



RESIDENTS RECEIVE lap quilts. Cinda Dankenbring (r) gives Bob Keller a new quilt made by the Peace Lutheran quilters.

Herald photo by Louann Isernhagen

Quilters make and donate several lap robes to Village

Recently, the Peace Lutheran quilters made and donated 38 lap robes to residents at the Good Samaritan Village in St. Francis. Cinda Dankenbring, one of the Lutheran quilters, brought them to the Village on Sunday, May 22, and residents were able to choose one to keep.

The Peace Lutheran quilters meet one Wednesday a month to sew and tie quilts to send to Lutheran World Relief. Mrs. Dankenbring organizes the quilting sessions and nine women meet to piece and tie the quilts.

There are three women who sew the quilt tops at home, then

bring them to the church. When the group meets, two women sew the quilt tops to the backs and four to five women do the tying.

The group will accept donations of fabrics, used blankets and sheets for their projects. Just drop them off at the church.

Children carry out mystery trip

A surprise mystery trip was recently planned and carried out for Wilma Lampe from June 1 to June 6 by her four children in celebration of her birthday.

Those flying from the Denver airport with Wilma were her daughters, Gina Krien and Linda Gutsch and daughter-in-law, Debbie Floyd of Seattle, Wash. The airport revealed that the flight destination was Baltimore, Md., where daughter, Barb Stevanson met them with a large rental van and a "Welcome to Your Hershey Express" sign and a "Happy Birthday, Mom."

They all five loaded up in the van and drove 1 1/2 hours to Hershey, Pa., their final destination! Wilma had always wanted to visit Hershey, the chocolate town, but hadn't in her many years of travel, so the family decided to make it happen.

The first night of Thursday, June 2, was spent in the beautiful big/hershey Hotel on a hill overlooking rose gardens and the city and where they were welcomed with Hershey candy bars.

A birthday dinner that evening was held in the hotel's circular dining room with a gourmet dinner and a happy birthday plate of assorted sweet treats for dessert. Birthday gifts were opened along with laughter over the

day's events.

After a big breakfast in the circular dining room the next morning they drove to the beautiful Hershey Botanical Gardens with many roses in bloom and also enjoyed the Butterfly Pavilion.

Then they were off to Hershey Land! At the big Hershey Park Complex there were 101 chocolate things to do. One favorite was the trolley tour with a singing tour guide and a conductor that hopped on and off the trolley in period costumes telling the story of Milton Hershey's life.

They drove by the school Mr. Hershey and his wife Catherine had established for orphans when they were unable to have children of their own. He willed his entire estate to the school foundation and it lives on today giving many scholarships and incentives to the students.

Other things tried out in the Hershey complex were the "Make Your Own Candy Bar" and "Design Your Own Wrapper." After gift shopping they tried the "Create Your Own Dessert: to complete their lunch. Then a 3D movie of the Hershey story was enjoyed and also a driving tour of downtown "Chocolate Avenue" where the street lights are shaped like chocolate kisses.

They had now moved to a dif-

ferent motel and the hot tub felt great before hopping in bed that night.

Saturday, June 4, was another big day. After touring the new Hershey Story, an amazing museum downtown, they loaded up in the van and drove to Lancaster, Pa., to tour Amish Country. After an Amish lunch at "Good and Plenty," they had a horse-drawn buggy ride over a covered bridge and by Amish farms and the countryside.

They drove their van over winding country roads to see the Twin Brooks Winery in Gap, Pa., and then to Strasburg for a train ride in an historic steam locomotive to Paradise, Pa., and back.

They went to a big family-style dinner at an Amish farm with delicious foods and more than you could eat. Then the drive back to Hershey again to the motel and bed.

On Sunday, June 5, after breakfast they drove to Gettysburg and had a narrated bus tour of the Gettysburg National Cemetery and National Park. Their guide was a local guy and well versed about the battlegrounds and the area, and had also known the Eisenhowers at Gettysburg. After lunch and a drive in the area, they visited the Gettysburg Museum and the National Park visitors center. Here they saw a movie about the Civil War and a cyclorama of the Battle of Gettysburg, a very moving experience.

After ice cream at the sidewalk shops of Gettysburg and a ghost tour joined by some, it was back to the motel and packing for the next day's departure.

Monday, June 6th the final day of the trip, they got up early for breakfast and to dash back to Gettysburg to take in the Eisenhower Home and Farm tour by shuttle bus from the Park Center. This is where Ike and Mamie lived out their final days.

After a quick lunch, the family drove back to the airport in Baltimore for their flights home; Barb back to Austin, Texas, Debbie to Seattle and Wilma, Linda and Gina to Denver after a busy buy delightful, amazing and enjoyable mystery trip!!

Graduate named recipient of society's scholarship

Mikaela Grace, graduate of St. Francis Community High School, was named the 2011 recipient of the Cheyenne County Historical Society Scholarship. The majority of the seniors from St. Francis and Bird City high schools competed for the \$500 scholarship.

One of the requirements of the application for the scholarship is to write an essay on why it is important to know the history of Cheyenne County. The five judges all agreed that many of the essays they received this year were unusually well-written.

Some excerpts from Mikaela's essay, as she reflects on one of her visits to the Cheyenne County Museum, read, "I discovered that just because something is from the past doesn't mean it should

stay there. Each of those inanimate museum artifacts represents a person's life, and a story to be told. Those invaluable memories lie latent most days, waiting for someone to dust off an old photograph and smile wistfully, thinking of the days long past."

Mikaela goes on to say, "But by delving into the history of my family and my county, I can discover my roots, and with that knowledge come lessons pertinent to my life. The most important of these lessons is that the past reaches into every aspect of my life, intangibly shaping who I am today. Studying history turns Cheyenne County from just the place I live into a richly storied home."

This fall, Mikaela will attend

Stanford University in California. She plans to major in biochemical engineering.

She said, "I've chosen the biochemical branch of engineering because it will allow me to work with prosthetic limbs or genetic healing, and making a tangible difference in others' lives is important to me."

She is the daughter of Debbie and Robert Grace of St. Francis.

This is the fifth year the Cheyenne County Historical Society has offered this scholarship. The first year Brittany Lucas was awarded \$250. The following year the society voted to raise the amount to \$500; and Jenice Hartman, Elizabeth Gienger, and Brooklyn Hnizdil have been the subsequent recipients.

Across the County

Tomato plant folklore can be wrong.

By
Marty
Fear



County Extension Agent

Sometimes oft-repeated gardening lore is folk wisdom. Sometimes it's just plain wrong.

A case in point is the common advice to plant tomato transplants deep – up to the first leaf, covering about 75 percent of the stem, said Pam Paulsen, horticulturist with K-State Research and Extension.

"Tomatoes actually will develop roots along planted sections of stem. But, those adventitious roots take a long time to form and begin to function. That's contrary to the main goal in all transplanting: to get plants to re-establish their root system as quickly as possible," Ms. Paulsen said.

Researchers have seen no evidence that planting tomatoes deeply results in a larger, stronger or more efficient total root system, she said. Several studies, however, have identified why deeply planted tomatoes adjust so slowly.

"It's common-sense botany. Because the transplant's roots and part of its stem end up deeper in the soil than they were in the container, they're where the soil has less oxygen and the temperature is cooler. If tomato plants liked those conditions, we could plant them earlier in spring," she said.

Gardeners who buy large, overgrown tomato transplants sometimes set them in deeply

enough to keep the vines from whipping around in the wind.

"That's mostly a 'making the best of a bad situation' practice," Ms. Paulsen said. "As always, the best transplants are the short, stout ones – not the big ones with roots trailing out of their container's drainage hole. In fact, studies have found that throughout the entire life of tomato transplants, the large plants will never reach the productivity of the smaller ones."

Mulch time: remember the rules

The ideal time to apply mulch in flower and vegetable gardens is late spring after the soil has warmed up. Replenishing beds where existing mulch has thinned is the step after that.

"This can be the best way to protect plants from summer's heat, drought and weeds. Mulching also can reduce soil erosion, compaction and crusting. Unless you know what you're doing, though, it can create as many problems as it solves," said Ward Upham, K-State Research and Extension horticulturist.

1) Three hard-and-fast rules apply for both inorganic and organic mulches, he said:

No mulch may touch plants' crown, stem or trunk. Contact fosters diseases and provides insect cover. Over time, it can make plants think their soil level has changed. The size of the

bare-dirt "doughnut hole" should relate to plant size – an inch or so encircling tomato vines and a foot left uncovered around mature trees.

2) No mulch should touch any building-related wood, from house siding to door frames. Mulch within 6 inches of foundations should be less than 2-inches deep. Many mulches aren't desirable insect food. Whether lava rocks or cedar chips, however, mulches look like moisture-retaining cover to termites.

3) Mulch that's too deep can be as counter-productive as a layer that's too shallow. The most effective depth depends on the material. In general, thin, fine materials (grass clippings, peat moss) are best at 1 inch deep or less. Big cedar bark chunks need to be 3- to 5-inches deep. The in-between sizes can be 2- to 4- deep.

Except for these rules, no "best" advice for choosing and using mulch exists, Mr. Upham warned. Each mulch material has pros and cons. Mulches vary widely in color, texture, overall appearance, durability and cost.

Contact the Cheyenne County Extension office at 332-3171 or cfear@ksu.edu with questions or comments. Until next week - Marty

Club Clip

American Legion Auxiliary

On June 3, the American Legion Auxiliary met at the LeBow Manor in Bird City. There were seven members present.

For roll call members each shared how they had spent Memorial Day, or about some special Memorial Day that they had had.

For the program, Mary Dorsch read an article about "What has America become?" by Ken Huber of Tawas City. This was sent in an e-mail to Hulda.

"Has America become the land of the special interest and home of the double standard? Let's see: if we lie to the Congress, it's a felony and if the congress lies to us, it's just politics; if we dislike a black person, we're racist, and if a black dislikes whites, it's their First Amendment right: the government spends millions to rehabilitate criminals and they do almost nothing for the victims: in public schools you can teach that homosexuality is okay, but you better not use the word God in the process: you can kill an unborn child, but it's wrong to execute a mass murderer: we don't burn books in America, we now rewrite them: we got rid of the communist and socialist threat by renaming them progressives: we are unable to close our border with Mexico, but have no problem protecting the 38th parallel in Korea: if you protest against President Obama's policies, you're a terrorist, but if you burned an American flag or George Bush in effigy, it was your First Amendment right."

"And how do we handle a major crisis today? The government appoints a committee to determine who's at fault, then threatens them, passes a law, raises our taxes, tells us the problem is solved so they can get back to their reelection campaign. What has happened to the land of the free and home of the brave?"

Another article that was shared

was from the "Sunflower Legionnaire" about the American Legion's National Commander Jimmie Foster writing about Washington's recommendations of two debt reduction commissions which would decrease military retirement benefits. Foster's response was to "Tell it to the Marines!" I want these commissions to look a 22-year-old Marine in the eye and say that if you retire at age 40 after 20 years of service and three, four, or even more tours of being shot at in Afghanistan, that you still have not done enough to receive your retirement. I want these commissions to tell the soldiers in Iraq that the benefits they are receiving are too much. America has a huge debt all right. And it is owed to these men and women who protect our freedoms every day. It is a debt that must be repaid.

Hulda also commented on the fact that Memorial Day was written about on the front pages of the Salina Journal and on the McCook newspaper.

Then Wanda read an article from the American Legion Auxiliary magazine on Memorial Day - the Meaning behind the Holiday and Monument honoring our nation's heroes. On May 5, 1868, three years after the Civil War ended, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) declared May 30 as Decoration Day, a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with "the choicest flowers of springtime."

He said: "We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to present or to coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic." The first major observance was held that year

at Arlington Nation Cemetery at Arlington House, once the home of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Various Washington officials, including Gen. and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant, presided over the ceremonies.

The crowd listened to the dignitaries' speeches. Then children from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home and Grand Army of the Republic members decorated the graves of the fallen, both Union and Confederate, while they recited prayers and sang hymns.

In 1966, Congress and President Lyndon B. Johnson declared Waterloo, N. Y., the "birthplace" of Memorial Day, recognizing the impact of the ceremony held there in 1868 to honor local veterans who had fought in the Civil War. Businesses closed and residents flew flags at half-staff. Supporters of Waterloo's claim say earlier observances in other places were either informal or no community-wide.

By the end of the 19th century, Memorial Day ceremonies were being held on May 30 throughout the nation. State legislatures passed proclamations designating the date as a day of remembrance, and the Army and the Navy adopted regulations for proper observance at their facilities.

It was not until after World War I, however, that the day was expanded to honor those who died in all American Wars. In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday by an act of Congress, and its observance was set on the last Monday in May, in accordance with other Federal Holidays. Many still refer to this holiday as "Decoration Day."

The next meeting is planned for the first part of August. If anyone eligible to join, member would love to have hem come and be a part of the planning for the next year.

Club Clip

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women's Annual Salad Supper was held June 1 at 7 p.m. in the United Methodist fellowship hall. Seventy members and guests were welcomed by United Methodist Women's president Marsha Zimelman. After singing the doxology, the ladies helped themselves to the many delicious salads provided by United Methodist Women members. Hostesses were Shelly Klie and Bussie Burr. After the meal the ladies adjourned to the sanctuary for the program.

The program was presented by Kari Gilliland. Kari shared some of her experiences as a participant in the Boston Marathon this spring. Kari ran the 26.2 miles

to raise funds and awareness for the Hole in the Wall Gang." This is a children's camp founded by Paul Newman, Kari had a long time goal of some day running in the Boston Marathon before her 40th birthday. Her achievement was an inspiration to attendees to not only set goals but then to achieve those goals. After her presentation she invited questions. Also she had pictures and mementos to share with the group.

The next meeting of the United Methodist Women will be Sept. 7 at 2 p.m. in the United Methodist fellowship hall. Marie Holzwarth will present the program. All ladies are welcome to attend.