

Representative's service honored

The Board of Control of Northwest Kansas Technical College recently recognized Rep. Ward Cassidy, (R) District 120, for outstanding service to the college and to the people of Northwest Kansas.

During this past Kansas legislative session, Rep. Cassidy, chair of the House Education Budget Committee, was a stalwart supporter for education, and fought tirelessly and successfully to prevent cuts to funding to not only Northwest Tech, but to all the two-year colleges in the state. To show his gratitude, the Northwest

Tech Board of Control presented Rep. Cassidy with a plaque at its regular June meeting.

"The board is thankful to Rep. Cassidy for his efforts to be sure two-year colleges are able to continue to provide access to people in Northwest Kansas, particularly for excellent technical education," said Frank Otter, chairman of the board. "As a result of his great work, higher education continues to help ensure a brighter future for the state by providing valuable programs so necessary to maintain and improve our quality of life, particularly in the more



Cassidy

rural parts of Kansas." Rep. Cassidy served as a member of the Appropriations Committee and chair of the Education Budget Committee among other assignments. He is running for reelection in 2013.



GETTING READY FOR THE THRESHER SHOW — Norm Dorsch and Ken Beougher swathing the wheat.

Wheat bundled for annual show

The Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Association, in preparation for their 60th annual show, recently used the 80 year old grain binder to harvest and bundle the wheat that will be threshed during this year's show.

Due to the short height of the wheat on the thresher show grounds, they moved to the Steve and Jan Busse farm where the wheat was taller and would make the binding operation successful. If the wheat isn't an adequate height, the binder isn't able to make the bundles.

Under the watchful eye of foremen, Norm Dorsch and Ken Beougher, the crew had to move all the equipment from the show grounds to the farm.

According to Steve, in his lifetime on the farm, this was the first time wheat had been harvested using the binder method.

Needless to say "the binder ran like a sewing machine," said Norm. Only one bundle, he said, failed to tie out of three wagon loads.

Stephanie and Craig Busse rounded out the crew and were in charge of the loading the bundles on the wagons with pitch forks.



PICKING UP SHOCKS — Craig and Stephanie Busse get ready to load the bundles onto the trailer.



PLAYING the church organ one more time is Joan Wellman, right. Althea Lebow, left, enjoys the music. Herald staff photo by Tim Burr

Musician honored at party

Joan Wellman — the constant professional — a St Francis resident, grew up in Overland Park and graduated from Bethany College in 1949 with a bachelor's degree in music. One day, while scanning a bulletin board, she saw a notice that a piano teacher was relocating and leaving a large number of piano students without a teacher. The notice said that the need for a teacher was in St. Francis. Joan moved to St. Francis where she took over the students of Gene Foss.

She said she always wanted to earn a master's degree. So she began taking classes at Fort Hays State University and, in 1981, she received her master's degree in music theory.

Recently Joan told Althea Lebow that she always enjoyed playing and teaching music and it was never work to her.

Besides the many piano students she had through the years, she also played the organ for the St Francis United Methodist Church for approximately 62 years. Her

talent was shared on Sunday mornings for church services and at so many funerals and weddings that are simply too many to count.

The acknowledgment for Mrs. Wellman at her last time playing of the organ at the church on Sunday, June 2, was secretly planned by Mrs. Lebow. Cake and coffee was served by the church ladies after the service with modest decorations of black and white balloons along with black and white polka-dot decorated cakes with music notes.

Joan had told the church people not to do anything on her behalf, Mrs. Lebow said, but how can you not celebrate someone who has given so much of herself and her talents for so long?

Julie Mills, church secretary, printed some pictures for on the church sanctuary screens showing Joan over the years playing in the bell choir and playing the organ. The congregation signed a card that was presented to her along with a framed picture of an old piano showing the old black and

white keys representing the many years of playing and teaching. Many stopped to visit with Joan after the service and wish her the best on her move to Denver.

It is funny how we take things and people for granted over the years, Mrs. Lebow said, but when the time comes for them to step down or retire, do we truly realize the full impact they had on our lives?

This brings us back to "The Constant Professional:" when you do a job or service for the community so well, so long and so very unassuming.

"Joan was a constant professional and her incredible gift to everyone was her music," Mrs. Lebow said. "The void she leaves will never be filled. Joan will be greatly missed but never forgotten for her music talents and for being a special lady."

"So from everyone that had the privilege to hear and know Joan, when you see her the next time please tell her-thank you!!!!

Upcoming Promotions

For more information contact Tim Burr at:



The Saint Francis Herald

Bird City Times

P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 • 785-332-3162

Tri-State Antique Engine & Thresher Show

July 25 - July 27

Featuring stories about the demonstrations, buildings, history, shows and Queens.



Cheyenne County Fair



July 31 - Aug. 4

Featuring 4-H'ers, fair and carnival activities, schedule of events and other interesting happenings at fair time.

St. Francis Equity



We've Moved!

The Bookkeeping Staff has moved to our new office location at 414 W. Washington Street.

The Grain Office remains at 123 N. River Street.

Phone numbers and mailing addresses are unchanged

Office: 785-332-2113
or 800-295-2113

PO Box 545
St. Francis, Ks. 67756

As always, payments may be dropped off at any location
Office - Station- Feed and Fertilizer - Grain

