

Former resident gains recognition

A former St. Francis resident, Jared Sowers, an installation technician for Neal Harris Heating, Air Conditioning and Plumbing, recently won a North American-wide award.



Sowers

Canada last October in Nashville. He was tested not only on written knowledge of his field, but also on hands-on technical demonstrations of his expertise and knowledge.

He then travelled back to Nashville last week to compete for the finals. He was tested again on his technique for cutting duct work, installing furnaces, air conditioners, thermostats and also was tested on his trouble-shooting skills.

Mr. Sowers said he was really excited and surprised when he found out that he won the first place award at an awards banquet hosted by service experts chief executive officer, Scott Boxer, but the company's employees were not surprised.

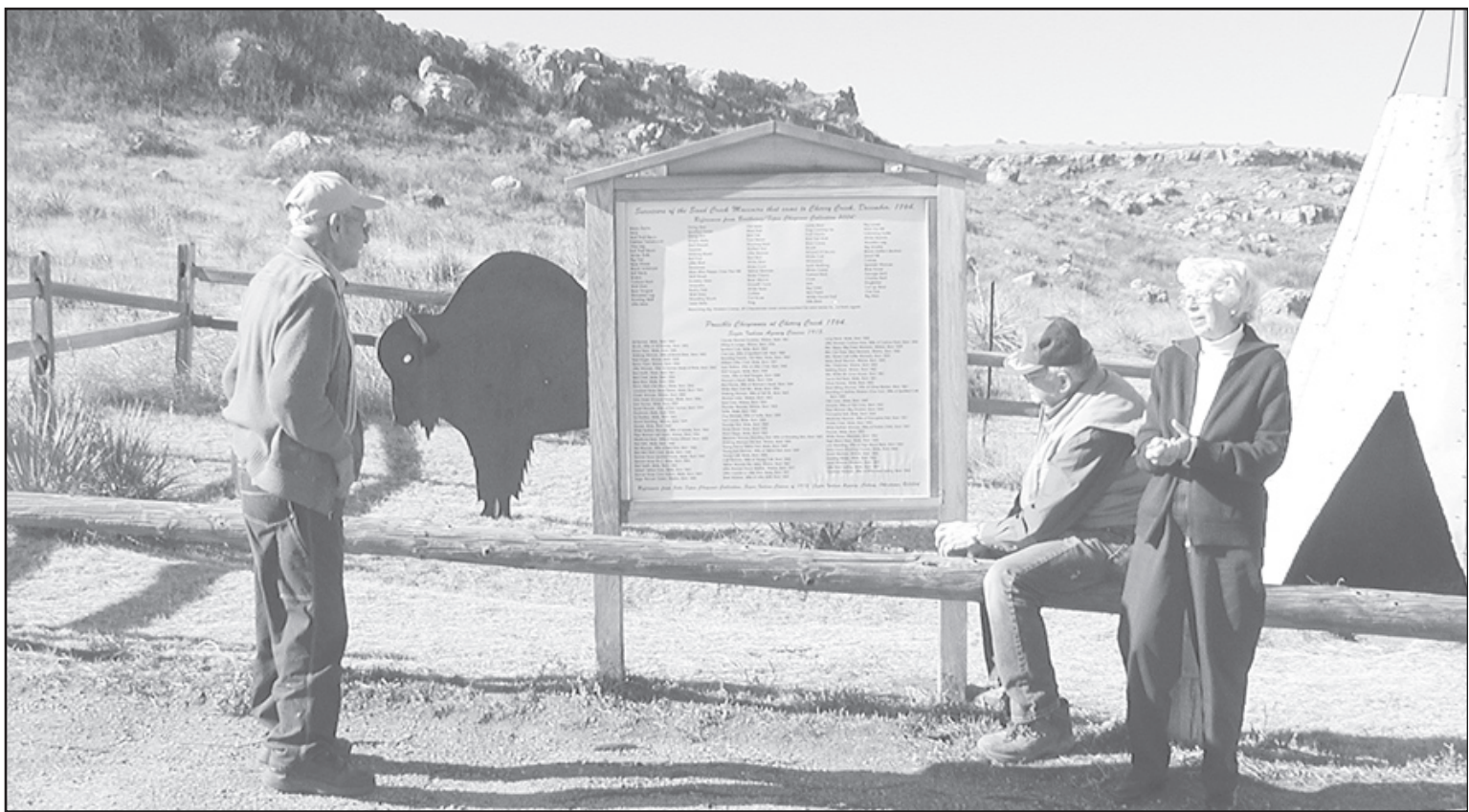
He is a North American technician excellence certified technician and is continually perfecting his knowledge to keep his skills at peak performance when serving his customers in the Kansas City area, said Mr. Arenholz.

"He is a natural, he said. "Jared is a great employee because he always has a positive attitude and a desire to do the job right the first time. I'm really proud of his accomplishment because it shows what a great commitment he has to being the best, most knowledgeable installer possible."

It's one thing for a company to say they have the best people working for them, said Matt Arenholz, installation supervisor for Neal Harris, but it's a fact when one of your installers wins a North American-wide award.

Jared, he said, has had a pretty dramatic couple of months. He not only celebrated his 2-year anniversary at the company, but he also got married and won the North American Service Experts SAM Awards.

A native of St. Francis, and a graduate of Northwest Kansas Technical College, he competed at the district level against installers from around the Midwest. After winning first place on an on-line written exam (beating Neal Harris installer Kendall Mille by only a few points), he competed at the regional level against technicians from the United States and



SO OTHERS MAY KNOW, a new sign has been placed at the Cherry Creek Encampment site outside St. Francis. Pictured above are Tobe Zweygardt, Milton Lampe and Rachel Huffman, some of the people who worked on getting the new sign.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

New sign placed at historic location

By Karen Krien
karen.k@nwkans.com

Several years ago, a sign board was erected at the Cherry Creek Encampment site north of St. Francis. It told of the many Indians who had camped at the site following the Sand Creek Massacre in December 1864.

The sign had faded so a new sign was designed by Janice Weber Clark and her mother, Liz Weber. Tobe Zweygardt, Milton and Betty Lampe and Rachel Huffman were responsible for getting the sign back to where it was readable for everyone who stopped.

Mr. Zweygardt is the metal sculptor who designed and erected the memorial of the Indians who camped there. He said there

has been 11,000 people register at the site since it was established in 1990.

People should stop by to read the many names of the Indians who are known to have been among those camping at the site. Some of the names are: Black Kettle, Painted Tomahawk, Empty Belly, Shoving Bear, Stuffed Gut, Coyote Woman Scabby, Mary Short Woman, Pipe Woman Left Hand, Bad Teeth, Skunk, One Eye.... the names go on and on.

History of Cherry Creek

In 1864, the valley below the Cherry Creek Encampment memorial held 3,000 Indians who had survived the Sand Creek Massacre near what is now the town of Chivington, Colo. This area was

the favorite hunting ground of the Cheyenne Dog Soldiers.

The Cheyennes were so angry about the atrocities committed against their people that they sent around the war pipe at once.

The pipe was taken to Spotted Tail and Pawnee Killer's Sioux, the Cheyenne Dog Soldiers and the Northern Arapahoes. All moved and camped on Cherry Creek.

On New Year's Day, Jan. 1, 1865, the chiefs assembled in council and decided to attack Old Julesburg on the South Platte River.

Around 1,000 Indians set out from Cherry Creek to seek revenge and plunder the town where the Stage Company had a large station.

On Jan. 7, 1865, the Indians attacked. After their successful coup, they loaded the plunder on their horses and, in three days, were back in the Cherry Creek Encampment.

The Cheyenne, who had been mourning the great loss of their people at Sand Creek, took heart when their warriors returned with the great amount of goods they so badly needed.

The camp on Cherry Creek was the scene of great feasting. Scalp dances were held and the young people danced until sunrise.

Meanwhile, the chiefs again gathered in council and decided to move north to the Black Hills and join the Northern Cheyenne, Sioux and Arapahoe, asking them to join in war against the whites.

Runners were sent from Cherry Creek to notify the tribes that they were coming, and criers announced the plans in all camps.

This is where the Plains War between the Indians and whites began. A war that lasted 12 years, ended at the Battle of the Little Big Horn in Montana, according to the "Life of George Bent."

On Sept. 9, 1990, Mr. Zweygardt held a dedication ceremony in honor of the Cheyenne Indian survivors of the Sand Creek Massacre.

Descendants of those survivors, John Sipes and his family, participated in the ceremony. Mr. Sipes' mother, Cleo Wilson, cried as she looked on the site and remembered the sufferings of her people as passed down through the oral history from her elders.

Editor's note: The above history was taken from a brochure provided by the Cheyenne County Historical Society.

Club Clip

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women held their first meeting of 2009 at the fellowship hall, on Feb. 4, with 16 members present.

Officers for the new year are Hazel Douthit, president; Marla Rice, vice president; Marsha Zimbleman, treasurer and Donna Zimbleman, secretary.

Following the business meet-

ing, Marsha Zimbleman presented an interesting program on "Prayer and Self-Denial." Refreshments served carried out a valentine theme.

The next meeting will be at 2 p.m. on April 4 at the United Methodist Church. Betty Loudon will present the program. All ladies are welcome to attend.

Big man-big title-big plan

By Vera Sloan

colby.society@nwkans.com
At 6 foot, 3 inches, and tipping the scale at well over 300 pounds, John Dehn is a big man.

He calls himself corporate director of new media resources and sales for Nor'West Newspapers, *The Saint Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times*, and that's a big title. His big plan is to help businesses in northwest Kansas make money by using big, new technology.

Dehn (that's pronounced Den) has the credentials to do that. His background is in Internet technology. He was hired by Nor'West, which operates the Herald, Times and four other area newspapers, in June to broaden sales opportunities for area businesses.

He has built a web-based business directory for area businesses and plans to install a new Internet search engine that will be unique to this area. Together, he said, the two will equip every business here to be able to compete for online sales in the world market.

It is the newest and latest technology in marketing, he said, and

can be done for a minimal cost. Businesses can have pictures and information in their listings, live links to other pages, even a full website with its own unique name — all for minimal costs.

"History tells us that we lose our market advantage when we don't keep up with change," he said. "Think back to when the competition was just across the street ... then to when it was a few easy and quick miles down the road.

"Now, in the new market, it is only a click away on the computer. For survival in today's market, business must take advantage of available technology to retain current customers and attract new ones."

A huge percentage of consumers shop online, he said, and that percentage is growing. Technology empowers a business to order the products a customer needs, and still give the assurance of shopping through a local business.

The web site www.NWKansasOnline.com already lists all the businesses in northwest Kansas, he said, and he's waiting for the

search engine to be completed.

While the list is as complete as research could make it, he added, business owners should visit the site at www.NWKansasOnline.com to make sure their business is listed.

After you visit the site, he said, you can call him at 785-462-3963 to optimize your listing and add items for sale.

Business owners interested in getting key words in the new search engine should call, too, he said. This is the time to call to secure their key words.

For example, he said, if you have a furniture store and your key word is "furniture," it can be locked in and given a priority spot among other businesses that may be selling furniture. When the word "furniture" is typed in, that business' name will come up along with what other items the store has available. Local key word searching can be purchased for as little as \$100 per search word, Mr. Dehn said.

A business' name and products can be listed for as little as \$4 per



BIG JOHN DEHN is becoming a familiar face in the Nor'West Newspaper's area.

Herald staff photo by Vera Sloan

week. Businesses can secure a key word spot now and hold it for when the search engine launches in the next few months.

Mr. Dehn said he plans to give classes on how to get set up on the web, how to operate the business listings and how the search engine will be an advantage for area businesses.

Businesses owners can take part in the sessions to learn how to operate online, he said. The search engine will be promoted before it is launched, he said, just as the business directory is already being promoted in all six Nor'west Newspapers every week.

This is brand new to this area, he

Tips for hot water heaters

In a hard-water area, draining one or two gallons from a water heater every month or two can help reduce the buildup of minerals and other sediments. That will prolong the life of the appliance, said Bruce Snead, Kansas State University Research and Extension residential energy specialist.

The placement of a water heater may make draining it difficult - or impossible, Mr. Snead said. Or, if not in the habit of draining the

heater regularly, a homeowner may find the spigot or water line to be corroded or otherwise clogged and thus immovable.

Other maintenance steps to maintain a water heater will depend on the type/model, but may include:

- Checking the temperature and pressure valve every six months.
- Inspecting the anode rod every three to four years.
- On average, residential water

heaters consume 13 to 17 percent of the energy used within the home, Snead said.

More information on choosing and using a residential water heater is available at county and district Extension offices. Contact the Cheyenne County Extension Office for more information at 332-3171

James E. Reeves, DPM
Podiatrist/Foot Specialist
Reconstructive Surgery
Foot & Ankle Injuries
For appointments call:
Rawlins County Health Center
785-626-3211
Wed., March 11
Cheyenne County Hospital - P.M.
210 W. 1st • 332-2104
Thurs., March 12
Atwood (a.m.) • 626-3211
Colby (p.m.)
CSMC, 175 S. Range
462-3332
CMC, 100 E. College Dr.
462-7511
Fri., March 13
Atwood - All Day

Texas Red's BBQ
will be at St. Francis Super's
Wednesday, Feb. 25
thru
Saturday, Feb. 28
Beef brisket, chicken halves, turkey breast, ribs & sausage

OFFERED BY HOMESTEAD REALTY
702 S. Adams St. — St. Francis, KS
4 bedroom, 2 bath with full basement, large corner lot and double garage. Priced at \$69,900.
Contact Cynthia Butts at 785-821-1811
or visit www.cynthiabutts.net
Homestead Realty, Goodland

In Memory Everlasting BOBBY KRIEN
Oct. 19, 1970 — Feb. 19, 1999
Ten years later ~ we still have the question of "Why?" in our hearts, never to get an obvious answer, and our hearts feel as if they will forever be breaking. Those are the times we need to re-evaluate and be thankful for all the times we had to share in his short 28 years, and all of the memories we have to treasure.
Forever Loved and Constantly Missed by his parents, brothers, sister, nieces and nephew, grandparents and children.

Rock'n R Angus
Plainville, KS
21st Annual **Bull & Female Sale**
Mon. March 9, 2009
Sale starts @ 1:00 p.m. at the ranch.
Selling 285 **Black & Red Angus**
Lots include:
15 Black & Red Angus Bulls - 2 yr. old
150 Black Angus Bulls 18 mo.
45 Red Angus Bulls 18 mo.
20 Black Angus Spring 1st calf heifers, AI Bred
15 Black Angus Spring 3-4 yr. old; calving
10 Black Angus open spring heifers
10 Red Angus Spring 3-4 yr. old; calving
10 Red Angus open spring heifers
10 Black Fall yr. bred heifers
Black Sires Represented:
Twin Valley Precision E161
Mytty In Focus
PVR New Time 506
WK Addiction
MC 2500
QLC Contractor
Lau Decade
Red Sires Represented:
Holden Vista 541
Batterson Bellagio 53P
HLL Buster
PIE Countdown 5010
PIE Buckshot 5102
PIE Deep Creek 120
PIE Redmond 3170
Gain Tested
Ultrasound Data
Semen Evaluated
1st Breeding Season Guarantee
Free Delivery
Volume Discount
Sale information or catalog contact:
Ron Hrabec
785.623.8054 mobile
785.434.2101 day
email: rrhrabe@ruraltel.net
Website: www.rocknrangus.com
catalog online:
www.angusjournal.com
This sale will be broadcast live on the internet.
DVAuction
Broadcasting Real-Time Auctions
Real time bidding & proxy bidding available.