8 Saint. Francis Herald

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Auxiliary group has interesting meeting Friday

Legion Auxiliary 352 ladies held and with a straw sucking out all an appreciation luncheon at the the air. It wasn't until much later American Legion Hall in Bird she learned that sometimes those City last Friday afternoon.

This appreciation luncheon got to the destination. was for those who had supported them in the Auxiliary Support how many things citizens, in Our Soldiers (SOS) program. this country could do for those Of the 24 women in attendance, serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, many of these ladies are not in so she started asking for help in the American Legion Auxiliary, putting together care packages, but were very supportive of this and writing to soldiers who did project.

Starks, from Oklahoma City, Okla., as the guest speaker. Karen with even some foreign countries is the originator, and coordinator helping out. for the Support Our Soldiers (Hugs Program). Mrs. Starks, started off by telling where her love of the military came from.

As a young girl Karen had two uncles that had served in the World War II and they told stories about the war, so she grew to love the military. After a car accident that took her first husband's life and left her with two teenage girls to finish raising, she felt she needed to do something with her life.

One Sunday at her church, a serviceman stood up and told the congregation what it was like serving and fighting in the wars. and said, "I have 800 soldiers on He told them that many of the my base and more coming, we soldiers in his unit never heard from anyone in the United States, and encouraged the people of this church to just write notes to them and let them know how much they loved their freedom and how thankful they were that they were will carry it in his pocket. fighting for us.

Seal for more information. The means of survival if needed. It is news talked about how these simply a long cord that is woven soldiers needed lots of support, into a bracelet, and if needed it can and some of them had no one to be pulled out to produce a long offer that support. The Desert cord, that can be used to choke Seal talked about how anyone the enemy if needed as a method who was interested could write of escape. to these soldiers. She decided to adopt a soldier to write to, adopted by the Bird City sent out 30 copies of her letter, Auxiliary is the cooling ties and received 45 replies. She that are sent to the soldiers in reached into the middle of this any extremely hot place. The pile and selected one. It was scarves are 22-inches long, and from a lonely sailor aboard the two to three inches wide, and USS Independence Ship. They sewn to form a tube and filled continued to correspond, fell in with tiny grain like beads that love, and have been married for expand when soaked. They 14 years.

continued writing to other hugs project is to place a "Hug" lonely soldiers, and sending care (neck cooler) around the neck of packages to her husband Ted, every American military member who shared all the goodies with serving in the Middle East. his shipmates. She could cook, but didn't have a sewing machine, photos of soldiers in Afghanistan or know how to sew, so she sent around to see how they have cookies and all sorts of goodies. to live. One of these was titled, She even tried sending cakes by 'The heart of America saved us'.

The Bird City American inserting them in plastic bags, cakes turned green before they

This is when she realized not get any mail. Since June of Hulda Dorsch introduced Karen 2004, this project has expanded to become a nation-wide project,

> Through her contact with soldiers in Afghanistan and other countries that do not have any means of shopping, she found out there was a great need for care packages in these areas of the war. Because there is no way of them being able to shop, they wear their sox until they rot and fall off their feet. In the mountains it can get as low as minus 40 degrees. Some days they have to go for 3-4 weeks without a shower. One soldier told her he put his uniform on in October, and took it off in February

One of the officers wrote her need as many care packages as you can send".

A simple rock with a cross on it can become significant to a soldier in knowing someone they don't even know cares for them, and

One of the newest items Mrs. Starks went into Desert volunteer groups make can be a

The main sewing project lower body core temperatures by After her marriage, she 5+degrees. A main goal of the

Herald staff photo by Norma Martinez It contained a tear jerking story from a group of soldiers who were marching to a certain area, and they come upon a very small girl sitting in the middle of the

their service.

road with her arms crossed on her chest clutching a bunch of Beanie Babies. They ordered her to move, and she refused. After their leaders command to move on, they drove the equipment off the road and went around her. When the next group came one of the soldiers remembered handing out these Beanie Babies to a group of children days earlier. They took time to talk to her through an interpreter, and she warned them of danger ahead. As they approached the bridge farther down the road, they found it had been blown to pieces and if they would not have stopped, they too would have been blown up with the bridge.

The HUGS project sends 4,000 special Christmas boxes every year, between June 2004 and the present they've sent over 850,000 'Hugs", approximately 150,000 books and more than 365 tons of care packages to Americans serving in harm's way.

Anyone can join the Support Our Soldiers Hugs program and



By Kay Melia vkmelia@yahoo.com

This is sure to be a busy week and weekend for gardeners all around the area as we dive headlong into the early planting season. I would remind you that there is still lots of time to plant those early season, early maturing cool weather vegetables, such as spinach, peas, onions, radishes, lettuce, potatoes, broccoli, and cabbage. However, I wouldn't wait much longer, because maturity dates will come when the weather turns hot in mid-June. Don't even think about planting tomatoes yet, or beans, cucumbers, sweet corn, squash, cantaloupe, or watermelon. Wait until about the first of May to be reasonably assured that they will avoid the late frosts or freezes.

Cabbage family plants should be quite safe to set out into the garden now. I'm talking broccoli, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, and kale, among a short list of others. And when you do, the time for extreme vigilance begins. There is a bitter enemy of these types of plants lurking out there, and it generally strikes immediately. The day you plant your broccoli or cabbage, watch for those small white cute little butterflies with the black-tipped wings. You'll likely see them flitting around your new plantings. Watch them closely. You'll likely see the butterfly land on a plant and deposit several eggs there, usually on the underside of the leaves, out of your normal sight.

When that happens, it's usually

only a few days before those tiny green worms emerge, and within a week mature into ravenously hungry inch-long worms that will soon riddle the leaves and greatly stunt the growth of the plant.

If you have a small number of plants, you might try picking the worms off by hand, but that's a lot like time-consuming, all-day work. The best way to control cabbage worms is not to let them start. You can prevent the butterflies from laying eggs by covering the plants with nylon netting spread over a framework, commonly called a row cover, which are usually available at your garden center. But don't wait too long because these little green babies work quickly! You can spray the plants with a biological material called "bacillus thuringiensis," commonly known as "bt." There are different bts for different insects so read the label carefully. These materials are sold under the commercial names of Dipel and Thuricide. Be sure to spray the underside of the leaves or your effort will be in vain. These materials are harmless to children, pets, and beneficial insects. Spray regularly until you no longer see those darling little butterflies hanging around ..

Cabbage worms are by far the worst bug in my garden, causing much more damage than flea beetles or Colorado potato beetles. If you see the white butterflies or the green worms, declare war on them, or forget about any sauerkraut this year.

1 Prairie 1 **GUEST SPEAKER Karen Starks had an interesting presentation**

about the Support Our Soldiers project.

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com also: If you have someone serving "over there" please submit their address online at the same address and they will receive a care package from the Oklahoma City group to thank them for

SPRING CELEBRATIONS **Show set for Oakley April 16**

8:30 am.

in the "Cowpokes" session from 9 to 10:45 a.m. "Cowpokes" will Horseman's Day. be led by the Colby Community

The fourth annual High equestrian team is looking Office at 785-460-4582 or check Plains Horseman's Day on April forward to teaching the cowpoke us out online at www.thomas. 16 is taking place at the Logan all about the horse, what it eats, ksu.edu. County Fairgrounds in Oakley and what it likes. "Cowpokes" beginning with registration at do not need to bring their horse; the equestrian team will have A special program is designed several available for hands on for the horse-crazy kid in the area. activities. A pre-registration Animal Chiropractic Care, Youth ages 7-12 can participate was required by April 8 for Feed Supplement Savvy, and "Cowpokes" at the High Plains

For more information contact College Equestrian Team. The the Thomas County Extension

Why Not Travel to Denver for Your Dentistry?

This year the Horseman's

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Day sessions include: Jumping-Form over Fences, Trailering - From Nose to Tail Lights, Introduction to Versatility Ranch Horse with Jay and Gena Henson.

Mrs. Stark passed several

if anyone is interested in helping out they can contact; Hulda Dorsch, Joy Anderegg, Wanda Dowdy, or Christie Wurm for more information. Or go into the website: www.TheHugsProject. net, and www.TheHugsProject.

Coming Soon: SENIOR PARENTS!!! Bird City • • St. Francis • • Idalia, CO **Congratulate** Your

Graduate

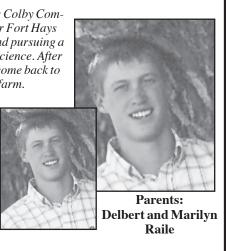
The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times are now planning the Senior **Graduation Supplement** and will be giving parents a chance to put a baby picture in along with a short message from the family for \$20 extra. This feature is optional.

Senior pictures will be sponsored by parents, grandparents, individuals and/or businesses for \$39.00 each or three for \$99. Deadline for baby picture and message is Friday, April 29.

Matt Raile

I plan on attending Colby Community College or Fort Havs State University and pursuing a degree in animal science. After college I hope to come back to the family farm.

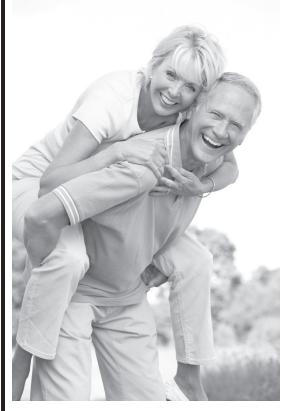
Matt Dillon-It's been a joy watching you grow from that special little boy of ours to the fine young man you are! We wish you lots of success and happiness in all that you do. You've made us very proud! With all our love, Mom and Dad



For more details, contact the Saint Francis Herald at 785-332-3162



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