

Student's poems printed in book

This past spring St. Francis middle school students and freshmen wrote poems to be submitted to Creative Communication.

For the freshmen, over two-thirds of the class's poems were selected to be published. For the middle school students, almost three-fourths of each class's poems were selected to be published.

"This is a great honor for these students," said Lisa Holzwarth, language arts instructor. "I'm so excited for them. With this great honor, it gives them the inspiration in continuing to write. Congratulations, students for your published poetry!"

Among those selected were: Freshmen: Katie Schmid, Ryan Grover, Jenna Confer, Taryn Zwegygart, Trinity Weers, Julia Davis, Joel Hill, Jake Hamilton, Taylor Rogers, Makayla Rogers.

Eighth grade: Tate Busse, Jylian Laten, Reagan Beims, Tressa LaBarge, Madison Tice, Coy Cassaw, Zoe Sundstrom,

Matthisen Witzel, Emileigh Dinkel, Janeth Elena Perez-Merdina, Luke Lampe, Jake Faulkender, Hanna Bracelin, Devin Patton, Jessica Pacheco.

Seventh grade: Kouper McQuigg, Taylor Kinzer, Echoe Lennox, Jessica Confer, Teagan Landenberger, Mason Schmid, EmmaLee Archuleta, Lauren Johnson, Christina Frink, Kaleb Hays, Bryce Raby, Draven Houtman, Seth Mosee, Connor Keller, Hunter Helton, Shelby Wolff, Cody Baxter, Joslyn Ketzner, Alex Queen, Wyatt Hilt.

Creative Communication is dedicated to promoting the arts and has sponsored student contests for over 20 years. Their philosophy is to be selective so that it is honor to be published. As a classroom, the students and I received a free anthology for having more than five poems published for each contest.

Look for their poems in issues of *The Herald* which will be printed as space allows.

Farmers with drought can apply for relief

"Farmers in Cheyenne and Rawlins Counties, who suffered crop or livestock losses due to drought occurring May 13, and continuing, may now apply for Farm Service Agency emergency loans," FSA Farm Loan Manager Patty Eckhardt said. Applications for assistance will be accepted until Jan. 21.

The Farm Service Agency, we want to be your lender of loan staff can refer customers to other public and commercial financing sources that can serve as a blend with farm loan programs.

Agency loans covering physical losses may be used to replace installations, equipment, livestock, or buildings (including homes), lost through this disaster.

Agency loans covering production losses may be used to buy feed, seed, fertilizer, livestock, or to make payments

on real estate and chattel debts. "Funds can also be used for other essential operating and living expenses," Eckhardt said.

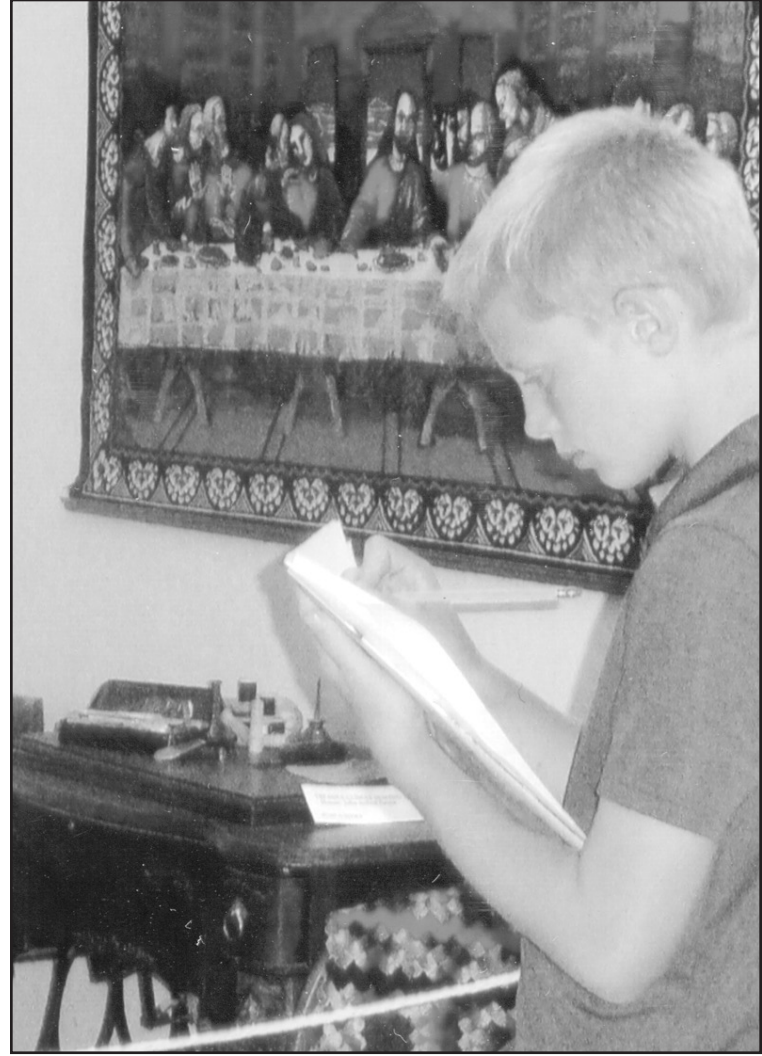
To be eligible for an emergency disaster loan, an applicant must be operating a family size farm or ranch, must be unable to get credit elsewhere, and must have suffered a qualifying physical and/or production loss from the disaster.

Farmers who suffered at least a 30 percent reduction to at least one cropping enterprise, may have a qualifying production loss. Emergency disaster production loss loans cover 100 percent of qualifying losses.

Farmers and ranchers who think they may be eligible should contact the FSA County Office in Goodland, Kansas or call (785) 899-3070 for additional information and how to apply.



A NEW FRONT DOOR is installed with funds donated by alumnus Robert Wilbur and the St. Francis Community Foundation.



SHADRYON BLANKA keeps track of his findings during an elementary school scavenger hunt at the Cheyenne County Museum during the last week of school.

Historical Society highlights activities

The Cheyenne County Museum has a new front door. Last year during Alumni weekend, Robert Wilbur, concerned over the security of the museum entrance, donated \$1,500 toward the purchase of a commercial door. The St. Francis Community Foundation granted the Historical Society \$750 to cover the cost of installation. Scott Schultz donated laminate flooring and installed it in the entry way to finish the project.

New carpet was installed in the Old Country Church this spring. Now the renovation is complete; just in time to celebrate this historic building's 100th birthday. The Cheyenne County Historical Society invites the community to reserve it for weddings, celebrations, reunions, sing-alongs, church services and other meetings. For more information,

call 785 332 3939 or 785 332 3569.

The Historical Society will host its annual Brat Feed on Saturday, June 21 from 11:30 to 1:00 on the Museum grounds. The Congressional Medal of Honor will be on display during the Museum Open House that day from 10:00 to 3:00. The public is invited to both events.

School Field Trips

Saint Francis elementary students enjoyed an exciting and educational scavenger hunt at the Museum the last week of school. Their favorite things ranged from wedding dresses to dinosaur bones. The week before, second graders from Wray traveled to St. Francis for a field trip to the bowling alley and museum. Students visited with the farmwife in the kitchen, the schoolmarm and the mercantile owner.

4-1-1

Legislative session successful for travel industry

The following is an editorial by Helen Dobbs, director of the Cheyenne County Development Corporation (CCDC). Helen is a member of the Travel Industry Association of Kansas. The association seeks to influence government decisions which affect the travel industry; develop programs which communicate the cultural, social and economic impact of the travel industry on Kansas and individual communities; and provide a forum for interaction among all sectors of the travel industry.

The 2014 Legislative session was a monumental one for the Travel Industry Association of Kansas. As a representative of our county, I'm a proud member of the association. One of the largest pieces of the association's 2014 policy platform was passed overwhelmingly by the Kansas Legislature, and the association was pleased to see support for tourism and the travel industry in Kansas remains strong amongst members of the Legislature.

We were extremely pleased that the Legislature worked

together to pass unanimously a resolution that will offer Kansans a constitutional amendment to allow for raffles for nonprofit organizations. We will continue to work to ensure Kansans vote yes to this amendment on the ballot in November. Sub for SCR 1618 is a state constitutional amendment for consideration at the next general election in November. The amendment, if approved by a majority of voters, would allow charitable raffles by certain nonprofit organizations. This will be a great benefit to the many county organizations in their fundraising efforts.

Travel Industry Association of Kansas is also very happy to see the Legislature's continued support in investing in tourism in Kansas. The Kansas Division of Tourism budget had no changes, and that demonstrates the high rate of return on investment on Kansas tourism dollars. We want to keep Kansas competitive with surrounding states, and tourism funds remain dedicated to direct tourism projects and not diverted to other efforts. Local efforts include distribution of brochures



By Helen Dobbs

within Cheyenne County, at the Kansas Travel Information Centers in Goodland and Belle Plaine, as well as community information centers, and promoting Cheyenne County at shows in Denver, Kansas City, Omaha and Wichita, and the Kansas Sampler Festival.

During the 2014 session, we were able to work with other interest groups in opposing legislation that would have had a negative impact on our industry's ability to market to new visitors of Kansas. Travel Industry Association of Kansas successfully opposed broad based reporting requirements for entities receiving state funding, which would put tourism professionals at competitive disadvantages with other competitive destinations and limitation or prohibition of public lobbying.

We look forward to more tourism opportunities in the state, especially with the new state tourism slogan. "There no place like Kansas"...and Cheyenne County.

Conservation applications due

The Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Kansas is now accepting applications for its new Agricultural Conservation Easements Program (ACEP). The ACEP combines NRCS' former Farm and Ranch Lands Protection, Grassland Reserve, and Wetlands Reserve programs.

"This is an exciting new opportunity for even more people to get involved in conserving natural resources," said Kansas State Conservationist, Eric B. Banks. "We encourage Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations, and private landowners to apply."

Applications must be submitted by June 6, 2014.

ACEP has two components, one for wetland reserve easements (ACEP-WRE) and one for agricultural land easements. Wetland reserve easements would restore and enhance wetlands and improve habitat. Eligible lands include farmed or converted wetlands that can be successfully and cost-effectively restored. If you are interested in a wetland reserve easement, contact your local NRCS office.

Under the agricultural land component, funds are provided to eligible entities that can use ACEP funding to purchase agricultural

land easements that protect the agricultural use of eligible land. Interested landowners should work with an eligible entity to submit an application.

Learn more about ACEP and other Farm Bill programs at www.nrcs.usda.gov/farmbill

Please contact your local NRCS office or conservation district office located at your local county USDA Service Center (listed in the telephone book under United States Government or on the internet at offices.usda.gov) for assistance. More information is also available on the Kansas Web site at www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov. Follow us on Twitter @NRCS_Kansas.

Light the way to a cure

Keep the fire of hope burning by purchasing a luminaria candle in memory of someone lost to cancer, in honor of someone still fighting, or in special recognition of someone who has beaten this dreaded disease.

Relay For Life of CHEYENNE COUNTY

SATURDAY – JUNE 7
NOON TO MIDNIGHT
AT SAWHILL PARK IN ST. FRANCIS

Complete this form and send it along with your donation to:
The Saint Francis Herald, P.O. Box 1050, Saint Francis, Ks. 67756

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
Daytime Phone: _____

Please join us for the luminaria ceremony at 9 p.m. or dark \$10.00 per luminaria please!

<input type="checkbox"/> In honor of _____	<input type="checkbox"/> In memory of _____
<input type="checkbox"/> In honor of _____	<input type="checkbox"/> In memory of _____
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TOTAL ENCLOSED _____
Makes Checks Payable To: The American Cancer Society