



Lt. Kevin Winston of the Kansas Highway Patrol told Phyllis Zielke's 4th grade class how important being able to read is to his job Tues-

day morning. Earlier he read "The White Stallion" to the class.

Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News

Columnist gives reading

Columnist David Chartrand will present a reading from his book, "A View from the Heartland," at 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16, at the Carnegie Arts Center.

The book, released in October by Globe-Pequot Press of Guilford, Conn., is Chartrand's first, a collection of short essays about his family and growing up in the "Heartland."

The brother of Annette Fairbanks of Goodland, Chartrand grew up in Olathe in the '60s and went to Kansas State University to study journalism. He didn't feel exceptionally rooted to his boyhood home, an article in the Sunday, Oct. 26, edition of the *Lawrence Journal-World* said, and had no intention of staying in Kansas to pursue his career.

But in May 1979, his little brother, fondly known as Fast Eddy, died suddenly and without explanation in a hallway of his parent's home. Eddy was 22.

"Suddenly my family was going through this wrenching ordeal," Chartrand said. "Almost overnight, the idea of not being around them and not being here and not staying connected to people who needed me, it just immediately lost its appeal."

So he stayed and went on to establish a reputation as a newspaper columnist known for his wit and compassion. He distributes his essays to daily newspapers across the country through Universal Press Syndicate and his family's business, Chartrand Communications.

He won a first place award in 2002 from the National Society of Newspaper Columnists, and his commentary has appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Dallas Morning News*, the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and *Family Circle* magazine.

Chartrand said in the *Journal-World* article that the book is not about growing up in Kansas but is about what's important in life.

"The Heartland is a metaphor for what's important in life...," he said. "You can find it anywhere."

Humorists, he said, depend on their ability to relate to people on a personal level. To do that, he said, you have to write what you know.

The book sells on Amazon.com and in retail book stores across the country and will be available at the center during the reading.



Chartrand

Guests read to elementary students

By Greg Stover

The Goodland Star-News

Nine "celebrity readers" from Goodland took time out of their busy days to read to children at Central Elementary School on Tuesday morning as part of National Young Readers Day.

The day was created in 1989 by Book It!, a national reading incentive program now in its 19th year, in cooperation with the Library of Congress Center for the Book.

The "celebrities" read a short story or book they selected to a class and talked about how reading is essential in their daily lives. The students were not only entertained, but got a lesson about the importance of reading in the "real world."

Adult readers were Lt. Kevin Winston of the Kansas Highway Patrol; Karen Ginther of Western State Bank; Marshall Kennedy, the

secretary at Central; Dennis Daise, executive director of Big Brothers-Big Sisters of Sherman County; Monica Rangel, an aide at Grant Junior High; City Commissioner John Garcia, also of Garcia's Home Furnishing and Appliance; and Sandy Trachsel, director of the Goodland Activities Center.

High school senior student-athletes Jordan Bedore and Alisha McKee joined the readers.

Daise read two books, "Swish" and "Casey at the Bat," to Debbie Bantam's 3rd grade class.

"I thought it was a fun experience," he said. "Any way you can encourage children to read is well worth the effort. It was my pleasure to read to them."

Rangel and Garcia read to the students in English and Spanish. Garcia read "Moon Rope," a book written in both languages to Re-

becca Musil's fourth-grade class.

Trachsel read Dr. Seuss' "I Can Read With My Eyes Shut" to Donna Whitmore's third-grade class.

"I think this was a great opportunity to let kids know how important reading is to them from someone outside the classroom," she said, "and to let them know how critical reading is to my job."

"I think it's good for the children to see people from the community in the classroom and vice versa," said Marcia Smith, school media specialist. "Young people today need as many reading role models as possible."

Smith, who helped organize the event, said this was a chance for the students to ask community members about their jobs and what role

reading has in their lives. She said the readers and the library technicians made the day a success. Smith said she also wanted to thank the parents and the community as a whole for their support for reading programs.

Smith said this was the first year Goodland had participated in National Young Readers Day. More than 1,500 schools nation-wide entered the event's contest, sponsored by Pizza Hut, which awarded \$6,600, by random drawing, to Custer Elementary School in Monroe, Mich.

Smith said that people from the community will continue reading to students, as they have in the past, as part of the national Children's Book Week which begins Monday.

Young, old attend program

VETERANS, from Page 1

JoAnn Wahrman, Voice of Democracy program chairman, presented a certificate to West Elementary teacher Pat Thompson who teaches the first graders about the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

Wahrman said Thompson was being nominated for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Teacher of the Year award.

Wahrman announced Voice of Democracy winners: Amy Anderson, third place, who has entered the program for four years; second, Josef Felver, who has entered for two years; and the winner, Anthony Johnson, in his first year.

Wahrman said the students who enter tape their speeches, and the judges listen to the tapes. The topic for this year is "My commitment to America's future."

"We begin every day at school saying the pledge of allegiance," Johnson said. "Those 31 words are important to me, and when I say them, I realize I am committed to the future."

"I know it will be our responsibility to teach the new generation."

Barb Whisler, head of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, announced the winners of this year's Patriots Pins. The theme this year for the written essay is "My Dream for America."

First place went to Josh Doke, and his entry will be sent to the district level. Second place was Devin Mangus and third was Jace Mosbarger.

Whisler said the auxiliary is supporting Operation Uplink, which provides phone cards to those serving overseas and Support Our Soldiers, which sends needed items to the troops overseas. She said if anyone knows of a soldier who is overseas and needs to call home or if they would like to help send items to the troops, they should contact her.

Herb Menold, owner of Aircraft Seal and Gasket Corp. and a defense contractor, spoke about the importance of supporting the troops and the spirit of America. He read a scripture from Psalms 1:3 and gave the Veterans Day prayer.

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Book Signing Sunday

A VIEW from the HEARTLAND
DAVID CHARTRAND

1 p.m. • Carnegie Arts Center • 120 W. 12

Carnegie Arts Center and Knott Just Books are sponsoring a reading of "A View from the Heartland" and signing by David Chartrand.

student of the week

is being around all my friends. My favorite class is Bio II. I will remember all the great golf trips and the fun times spent with friends.

Activities involved in at school: Yearbook, FCCLA, Girls Athletic Association, golf.

My choice of movies, books, and games: My favorite movie is Moulan Rouge. I listen to any kind of music. My favorite books are the Harry Potter books. My favorite game is spoons.

After I leave Goodland High School I intend to: go to college and major in something I love

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be: living the life I love.

Favorite Quote: "The first step to getting the things you want out of life is this: Decide what you want." - Ben Stein-

Name: Amy Cebula
Parents: Stan and Gwen Cebula
Grade: Junior
Age: 16

We've nominated this student because: Amy is a very focused young woman. In the classroom she has the ability to stay on task when there is an assignment until it's completion. I am also impressed with her reasoning and problem solving abilities.

Student Comment: My favorite aspect of school life

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