



On the Plains

Idalia News by Elsie Shanks

Christmas Program

Practice is underway for the Idalia kindergarten through twelfth Christmas program. The program is scheduled for Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. The theme this year is "Home for Christmas."

St. John United Church of Christ

St. John United Church of Christ invites everyone to come join them. Sunday school for all ages is at 10 a.m. Worship service is 11 a.m. Next Sunday, Dec. 7 is Grandparents Day, drawing at 10 a.m. for a new grandchild during Sunday school.

Bill Carpenter Sr. sang a solo "Sweet Little Jesus Boy" accompanied by Betty J. Moellenberg which was enjoyed.

Sunday, Nov. 30 was the first Sunday in Advent, hanging of the greens. Clark and Mildred Rolow and Shirley Boden read and Clark lit the advent candle.

Dec. 10: Womens Fellowship Christmas dinner, program and gift exchange for secret pals. Bring a guest or two and a gift for them.

A card was signed for Pastor and Cheryl for their anniversary.

Birthday

Larry and Janie Beckman motored to Black Hawk Friday, Nov. 27 to celebrate Larry's birthday and were overnight guests of daughter and family. Tom and Angie Toledo and Chelsea at Parker. The next day they enjoyed dinner at a restaurant.

Trip

Ted Mosier and son and family, Eric and Jeannie Moiser Ethan and Luke of Elizabeth spent a week at Mesa, Ariz., visiting his mother, Jenna Mosier.

Hospice Tree of Lights

The annual hospice of the plains tree of lights celebration will be held in conjunction with the Idalia school Christmas music program on Tuesday, Dec. 16. For more information call the Hospice office or to make a donation.

Thanksgiving Dinner

Phyllis Long, sister Judy Taylor both of Goodland and John Meszaros of Kanorado hosted early Thanksgiving dinner Saturday Nov. 22 at John's home. Those attending were Mildred and Clark Rolow of Wray. Gary Long, Brad and Nancy Long and children all of Burlington, Nicole and Brett Travis of Pueblo.

Wreath Making Class

Want to spend a fun evening making wreaths, swags and wall hangings of natural materials from the prairies? Come share our Christmas spirit together with supplies and ideas for creating decorations for your home. Join Judy Shively and Betty Moellenberg in a wreath making class at the school greenhouse, Thursday, Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m. Bring your own ribbon and any other supplies you will need. For more information call Judy Shively or Betty Moellenberg. Class size will be limited.

Idalia FFA Chapter

The Idalia FFA Chapter Creed Speaking contest was held Nov. 13 in the cafeteria. The Ag I students recited the FFA Creed and were asked questions about the Creed. The Ag I students did a great job! The final award winners include: gold, Todd Shively; silver, Lucas Devlin and Scott Cure. Bronze, R.J. Kleweno and Rodney Wade. Todd Shively and Lucas Devlin will attend the High Plains District contest held at Liberty, Dec. 8.

Names Sought

Idalia FFA Chapter was recently proud to add an American FFA degree recipient to its list of members accomplishments, Ray Wudtke received his degree at the 2003 National FFA convention. The FFA Chapter would like to recognize all those members past, present and future who have received their American Degree. This degree is the highest degree an FFA member can attain. The group submitted a request to the National FFA for them to search their database to find out which former members of the Idalia FFA also received their degree. They were able to produce the following names; John Hardwick (1966), Travis Crites (1993) Justin Hardwick (1993), Jason Hardwick (1995) and Grant Wieser (1995).

The members are asking the community to please contact them with any other names of former members who received this honor. They plan to put a plaque in the agriculture

room with the former members names and year of attainment. Please contact Donna Karspeck at the Idalia school with any questions.

Senior Day

St. John United Church of Christ Senior Citizen Day was enjoyed with their family attending and the new furnace which kept them warm. Bill Carpenter Sr. and Clay Blankenship played a trumpet duet which was enjoyed. The children time was enjoyed by viewing the cabbage plant, then they passed it around for the congregation to view. The youth took up the collection after Pastor Datema's wonderful sermon. Everyone was invited to stay for dinner.

The senior table had a beautiful fall arrangement in the center of the table. The seniors were served first by the youth. The seniors attending were Alma Helling, Charlie Shively, Chester Wieser, Virgil Lundvall, Violet Knapp, Clarence Lidke and Elsie Shanks.

The seniors also brought pictures of their life which was displayed on a table. Each one received a white candle with a red leaf with their name inscribed "You are a blessing."

Lynn and Renada Doddridge and family hosted Thanksgiving dinner at their home Thursday, guests were Eugene and Dorlene Doddridge, Glenn and Beverly Doddridge and family.

Bill and Debbie Thompson motored to Greeley Saturday and enjoyed a late Thanksgiving dinner with their daughter, Stephanie Thompson at a restaurant.

Ruth Richards enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner at her home Thursday with all her family attending.

Dennis and Rebekah Wieser hosted Thanksgiving dinner for Alan and Theresa Pattison, Terry and Torrie Pattison, Brendon and Riley, Chester and Judy Wieser, Lori and Brian Hall and Brayden, Chester Wieser and Joyce and Mildred King.

Sharon Mahl, sister of Gary Mansfield died. Funeral was at the Methodist Church in Loveland, Nov. 25.

Betty J. Moellenberg was a Sunday afternoon visitor of Alma Helling and took her a church bulletin and the connecting point news which is available now for everyone to read.

Gordon Mandis and daughter, Emily of Burlington were Thanksgiving dinner guests of his parents, Tom and Marie Mandis.

Eddie and Janie Hall hosted Thanksgiving dinner at her home Thursday with all the family attending.

Lucille Helling hosted Thanksgiving dinner at her home. Thursday guests were Don and Myrna Andrews, Rachel and Nathan, Mark and Lisa Klinzman, Kyle and Jason of Sterling, Marilee Helling of Denver, Alma Helling of Idalia.

Marilee Helling of Denver was also a weekend guest of her mother.

Terry and Debbie Crites, Lawrence and Jerry Crites and Bernice Zwegardt of St. Francis were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Dr. Guy and Trisha Coberly of Longmont.

Jerry and Junior Weisshaar were Thanksgiving dinner guests at Burlington Care Center in Burlington with her mother, Fern Summers.

Darrell Shanks and daughter, Darby Shanks left early Sunday morning for Fromberg, Mont., to attend the funeral of uncle, Herman Shanks who passed away Wednesday at 12 p.m. The service was scheduled for Monday morning at 11 a.m. They will visit relatives and return home.

Jason Hardwick of Fort Collins spent this week visiting his parents, John and Mary Ellen Hardwick and enjoyed Thanksgiving with them.

Libby Morris got her Master's Degree in May and is now teaching kindergarten and Title I at Bo, S.D.

Delmar and Roberta Moellenberg hosted Thanksgiving dinner at their home Thursday. Guests were Gay and Jeff Uhland and girls of Eads, Joy and Cody Akey and girls of Wray, Del Rae Moellenberg of Fort Collins and Rob and Margaret Hagenbach of Denver, Violet Handsfield of Longmont, Clarence Lidke, Clayton and Billie Poenisch of Engle, Texas. Del Rae was a Tuesday through Saturday guest of her parents.

Mary Blanchard, E.J. and Briar Carpenter and Aidan were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Kevin and Celeste Stevens and family at Brush.

Geron, Jill and Madison Helling stopped by Idalia Wednesday on their way from Minnesota to Denver. Leona Helling, mother, accompanied them to Englewood to celebrate Thanksgiving with Grant and Carolyn Carnie. They brought Leona home Friday evening and returned to Minnesota Saturday.

Howard and Cynthia Paul, Matthew and Jonathan spent the holiday week on a Caribbean Cruise which they enjoyed taking the ship from Miami, Fla.

LaVern and Carol Boden were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Carl and Phyllis Ostoff at Athol, and enjoyed Thursday through Friday night at the John Boden home in Smith Center. It sure seemed quite when they returned home after being with their grandchildren, Caitlin, Raegan and Breann.

Melanie and Shawn Pratt were Thanksgiving dinner guests of her parents, Ralph and Norma Beck at Cheyenne Wells.

Betty J. Moellenberg, Emmett and Bonita Wise of Joes were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Dennis and Laura Lengel, Brian and Kevin.

Larry and Cyndie Weyerman and boys, Wayne and Denise Weyerman and family, Mike and Sharon Warren and family of Burlington were Thanksgiving dinner guests of their parents, Ralph and Beverly Weyerman.

Freeman and Diana Morris and her mother, Lee Busby of St. Francis were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Les and Jeannie Gelvin of Fort Collins, her sister and husband.

Bill and Peggy Carpenter, Bill Jr. and Renee Carpenter, Faith and Hannah, Wade Carpenter and friend, Albert and Timothy Carpenter of Boulder were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Ted and Donna Mosier.

Darrell and Rose Mary Shanks and Elsie Shanks attended the Woller family Thanksgiving dinner Saturday, Nov. 29 at the Community Hall in Vona with a number attending hosted by Helen Gyer and friend Bill Lawson of Irving, Texas. They all made a Christmas cards with their names, played games and took pictures in the afternoon. They had a wonderful time. The tables were decorated with inflated turkeys with tablecloths, and napkins to match. They had yellow cups that had their names on them.

Elden Flick of Fort Collins, Bruce, Pat and Cody Texter of Eckley, Doug, Anita, Desirie and Donnita Jimmies and friend, Michelle all of Wray were Thanksgiving dinner guests of mother, Evelyn Flick.

Troy Flick was a Friday through Sunday guest of his mother, Evelyn Flick.

Rick and Gayle Maroncelli and Nathan of Fort Collins brought Thanksgiving dinner to Ralph and Cheryl Datema's home as many of their invited guests weren't able to come to their home. Katelyn Shaw of Joes joined them for a few hours. The rest of the Shaw family were down with the flu and unable to join them.

Roger and Trudi Wieser and Katie took his father, Chester Wieser Sr. and Joyce and friend, Mildred King Wednesday to Arby's for an early Thanksgiving dinner.

Roger and Trudi Wieser and Katie enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner with her parents, Bill and Darlene Strangway at their home in Wray.

Kirk and Rhonda Dienes of Peyton were visitors of her grandmother, Elsie Shanks and attended the Senior Thanksgiving dinner Sunday, Nov. 23 plus worship service, program and music.

Most of Charlie Shively family attended the Senior Day celebration at St. John United Church of Christ last Sunday.

Alma Helling had seven family members that attended the Senior Thanksgiving celebration.

Some of Chester Wieser Sr. family and friends attended the Senior celebration.

Jerry Crites was a Wednesday afternoon visitor of Alma Helling and brought her a piece of pumpkin pie with whipped topping cream.

Donald and Zeck North of Flagler and his daughter, Marcie Peden, Taylor and John of

Goodland, Gary and Marilou North of Burlington, Don and Janice Elrick of Watkins, Kitty Jacobs of

Wray attended an early Thanksgiving dinner Saturday, Nov. 22 at Hillcrest Towers in Wray with their mother, Geneva North. Also Deb Bush of Haigler.

McDonald News By Vera Kacirek

McDonald prepares for Christmas

Last Tuesday afternoon the Main Street of McDonald was filled with workers putting up Christmas decorations. Volunteers were both men and women, members of Lions and McDonald Area Development, with the help of a truck and employee from Midwest Energy. Strings of lights, colorful figures were put on the lampposts, and the City Park was decorated. On Sunday members of the Garden Club decorated the street planters with evergreen branches and poinsettias. The town is ready to greet visitors and shoppers to McDonald as the Christmas season approaches.

Ray and Marlene Johnson joined other family members on Thanksgiving Day as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bethell in Colby.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Davis were Friday overnight guests of Ray and Marlene Johnson. Other visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Ray Simon of Alma, Jim Morelock and Tunney and Leila Loker.

Kent and Joan Banister, Amelia Banister and Karlyne Atchison were among the guests of Mark and Jackie Roesener for Thanksgiving dinner.

On Sunday Kent Banister and Amelia Banister visited in St. Francis with Viola Jones and Irene Kehlbeck.

Last Monday Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson visited in McCook with

Jamie Harris and Shalyn and took them out for lunch. They also visited with Flo Lorens at Willowridge and with Mildred and Sue Heinbigner in Culbertson.

Cheryl Wilkinson was a last Monday visitor of Lori and J.J. Denny and Lakin in Colby.

Greg and Cheryl Wilkinson were Thanksgiving Day guests of Mike and Terri Skolout in McCook.

Thanksgiving dinner guests of Joan Tongish were Doug and Mary Tongish of Goodland, Jamie, Mikayla and Katlyn Cody of Colby, Mike and Diana Tongish of Atwood and Vivian Curry.

Thanksgiving dinner guests of Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson were Jim and Ruby Tracy and Mildred and Sue Heinbigner. Supper guests were Rod, Lisa and Josh Johnson.

Stan and Becky Purvis and children and Zelta Knapp were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Jerry and Betty Knapp. On Saturday Brenda Knapp and Travis Knapp surprised their parents and came home for the weekend.

On Sunday Jerry and Betty Knapp took Zelta Knapp, Vivian Curry and Joan Tongish out for dinner to celebrate Zelta's birthday.

Vance and Betty Lewis were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Judi Barnabee and Bud Mosier.

Family members brought Thanksgiving dinner and shared it with Dennis and Lila Howard. Family who shared the day were Debralee Howard, Tunney and Leila Loker, J.B. and Brenda Loker, Gary and Penny Loker and Les and

Tish Loker. Afternoon visitors were Brad and Tammi Loker and son, and Chris and Dana Howard and Mitchell.

Tunney and Leila Loker attended the Saturday evening wedding of Ben Brogan and Keri Jo Waterman in Atwood.

Eleanor Swihart entertained with a Thanksgiving dinner for her family. Guests were Julia and Steve Foster, Devin, David and Brian of Craig, Colo., Danielle Ladd, Alison Swihart, Karen and Jackie Huber and Jessica Ogran, all of Mission; Steve and Debby Swihart, Stephanie, Melissa and Christina of Westminster, Colo., and Bruce and Shirley Swihart, Seth and Adrienne of St. Francis.

R.J. and Susie Sabatka entertained on Friday evening with a post-Thanksgiving supper. Guests were Chanda Sabatka, Rachel and Taylor Wilson, Carl Earnest, Kasey and Jennifer Sabatka, Gracie and Tyler, Barney Kacirek, Norman and Tessa Davis, Raphael and Agnes Sabatka and Laddie and Vera Kacirek.

Barney Kacirek returned to Denver on Sunday after spending the weekend with Norman and Tessa Davis.

Ratha Lea Loker was a Thanksgiving Day dinner guest of Dwight and Priscilla Brown of Wray, Colo.

Phil and Edith Peters of Brush, Colo., were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Dale, Avis, Diana and Myrtle Hazuka. Afternoon callers were Dale, Junior, Stacey and children.

South of McDonald By Sandy Binning

Ed and Elaine Kogl of Commerce City were Thanksgiving evening until Saturday afternoon guests of Ote and Ellen Dewey. Laura Craig of Alma joined them Saturday for lunch.

Thanksgiving dinner guests of Tom and Kelly Dewey were Ote and Ellen Dewey, Craig and Barb Morton, Kristina Morton, Jim, Shelly, Neal, Brian, and Brett Brungardt, Mike, Carla Nicole and Luke Starns, and Ed Morton.

Thanksgiving Day guests of Lee and Pam Vyzourek were Aaron and Lacy Sramek and children, Joe Vyzourek and Becca Steward and Leonard Vyzourek.

Jim and Cheryl Banister were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Grant and Marilyn Glad at their home in Atwood.

Mike and Amy Waters and chil-

dren of Haviland were visitors at the Doug Flemming home and the Lavern Golt home Wednesday through Saturday.

Ron and Bonnie Thompson and their children, Patricia Thompson and Josiah Goodley were Sunday evening guests of Lavern and Bethel Golt.

Thanksgiving dinner guests of George and Kathy Banister were Steve and Diane Heiman and Linda of Chester, Neb. They were also Wednesday overnight guests of the Banisters. Laurene Dickman of Quinter was also a dinner guest and spent Wednesday and Thursday with the Banisters before returning home.

Joe and Charlene Kramer were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Ryan and Diane shay and family at St. Francis. Dennis Kramer of Man-

hattan was also a dinner guest.

Roy and Jnel Hubbard are spending the week with Roy's parents, Dan and Margie Hubbard.

George and Kathy Banister and family attended the Cheylin Science Fair Tuesday evening in Bird City. David, Amanda and Debbie all had entries.

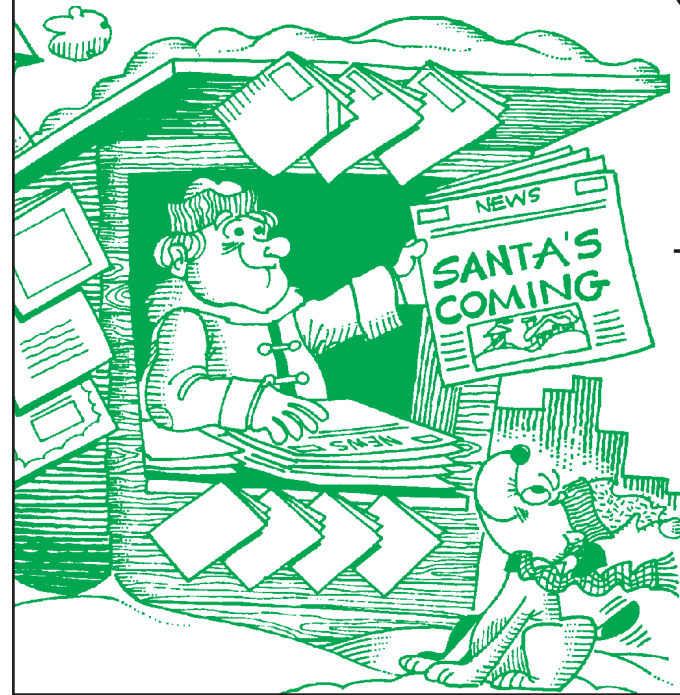
Amanda Banister was a participant in the League Vocal Clinic and Concert in Bird City. The family all attended and also attended the FFA Hog Roast in McDonald.

George and Kathy Banister attended the pre-season junior high basketball tournament in Brewster Friday and Saturday.

Lavern and Bethel Golt spent several days this past week in Wichita. They visited with Matt and Marty Golt and family and Mike and Amy Waters and family.

Herald/Times Happenings: Christmas Tab

This supplement will be filled with Christmas Cheer: Letters to Santa, Recipes and Memories. The advertising is reserved for Christmas well wishes!



For more details, contact
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Bird City Times

The Saint Francis Herald