

**Jacob Ben Andrist**

Nov. 5, 1925 – June 1, 2013

Ben, the second of five children, was born to Christian and Olive Doggett Andrist on Nov. 5, 1925, on the family farm south of Wheeler, Kan. He died peacefully on June 1, 2013, at the Cheyenne County Hospital with his children at his side.

Ben attended country school where he and his siblings, Bill and Wilma, rode a horse to school. While attending St. Francis high school he enjoyed playing football and having a winning season in 1941 and placing second in the league. He graduated from St. Francis Community High School in 1943.

Following graduation he attended Kansas State University for a semester and then returned to help on the family farm. Ben was drafted into the Army Air Corp in 1945 and was put in pilot training and then air traffic control. He served in Prestwick, Scotland.

On Sept. 18, 1949, Ben married Aerial Lucille McDaniel. Two children were born to this union, Randy Dee and Tina Marie.

Ben farmed and raised cattle, but also had a love for horses and always wanted to raise them. After retiring from farming he continued to keep busy helping Randy when he needed extra help on the farm.

Ben enjoyed building and working with wood. He had done all the remodeling in their home in the country that burnt to the ground in 1966. Each home that

Ben and Aerial lived in always had some remodeling done or an addition added. He made sure that he made each grandchild a barn or doll house.

He served as a county commissioner for one term, was on the Prairie View Country school board until it closed in 1962 and was a 4-H swine superintendent for several years.

Ben was the St. Francis City Judge from 1986 – 1998. He enjoyed this job and said most of the kids he had in court were good kids, they just made the wrong choice.

He was preceded in death by his wife Aerial, his parents Christian and Olive, brothers Bob and Bill and his wife Gerri, sisters Lilly Marie who died in infancy and Wilma "Sis" Crum and husband Fred and his mother-in-law and father-in-law Ralph and Eva Coffey McDaniel.

He will be missed by his son Randy and wife Denise, daughter Tina Sager, grandson Dustin and wife Sharissa, granddaughters Kelsey Andrist and Tia Sager, great-grandsons Andrew Ben and Tysson Thomas Andrist, special nephew Frosty Crum, brother-in-law Kenneth Dean McDaniel and wife Joyce and a host of family and friends.

Graveside services were held June 19, 2013, at the St. Francis Cemetery with Norman Morrow officiating.

Memorials may be given to the Cheyenne County Hospital or the Good Samaritan Village.

# Two counties receive healthy grant

Cheyenne and Rawlins counties recently received a Healthy Communities Initiative (HCI) grant from the Kansas Health Foundation. The Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation, based in Bird City, received this grant on behalf of the communities and will be managing and administering the funds. The planning grant has resulted in the development of the Northwest Kansas Healthy Communities Initiative group. The Health Communities grant will help the group conduct community assessments to determine a key policy focus area related to healthy eating or active living.

During the assessment phase, Jolene Singhateh and Amy Korbe will be sending out community surveys and interviewing community stakeholders. Community input is an essential component of the assessments.

All residents in Cheyenne and Rawlins counties will have the opportunity to provide their opinion of initiatives related to healthy eating and physical activity through the community surveys. The stakeholder interviews will assess projects and policies currently in place that support a healthy community.

Information collected from community members will



WARREN CICO talks to Amy Korbe at the youth garden plot.

help the group lead Cheyenne and Rawlins counties to find solutions that enable community members to access healthy foods and participate in active lifestyles.

Ms. Singhateh is a community member living in Atwood. She

is a registered nurse at the Rawlins County Health Center and is currently pursuing her nurse practitioner degree at Fort Hays State University. Ms. Korbe is a Kansas native pursuing a master of Public Health Degree at the University of North Caro-

lina. She is an Ogallala Commons intern living with Jeff and Alice Hill in Atwood during her time in the community.

For more information regarding this initiative please contact Chris Sramek at 785-626-6088 or chris@decisionweather.com

**Velma Maxine Smith**

Jan. 13, 1919 - May 30, 2013

Velma Maxine Thatcher, better known as "Mickey" was born to Franklin and Pearl Thatcher on Jan. 13, 1919, in Promise City, Iowa. She was the second child of five – Jay, Vay, Arlo and Ilene.

Mickey moved to Holyoke, Colo., with her family in the middle of the 1920s. She and her brothers and sister attended country school. She has shared many memories including her and her brother, Jay, carrying water in a cream can from their home to school. He attended school through the eighth grade and began working to help the family.

She met Clifford Smith at a dance in Wauneta, Colo. She and Cliff enjoyed dancing whenever they could throughout their marriage. Mickey and Clifford were united in marriage on Sept. 28, 1938, in Holyoke, Colo. To their marriage, three children were born: Bill, Bonnie and Rick. Lenae joined their family in 1966.

Mickey had a gift of unconditional love that she shared with everyone she met, and welcomed everyone with open arms.

She was preceded in death by her younger brother, Arlo, her parents, brothers, Vay and Jay, and her beloved husband, Clifford.

She is survived by her chil-

dren: Bill Smith of St. Francis, Bonnie Smith of Atwood, Rick and wife, Gail of Atwood, and Lenae Seeker of Sacramento, Calif. She also leaves behind several grandchildren and great-grandchildren: Megan Goodvin (Grant), children, Camden and Kinsley of Wichita; Brad Smith of Atwood; Dax Groves (Kristen), Ronan of Sacramento; Samantha Buckley (Steven), Owen and Sawyer of Sacramento; Leslie Smith of Longmont, Colo.; Jennifer Smith and daughter Payton of Mesa, Ariz.; Lynda Colgan of Atwood; Alexandra Smith of Mesa; and Cameron Colgan of Atwood.

Mickey will be missed by her family including nieces, nephews and a host of others who loved her dearly.

Funeral services were held on June 10 at the United Methodist Church in St. Francis with Rev. Warren Cico officiating. Casket bearers were Brad Smith, Reid Frohlich, Glenn Schliep, Mike Wolters, Darren Workman, Dax Groves, Camron Colgan and Grant Goodvin.

Interment was in the Holyoke Cemetery.

Arrangements were made by Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.

# Organizers meet to review 125th celebration

By Karen Krien

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A number of the St. Francis 125th Birthday Celebration organizers met Monday at Majestic Service to review the celebration which was held June 14, 15 and 16. Things that could have been done differently, things that had gone smoothly and the public's comments were discussed. In the end, everyone agreed that, overall, the celebration was a success.

Starting with basically no money, the plans were made, meat was ordered for the barbecue, memorabilia items were purchased and T-shirts and cornstarch were ordered for the color run-walk. However, these were just a few of the plans and arrangements to be made.

Robin Burr reported that the fund raisers had brought in the needed money to start the celebration plans. As the organizers made their reports, it was evident that people had supported the celebration. The barbecue, the beer garden and the games had made money. Much of the memorabilia had sold but there was still more to be sold which would mean that money would continue to be added to the Celebrate St. Francis Fund. Tammy Grice reported that the 125th coins had not been shipped as scheduled and \$500 of the money would be returned on the order. She also thought the coins would be an easy sell when they arrived. Memorabilia will be placed at Majestic Service, Farm Bureau, Cuppa Joes, the Thrift Store and Cheyenne County Museum so people, who missed getting items at the celebration, can still make a purchase.

They voted that some of the paper supplies that could not be returned

would be given to the July Fourth organizers, noting that it was good to be able to help another celebration in St. Francis.

The beer garden had been a success in two ways: almost all the beer ordered had been sold; and the city council and law officers had approved of the way the beer garden had been organized and handled. Most likely, said Kary Meyer, organizer, if another beer garden is planned, it will be approved.

Criticism included not having more activities located in the business section on Saturday afternoon and two serving lines were needed at the barbecue. For

the most part, there appeared to be little criticism.

**What now?**

When all the bills are in and paid, and the memorabilia sold, there should be a profit. It was advertised at the beginning of the fund raising, that 80 percent of the money would be given to the city council to be used toward building a new swimming pool. The other 20 percent will be put back in the Celebrate St. Francis Fund to be used for the next celebration.

That brought up the question – What will the next celebration be?

Everyone agreed that a Heritage Day celebration, held in the fall

2014, should be planned.

Yes, said Jensen, we could have brats, sausage, beer and polka music. We need to remember our heritage.

It had been less than two weeks since the 125th celebration but the majority of the group was ready to start working on the next celebration.

We won't have another 125th, Kary said, but people are wanting to do something next year. The majority of the people I talked to were just happy that there might be another community activity in St. Francis.

**Emil Holzwarth**

Feb. 19, 1918 - May 12, 2013

Emil A. Holzwarth, 95, longtime resident of Fort Morgan, Colo., died on Sunday, May 12, 2013, at Valley View Villa in Fort Morgan.



Holzwarth

Emil was born on Feb. 19, 1918, at St. Francis, Kan., to John and Dora Holzwarth. He married Gertrude Voeller on Nov. 19, 1943, in St. Francis. He is survived by his wife, Gertrude; his daughter, Carolyn Cawley and husband, David, of Fort Morgan; a sister, Lea Walters of Denver; several nieces and nephews, grandchildren, Jeremy Goetz and wife, Carrie, and Candice Ramsey and husband, Eric; great-grandchildren, DJ Turner and wife, Karen, Dal-

las Sewell and wife, Erin, and Clarabelle and Landon Ramsey; great-great-grandchildren, Aurora, Amber and Dustin Turner, and Amelia Sewell.

At Emil's request, no memorial service will be held. Since cremation has taken place, a private gathering will be held at a later date.

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**Handy Tips**

- Flies or bees bothering you? Spray them with hair spray and they will take a quick dive.
- Sealed envelope - put in the freezer for a few hours, then slide a knife under the flap. The envelope can then be resealed.
- Use empty toilet paper roll to store appliance cords. It keeps them neat and you can write on the roll what appliance it belongs to.
- For icy door steps in freezing temperatures: get warm water and put Dawn dish-washing liquid in it. Pour it all over the steps. The mix won't re-freeze.

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