



Planes, skydivers, balloons at fly-in

By Karen Krien

The 25th Stearman Fly-In has been set for Saturday and Sunday at the airport in St. Francis.

Planes, skydivers and balloons will start arriving on Friday night. If the weather is permitting, the sky will be filled with skydivers before they land on the practice

football field located on College Street.

Early Saturday and Sunday mornings, the hot-air balloons will take to the sky, floating over the countryside. The actual time for liftoff is 7 a.m. but again, a lot depends upon the weather conditions.

Robert Grace, coordinator of the event, said he is expecting more balloons this year.

Throughout the two-day event, there will be the vintage World War II open cockpit Stearmans on display as well as many other aircraft. There will be some parachute jumps but no tandem jumps this year.

Breakfast and lunch will be available on the grounds and there are several different refreshment stands. There will be transpor-

tation to see all the planes for those who might have difficulty walking the distance.

The Chamber of Commerce is hosting a barbecue in Sawhill Park on Saturday evening beginning at 7 p.m.

There is no admission to the show and there is shade and benches to sit on but people are asked to bring their sunscreen,

leashes for their dogs, and, if they plan to be at the airport for most of the day, they might like to bring their lawn chair.

For more information about the Stearman Fly-In, log on to: www.stearmanflyin.org or call (785) 332-2251.



Events planned for fly-in

By Karen Krien

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There will be several other events happening in St. Francis in conjunction with the Stearman Fly-In on Saturday. The museum will be featuring the Lindbergh exhibit from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Aurora Honda members will be coming in from Denver.

Museum

The Cheyenne County Museum, located on U.S. 36, has been planning for the fly-in and gathering memorabilia on aviator Charles Lindbergh as well as that of other pilots. Margaret Bucholtz, curator at the museum, has compiled the history of Lindbergh which will be available to read.

In her research, she found that, in the spring and summer of 1923, Lindbergh was a pilot barnstorming his way around the midwest including the town of Bird City. Here he was called "Lindy," "Lucky Lindy" and "Dare-Devil Lindbergh," just to name a few.

He and his partner Cupid Lynch, stunted at fairs. People from miles around came to watch "Slim" climb out on the wing, stroll about and then drop off into space.

Fred Brubaker, Bird City resident, remembered seeing seven planes in an air show in Bird City in 1922 or 1923 in which Banty Rogers, and Lindy took part.

When the airplane was in Bird City it was kept in a temporary hangar on the Ness Boyson farm north of Bird City. Better hangars located on the Rogers farm were then built. See EVENTS on Page 9A

Ceremony set for June 14 at museum



Flag Day will be celebrated at the Cheyenne County Museum at 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 14. Festivities will include having ice cream cones served from the old ice cream parlor in the museum.

At dusk, a flag-burning ceremony will be conducted. Everyone is encouraged to bring old and tattered flags to The Herald office or call Elmer Kellner, (785) 332-2950. It is necessary to have the flags a day earlier (June 13) for the burning.

The Cheyenne County Historical Society is hosting the affair. All resi-

dents of Cheyenne County and visitors are invited to attend.

At the unspoken center of the celebration will be the flag itself. Not many may remember that at the base of the flag pole at the museum rests a bronze plaque that reads, "A gift to the citizens of St. Francis, Kansas, to commemorate their Centennial 1888-1988 in memory of Alfred P. Fossett."

According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the first claim for a Flag Day celebration was

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Intravenous class needed in county

By Karen Krien

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The emergency medical service coordinator told the Cheyenne County Commissioners on Thursday that an intravenous (IV) class was needed.

Jannelle Bowers, coordinator, said intravenous feedings on the scene and on the way to the hospital can keep the victim from going into shock or even save their life.

The county has seven emergency medical technicians who are willing to take the training, three of them are from Bird City. At this time, there are none able to give intravenous feedings from that side of the county.

Sherman County also has techni-

cians who are wanting the class. Mrs. Bowers was going to contact Rawlins County to see if there might be techs there wanting the training.

She said the cost of the class is \$7,000 and that doesn't include mileage. The class will take two to two and one-half months to complete.

The commissioners asked that Mrs. Bowers check with the hospital staff to see if there is someone there that might be able to teach the class. The matter will be discussed at the next meeting.

Anyone interested in taking the class should contact Mrs. Bowers at (785) 332-2614.

It was noted that the first emer- See NEEDED on Page 9A



SHEER DETERMINATION shows on Emma Johnson's face as she winds up to hit the ball in T-ball practice held Monday night. Herald staff photo by Betty Jean Winston

Director assumes duties

By Karen Krien

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David Butler, St. Francis, recently took over the job of Cheyenne County Development Corporation coordinator, replacing Carol Redding, who resigned. Mr. Butler is not only the director but also pastor of the St. Francis Community Church.

The Development Corporation strives to help support existing businesses as well as bringing in new businesses.

His goal is to "market Cheyenne County and its two communities, Bird City and St. Francis.

He is meeting with the leaders of both cities and has met with the county commissioners. He is asking what the organization has done well and what they want to see out of the organization in the future.

"I want to strengthen relationships between the Corporation and other entities and organizations in the county," he said.

"Working together gives us (the county) a wonderful opportunity to accomplish things we wouldn't be able to do otherwise."

The Corporation has a board comprised of volunteers. Pastor Butler plan on work with the Cheyenne Initiative Association group, which was formed in the last year and also has the goal of promoting the county.

"Whatever works for the county is my goal," he said. "I feel that we should always be working ahead."

Pastor Butler will be trying to get grants for the county and plans to advertise the county in the Front Range/Denver area. He said many people are looking for smaller communities to raise families or get out of the hustle and bustle of the big cities, yet be close enough to enjoy some of the things the city has to offer.

However, he said that advertising in the



NEW COORDINATOR, David Butler, plans ways to market Cheyenne County to the front range and other places. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Denver Post and other such publications is extremely expensive and, to be effective, there needs to be more than one ad and it needs to be large enough to catch the attention of readers.

Promote/help existing businesses

He wants to see the organization as promoting existing businesses, some of which are struggling.

These businesses are already established, he said. They are as important as bringing in more businesses.

Comes with experience

Pastor Butler comes with much experi-

ence in his new job, having worked with AT&T as a global division district sales manager. He was recruited to another communication company where he worked his team up to the number one team in the company. He was then asked by the owner of Sparks Communication to run his business which linked the school districts and all Chili's and Macaroni Grill restaurants.

Pastor Butler said he likes a challenge and if someone says he can't do something, he will work hard to prove them wrong.

He went back to college and back to work See DUTIES on Page 9A

Farmer kills rattler southwest of Sainty

By Karen Krien

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Mitch Schlepp was moving fence posts on the farm about 20 miles southwest of St. Francis when he saw the rattlesnake.

"Most of the time, I don't pay much attention to snakes but this was a big one," Mr. Schlepp said.

The snake tried to evade him by crawling under some tin siding, but the chase was on. When finally caught, he measured 46.5 inches long. It had 14 buttons and it appeared that he was missing two others.

Mr. Schlepp said he killed over 25 rattlesnakes last year and had already killed five in the past two weeks. He had earlier seen a rattlesnake sunning itself when there was still snow on the ground.

He has thought about skinning the big snake and will probably save the rattle.

In the past few years, there appears to be an abundance of rattlesnakes. Rod Weeden, St. Francis, reported killing 49 rattlers last year. However, it is nothing unusual to hear farmers or ranchers or someone who is out in the pastures a lot tell about killing 25 or more rattlesnakes last year.

What about rattlesnakes?

The internet had some interesting facts about rattlesnakes. For instance, there are 30 different species. Because of the snake's size, several people thought it might be a western diamondback rattler. Randy Rodgers with the Kansas Wildlife and Parks, said in Cheyenne County there is only the prairie rattlers.

Shedding skin

Rattlesnakes shed their skin several times a year, and each time, their rattle gets bigger. They shed their skin by rubbing against rocks to loosen the skin around its jaw first. Then it will keep sliding in, around and through the rocks, loosening and sliding out of the skin as it goes.

Just like people, the snake's first layer of skin is dead. Every time the rattlesnake See RATTLER on Page 9A



MITCH SCHLEPP counted 14 buttons (others were missing) on the 46.5-inch rattlesnake. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien