

Bid for front steps comes in too high

By Karen Krien
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The front steps at the courthouse have been closed since December when they were deemed "unsafe." The county had received a grant for \$78,384 from the Kansas State Historical Society to restore the steps to their original state of limestone. The county's cost would be around \$20,000.



However, when the bid was opened at the Oct. 16 Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting, it was too high.

Eric Johnson and Darrin Saenger, representing Campbell and Johnson, an engineering company out of Concordia, were at the meeting. The company had been hired to oversee the steps job and they were there to discuss the process of the bid before it was opened at 1 p.m.

The only bid was from Mid-Continental Restoration Company, Fort

Scott. It was for \$133,900 which was \$35,920 over the total project budget of \$97,980.

The commissioners agreed that the project would need to be bid again. Mr. Johnson said he would contact the State Historical Society on how to proceed with the project.

Winter is setting in so it will probably be next spring before any work will start on the new steps.

Fall Festival offers fun, games and food

By Karen Krien
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It is the fourth year for the St. Francis Community Church Fall Festival set for Halloween night, Oct. 31. With hay bales for seating and pumpkins for decoration, the fun will start at 6 p.m. at the church on 204 N. Quincy Street.

There will be a contest for the kids' non-scary costume and adults can enter the "best decorated" hat contest.

There is a chili cookoff and the winner will be awarded the Golden Ladle Award. There will be a brownie cook off and the winner will be presented the Golden Spatula Award.

Last year, Rodney Shay won the chili cookoff with his "prairie dog" chili. Kim Queen took home the golden spatula for her brownies plus she also won the hat contest.

The food will be enjoyed along with other treats.

A game of musical chairs will be played much like a cake walk. There will be face painting, ring toss for sodas, and the fish pond will find children getting a prize with each pick. There will also be running games.

All children and adults are welcome to come to the Fall Festival but be prepared to have a fun and safe Halloween.

Head of home health resigns after 12 years

By Karen Krien
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Vicki Reuber has resigned as the head of the Good Samaritan Village Home Health in Cheyenne County. Mrs. Reuber was instrumental in starting the program and then in the growth.



Reuber

Almost every day the last 12 years, Mrs. Reuber drove from her rural home near Atwood. At first she was one of those working with clients and, later, was the overseer of the Home Health program, with seven staff members working under her.

"Vicki is a talented nurse and I am sorry to see her go," said Rick Reeser, Village administrator. "Under her competent leadership, Vicki expanded the Village's home health care to Atwood, Goodland

and Colby."

"I'm going to miss the community and its people," she said. "This is a wonderful home health program."

Band will appear at Goodland school

The Shirtlifters band will perform in Goodland at 3 p.m. central time on Sunday at the Goodland High School. The performance is presented by Western Plains Arts Association.

The Skirtlifters authentically recreate the music of the 19th century riverboat, stage and parlor, enlivened by humor, skits and period costumes. The four-piece band features acoustic banjo, fiddle/violin, guitar, mandolin, voice and percussion.

Their diverse repertoire includes jigs, reels, rags, gallops, marches, waltzes, ragtime and swing.

The group assures its audiences that in spite of their name, no of-



Swede and Elberta Calnon



Couple celebrates 65th anniversary

By Karen Krien
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Swede and Elberta Calnon, St. Francis, will celebrate their 65th anniversary on Wednesday, Oct. 31.

It was a sunny fall day on Oct. 31, 1942. Swede was dressed in a double-breasted blue suit and Elberta had a lovely long white dress with a long train. She said that the dress had come from Denver and cost \$15.

They were married at the Evergreen Church between McDonald and Bird City with their friends, Mildred Hubbard and Gordon Latta standing up with them. Following the ceremony, they met with friends and family at the Albert Wilkens home (Elberta's parent's home) where they enjoyed roast beef and a cake baked by Elberta's mother.

Growing up, Swede and Elberta went to country school, Swede's school was 7 miles south; Elberta's,

7 miles north. However, they both went to high school in McDonald. Elberta said she had her eye on Swede for a long time. Swede said he also thought she was pretty sweet but his friend liked her and she didn't treat him very nice.

"I didn't want to be treated like that," Swede said.

"And I didn't like your friend," Elberta said.

They eventually got together, went to the prom and had a good time.

Both were only 19 years old when they started their life together. Mr. Calnon was working on a ranch for \$1 a day. It wasn't much money, he said, but a pair of overalls or a pair of shoes cost about 98 cents.

They described their first home as a "shack." They carried water and burned corn cobs.

The Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor and war had been declared. In 1944, Mr. Calnon was drafted into the Navy.

"I was a farm boy — I had never ridden a train or seen the ocean," he said.

But, basic training in Farrgut, Idaho, helped the farm boy to grow up in a hurry. Because he was tall (6-foot), he was one of four (also tall sailors) responsible for raising and lowering the flag each day.

"We were lucky — no mess hall duty but we had to look sharp with shoes shining and be on time," he said.

He was transferred to Seattle, Wash., and Mrs. Calnon joined him for two weeks. He was gone all day. Bored and short of cash, Mrs. Calnon got a job.

"I came home and Elberta said she had a job waiting tables," Mr. Calnon said.

"The tips were good," Mrs. Calnon added.

Mr. Calnon was at the Battle of Iwo Jima as well as stationed on a ship ATA 177 in Japan, South Korea, Saipan, Tainan, Guam and Philippine Islands.

"I wrote him every day while he was gone," Mrs. Calnon said.

Mr. Calnon said his letters were censored so, occasionally, all Mrs. Calnon got in her letters was confetti.

Back home in Cheyenne County, Mrs. Calnon's brother-in-law, John Harper, had suffered a heart attack. He offered the couple a place to live if they drilled the wheat, harvested and shocked the feed in the field and calf out and milked six cows. There were two cream checks a week. The Calnons got one and Mr. Harper, the other. Mr. Calnon also worked for Wilbur

Curry, Deb Sherlock and Loyd and Roy Waters.

They worked hard. Swede said Elberta worked beside him in the fields and the barn. Their highlight in life was the birth of their daughter Vicki in 1952. Elberta said Vicky came easy as she had been working and milking cows up to the time of her birth.

In the 1960s, they turned to raising racing greyhounds. Mrs. Calnon said the money they got from the dogs kept them in food

Through the years, they have enjoyed friends and playing cards. Swede has served on numerous boards including being a commissioner, fair and Veteran's board member. He is just finishing up his eighth year on the hospital board. Elberta cooked at stags and the Vet's hall.

"We've had a few ups and downs but it has been a good life," they both said.

When asked if she had ever considered divorcing Swede, Elberta laughed and said, "no! but I have considered murder several times!"

They said they have been married for 65 years and still enjoy talking to each other.

"It's been a good ride!" Swede concluded.

Project Funding Is Available!

The St. Francis New Generation Fund and Community Foundation is soliciting applications for its annual funds distribution. Approximately \$1,500 will be given to individuals or groups which are deemed most qualified. To apply, please pick up a form at BankWest or First National Bank or send an email to newgenfund@graceflyingservice.com. The deadline for submitting applications is December 4, 2007.

The Community Foundation portion of the organization is newly formed and has a goal of helping local projects obtain grant funding, while the New Generation portion is an endowment fund which solicits donations from estates and other donors who seek long-term benefits from their charitable giving. For more information, please contact one of the Board members: Carla Lampe, Carl Werner, Erika Zimelman, Robert Grace, Tom Keller, Dara Carmichael, and Mike Day.



PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION

Sun., Nov. 4
12:00 p.m. CT

Auction Site: Western Auction & Real Estate Auction Pavilion, W. Hwy. 36, St. Francis, KS

•1990 Cadillac Fleetwood, loaded, leather, clean, 55,000 mi. •1990 Buick LaSabre 3.8 V6, loaded, 120,000 mi. •1988 Olds Cutlass Sierra 3.8L, 165,656 mi., new tires.

Sears & Roebuck Metal Lathe, Model No. 109.21270, 12" bed, 3" swing; Buffalo Drill Press; Campbell; Hausfeld, 2 hp, 8 gal tank; Napa Battery Charger; Sears Wet Dry Shop Vac; Elec. Drills; Hyd. Jacks; Hand Saws; End Wrenches; Log Chains; Pipe Wrenches; Scoop Shovels; Elec. Bench Grinder; Hyd. Bumper Jack; AllTrade Rolling Work Bench; Stanley Elec. Power Washer, 1500 PSI; Nelson Tractor Sprayer; 5 gal. New Red Paint; TGY 21" Push Mower; Push Lawn Mowers, Elec & Gas; Rain Train Sprinkler; Lawn Tools; 2 Ford Air Compressors; KitchenAid Washer & Dryer, almond, nice; Portable GE Dishwasher w/Butcher Block Top; Entertainment Center; Delta 10" contractors Saw, 40"x27" Work Surface; Amana Washer & Dryer, Stainless Steel Tub.

Queen Mattress & Box Springs; 12 pc. China Setting; Avon Collectibles; 4 pl. Avon Blue Sapphire Dinnerware; Hull Pottery; 2-Chest Type Freezers; Kirby Heritage II Vac.; Kirby Vacuums; Dining Table w/Leaf, 4 wooden chairs; Dinette Set w/4 Chairs, swivel rollers; Oak Rocker; Misc. Furniture; Vintage Dining Table; Bunk Beds; Sev. Couches: Floral, Solids, Plaids (hide-a-bed); Burgundy Leather Love Seat, reclines; Swivel Rocker Recliner; Mitsubishi Color Console TV; Sharp Color TV; 4 Drawer File Cabinets; Full Size Bedroom Set: Head & Foot Board.; Dresser, Chest of Drawers; Full Size Headboards; Many Rocker Recliners, Solids

& Florals; Coffee Tables & End Tables; Futura Sewing Machine in Cabinet; China Cabinet; Chest of Drawers; Metal Folding Chairs; Books; Crocks; Glider Rockers; Sears Trash Compactor; 33 Lps, Cassette Tapes; Misc. Exercise Equip.; Throw Pillows & Afghans; Handmade Quilts; Many Chairs; Antique Telephones; 3 Speed Fan; Drop Leaf Kitchen Table & Chairs; Antique Mixer; Car Jacks; Luggage; Household Misc.

Wall Hangings & Décor; Mirrors; Many Lamps; Sev. Misc Antiques; Cornshuckers, Traps; Fishing Equip.; Wooden Step Ladder; Metal Cabinets; Glassware; Roaster; Crock Bowls & Jars; Canning Jars; Box Fan; 2 Microwaves; Vacuums; Sewing Machine in Cabinet; Portable CD Player; Table Top Fountain; Lots of Small Kitchen Appliances; Cookware; Puzzles; Elec. Heater; Towels & Bedding; Many Floor & Table Lamps; Decorator & Collectible Plates; Hamilton Wall Clock; Cut Glass; Collector Whiskey Bottles; Christmas Décor; Harmony House Silverware, Setting for 12, in box; Elec. Weed Eater; Stamps; 42 Cup Coffee Pot; Golf Clubs; Ultra Terrain Sport Bike; Eureka Upright Vacuum; Sharp Fax Machine; Antique Scales; LexMark & Canon Printer; Viewsonic Computer; 7-Up Cooler; 2 small Color TVs; Aquarium; Marilyn Frisbee Barn Painting; Ottoman; 2 Haier Refrigerators, Dorm Size; Misc. Kitchen Items; Misc. Coins: Ike Dollars, Uncirculated Mints, Morgan & Franklin Dollars; Lots of Misc.

Terms: Announcements made day of sale take precedence over printed material. All items to be paid for day of sale! Cash or Good Check. Not responsible for theft or accident. **Lunch to be served.**



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To apply or for more information, contact Karen Krien at the Saint Francis Herald, 785-332-3162 or stop by the office at 310 W. Washington, St. Francis.