

St. Francis News

Shawn and Leigh Legere, Chase and Miles, Jared and Corine Gugelmeyer, Colby, Logan and Dylan, Aaron and Vickie Kern and Arica, Dan Winston, Jean Winston, Cindy Winston and Betty Jean Winston gathered at the Brookville Hotel in Abilene on Saturday for a holiday celebration. Family members came from Overland Park, Manhattan, Lakin, Sedgwick, Ellsworth and St. Francis.

Sunday the Winstons attended the Kansas Wesleyan University's Christmas by Candlelight musical program. James Winston of Ellsworth is a member of the University's Chamber Orchestra, the Philharmonic Choir and the Chorale.

Obituaries

Clara Alice Holzwarth-Pittman

May 24, 1920 - Nov. 27, 2010

Clara Alice Holzwarth-Pittman, 90, of St. Francis, Kan., died Saturday, Nov. 27, 2010, at the Good Samaritan Center in Atwood.

Clara was born on a farm in Cheyenne County on May 24, 1920, to Jacob "Jake" and Christina Holzwarth. She was the eldest child with three siblings, Alma, Leland and Howard.

On Aug. 23, 1942, in San Antonio, Texas, she and Gerald Andrew Pittman of Bird City were married. They made their home in St. Francis and were blessed with two sons, Gary Lee in 1944, and Gale Alan in 1950. All were baptized into the Christian Church in January of 1958.

Clara was a strong Christian woman who delighted in making a home for her family. Many will remember her as a sales clerk at Skogmos in downtown St. Francis. She enjoyed cooking, especially dishes that reflected her strong German heritage. Among her other interests were sewing and music.

One of her greatest pleasures came each spring when she and Gerald planted their garden on the acre plot behind their home. They maintained a wide variety of fruits and vegetables which they preserved and eagerly shared with many friend and family.

Clara and Gerald were blessed with five grandchildren, Heidi, Julie, Patty, Chad and Ryan, all of whom loved overnight visits at Grandma and Grandpa Pittman's home. Days at Grandma and Grandpa's house were spent helping with the garden, riding bikes, playing Chinese checkers, cooking, sewing and always laughing.

Clara and Gerald became

Reba Stratton Raile

Sept. 25, 1921 - Nov. 29, 2010

Goodland, Kan., resident Reba Stratton Raile, 89, died Monday, Nov. 29, 2010, at Good Samaritan Society, Sherman County in Goodland.

She was born Sept. 25, 1921, in Inavale, Neb., the daughter of Franklin D. and Hazel Stratton Davis. In 1940, she graduated from high school in St. Francis.

On Feb. 5, 1942, she and Clayton F. Raile were married in Baltimore, Md. With Clayton's work with Safeway stores, they had lived in Brush, and Wray, Colo.; Colby; Scottsbluff, Neb.; Cheyenne, Wyo.; and Lake Havasu City, Ariz.

In 2002, they moved to Goodland. She had worked at Southwestern Bell as an operator and clerk.

Preceding her in death were her husband Clayton F. Raile; parents, Franklin and Hazel Davis; infant brother Charles Davis; and sister Louise Karn.

Surviving family includes her daughter, Bonnie Selby and her husband, Marvin of Goodland; two grandchildren, Tad Woofter and his wife, Racene of Fort Worth, Texas; Tim Woofter and his wife, Linda of Mission Hills; five great-grandchildren Cole, Garrett, Rachel, Jacob, and Joshua; and sister, Rachel Davis of Goodland.

The memorial service will be at a later date. Memorials may be designated to the Senior Adult Center, and may be left at or mailed to Koons Funeral Home, 211 N. Main, Goodland, KS 67735-1555.



MARCH OF THE WOODEN SOLDIER held at the Yuletide Festival on Sunday afternoon, was sponsored by the St. Francis Music Club. Pictured are (l to r), Adalene Krutsinger, Reagan Beims, McKinnley Bartells, Emileigh Dinkel, Mallery Mills, Madison Tice and Echoe Lexnox.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick.

Approval of hiring an assistant clerk

By Karen Krien
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At the Thursday meeting, the St. Francis Board of Education approved the superintendent's recommendation for the hiring of an assistant clerk of the board.

Traci Neitzel was approved by the board and superintendent, Rob Schiltz, said he would let her know. Mrs. Neitzel was one of five applicants interviewed for the job and all those interviewed were well qualified.

Mrs. Neitzel is on a six month contract and the plans are that she will eventually take the position of clerk of the board now held by Sharon Olofson. Mrs. Olofson announced several months ago that she would be retiring but was willing to stay on until the new clerk could be trained.

Gifts accepted

The board accepted two gift offers. One for \$801 was received from the Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll drive. The money will be used to purchase needed materials and/or equipment for special education students.

The second gift was from Mike and Renee Walker. The Walkers have been giving donations for several years. This gift was for \$550. Mrs. Olofson said the Walkers have given \$2,250 since 2008. This money will be used for a special project.

Governor's Achievement Award

Superintendent Schiltz announced that the St. Francis junior-senior high school was one of 17 high schools to receive the Governor's Achievement Award. The school also received the award in

2006-2007. The award honors top performing schools in the state.

Dr. Diane DeBacker, commissioner of education, had sent a letter to the superintendent, noting that 41 elementary schools, 11 middle/junior high schools, and 17 high schools qualified for this prestigious award.

School calendar

The board approved the 2011-2012 school calendar which will now go to the teachers for their review and comments. Mr. Schiltz said there were substantial changes from this year.

The calendar has one less day of school than this year's school year. School will start on Monday, Aug. 29, which is later than usual. There will be only three in-service days for teacher before school instead of five days.

Christmas vacation starts on Dec. 22 and school resume on Monday, Jan. 2. School will end on May 23.

Mr. Schiltz said he had figured adding 12 minutes to each school day and the ending savings would be only \$3,400. It is not enough, he said, to justify making the days any longer.

Terms coming to an end

Election for board of education members will be held on April 5. Positions held by John Knodel, District 3, position 3; Dr. Mary Beth Miller, District 1, position 1; Bonnie Zwegardt, District 2, position 2; and Sherry Weeks, member at large, will be up for election.

Dr. Miller and Mrs. Weeks plan to file for another four-year term. The last day to file for a school board position is Jan. 25.

School improvement projects

The Board and administration reviewed and discussed several school projects that have been considered in the past or are being considered now. At the top of the list is to replace the doors at the front of the high school. The old doors, Mr. Schiltz said, have been there for many years and are not energy efficient.

Another project is to replace the hot water boiler at the high school. The boiler is a 1965 model. One of the school boilers went down this year but if this one goes down, there will be no heat in the junior high section.

Other projects include refinishing the gym floor, replacing the

high school gym lights and remodeling another classroom.

Mr. Schiltz will look into prices and time lines, reporting back to the board at a later meeting.

Superintendent's report

Mr. Schiltz is on the Kansas Association of School Board School Funding Committee. The committee, comprised of nine superintendents, was appointed to provide representation for the diversity of Kansas districts by enrollment and student demographics.

Next meeting

The next board of education meeting has been set for 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 13, in the board room at the high school.

Winners receive prize

Earlier, grade school children drew pictures depicting what they thought about Christmas and some could have been used as Christmas cards. They were judged, and on Monday evening at the Chamber and Christmas On Us drawings, the winners were announced.

Prizes were awarded to the top three winners in each class. First place received a gift certificate from Pizza Hut; second, a movie pass with concessions; and third, a gift certificate from Video Kingdom.

Winners were:
Kindergarten - Molly Gilliland, first; Ellee Krien, second; Liberty Valazquez, third.

First grade - Dawn Rice, first; McKenna Poling, second; Amanda Neitzel, third.

Second grade - Kattie Wurm, first; Brody Kaup, second; Shadryon Blanka, third.

Third grade - Audrey Meyer, first; Brady Dinkel, second; Dakota Morris, third.

Fourth grade - Kazzandra Bala, first; Teagan Landenberger, second; Brice Hays, third.

Fifth grade - Madi Tice, first; Sayed Fierro, second; Trayton Doyle, third.

Sixth grade - Jenna Confer, first; Katie Schmid, second; Trey Van Allen, third.

Carpentry Instructor

Northwest Tech is seeking an outstanding Carpentry Instructor with 3 years of experience, interest in classroom, shop, and field instruction. Past business management a plus. Degree preferred. Excellent salary and benefits. Open until filled. Send letter of application and resume to:
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brenda.chatfield@nwktc.edu
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The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times Will be CLOSED

Friday, Dec. 24 & Friday, Dec. 31



Advocate Deadline for Dec. 29 will be noon, Thursday, Dec. 23

The staff at the St. Francis Herald and Bird City Times wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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