

Time to plan for next Light Parade

By Karen Krien

The day after Thanksgiving, Nov. 24, marks the Christmas season opening in St. Francis. The day will start sales and specials in businesses and the Treasure Hunt numbers will up at 4 p.m.

However, what everyone will be waiting for is the 6 o'clock whistle and the start of the Light Parade, sponsored by the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce.

This is the third year for the Light Parade and each year, there are floats with many lights and music, fairy princesses, elves and, last of all, Santa. This year's parade promises to be just as wonderful as last year's but, it won't be if the people don't enter their floats.

There is no theme, just Christmas. Entries can be floats, four-wheelers, horse and buggies, hayracks, walking individuals — there is no limit to the ideas of an entry.

Gloria Bracelin, Chamber secretary, said that the Light Parade floats are the easiest floats to make as all it takes is an idea or theme, lots of Christmas lights and a generator or something to keep the lights lit up throughout the parade.

"We eat Thanksgiving dinner and then go to work on the float," she said.

The Bracelin family always has a float and it is a great way to work off all the food eaten hours before. She says it is a great family activity.

The Senior Citizens Center, located at 322 W. Washington, will be serving chili and cheesy potato soup and cinnamon rolls that evening so everyone is urged to come to St. Francis, do a little Christmas shopping, look for Treasure Hunt numbers, enjoy the soup supper and top it off with the Light Parade. That date is Nov. 24.



"IF YOU PUT ONE HAND ON Ichabod, I'll never speak to you again!" Katrina (Megan Rice) protects Ichabod Crane (Gavin Smull) from a jealous Brom Bones (Mac Frewen) during a recent rehearsal. The Headless Horseman will be performed on Tuesday, Oct. 24. Tickets for the musical and dinner must be purchased in advance. Those wishing only to see the musical, tickets will be available at the door. Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

Cookoff, parade planned

Bird City Community Club will be sponsoring a community soup cook-off and spook parade on Tuesday, Oct. 31. The activities will start at 5:30 p.m. at the American Legion in downtown Bird City. The funds raised will be used for community-sponsored projects.

Hot dogs and a dessert bar will be included in the free-will offering as well as a taste of the soup.

Theresa Knapp, Bird City, was last year's winner with "Mountain Man Chili." She is challenging all area cooks to make a batch of their favorite soup and join in the fun.

"So far, four other people have volunteered to make soup and are up for the challenge," said Deb Smith, one of the organizers of the cook off, adding that more cooks are needed!

Those interested in making soup should call Mrs. Smith at 785-734-2517 by Oct. 23.

How it works

Everyone attending the cook off will be given one ticket so they can vote for their favorite soup. The winner will be awarded bragging rights for an entire year.

Spook parade

The spook parade will start at 6 p.m. with all the "spooks" receiving candy to kick off the traditional night of trick-or-treating.

New this year will be the pumpkin decorating/carving contest for kindergartners through eighth grade. Age divisions are kindergarten through fourth grade; and fifth through eighth grade. The top three winners in each division will win a prize.

Pumpkins must be at the Legion hall by 5:30 p.m. in order to be judged. Pumpkins can also be picked up after the soup cook off.

"Mark your calendars for a fun-filled night to view the spooks, jack-o-lanterns and enjoy the cook off," Mrs. Smith said.

Club Clip

Ramblers Club

Ramblers Club met at the home of Elaine Kehlbeck on Wednesday, Oct. 11, with Margaret Shay as co-hostess.

The guest speaker was unable to present the program.

Members were reminded to bring money for the food pantry at the Nov. 8, meeting, which will be held at the home of Jeneva Northrup.

Craft Show planned Nov. 4 in St. Francis

By Karen Krien

The 11th annual Craft Show sponsored by the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce will be held on Saturday, Nov. 4, at the grade school.

Bonnie Zwegardt and Tammy Grice, co-coordinators of the show, are expecting a good show with a variety of crafts.

"We are also having the quilt show in conjunction with the Craft Show," Mrs. Zwegardt said.

The quilt show has been a popular feature of the show and each year, more and more quilts are coming in to be displayed. They are asking that those bringing in quilts to have them to the grade school between 5:30 and 7 p.m. on Friday evening so the paperwork can be completed and the display set up before Saturday.

The Craft Show takes place the same weekend of the pheasant season opening. The show would be an ideal place for all those wives who are going to be sitting at home while their husbands are out hunting.

"Everyone, especially wives of hunters, should plan to just spent part of the day at the show and enjoying lunch," Mrs. Zwegardt said.

Lunch is being served by the St. Francis Senior Center people and will include bierocks, salad and dessert. Proceeds will go to the Senior Center.

Some of the craft booths will include wood items, tole paintings, wreaths, jewelry.

Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day.

Holiday Craft Fair features many items

By Karen Krien

The Bird City Holiday Craft Fair has been set for Saturday, Oct. 28. The doors will open at 10 a.m. at the American Legion hall.

Coordinator of this year's show is Barb Smith, Bird City.

"I think this is going to be a really, really good show," Ms. Smith said.

Some of the vendors will be featuring crochet and embroidered work while others will have jewelry, Avon, food and pillows.



Tina Sager is preparing the lunch.

For more information or to have a booth, contact Ms. Smith at 785-734-2421.

Famous Quotes

• Justice is a machine that, when someone has once given it the starting push, rolls on of itself. - John Galsworthy

• The most powerful agent of growth and transformation is something more basic than any technique: a change of heart. - John Welwood

• Never bear more than one trouble at a time. Some people bear three kinds - all they have had, all they have now, and all they expect to have. -Edward Everett Hale

• Health insurance premiums

Board approves salary increases for members of the school staff

By Karen Krien

The school staff will receive an increase in their salary starting with the November checks. The decision to give the raises was made by the St. Francis Board of Education when they met on Tuesday, Oct. 10.

Superintendent Carl Werner had proposed the pay increase in the September board meeting. He had studied the budget and reminded the board that it had been several years since the staff had received a raise, although they had received a bonus. Mr. Werner recommended to increase the base salary on the teacher salary schedule from \$30,000 to \$31,000 which is about a 3-percent average increase in teachers' and administrators' salaries. The increased salaries for noncertified personnel was about a 7.5-percent. The board was shown how each employee's salary would be affected. Following review and discussion, the board agreed to the increase.

Health insurance premiums

As with the salary increase, the board had been presented with the proposal to increase the amount of money paid toward the employee's health insurance.

For a single plan, the board agreed to pay \$30 more for a total of \$175 on each single plan. For the other plans, an additional \$60 will be paid, making the amount paid for those plans \$350. The total amount of employees' health insurance will be \$79,800.

The new plan is effective as of Nov. 1, and will run to Oct. 31, 2007.

In other business

• A new three-year plan for architect Max Bishop to reinspect for asbestos in the schools was approved.

• The superintendent's travel expenses was 69.69 cents per mile during July, August and September. The school's reimbursement rate is 44.5 cents per mile.

• A summary of the official enrollment for the St. Francis schools showed 314.5 full-time equivalent students which is an increase from last year of 3.5 students. See related article for more information.

• The Kansas State High School Activities Association classifications were reviewed. Classifications showed the St. Francis top three grades in the Class 2A schools. See related article.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the St. Francis Board of Education will start at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 7, at the high school.

RANCH FOODS DIRECT
Good food ... that's good for you!

Truckload Meat Sale

Hilltop General Store Parking Lot

Friday, Oct. 27 • 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 28 • 8 a.m.-Noon

ALL NATURAL • BEEF • PORK • CHICKEN
Call Callicrate Feedyard @ 785-332-3344 with questions


Call Me and Let's Talk!

ASA International, a nonprofit organization, is looking for individuals interested in working with students from other countries. Their dream, to attend a school year and live with an American host family.

We need conscientious individuals that will assist in locating host families and schools, supervise the student's stay, and just enjoy the interaction with the different cultures.

This is a contractual paid position and there can be annual travel benefits involved, if you wish. Our regional office is located right here in West Central Kansas so training is provided, you're not on your own.

Total compliance with the government laws the student's health and welfare are of utmost importance. You can work from home! Call me and let's talk. 866-775-5414/Teresa Oborny Regional Manager. Background check and references required.



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— INTRODUCING —
New Hairstylist

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Notice of Annual Stockholders Meeting of Wheeler Cooperative Merc. Equity Union

To be held in the High School Cafeteria in St. Francis, Kansas Fri., Oct. 27, 2006. Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. with meal following.

THE AGENDA:
Reading of annual report.
Election of one director.
All other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.

R.S.V.P. 785-332-2281 Steve Busse, Secretary

Do you know how to protect your family against Meth?

Everyone is Welcome to attend the Cheyenne Community Meth Watch

Cheyenne County Law Enforcement Officer Tom Raile will present the program.

Thursday, Oct. 19 • 7:30 p.m.
Cheylin Grade School Cafeteria

Tuesday, Oct. 24 • 7:30 p.m.
St. Francis Grade School Cafeteria

CLIP & SAVE

The Children of DWEN & CHARILYN DeGOOD are requesting a Card Shower to help them celebrate their 40th Wedding Anniversary on October 23

Please send cards to the couple at Rt. 2-Box 130; St. Francis, KS 67756



Employment Opportunity at Cheyenne County Hospital Full-Time Nursing Assistant

CNA certificate preferred. Successful applicants will possess basic computer skills, excellent communication abilities and the willingness to become part of our TEAM of healthcare professionals. Weekend rotation is required.

Cheyenne County Hospital is an equal opportunity employer. Excellent benefit package including; Health/Dental insurance, sick leave, a generous retirement plan, paid holidays and more.

If interested in joining our team in our newly renovated facility, stop in and fill out an application or contact Tenille for more details. 785-332-2104