



NEW EMPLOYEE Kodi Workman visits with Connie Wilger at the Yost Ford Mercury open house.
Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

St. Francis schools have new communication tool

By Karen Krien
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The St. Francis schools have a new communication tool.

Last year, the administration purchased the computer program, "SchoolConnects." School officials will now be able to contact the parents of students by mass phone calls and e-mails. For instance, if the buses are running an hour late, the parents of all students riding the bus could be contacted as soon as the decision is made. Or if a game is postponed, or there is a time change, again, all parents of that particular sport could be contacted when the decision is known.

Here's how it works. The phone will ring and there will be a message from a school official. Everyone getting the message should be sure and listen to the entire message as it will tell the listener to press No. 1 when it is finished. The message will also be sent to those with e-mail addresses.

On the other end, the official's computer sending the message will have a list of those phones which were answered, those who pressed No. 1 at the end of the message, those who had an answering machine and those households where the phone was not answered. The computer program will continue to try to contact those who do not answer. People having caller ID will see the school has called and if the parent doesn't have an answering machine, they can call the school.

The computer is set up with the names of students riding the bus, those who are in each particular sport, teachers and staff, just to name some.

The equipment was originally purchased to use in case there was an emergency at the school. If this were the case, all parents would be alerted immediately so they would not be worried.

Last year, when the program arrived, Kent Kechter, the school's technician, installed it. Because it was new and there were only a few

months of school left, it was used only a few times.

However, the program was used last week when the buses ran two-hours late and storm routes were used. Rob Schiltz, superintendent, said the program will be used again to remind parents of parent-teacher meetings and other events and changes throughout the years.

Mr. Schiltz said there may still be some "bugs" to work out and asks people to be patient.

Indian News

Indian News has been the usual way people in the community, par-

ents and students have found out news, learned the scores of games, school closings because of bad weather, and other such news.

Mr. Schiltz said Indian News will continue to be used until the equipment finally quits. He contacted the company which made the equipment but it had been discontinued for some time and there are no replacement parts.

"When it quits, we will probably quit Indian News reports," he said.

In the meantime, enjoy the news.

Farm and ranch expo to be held

By Karen Krien
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For the second year, the McCook Farm and Ranch Expo is coming to McCook on Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 18 and 19. Held at the Red Willow County Fairgrounds, the expo starts at 9 a.m. both days and ends at 7 p.m. on Nov. 18 and 4 p.m. on Nov. 19. Admission and parking are free.

"It's a great place to come see the newest and latest in farming and technology practices, said Darren Dale, show manager. We are expecting 300 vendors from 20 states and Canada."

Exhibitors include displays from farm and ranch equipment, seed and chemicals, agricultural service, irrigation manufacturers, financial providers, commodity organizations, colleges, governmental services, home services,

furniture and art galleries. Expo attendees will be able to meet Will Lowe, three-time Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association world champion bareback rider, who will sign autographs both days. Pig races will be held throughout both days.

Corporate sponsors for the expo include Southwest Implement and Hometown Family Radio.

Last year, the parking lot counts showed vehicles from 37 Nebraska counties, 20 Kansas counties, 13 Colorado counties and 10 other states, Mr. Dale said.

The fairgrounds are in north central McCook near West Fifth and O Streets. For more information, contact Darren and Tana Dale, 866-685-0989 or dales@bwtel.com.net or go online to www.mccookfarmandranchexpo.net.

Time to plan for light parade

By Karen Krien
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With two snow storms in October, people are beginning to think about the Christmas Opening and planning for a Christmas Light Parade float.

Gloria Bracelin, Chamber secretary, reminds people that now is the time to start thinking about entries for the Light Parade.

The annual parade, along with the official St. Francis Christmas Opening, is held the Friday after Thanksgiving. It is the highlight of the Christmas opening.

Last year's parade, even though it was chilly, had around 13 entries and a street lined with on-lookers. Floats for this parade are easy to build.

Held at dusk, all that is needed are lights — lots of lights — maybe some music and maybe a theme. People creating and riding the floats say they have as much fun as those standing on the sides of Main Street.

Since there are no advanced

entries needed (just show up at the high school), entries can be planned and made on Thanksgiving Day and finished up by dark on Friday. This is a great activity for house guests and families from out-of-town looking for something to do. This is also a chance to ride in the parade.

There are only two rules: 1) The only Santa is the "real" Santa who will be visiting with children at First National Bank following the parade; and 2) throwing candy is not recommended as it is dark and children cannot be seen if they are darting in the street to retrieve candy.

There will be a "People's Choice" award. Voting places will be announced nearer to the Christmas opening. The traveling plaque will be kept by the winner until next year's parade.

Last year's winner was Peoples Choice, Pleasant Hill 4-H Club. People are urged to start planning today.

Other opening activities

Other activities during the Christ-

mas Opening is the annual Treasure Hunt where people match the number found in *The Saint Francis Herald* with the numbers posted on participating store windows and/or doors.

Santa will be at First National Bank following the parade. This is the only time that Santa will make his appearance to talk to children.

Monday, Dec. 15

The Chamber of Commerce has several other activities planned to make the season more festive.

A drawing, coordinated with the Christmas On Us drawing, will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 14, in front of Jaqua Abstract. The Chamber will be giving away three \$100 scrip prizes. The results of the coloring contest and Christmas lighting contest will also be told.

Also on Dec. 14, the second Treasure Hunt will be held. Everyone is to save their numbers from the first hunt as new numbers will be posted.

Look for more information in future issues of *The Herald*.

GO INDIANS!



ATTENTION — ST. FRANCIS Residents & Businesses

Time to insulate Water Meter Pits

The City of St. Francis thanks you for your cooperation!

Texas Red's BBQ

will be at St. Francis Super's
Wednesday, Nov. 4
thru
Saturday, Nov. 7



Beef brisket, smoked pork, turkey breast, ribs & sausage

In Loving Memory of
GARY BROWN
June 25, 1945 - Nov. 8, 2005

Forever in our Hearts.

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥

Love,
Helen & Kids

Wedding Registry

Samantha Zwegardt & Cody Raile

Wedding
Nov. 28

Schultz's Ltd.
114 W. Washington
St. Francis
785-332-2833

One year ago our Cherished Husband Beloved Father Stepdad, Granddad Step Granddad and Great Granddad Elry L. Hunt was taken from us. We miss & love you.

Leed family

Upcoming Auction

Roger & Kathy Pinnell Estate
Jackson St. Merchantel Liquidation
Saturday, Nov. 14
10 a.m.
Cheyenne County Fairgrounds, St. Francis, Ks.

Conducted by Ewing Auction
Call 785-332-3535 for more information

Cold Weather Is Here!

Don't get out of your car to fill it up! Full service is available at the south pumps!

Don't forget to have your antifreeze checked.

Quote of the Week:
"Why don't they make mouse flavored cat food?"

Station
785-332-2421

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Podiatrist/Foot Specialist
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Foot & Ankle Injuries
For appointments call:
Rawlins County Health Center
785-626-3211

Wed., Nov. 18
Cheyenne County Hospital - P.M.
210 W. 1st • 332-2104

Thurs., Nov. 19
Atwood (a.m.) • 626-3211
Colby (p.m.)
CSMC, 175 S. Range
462-3332
CMC, 100 E. College Dr.
462-7511

Fri., Nov. 20
Atwood - All Day

Non-surgical treatment of hemorrhoids.

John D. Ferris, MD
will be at:
291 15th Street
Burlington, CO

Wednesday, Nov. 25 & Saturday, Nov. 28

For information or appointment, call
1-800-593-0009

Hem cure

Now Available! At the

Uptown Meat Market and Deli

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FRESH (not frozen) Take Home Asian Meals. Choose from General Tso's Chicken, Orange Chicken, Sweet & Sour Pork, Chicken or Pork Egg Rolls, Fried Rice or Sticky white rice plus a fortune cookie.

Fresh (not frozen) Family Finest Take-N-Bake Pizzas. Choose from pepperoni, sausage-pepperoni or cheese.

Fresh Hot Cup of Soup (served morning to evening)
A different Soup everyday.

Fresh Hot Rotisserie Chicken (Half or Whole)
We cook every morning and afternoon.

Plus made to order Sub Sandwiches, fresh salads, sliced meats and cheeses and our new French Bakery Take-N-Bake Breads.

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