

Burning of Stuckey's changes Brewster's landscape

As all of you know, the landscape south of Brewster changed a lot last weekend. Stuckey's, a landmark for the area, burned to the ground Saturday, Nov. 30.

We are thankful no one was injured, or worse, but lives were changed. The people who worked there are now unemployed, and this is a bad time of year to have no income. Not that any time is a good time for that, but the holiday season is an especially bad time.

The Fuller family and the manager, Sarah Divine, now have no money to pay their bills or to buy Christmas gifts for their families.

As I said, the lack of injuries is truly a blessing, and it must have been quite a challenge to keep the firefighters safe during that night with the gas pumps and tanks so close to the burning building.

Brewster has had some fires in the past, and it always amazes me how violent the flames can be to buildings, property and people and what a void it leaves.

When Roger and I first came back to Kansas after his time in the Navy, one of the first Christmases was when



**sally
michael**

• brewster beacon

Corky and Betty Wolfe lost their home west of town. I believe it was on Christmas Eve, and I thought, "How sad to lose a home then!" But, they didn't lose their daughters or each other.

A few years ago, I was so afraid that we'd lost friends when we discovered the Grays and Fulwider homes burning, but again, God saved the lives of those people.

The firemen saved the surrounding homes, and that was quite a feat in itself. We miss the houses and the other buildings that have disappeared because of the fires, but we praise the Lord that we haven't had to miss any of the people. It makes one realize that fire is a power not to be toyed with.

Joyce and Willis Crabtree have their first great-grandchild, and Bonnie and Shane Holm have their first grand-

child. It's a girl, Tia Jo, born Sunday morning, Dec. 1, at Hays Medical Center to Shanda and Rodney Solze of Utica. The little miss weighed 6 pounds, 7 ounces. Congratulations to all!

Another new grandchild is Hunter Nathan Weirich, born Friday, Nov. 22, in Garden City. He is the great-grandson of Mary and Marvin Garrett and the grandson of Gloria and Ron Ribordy, all of Brewster. He's the son of Ronda and Nathan Weirich of Lakin and the little brother of Sydney Jo Weirich, 2.

Don and Wilma Horney were happy to have an opportunity to get acquainted with their new great-grandson, Justin Cameron of Vermont. Curt Horney of Littleton and his daughters, Jill of Littleton and Leslie of Vermont, drove to Brewster so Justin could meet his great-grandparents.

According to Wilma, the little guy is full of happy smiles, and it sounds like he has quite a fan club in Brewster. The travelers were here on Saturday, Nov.

30, and were only able to stay for a few hours, but their visit was appreciated.

Don and Wilma enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner with their son John and his family.

Ruth and Duane Jones were guests of Marie Edwards of Goodland on Thanksgiving. The following day, they enjoyed a visit from their grandson and his family of Greeley.

Thanksgiving Day dinner guests of Corky and Betty Wolfe were Tim and Micki Goosen and granddaughter Aedreena of Liberal and Lawrence and Gloria Tiedeman and their grandkids Jessica, Bryan and Kevin, all of Brewster. Kenneth and Lila Engelhardt of Colby joined the family in the afternoon.

Phone calls from family included their granddaughter Leslie Ballman of Maysville, Ark.; granddaughter Katrina Cooper of Edmonds, Wash.; and Betty's sister, Sue Baird of Goodland. Betty said the company and the phone calls made for a great Thanksgiving.

Nettie Mills enjoyed a full house for Thanksgiving. Ken and Susan Mills of Arriba, Colo., and family were at his mother's, and Jack Mills of Forth

Worth, Texas, and his children David and Sarah were also on hand to celebrate the day.

Roger and I still have a few slices of turkey in the freezer, but I think they will stay there for a while. I can't think we'll be hungry for them for some time. Everything was delicious, and it was great to be with our families, but remind me not to listen to Roger asking if I'm sure I've made enough dressing.

We took the turkey and ham, etc. to Hays and combined it with food from other families. There were 18 of us sitting around the table. No one was able to leave Beth's house without taking some leftovers, and it'll probably be a while before they are ready for turkey either.

Roger and I got some shopping done the day after, but I can't say there were any tremendous bargains.

We bought a new printer for my computer, as the old one was making weird noises, and I'm sure anyone that had to read the print knew something was amiss.

However, I am using Roger's printer, as my new one does not seem

to be installing right. I can see that we are going to be spending some time on the phone to the company.

The Brewster United Methodist Church invites all to the Jill Christensen Contemporary Christian Music Concert at 7 p.m. Central Time Sunday, Dec. 15, at the Brewster United Methodist Church.

The Prairie Gem 4-H Club came to the senior center Wednesday and turned the center into a Christmas place. The decorations and lights are just beautiful, and the 4-H club donated some new decorations to help light up our lives.

We at the center thank them for all their hard work and hope they enjoyed themselves too. The sponsors, parents, were on hand for consultation, and we appreciated them also.

I have mentioned before what a great 4-H club the Prairie Gem group is, and I know it is through the work and dedication of the aforementioned parents that this is possible. Brewster can be proud of its 4-H group.

That's it for this week. I hope all your leftovers are all gone or in the freezer. See you next time.

Elks honor families of service men and women with Blue Star banners

BLUE STAR, from Page 1

Those service men and women honored, followed by the family members accepting the banners, were:

Air Force Master Sergeant Kenneth G. Albers, Okinawa, Japan, mother, Margie Albers;

Marine Sergeant Jeremy A. Cloyd, Camp Pendleton, Calif., parents, Tammy and Greg Cloyd;

Marine Gunnery Sergeant Pete DeLaRosa, Camp Courtney, Okinawa, Japan, parents, Paulina and Pedro DeLaRosa;

Army Captain Denton Lincoln Dye, Signal Corps, Gravelston, Ga., grandmother, Edith Dye;

Navy Engineman Third Class Daniel D. Moore, USS Chosin, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, parents, Carlene & Dale Fenner.

Navy Machinist Mate Brent Like, USS Pennsylvania, mother Charlotte Hankins;

Navy Lieutenant Commander Julie R. Welch, Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, Neb., grandfather, Ferd Heigert, and mother, Delores Cochran;

Navy Gunners Mate Fifth Class Jeremy D. Hockett and Navy Storekeeper

Fifth Class Richard Lawrence Hockett, both presently serving on the USS Lake Erie, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, parents, Eileen and Rick Hockett (two-Star banner);

Navy 1S3 Michael D. Husband, USS Wasp, and Navy Machinist Mate Ryan W. Karlin, USS Theodore Roosevelt, Parents Tom and Marilyn Karlin (two-Star banner);

Air Force A/C Kevin A. Steinke, Kessler Base, Miss., grandmother, Marian E. Kephart;

Army Private Douglas D. Lalicker, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., parents, Jamie and Ray Lalicker;

Navy E-4/MA David Musil, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, parents, Rebecca and Dennis Musil;

Navy IT 1 Monica Jefferson, Naval Telecommunications, Norfolk, Va., mother, Lucille Nemechek;

Army Sergeant Travis M. Haney, Underwood Kaserne Base, Hanau, Germany, mother, Deb Patton;

Army Sergeant Amador Pena III, 2nd Batt., 82nd AVN Rgt., Afghanistan, parents, Marcelina and Amador Pena;

Navy IT 2 Troy Spray, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, mother, Dr. Ladonna Regier;

Navy Chief Petty Officer E-7 Phillip Wayne Skrdlant, Hospital Corpsman, Des Moines, Iowa, parents, Helen and Walt Rohr;

Air Force Captain Douglas Smith, Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, NV, parents, Don and Bonnie Smith;

Navy GSE2 Lynn P. Froetschner, Naval Station Mayport, USS Spruance, Jacksonville, Fla., in-laws, Bob and Shirley Soellner;

Navy Petty Officer Third class Jeff Sparks, USS Truman, Jacksonville, Fla., father, Wayne Sparks, and mother, Rosemary Sparks.

Navy Lieutenant Jeff Vignery, Naval Air Station, Oak Harbor, Wash., parents Judi and Ron Vignery;

Coast Guard Lieutenant J.G. Justin Wade Jacobs, Virginia Beach, Va., grandmother, Naomi Wade;

Navy Seaman Second Class Scott W. Bogle, Submarine Base, USS Ohio,

and Army Sergeant Jesse R. Kittel, 75th ranger Reg., 3rd Batt., Ft. Benning, Ga., grandmother, Marilyn Wenger (two-Star banner);

Navy Senior Recruit, Kyle Winston, Div. 401, Advanced Training Center, Kings, Bay, Ga., parents, Deborah and Mark Bantam, Kevin and Barb Winston.

Each certificate read: "The Elks National Veterans Service Commission Blue Star Banner Program, Certificate of Appreciation is gratefully presented to (name of family member) for unselfishly sharing (name of serviceman or woman) to service in active duty in our armed forces to protect and preserve our way of life in the United States of America! Dates this 8th day of December 2002, Goodland Elks Lodge #1528, signed Ron Barkley, Americanism Chairman, and Ronald Ackerman, Exalted Ruler."

Servicemen Daniel Moore and Kyle Winston were specially recognized as being present for the Goodland ceremony.

Jean Tellessen, Goodland, was honored of being grandmother to three active servicemen, Richard Hockett, Jeremy Hockett and Daniel Moore.

Classifieds work!
899-2338

**City of Goodland
offices will be closed**
from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
on Tuesday, Dec. 10,
so employees will be able
to attend the funeral
of Dean Townsend.

All emergency services will be available.
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