

Commissioners agree to buy firemen equipment

By Karen Krien
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The need for fire fighting equipment was discussed when the Cheyenne County Commissioners met on Friday.

George Harper, St. Francis fire chief, said there have been money as well as water, sports drinks and snacks donated to the department this summer. The water and snacks stayed in the county being split between the St. Francis and Bird City fire department.

He said the St. Francis firemen need equipment. Some of it is 12 to 13 years old and it is worn out.

There are 19 firemen and fire helmets with goggles are needed for all of them. A helmet and goggles costs \$260 and Mr. Harper said 20 would cost \$5,200. Their boots are shot and one pair costs \$300. He said they need 19 pairs for \$5,700. Since a bunker gear coat and pants are so expensive (\$1,500), he said they would only order three at this time. He and the commissioners talked about getting grants which might be a way of getting more bunker gear in the future. Mr. Harper said that most grants are 50-50 matching grants and today, the forestry grants which they have received money from before, require that the equipment be used only on rural runs.

Other needed items include gloves, both structural and rescue; Nomex Brush shirts, responder dash LED lights, Sure Seal head harness; respirator mask bags and one spill kit.

The total for all the needed equipment is \$23,350. The fire department had \$7,783 in donations. Mr. Harper said the St. Francis City Council had agreed to give \$7,783 and he was asking that the county have \$7,783. The commissioners agreed to give the amount.

Delinquent tax sale

Having a delinquent tax sale has been discussed at different times and was talked about at the Friday meeting. The commissioners said there were several people in the county wanting a delinquent tax sale.

Kari Gilliland, county attorney, said when the costs of publication and title searches, along with other miscellaneous costs, it would probably cost \$20,000 and the commissioners had not included that in the budget for next year.

A delinquent tax sale will cost the county, Dale Patton, commissioner, and we will not recover the costs. Ernie Ketzner, commissioner, pointed out that some of the delinquent taxes had not been paid for 10 years but, hopefully, after they are bought at the tax sale, the county would be able to start collecting taxes on those properties.

Andy Beikman, commissioner, asked if names and property could be published and anyone wanting to purchase the property could do the leg work? Mrs. Gilliland said she didn't think that was legal.

Emergency medical service

The commissioners approved

\$830 for adjustments on the collections made to the emergency medical service. Jannelle Bowers, director, said Kansas is changing the practice of emergency medical service for a better scope of care. Mrs. Bowers and Reid Raile, emergency medical technician, had met with Dr. Mary Beth Miller concerning the new regulations and the list of new supplies and equipment needed. Mrs. Bowers said it would take between \$3,000 and \$4,000.

There will also be a change in administering drugs. Only advanced emergency medical technicians and/or registered nurses will be able to administer drugs and, then, only with a verbal consent from a doctor.

Digital mapping

Bruce Webb, county appraiser, said he has the opportunity to have the land codes changed over to numerical identification with RNS Digital for \$20,000. Previously, it would have cost \$24,000. The system will determine the soil qualities and taxes will be figured from these maps. The county will be required to have it done in the near future to meet the requirements for the Orion Computer Software System which is being implemented statewide.

Mr. Ketzner said that the change is going to cause ill feeling among the farmers. It was pointed out that the system is a mandate and the commissioners have no choice.

Landfill

Adam Peter, landfill supervisor, reported that the new fence is up on the north side. Mr. Ketzner said he had a complaint that a person wanted to dump at the landfill when it was windy but he couldn't reach anyone to find out.

Mr. Peter said that when the wind is blowing between 20 and 25 miles per hour, he is supposed to close the landfill. To solve the problem of not being able to reach Mr. Peter at these times, he was told to get an answering machine which would let people know if they could dump. It was also noted that someone might

call but, in 30 minutes, it might be too windy, and that person who called would be turned away.

He said there is a problem of people dumping in the ditch at the landfill.

They talked about a compactor for the landfill. A compactor has been found for \$165,000.

Mr. Peter said there will be a meeting with Penco Engineering, Habib Ghali with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Dave Flemming, himself and any commissioners that want to attend on Tuesday, Sept. 18, at the landfill. They will be discussing plans for the landfill and a new pit. The commissioners were encouraged to attend.

In other business

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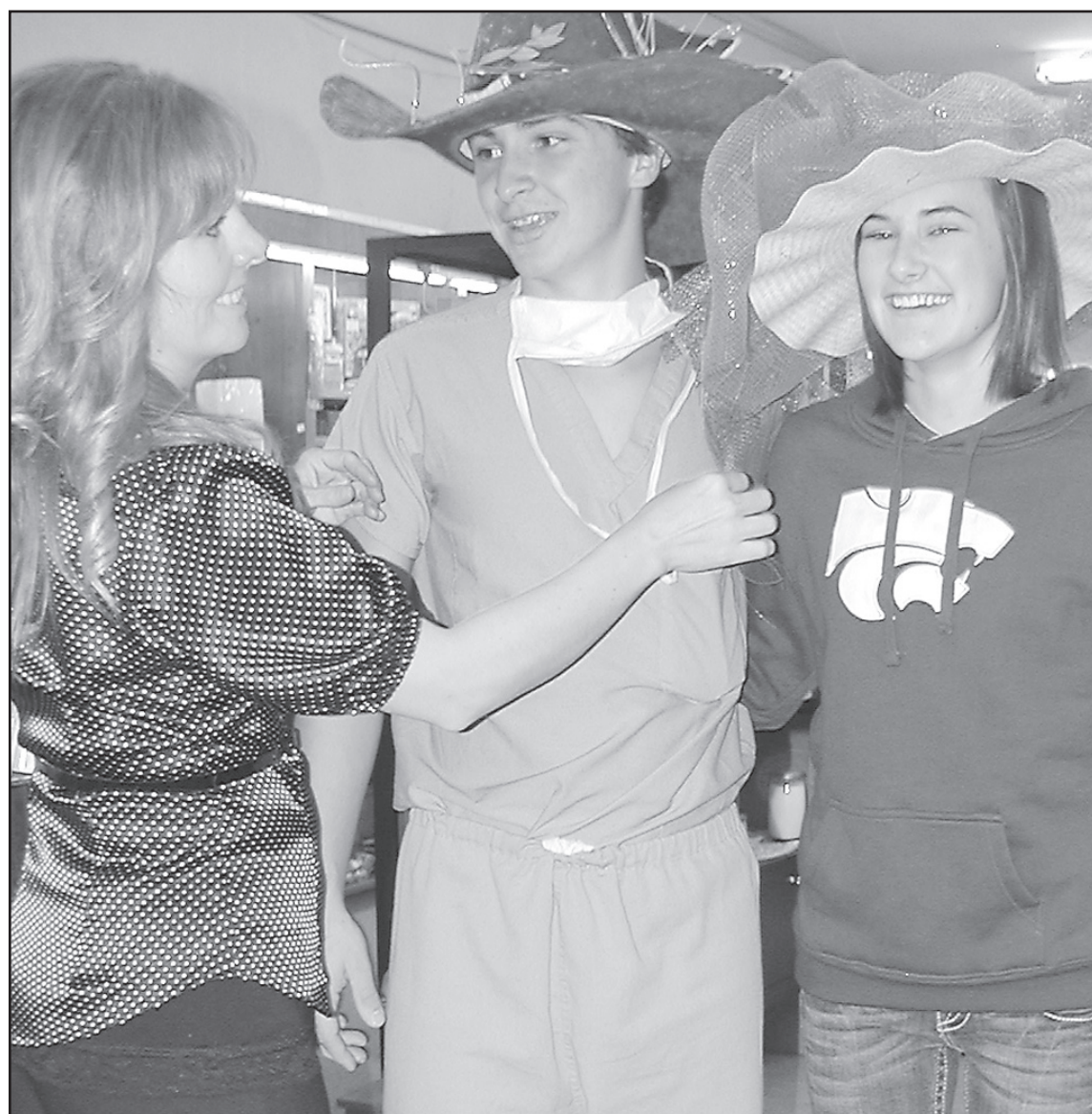
- The county attorney had met with Kelly Frewen, insurance agent, concerning insurance for the Good Samaritan Village. Roxie Neitzel, insurance agent, had contacted EMC insurance, asking for an inspection to see if the company will cover the facility. They discussed what the company would be asked to inspect. Mrs. Gilliland said that if the Good Samaritan Society gives the Village to the county for \$1, then the county needs to cover what they have given.

- Gary Winter, who teaches emergency medical technician classes, called during the meeting. He said his lawyer said the county could not take the money he owed out of money he earned for teaching the class. Mrs. Gilliland talked to him and they agreed to meet the following day and exchange checks.

- Lauri Knebel, dispatcher, had resigned and then called again on Friday and said she would like to come back.

Executive sessions

There were two executive sessions, one called by Mrs. Bowers and the other by Wade Krien. No decisions were made on either one after they came out of the executive sessions.



ANDI CULWELL, left, new owner of The Flower Shop, used her creativity to make hats for her son, Ryan, and his friend, Sarah Whitmore. They were going to wear their hats to school on Tuesday for the homecoming 'Hat Day.'

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

New owner takes over flower shop on Main Street

By Karen Krien

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The Flower Shop at 105 W. Washington, St. Francis, has a new owner. Andi Culwell recently bought the shop located in Krien Pharmacy. Kody Krien will continue to sell prescriptions and medical supplies.

Mrs. Culwell will have fresh flower and silk arrangements as well as plants. They will be just right for any occasion including weddings, funerals, birthdays, open houses and anything that calls for a special gift. She also offers free delivery in St. Francis.

She will be available to help in event plannings, helping the bride make their wedding day special, or the birthday party, whether young or old, and commercial events.

Mrs. Culwell managed the Safeway floral department in Salida, Colo.

Along with the floral shop, Mrs. Culwell will be selling a variety of gift items, Yankee and Bridgewater candles, candy, beef jerky and a new wine ice stir. She has just started adding a line of clothing including dresses, shirts, vests, scarves, stocking caps and gloves and unique baby clothes.

Loving to create, Andi also makes halloween costumes to order and, because Tuesday was "hat day" during homecoming week, she made some fun hats. I like to make unique, fun things, she said.

Mrs. Culwell was born in Phoenix, Ariz., and lived much of her life in Salida. She moved to Goodland 14 years ago where she worked in an engineering firm for 10 years, and was then the executive director of the Goodland Chamber of Commerce for 4 years.

She is now at home in St. Francis with her husband, Ryan, who works for PrairieLand Electric and their three sons, Tyler, Jordan and Bryce Raby.

An open house for The Flower Shop is planned for Wednesday,

Oct. 3. She is hoping lots of people stop by for refreshments and to see what the shop has to offer.

Dr. Kody Krien said earlier, he had looked at moving the pharmacy to another location but, he said his advisors recommended that he wait for a couple of years because of the unknowns with legislation.

Mrs. Culwell had helped Jenni Cravens, who had previously operated The Flower Shop. Kody and Penny Krien, Mrs. Culwell said, asked me if I would be interested in the business. It was a wonderful opportunity, she said, and I am so thankful and excited about the future.

St. Francis News

Dinner party

After attending the Denver Brass program at the high school, several friends enjoyed a 6 p.m. dinner party at Raedell Winston's home. Wine, Raedell's 'almost famous' lasagna and a delightful Spanish vegetable salad were served on a beautifully-set table. Fresh peach pie, ice cream, enjoyable and entertaining conversation completed the evening.

Those in attendance were Bonnie Cram, Janet Carman, Teresa Porter, Sue Griffin, Coleen Applegate and Helene Landenberger.

Friends gather

A group of friends gathered at Beecher Island Saturday morning and attended the activities of the weekend and visited. Most of them attended the Battle Creek School southwest of St. Francis.

Attending were George and Marie Challis of Denver, Sam Sawyer and Berniece Barnes of Lakewood, Colo., Junius and Doris Stuhmiller of Denver, Eldon and Dorothy Palmer of Goodland, Vera (Palmer) Beneda of Goodland, and Thelma Raile and Leon and Darlene Merklin of St. Francis.

TEACHER

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State University," she said.

Mrs. Ochsner was born in Seneca to Erwin and Nancy Dressman. She had 12 brothers and sisters to keep her entertained.

Her parents moved to Burlington when she was two and then they moved to Goodland when she was 10 and that is where she finished her schooling.

She stayed in Goodland and raised her three children, Genevieve, Paul and Derrick and they have blessed her with seven grandchildren. Mrs. Ochsner's youngest son, Derrick, died in Iraq seven years ago to a car bomb while he was on patrol.

After her children were raised,

she moved to Burlington to be closer to her job. I spent most of my time at school, she said. But, then her friends talked her into going to a single's dance where she met Bob.

At the time, work was all I knew, she said, but Bob changed my mind!

Almost two years ago, they were married. I gained a wonderful friend and three stepchildren, Bobby, Michael and Leigh Ann.

Bob works for Equity Co-op, farms, and has a cow-calf operation with his son, Bobby.

"I love the farm life," she said. "St. Francis is a wonderful place to live and raise a family and I am thankful to be a part of it all."



LACK OF RAIN was evident on this field of corn in the county. This is just one of many such fields in the county.

Herald staff photo by Tim Burr

HARVEST

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The markets are extremely volatile, as any report or rumor of moisture or yield change results in wild swings in the marketplace.

"High prices are great, but it doesn't mean anything if you don't raise any bushels to sell," said Bob Ochsner, grain producer.

The middle of September is also the usual time for wheat farmers to begin planting winter wheat. The

dry conditions have most farmers concerned that the ground doesn't contain enough moisture to allow the wheat kernel to sprout after it has been planted.

"We've waited for rain about as long as we can. It's time to be planting," said Cliff Raile, farmer.

Conditions are dry, but most farmers are going to be forced to "dust it in," in hope there is enough moisture to sprout the wheat, and, as always, pray for rain.

RETIRED

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happened often in the store.

"Sometimes I had customers standing at the counter answering the questions that I am asking the customers who I am talking to on the phone," he said. "Needless to say, the answers were not the same."

Even though he is retiring, he said he will still fill in for Andy at Bumper To Bumper when he needs to be gone. The rest of the time, he said he will be doing exactly what his wife tells him to do - except, he said, when I'm hiding from her at the car wash, which he will continue to run.

"It's been a great and enjoyable time working at the parts store and providing a much-needed service to the community," he concluded.

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By Western Cartographers

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Or by calling 1-800-752-3402

Also available, Counties in NE, KS, CO, OK & WY

Maps

Maps



Wedding Registry

Paige Leach & Joey Sneath

Wedding Oct. 13, 2012

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4,048± Acres of Dundy County, Nebraska Ag Land

- 11 pivots with 1,354.8± irrigated acres and 2,319.7± acres of pasture.
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- Qualified bidders will be invited to a Multi Parcel Lease Auction to be held on Monday, December 3, 2012 at the Community Building in Benkelman, Nebraska at 1:30 PM.

For a complete property information packet and auction process details, contact:

A-19904

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