



LOOKS LIKE FALL — A flock of around 35 to 40 geese has been seen recently in Charles Draper’s wheat field 1 mile east of St. Francis. They appear to be feeding on the wheat which was not harvested this summer.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Board accepts bid for clinic remodeling

By Karen Krien
The Cheyenne County Hospital board reviewed five bids for the construction work at the clinic in St. Francis and also listened as the county attorney read the statutes on accepting bids on county-owned property when they met on Thursday. They also questioned a representative from the Colorado company which had

submitted a bid before awarding the contract to Thissen Construction Company out of Wray and Greeley.
The bidders and base bids were: Thissen for \$327,900 (alternate - elevator cost \$41,000); Miller’s Enterprises and Construction, Goodland, for \$335,710 (elevator cost - \$46,054); Penn Building, St. Francis, for \$348,000 (elevator cost - \$39,100); D&D Builders, LLC, Garden City, \$351,000 (elevator cost - \$39,700); and Rhoads Construction, Goodland, \$359,900 (elevator cost - \$39,700).
Kevin Berens, county attorney, read the statute which stated that the board should take the lowest and best bid. He recommended that the board stick with policy to keep from overspend-

ing county taxpayer money.
The architect hired by the hospital board also recommended the low bidder. A board member noted that the architect did not specify that the lowest bid be taken.
The board questioned the “best” in the statute wondering if they really knew which was the best. It was evident that the board members

wanted the local contractor to get the bid. They turned to asking Stephanie Feikert, the Thissen representative, a number of questions including if the company was going to employee local contractors and showed concern that the company did not have a “crew” for the construction work.

See BIDS on Page 7

St. Francis schools begin on Monday

By Karen Krien
St. Francis students will start school at 8:35 a.m. on Monday, attending only a half of a day, and will be dismissed at 11:35. Tuesday, students will attend from 8:35 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. with breakfast and lunch being served.
According to Carl Werner, superintendent, as of Monday, the number of students appeared to be substantially down however, he noted that there could be more students enrolling when school starts.
Enrollment was held Thursday and Friday and, while numbers were down, they were less than had been expected. Those enrolled along with those expected to enroll are: 186 students in the grade school (six less than last year final enrollment figure) and 210 in the junior-senior high school (five less than last year).
The official enrollment will be taken on Sept. 20 and more information will be known at that time.
Grade school activities are also starting. The Teacher Appreciation

Night has been scheduled for Tuesday evening with a hamburger-hot dog fry at the grade school in the cafeteria. Following the barbecue, teachers, parents and students will be meeting in classrooms for a short briefing and, at that time, any questions can be answered.
The first volleyball and football games will be held in a matter of days. The sports-drink scrimmage and open house for both sports will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 30. Following the scrimmages, ice cream bars will be served in the cafeteria by the school. People will also be able to purchase season passes at that time.
The first high school volleyball game will be held at 4 p.m. on Sept. 3 at Golden Plains. The first football game will start at 8 p.m. with the Indians traveling to Bridgeport, Neb. This is the first time the Indians have played the Bridgeport team.
Looking ahead, Homecoming has been set for the week of Oct. 7.

Resignations are in, positions filled

By Karen Krien
When the St. Francis Board of Education met on Aug. 13, school was less than two weeks away and they had two resignations on the agenda.
The board was aware that Robyn Peters would be resigning her coaching aide assignment for junior high volleyball. The newest resignation was an oral resignation from Dan Laffond, custodian at the grade school, who plans to be leaving at the end of the month.
A contract for Tammi Sherlock to be the junior high volleyball coaching aide was signed. Mrs. Sherlock also works in the custodial department at the grade school but, since junior high volleyball only lasts eight weeks and one week is before school starts, she and Superintendent Carl Werner thought that a schedule could be worked out where her duties at the grade school would not suffer.
A replacement for Mr. Laffond will

be advertised and the position will be filled as quickly as possible.
Ward Cassidy’s contract was amended to add the responsibilities as school counselor. Mr. Cassidy has been the student financial counselor and will work about two more days a week in the junior-senior high school.
DeGood gift
The board accepted a gift of \$8,000 from Janice DeGood and her daughters Lanissa (DeGood) Blevins and Jade DeGood, in memory of Bron DeGood. The gift is to be split evenly between the art and journalism departments with the teachers in those departments deciding what will be purchased with this gift.
In addition, some individuals and groups associated with Mrs. Blevins’ employment have contributed an additional \$1,025 to the Bron DeGood Memorial Scholarship Fund, which the board previously accepted.

See FILLED on Page 7

County budget approved; up \$636,916

By Karen Krien
The Cheyenne County Budget for 2003 was approved on Thursday with no audience present to protest nor support it. This year, the estimated expenditure is \$2,652,314 and the 2003 budget is calling for \$3,289,230, an increase of \$636,916.
Ron Krien, commissioner, was not present due to illness and there was a question as to whether it was legal to approve the budget without all three commissioners present. Kevin Berens, county attorney, reported as long as there was a majority of the governing body present, the budget

could be approved.
Sheriff’s report
Sheriff Eddie Dankenbring asked that the undersheriff Cliff Flock be allowed to attend a methamphetamine information class which would cost the county only meals, mileage and motel room. Since it was only an informational class and not a class to certify him to handle meth, the commissioners ask that he wait until this class was available. They also said they thought the sheriff ought to be the one to attend since he had sent the last undersheriff to the certification class and he had later quit.

At the last commissioners’ meeting, the sheriff had asked that 911 funding be used to purchase two repeaters which are used when the officer is out of the vehicle. The repeater then works off the vehicle’s mobile radio. The cost of one repeater is \$1,300 to \$1,500 and the dealer of the repeaters suggested that only one be purchased to see if it worked for the officer.
Commissioner Tim Raile said he had talked to Gary Rogers, emergency manager, who, several years ago had been appointed to keep track of the county’s radios. The commissioner thought that the sheriff should first talk

to Mr. Rogers and then Mr. Rogers would recommend if the repeater was a necessity. Commissioner Jane Brubaker disagreed, saying that she thought the sheriff should first come to the commissioners.
After discussion, Commissioner Brubaker thought it would be okay if both Mr. Rogers and the sheriff come to the commissioners.
Sheriff Dankenbring will return to the next meeting to further discuss the radio. He also noted that he was not interested in using 911 funds to purchase a laptop computer as the St. Francis County Board of Commissioners. See BUDGET on Page 7

Firemen busy with grass fires

Last week, volunteer firemen were called several times to put out fires. Fire chief George Harper commended the people for the fact that there have been few fires during the drought.
“It has been dry and surprisingly, there have been very few fires. I think this is because people are watching what they are doing and are careful to not start a fire,” he said.
The first fire was southeast of St. Francis on land belonging to Carol Stauffer and Ione Ketter. This fire occurred about 1 a.m. on Aug. 11 and burned an area of pasture about 1 mile long and 1/2 mile wide. Firemen fought the fire for three hours before finally getting it contained.
On Wednesday, the train coming from St. Francis after picking up cars caused two fires. Gary Yonkey called in the first fire which was 3 miles east of St. Francis. This fire burned 20 to 30 acres of Conservation Reserve Program grass, a windbreak and a round



VOLUNTEER FIREMEN were busy last week putting out grass fires.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

bale of hay, all belonging to Todd Krien. Firemen were called at around 11:15, again around 12:30 and then again about 10:30 that evening when a brisk wind began to blow burning embers which could have burned addition acres of grass.
Shortly after the firemen got the first

call on Wednesday, a second fire was started about 1/2 miles west of the Cheyenne County Landfill and burned 1 to 2 acres of the railroad right-of-way land. Mr. Yonkey, Dale Weeks and Lex Landenburger along with the fire department were responsible for putting this fire out.

Chief Harper reminds people that the burn ban is still in effect in the county and until sufficient rain falls, he expects the commissioners to continue with the ban.
“Everyone needs to be very careful — it is so dry that the least little spark could cause a big fire,” he added.

Relay for Life walk set for Saturday

Sawhill Park will be the site of the third annual Relay for Life on Saturday night. Former and current cancer patients, their families, businesses, civic organizations and the public are urged to take a part in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life set for 7 p.m. on Saturday to 7 a.m. on Sunday morning.
The Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society’s version of an athletic relay to raise money for the fight against cancer.
The public is urged to bring a lawn chair and come join the activities surrounding the Relay. Check the list of activities with this article.
The Chamber of Commerce will be cooking hamburgers and serving chips beginning at 7 p.m. and proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society. The Shrine Candy Wagon will be available to sell bottled water, pop and popcorn with all proceeds donated to the American Cancer Society. They will reopen at 4 a.m. with rolls, cocoa and coffee. Both the Candy Wagon and Chamber’s booth will be set up at the west edge of Sawhill Park and the

Schedule	
6 p.m.	Registration of survivors Gather at the Lions Picnic Shelter
7 p.m.	Opening ceremony and National Anthem Survivors walk first lap
7 p.m.	Music by Leisha Hilt
8 p.m.	“Locks of Love”
9 p.m.	Luminary ceremony followed by lap by family member in honor of a loved one lost to cancer Kali Rueb and Raquel Grover will sing “Remember Me”
7 a.m.	Interdenominational church service

Shrine pavilion in the city park.
There are many major sponsors for this event and the generosity of these sponsors allows all donations to go directly to the American Cancer Society. A list of the sponsors will follow next week.
See WALK on Page 7

BUDGET

Continued from Page 1

Francis wireless service would not always cover where they were in the county.

The commissioners asked that the sheriff record what cell phone calls, especially long distance calls, were made on the sheriff's cell phone. The commissioners requested that, if there were any personal calls made, the officer pay for them.

Laptop for St. Francis
Jason Ryan, St. Francis Chief of Po-

lice, had asked several meetings ago, about purchasing laptop computers with 911 funds for the city department. He noted that Bird City would also be able to use the laptops as the wireless service would reach Bird City. He said that they needed four but suggested only purchasing one until all of the bugs in the system are worked out. Chuck Peters, the technician hired for maintaining the service, did not foresee any problems.

In other business

FILLED

Continued from Page 1

Budget okayed
There was no audience for the budget hearing held during the meeting and, after review, the board voted to adopt the budget as was published in The St. Francis Herald on Aug. 1.

The 2003 budget shows an increase of 2.858 mills from 30.430 mills last year to 33.288 mills this fiscal year. In terms of dollars and cents, the actual dollars budgeted for this fiscal year are \$446,925 for the General Fund, \$209,464 for the Local Option Budget, \$101,095 for Capital Outlay, and \$25,274 for the Recreation Fund.

New students
Dave and Mary Nicklos, a Colorado family, had written a request to the board asking that their two children, Amy, a sophomore, and Ross, a third grader, be allowed to attend school in St. Francis. The board okayed that the Nicklos children be admitted to the St. Francis schools and the tuition waved.

It is board policy that a written request for children living out of the county and wanting to attend St. Francis schools must be submitted and acted on by the board. Superintendent Werner had visited with another family who had indicated they were sending their children to the St. Francis schools but, as of the board meeting, no letter had been received.

Arrangements for the children to meet the route bus will be made if needed.

Backstop for grade school
Superintendent Werner and board member Gene Dodd discussed the backstop at the grade school playground. Both had information giving the price of materials. The superintendent had also talked to a contractor about erecting it. It was estimated that the materials will cost \$5,025 but the backstop needs to be replaced.

BIDS

Continued from Page 1

Mrs. Feikert said she had personally contacted a number of the contractors in the St. Francis area to see if they would be interested in subcontracting and, yes, they would hire local contractors if they were interested. She said that the sub contractors are working under the company's name and it is important to the company that the work is done right.

Rueben Schultz, board member, expressed concern that the plans were calling for leaving the bricks on the inside of the building and that it would be too much weight on the floor when the roof was added.

She said that she had been very impressed with the architect and with the excellent plans and sets of specs, she felt there would be few change orders, which was another concern of the board.

She said that, if Thissen gets the bid, they will start shortly after the contract is signed and the company has set 195 days to complete the project.

Les Lacy, hospital administrator,

said there were two questions the board needed to ask themselves: 1) Did they feel that they would get a quality project from Thissen? and 2) Did they feel like the company could complete the project on or below budget?

Robert Van Allen, board member, felt like the taxpayers would be upset if they took a higher bid and Swede Calnon, board member, agreed.

When the board had asked every question and discussed the matter some more, they felt that they had investigated every issue possible and, on the county attorney's and the architect's recommendation, they agreed to award the contract for the clinic construction to Thissen, but added that they were sure that Danny Penn would not cut any corners.

In order to keep a running total of the money being spent on the remodeling of the clinic, Mr. Van Allen requested that a separate account be set up.

"It will be easier to track what is going on," he said.

He also suggested that a complete itemized list of expenses be included.

WALK

Continued from Page 1

At 8 p.m., there will be a "Locks of Love" ceremony where several local people will donate their hair for cancer-survivor's wigs. At that time, the hair will be cut and donated. Last year, Whitney Horinek, Bird City, gave her hair after reading an article asking for hair for cancer victims.

During the evening, there will be a variety of events and performances by local talent in the band shell at the park. The public is welcome to come enjoy these events.

The highlight of the evening will be the impressive luminary service which will start at 9 p.m. A list of honorees and memorials for each luminary will be read. The luminaries will be lit along the sidewalks of Sawhill Park and left burning as the Relay continues to remind all donors of the incredible importance of their donations.

Everyone is urged to come on down and walk in the relay just call Karla Zwegardt at 785-3323-3201 to enter.

"You don't have to be on a team but we can put you on a team," she said.

In other business:

• Jolene Spike, St. Francis Recreation Commission Director, reported that Susan Hobrock, coordinator for the Cheyenne County Development Corporation, had applied for several grants for the Rec Commission's ball field water project. One grant had been turned down but there were still others. Attorney Berens, who is a member of the Cheyenne County Development Corporation, had advised members of the Rec Board to apply for Community Tax Service funding which is the same as the hospital board has applied for twice and received both times.

• The commissioners signed the Cheyenne County Extension Council's proposed budget for \$72,520.

• Reva Pownell, coordinator for the Food Pantry, had asked if the holding cell used for holding prisoners for a short period of time, could be used for the Food Pantry since it hadn't been used for a number of years. The commissioners agree to keep the cell free in case it was needed for a prisoner. However, Commissioner Raile said he would check with Carl Williams, maintenance, and see if he knew of a place in the courthouse which could be used.

• Sharon Elliott, clerk of the district court, asked if she should be ordering new furniture for the judge's chambers when the city police move out. The commissioners agreed that the furniture which was in the room prior to the city police be used again.

• Meetings were discussed. Danny Schlittenhardt, noxious weed supervisor, was allowed to go to a meeting; there will be a meeting in Trego County to discuss the WaKeeney Juvenile Center and Commissioner Brubaker said she would attend; and the annual Kansas Association of Commissioners meeting will be held Nov. 17 through 19 and county employees are urged to attend.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the commissioners has been set for 8 a.m. on Aug. 31 in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

Left From the Fair Insert

Items sell well at Premium Sale

By Karen Krien

The Fair Premium Sale, held Friday of the Cheyenne County Fair, found \$26,425 being spent as 4-H'ers and FFA'ers each sold an item for a premium in the sale ring. There were 70 kids selling and 31 buyers.

"I thought we had a good turnout of buyers who wanted to take care of the kids," said Shawn Blanka, fair board member and treasurer. "It was a good sale and there was great help throughout the sale."

The cattle sold for an average of

\$510 with 24 being sold for a total of \$12,250. Sheep averaged \$300 with seven sold for a total of \$2,100. Hogs averaged \$386 with seven sold for a total of \$2,700. Arts and crafts and other items averaged \$293 with 32 being sold for a total of \$9,375.

The champion lamb owned by Jacquelyn Ketzner was purchased by Milliken Chartered for \$325. Amber Havel's reserve champion lamb was purchased by Bankwest for \$275.

Tim Poling purchased AJ McAtee's champion hog for \$325. First National

Bank, Bird City, bought Levi Weeden's reserve hog for \$325.

Darin Wiley's reserve champion steer was purchased by Ladd Enterprises, Wray, for \$1,000. The grand champion steer did not sell.

Auctioneer for this year's sale was Royce Rambat. Rodney Shay, who was supposed to be the other auctioneer was in an accident which prevented him from being at the sale. Trish Willis was the clerk for the sale.

Tiny tots compete in barrel racing

On Wednesday night of the fair, the Pee Wee division found several kids participating and taking home some cash as well as a bag of goodies from the National Barrel Horse Association KS07 and Kansas Territorial Store plus a gift certificate for 50 cents at the Shriner's Candy Wagon.

Kids in the Pee Wee division could not be any older than 8 years old.

"It was fun to see the excitement of these kids when they make their run," said Shawna Blanka, KS07 District Director. "No matter how fast they went, they had a great big smile when they made their exit through the gate."

Winning first place in the 1 Division was Shakotah Blanka with a time of 31.685.

The first place winner in the 2 Division was Laramie

Mosley, 33.024.

The first place winner in the 3 Division was Tel Parmely of Lamar, Colo., with a time of 33.857; second in the 3 Division was Lakyn Pettijohn with a 61.761 time.

Kylie Jones of Gem and Laura Brunk participated but took a "no time."

"I was pleased with the turnout of barrel racers, from the local kids to those who came from out-of-town including Colorado," Mrs. Blanka said. "It was fun to be a part of the fair."



Where Did It Come From?

• In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase "goodnight, sleep tight".

• It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their cal-

endar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month or what we know today as the honeymoon.

• In English pubs, ale is ordered by pints and quarts. So in old England, when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them mind their own pints and quarts and settle down. It's where we get the phrase "mind your P's and Q's"

• Many years ago in England, pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim

or handle of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service. "Wet your whistle" is the phrase inspired by this practice.

• In Scotland, a new game was invented. It was entitled Gentlemen Only Ladies Forbidden ... and thus the word GOLF entered into the English language.

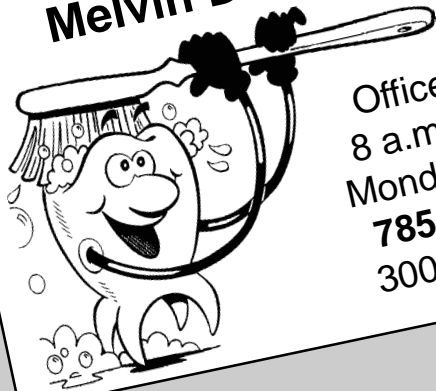
And last of all, the word 'stressed' makes perfect sense when you realize it is 'desserts' spelled backwards.

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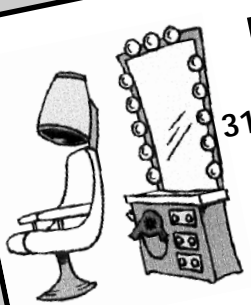
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