



HONORED AT RECEPTION— Neva Loomis is interviewed by Cathy Loop (left) as daughter Linda Rogers enjoys the story. *Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*

Resident honored at village reception

By Karen Krien
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Neva Ruth Loomis is the August Good Samaritan Village Resident of the Month. She was the guest of honor at a reception on Thursday where residents and her daughter, Linda Rogers, were present to hear her life story.

Mrs. Loomis was born on Feb. 16, 1923, in Hayes County, Neb. She was one of eight children born to Leslie and Dee Mintling. Her brothers were Merle, Riley, Dick and Dean. Her sisters included Twila, LaVeta and Eldeen.

Because the Mintlings were a large family, Mrs. Loomis said they had to work hard. Mrs. Loomis grew up on a farm in Hayes County. She told about giving her sister, LaVeta, a haircut. She was about 4 years old and LaVeta was younger. It was, what mothers might say today, a "chop job."

She attended country school, then went on to attend Hayes

County High School, graduating in 1941.

She worked as a telephone operator a couple of years before she married the neighbor boy, Edwin Loomis. They were married in Milford, Neb., on Feb. 7, 1943.

She said that getting married was one of the major changes in her life. They had known each other as neighbors and at school.

Ed enlisted in the army air force and was trained as a radar specialist. Neva traveled with him for training. They lived briefly in Manhattan, before being transferred Florida. Neva lived in Hayes Center while Ed was on active duty in Europe. After the war they lived in Hayes Center.

They had two children, Roger, and wife, Lynelle, who now lives in Las Vegas, and Linda and husband Rick, who live in St. Francis. They moved to Bird City where Ed was the manager of the Bird City Co-op for the next 13 years. Neva and her children call Bird City "home."

In 1975, they moved to Goodland where Mr. Loomis was the general manager at the Co-op. Mr. Loomis died in 1983. Mrs. Loomis lived in Goodland until she moved to the Good Samaritan Village in 2006.

She is a favorite of the Village staff. They said one of her favorite sayings is, "now you're cookin' with gas!"

She has two grandchildren, Shawn Rogers of New York

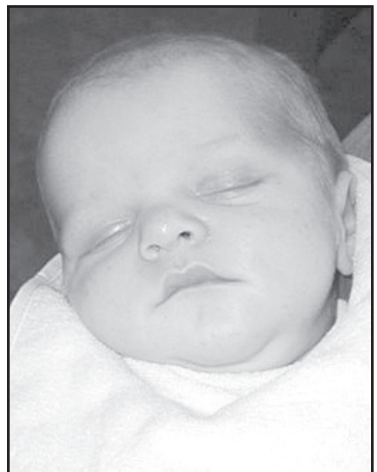


Neva Loomis

City, and Dallas and husband Larry Friedli of Hope. She also has three great-grandchildren, Sydney, Amelia and Hadley. They all gathered in St. Francis to spend time with her on Aug. 9 and 10.

When asked if she was able to hold the new baby (Hadley is 2-weeks old), she said "oh, yes, it was a requirement that she be able to hold him."

Her advice to young people today is to "pay attention to your mom and dad!"



Hadley Friedli

Introducing

Larry and Dallas Friedli of Hope announce the birth of their son, Hadley Rue. Hadley was born July 29, 2008, at Memorial Hospital in Abilene. He weighed 8 pounds, 7 ounces and was 21-inches long. He is welcomed home by two big sisters, Sydney and Amelia.

Grandparents are Rick and Linda Rogers, St. Francis, and Harold Friedli of Hope. Great-grandparents are Ervin and Edith Rogers and Neva Loomis, all of St. Francis.

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Couple exchange vows in park

On Saturday, Dave and Kristin Burns were remarried in the Van Doren Park and held a reception in the Shelter House.

Mrs. Burns wore a Hawaiian flower print dress made by her mother, Bridgette Mesecke of La Grange, Texas. Her maid of honor and long-time friend, Trisha Taylor also wore a dress of similar design.

The best men were Dave and Kristin's sons, David, Clint and Blaine. For the signing of the marriage license, Dave's father, Terry Burns, placed his signature. Judge Robert Van Allen officiated the ceremony.

With nearly 100 guests in attendance, the Van Doren park was the best place to have the wedding. Light rain showers only added to celebration.



Dave and Kristin Burns

Family and friends traveled from afar, the Garrison family of Topeka; Scott King of Kearny, Neb., to name a few. Dave and Jeanne Faley brought a grill and cooked for the entire reception.

Rains cause damage to roads

By Karen Krien
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Areas of the county have received large amounts of rain in the last few weeks, enough to cause flooding, washing of country roads, taking out culverts and damaging bridges. At the Monday meeting of the Cheyenne County Commissioners, two county residents were present to see what the county planned to do and complain about what they had done.

Marie Holzwarth, landowner, and Dennis Weeden, who farms Mrs. Holzwarth's land west of St. Francis, were unhappy that a bridge on Road 6 had been removed and a culvert, which they thought was too small was put in its place. When the rain came, it had washed down a canyon and took out part of the road. When the bridge had been taken out, it had been replaced with a culvert. The rushing water with debris had clogged up the culvert and washed around the culvert, taking out the road, making it impassible.

Andy Beikman, commissioner, said he and the road supervisor, Dave Flemming, had wanted to put

in a low-water crossing with no culvert. He said that when the water had gone down, the road would soon be passible. But, Mrs. Holzwarth and Mr. Weeden had wanted a culvert so it had been put in.

Mrs. Holzwarth said that she had been told that when a road is classified as "minimum maintenance," then there is no liability to the county. She said she had heard that the bridge would have probably lasted for several more years.

Mr. Beikman said the state engineer bridge inspector had said the bridge did not meet federal standards and condemned the bridge. The county was to take it out.

Yes, Mr. Flemming said, there is no liability on a road that is posted as

a minimum maintained road. However, on a bridge which has been deemed unsafe, the county is liable.

When the water went through, it had washed out the fence the county had previously put in for Mrs. Holzwarth and Mr. Weeden after the bridge had been removed. They wanted the county crew to put the fence back in as the water had washed some of the posts and wire down stream. The commissioners were reluctant to put in the fence again but Mr. Flemming said, this time, he will put it back in.

With the bridge out and the fence down, Mr. Weeden wondered who would be liable, he or the county, if the cattle got out. The commissioners had no comment.

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