many people around town was an enjoyment for him.

Mr. Catt was preceded in death by six brothers and five sisters; his wife, Wanda in 1988 and a son, Ronald in 1999.

Survivors include his sons, Rex Catt and Kennis Catt, both of McMinnville; nine grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and

one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services will be held at the Chapel of Macy and Sons on Friday, Sept. 5, with Pastor Jim Peterson officiating. Burial will be in the Evergreen Memorial Park Mausoleum in McMinnville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Legacy Hospice, McMinnville, or the charity of choice in care of Macy and Son, 135 NE Evans, McMinnville, OR 97128.

Laura Annette Lewis McWilliams

Sept. 30, 1917 - Aug. 25, 2008
Laura Annette Lewis McWilliams was born Sept. 30, 1917, at the Lewis family farm in Gove County, Kan. She was the fifth child of Alfred H. Lewis and Betha Otilia Annette (Olson) Lewis. She died at her home in Emporia on Monday, Aug. 25, 2008, at the age of 90.

She attended Mossy Dell one-room school and graduated from Gove Rural High School in 1936.

On Oct. 9, 1937, Laura married Ronald Raymond "Billy" McWilliams in Goodland by Billy's uncle, the Reverend Arthur Carlton. They lived and farmed around the Quinter area throughout their 45 years of marriage.

Laura was a member of the United Methodist Women and received a lifetime membership in 1960. One of Laura's greatest joys was the years that she and Billy spent as sponsors of the Methodist Youth Fellowship providing a firm religious foundation for a large number of youth of the church.

She married Dennis "Jim" Corder in December 1985. They were divorced.

In 1999, Laura moved to Emporia to make her home with her daughter, June Hubert. While in Emporia, she attended St. Andrew Episcopal Church, the Emporia Senior Center and the Parkinson Support Group.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers; two sisters; her son, Tom in 1963; and her husband, Billy, in 1983.

Survivors include two daughters, Dorothy June Hubert, Emporia, and Margaret Voorhies and husband, Kent, of McDonald; a son, Edwin Gorsky and wife, DeDe, of St. Joseph, Mo.; stepdaughter, Florence Mae Young and husband, Dave, of Austin, Texas; a stepson, Mike Corder and wife, Susan, of Evansville, Wyo.; 10 grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; and 25 great-grandchildren. She leaves several first cousins, numerous nieces and nephews and a host of friends.

Laura will be remembered for her quick wit and long-lasting love and friendship. It could be said that she never met a stranger and she enjoyed traveling anywhere. She was always ready to go. Everyone has a funny or poignant story to tell of that little lady.

Memorial services for Laura will be held Saturday, Oct. 4 at 11 a.m. in the First United Methodist Church at Quinter with Reverend Kennedy Mukwindizda officiating. Inurnment will be in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Studley.

The family requests no flowers, but suggests memorials to the Quinter United Methodist Church and they can be sent in care of Schmitt Funeral Home, 901 S. Main, Quinter, KS 67752.

Club Clips

Lawn Ridge 4-H Club April meeting

The Lawn Ridge 4-H Club met at the clubhouse on April 7 at 7:30. President, Heidi Yonkey, called the meeting to order. Bailey Merklin led the club in the flag salute.

Roll call was answered by nine members and two leaders. Minutes of the last two meetings were read and approved. One communication was read from the First National Bank. Bailey gave the treasurer's report.

Miriam Yonkey reported on the 4-H Council meeting. There will be a 4-H family fun night on May 22 at the park behind the courthouse and April 18 is the deadline for the barn photo contest.

Ericka Wieck reported on the

Relay for Life. There will not be enough members to have a team this year so the club will donate the money they raised from the blanket and be a sponsor.

Under new business, it was voted that members make May Day baskets. It was also voted to take part in the 4-H Million Trees Project. The committee's will get together and send out reminder cards with dates and times.

Gaten Cooper gave a project talk on his dog, Drover. Valerie Wurm and Ian Schmid led the club and parents in playing thumbs up 4 up.

Ian led the 4-H Pledge. Tristan Archer moved to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded. The Cooper family served refreshment.

Valerie Wurm, reporter

Join PTA today!

Everyone— Parents, educators and community members are invited to join PTA. Please fill out the form below and return it along with \$5 to your local PTA Unit at P.O. Box 1110, St. Francis, Ks. 67756

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____

BEECHER ISLAND 109th Reunion

Saturday, Sept. 13th

6:30 a.m. ♦ Breakfast available from the Idalia FCE Bicentennial Club
9 a.m. ♦ Black Powder Shoot with the Idalia Gun Club

♦ Quilt show presented by Beecher Island Helping Hand Club
11 a.m. ♦ Food Service from the Wray Lions Club. The Lions will be cooking throughout the weekend

1 p.m. ♦ Games & races for the entire family. Events will be 3 legged races, egg toss, cowchip throwing, penny dig, final event is the dryland turtle race; turtles must be registered before race, come early.

7 p.m. ♦ Music Program featuring Judy Coder and Pride of the Prairie, Western Swing music award winning harmonies and more.

Sunday, Sept. 14th

6:30 a.m. ♦ Pancake Breakfast with the Idalia Lions Club
9:45 a.m. ♦ Flag raising ceremony by area Boy Scouts.
10 a.m. ♦ Sunday Service with speaker Phil Mitchell and music by Greg Carlin and The Shadow Riders.

1 p.m. ♦ Music by the Akers Family Band featuring a mix of folk, patriotic and sacred music followed by Arickaree by a special guest singer, next a history presentation. Drawing for quilt and craft basket by The Beecher Island Helping Hand Club.



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