

# On the Plains

## Idalia News

### St. John United Church of Church

Guest officiate Pam Coulter conducted the worship service on Sunday May 7. *Happy Birthday* was sung to Lawrence Crites. Bill Carpenter and Steve Lindsey sang *Gentle Shepherd*. Pam Coulter's sermon was titled *What is a Sheep to Do?* Scripture was Psalm 23, 1John3:16-24 and John 10:11-18. Bill Carpenter and Bailey Jackson sang the Hymn of Communion, *Break Thou The Bread of Life*. Women's Fellowship presented Pam and Jim Coulter with a quilt to honor their recent marriage.

Vacation Bible School will be held May 29 through June 2.

June 4 Church Service time will change to 10:30 a.m. There will be no Sunday school during the summer.

### Speech Contest

Idalia fifth grade students participated in a speech contest at school on Friday, May 5. The theme of the speeches was *Making a Difference*. Brianna Royer, Riley Shaffer, Mikaela Waitman, Chad Heath, Breanna Stafford, Ashley Hurlburt, Ashton Weyerman, Sierra Weyerman, Trewit Furnish, Bailey Long, Cesar Mendoza, and Norma Gonzalez all presented speeches on individual topics within the theme. Judging the speeches were community member Kristy Minor, high school senior Andrea Knodel and ag teacher Donna Karspeck. The judges awarded a first place tie to Ashley Hurlburt and Mikaela Waitman for their speeches *I Have a Dream* and *Methamphetamines are Bad For*

*You. Tony Hawk* was the subject of Ashton Weyerman's second place speech, and Trewit Furnish placed third with *World War II*. Breanna Stafford placed fourth with her speech on *Physical Fitness for You*. The fifth grade class was led by their teacher Mrs. Cyndie Weyerman.

### College Graduations

Among the many local students graduating from college this month are Angela Knodel (Business) from Hastings College in Hastings, Neb.; Angela Chamberlain (Physical Education), Phillip Devlin, Dessany Oestman (Elementary Education) and Brian Lengel from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley and Ken Brenner (Information Systems) from University of Colorado-Cororado Springs. Reed Parker graduated from Claredon College in Claredon, Texas last weekend with an Associate of Science degree.

### Music Program

Under the direction of musical director Mrs. Sarah Drohan, Idalia music students presented their Spring Program, *Fun, Fun, Fun* on Friday evening. After a welcome and announcements by Mrs. Drohan, master of ceremonies Jonathan Castillo introduced the performers. Starting off the night were instrumental performances by Colton Chartier playing *Theme to the Flintstones* on piano, Luke Terrell performing *Surprise Symphony* on baritone, and Alex Gribben performing *Home on the Range* on the ukulele accompanied by singers Nick Engel, Breanna Stafford, Mikaela Waitman, Ashley

Hurlburt and Sierra Haines. Next came the third and fourth grades performing *Spoonful of Sugar, Blue Suede Shoes (Mis Zipatos Azules), Grand Old Flag and Meet Me in St. Louis*. Shawn Pratt, accompanied by his father Stan Pratt, sang and played *Young Love* on the guitar. Iliany Araujo performed *She'll Be Coming 'Round the Mountain* on the piano. Next up was the kindergarten class singing *Eensy Weensy Spider, The Wheels on the Bus and I-10*. The sixth and seventh grade girls entertained the audience with their vocals on *Simple Gifts*. The fifth grade class sang *We Watch TV and Take Me Out to the Ball Game*. Summer McDonald sang *Memory* from Cats. Miriam Gonzalez performed *Home on the Range* on piano, Brenden Dutton (trumpet) and Will Helling (alto saxophone) performed *Ode to Joy*, followed by Matthew Paul's *Caissons* on bells. The first and second grades completed the evening with their vocal performances of *Feelin' Groovy, Good Ship Lollipop, Crawdad Hole, and Buffalo Gals*.

### Family Fun Night

The Idalia School welcomed over 125 parents and students for a night

of fun on Monday evening. Take Me Out to the Ball Game! was the theme of this Focus on Literacy night. The large crowd was entertained by a performance of Casey at the Bat by the elementary staff and a vocal performance of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" by the fifth graders, followed by a variety of games and activities. After dining on hot dogs and apple pie, each student received a free book along with Cracker Jack and peanuts! Each family was presented with a notebook containing reading and spelling information for all grades. Door prizes were awarded throughout the night. Winners of baseballs autographed by the 2006 Idalia Wolves baseball team were Maggie Earl, Jonathan DeLeon, Bailey Jackson, Sophia Conrad, Paul Garcia and Ashley Hurlburt. Winners of autographed bats were Jennay Terrell and Stephanie Helling. Luke Hull won a t-shirt and Jayce Reser a baseball cap. Winner of a Wolves shirt was Dory Newton and Breanna Stafford won a pair of shorts. Winners of a set of four tickets to a Colorado Rockies game each were Francisco DelGado and Alexis Juhnke. Donation items from the Colorado

By Nancy Helling



Rockies, McDonalds of Burlington and Carpenter's Mini-Mall helped make the night a success.

### Birthdays

Camren Morris was the guest of honor at the Homestead Memorial Building in Idalia Wednesday evening. Her parents, Jodi and Ross Morris, along with baby brother Kale hosted a party for Camren's birthday.

Clarence Lidke celebrated his 86 birthday by eating at the Prairie Vista Café in Idalia. George Lidke of Denver, Joan Craft of Greeley, Delmar and Roberta Moellenberg and Bill and Peggy Carpenter helped him celebrate. Clarence Schritten, a former Idalia resident now of Rio Rancho, New Mexico, stopped to eat and enjoyed visiting about Idalia history.

Bill Evans also celebrated his birthday. The Prairie Vista gang sang him Happy Birthday and his wife, Linda, cooked lunch for him.

### Family and Community Education Club

There has been a change of plans for the Bicentennial Family Community Education Club May

meeting. The meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 18. The date listed in the club book is incorrect. The gardening program has been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict. Instead, there will be a baby shower for two club members, Christine Sharp and Sue Heath. Please plan to attend this last get together before summer break.

Sally Parker drove to Claredon, Texas on Friday to attend Reed's graduation that evening. After graduation, they spent time in Amarillo before Sally returned home.

The children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of Lawrence and Jerry Crites met at Route 36 for supper Saturday night in honor of Lawrence's birthday. Sunday morning the family attended church services followed by a family potluck at noon. An open house for Lawrence's 80th birthday was held Sunday afternoon at St. John United Church of Christ fellowship hall.

Weekend guests of Terry and Deb Crites were Trisha and Caden Coberly of Loveland, Travis, Kristal and Kennedy Crites of Houston.

## Haigler News

By Floy Ruggles



Leah and Dwight Brewer from Tucson, Ariz., visited Floy and Ray Ruggles Friday morning. They are spending a few weeks working at their vacation home in St. Francis. They have been helping Dwight's mother, Anna Brewer, and brother Doug move back from Farmington, N.M., where they spend the winter. Another brother, Wallace, also from Farmington, accompanied them this time.

John and Virginia Barnett from Augusta, and Cindy (Barnett) Hull from Wray, Colo., were visitors of Mary and Darrel Cox Saturday morning. John is Mary's brother.

Pastor Inez Foster of Ansley, Neb., came on May 2, and spent several days visiting in the Richard Wall home.

Kim (Zuege) LeMore of South Dakota is visiting her grandmother, Sophia Zuege, and the Richard Walls

this week.

Dusty, Christy, Sydney and Gracie Wall visited Laura Pearl and Richard Wall on Sunday afternoon.

Janet McQuay is in intensive care at University Hospital in Denver. Here is an address for anyone who would like to send her a card: University Hospital, 4200 East 9th, Denver, CO 80262.

David Hart is happy to be back home from College at Chadron, Neb., for the summer. He will be looking for a summer job after a few days of relaxation.

### Stute reunion

June 24 and 25 at the Legion Hall in Benkelman. Fill your picnic basket and join us for eating, visiting and picture taking. See you all there.

### Alumni reminder

Open House at Legion Hall from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 2, fol-

lowed by dance from 8 to 12 p.m. Potluck dinner planned for Sunday, May 28 - also at the Legion Hall.

### May Day surprised

Some beautiful little people from the Elementary School and Sunday School classes have been around town secretly "May Daying" and brightening the lives of older Haigler residents. Bright little potted flowers that can be transplanted will bring joy to the beholders for weeks to come. The adults that supervise the promotion of such thoughtful projects are planting in the hearts of the younger generation a wonderful character building quality that bears fruit in the development of a caring community. No wonder Haigler is such a great place to live!

## Beecher Island News

By Bessie Dent



There were 36 at Sunday school. Grace Allen gave her birthday offering.

Mr. and Mrs. Travis Allen and family and Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Allen were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Allen. Joining them Saturday for supper were Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Hurlburt and family, Perry Allen and Chris Devlin to help Grace celebrate her birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Osmus and Jacob were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Pete Osmus.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Allen were Friday overnight guests of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Harwood.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenny Rose went to Idalia Saturday evening to watch the Grand March of the Idalia prom.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Travis Allen and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Hurlburt and family and Perry Allen went to Wray Saturday to watch Trevor play soccer with the Idalia team. They all went out to eat after the game.

Jean Brenner and Dennis Brenner visited Mr. and Mrs. Gary Mansfield Sunday afternoon.

Don Dye of Imperial, Neb., visited Violet Brown Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Homm were Sunday afternoon visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dent.

David, Stan and Troy Welton were weekend guests of Nettie May Welton.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Mansfield visited Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mansfield one day last week. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dent visited Thursday afternoon.

Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Allen were Mr. and Mrs. Travis Allen and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Hurlburt and family and Perry

Allen.

Mallory Rose left Sunday with the Idalia FFA for Fort Collins for the state judging.

Brooke Zuege was a Saturday overnight guest of Chynna Rose.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dent were visitors at the Bill Nietz's Saturday afternoon.

## Book Review

### Point Blank

By Catherine Coulter

The explosive action kicks off as FBI agent Ruth Warnecki hunts for Confederate gold in a West Virginia cave. She never expects to encounter the grisly murder that catapults her into a horrific plaque of death, all centered on the prestigious Stanislaus School of Music.

And at Hooter's Motel in Maryland, FBI agents Savich and Carver are nearly killed while attempting to rescue a kidnap vic-

tim. Instead of a hostage, all they see is a glowing-red timer and then a catastrophic explosion. They are then led to Arlington National Cemetery, but the search for the kidnap victim is cut short when Savich takes a fateful call on his cell, as a mysterious voice threatens to kill him and his wife.

Pitted against an insane killer and his psychotic teenage girlfriend Savich and Sherlock find themselves fighting a hate-driven villain with a very long memory.

### FARM FOR SALE

**480 ACRE FARM FOR SALE** Located approximately 17 miles North from Goodland, Kansas. Priced to sell at \$389,000. No offers for more or less than this amount will be considered.

### Sherman County:

**SE/4 1-6-39** Dryland  
**NE/4 3-6-39** Farmstead with 2050 square foot home plus basement, attached garage, barn, shop and grain bin. Pivot Irrigation.  
**NW/4 2-6-39** Pivot Irrigation.

The property is being offered for sale to those individuals Farm Service Agency (FSA) considers to be qualified beginning farmers or ranchers, and all prevailing credit claimants in the civil action Pigford vs Johanns. Qualifying beginning farmers or rancher, who are prevailing credit claimants, will be given first priority consideration in the purchase of this property. If more than one beginning farmer or rancher who is a prevailing credit claimant submits an application, priority within this group will be determined by lottery. Qualified beginning farmers or ranchers must be in need of FSA credit assistance either in the form of direct FSA financing, an FSA guaranteed loan or a participation loan. For other requirements and information on how to qualify as a beginning farmer or rancher, you may contact your local FSA office.

If applications are received from beginning farmers or ranchers who are not prevailing claimants, and prevailing claimants who are not beginning farmers or ranchers, priority remains with the beginning farmers or ranchers. If more than one beginning farmer/rancher applies, selection of the applicant will be by lottery.

FSA defines a beginning farmer/rancher in part as an individual or entity who:

- is an eligible applicant for FSA farm ownership loan assistance
- has operated a farm or ranch for not more than ten (10) years; for a Direct Farm Loan, has participated in the business operations of a farm/ranch for at least three (3) years
- will materially and substantially participate in the operation for the farm
- agrees to participate in FSA's borrower training program
- does not own real farm property directly or indirectly, the aggregate of which does not exceed 30% of the average farm acreage of the farms in the county where the property is located
- does not have adequate resources to obtain conventional credit at the present time

For a direct farm ownership loan, the applicant must have operated or ranched for at least three years.

**ADDITIONAL** information on the beginning farmer definition and FSA Farm Ownership loan eligibility criteria is available from FSA.

**FINANCING:** The sale may be financed by FSA, Guaranteed or Direct Farm Ownership funds when funds are available. A lease may be possible if funds are not available at the time of the sale.

**OFFERS MUST BE IN WRITING** on Form RD 1955-45, "Standard Sales Contract-Sale of Real Property by the United States," and be received by May 31, 2006. The Government reserves the right to cancel the sale at any time and the right to reject any and all offers.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** contact the Farm Service Agency, Farm Loan Programs Division at the Sherman County FSA office, telephone number (785) 899-3070 ext. 26.

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