

Two additional winners named

Clarice Neitzel recently returned from an all-expense-paid trip to Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pa., where she spent a long weekend of youth-oriented activities. Clarice won the trip with her essay "Why do we celebrate the Fourth of July" which she wrote when she was a freshman. Her essay was printed in the Sept. 23 issue of The Herald.



Gienger Northrup

Since the announcement of Clarice's first place win, two other St. Francis students, Zach Gienger and Aly Northrup, were reported as winners. Zach is a second place winner and received \$50; Aly took third place and \$25.

I am very proud of these students, said Lisa Gibson, instructor. Writing gives these students an opportunity to express their emotions, feelings and thoughts. Then, when they win a writing contest, it shows how very valuable writing can be in their lives.

Why do we celebrate the Fourth of July

By Zach Gienger

The Fourth of July, the day that America gained its independence! This glorious day is usually spent outside enjoying a late afternoon picnic. You can almost always smell the powder from fireworks and, a personal favorite, sparklers. In the distance, there is a constant stream of the sounds of firecrackers popping and children laughing. Although, have you ever stopped to think why we are celebrating the Fourth of July or what some men put on the line when they signed the Declaration of Independence?

It all started with the Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia in the summer of 1776. They were having a meeting to vote to see if they were going to become an independent country. Just in case the up and coming vote turned in favor of seceding from England, the Continental Congress brought together a committee to write a declaration of independence. The Committee held many men like John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and one of the most well known people from the writing of the declaration, Thomas Jefferson.

They started drafting the letter on June 11. After multiple drafts and rewrites, the final copy was submitted to the Continental Congress on June 28. Four days later, the Continental Congress voted to break away from England's tyrannical rule. Then on the Fourth of July, 1776, 56 men signed that historical document, forever cementing that day in American history.

Why is that such a big deal you ask? Think about it for a while. All those men were going against their mother country, England. That's called treason and in most cases punishable by death. If they would have failed, God forbid, all those men would have been signing their death papers.

When it was all said and done, five of the 56 men were captured, tortured, and killed by the British. Another 12 of the men had their houses ransacked and burnt. Nine other signers were wounded and died in the Revolutionary War. So whenever the Fourth of July rolls around, I try and think of the men that put their own lives in danger's

way to start this great nation. If it wasn't for them, the fourth day in the seventh month of the year, would just be another date on the calendar.

Why do we celebrate the Fourth of July

By Allyson Northrup

Why do we have picnics, fireworks, bonfires and celebrations every year on July Fourth. As John Adams wrote in a letter to his wife, "I believe that (the Fourth of July) will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival." We realize, 234 years later, that he was correct.

The Revolutionary War began as a war between Great Britain and 13 colonies in North America. Why, though, did people start shooting off fireworks on this day every year? Fireworks became a tradition to many Americans because it reminded them of gun and cannon firing during the Revolutionary War.

On July Fourth, you walk around seeing almost everyone wearing red, white, and/or blue. Why do we wear these colors? They are the colors of Our American flag, and in a way, they symbolize our freedom from the British. These colors show that we have respect for our country.

Back when the Revolutionary War started, the colonies joined together and formed an alliance against the British. The people in the colonies risked their lives and all that they had to become their own independent country without kings and queens. The people didn't want to be controlled by one person that thought he could do whatever he wanted because he was the king.

The Declaration of Independence has symbolized our freedom every single day since it was written. People go to Independence Hall just to look at and cherish this document because they know how much hard work it took to fight for their freedom and rights.

Whether it is the man or woman across the street, across the country, or across the world fighting in a war, we have respect for any American veteran that has fought for our country's freedoms and rights. We always remember everything they have done for our country. Soldiers choose to risk their lives for the benefit of others.

As July Fourth approaches each year, people think of the fun fireworks and bonfires they will have. What they should think about is what the brave men did for our country. We should always remember how heroic each man was out on the battlefield. What would our country be like without the courage of everyone that fought for our freedom?



THIS TIRE was left at the Pizza Hut trash container and now the manager of the business will have to pay to have it removed, along with additional tires and cans of paints.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Tires and paint left in restaurant's trash

When the city crew picks up trash, they cannot pick up paint or tires - it doesn't make any difference what trash container it is in.

In the past few weeks, the trash container behind Pizza Hut has been the recipient of cans of paint and large tires. Of course, the crew won't accept them so, now, Barb Brown, Pizza Hut manager, has to find a place to get rid of the tires and it will be at a cost to her. The cans of

paint, she said, will be opened and dried out, then the crew will pick them up.

Just because there is a big container does not mean the crew will empty it without checking what is in it. And, just because it is behind a business doesn't mean they will take everything to the dump.

Mrs. Brown is asking that people please not use the container for their personal disposal.

Bowling News

Wednesday Night Men 10-27

Team standing: 2001 Electronics, Wright and Wrong, Haigler 2, Idalia JV, Haigler 1, Krien Steel, Bonanza Ford, Cheyenne Bowl.

High game (scratch): 2001 Electronics 711, 2001 Electronics 706, Wright and Wrong 692; (handicap) Haigler 2 904, Wright and Wrong 874, 2001 Electronics 857.

High series (scratch): 2001 Electronics 2080, Wright and Wrong 1941, Haigler 2 1789; (handicap): 2001 Electronics 2518, Wright and Wrong 2487, Haigler 2 2458.

High game men: (scratch): Bob Lippert 226, Spencer Schlepp 225, Bob Lippert 222; (handicap): Schlepp 265, Lippert 251, Ted Hartford 250.

High series men: (scratch): Lippert 617, Schlepp 551, Bill Carpenter 507; (handicap): Lippert 692, Schlepp 671, Tyler Chamberlain 641.

Ladies Night Out 10-28

Team standing: Wright Carpet, Wray Meat Packing, Bankwest, Strikers, Dundy Ag, Bier's Maids, Yehas.

High game (scratch): Strikers 569, Wright Carpet 560, Wray Meat Packing 553; (handicap) Strikers 795, Wright Carpet 781, Dundy Ag 762.

High series (scratch): Strikers 1608, Wray Meat Packing 1552, Bier's Maids 1538; (handicap): Strikers 2286, Dundy Ag 2245, Wray Meat Packing 2191.

High game women: (scratch): Rhonda Olson 184, Marsha Kechter 175, Terry Yost 170; (handicap) Olson 231, Kechter 220, Linda Olsen 219.

High series women: (scratch): Yost 486, Tammy Drommond 450, Tammy Overlease 448; (handicap) Olsen 622, Yost 615, Vicki Coates 608.

Gifts are needed for organizations

Christmas is the season for giving.....Lawn Ridge 4-H Club, with the help of residents, will be part of that giving spirit.

Over the next month Lawn Ridge members will be involved with a toy drive and food drive for Children's Hospital and the Salvation Army.

If you can help, said Penny Archibald, leader, we would greatly appreciate your support.

Lawn Ridge will be delivering all items on Dec. 19. They will be going to Children's Hospital and the Salvation Army Food Center in Denver to help sort the food items and learn more about their efforts.

Toys must be new, please no used items. The age range is infant to 18-years of age. Suggestions are baby toys, books, crafts, MP3 players, stuffed animals, etc. These children and family members are away from home and find great joy and

comfort from these gifts.

The biggest request from Salvation Army is food. Donations are down and the need is up.

Canned goods, powdered milk, boxed meals, snacks, coffee, candy, just to name a few and please, no perishables, home canned or glass items. Monetary donations are greatly appreciated; for every dollar donated, the Salvation Army can provide five meals.

Drop off boxes will be available starting Nov. 28 at the Methodist Church, First Christian Church, Peace Lutheran Church, and the extension office at the courthouse. Club members will also be at Gabel-Jenkins Wrestling Tournament at the St. Francis Community High School on Dec. 4. Donations can also be mailed to PO Box 351 in St. Francis, 67756. Members will be collecting until Dec. 18.

Demonstration held at Colorado farm

Forget stupid reality TV. "This is the real deal; proceed with caution if you feel squeamish," warns this week's Ranch Foods Direct newsletter.

Ranch Foods head Mike Callicrate, St. Francis, provided a free, live slaughter demonstration on Friday, Nov. 12, at Venetucci Farm (5210 S. U.S. 85 in Colorado).

At the demonstration, Mr. Callicrate and crew were joined by everyone from families (including small children) and a curious local veterinarian to college students and ranchers and interested parties from three surrounding states.

Guests were allowed to witness as much of the process as they wished, as close-up as they preferred. People watched the steers and hogs being killed and bled before carted up to the mobile unit. From there, many people, including kids, climbed inside next to the butchers to watch the animals meticulously disassembled.

For those of us who didn't grow up on farms or even in agricultural communities, the whole process was eye-opening, to say the least. Keeping in mind that this process is much more humane...since the animals don't have to undergo the stress of travel to a large slaughter facility...made watching even the gross or sad parts bearable.

Mr. Callicrate aims to educate

on a new, self-contained mobile slaughter unit that he's helped design, which he argues is "a critical missing link across the country for farmers and ranchers to be able to connect with local consumers."

He cites several benefits of bringing the slaughter facility to the farm versus shipping animals to slaughterhouses:

- The units are more affordable and "less risky" than brick-and-mortar outfits; \$163,000 in this case, compared to millions.

- Slaughtering on the ranch reduces stress on the animals, avoids "shrink" (weight lost in transit due to dehydration) and improves the overall quality of the meat.

- Ranchers save on shipping costs by transporting carcasses rather than live animals. Also, when ranchers connect and sell directly to the public, they can make more money...up to five times more, according to a Pueblo-area farmer in a recent Colorado Public Radio segment.

Mr. Callicrate plans to buy two of these units for use in the Arkansas Valley and eastern and southwestern Colorado, after he installs one on his land in St. Francis. He believes combining this mobile element with the "cut-and-wrap facilities with retail markets, like I have here in the Springs, will step it up to a much more beneficial model."

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