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From "BOARD," Page 1

Landfill operator Larry Jumper told the commissioners he has 60 gallons of interior latex paint in five-gallon lots, in a variety of colors, that is available free to anyone who needs paint.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Received a 50-year warranty from Custom Energy on the new courthouse roof.
- Accepted a bid of \$3,000 from Fairview Estates for the used

- Re-appointed Sue Evans to a three-year term to Northwest Kansas Juvenile Services governing board.
- Approved a commitment for a gas pricing formula for one year from Oneok, Natural Gas.
- Personally donated \$10 each to a candy fund for the fair parade.
- Agreed to meet at 3 p.m. Friday to go over the final budget figures.

From “WHEAT,” Page 1

rupted normal price patterns and hurt the ability of farmers, grain processors and others to hedge against risk, according to the report released last month.

"Bakers cannot escape the impact," Hayden Wands, director of procurement at Sara Lee Corp. and an official of the American Bakers Association, said at Tuesday's hearing. "Today's volatility represents millions of dollars daily in undue financial risk."

Mark Cooper, research director at the Consumer Federation of America, urged "more aggressive" limits on the amount of positions held by speculative traders.

Steven Strongin, head of the global investment research division at Goldman Sachs Group Inc., said he would favor some new position limits.

But in testimony prepared for the hearing, Carey said the Senate report's findings "are based on faulty economic analysis and

Carey agreed that there is a problem with the lack of convergence between spot and futures prices — which he said the exchange is committed to solve. However, he rejected the notion that such “temporary order imbalances” have a lasting effect on prices.

The the Chicago Board of Trade is prepared to make further changes to the wheat futures contract if needed, Carey said.

Some analysts and lawmakers blame the surge in popularity of commodity index funds for boosting the prices of oil, gasoline, corn and other commodities.

The commodities commission announced Tuesday that it will hold the first of three public hearings next week on whether the government should impose limits on futures contracts in oil and other energy commodities held by speculative traders.

From "BLUEGRASS," Page 1

weren't factual.

"One reason Wyatt Erp's name is in history is because of silent pictures," he said. "He was, unfortunately, a blowhard. He didn't do all that stuff, but it sure is good for tourism."

He said he began playing guitar when he was 11, and was playing professionally for dances by age 13. He said he was a natural for it because he came from a musical family.

His travels don't take him far, he said, but of all the places he goes, he thinks Colby is probably his favorite.

"It's not a favorite just because I'm talking to a local newspaper," he added, "but it's because of the people. I became acquainted with the McLemore family several years ago in Garden City at the radio station, and fell in love with them.

I have been coming to the Colby bluegrass festival for the last six years, and I

Bailey is known for his show on public radio, "Western Swing and Other Things."

Besides being the emcee for the weekend festival, he gave the Sunday morning message to a big crowd of people at Cowboy Church.

"I'm not a preacher" he said, "but it's easy to stand up there and talk about my friend."

Along with Bailey, Pickin' on the Plains draws many repeat visitors from across the state. Mary Miner said she was attending the Colby festival for her fourth year. They started out going to bluegrass festivals at Fairview, near her hometown in Hiawatha, she said, and found Colby's to be a really good one.

Louis Boultinghouse and a friend came from Garden City for their first time. He said he lived in Colby for 13 years many years ago, and thought the festival was good. He said he was glad to see a lot of

people he knew.

North Platte visitors Larry and Joann Petska said they are regulars at bluegrass festivals and thought Colby's was especially good. The Petskas said they were impressed with the numbers of young people in the crowd.

"I am 59," Larry said, "and pretty much among the youngest age group at the North Platte festival, but I see lots of young people here, so Colby must be doing something right.

"There's just something special about this kind of event. What other kind of concert will the performers take time to sit down with you and show you what they do and how they do it? You never hear one word of profanity, and it's something families can enjoy together."

Two guns on display at the festival were the handiwork of Ozark Alliance star Dennis Vaughn. He said when he's ready to make a rifle, he starts with a tree and a chain saw, and finishes 1000-grit sandpaper. The

guns were of the old Hawkins rifle style," he said, with the hand-made stocks made from a walnut tree which grew wild in the Ozarks.

"My real job is restoring Corvettes," Vaughn added.

He said the main focal point of the band is 18-year-old son Alex and 16-year-old daughter Jenny. Five-year-old Allison wears the title of "band manager" quite well, and signs autographs along with the rest of the family.

"We live in the hills of the Ozarks, and home school the kids," he said. "We hunt and fish, and sing. Everything we do, we do as a family."

The family has about 300 songs in their repertoire, Vaughn said, and he writes only a handful of them.

He said Bluegrass is all about friends and family, and that's a lifestyle they all prefer.

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