



## Fair goers experience mild temps

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwksas.com

It's over! After months of planning and work, the Cheyenne County Fair came to a close late Saturday night.

The 4-H'ers and their families, along with all the volunteers, carnival crew and fair board members, headed home Saturday night, tired but knowing that it had been a good fair.

I think the fair went really well this year, said Dick Bursch, fair board president. The weather was cool and it was nice for all fair goers. The new roof over the livestock show ring made great conditions for showing livestock and for buyers at the premium sale. This year's sale, he said, was probably one of the biggest sales ever.

Throughout the week of the fair, the temperatures were mild. Some days were warmer than others but, overall, there were no 100-plus degree days.

Wednesday was the first official day of the fair. The roping in the arena went well for the local ropers although there was a little wind blowing dust into the crowd. When the open roping started, the clouds began to move in. Before long, there was thunder, rain and lightning but ropers continued until the competition was complete.

There were 36 teams entered in the local roping. Winning was the team of Dustin Wiley and Javier Yanez. They received buckles from the St. Francis Equity.

The open roping had 121 teams. Winning the open roping were Roger Kirchenschlager and TJ Watts with a time of 22.17 seconds; Cory Zion and TJ Watts took second with 22.86 seconds; Dwight Arnold and Cory Zion, third, 24.08 seconds; and Dwight Arnold and Wade Smith, fourth, 24.36 seconds.

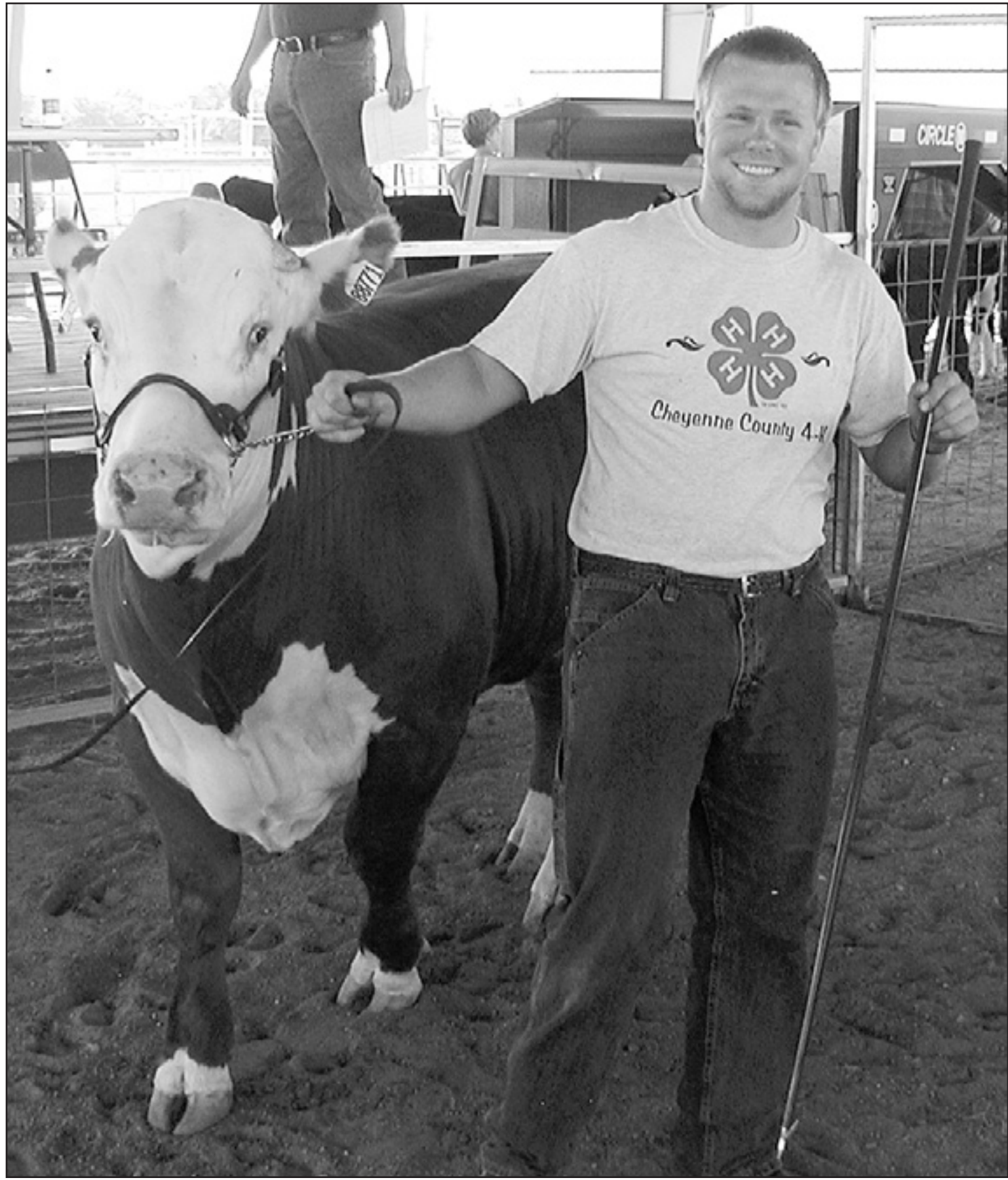
Carnival games and rides were busy all four nights of the fair, especially on Saturday night. There were a few games that didn't open because there was a shortage of volunteers to run them but, for the most part, the volunteers stepped up and the majority of the rides and games were there for the kids and adults.

"It takes a village to run a fair," said Raedell Winston, who had spent many hours contacting people, especially at the last minute, to fill the roster for games and rides.

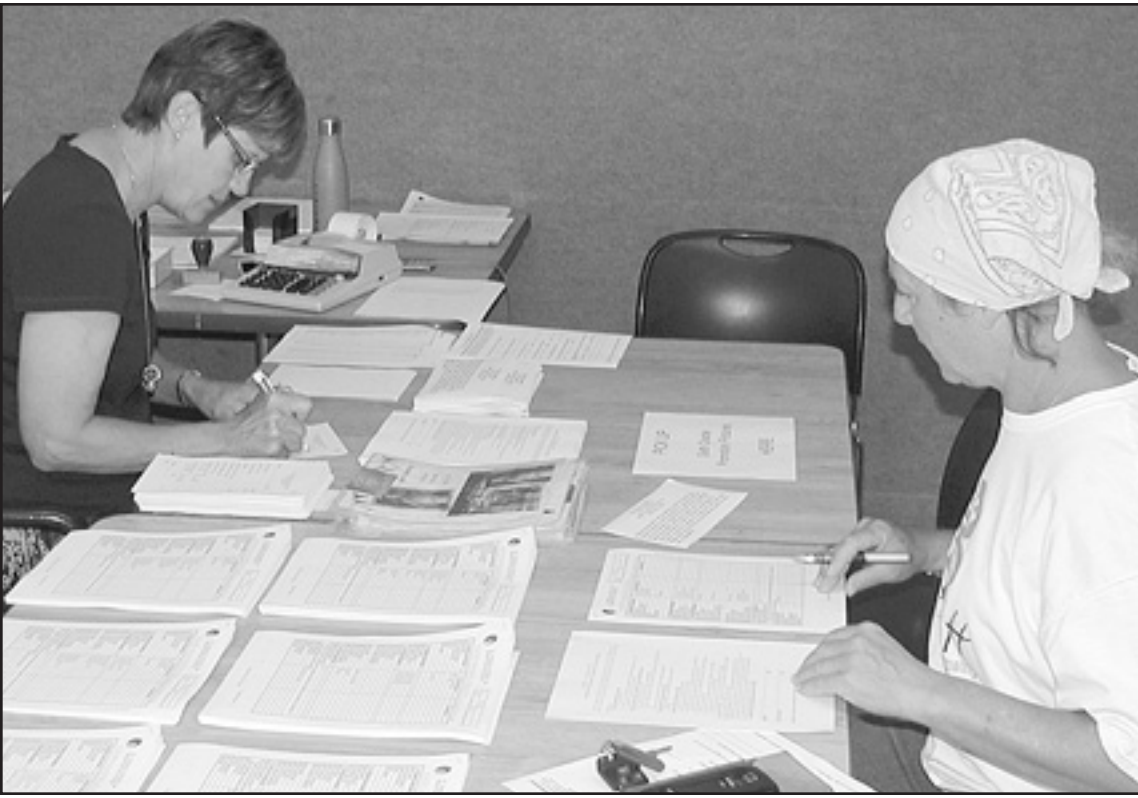
The demolition derby drew the big crowd during the fair. Adam Peter, committee chairman, said it sold out again. People filled the stands, there were others standing, some looking over the fence by the ice cream parlor, and the pit area was full.

There were 12 cars and 2 trucks competing with St. Francis man, David Rose, raking in the first prize money of \$1,500 and a trophy.

Second place went to Kelly Lampe who took home \$800 in prize money; third place went to Dennis Vandyke, \$500 prize



THOMAS DOUTHIT had a big smile on his face as he sells his Hereford Friday afternoon. Herald staff photo by Tim Burr



ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL enrollment was held Tuesday. Linda Elfers, right, fills out forms for her daughter. Marilyn Raile, junior-senior high secretary, makes sure all forms are ready. Herald staff photo by Tim Burr

## School begins on Aug. 20

Enrollment was held Tuesday at the junior-senior high school. Students will start school with a half day on Tuesday, Aug. 20. Buses will run in the morning and will take students home when school dismisses at 11:35 p.m. No

lunch will be served that day.

The first full day of school will be Wednesday, Aug. 21, and lunch will be served. Students will be dismissed at 3:45 that afternoon.

High school football and volleyball practice starts on

Monday, Aug. 19. The first volleyball game will be played with Hoxie on Sept. 3 in St. Francis. The first football game will also be played at home on Greene Field against the Holyoke Dragons.

## Hail damages corn crop, tornado seen south of town

Much of Cheyenne County continues to need rain. Showers pop up occasionally and, on Wednesday, there was a nice rain in St. Francis shutting down the carnival. Kathy Woodcox, St. Francis weather observer, reported .10 inch of rain.

Northwest of St. Francis, there were fields of corn damaged and Shelley Culwell reported some windows broken when ping-pong ball to quarter-sized hail fell.

Monday afternoon, Ryan Murray, emergency manager, said a trained weather spotter confirmed a land spout tornado south of Wheeler near the Cheyenne-Sherman county line.

We didn't sound the sirens in St. Francis or Bird City, Mr. Murray said, as the threat was several miles from both towns and neither town was in the path of the storm.

There was also a report of a tornado 9 miles northeast of Goodland. Any reports of damage, he said, was hail damage to crops, mostly in Sherman County and there was heavy rain.

The National Weather Service is forecasting cooler temperatures through Saturday and a chance of rain each day.



CORN FIELDS northwest of St. Francis were in sad shape after hail fell Wednesday evening.

## Commissioners discuss Village costs, hospital budget

Jeff Paulsen, Good Samaritan Village administrator, discussed the monthly financials with the Cheyenne County Commissioners at the July 31 meeting. The county assumed possession of the nursing home and apartments on July 1. The Good Samaritan Society is leasing the facility and Mr. Paulsen will be making monthly reports to the commissioners.

The review was for the month of June, the last month that the Society owned the nursing home. The operating revenue for the 28 days of June was \$153,985 and

the expenses were \$174,313. The facility would have been close to showing a profit had the society not settled the employee's "Paid Time Off" which was \$20,000.

The independent living apartments at the Village have several vacancies. Administrator Paulsen was concerned but also noted, recently, there have been some people showing interest. The commissioners said they thought that it might be a normal trend. In the last six months, the apartments have shown a profit. Mr. Paulsen said there were

several maintenance items and improvements that need the attention of the county including:

- Asphalt crack-sealing and preservation of the parking lots.
- Design for the west entrance remodel. He noted that the Society has donated money for this project.
- Kick-plate covers for corridor kick plates are needed.
- Tires are needed for the lift van.
- Having the hospital provide physical therapy services for the nursing home.

Working with the airport in clearing the road and lots after 3 or more inches of snow falls.

Next year, some of the improvements needing consideration includes the installation of an air-handling system in the west wing of the nursing home (cost is estimated to be \$20,000 to \$25,000); upgrade air conditioning in resident rooms in the west wing; erecting a flag pole (there is donation money for this project) and, start saving money to replace the lift van which will be 20 years old in 2016.

Following Mr. Paulsen's report, the county hospital administrator, Judy Rockwood, along with Heidi Tice, chief financial officer, and Kari Gilliland, hospital board member, presented a budget request for the hospital. They were requesting 12 mills and, until the budget is set, the amount is not known. However, they are wanting approximately \$800,000 from the county. Last year, they had asked for 12 mills, which is the most the hospital can request. From that mill request, the hospital received \$457,827 in county property tax.

The hospital also gets 1 cent of each sales tax dollar charged in the county. Last year, the hospital received approximately \$388,595 from this sales tax, giving the hospital a total of \$846,422 taxpayers money 2012.

Now that both the hospital and the nursing home are owned by the county and receive tax dollars, the commissioners asked if the hospital's physical therapy department could service the nursing home? They were told that the hospital can but it would

See COSTS on Page 5