

Hare's Breath

By EARL HAIN

One of the most moving lines I ever heard at a memorial service was. . . "I regret that we did not share a day together. . . when we didn't have anything to do". . .

Senior Meals

JUNCTION CITY — Midday meals are served to Junction City area seniors in the Lindeborg Place dining room, 840 Holly St., on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays (except holidays) at 11:30 a.m. The menu for December 10-14 is as follows: Monday, Dec. 10 — meatloaf with gravy or chicken with cacciatore sauce, orange pineapple juice, Delmonico potatoes, country trio vegetables, herb bread; Wednesday, Dec. 12 — braised beef tips with rice or teriyaki meatballs with rice, pineapple juice, steamed spinach, pea and cheese salad, squash bread, red gelatin jewels with topping; Friday, Dec. 14 — diced pork and rotini pasta or broccoli quiche, orange juice, lima beans with red peppers, garden vegetable salad, multi-grain roll, rice pudding.

Those wishing to participate in the program may call 998-5367 before noon two serving days ahead to reserve a meal. The suggested donation is \$2.90, but no one is refused service who is unable to contribute.

Viking Sal

By MELISSA BOWERS, CENTER COORDINATOR

Viking Sal Community Senior Center will hold its second annual Big Hush Silent Auction Saturday, Dec. 8 from 6-9 p.m. at St. Helen's Catholic Church, 1350 W. Sixth Ave. in Junction City. With numerous items for bid, the benefit will help raise much needed funds to support non-profit senior services in Junction City. A \$10 benefit ticket includes a spaghetti dinner, entertainment, a progressive silent auction and casino games. Big Hush tickets may be purchased by calling 998-1556.

Viking Sal will hold a free Christmas meal for seniors age 55 and over on Dec. 18 at noon. Turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, dressing and coffee or tea will be served by the center. Guests are asked to bring a dessert, salad or vegetable dish to share. It won't be necessary for participants to provide their own place settings or silverware this year. Guests are invited to join Viking Sal members as they open up their hearts and give generously to five needy area families. Donations of canned or prepackaged food, children's gifts, cleaning supplies and toiletries will help make the Christmas season one of hope and promise for an area family. Donations will be accepted through Dec. 19. Pre-registration for the Christmas meal is required by Friday, Dec. 14. This can be accomplished by calling the center.

The Methodist church van will travel to Gateway and Walmart on Wednesday, Dec. 12 and to Valley River Center on Wednesday, Dec. 19. The van picks up passengers at their home beginning at noon and returns at approximately 3 p.m. To ride, passengers must pre-register at least a day prior to travel by calling the center. A \$2 donation is suggested for transportation expenses.

Instructor Don Hildenbrand will offer a new session of his popular Tai Chi exercise class at the center beginning Jan. 11 and running for 11 weeks. Class will meet from 2:30-4:30 p.m. LCC offers the class for \$29 per person age 62 and over. It is designed for beginning and continuing students as an introduction to stress reducing and stance training Chi Kung exercises. Registration can be accomplished at the center or by contacting LCC.

Long Tom Watershed Council

By CINDY THIEMAN

Several discoveries in the first half of the 1900s dramatically changed the nature of farming in the Long Tom Watershed. First, the replacement of horse-drawn ploughs with tractors; second, the success of grass seed farming; and third, the development of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides.

Many farmers were at first reluctant to replace their horses because they felt tractors would ruin the soil through compaction. Despite this reservation, the economic advantages of using tractors seemingly outweighed the potential side effects, and tractors had largely replaced horses by the late 1920s.

The replacement of horses meant that a substantial amount of land once used for pasture or hay production could be planted in annual crops. Clover, vetch, oats, and cheat grass were the principal hay and seed crops in the 1920s. Annual ryegrass seed production began around 1920, followed by perennial ryegrass in the mid-1930s. The success of grass seed in this area was mainly due to its ability to grow on heavy, clay soils and thrive in the hot, dry summers.

Larger, less diverse farms emerged compared to those of the first settlers. This change took place because of the combination of tractors, grass seed production, and access to larger markets.

Livestock, which were once a part of most small farms, became concentrated on feedlots and pastures as land became more valuable for growing grass seed.

As grass seed farming became more prevalent so did draining of fields with ditches and tile drains and the use of fertilizers. Synthetic fertilizers were introduced in the late 1940s. The boost in crop yield promoted the grass seed industry even more, and between 1950 and 1970 the amount of fertilizer that was being used in the area doubled. Field burning began in the mid to late 1940s in response to blindseed disease in perennial ryegrass. This practice was common until recent air quality concerns and social pressures limited its use.

The third part of this series will focus on agriculture and its relationship to watershed health. The next Long Tom Watershed Council meeting has been set for Jan. 29 at the Four Oaks Grange in the Amazon sub-basin. More information is available by contacting Dana Erickson at 683-6578.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR
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THE BIG HUSH

SPAGHETTI DINNER
& BENEFIT AUCTION
ENTERTAINMENT &
CASINO GAMES
SAT. DECEMBER 8 FROM 6-9 PM
ST. HELEN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
1350 W. 6TH AVE
TICKET PRICE \$10

*The Big Hush is A Silent Auction
To Benefit Senior Services at the Viking Sal Senior Center!
For more information contact 998-1556*