

Man recognized in publication

A former St. Francis man was recently recognized in the “Brighton Local Color,” a locally owned new publication in Colorado. The article, “Walkey’s plans are looking up,” was written by Danica Luckner.

Wes Walkey, son of Wynard and Barb Walkey and grandson of the late Wanda and Willis Walkey, is interested in astronomy and is the founder of the Brighton Astronomy Group.

Mr. Walkey said his parents bought him a telescope when he was a kid and he has been hooked ever since. His sense of humor and his passion for astronomy reflects in the stickers on his telescope which reads, “To infinity and beyond!” and “Warning: Objects are further than they appear.”

About a year ago, Mr. Walkey bought another telescope and his wife suggested he set up somewhere to share with other people who might have the same interest. Since then, he has been setting it up regularly at Bromley Creek Park.

According to the article, Mr. Walkey usually sets up the first Saturday closest to the quarter moon. That is, he said, one of the best times for viewing constellations, the Milky Way and planets like Saturn and its awe-inspiring rings.

His efforts have drawn star-gazers from all around the Brighton area.

Today, he leads the informal club, which is free and has more than 150 people on its e-mail list. He puts together a monthly newsletter and he’s petitioned the city to rename Bromley Creek Park as Observatory Park.

The Brighton Astronomy Group also organizes a “dark sky night” at Barr lake, usually the Saturday closest to the new moon. It is a great opportunity for viewing because it’s darker at the park and away from the city’s lights, Mr. Walkey said.

He owns his own business, Walkey Onsite Computer Services. He usually helps small-business owners, from one-person shops to companies with a dozen employees, with computer upgrades, trouble shooting and Internet and networking help. Before starting his business, he worked for IBM, TIAA-CREF and Rocky Flats.

He works out of his home basement which has an inventory of computer parts to help his customers as well as that first telescope from his childhood.

On a recent night at Bromley Creek Park, Mr. Walkey was able to show a visitor from out of town what Saturn and its rings look like through the new telescope.

Saturn’s beauty, he said, brought tears to the man’s eyes.

Club Clip

Lawn Ridge 4-H Club October

The October meeting of the Lawn Ridge 4-H Club was called to order by Taylor, president. The flag salute was lead by Bailey and Caitlin led the song. Roll call was “What are you going to be for Halloween?” and was answered by eight members and two leaders. Bailey gave the treasurer’s report. Aimee gave the council report and Caitlin gave the junior leader report. Aimee gave the club leader’s report and Val turned in the reporter’s report. Christy gave the committee report on the S.O.S. project.

There was no old business. In new business, members discussed the club project and decided on community service. They also decided to do the light parade and tag Christmas trees.

In the program, Taylor gave a project talk on literacy and Ally gave a demonstration on home-made gatorade. Dale gave a parliamentary procedure report.

Taylor read announcements, Caitlin announced the next meeting and the meeting was adjourned. Northrups served refreshments.

Bailey Merklin, reporter November

The November meeting of the Lawn Ridge 4-H Club was called to order by Taylor, president. Tristan lead the flag salute and Val lead the song. Roll call was “What would your pet turkey’s name be,” and was answered by 10 members and two leaders.

Dale read the minutes from the previous meeting and they were approved. There was one communication from Cheyenne County Young Miss for donations. Ally gave the treasurer’s report. Christy gave the council report and Dale gave the junior leader report. Aimee gave the club leader report and Bailey gave

the reporter’s report.

In the committee report, members discussed tagging Christmas trees, the light parade and the Christmas party.

There was no old business. In new business members discussed Hero packs for military kids, World Vision and Young Miss donations. Members decided to donate some money to each one.

During the program, Caitlin gave a demonstration on how to make snowman pudding cups. Taylor led the recreation.

The meeting was called back to order, and Taylor read announcements. Caitlin read the next meeting. Val led in the 4-H pledge and Ally moved the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed.

Refreshments were served by the Archibalds.

Bailey Merklin, reporter

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Wheeler Mayor Whitman

The annual Wheeler Thanksgiving dinner was held earlier. People enjoyed the meal at Captain Hook’s Fine Dining. Following the meal, Oscar Whitman was elected as the mayor of Wheeler.



Beecher Island News

There were 28 at Sunday school. Cindy Stroh’s class gave the special number. Nancy Peaker gave her birthday offering.

Word was received of the death of Nancy Fonte Cranmer from a heart attack. Funeral services were in Pueblo.

Ed and Linda Ingo spent Wednesday to Saturday with Harry Ekberg.

Mallory Rose spent Wednes-

day to Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Kenny Rose and Chynna. They had lunch with Sylvia Madsen and Kinsey Madsen in Idalia Sunday.

Friday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mansfield were Mr. and Mrs. Monte Mansfield and Bessie Dent. Mr. and Mrs. Steve Goodman were Saturday overnight guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Fonte, Mr. and Mrs. Travis Fonte and Gwen Shaver attended the funeral of

Nancy Cranmer Tuesday.

Mary Matzke of Ellis is spending a few days with Rex Shaver.

Jessica Willard from Chicago came Tuesday to spend the Thanksgiving break with the John Willard family and other relatives.

The Randy Perila family came Wednesday for the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Bob Simmons. Laura Pearl Wall joined them Saturday.

By Bessie Dent



Mr. and Mrs. Tempy Bowman and children, Matt and Molly Osmus, Andy Osmus and Kyle and Holly Kock were Wednesday to Saturday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Pete Osmus. All enjoyed watching Morgan and Brandon Kock in the parade on Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Rowe Shively, Kim Bowman and boys visited Charlie Shively in Burlington Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Quentin Simmons and Taya, Mr. and Mrs. Randy Perila and family were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Simmons.

Thanksgiving dinners

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Brown hosted dinner for Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Larkin and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Brown and family, Tyson Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Bowker, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Dodge and Violet Brown.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Strangways were Mr. and Mrs. Roger Wieser and Katie.

Laura Pearl Wall’s guests were Mr. and Mrs. Bob Simmons, Mr. and Mrs. Quentin Simmons and Taya, Mr. and Mrs. Randy Perila and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Flaming, Mr. and Mrs. Greg Klein and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Rose hosted dinner for Pam Zuege and girls, Mr. and Mrs. Kenny Rose and girls and Mr. and Mrs. Kent Rose.

Mr. and Mrs. Rowe Shively’s guests were Kim Bowman, Zach and Austin, Carole Whomble and Daren and two friends and Todd Shively.

Mr. and Mrs. Monte Mansfield’s guests were Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mansfield and Joleen Wingfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Walt Smith’s guests were Mr. and Mrs. Matt Johnson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Smith and JoLynne Reiman.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Brown and Riley were Mr. and Mrs. Larry Dent and Dwain, Grant Brown and Bessie Dent.

Mr. and Mrs. Pete Osmus’s guests were Mr. and Mrs. Tempy Bowman and family, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Osmus, Mr. and Mrs. Kyle Kock, Ken Kock. Kenny Salvador joined them in the afternoon.

Idalia News

By Angela DeLeon



and will be their Christmas party so hope to see everyone there.

Dec. 19 - Will be the high school party and also a present exchange among all high school students.

Dec. 21 - Epycs members will go to Father Woody’s to serve the homeless in need of Christmas dinner.

LaVerne and Carol Boden en-

joyed Thanksgiving dinner at the Carl and Phyllis Ostoff farm north of Athol. They enjoyed visiting with John and Kathi Boden and girls at Smith Center and then returned home Saturday.



KID’S FOUR WHEELER will be given away at Cheyenne Lumber. Rick Windell, one of the owners, sees that the machine is running right.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

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