



Area receives much needed rain

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Farmers and gardeners across the county rejoiced as a soft, steady rain fell throughout the day Monday. The much needed moisture accumulated to two or more inches.

The rainfall Monday was a vast difference from that of the weekend's briefer, more intense storms which left branches and debris strewn across yards, but did not leave much moisture behind.

Weather the last week has changed drastically, going from highs near 100 to highs in the 60's. The unseasonably cool weather is a welcome change from the dry, hot 100 degree heat that many are used to in June and July.

With the cooler weather came some moisture over the past week. Cumulatively, there has been nearly two and a half inches over the past week according to Kathy Woodcox, the weather observer for the St. Francis Herald.

According to the National Weather Service, the rest of this week calls for a slight chance of thunderstorms in the evening, with highs around 75 on Thursday, and highs more towards 85 on Friday and Saturday. Look for lows around 60 in the evening this week.

Cheyenne County has not had very many severe storms this season so far, and hopefully that will continue. Forecasters are saying that it has been a quiet tornado season so far, with 415 tornadoes through the end of May. That number is well below the three year average of 780 tornadoes, according to National Weather Service statistics. More good news, no one died from a tornado in the month of May.



WATER WAS RUSHING down to the end of Spencer Street where it is channeled into the river. St. Francis received anywhere from 2 to 4 inches, depending on who you asked, starting Sunday night and lasted into Monday. It was much needed rain for pastures and newly planted crops. However, it was a little late for helping wheat yields. Temperatures dropped to a chilly 44 degrees Monday morning.

Herald staff photo by Tim Burr

Voters need to affiliate with political party soon

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With national midterm primary elections coming up this summer, voters in Cheyenne County need to be aware of changes made to the state's voting laws.

The most notable is the Party Affiliation Declaration Bill. It will take effect starting July 1, when voters affiliated with a party cannot disaffiliate from it or switch to another party until after Aug. 31.

The bill is of significant importance because in order to vote in the primary election on Aug. 5, voters must belong to a party. Specifically, voters must belong to the party that they are wishing to vote for in the primaries, whether that be Republican, Democrat or Libertarian.

Current voters that are registered

with the party of their choice do not need to do anything – they are ready to vote in the primary election.

Voters that are registered with a party they no longer affiliate with and would like to change must take action before June 30 to vote in the party primary of their choice. Any registered voter can change parties by filling out a new registration application at the county clerk's office at the Cheyenne County Courthouse.

Unaffiliated voters do have more flexibility. They can choose a party up until the day of the primary election, where they can fill out a written declaration before receiving a ballot. However, the date limitation for switching parties or disaffiliating after the election applies to these voters as well. They cannot change their party status

again until after Aug. 31.

New registered voters may wait to declare their party until the new voter registration deadline on July 15.

Once Aug 31 passes, voters may then change their party affiliation or choose to disaffiliate at their leisure again until June 1, 2016.

In addition to the Party Affiliation Declaration Bill, the Secure and Fair Elections Act, or SAFE Act, will continue to be in effect. This act has been in effect since the presidential election of 2012, and is best known as the voter ID law. It requires voters to show a form of photographic identification at the polls.

The photo ID voters show can be anything from a driver's license to an ID issued by a college in Kansas.



RELAY FOR LIFE activities were held Saturday from noon to midnight. Kenny Bracelin picked up a T-shirt. The table was manned by Cindy Sherlock.

Herald staff photo by Tim Burr

Six county businesses sponsor harvest contest

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The 2014 Harvest Countdown contest has begun! Containers are located in participating businesses in St. Francis and Bird City along with the entry forms.

The question is... "What is the date and time of the first cutting in Cheyenne County?"

Last year, the first load of wheat in Cheyenne County came in to the Wheeler Elevator on June 27. When will the first load of wheat arrive this year?

There are six businesses sponsoring the contest this year. They have entry tickets for anyone wanting to register their guess of the minute, hour and day of the first load of wheat brought into one of the county elevators.

There will be three people winning a total of \$100 in scrip money (\$50 first prize, \$35 second prize, and \$15 third prize).

Participating businesses

include: Majestic Service truck stop and restaurant, Pizza Hut, Western State Bank, American Implement, The Bank in Bird City, and St. Francis Equity Snack Stop. Please remember to stop by and support the participating businesses, and register your guess!

Last year, Bracelin Brothers brought in the first load at 10:51 a.m. on June 27. It was brought in to the Wheeler Elevator and had a test weight of 57.2 pounds and the moisture was 12.9 percent.

Winners last year were Carol Redding, first; Ted Busse, second, and Tom Williams, third.

Rules of the contest

Rules are:
• Guess the day, hour and minute of the arrival of the first load that has a moisture content of 14 percent or less.

The contest allows anyone over 18 years who is not employed at the newspaper or related to

someone who is, to try to guess when the first load of wheat will be brought in to one of the elevators in Cheyenne County.

• The winners of last year's contest are not eligible to win this year.

• The scrip money won will need to be spent in participating businesses.

The Herald is sponsoring the contest but it would not be possible if it were not for the participating businesses: Pizza Hut, Majestic Service and Truck Stop, St. Francis Equity, American Implement, and Western State Bank in St. Francis and The Bank in Bird City. Boxes and entry blanks are located in these businesses.

Be sure to check their merchandise and services while in the business and check their ads in this week's issues of The Herald and Times. The contest tentatively ends on June 27.



CHECKING JACK WEINSTEIN MEDALS are (l to r) Scott Schultz, Sandy Smull and Glori Milne. There will be a ceremony on Friday, June 20, at 7 p.m. in Sawhill Park.

Veteran honored on June 20

"Honoring a Hero," a special tribute to Jack Weinstein, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, will be held on Friday, June 20, at 7:30 p.m. in Sawhill Park. Mayor Scott Schultz will welcome guests.

Connie Rooney, Ladies' Auxiliary, will read the account of Weinstein's act of valor. Following

the reading, Chad Miller will sing "The Star Spangled Banner." The St. Francis City Council will present Nancy Weinstein, Jack's widow, with a memorial plaque and replicas of all of Sergeant Weinstein's medals. These will be permanently placed at the Cheyenne County Museum. An Honor Guard from Fort Riley will

take part in the ceremony. All veterans are invited to stand on stage and be recognized during this presentation. The Congressional Medal of Honor presented at the ceremony will be on display at the museum open house on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The public is invited to attend both special events.