

St. Francis student's essay chosen for publication

St. Francis seventh grader, Sarah Whitmore's essay has been selected for publication in "The Medallion" writing contest sponsored by the gifted department at Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center.



Whitmore

"We had many well-written entries in each age division," said Valerie Brown, representing the Service Center. "The panel of judges had a difficult time determining which entries to accept."

The theme of this year's contest was "Everyday Heroes." There were over 250 entries received from area students. Award money was given only to the first-place winners in each age category.

"What an honor for Sarah for her essay to be chosen out of 250 entries," said Lisa Gibson, seventh grade English instructor. "I am very proud of her."

Everyday Heroes

By Sarah Whitmore

What would you do if you saw an animal being mistreated? Would you call someone for help, or would you just ignore it? A German Shepherd dog who was tied to a tree and was starving, named

Joe Joe, was found by a worker at the "Hearts United for Animals" (HUA) rescue in Nebraska. Joe Joe had been tied to that tree his whole life and he never knew what love was, until he was rescued.

HUA rescues hundreds of dogs from all across America. They take in any lost, abused, starving or injured dogs. HUA rescues these dogs and shows them love and compassion. Once these dogs are healthy again, they are put up for adoption for anyone to take home to a loving family. Many times, dogs are rescued from puppy mills and are given a second chance to live a happy life.

Enchilada, a long-haired Chihuahua, was one of the many dogs rescued from the puppy mills. He was scared, weak and definitely not in a healthy state. Enchilada had lost most of his teeth from not being cared for at the puppy mill for eight years. Despite Enchilada's frightful past, he is now a very loving and loyal dog.

"What are puppy mills?" you may ask. Puppy mills are places where dogs are kept kenneled in wire cages their whole lives. They are used only for breeding and their puppies are sold at high prices. If a dog has been injured at the puppy mill, or has had its maximum number of litters, it is discarded and often killed. Most of the dogs kept at puppy mills have

never felt grass under their paws, or felt the sun warm their fur.

"Hearts United for Animals" are completely against puppy mills and they will do anything to help these poor dogs. Once a dog is rescued, it is given medical attention if needed. Each dog will be spayed or neutered, so that there is never an unwanted litter. Every dog that comes into the care of HUA is given the shots and vaccinations it needs.

Not one of over 300 dogs at HUA is kenneled. They have a 65 acre farm of trees and grass to run around on and play with other dogs. They have fenced yards that they share with other dogs, too. Any dog that does not get adopted from HUA is kept to live the rest of his or her life happily on the farm.

The workers at "Heart United for Animals" are very loving toward all dogs. It breaks their hearts to see dogs come into the shelter bone thin, injured and scared. Seeing dogs like this make them want to help them more than ever.

The "Hearts United for Animals" foundation is doing more than we could ever imagine to save dogs from all across America. They do their best to make as many dogs as they can happy. If saving hundreds of dogs' lives, and giving them a second chance isn't heroic, then I don't know what is!



EMILY ELFERS MAKES candles during her demonstration at a recent 4-H event.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Hearing services arrive

Rachel McArthur, a board certified doctor of audiology, is coming to the Good Samaritan Home Health Care facility on the second Friday of each month. She will be cleaning hearing aids, doing listening checks and seeing if the hearing aid is working. There is no charge for the service and people with hearing aids, whether they were purchased somewhere else or with the Colorado Hearing Center, are encouraged to stop by.

She will also do ear molds for swim plugs.

Ms. McArthur works with Dr. Alfred Carr, Longmont, who has practiced in the Goodland area for over 30 years. She is also with the Kit Carson County Hospital. Those needing her services may call her at 785-821-4819 or 719-346-4722.

Ms. McArthur earned her degree at the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley. She said her



RACHEL MCARTHUR, a board certified doctor of audiology, provides help for hearing impaired individuals.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

father and brother had hearing difficulties so she had always wanted

Area 4-H members compete

Regional 4-H Day was held in Brewster at the high school on Friday. Cheyenne County 4-H'ers were among those participating, having qualified earlier at the County 4-H Day.

Those 4-H'ers, their placings and ribbons are as follows:

Senior division participants were Allison Grice who took a blue with her demonstration; and

Bailey Merklin, with her vocal solo, took home a blue.

Brianna Cooks took a blue with her project talk and a red with her vocal solo in the intermediate division. Also in the intermediate division, Valerie Wurm took home a blue with her demonstration and blue with her piano solo; Shakotah Blanka, a blue with his project talk and a red with his in-

strumental solo; and Emily Elfers earned a blue with her demonstration.

In the junior division, Kattie Wurm took home a blue with her demonstration.

A vocal ensemble comprised of Kyla Bandel, Mariah Beikman and Valerie Wurm earned a red placing.

Couple plans wedding

Tiffany Anderson and Robert Ochsner, both of St. Francis, will exchange wedding vows at 5 p.m. on May 22 at the United Methodist Church in McCook, Neb.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Todd and Cindy Anderson of Grand Island, Neb., formerly of Palisade, Neb. Grandparents are Ted and Carolyn Anderson of Wauneta, Ron Buck of McCook, Donita Clark of Benkelman, Vivian Kompus of Stratton and Judy Stone of McCook.

The prospective groom is the son of Robert Ochsner and Carol Northrup of St. Francis. Grandparents are Charles and Dixie Curry of St. Francis, Nettie Ochsner of Kingman, formerly of St. Francis and the late Leonard Ochsner.



Ochsner and Anderson

Visitors stop at local Indian site

North of St. Francis on K-27, is the historic Cherry Creek Encampment site. The teepee, buffalo and prairie dog are watched over by the Indian horse high on the hill.

Each year, winter and summer, travelers stop by to see the site, read the history and sign the registration book.

Tobe Zwegyardt, who was responsible for much of the design and construction in 1990, reports that over 11,000 people have signed the books. They have come from 29 foreign

countries and all 50 states.

The person coming the furthest way was from China. He wrote in the book that he lived 200 miles from the highest mountain in China.

One person said he had spent the night in the teepee. Others just tell where they are from or what they like about the site.


When the site was constructed, there were six Cheyenne Indians who said they felt their ancestor's presence. Today, only three of these Indians are alive. Mr. Zwegyardt said.

Those who haven't seen the historic site are urged to stop by. On a still day, one can almost see the hundreds of Indians camped in the valley below.

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