

Cold weather has hit and it is time to get coats, hats and mittens out of storage. It is possible that last year's coat may not fit or the gloves don't match or the wearer just wants a new coat, hat and gloves. Now, what do they do with the old coat or the extra coats still hanging in the closet.

Connie Jenkins, St. Francis, is once again collecting coats, hats and gloves to take to the Urban Peak Teen Shelter in Denver. She has been collecting

warm clothing for these homeless kids for five years and each year, she has almost more than she can carry in her car.

Urban Peak is the only shelter for homeless teens in Denver. There are counselors, medical assistance and career training for these youth but many just stop in to get out of the cold. "Life would have to get pretty rough to opt for the streets," Mrs. Jenkins says.

Wanting to help, year after year, St. Francis people have opened their hearts to these youth.

"There have been more coats than I can take in just one trip and the shelter is most grateful for the warm clothing."

The youth range from 12 to 20 years old.

"If you have extra coats this year, you may put them on my porch at 304 W. Spencer, St. Francis. I will be making a trip to Denver by Nov. 23."

Plain Sense

from High Plains Mental Health Center

Rural Stress

Contributed by Karen D. Beery, LCP, Consultation and Education Department

This year's drought conditions have impacted northwest Kansas in several ways, including additional stress added to the lives of farm families and rural communities. Recent rains provided some reprieve, but much of the damage was done long before the needed moisture arrived. There is nothing anyone can do to change the weather, but

we can help and support each other through the difficult times ahead.

Stress, especially accumulative stress, can negatively impact one's physical and mental health, as well as relationships on the job and within marriages and families. The result can be significant health problems, depression, anxiety, divorce, and even suicide. During tough times, there are several things that can help:

Reach out to each other; keep the lines of communication open between family members, neighbors and friends. Stay in touch. Isolation can

lead to depression and much more serious issues, including suicide.

Stay as positive as possible by keeping problems in perspective. Focus on what's really important in life.

Be flexible; look for new alternatives.

Know how to laugh, and how to cry. Take things one day at a time

Remember, tough times also bring unexpected opportunity and a chance for change and growth.

Seek professional help when needed. Your family physician, clergy, and mental health counselors are available to answer questions and assist.

Kansans have new options on tag renewal

Kansas residents have a new option when they renew their vehicle tags. For those who wish to avoid potential lines or simply don't like to mail their renewals, there is now a quicker, simpler electronic vehicle registration option.

The program, dubbed "E-tags" by the Department of Revenue, provides current vehicle owners with two new ways to renew their tags, the Internet or the telephone. Both are completely automated, extremely easy to use and very quick.

Even those who are unfamiliar with the Internet would have no problems renewing their vehicle registration. The Internet option, www.kswebtags.org consists of just four simple steps. Renewing by phone at 1-866-4KSTAGS (457-8247) is toll-free and just as easy. Either option can be completed in a matter of minutes and can be used any time of day, every day of the week from any computer with Internet access or any touch-tone

telephone.

"Our mission is to provide a simple, convenient way for citizens of Kansas to renew their vehicle registrations," said Sheila Walker, director of the Kansas Division of Vehicles. "The new E-tags program helps us further this goal by utilizing the latest technologies in a very easy-to-use way."

There are only a few requirements for the use of E-tags. The vehicle being renewed must currently be registered in the state of Kansas, the vehicle owner's address as printed on the renewal notice must be current and the vehicle must be insured by a participating insurance company.

Vehicle owners wishing to use the E-tags service should have their PIN number and a credit card ready before logging on or calling in. The PIN will be printed on the renewal notice that should arrive 30 to 45 days before a vehicle's tags expire. In addition to the normal renewal fee, there is a slight charge to cover program operations.

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The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Allan Miller, General Manager. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Washington, D.C. 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the fullest extent possible.

Police Officer

The Seneca Police Department is taking applications and resumes for a full-time police officer. The City of Seneca provides sick leave, paid vacation, nine paid holidays, medical insurance, workman's compensation, K-PERS retirement, uniforms and leather. To qualify for this position, an applicant must be at least 21 years old, be a high school graduate, be in good physical condition, be able to pass written and psychological examinations and be able to pass a background investigation. Applicants are preferred to have a Kansas certification in Law Enforcement and upon being hired will be required to become a resident of Seneca. The City of Seneca is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Closing date for accepting application is November 15, 2002, at 5:00 p.m. For an application contact the city clerk at 531 Main Street, Seneca, KS 66538 or by phone at (785) 336-2747. 17-3



Happy Halloween!

Ron Thornburgh
Your Secretary of State

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WICHITA

INFORMATION 913-345-9492

Kansas Classified Ad Network

POWER PLANT OPERATOR

The City of St. Francis is taking applications for a **Power Plant Operator**. A high school diploma, or GED is required. Applicant must have good public relation skills. This position involves shift work. Successful applicant must pass a pre-employment drug test and a NCIC background check. The City offers competitive wages, health insurance, a deferred compensation plan, KPERS (after 1 year), paid vacation, sick leave and 8 paid holidays. Applications are available at the City Office (209 E. Washington) or by calling: 785-332-3142). EOE

BA: 44-46

Adoption
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Legal
Social Security disability claims; Saunders & Saunders Attorneys at Law. No recovery, No fee! 1-800-259-8548.

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The City of St. Francis is accepting BIDS for Pouring a Partial Concrete Floor

at the Recycle building on Hwy. 36. The bid area "A" is 16'x94' and area "B" is 28'x20'. Specifications are available at the City Office, 209 E. Washington or call 785-332-3142. Bids will be opened at the regular council meeting on Nov. 19, 2002. The City reserves the right to reject all bids.

BA: 44-46

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