



CHEYENNE COUNTY YOUNG MISS, Bailey Merklin shovels the ear corn into the sheller. Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

Swimming pool committee meets with commissioners

The commissioners, at their July 31 meeting, met with the St. Francis Swimming Pool Committee. At the end of the discussion, they agreed that more information will be needed.

The committee included Margaret Poling, Mila Bandel, Sandy Smull, Matt Smull, Trista Smull and Holly Hingst. They talked about possible funding of a new swimming pool in Saint Francis.

County clerk Terry Miller had researched the issue and school districts cannot impose a sales tax. An Attorney General's opinion was obtained by the clerk, stating a city and school district can work together via an interlocal agree-

ment for funding.

The school district would first have to have a successful bond election. After discussion, it was decided to research the funding options.

Public hearing

A public hearing was held to discuss the Cheyenne County Solid Waste Management Plan, Five Year Review. Those present were J.R. Landenberger, Dave Fleming, Kelly Doyle, Don Williams, Roger Jensen and Byron Moberly. After discussion, a motion was made to sign Resolution 13-07, a resolution approving the plan.

Public safety

Nicole Romine, Northwest Regional Prosecutor, Criminal Division, Kansas Attorney General's office, attended and asked for 15 minutes of executive session to discuss public safety. No decision was made when they came out of the session.

In other business

In other business:

- A wage agreement for Tim Stimbert, dispatcher, was signed.

- Dale Patton, commissioner, was selected as the Kansas Association Of Counties voting delegate. Ernie Ketzner and Brett Poling, commissioners, were selected as alternates.
- Terry Rieger, dispatch department, was given permission to purchase seven security tokens which are used to secure the dispatch computer system.
- Jannelle Bowers, ambulance director, said one of the ambulances would need to have the tires replaced. She was also given permission to begin looking for ambulance grants to purchase a new ambulance.
- A highway crossing permit was signed for Theron Culwell to bore a waterline under a county road.

Student named Young Miss

This year, there was little interest in the Cheyenne County Young Miss program. Bailey Merklin was the only junior girl to sign up.

A Young Miss has several duties during the year including tossing the first bundle of wheat into the threshing machine each day at the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show and being the emcee at the 4-H style revue held on Monday, the week of the Cheyenne County Fair.

The Young Miss committee agreed that Bailey Merklin should write an essay on "What is the biggest challenge facing teens today." Following is Bailey's essay.

By Bailey Merklin

Wouldn't you agree that there are many challenges facing the youth of our day? These challenges come in all different shapes and sizes and each person faces a different problem than

The next. Typically I think the first thing people think about, concerning challenges my peers face, is the temptation of drinking, drugs and sex.

I propose greater challenges range from trying to find out who you are as an individual, what you want to do as an adult, how you will afford to go to college and where. As we look to the future we also must think about finding a job afterward and the debt that will have to be repaid.

One thing I've noticed that will affect the "younger" generations is a lack of work ethic. I believe that is somewhat caused by social media and the technology that we all have access to now.

We may think we are great workers and that we aren't lazy at all, but when you hear stories from your great-grandparents about all the hard times they endured and had to work through it makes us look like a bunch of slackers! To be honest I'm not so sure that it's going to improve in future generations due to the distractions we face every day.

Despite the poor work ethic,

there are students who do work hard and pay their way through a college education. Since we were very young we've been told that we must go to college to get an education in order to have a good paying career.

However, we now hear that thousands of college grads are unemployed. Due to the recent economic downfall many baccalaureate- and-master prepared young adults are not able to find jobs. This and an ever-rising cost of college make the "normal" decisions we have to make even more stressful.

The challenges facing today's youth are endless and they don't stop here. However, the sooner we realize what is negatively affecting us - peer pressure, materialism, drinking, stress - the sooner we can try to turn it around.

There will always be bumps in the road that will challenge us and that is when we need to recall the supportive community and all that we've learned growing up in Cheyenne County. I feel better prepared for the world ahead because of it!



Kent and Marsha Kechter

Couple celebrates

The children and grandchildren of Kent and Marsha Kechter are asking that everyone help them celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary by sending greetings to 411 E. Whittier, St. Francis, KS 67756. They were married on Aug. 11, 1973, in Kirk, Colo.

Association gears up for new season

Western Plains Arts Association is gearing up for its upcoming 44th season. There is still time to become a member. The association brings a variety of entertainment to the northwest Kansas area.

Their shows vary from jazz, bluegrass, gospel, classical, pop, country and western music to programs of illusion theatre, dance, comedy and storytelling.

The Goldwing Express will give an exciting show of bluegrass, gospel and country music at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 29, at the Goodland High School auditorium. The Wichita Children's Theatre will perform "Goldilocks" at the Goodland schools either on Monday or Tuesday, Oct. 14 or 15.

The first program of the year will be by the Pan Jumbies at the Colby High School on Sunday, Sept. 15. The Pan Jumbies is a steel drum

band that will perform sounds of the Caribbean.

Other programs will include traditional Swedish dances, comedy, illusion, drama, hammered dulcimer music, western music, pop and others.

The membership levels are benefactor \$1,500 or more; sustaining \$740 to \$1,499; patron \$350 to \$749; sponsor \$200 to \$349; family \$110; adult \$50 and student \$15. To join contact Eric and Roxie Yonkey at (785) 890-5877 or Curtis Duncan, Goodland board members. Memberships may also be sent with a self-addressed envelope to Pat Ziegelmeier, Executive Director, Colby Community College, 1255 South Range, Colby, Kan. 67701. Tickets may also be purchased online using PayPal or credit card at <http://www.wpaa.us>.

Idalia News

St. John Church news

The Least Coin Offering will be taken all summer. All donations will go to support the victims of the Oklahoma tornadoes.

Men's Bible Study will be held on Thursday, Aug. 8 at 7 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All men are welcome.

Wisdom and Wine Bible study will be held at the parsonage on Friday, Aug. 9 at 4 p.m.

Bookmobile

The bookmobile will be at the Carpenters Mini Mall on Thursday Aug. 15 from 2:30 -3:15 p.m.

Birthday celebration

Everyone is invited to come help Ralph Weyerman celebrate his 80th birthday on Aug. 17 at the Grainery restaurant. Dinner will be served from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Greg Carlin will provide music for dancing beginning at 7 p.m.

HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT TODAY!

(for 3, 5 or 10 months)



Pablo from Spain, 17 yrs. Loves soccer and would like to learn to play baseball. Pablo is a boy scout and enjoys the outdoors.



Julie from Denmark, 16 yrs. Enjoys gymnastics, swimming and photography. She's positive, fun loving and easy to get along with.

Make this year the most exciting, enriching year ever for you and your family. Welcome a high school student, 15-18 years old, from Italy, France, Norway, Denmark, Spain, Germany, Brazil, Thailand or China as part of your family for a school year (or less) and make an overseas friend for life.

For more information or to select your own exchange student please call:

Jan Busse at 785-734-7031

Marcy at 1-800-888-9040 (Toll Free) or e-mail us at info@world-heritage.org

For privacy reasons, photos above are not photos of actual students

www.whhosts.com

World Heritage is a public benefit, non-profit organization based in Laguna Beach, CA.

It's Almost That Time Again —

Booster Sponsors

Your name or business will be acknowledged every time we run a Booster Ad, and by being a Booster Sponsor you will be helping to promote school activities & feature team photos throughout the school year!

Kids —

You take care of the grades — and we'll take care of the memories!



For more details, contact
Tim Burr
at 785-332-3162

The Saint Francis Herald
Bird City Times

Many Thanks to You

Thanks to everyone for making the St. Francis 125th Celebration such a huge success!

The 125th Celebration committee