



CHILDREN WERE SINGING 'Deep, Deep, Deep' during vacation Bible school sponsored by the Lutheran, United Methodist, and Wesleyan Community churches.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

Vacation Bible school a success for kids

The 2012 Vacation Bible School — "Operation Overboard — Dare To Go Deep With God!" was a huge success!

It was an action-packed adventure, as the kids dove in and discovered God's underwater universe! Through interactive lessons that are easy for kids to

apply to their lives today, they went deep into God's Word, exploring Bible stories of people who revealed deep faith by knowing how to: 1) Depend on God, 2) Dare to care, 3) Claim Jesus, 4) Choose to follow, and 5) Change the world.

Throughout the week Bible

school had an average attendance of 35 students participating with the most of 45 students on one day! There were an average of 22 helpers, leaders, and facilitators throughout the week.

The Immanuel United Methodist Church, Wesleyan Church and Lutheran Church all worked

together along with four amazing Kansas Wesleyan University students (Rudo, Jessica, Amanda, and Bram) organizing the event.

Without the Bird City community, Cheylin School, volunteers and everyone involved, this year's VBS would not have been such a success.

Congressman stops to visit voters in St. Francis

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkans.com

A small crowd showed up for the 8 a.m. meeting of Congressman Tim Huelskamp on Friday. He talked about the budget, the national deficit, Environmental Protection Agency regulations and food stamps.

Congressman Huelskamp, who has filed for re-election, showed charts which showed the national debt and where it was going. These charts, he said, are the same charts I showed 18 months ago. Nothing has changed and every day, we borrow \$3.6 billion.

The budget, he said, is in a sad shape of affairs. People in Washington, he said, don't believe there is a need to balance the budget. It is going to get worse as the baby boomers retire.

The national debt and entitlement costs are going up and if nothing is done to stop it, Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security will consume the entire budget in the next few years.

As Americans, we owe more money than Greece. The main foreign lender is China but, he said, until countries quit loaning us money, the leaders will continue to borrow and not worry about balancing the budget.

A member of the Budget Committee, Mr. Huelskamp helped put together a plan which would have the United States' budget balanced in 5 years but the House ended up passing a budget which would balance the country's budget in 26 years.

"I didn't vote for that," he said. "We need to have the budget balanced before then — that is too

late.

"We own 50 percent debt," he added.

That budget has not passed the Senate and Mr. Huelskamp didn't look for any passage of a budget bill.

Perry Keller, Cheyenne County farmer, was concerned about EPA over-regulations. To meet some of these regulations, and, he added, not all of them are bad, it costs thousands of dollars. Legislators don't seem to have any idea of what it costs.

Mr. Huelskamp advised talking to legislators and posting concerns on the internet.

Mr. Keller was talked about the fuel containment regulations which the regulations need to be met by May 2013.

Unless there is something that is causing death or harming people, Mr. Huelskamp would like to see no more regulations made. If there is a new president, he said, the old president will push a bunch of regulations through, or at least, in the past, that is how it has been.

Beth Maifeld asked about the EPA's regulation banning farm dust. He talked about a speaker who had been asked about banning farm dust and he said, no, they weren't going to ban farm dust, only to later talk about banning coarse particles which is dust.

"You can't believe a word they say," he said. "Until you stop them, they will continue to try to enforce regulations on farm dust."

Mr. Huelskamp talked about coal being the cheapest type of energy but there will be no more coal plants built because of EPA regulations.



CONGRESSMAN TIM HUELSKAMP talks to the crowd in St. Francis.

Times staff photo by Karen Krien

Mr. Huelskamp pointed out that it takes money to enforce regulations. If money is taken away from EPA, it will be harder to make and enforce regulations.

It seems like there is a war on rural American, said Bruce Swihart.

Mr. Huelskamp said that Washington is a different world.

There are only 20 farmers and he is one of them. Agriculture, he said, is carrying our economy. The single, most important export we have is food. The people in Washington just don't understand.

Elmer Kellner said he would be glad to house some EPA bureaucrats and take them around to the different farms. These

Young Miss program set for Saturday

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkans.com

The Cheyenne County Young Miss program will be held on Saturday starting at 7 p.m. in the St. Francis high school auditorium. The theme for the program is "The Sweetest Adventure."

Four seniors, Allyson Northrup, Aubrey Mills, Laura Brunk and Stephanie Busse will be vying for the title of Cheyenne County Young Miss.

A grueling week of practice started Sunday. There will be special meals and practice interviews.

On Saturday, a "meet and greet" the candidates will be held in the band shell in Sawhill Park.

Last year's Young Miss, Kaitlin Figgins, will be entertaining the audience with several vocal numbers during evening program.

Along with the individual talent numbers performed by the contestants, the girls will be dressed in evening gowns for the "Poise and Elegance" category and will be performing for the "Endurance" category.

The program enables incoming senior girls a chance to develop themselves in the areas of scholastic, interviews, talent, physical fitness and poise.

A short bio of each of the candidates follows:

Allyson Northrup

Allyson will be a senior at St. Francis high school. Following graduation, she plans to attend the University of Kansas but, at this time, is undecided what career she wants to pursue.

For her talent, she plans to perform to the rapper number, "Ice, Ice Baby."



Stephanie Busse

Allyson is the daughter of Aimee Northrup and David Northrup, St. Francis.

Aubrey Mills

Aubrey, a senior at St. Francis high school, plans to attend Colby Community College where she will pursue a career in criminal justice.

For her talent on Saturday evening, she plans to perform a skit.

Aubrey is the daughter of Mark and Julie Mills, St. Francis.

Laura Brunk

Laura would like to go into veterinarian medicine, attending Kansas State University after graduating from St. Francis high school.

For her talent, Laura will be performing a dance.

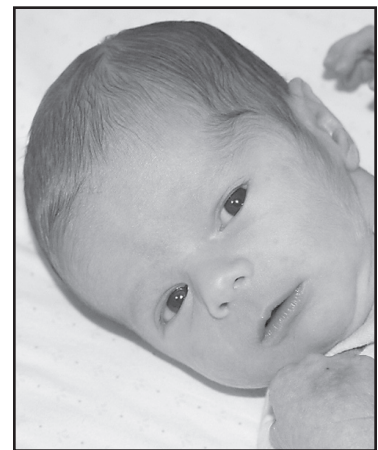
She is the daughter of Eddie and Julie Brunk, St. Francis.

Stephanie Busse

Stephanie, a senior at Cheylin High School in Bird City, plans to attend the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs following graduation.

For her talent, she plans to entertain with a flute solo.

Stephanie is the daughter of Steve and Jan Busse, Bird City.



Braden Boggio

Son added to family

Craig and Brittany Boggio announce the birth of their son, Braden Luke Boggio. Braden was born on May 24, 2012, at 8:38 a.m. at Presbyterian St. Luke's Hospital in Denver, Colo. He weighed 6 pounds, 9 1/2 ounces and was 20 3/4-inches long. He was welcomed home by big sister Addison.

Braden's grandparents are Royce and Darci Kehlbeck, Bird City, and Dwight and Roxie Boggio, Red Lodge, Mont. Great-grandparents include Dan and Dot Stang and Elaine Kehlbeck, St. Francis, and David and Marlene Boggio, Red Lodge. Great-great grandmother is Irene Kehlbeck, Colby.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

With the 2012 Wheat Harvest in full swing the Northwest Kansas tiny-k program is once again encouraging everyone to remember they can support the program through their Bushels for Babies Campaign.

Research has shown that significant brain development occurs in the first 3 years of life. Early intervention for infants and toddlers with disabilities improves many conditions and can minimize the need for services after the age of 3. In fact certain conditions cannot improve unless treated at an early age. Specific Federal and State funds earmarked for Early Intervention Services are available and help provide services to eligible families regardless of income. However the funding is not developed to provide the widest level of services for all eligible families. Federal and state grants require community agencies to provide local funding including private sources. The ability for our programs to best meet the challenge of providing needed services at the highest level depends on help from you.

The Bushels for Babies campaign allows farmers to donate grain to help us better serve children with special needs and their families in Northwest Kansas. To participate is easy! Simply notify the grain merchandiser at settlement time that you want to donate "x" number of bushels to the Northwest Kansas tiny-k network housed at the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center (NKESC a not-for-profit organization committed to quality services for children and families). All donations are tax deductible.

For further information contact Katherine Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer 785-672-3125 or email her at kko@nkesc.org

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\$25,000 OBO

Call 719-340-0001 after 5 p.m.

Cost-Share Funds Available

The Cheyenne Co. Conservation District will be accepting cost-share applications for conservation practices, June 14 – July 13, 2012 at the Conservation Office in St. Francis.

Conservation practices include: Terraces, Terrace Rebuilds, Diversions, Livestock Tanks, Wells and Pipelines, Cross-Fencing, Pumping Plant for Water Supply, Rangeland Seeding, Spring Developments, Windbreaks, (i.e. Trees, Fabric Weed Barrier, Drip Irrigation Systems), and Failing Septic System Replacement.

All applications will be reviewed and ranked by the Conservation District Board of Supervisors and funded according to priorities recommended by the Kansas Water Plan. Cost-share assistance rates are 50-70%. Deadline to complete work is December 31, 2012.

Funding for the cost-share programs are provided by the State Conservation Commission through appropriations from the Kansas Water Plan and administered by the Cheyenne County Conservation District.

If you are interested, please contact our office located in the USDA Service Center on West Highway 36 in St. Francis or call 785-332-2341, ext. 101.

Cheyenne County
The Fourth of July Celebration is
Now on Facebook.
Complete schedule of events
and photographs. Let's hear from
you about your plans for the day
and evening. Spread the word,
tell your family and friends.
Visit us at:
Cheyenne County July 4th Celebration

July 4th
All American Hot Dog Meal
While attending ALL the events
Downtown, join us for lunch
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
In front of the Uptown Market
Jumbo All Beef Hot Dog, Chips, Macaroni
or Potato Salad, Large Cookie, Soda
or Bottled Water, \$6.00
Hot Dog Eating Contest at High Noon -
Next to Uptown Market
413 E. Washington, St., St. Francis