

Youth group raises money for mission

MISSION, from Page 1

the trip is to learn neighborly love by building “a small but sturdy and safe house for our underprivileged neighbors.”

“(We will) turn an empty lot into an expression of God’s love and (lend) a helping hand that will dramatically improve daily lives,” Roberta said. “It’s not all about us; it’s about helping others.”

“That’s been our mission this whole year,” Burton said, “reaching out and being a good Samaritan.”

He said they will build the house from the ground up, including electrical and plumbing work.

“We pretty much build it in four days,” he said.

Roberta said along with the house, students have been gathering gifts for the family, including dishes and other household items.

“It’s not going to be luxurious at all,” she said, adding that the team might get one shower during the week and they will sleep on the floor.

Burton said the youth group chose the trip to Mexico from several others because they wanted to experience poverty.

“I was actually proud of them that they chose this,” Roberta said.

“It’ll just be awesome to see how they live down there,” said Cotter. “I’m excited. I haven’t really done new things.”

Although she hasn’t started packing yet, Cotter is aware of what she needs to take.

The custom in Mexico, she said, is not to wear shorts while you work.

“It’s gonna be hot,” she said, “but I think it’s gonna be totally awesome.”

Cotter said along with clothes, the group has to pack their own food and water for the week.

Roberta said the group has helped with yard work and baked thousands of Bierocks, a bread dough filled with ground beef and cabbage.

Elias said the bierocks are delicious.

The kids held a silent auction, a soup dinner, a pancake breakfast at the Knights of Columbus hall on Saturday and other events to raise money.

“We did a ton of fund raisers,” she said.

Their goal, Pianalto said, is to raise \$9,000 for the trip. They have about \$7,000 so far.



Youth group member Andrea Wolak served pancakes to her grandfather, Stan Wolak, at a pancake feed fund raiser for a mission trip

Elias said she found out about the group when she decided to tear down the deck in her yard.

“I called the (Northwest Kansas Technical College) and they wanted \$500,” she said. “I thought, I can’t afford that.”

A friend at North told her that Roberta, secretary at West Elementary School, had a group looking to earn some money.

She said the kids formed a human chain to take the wooden boards and load them on a truck.

“It was full,” she said.

Elias, a library technician at North Elementary, said the workers

were all former students of hers.

“We talked about old times at North,” she said. “I knew all the kids.”

Elias was so happy with their work, she told her next-door neighbor, Maggie Hernandez.

“They’re going to come and scrape (paint off of) Maggie’s house,” she said.

When it came time to pay the youth group, Elias said, she didn’t know what to give them and guessed on a figure.

“I asked (Roberta) ‘Do you think that’s enough?’” she said.

“That’s between you and God,”

to Mexico. Wolak said she is excited to see how people live in Mexico and to help a family build a house.

Photo by Roberta Pianalto

Roberta told her.

“When I gave Roberta the check, she said ‘Oh this is a blessing,’” Elias said of her \$150 donation, “which made me feel really good.”

On top of the donation, Elias decided to give the group another

thank-you, a “care package” to take to Mexico.

“They worked hard,” she said. “They are neat kids.”

Anyone who wants to make a donation for the trip can call the Pianaltos at 890-3074 or call the church at 890-7205.

Fossil dig begins

DIG, from Page 1

“There will be a site tour of the excavations at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday.

To take the tour, people need to come by the high school and sign up by 5 p.m. on Thursday.

This tour will give people a chance to actually see the three sites.

The pre-registration is to be able to arrange for transportation from the high school to the site.”

The final evening program will be at 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 18, when the volunteers will gather for an ice cream social and resume to review what has happened during the two weeks.

Sage said there will be a silent auction to help raise money for the Anthropological Association for upcoming digs.

Evening speakers include local historian Mike Baughn or Marilyn Cooper, who will talk about the July 1867 Kidder Massacre at 7 p.m. on Friday at the high school.

Tuesday at 7 p.m., Janice McLean of the state Historical Society will speak on “Patterns of High Plains Lithic Resource Use.” Next Friday at 7 p.m., Chris Widga will talk about the Claussen site excavation last year.

Internet tonight!
899-2338

Sheriff asks for inmate accounts

COUNTY, from Page 1

Tuesday the commissioners agreed to a request from Mike Waugh and Dave Olds of the Bill Barrett Corp. to allow the company to conduct geophysical surveys on county right-of-way.

The firm says it leases over 50,000 acres in the county.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure made a motion to permit the seismic

testing on county roads with permission from owners of adjacent mineral rights or leases.

In other business today, the commissioners:

- Will hear from Colleen Smith about Country Club Road, County Road 16, and plans to pave this road as part of the joint city/county road repair project.

- Review the annual weed plan with Daryl West, head of the nox-

ious weed department.

West will bring the commissioners up to date on weed control efforts across the county and discuss this year’s control program.

- Hear from the Sherman County Racing Association.

The commissioners meet in the commission room on the main floor of the Sherman County Courthouse, 813 Broadway.

Notorious ‘Fleagle Gang’ Fingerprint ends nationwide '20s manhunt

True crime from the roaring 20s, “The Fleagle Gang, Betrayed by a fingerprint,” begins with a brazen daylight bank robbery of the First National Bank in Lamar, Colo. on May 23, 1928. Four men are dead, and the robbers escaped.

The author Tom (N.T.) Betz, editor of *The Goodland Star-News*, has spent a lifetime in journalism and on the Great Plains.

Signed books are available at Knott Just Books of Goodland, Kan.

“It seems to have stirred up quite a bit of interest,” said bookstore owner Linda Knott, who is trying to keep the book in stock and on the shelves.

“The Fleagle Gang” details the case which hinges on a single fingerprint found on a murdered Dighton, Kan., doctor’s car. The fledgling FBI and new boss J. Edgar Hoover play a crucial role in turning the fingerprint into solid evidence used to find, arrest and convict members of the Fleagle Gang. The FBI credits the Fleagle case as being the first time a single fingerprint was used to identify and convict criminals. The book includes over 100 photos and maps taken from the court files and places where the gang robbed banks.

A U.S. Navy journalist and a graduate of the University of Colorado, Betz started his career delivering papers for his family’s newspaper in Lamar, Colo., winning the first of numerous journalism awards as a teenager.

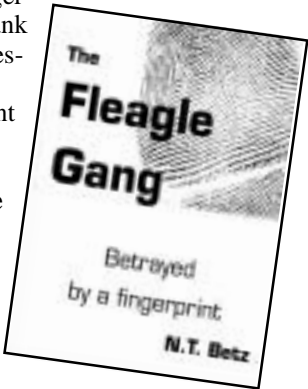
The Fleagle Gang robbed banks and trains in Larned, Kinsley, Marysville, Ottawa and McPherson Kan., Lamar, Colo., Eugene, Ore., Pittsburg, Calif. and countless others of over \$1 million in the 10 years they operated.

Three gang members — Ralph Fleagle, George Abshire and Howard Royston — were “jerked up” at the Colorado Penitentiary a little over two years after committing the Colorado bank robbery. The fourth, Jake Fleagle, was shot on a train in Branson, Mo. in Oct. 1930.

“The Fleagle Gang” is available at **Knott Just Books** in Goodland (Call 890-7105).

The book is available at the **Big Timbers Museum** in Lamar, Colo. and **Finney County Museum** in Garden City. It is available on-line from the publisher Authorhouse.com, Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble and other book stores.

Check out “The Fleagle Gang” web site at: nwkansas.com/home/fleaglegang.



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