

100th

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wife – in helping with the animals, driving a tractor, cooking for harvesters, managing the farm business. She didn't know the convenience of having a refrigerator, gas stove or telephone for the first 15 years of marriage, as electricity didn't come until she was in her 40s, and in-door plumbing several years later.

Many remember her as a perfectionist, whether preparing a meal, sewing a new dress, making curtains, teaching school or writing poetry.

Above all, she loved teaching and had a unique ability to relate to young people. First as a country school teacher, and then beginning in 1947 as a leader of the Plum Creek 4-H Club along with her husband Joe.

It had been 25 years since Cheyenne County had had a state 4-H champion. In the following 10 years, the Plum Creek Club had 11 state champions and six national winners. It became the most honored and recognized 4-H club in the state.

In 1954, the Skelly Oil Company honored the Neilans with its National Farm Family award.

A birthday celebration was held for Gladys on Jan. 9 at the Good Samaritan Prairie Manor nursing home in Sharon Springs. Family, friends, staff and residents of the

home enjoyed ice cream and cake in honoring Gladys.

Gary pointed out that Gladys was born on a farm, raised on a farm, married a farmer and lived on a farm for the first 84 years of her life. She suffered a stroke in 1995 and became a resident of the St. Francis Good Samaritan home until the Oct. 19 fire.

Though the years have taken their toll, Gladys still managed a big smile for her two grandsons at her 100th birthday celebration. Family attending the celebration besides Gary were Wilma Neilan, Las Cruces, N.M., Scott and Melody Neilan and son, Kyle, of Kansas City, and G Jay Neilan, Jacksonville, Fla.

FULL

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District 2, position 4, Belinda Serano; District 2, position 2, Nick Ketzner.

Sunflower Extension District
Justin Lohr, St. Francis, is running for the seat on the Sunflower Extension District 6 board.

No withdrawing names
It should be noted, that after a candidate has filed for an office, he cannot withdraw his name after the last date provided by law for filing.



HEADSTART STUDENTS enjoy lunch at the St. Francis Grade School each day. Pictured are Zoey Hankins and Serenity Jones.
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Book Review

A Sister's Secret

By Wanda E. Brunstetter

Book review from the St. Francis Public Library

Putting her rumschprunge (running-around years) behind her, Grace Hostettler returns to Holmes County, Ohio, joins the Amish church, and begins a new life with a new romance. The next four years are nearly idyllic for the oldest Hostettler child - except

for the hidden pain of a carefully harbored secret. Then her peaceful world is shattered the day she runs into Gary Walker - an Englisher who knows enough about her past to destroy her future. And his arrival coincides with a series of startling attacks against the Amish community.

A Sister's Test

By Wanda E. Brunstetter

Ruth is the second oldest sister in the Hostettler family, and she has one burning desire-to marry and fill her Amish household with children. Life seems to be falling into place when Martin Gingerich starts to court her and she befriends a motherless child. But

her dreams are suddenly shattered in one horrific moment, putting Ruth's faith to the test. Finding herself spiritually adrift, Ruth's only real prayer becomes a desperate "God, why?" Will Ruth find the faith and strength to rise above the ashes?

Facts about hospice care you should know

Some people mistakenly think hospice care is just about dying...that hospice is the place you call when there's nothing more that can be done. Nothing could be further from the truth. Hospice helps patients and families focus on living.

Hospice care brings comfort, dignity, and peace to help people with a life-limiting illness live every moment of life to the fullest. It also reaches out to provide support for the family and friends who love and care for them.

Last year, 1.56 million dying Americans were served by the nation's hospice providers. Yet, there are some important facts about hospice that people don't know. And this may be keep-

ing people from getting the best care possible, when they need it most.

- Hospice is not a place; it's high-quality medical care that helps the patient and family caregivers focus on comfort and quality of life.

- Hospice is paid for by Medicare, Medicaid, most insurance plans, HMOs, and managed care plans. Fear of costs should never prevent a person from accessing hospice care.

- Hospice serves anyone with a life-limiting illness, regardless of age or type of illness.

- Hospice serves people of all backgrounds and traditions; the core values of hospice...allowing the patient to be with family,

including spiritual and emotional support, treating pain...cut across all cultures.

- Research has shown that the majority of Americans would prefer to be at home at the end of life's journey...hospice makes this possible for most people.

- Hospice serves people living in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

- Hospice patients and families can receive care for six months or longer.

- A person may keep his or her referring physician involved while receiving hospice care.

- Hospice offers grief and bereavement services to family members and the community.
- To get the most out of what

hospice offers, it's better to have care for more than just a few days.

If this information about hospice surprises you, take the time to find out more. The best time to learn about hospice is before someone in your family is facing a healthcare crisis.

For more information, contact Hospice Services at 800-315-5122 (in Phillipsburg 785-543-2900) or visit <http://www.hospicenwks.net> You can visit <http://www.caringinfo.org> or call the HelpLine at 800-658-8898 for general information. This information is provided by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and Hospice Services.

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