



THE GLASCO FARM after the tornado damage from last month.

Times staff photo by Melinda Basnett

## Organization to help tornado victims

On March 28, the Bird City area was devastated by a tornado that stayed on the ground for several miles and destroyed the homes of John and Maria Kamla, Edward and Pyllis Carson, Nick and Heidi Ketzner and Lynn and Candy Glasco.

At that time, Mike Antholz, Grand Knight of the local Knights of Columbus Council, contacted the state Emergency Disaster Assistance Program chairman and through the program, set up accounts at the local grocery store for

each of the families to allow them to receive \$200 worth of groceries that would be paid through the Knights of Columbus Emergency Disaster Assistance Program.

Along with that assistance Knights of Columbus Councils from District 54 which include Colby, Goodland, Sharon Springs and St. Francis/Bird City, went together and collected donations for the families, along with the St. Francis Catholic Church in St. Francis and the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Goodland.

These donations were presented to the four families prior to the monthly meeting of the St. Francis/Bird City Knights of Columbus on April 16 by

Dick Parnell of Colby. Mr. Parnell is the deputy for this district and presented each family with a check for \$575 for a total of \$2,300.



FRED MAGLEY presents Teddy bears to the health department.

## Teddy bears given for health program

Once again the St. Francis Masonic Lodge presented 10 Teddy bears and brain game books to the Cheyenne County Health Department's Maternal & Child Health program.

Rita Keeker, the Healthy Start Home Visitor, will be giving the newborns a Teddy bear during the home visit. The Teddy Foundation is a non-profit corporation founded by Kansas Masons to promote education and increase public awareness regarding the importance of early childhood development.

"Spending quality time with your newborn infant is not only gratifying but new studies show that it is

valuable to your child's future," said Mrs. Keeker.

An infant's brain from birth to age 3 years, develops one thousand trillion brain connections, much like the storage space in a computer. The child's natural environment contributes to the brain's development.

Which of these brain connections will be reinforced and retained or not used and lost can, depend upon how much nurturing and stimulation the child's caregivers provide. A common goal of promoting successful growth of both a physical and emotional healthy child in the first 24 to 36 months of life is shared by both organizations.

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There are different time slots available for teams to sign up. If interested in getting a team together, call Meghann Antholz • 785-332-8989 or the Goodland office at 785-890-3665.

The Bowling is FREE & Beverages will be provided to the bowlers.

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# "Hays Medical Center gives excellent, excellent care."

Ron Wenthe, President, Golden Belt Bank

When oral medication no longer controlled his diabetes, Ron Wenthe consulted with his doctor about changing to insulin injections. He began a series of diagnostic tests related to his diabetes and overall health.

One of the diagnostic tests was for sleep apnea, a condition in which air passages become blocked causing breathing to stop repeatedly during sleep and impacting the amount of oxygen and rest the body receives. Wenthe learned that the lack of proper rest can affect the heart and - in the ensuing testing process - discovered serious cardiac problems.

"I had blockage in four arteries and so that lead to quadruple bypass surgery."

Preparation for his surgery was thorough and informative.

"I had never been through surgery, except when I was a young kid."

Wenthe reviewed a videotape that walked him through the procedure.

"Knowing exactly what's going to happen, what all the procedures are, what the rehab is, everything you are going to be going through, then there's no surprises. You know what's coming."

In discussing options with his doctor and cardiac specialist, he was given the option of going elsewhere for his surgery but wouldn't even consider it.

"This is my home. I am proud that we have a quality regional hospital here and I want my surgery done here," he told them.

"During my surgery, the information beforehand, the procedures, the rehab afterwards, was excellent. Hays Medical Center gives excellent, excellent care."



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