

Voting results told

A mock presidential election was held on Nov. 4, the same day as the nationwide election. For the two days preceding the election, Steve Jenkins' Current Social Issues students present in the morning gave summaries of the candidates and how they viewed key issues that face the United States. The election itself was conducted by selected teachers in both junior and senior high school.

voted McCain over Obama. Upperclassmen (grades 10 through 12) tended to vote for Obama more than underclassmen.

Ralph Nader received votes from only the eighth grade, disproportionately from male voters. Individual class results include: Grades-McCain-Obama-Nader Seventh - McCain, 12; Obama, 6; Eighth - McCain, 8; Obama, 2; Nader, 5.

Ninth - McCain, 18; Obama, 3. 10th - McCain, 20; Obama, 8. 11th - McCain, 18; Obama, 2. 12th - McCain, 22; Obama, 7.

The electoral statistics were compiled and disaggregated by class students: Ashlynn Lambert, Hayley Brown, Trista Orth, Tilyn Bell, Jacquelyn Ketzner, Allison Grice, Isaac Schiltz, Ty Zwegygart, Brock Zwegygart, Gavin Cooper, Sam Reed and Ross Nicklos.

The disaggregated results are as follows:

• The winner of the mock election was John McCain. McCain more than tripled the votes of Barack Obama.

More boys tended to vote for McCain. The votes for Obama were 50/50 when it came to gender with 14 votes from each boy and girl for the total of 28.

Underclassmen (grades seven through nine) overwhelmingly

Obituaries

Gladys Leibbrandt

April 30, 1919 - Sept. 27, 2008

Gladys L. Leibbrandt was born on April 30, 1919, in Cheyenne County, Kan. She was the first child of Weaver and Mattie Lindsten. She and her three other siblings (Alfred, Joseph and Darlene) grew up on the family farm southwest of St. Francis. She attended St. Francis Community High School.

She met Robert Leibbrandt at high school and they were married on Oct. 9, 1938, at Aurora, Neb. Together they moved to Washington, D.C., after Robert passed his civil service examination. She worked in a variety of clerical positions in the Washington, D.C., area before, during and shortly after the war years.

On Dec. 8, 1951, their only child, Robert C. Leibbrandt Jr., was born.

In 1954, they moved to Falls Church, Va., which would be their home for the next 54 years.

In 1960, she returned to work for the Economic Research Service, which was part of the United States Department of Agriculture, retiring from there after 23 years of

government service.

Besides being a loving wife and mother, Gladys loved to travel with both her and Robert making many overseas trips to Europe. She also enjoyed returning with Robert to St. Francis for the annual harvest.

Gladys died on Sept. 27, 2008, at her home in Falls Church of congestive heart failure.

She was preceded in death by her brothers, Joseph Lindsten and Alfred Lindsten and her husband, Robert C. Leibbrandt, Sr., who died in December 2005.

Gladys is survived by her son, Robert and his wife, Barbara, of Falls Church; her sister, Darlene Orchard of Kanorado, as well as by many other relatives and friends. She will be missed by many.

Graveside funeral services were held on Oct. 2, at St. Francis Cemetery with Pastor David Butler of St. Francis Community Church presiding.

Arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home of St. Francis.

H. Harold Norton

March 3, 1922 - Nov. 15, 2008

Longtime Brewster, Kan., resident, M. Harold Norton, 86, died Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008, at Goodland Regional Medical Center.

He was born March 3, 1922, at Wray, Colo., the son of Marcus Beede and Nettie Estelle (Fite) Norton. He attended schools in Wray and Joes, Colo.

He served his country in the United States Navy from Feb. 16, 1942, through October 6, 1945.

After his military service, he moved to Goodland, and on May 12, 1949, he and Kathryn Florence Newton were married at the Methodist Church in Goodland. They moved to Brewster in 1963. He was a machinist and an explosives expert.

Preceding him in death were his wife, Kay Norton; two sisters Lilly McKelvey and Stella Northcutt; and two brothers, Edward Norton and Marcus Norton.

Surviving family includes his brother, Lloyd Norton of Pueblo, Colo., and nieces and nephews.

The memorial service was held on Saturday, Nov. 22, at the United Methodist Church in Brewster, with Pastor Dorine Chambers officiating. Inurnment, with military honors, was in the Goodland Cemetery.

Memorials may be designated to the Harold Norton Education Fund or to Wheat Ridge Acres, and may be mailed to Koons Funeral Home, 211 N Main, Goodland, Ks 67735-1555



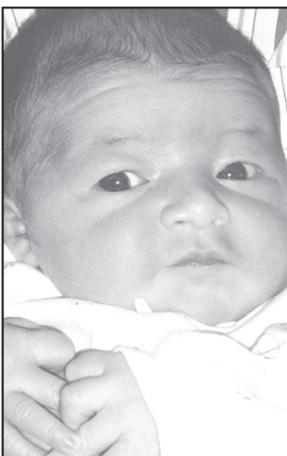
Porter Lee Ross

Introducing

Porter Lee Ross

Tucker and Sawyer Ross announces the birth of their brother, Porter Lee, who was born Nov. 10, 2008, in Wichita. Porter weighed 8 pounds, 14 ounces and was 19-1/2 inches long. He is the son of Darrin and Dina Ross.

His grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Don Willey of Cheney and Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Bucholtz of St. Francis. Great-grandmother is Midge Willey of Grand Island, Neb.



Raegan Margaret Foster

Introducing

Raegan Margaret Foster

Brian and Christie Foster of Manhattan announce the birth of Raegan Margaret born on Nov. 7, 2008. She weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20-1/2 inches long.

Grandparents are Eldon and Beth Foster of Great Bend and Randy and Barb Holzwarth. Great-grandparents are Deloris Kaiser of Bushton and Margaret Holzwarth, Raymond and Martha Zwegygart.



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St. Francis

Poet earns standing ovation

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkansas.com

A St. Francis poet is back in the saddle again, or, maybe it should be said, back on the stage.

Phil Crawford has been writing and performing songs and poems for years. However, on Nov. 13, he headed for Moorcroft, Wyo., for a poetry gathering and those few days were some of the most memorable days of his life, he said.

It all started when Mr. Crawford was surfing the internet and came across the name, Moorcroft — a museum in Moorcroft, Wyo., was having a poetry gathering as a fund raiser.

"The name itself pulled my chain as that is where my parents had honeymooned in 1925," Mr. Crawford said. "They traveled from near Grand Island, Neb., in a Model T Ford."

Mr. Crawford said he fired off an e-mail with his biography. He said he received an immediate reply, asking him to come. However, they noted that since it was a fund raiser for the museum, they could not guarantee any monetary compensation.

I really wanted to go, he said. In fact I felt I should go.

Later, he received another e-mail from the Museum Committee, telling him, that if he could come a couple of days earlier and do some promotional appearances, one of the motels would give him three free nights of lodging.

That was it! I was going, he said.

He said that he wasn't sure how the schools became involved but, they were on his schedule of appearances. He performed at three schools, a rest home, an assisted living center, a senior citizen center and, then on

Saturday, at the gathering for the museum.

Moorcroft, Mr. Crawford said, sits along Interstate 90, but is still a true western cow town.

"It is steeped in western tradition and hospitality," he said. "As a stranger in their midst, I was immediately recognized as being there for the gathering."

He was allowed to pay for only one meal all the time he was there.

"When I entered anywhere, I was greeted with 'howdy,' handshakes, and invitations to join someone at their table, whether it would be for coffee, a meal or just conversation," he said.

"I knew the weekend would be something special when at one of the schools, after having sat through more than half of my presentation without one little disturbance from them, came the surprise of my life — a standing ovation.

"Never in my life, or probably ever again, will I experience the feelings that surged through me. I admit, my eyes were a little damp and I had a hard time finishing after the teachers got them seated again."

He said the gathering was probably small in comparison to some of the big ones he has been to but, he said that it will forever be the greatest in his memory.

One of the performers was the number one lady poet in the nation, coming from South Dakota. Others included Wyoming's top female and male poets of New Castle and Pinedale, respectively. There was another poet from South Dakota and a lady from Colorado Springs, and, of course, Mr. Crawford.

After the first round of the performance, Mr. Crawford said he



Crawford

got a two-thumbs up from the other performers and a tremendous round of applause.

"It was the second round that brought tears to my eyes," Mr. Crawford said.

The theme for the gathering was "Riding For The Brand." During the second session, he sang his song "Ridin' 4 The Brand." The poem was published earlier in a Saint Francis Herald issue. He had the poem framed with autographs from all of the performers. It was presented to the director of the museum and it brought a roaring response from the crowd, he said, and a few tears from her.

When he left the stage, Mr. Crawford said that the number one performer was going to close the show.

"What happened next was hard to believe," he said. "She waved a hand across the crowd and stopped pointing in my direction, and said, 'wasn't that great.'"

The performer had a 20-minute block of time but she only did one poem and handed the mike back to the master of ceremony, saying "I think it is supper time!"

"When she went past me, she reached out and gave me the tightest bear hug I have ever gotten," Mr. Crawford said, adding, "Boy did you wow 'em tonight."

"I had already gotten a hug from the lady from Colorado, and her remark had been, 'That was awesome.' The lady from Newcastle came up to my table and said 'I'd give \$20 for an autographed copy of that poem.'"

Needless to say, Mr. Crawford autographed several more and sold several CDs before the night was over.

"And yes, to receive recognition like that, brought a few tears of my own into the mix!"

Introducing

Makenna Lee Dorsch

Michael and Amber (Newton) Dorsch announce the birth of their first child, a daughter, Makenna Lee, born Sept. 24, 2008, at 7:33 a.m. at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. Makenna made her surprise appearance six weeks early, weighing 4 pounds and 10 ounces and measuring 17-1/2 inches long.

Her grandparents are Keith and Sharon Newton of Wilmington, Bob Dorsch of St. Francis and Vickie Dorsch of Salina. Makenna's great-grandparents are Bob Newton of McKeesport, Pa., Barbara Ashley of Baltimore, Ohio, and David and Elaine Hutchison of Pittsburgh, Pa.



McKenna Lee Dorsch

Herald And Times Happenings:

Christmas seen through the eyes of a child is priceless

This year, as in the year's past, the Special Christmas and New Year's sections will be published before the holidays. The sections will feature letters from Santa, answers of questions asked of school children, memories and recipes.

The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times staffs welcome participation from children to adults. All items must be received by Dec. 8 in order to get them into the special section.

Send letters, special memories, articles and recipes to The Herald at P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 or fax 785-332-3001, or drop them off or e-mail to sfherald@nwkansas.com titling the subject as "Christmas for the Paper."



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