



# Director reports what fund buy

**By Karen Krien**

A representative from the Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging had been asked to attend the Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting on Friday to explain how the county's money directed to the Agency is being used.

Greg Hoover, executive director for the

Area Agency on Aging, reported that the county gives \$4,500 to the Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging and these funds are matched with government funds. In the county there are 23 clients served. The object is to have quality service and clients pay on a sliding fee.

The match the county provides helps

cover the following services: Meal sites, case management, information and assistance, in-home meals, senior center grants, legal services, health promotion, Elder Abuse Program, insurance and tax counseling and the Caregiver Support Program.

Mr. Hoover said that a lot of dollars are poured into the senior center for food. The

money also pays the cooks and the manager gets a small fee per day. Seniors coming to eat at the center are asked to pay a minimal fee and those who can pay more may do so. Mr. Hoover said that it was unfortunate that those who have the money to pay more for their meals seldom do but, at the same time, they are not required to do so.

Elmer Kellner, St. Francis, was at the meeting. As a senior citizen, he said that the St. Francis Center has trouble making ends meet and falls short every month. If it were not for donations and memorials, they would not be able to keep the center open.

Mr. Kellner was also concerned about the

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## Board approves bid for hospital renovation

The Cheyenne County Hospital Board met in special session on May 28 to make the final decision on the bid and cost of the renovation and addition of the hospital. Rhoades Construction of Goodland received the bid and the cost is not to exceed \$2,225,586.

The board has been meeting to discuss the future hospital plans. Earlier Rhoades Construction had submitted the low bid of \$2,537,800 but that bid was still more than the board was willing to spend. The architect and construction owner had

met to shave off costs.

At the May 28 meeting, Kevin Berens, county attorney, discussed the legal aspects of the bidding process and requirements for change and negotiations that would prevent liability to the board. In His opinion, based on information presented to him, the current and past discussions with the architect and low qualified bidder were "appropriate, prudent and legal."

Hospital administrator Les Lacy reviewed the project costs and hospital's financial position includ-

ing a \$252,591 receivable (money coming to the hospital from Medicare) on the 2002 cost report. Extensive discussion of the project, costs and financial position and variables to each followed. The consensus of the board and all present was that it was time to proceed with a decision on the project with further discussion of potential cost-saving alternatives and information gathering to be ongoing.

In the final motion, the board approved the bid by Rhoades Construction. See **BID** on Page 7

## Landfill will not take in grass

**By Karen Krien**

The announcement was made at the Cheyenne County Commissioners' Friday meeting that grass clippings will no longer be allowed at the county landfill site between Wheeler and Bird City.

Ed Gardner, landfill supervisor, Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, and Ranae Pilkington, bookkeeper, met with the commissioners to see exactly what they wanted to do about the matter.

Supervisor Garner said that a state inspector had been at the landfill and informed him that the site would not be allowed to take grass clippings unless they composted them. They could not burn them after they dried.

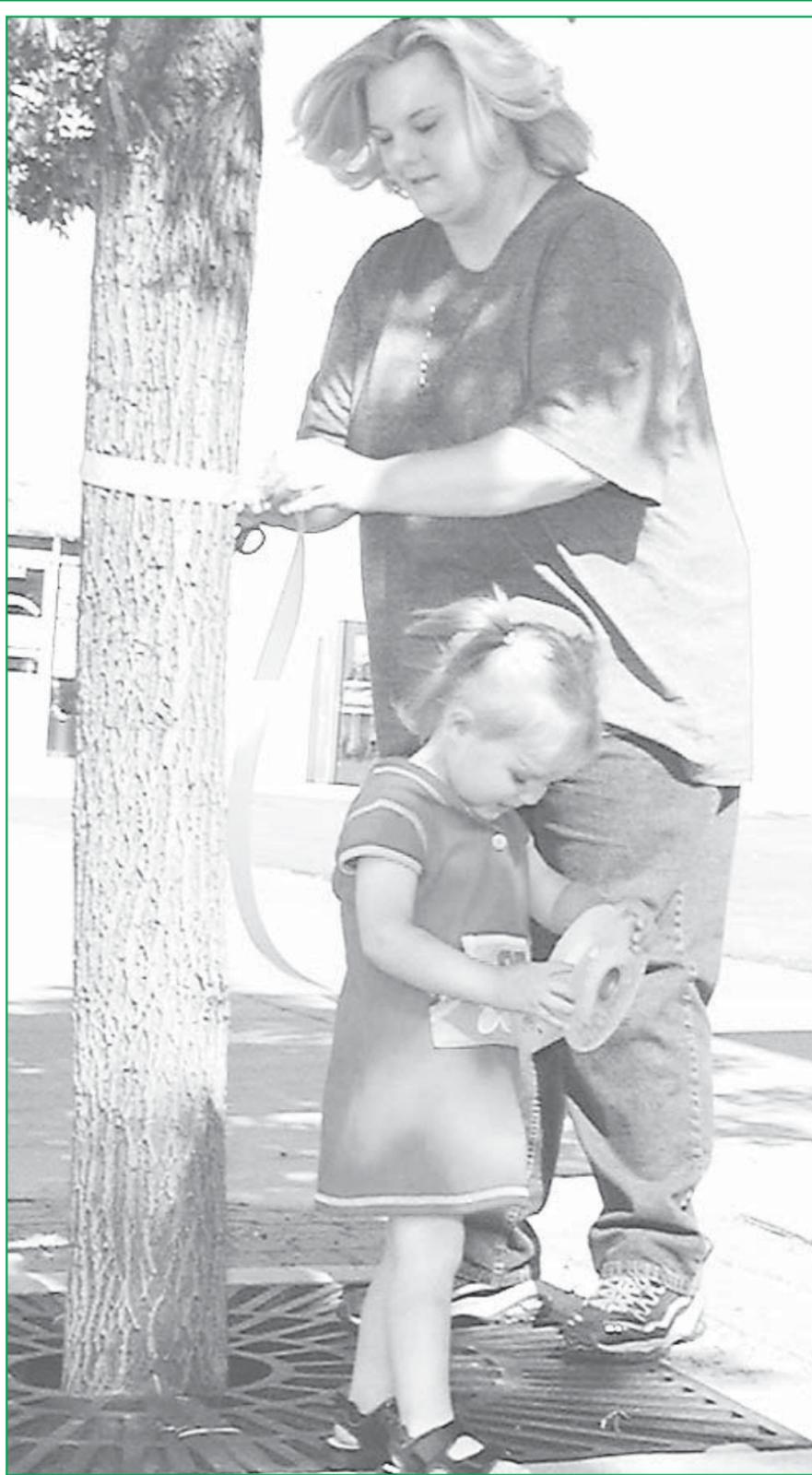
To turn them into compost, the clippings need to be ground, turned and watered and the supervisor did not have the time nor the equipment. At the present time, a dump truck is filled almost daily. The commissioners asked if the supervisor could spread the clippings in areas to keep the ground from blowing but Supervisor Garner said that this is almost impossible because, despite the sign listing what cannot be put into the dump truck, there are always cans, cinder blocks and large tree limbs in the truck along with the grass. He would have to go through all of the grass and sort out the trash that is not suppose to be there.

The people of Bird City seldom use the grass clippings truck. At one time, the commissioners noted that

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**KYLA BANDEL** wind up to throw the ball during the T-ball game Monday evening. Kyla is the daughter of Matt and Mila Bandel. Herald staff photo by Betty Jean Winston



**MARLO JENSEN** helps her mother Tiffany tie yellow ribbons to the trees on Main Street. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

## Indians advised to plant corn when flower bloomed

### Wheat is looking better since the temps dropped

In last week's St. Francis Herald and Bird City Times there was an article which told about the white flowers which filled the pastures this spring. Mark Mayfield with the division of biology-herbarium, Kansas State University, reported that the flower was not bindweed or something similar that would hurt the pastures but a wild flower that shows up after a drought.

Tobe Zweygardt, local historian, said that the Indians told him that when the white flowers appeared in the pastures, it was time to plant corn.

Shane Wurm, agronomist for Servi-Tech, reported that most of the corn is planted and up.

"It's (corn) looking pretty good," Mr. Wurm said.

He added that some of the corn was a little yellow due to the cold weather that hit the area last week but when it warmed up, the crop started coming around.

Temperatures hit the 100-degree mark on Thursday and that heat didn't help the wheat crop.

"The wheat is in a critical period — just starting to flower and fill the head. Any moisture, especially on the dryland wheat will really help," Mr. Wurm said.

There are some leaf diseases on the wheat which the agronomist is keeping an eye on. Diseases include tan spot, strip rust and a little

leaf rust.

"The bugs are pretty quiet — there is a little Russian wheat aphid but not too bad," he said.

He said there is really no sub-soil moisture present so the cool damp weather can maybe buy some time with the crops.

"We still have some potential to grow some wheat," he said.

Mr. Wurm reported that the pinto beans are in the ground and the soybeans are going in now.

Farmers are swathing the first cutting of alfalfa and some of the oats hay will be swathed starting next week.

Pastures are looking great — much better than last year. Cattle are standing in grass up to their bellies and flowers are everywhere... much better than last year!!

## Amelia Earhart to arrive in St. Francis on June 14

In conjunction with the Stearman Fly-In on June 14, Amelia Earhart (Ann Birney) will be entertaining the audience in the band shell in Sawhill Park. This unique entertainment, provided by the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce, will start at 8 p.m. and is free to the public.

"Everyone I have talked to says that Ann Birney's portrayal of Amelia Earhart is extremely interesting — it takes the audience back in time," said Gloria Bracelin, Chamber secretary.

The audience will hear firsthand about her harrowing solo flight across the Atlantic — and her plans to fly around the world at the equator.

It is April of 1937. Ms. Earhart has torn up her Lockheed Electra in a ground loop trying to take off from Luke Air Field on Honolulu. But, she assures the audience, as soon as the plane is ready, she will take off again on what she hopes will be her last record-setting flight — this time, heading east instead of west but asks that no



**ANN BIRNEY**, right, will entertain people as Amelia Earhart on June 14. She is pictured with her co-worker Dr. Joyce Thierer.

one tell the press about the change of direction!  
"Ride into History's" Ann Birney has delighted audiences of all ages with her energetic portrayal of Amelia Earhart. Each performance is tailored to the audience. See **EARHART** on Page 7



**BIRD CITY RECEIVED over 3 inches of rain on Sunday night. The streets were flooding and the ditch by the Thresher Grounds east of town filled up and it was once again a little lake.**  
Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

# BID

**Continued from Page 1**  
struction with cost-saving measures discussed by the architect, Rhoades Construction and the board and including alternates: heating, ventilation and air conditioning, windows, both upstairs and downstairs, and anew elevator. The cost is not to exceed \$2,225,586.  
The administrator was directed by the board to contact the architect regarding cost-saving measures and some line item issues for clarification.

In other business:  
• Tim Hoskins has been approved for the Kansas Bridging Program by the Kansas University Medical School. The program provides the physician with \$10,000 from the state and requires a \$16,000 match from the community. Several means of handling the match were discussed in light of the current building project.  
Administrator Lacy will visit with Dr. Hoskins to identify the best way to proceed.

In other business

# EARHART

**Continued from Page 1**  
For instance, hear how William Allen White's only advice to her, delivered through a reporter, was to take a comb into the cockpit and use it before she got out! Ms. Birney has introduced Amelia to audiences ranging from schools to libraries, after which she changes persona to enable the audience to talk about that final flight; to informal elbow rubbing at convention "mixers," staying in character all the while.

schools for the Kansas Humanities Council's History Alive! program. She scripted and performs Julia Archibald Holmes and created and performs suffragist Elizabeth Hampstead.

Dr. Thierer has researched, published and lectured in agrarian, western and women's history. Performing, history and teaching are her passions which is why her history classes at Emporia State University are so popular. She grew up on horseback and is a dynamite Calamity Jane. She also uses family stories to make farm woman Rosa Fix come alive.

Both women travel throughout the country as one of few "cross-over" groups whose members are on both humanities council and arts commission rosters and are making overseas tours.

**More about the speaker**  
"Ride into History" is comprised of two individuals, Ms. Birney and Dr. Joyce Thierer. Ms. Birney is an American Studies Scholar. Her field of research is rural women and work. In spite of being hopelessly right-grained, she is a former librarian and Ride's foremost grant proposal writer. In addition to performing Amelia Earhart, she flies into

# REPORTS

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mileage reimbursements. As a Silver-Haired Legislator, he travels many miles. The Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging pays 21 cents per mile while the Silver-Haired Legislators are paid considerably less.

have access points and offices where clients could meet with Social Rehabilitation Service personnel.  
After discussion, the commissioners and county clerk Terry Miller agreed that Clerk Miller and his office be an access point but there would be limited services such as posting a toll free number, keeping Social Rehabilitation Service application forms on hand and would provide a space for the staff and clients to meet privately. If group meetings were needed, the Social Rehabilitation Service staff could arrange to have the meeting in the commissioners' room.

Following the meeting with the commissioners, the women were on their way to meet with the hospital and clinic staff and the county health nurse to present their plans to them.

**In other business**  
In other business:  
• Rod Zwegardt had handed the commissioners a letter telling that residents were not obeying the "no parking" signs on the county road which joins Benton Street in St. Francis. Road and bridge supervisor Dave Flemming talked to Mr. Zwegardt who told him that he felt the cars parking along the side of the road were a safety hazard.

The commissioners talked about having the sheriff issue tickets to those parking along that road where the signs were posted but were also concerned that harvest trucks might be parked along that stretch of road where there were no parking signs and, if the law was going to ticket others, they could end up issuing tickets to harvesters.  
• Commissioners Krien and

Brubaker had received complaints about a fence across Road Q near Bird City. Supervisor Flemming will contact the landowner.

• Larry Gabel, emergency medical service director, had submitted vouchers adding up to \$160 to pay for extra teaching staff involved with the recent training. The commissioners voted 2 to 1 to approve the vouchers. Commissioner Brubaker thought that since the county had contracted with Colby Community College to take care of the teaching of the class that the college should take care of that expense.

• The county extension council along with Reba White, representing director of extension, and her successor Dan O'Brien, presented their budget of \$108,848 to the commissioners noting that they were not asking for any more than last year. Following several questions, the commissioners asked to meet with the extension council in executive session to discuss personnel. No decision was made.

• Highway permits to allow Priority Oil and Gas to bore gas lines under county roads were signed.

• The commissioners filled out a questionnaire concerning relationship between the commissioners and the sheriff. The survey was being done by the Kansas Association of Counties.

• Reva Pownell, Food Pantry coordinator, had written a note thanking the commissioners for providing better facilities to house the Food Pantry.

• The commissioners had met before the meeting to look at the new sprinkling system and found that the grass line was above the sidewalk. The bid had stated that the grass would be taken down to one-half inch below the sidewalk.

Commissioner Krien said he would visit with Lampe Hardware personnel concerning the matter.

• There were \$4,394 in ambulance write-offs which were approved by the commissioners.

• Supervisor Flemming, along with Bill and Cindy Stroh, talked to the commissioners about the purchase of right-of-way ground for the Wiley Road Project. The group discussed culvert replacements, costs to the owners and costs to the county. An agreement seemed to be near but the commissioners needed the county attorney to review all specifications before proceeding.

**Next meeting**  
The next meeting of the commissioners has been set for 8 a.m. on June 16 in the commissioners' room at the courthouse in St. Francis.

# GRASS

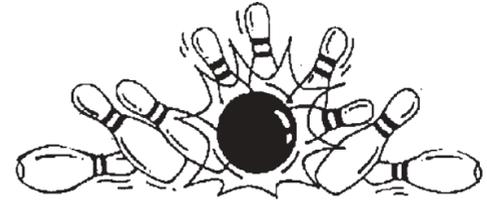
**Continued from Page 1A**  
the St. Francis City Council talked about establishing a compost pile south of the recycling center. Susan Hobrock, Cheyenne County Development Coordinator, had said there was a good possibility that there would be grants to help establish a composting program.

The commissioners decided to have a letter written to the cities of St. Francis and Bird City stating that, as of Oct. 1, the county landfill will no longer accept grass clippings. The letter will be signed at the June 16 meeting. A notice will also go into the county newspapers stating the fact. The commissioners are hoping that St. Francis will take on the composting project.

# Bowling News

**Summer Strikers 5/15**  
Team standings: Oh-No 3-1, Last Place 3-1, Mommies 2-2, The Turkeys 2-2, Jackballs 1-3, Fuzzy Bunnies 1-3  
High game (handicap): Aaron Culwell 243, Lee Zimelman 214, Mike Workman 214  
High series (handicap): Mike Blecha 564, Wayne Mahon 560, Kale Zimelman, Sara Schield, Aaron Culwell, all tied at 559

**Summer Strikers 5/22**  
Team standings: The Turkeys 5.5-2.5, Jackballs 4-4, Oh-No 3.5-4.5, Mommies 3-5, Fuzzy Bunnies 3-5, Last Place 3-1, Wray Supers 2-2  
High game (handicap): Randy Johnson 256, Wes Cooper 250, Bonnie Odell 231  
High series (handicap): Johnson 651, Cooper 627, Odell 614





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