



SECOND GRADE STUDENTS were excited when it was announced that they had raised almost \$170 for to fight cancer.

The students were the top winners in the grade school. Herald staff photos by Karen Krien

Students will be learning as they enjoy festival

Fifth grade students at St. Francis Community Elementary School and Cheylin Elementary, as well as Rawlins County Elementary School, will be participating in the High Plains Playa Lakes Festival, to be held May 8-9.

The Festival is a fun way for students to become educated about the High Plains water cycle through the context of playa lakes. During a two-day program, students will be instructed in the main components of this unique water cycle: springs, creeks, draws, playa lakes, municipal wastewater treatment plants, and the Ogallala Aquifer.

Darryl Birkenfeld, a Nazareth, Texas, resident who is the coordinator for the Festival, explains why students in the region need to be knowledgeable about the water cycle. "Water is the lifeblood of human and natural ecosystems. Playas are a unique feature of the High Plains country, and they are a tool to teach students, adults, and communities about a healthy and functioning water cycle."

In recent decades, numerous scientific studies are demonstrating that Ogallala Aquifer recharge

is intricately tied to playa basins. Though long treated as a nuisance, playa lakes are not only important to wildlife, but for the long-term viability of the water cycle as well as human communities.

Four adult faculty members (along with approximately 10 teachers and adult sponsors) will supervise approximately 50 students working in learning activities, along with personnel from the Cheyenne and Rawlins County Conservation Districts. Using an indoor/outdoor format, students will spend 6 hours each day in 3-hour modules that involve science, biology, creative writing, art, photography, and local history.

The Playa Lakes Festival is presented by Ogallala Commons, and cosponsors include Playa Lakes Joint Venture, Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams, the Republican River Riparian Partnership, Western Prairies Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D), and the two County Conservation Districts.

For more information, contact Darryl Birkenfeld at 806-945-2255.

Students raise \$579

By Karen Krien
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A mini Relay for Life was recently held at the grade school. Kindergarten through sixth grade students participated as did the grade school staff.

Throughout the week, there were different sessions teaching the students ways to prevent cancer. For five days, students brought change to put into their class collection can. When the change was totaled, \$579 was donated to help fight cancer. The second grade class raised the most money (\$169.29) and received the platinum award.

"It was amazing — absolutely amazing — the amount of money the kids brought it," said Gloria Bracelin, local Relay For Life chairman.

"The relay committee is really proud of the grade school kids, they really stepped up to help us (fight back) against cancer!"

Jennifer Van Eaton, area director

for the American Cancer Society, said the St. Francis students raised more money than any other school mini Relay.

"We are planning to have the mini Relay again next year and include the junior and senior high students," Mrs. Bracelin said.

Annual Relay
The annual Relay For Life, held in St. Francis at Sawhill Park, has been moved from August to Friday, June 6. Anyone who would like to form a team, contact Gloria Bracelin or Betty Petersen.

"If there is a business which would like to have a team, but is concerned because their employees having to work the next day — we have a solution.

"Form your team and take part in the activities as long as you can. When you need to leave, we are sure someone from another team will continue to walk for you. Let's all pull together and Fight Cancer," says Mrs. Bracelin.



CONNOR McBRIDE accepts the honor for the third grade's contribution to the Relay For Life donations. Giving the award is Gloria Bracelin.

4-H volunteers help with distribution

Prairie Land Food (PLF) ministry in St. Francis received a big boost on distribution day Saturday when the following 4-H'ers assisted at the First Baptist Church: Celine Isely, Savannah Isely, Bradey Hanson of Go-Getters 4-H; Bailey Merklin of Lawn Ridge 4-H; Emily Elfers of Plum Creek 4-H and McKenzie Taylor.

The food ministry offers food packs at discount prices. With the high price of gasoline the program now has added importance. Local organizer, Lee Nichols, reports that if semi trucks were full the prices will probably not increase and if more local orders were received consistently each month the truck would come directly into St Francis. At present, volunteers go to Goodland to pick up the products.

Five to six meat items, four or

more fresh vegetables and a dessert are in the basic package requiring two hours of volunteer service and a nominal fee. Two to three specials are offered each month, which can be purchased in addition to the basic pack and require one additional volunteer hour.

Volunteer hours is anything done out of the kindness of the heart for which no payment is received. It can be as simple as participating in a prayer chain, church activities, being a room mother at school, helping at the library, helping with Prairie Land distribution, sharing your garden, sitting for a cup of coffee with an elderly neighbor, spending time with someone having a rough time. Making someone's day a little brighter qualifies for the program.

The reasonably-priced food is

not dependent on income since it is not a government-sponsored program. Love offerings (for others) is income-tax deductible since the program is a 501c3 organization. With the present economy a 'love gift' may be welcome by someone in the county. No volunteer hours are required for love offerings. Although not income based, food vouchers are also accepted.

Flyers announcing the signup deadline and distribution are placed at several locations in town and orders may also be placed on line to Linda Hagan, clkhagen@ruraltel.net, or by calling Ms.

Hagan at 1-800-298-1989.

The regular food pack for May includes shrimp alfredo, family pack chicken drums, ground beef patties, riblets in barbeque sauce, turkey cutlets and jumbo beef hot dogs. Vegetable products are not announced until near distribution to assure freshness. Specials in May include two 2 1/2 pound bags of fully cooked jumbo chicken wings; 10 5-ounce bacon wrapped turkey fillets and 8 pounds of baby back ribs in slabs.

Sign up deadline for May is Monday, May 18, and distribution is Saturday, May 31.

Handbell ensemble is seasons final event

The Handbell Ensemble from Bethany College will be in concert at 3 p.m. on Sunday at the Quinter High School auditorium. Admission for the Western Plains Arts Association presentation is by season pass or at the door.

The concert will feature the handbell ensemble as well as duets and quartets, and will include a combination of secular and sacred music. Of particular note will be Rhythmic Rip, a piece in which the players use their bells, cases and mallets in unique and exciting ways.

Handbells have gathered increasing respect and apprecia-

tion in the last decade, moving from the church choir lift into the symphony house. They provide a unique listening experience, and an opportunity to observe the fascinating coordination the ringers exhibit. The beautiful resonant sound produced by brass bells is inspirational, and appeals to audiences of all ages and musical tastes.

This will be the final event of the season for Western Plains.

This program is made possible in part by the Kansas Arts Commission, a state agency and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.



Come & Go Baby Shower for Ann and Dayton Fromholtz
May 10, 3 to 5 p.m.
At Cheyenne Manor

Make Offer
429 East 2nd — Goodland, KS
Lender owned property: 5 bedroom, 1 bath tri-level. Priced at \$32,900.
All offers considered
For more information contact Cynthia Butts at Richardson's Homestead Realty, 785-821-1811 or visit www.cynthiabutts.net

Eighth Annual SATURDAY in the PARK CAR SHOW!
Sat., May 10-9 a.m.-5 p.m. CT
St. Francis Sawhill Park Chamber will be serving lunch in the Band Shell 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

- Elvis will be entertaining in the band shell Sat. morning : 10 - 11:30 a.m
- Kids Pedal Pull for ages 4 thru 12 yrs. - behind the band shell Registration @ 12:30 p.m. •• Pull @ 1 p.m.

Winners are qualified to pull at the Kansas State Fair

People Movers to take you around the park
Senior Center Pancake Breakfast — 7 a.m.
Sponsored by: Cheyenne County Cruiser's & St. Francis Chamber of Commerce
For more info: Scott Schultz, 785-332-3960; Kent Kechter, 785-332-2629; Chamber, 785-332-2961

Swim Team
Parents meeting and Swimmers sign-up
Grade School Cafeteria
Monday, May 5, 3:45 - 4:30 p.m.
First meet will be May 31st, so be ready!

James E. Reeves, DPM
Podiatrist/Foot Specialist
Reconstructive Surgery
Foot & Ankle Injuries
For appointments call:
Rawlins County Health Center
785-626-3211
Wed., May 14
Cheyenne County Hospital - P.M.
210 W. 1st • 332-2104
Thurs., May 15
Atwood (a.m.) • 626-3211
Colby (p.m.)
CSMC, 175 S. Range
462-332
CMC, 100 E. College Dr.
462-7511
Fri., April 16
Atwood - All Day

Wedding Registry
Kristle Neuhaufen and Tyler Raile
Wedding
May 10, 2008
Schultz's Ltd.
114 W. Washington St. Francis
785-332-2833

Come & Go Baby Shower for Kelly and Kaylee Doyle
Saturday, May 3 • 10 a.m.
Cheyenne Manor

Reminder
You will need a building permit to build or replace a fence, run concrete or anytime you change, enlarge or remove a structure. An application form is available at City Hall, 209 E. Washington. You must get a permit BEFORE THE WORK IS STARTED.

WANTED: SALES PERSON
Eagle Communications Inc., Hays, Kansas, is looking for a sales person to sell our services in Wray, Colorado and St. Francis, Kansas. You will be calling on commercial and residential customers explaining the advantages "Eagle" has to offer. This is a salaried temporary position plus commissions. Please send your resume to Eagle Communications, Inc., ATTN: HR, 2703 Hall St., Suite #15, Hays, KS 67601 or e-mail your application/resume to eaglehr@eaglecom.net. Visit our website at: www.eaglecom.net. Applications accepted until May 16th, 2008. Eagle Communications Inc. is an EEO employer.