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COUNTY WHEAT TEST PLOT was harvested Thursday afternoon. Goodland Greenlinew furnished the combine with Tim Neitzel, manager, operating the massive machine. Linda Elfers, Extension secretary, is helping with the operation. Gary Yonkey loaned the truck to haul in the wheat. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Coming to an end

By Karen Krien

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Elevator operators in the St. Francis area are estimating that, as of Tuesday, there is still about 20 percent of the wheat to be harvested. However, showers and thunderstorms continue to plague the harvesters.

Farmers are saying that it is either too wet or the humidity is so high the wheat won't dry, said Shirley Zwegardt, grain manager at the St. Francis Equity.

Kathy Woodcox, weather observer, said during the last four days the area has received moisture for a total of 1.52 inches. In the last seven days, the temperatures have been in the 90s with the exception of Thursday when the high was only 83 degrees.

Rains earlier and cool weather when it was needed has given

some Cheyenne County farmers bumper, even record, yields. One farmer south of St. Francis told Ms. Zwegardt that his yields were at least 100 bushels per acre. Another farmer, Tom Smull, said in a *Salina Journal* article, his yields were at 99 bushels. These yields were from dry-land farm ground.

The reports are right, Shirley said, because she ran the production sheet and put in the numbers.

After years of drought, these numbers are due.

Mr. Smull, who lives south of town, was one of those bringing in some record yields. And, it's not just us, Mr. Smull said in the *Journal* article, lots of guys are at least 20 bushels above what their normal average has been.

While the rain is stalling the

harvesters, it is letting elevators managers move some of the wheat out of the elevators so they can take in more.

The area has had between 25 and 30 crews stopping to help with harvest. They said the wheat south of the state wasn't especially good and wheat in Nebraska is still ripening. The crews have good equipment and are able to cut a field in less time than most single operators.

Ms. Zwegardt reported, in an average year, the Equity elevator will take in around 100,000 bushels a day. This year, we have doubled that, she said.

With 80 percent of the wheat harvested, the crews are expected to be moving on by the end of the week and wheat harvest will about be over for another year.



TRUCKS LINED UP ON THREE SIDES of the block waited to unload their wheat at the St. Francis Equity. The photo was taken from on top the elevator by Shirley Zwegardt. Photo courtesy of the St. Francis Equity

Oldest Kaw Indian lives in St. Francis

By Karen Krien

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Anna Brewer was 103-years-old on Sunday. That is a milestone in itself; however, Mrs. Brewer is also the oldest living member of the Kaw Nation Indian tribe.

Mrs. Brewer is one-quarter Indian and laughingly says her heritage is German-Irish-Indian. Her mother, Katie (Shroyer) Cooper was German, her father, William was one-half Kaw and one-half Irish.

Her father was born on Kaw land near Council Grove. When he was 2-years-old, the government moved them to land in Oklahoma near Newkirk. The government allotted half-blood Indians land. William and Katie lived on his allotted land, naming it the Cooper Homestead. It sat along the Arkansas River 6 miles east and 4 miles north of Newkirk.

Anna was one of 14 children born to the couple. However, only seven children survived. Anna, named Annie Pearl at birth, was the youngest of the children who survived. She said there were several still-born children after her.

Her life was mostly carefree. Her father, she said, was well-to-do, raising wheat, corn and cattle. Their two-story home seemed large to her. The home still stands today.

The house was near a creek. Throughout her younger years, she was able to go down the hill to swing on the grape vines that grew wild, then falling into the water to cool off. She also looked for craw-dads.

In an earlier article, written when she turned 100, she said, because she was the youngest, she seldom had to do chores. One time when she was naughty, she said she was told to go to the room under the stairway. The canned goods were kept in this area and she kept busy by

removing all the labels.

Her mother was German, so their home life was more like the white man's. However, she would go to visit her grandparents, Roseanne James, who was a full-blood Indian, and John Cooper. When Roseanne was very small, she was traveling in a wagon when the seat broke and her leg was injured. Mrs. Brewer said she always walked with a cane because of the injury.

Roseanne was an interesting person. After meals, Anna remembers that she would smoke a clay pipe. She would cut off a plug of chewing tobacco, rub it in her palm to crush it and stuff it in her pipe. The pipe is now located in the Kanza Museum in Kaw City, Okla.

When Grandma Roseanne and her sister got together, Mrs. Brewer said they talked Kaw and no one could understand them. Anna's son, Dwight, said he has tried to learn just a little bit of the Kaw language but, unlike English, there is really no sense to the way the words are formed.

"The only way to learn it is to memorize it," he said.

Anna never learned to talk Kaw.

Grandma Roseanne cooked with a little black pot and Anna remembered her stewed meat to be very good. She baked bread including fried bread which was made with water, salt and flour, then fried.

She said they removed the kernels off Indian corn. They laid the kernels out in the sun with a net over them where they dried. When almost dry, they were put in a sack and hung on the clothesline for the final drying.

This corn, she said, was put into the pot with some type of meat or ham bone and slowly cooked until the stew or soup was thick. She said she has dried corn in a dehydrator and had much the same results as her grandmother. See OLDEST on Page 7



Anna Brewer



Anna Brewer's family, (l to r) Roseanne James Cooper, Anna's grandmother; Josephine Thompson, aunt; Margaret James, great-grandmother. Photo courtesy of Anna Brewer

Board accepts monetary gifts

By Karen Krien

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The St. Francis Board of Education accepted two gifts when they met on Thursday.

There has been new lighting installed in the halls at the high school. The lights, T-8 fluorescent, will pay for themselves in savings of electricity within two to three years. The cost for the lights was \$2,316, because Bill Keller, former St. Francis graduate, now of Stanion Electric, had sold the lights to the school for cost.

At the Thursday meeting, Rob Schiltz, superintendent, reported that Mr. Keller had called and wanted to donate \$1,500 to help offset the cost of the project. The board accepted the gift.

The superintendent and board were extremely grateful for the gift. Mr. Schiltz said this gift brought the costs of the lights down to around \$800.



Keller

Miller

The installation of the lights was estimated at \$1,785. They were installed by Ron Wieck.

The second gift accepted by the board was \$2,337 from the St. Francis Recreation Commission. This money will cover one-half the cost of the summer weight program.

New president elected

Before the meeting began, Terry Miller, county clerk, swore in new members, Derrick Tice and Ed Marin. Mary Beth Miller was

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Lawyer receives prestigious award

St. Francis lawyer, Jim Milliken, was honored at the Kansas Bar Association's installation and awards dinner on June 19 in Overland Park.



Milliken

He was presented the Professionalism Award which recognized him for his years of conduct, honesty, integrity and courtesy, best exemplifies, represents and encourages other lawyers to follow the highest standards of the legal profession.

Mr. Milliken opened his St.

Francis law office in the back of the old Cheyenne County State Bank, now First National Bank, on July 1, 1969. He shared a secretary with a real estate loan agent, an attorney-abstractor and an attorney banker.

Soon after opening his first office, a branch office was opened in Bird City.

Mr. Milliken's practice expanded and grew from an income-tax base and now includes estate planning, probate, real estate, litigation, corporate, domestic and commercial law, along with many other areas. He served on the Board of Governors of Washburn

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