



KARY ZWEYGARDT, Quincy Gallery director, and Kim Zwegardt, artist, discuss sculptures on exhibit at Quincy Gallery with sculptor Glenn Zwegardt, a native of St. Francis.

Donations sought to buy park art

Glenn Zwegardt, former resident and now world-known sculptor, will return to St. Francis in early May to take the five sculptures he loaned to St. Francis back to New York. Some community members feel that at least one of the sculptures on exhibit should remain in Sawhill Park. "Art in the Park" is a recently formed group whose goal is to keep the Zwegardt

sculpture, Stone Pass-Through, as a permanent art piece in the park. Stone Pass-Through is a result of Zwegardt's research using new materials and combining metal, glass, and granite to create a work of art. This sculpture captures the innovative spirit of Cheyenne County. It has been 80 years since Howard Sawhill dreamed of creating

an oasis on the plains. That dream became a reality through vision and hard work. The purchase of Stone Pass-Through will add to the park's sculpture collection, and will keep that 80-year-old dream alive. The cost for the sculpture is \$5,000. Donations are tax deductible and may be made to "Art in the Park" at First National Bank in St. Francis.

Art group seeks to recognize Vets

Cheyenne Center for Creativity, St. Francis, is seeking art by veterans for a show, which will open Memorial Day weekend, called "What is War?" The purpose of the exhibit is to show how art can bridge the gap of understanding that exists between the veteran and civilian worlds. The art can be in the form of poetry, prose, music, sculpture, photography, painting, drawing and other creative media. All veterans are invited to submit work for consideration in this exhibit by March 15. Send information describing the work, (a photo, if available) to: jjocarman@hotmail.com or mail to CC4C, 1625 Road G, St. Francis, KS 67756, or call 785 332 3569 for more information. Include the artist's name, address, and other contact information in this application for consideration. More details will be given if work is accepted for exhibition.

Cheyenne Center for Creativity was launched in St. Francis May 2, 2012, for the purpose of inspiring and promoting the growth of a creative community through exhibits, recitals, workshops and classes. The center recognizes that the creative community extends beyond Cheyenne County to include the Northwest Kansas and tri-state areas. In 2013, the center rented gallery and classroom space at 109 N. Quincy and established Quincy Gallery. Since that time, the gallery has hosted art exhibits, dramatic presentations, piano and instrumental recitals, an Irish "craic," as well as classes in glass fusing, acrylic painting, pottery and children's activities. Quincy Gallery recently received an entry for the "What is War?" exhibit from a Viet Nam veteran in Illinois. This submission shows how music played a part in war. It is titled

"The Silver Flute", and features the story and photo of a family artifact, a fife or silver flute, which belonged to a great-great-grandfather who was a Yankee prisoner of war during the Civil War. (More details of this story will be revealed at the exhibit, which begins May 26.) Every generation of this family includes veterans, from the Revolutionary War to the war in Afghanistan.

Book signing on March 9 by retired farm wife writer

Marie Holzwarth, St. Francis retired farm wife and relatively unknown writer, will do a book signing on Sunday, March 9. At 2:00 p.m. selections from her book *My Scribbles* will be read at the Old Country Church on Highway 36. From there she will move to the museum to sign copies of her book. The public is cordially encouraged to attend.

My Scribbles is a book of her memoirs and poetry, which she started writing as a young bride while sitting in a truck during harvest awaiting a combined load of wheat. In January she celebrated her 84th birthday. She refers to her writings as "just my scribbles," and they are found on various-sized slips of paper stuck behind her laptop on an old Sellers kitchen cabinet that she refinished and uses for her desk.

About ten years ago she bought an old typewriter at an auction and started typing some of her notes into completed poems or stories. Prior to that, everything was handwritten. Then in 2006, she stayed with a granddaughter in Amarillo, Texas, during recovery from hip surgery. She had taken along her old typewriter and lots of her "scribbles," thinking she would have time to get some of them typed. Granddaughter Mylee Bell could not believe what her grandmother was using for a typewriter. As a result, Mylee and her husband Jon took Marie on a shopping trip and made sure she returned to St. Francis with a new laptop and printer. Carol Rogers and Natalie Stahlecker "use their expertise when my computer won't work," says Marie.



MARIE HOLZWARTH will be on hand at the Old Country Church on March 9 to sign her memoirs and poetry book, My Scribbles.

served as editors of the book. Lucille did the formatting, and Janet scanned family photos or took photographs. D&K Printing of Boulder, Colorado printed the book. The United Methodist Thrift Store granted about half the printing costs.

This is not the first time Marie has been published. Over the years, she has had letters, poems, short essays, and memoirs published by Capper's Weekly and the Reminisce magazine, and also in a series of books called *My Folks*. Capper's Weekly paid her between \$3 and \$7 for what they published. "That was a lot of money back then," says Marie.

The cover of the book is a photograph of a painting of Alvin and Marie Holzwarth's farm. Pat Confer of St. Francis painted the house, barn, windmill, some out-buildings and trees. The painting now hangs in the living room of Marie's house in town.

The back cover of the book has two endorsements by members of the Rough Writers.

Marie is quite modest about her abilities. At the end of the book she writes, "I also want to say that all of these writings were just for my own memories. I never thought about doing a book, so they were not written with the idea they would be published. I didn't think anyone, not even my own family, would read them unless I were dead."

The Rough Writers are hosting the book signing and will serve refreshments. The Cheyenne County Historical Society is sponsoring the event. Freewill donations will go toward the upkeep of the Old Country Church. Submitted by Lucille Rossbach.

Others started to realize how good her writing actually is. In 2008, on the encouragement of her neighbor Anabelle Rueb, Marie started attending the Rough Writers, a local group of writers in St. Francis who meet monthly during the school year to encourage each other's writing efforts. Whenever Marie would read a story out of her past or a poem revealing her quirky insights, the group applauded her work.

From there, the Rough Writers decided that her writings were "too good not to be published." So about a year ago, Marie started gathering copies of everything she has written and they started organizing and editing the works.

Lucille Rossbach, Janet Carman, and Louanne Isernhagen

Senator holds town hall meeting

By Amanda Miller
amiller@nwkansas.com
Senator Ralph Ostmeyer came to Saint Francis for a town hall meeting on Saturday, March 1.

About a dozen people showed up to greet the Senator at Cuppa Joe's on the chilly Saturday morning. He discussed what bills were coming up, and what was going on in the legislature right now. It was an informative meeting.

Kim Zwegardt, Cuppa Joe's owner, said that the main issue that was discussed was a bill regarding the water issues with the Ogallala Aquifer.

According to the High Plains Water District, the Ogallala Aquifer is one of the largest aquifer systems in the world. It stretches across all or portions of eight states, generally from north to south, including South

Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas and underlies about 174,000 square miles. Approximately 95 percent of the water pumped from the Ogallala is for irrigation.

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