



CHECKING OUT A METAL PROJECT entered at the Cheyenne County Fair were (l to r) **Martin Beikman, Shakota Blanka, Travis Rogers and Garrett Brunk.**
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

GRASS

Continued from Page 1

native grasses, but it causes the road shoulders to erode. Amazingly, he said, the sandburs continue to grow and thrive.

Mr. Lohr has been studying the ditches — those which have been sprayed and those which have not.

There is a great different, he said, comparing the joint and cheat grass growing on the same road that was sprayed a year ago to the native stand that wasn't sprayed.

He noted that the county inherited joint grass and he is trying to control it. This spring, he experimented with a chemical called Plateau that suppressed the native grassed but kills joint and cheat grass. He has also used a lighter rate of Glyphosate in the fall and that worked fairly well on the cheat and joint grasses.

The county has improved mowing operations in the last two decades and have learned that they should not mow brome grass until July when it has gone to seed.

There are several farmers, Mr. Lohr said, who do an excellent job of mowing the county ditches and the commissioners appreciate their effort.

"Have you ever noticed how nice the grass is on the state highway right of ways?" Mr. Lohr asked. "They are nice because the state does not allow spraying or farming."

Spraying small acreage

The commissioners talked about the control of noxious weeds. In years past, the noxious weed supervisor sprayed small areas, mostly in pasture, to help the ranchers as well as help keep noxious weeds under control. At a previous meeting, the commissioners agreed that the county's noxious weed supervisor would no longer spray these areas but devote his time to the ditches.

However, the commissioners decided that his service was still needed in small areas. Mr. Lohr said that part of the time, a rancher would say he had only 5 acres that needed spraying but, when he got there, it was 15 or more acres and he had to travel a distance into the pasture to even reach the area where there were noxious weeds.

He and the commissioners talked about raising the price for having Mr. Lohr spray. They asked him to get prices of what surrounding counties are charging.

Renting spray equipment

Mr. Lohr asked what the commissioners would think about purchasing some spraying equipment that could be rented to ranchers so they could do their own spraying. The commissioners agreed that maybe a system that could be put onto the back of a pickup could be purchased but they were not interested in purchasing a system that would be pulled behind the pickup.

Again, Mr. Lohr was asked to talk to other noxious weed sprayers and see if they have this type of equipment and how much it would cost.

Arial spraying

Mr. Lohr talked about having Grace Flying do some more arial spraying this fall. There was still a farmer who hadn't paid his bill from last year. The commissioners discussed the problem, wondering if the county should pay Grace Flying and then charge the farmer. If they don't pay, there is more leverage with a county attorney.

Web site information

To help get information to the public, Mr. Lohr will be having photos of noxious weeds and how to take care of them put on the county's web site.

The Gardener

Kay Melia

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My taste buds remind me this time of year that they are patiently awaiting the cantaloupe harvest. Just yesterday, one of them jabbed me in the tongue and said "hey old man, how about some cantaloupe one of these days or are you going to make excuses about why you didn't grow any this year?"

Or something like that. Taste buds seem to have a way of coming alive at the very sight of a ripe cantaloupe, and one of these days, barring another stock market sell off, I'm going to make them very

happy.

I can't remember having such a good looking cantaloupe patch. When it's time to vote at my house, it's always a close race as to whether we would rather have a fresh ripe tomato, or a half of an Ambrosia cantaloupe for dinner.

Isn't it amazing how some of your garden crops produce so well one year, and then are nearly failures in other years? In my garden for instance, last year tomatoes, sweet corn, and onions produced sizable crops. This year, the potatoes, peppers and cantaloupe are extremely impressive. The only thing you can

seemingly be certain of is the zucchini, both hills of it.

But indeed, my cantaloupes are thriving this year, and I haven't the slightest idea why. Could be a little more heat and humidity this year, or maybe the soil was in better shape.

I plant two varieties of cantaloupe each year. Without fail, there are always a few hills of Ambrosia, now the nation's largest seller of seed. You'll never find an Ambrosia melon at the supermarket, because they do not ship well, and as a result, commercial growers avoid them like the plague. Such a shame!

In the last few years, I have

planted a relatively new melon introduced by Burpee, called Early Hybrid Crenshaw. Listen closely... you will never find a melon with such a delightfully perfect taste as this Crenshaw.

What a breakthrough! It's a 90-day melon, grows to 10 or 12 pounds, and changes to a bright yellow color when ripe. It is truly a fantastic melon.

Cantaloupes were introduced in America in 1494 when Christopher Columbus brought them over from Spain and Italy. The fragrant melon was named after the Italian town of Cantalupo and flourished for years in the area of Greece and Turkey.

Here in America, the Arkansas River valley of Colorado was among the first to grow them commercially in about 1895. It was there where the Rocky Ford cantaloupe rose to national prominence.

In my humble opinion, you will be much more successful growing them if you plant the seed and avoid setting out transplants. Cantaloupe, like other plants from the cucurbit family, dislike someone messing around with their roots. Plant the seed when the soil reaches 60-65 degrees in the spring, and avoid the transplants.

Satisfy your taste buds as you can do no other way! Just have a bite of wonderful home-grown cantaloupe!

Farm storage loans available

The Farm Storage Facility Loan program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities.

The maximum principal amount of a loan through loan program is \$500,000. Participants are required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with Commodity Credit Corporation providing a loan for the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. New loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which the credit corporation borrows from the treasury department.

Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. The partial disbursement will be available after a portion of the construction has been

completed. The final fund disbursement will be made when all construction is completed. The maximum amount of the partial disbursement will be 50 percent of the projected and approved total loan amount.

Applications for the farm storage loans must be submitted to the Farm Service Agency county office that maintains the farm's records. A loan must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin.

The following commodities

are eligible for farm storage facility loans:

- Corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, oats, wheat, barley or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain.
- Corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats or barley harvested as other-than-whole grain.
- Pulse crops - lentils, small chickpeas and dry peas.
- Hay.

Contact the farm service office at 785-332-2183 for more information.

Book Review

Book review from the St. Francis Public Library
Home Free

By Fern Michaels

Bad luck brought them together. United by a desire to overcome their personal misfortunes-from cheating spouses to workplace betrayals-seven very different women formed an indelible bond and vowed to right wrongs wherever they found them. They've succeeded beyond their wildest dreams. And after years known as the Vigilantes, Myra, Annie, Kathryn, Alexis, Yoko, Nikki, and Isabelle are enjoying their hard-won freedom and the chance of a normal life.

But as it turns out, once you're

a part of the Sisterhood, normal is a relative term. President Martine Connor, their long-time ally, has called a meeting of her most trusted advisors to announce the formation of a top-secret organization known as the CIC, and comprised of the Vigilantes. Officially, the CIC won't exist. Unofficially, they'll report directly to the president and tackle the jobs no one else can handle. And their first assignment will test them in every way possible-their courage, their ingenuity, and most of all, their friendship.

For the Sisterhood, it's the end of an era-and the beginning of whole new adventure...

Retirement Reception
for Angie Berens
Thursday, Aug. 25
1-3 p.m.
Cheyenne County FSA Office/USDA Service Center
West Highway 36, Saint Francis

It's Here!

Tickets available!

Order by phone or internet!

Call 1-800-472-3247

or go to www.chasecountyfair.com

The 2011

Tickets also available at ticket booth day of show.

This year's entertainment features

REO Speedwagon

Fri. Aug. 19 7:30 p.m. MT

REO Speedwagon

Friday, Aug. 19, 7:30 p.m. MT

Craig Morgan

with special guest The Band Perry

Sat. Aug. 20, 7:30 p.m. MT

Craig Morgan

with special guest The Band Perry

Saturday, Aug. 20 7:30 p.m. MT

The Goat Family

ACROSS

1. Fuse rating unit
4. Taj __
9. Managed, somehow
14. Inic Charlotte
15. Lo unison
16. In heaven
17. Whopper
18. Gym offering
19. Poet's concern
20. "Kid Galahad" star
23. Morticia, to Fester
24. Stirrup site
25. 3,000-hit club member Ripken
28. Baja California city
32. "On the Street Where You Live" singer Vic
34. Send to the Hill
36. "___ the Roof" (Drifters hit)
37. "Billy Bathgate" star
42. Flower in a Stein line
43. Prefix with comic
44. "Relax, soldier!"
47. Takes away
52. Take the plunge
53. One-man play about Capote
55. Get the lead out?
56. "The Nanny" star
60. Toulouse toodle-oo
63. Kangaroo ___
64. "How was ___ know?"
65. "No más" boxer Roberto
66. Golfer with an "army"
67. Baton Rouge sch.
68. Remora's ride
69. Etonian's dad
70. Elgart or Brown

DOWN

1. ___ Francis of "What's My Line?"
2. Like some rebates
3. Annoys
4. "Manon" composer Jules
5. "Pronto!" in memos
6. Billing unit, for some
7. Meara or Murray
8. Auto contract, maybe
9. Funt's "candid" gear
10. Toe the line
11. Beer belly
12. Eden evictee
13. "___ Rosenkavalier"
21. Zamboni's milieu
22. Young kiltie
25. Manilow song setting
26. Before long
27. Novelist Deighton
29. He "stung like a bee"
30. Places for trophy cases
31. Needed liniment
33. Not talking
35. Went like the blazes
37. ___ on (love to excess)
38. Like thrift shop wares
39. Vast expanse
40. In great shape
41. "The African Queen" author C.S.
42. Like some deals or data
45. "The Elements of Style" coauthor
46. Hurler's statue
48. Pendulum's path
49. 1973 title role for John Wayne
50. Dreaded fly
51. Pertaining to blood fluid
54. Open, as a bottle
56. North Carolina's Cape ___
57. "Dumb" girl of old comics
58. Litter's littlest
59. Toledo's waterfront
60. Messages from SWMs, e.g.
61. "That's obvious!" in teen talk
62. Sinn Féin's gp.

American Profile Hometown Content 8/14/2011

The Crossword Puzzle brought to you by:

The Saint Francis Herald