

# Children's theatre group brings musical to town

The Wichita Children's Theatre Professional Touring Company will present The Three Billy Goats Gruff in the St. Francis schools at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 20. The performance will also be at Hoxie, Winona, and Sharon Springs schools on Tuesday, Oct. 19, and Quinter schools on Wednesday afternoon after the St. Francis performance.

This musical version of the well-known tale, written by Kevin M. Reese, tells the story of three billy goats who want to get across

the bridge to eat the green grass on the other side, but there's a problem. There's a grouchy bully of a troll under the bridge who is determined not to let them pass! They do finally get across, but only after some quick thinking... and they make a new friend in the process. The goats discover that cooperation and teamwork are the best ways to get the end result you want, and the troll teaches them the magic word--"Please!" They also find out that just because someone looks or acts different, it

doesn't mean he can't be a friend. The Wichita Children's Theatre Professional Touring Company performs from September through February in Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas. The company is professional in every facet, complete with storybook sets, costumes and props appropriate for each production. The performances are sponsored locally by Western Plains Arts Association, with additional funding from the Kansas Arts Commission.

# Hospice group to meet

Hospice Services has scheduled "Hope for the Holidays" meetings around the area.

As the holidays approach, many people will gather with family and friends. More often than not, these gatherings will include reminiscences about loved ones, re-telling of funny family stories, and the sharing of traditions honored year after year. This emphasis on remembrance, so welcomed during joyful times, can be quite difficult for those coping with loss.

For family, friends and neighbors who are facing grief after the death of a loved one, the holidays may instead be a time filled with pain and sadness. And even for those for whom grief is not as fresh, the holidays may serve as an annual reminder of the loss... not only of that person, but of tradition and celebration.

"Hope for the Holidays" meetings include: Thursday, Oct. 21, 3 p.m. mountain time at the Goodland Public Library and Monday, Nov. 15, 2 p.m. at the Redeemer Lutheran Church in Atwood. The meetings are open to the public. Come join Hospice Services for a nourishing program to prepare for the upcoming holidays, giving and receiving support, finding meaning and rediscovering hope.

Many people may not be aware of the support hospice and palliative care professionals offer to members of the community who are struggling with grief during the holiday season. If you or someone you know may be struggling with issues related to loss, encourage them to contact Maralyn Cooper, Bereavement Coordinator, (785-543-2900 or 800-315-5122) for support.



Holzwarth and Lohman

# Couple plans for November ceremony

Danielle Lohman and Brian Holzwarth of St. Francis announce their engagement and approaching marriage.

Parents of the couple are Craig and Carol Lohman of Tonganoxie and Randy and Barb Holzwarth of St. Francis.

The future bride is a 2003 graduate of Tonganoxie High School and is currently studying secondary education at Kansas State University.

The future groom is a 2001 graduate of St. Francis Community High School and a 2005 graduate of Fort Hays State University.

The couple will be married on Nov. 20 at First Lutheran Church in Manhattan.

A reception following the ceremony will be held at the Wareham Opera House.

The couple plans to live in St. Francis after the wedding.



PICKING A WINNER! Benny Weber (left) helps Joseph Agusta with the pumpkin he wanted. Benny's wife, Kathy, brought her second grade class from Bird City to see how plants grow.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

# Garden shows wonders to elementary school kids

By Karen Krien  
karen.k@nwkansan.com

The Cheylin second grade students were excited as they poured out of the white bus driven by Bruce Bolin, superintendent. They had just arrived at the home of Benny and Kathy Weber north of St. Francis and were on their way to discover what all grew in their garden.

In the morning before the field trip began, Mrs. Weber, their teacher, showed them pictures of nuts on both the almond and pecan trees, and they talked about the things they would see in the garden. Before they started to the garden, each student received a peanut.

"I wanted to bring the students over mainly to be able to pick a pumpkin," she said. "I also thought it would be good for them

to see the plants as many have never seen some of them."

The first plants the students saw were the peanut plants. They went on to look at the different trees including several almond and pecan trees. They picked some grapes off the vines, each picked an apple off the tree and pointed out the plums and pears left on the trees. Some of the leaves of the grape vines had been picked earlier and the students had used them to make fossils at school several weeks prior to the visit.

In the watermelon and cantaloupe patch, the kids were able to see the stages of the cantaloupe from the blossom, to the tiny fruit, to the ready-to-pick cantaloupe.

Probably the highlight of the trip, Mrs. Weber said, was when the students were able to choose their own pumpkin. Mr. Weber



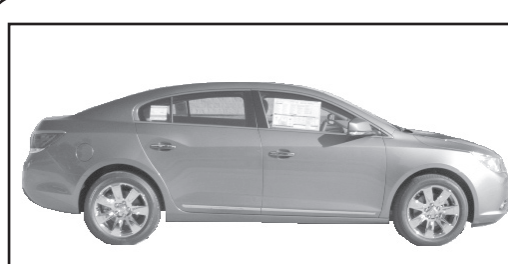
cut the stem so they could take it home with them.

The Webers figured that none of the children had ever seen, or even thought about how the peanut grew. At the end of the visit, a peanut plant was dug up so they could see how the peanuts grow underground.

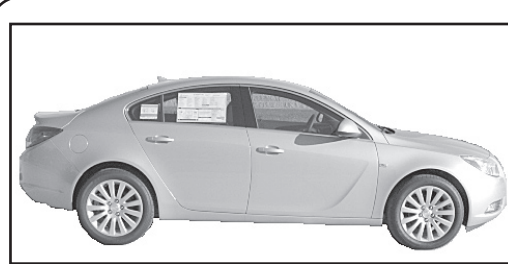
Later in the school year, probably in the spring, Mrs. Weber will be talking to her class more about plants and trees and they will remember their visit to the garden.

"They will have actually seen how plants grow," Mrs. Weber concluded.

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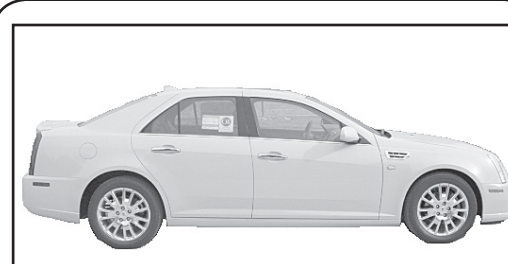
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thought to ponder.....if Luke took a bath, would the water be lukewarm?

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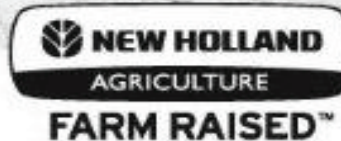
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