



FRONTIER AG has been busy loading up the corn that has been stored in the bunker after harvest last year.

Times staff photo by Tim Burr

## Assembly planned Cheylin High School

The Todd Becker Foundation, created following the tragic death of 18 year old high school student, Todd Becker in the spring of 2005, announce plans to share their "Where is your life headed?" presentation at Cheylin High School in Bird City on at 7:30 p.m.

on Tuesday. The day's events will include an assembly for grades nine through 12 starting at 2:30 p.m. and then an evening assembly and live concert at 7:30 p.m., of which the public is invited to attend. The evening program will take place in the high school gym.

The presentation is given in large part by Keith Becker, the brother of Todd Becker, and it unfolds the real life, true story behind the choices that lead to the death of his brother. Todd was killed in an alcohol-related car accident. The presentation features an

impacting and life changing message that includes live music from the Christian band, "Chye," graphic videos and other stunning audio. Since 2005, the assembly program has been in over 200 high schools across the Midwest and has reached nearly

50,000 students. Because of popular demand, Cheylin Recreation Commission has been working since the spring to bring this program to the community. The foundation has made appearances in surrounding communities but this will be

their first visit to the Cheylin Community. The recreation commission hopes the community will turn out for this dynamic presentation. Students who attend the evening presentation are entered into a drawing for a free i-pod. The event is free.

## Executive director retires from farm service agency

By Karen Krien

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After 28 years in Farm Service Agency, Angie Berens, Cheyenne County executive director, is retiring.

Mrs. Berens began her career in the agency in 1985 while living in Kingman. She came to Cheyenne County in March 1996.

These days, there is concern over the government's budget so early retirement was offered as a way of saving money. Employees needed to have worked 25 years or more, regardless of age, and she qualified.

I had to make some quick decisions, she said. But the main reason I took the retirement was being able to spend more time with Joshua and Matthew, her sons.

Through the years, she has seen changes in Farm Service but, mostly, everything is more automated with the computers. However, she said, it really hasn't reduced the paper work.

The staff still helps farmers and ranches signing into the farm program as well as certifying acreages and dealing with disaster programs.

She said she doesn't see the government closing the Cheyenne County Farm Service office. The office has a good work load, compared to some of the other offices in the state, she said.

After retirement, she will be busy. Besides spending time with her sons, she plans to help her husband, Kevin, who has started his own law business as well as



ANGIE BERENS finishes up some paper work

taking internet classes to earn a business degree.

Then, when she has time, she wants to spend more time riding her horses and doing some barrel racing.

### Retirement reception

A retirement reception will be held for Mrs. Berens from 1 to 3 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 25, at the office on U.S. 36.

## Senator to be in St. Francis to talk to county residents

U.S. Senator Jerry Moran will be in St. Francis to visit with Cheyenne County residents at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday. He will be speaking in the St. Francis high school auditorium.

Sen. Moran visit is part of his statewide listening tour. Recently sworn in as a U.S. Senator representing Kansas on Capitol Hill, he is continuing

his tradition of traveling back to Kansas at every opportunity to visit hundreds of communities throughout the state.

The senator will travel to each of Kansas' 105 counties to talk with area residents about their hopes and concerns. The issues Sen. Moran focuses on and the work he does in Washington, D.C., is largely based on the

conversations he has with Kansas during these town hall meetings.

### Farm Bureau annual meeting

Prior to Senator Moran's public meeting, the Cheyenne County Farm Bureau will hold its annual meeting with dinner starting at 6 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Reservations for the meal were made before Aug. 10.

## Police respond to bomb threat

Monday morning a little before 8 a.m. dispatchers received a call that a bomb threat had been called in to the Goodland Walmart store, 2160 Commerce Rd., from an unknown caller.

Goodland Police responded to the call and the store was ordered evacuated. Other responders included Sherman County Sheriff's Office, Kansas Highway Patrol, Goodland City Fire Department, Goodland EMS and Sherman County Emergency Management.

The fire department blocked the entrance as other law enforcement searched the store. Law enforcement officers determined the call was not a viable threat, and no bomb was found.

Walmart was declared safe to reopen for regular business about 8:45 a.m.

The store as well as emergency services have been placed on heightened alert.

## Donation received for new Hummer

By Karen Krien

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An anonymous donation for \$2,000 has been received to be used toward the new Hummer and the expenses to get it equipped.

The commissioners, at the Monday morning meeting, reported that the Hummer had been used to put out a fire north of Bird City. The fire was on in the Big Timber area and the Hummer was used to transport firemen in and out of the area.

The Hummer is an Army surplus vehicle and only counties that qualify are eligible to get one. It was free with the exception of the cost for the government's paperwork which is 5 percent of the cost of the vehicle. In the county's case, it was \$1,700. The shipping cost \$1,000. The tag cost \$25. There was also a cost for liability insurance.

Sheriff Craig VanAllen, who had applied for the vehicle, said that to get the vehicle equipped with lights, radio, batteries and siren will cost another \$2,100 but, with that equipment, it will meet all regulations.

The Hummer is kept at the St. Francis Emergency Building and will be used for emergencies.

# Welcome back to school