



The Saint Francis Herald

\$1 (Tax included: 73¢ delivered at home)

14 Pages

Thursday, May 27, 2010

126th Year, Number 21



They're outta' here!! The class of 2010 tossed their caps following the graduation ceremony held Sunday in St. Francis.

Seniors receive diplomas in ceremony

By Casey McCormick

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The St. Francis Community High School gymnasium was the site for the class of 2010's graduation. The afternoon ceremony saw 22 seniors receive diplomas.

Scott Carmichael, principal, reported that \$105,000 in scholarships were awarded to the college bound students. Much of this was due to the efforts of counselor Ward Cassidy.

Pastor Jeff Landers of the First Christian Church gave the invocation and benediction. He encouraged the graduates to be grateful for their education and not view it as something due to them. Pastor Landers stressed the importance of "giving back" to society and communities.

"Your generation is needed now to give back," Pastor Landers said.

Before the national anthem, all service personnel were asked to stand and be recognized. This has become a tradition at graduation. The concert band, under the direction of Debbie Fiala, played the anthem as well as several other pieces.

In another tradition each senior took a yellow carnation to present to their mothers.

The senior farewell was given by class vice president Brooklyn Hnizdil. She took the moment to quote Reverend Martin Luther King.

"Free at last, free at last, thank God almighty, we are free at last,"

Miss Hnizdil said.

Amber Smull, president, began her senior talk by quoting the Serenity Prayer. She then spoke about moving from Memphis, Tenn., the year before she entered kindergarten. An appreciation of living in a small town versus a large city has made a difference in her life. Even though their class was the smallest at St. Francis Community High School, that did not diminish the quality of the group.

In closing Miss Smull quoted the class motto of, "Goodbye is not forever."

After the scholarships were announced for each senior, diplomas were given by school board member Mary Beth Miller, who's son Marvin was among the graduates.

Also helping with the ceremony was class sponsor, Steve Jenkins. Much of the organization of the event was made by Marilyn Raile and Kent Kechter.

Receiving their diplomas were Grady Brunk, Erick Estrada, Brooklyn Hnizdil, Audrey Hoyes, Darris Keller, Terrence Lamb, Alex Long, Jeffery Meyer, Marvin Miller, Emily Mullins, Benjamin Neitzel, Dale Northrup, Freddie Pacheco, Elena Paulsen, Troy Perry, Matt Raile, Trent Raile, Amber Smull, David Stephens, Kaycee Williams, BreAna Zwegyardt and Drew Zwegyardt.

Those earning scholarships were:

Grady Brunk: Colby Commu- See SENIORS on Page 8A



GRADUATION SPEAKERS were class president, Amber Smull, left, and Brooklyn Hnizdil, vice president. w

Herald staff graduation photos by Casey McCormick

Memorial services set

Memorial Day marks a time to remember our veterans who fought in previous wars and conflicts. It is also a time to remember those who are serving the country today.

In honor of these service men and women, there are three ceremonies planned in the St. Francis area.

Hope Valley Cemetery

Memorial services at Hope Valley will be held at 3:30 central time on Sunday at the cemetery 15 miles northwest of St. Francis on K-27 and 1/2 mile west. Pastor Jeff Landers will be the guest speaker.

St. Francis Cemetery

Monday services at the St. Francis Cemetery will start at 10 a.m. with the VFW Post 1528 and the Auxiliary organizing the service. Readings honoring the military men and women who have made so many sacrifices for freedom will be given. Before the playing of "Taps," there will be a reading of the origin of Taps.

Following the service, the Rebekah and Odd Fellow lodges will have a short service at the memorial stone at the cemetery.

Cheyenne Valley Cemetery

The Monday service at Cheyenne Valley Cemetery, 1 mile south of Wheeler, will start at 11:30 a.m.

This year, the spotlight will be on the Willt family.

Everyone is urged to bring a sack lunch and a chair. There will be a brown-bag lunch picnic and election of Cemetery Association officers at Jean Lloyd's house, 530 East Whittier, St. Francis.

Many attend meeting on flood

By Karen Krien

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The Cheyenne Theater in St. Francis was almost full Saturday morning. Around 150 people gathered to watch the National Weather Service's presentation of the 1935 Republican River flood history. Organizing the event were the members of the Cheyenne County Historical Society.

May 31 marks the 75th anniversary of the Great Flood on the Republican River, which killed 113 and causes millions of dollars in losses.

Joy Hayden, along with David Floyd, both with the service, were there but it was Ms. Hayden who had put the power point presentation together.

Presentations on the flood had already been given in Arapahoe and Holdrege, Neb. More are planned and can be found with this article or by going to www.weather.gov. Also on this site, there is information and actual accounts of the flood.

Following the power point presentation, people in the audience were invited to tell what



JANET CARMAN, vice president of the county historical society, introduced Joy Hayden, with the National Weather Service, Goodland. Ms. Hayden compiled the information for the program. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

they remembers or if they knew someone's experience in the flood. Many were perilous with happy endings while others were sad.

Sherry Schultz, St. Francis, asked if such a flood could ever happen again. Gary Rogers, emergency manager, said with farming practices and flood control, it is doubtful. However, he said there is a plan in place if there are circumstances that might indicate that a flood is possible.

Following the presentation,

many went down to the power plant where Mr. Floyd presented a "High Water Mark" sign to Mr. Roger. The sign will be put on the side of the building showing where the water came to during the 1935 flood. Along the flood's path, other signs will also be placed.

Turn to Page 10 of this issue for stories and photos of the flood which changed the river bed as well as the lay of the land and the lives of many. There is a book on the flood which is available at the Cheyenne County Museum.

Swimming pool to open Saturday

By Karen Krien

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School is out and kids are ready to head for the swimming pool. The pool will open tentatively at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 29. The swimming pool is open seven days a week with evening hours on four of the days.

Pool hours throughout the week are 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. On Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, the pool will be open in the evening from 7 to 9 p.m. Lap swimming will be held from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. Monday through Friday.

Crissy Cooks, manager, said there are some special activities being planned for midnight swims. In the past, the night swims have been held every Thursday but, this year, it may be only once a month with some fun activities.

The midnight swims are for those 14 years of age and older and are held from 10 p.m. until midnight.

"We want the midnight swims to be a fun time," Mrs. Cooks said.

Private parties are held on Saturday nights. Call the pool 332-3410 for more information.

Parents are reminded that those children under 5 years of age are admitted free but, they should be accompanied by a person who is 14 or older.

Season passes may be purchased. Several years ago, the punch cards were introduced. Punch cards can be purchased.



For more information, see the ad in this paper.

Concessions

This year, concession stand treats will be more cost-friendly, health snacks.

Being a mother, Mrs. Cooks said, I appreciate having better snacks and those which do not cost so much.

Lifeguards

Pool manager is Crissy Cooks.

Lifeguards have been hired and they all have experience, Mrs. Cooks said. They will be Shaina Gohl, Andrea Holzwarth, Christina Hilt, Shayla Hilt, Mikaela Grace, Matt Whitmore and Aly Marin.

Closings

Lightning creates a dangerous situation for swimmers and guards so parents can expect the pool to be closed when lightning or storms are predicted. Parents need to realize that the pool will

See POOL on Page 8A