

Commissioners wait to sell municipal bonds

By Karen Krien

When was the best time to sell the municipal bonds for remodeling the hospital was one of the main discussions held at the Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting on Friday. They decided to wait on the sale until more information is known.

Hospital board members Leon Brethower, Rueben Schultz, Robert VanAllen, Swede Calnon and Kelly Gienger, along with hospital administrator Les Lacy were present to see what the commissioners thought about selling the bonds — if it would be better to sell them now or wait until later when the interest rates were better.

Commissioner Ron Krien wanted to make sure that there would be sufficient funds to cover the first payment as taxes are not collected until December. Whatever the decision, both boards wanted to make sure that they were doing the right thing with the taxpayers' money.

It appeared that the consensus of the boards was to sell the bonds as soon as possible but they felt they needed additional advice so called Chuck Kerfman of Cooper and Malone, the bonding company. Mr. Kerfman, via phone conference call, assured the boards the first interest payment could be arranged to occur at the best possible time for the county, but also thought that it was probably in the best interest of the county to sell the bonds now as he believed that the bond market would not go down anymore.

After over an hour of discussion, the commissioners agreed to have the county clerk find out when the county's auditor was coming to the county and then call a special meeting to discuss the matter. The selling of the bonds was tabled until more information could be gathered.

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Planes, hot-air balloons, and sky divers arrive for 20th annual air show

By Karen Krien

During the weekend, the sound of planes, the flapping of the parachutes and the hiss of the hot-air balloons will be heard announcing the 20th annual Stearman Fly-In.

The event, held all day Saturday and on Sunday morning, features all manners of aircraft including warbirds, experimental and home-built planes but the main attraction is the Stearman aircraft, an open cockpit fabric-covered bi-plane powered by radial engines. These planes were used primarily as trainers in World War II.

Robert Grace, coordinator of the event, reported, this year, there could be even more Stearman bi-planes. There have been several owners of Stearman planes contact him about the fly-in showing interest in coming, however, a lot will depend on the weather. "If the weather is good in St. Francis and where the majority of the planes are coming from (along the Colorado front range), we could have more planes than ever," he said.

This year, there will be two Stearmans coming from California and two from Florida. Mr. Grace said this is a long flight for these planes but several of the pilots have made the trip to the Fly-In before.

The hot air balloons are expected to launch around 7 a.m. on both days. However, the launchings will be determined by the wind speeds. Last year, the weather was perfect both days for flying balloons.

Skydiving demonstrations and the Stearman flights take place throughout the day on Saturday and on Sunday morning. The Fly-In will end Sunday after lunch giving pilots enough time to get back home before dark.

Stearman rides and tandem skydives

Doolittle's Raiders pilot speaks Saturday

New this year will be a special program held at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday evening in the St. Francis grade school gym. Now retired, Colonel William Bower, United State Air Force and one of the Doolittle Raider pilots, will talk about the raid and answer questions. There will also be a short film footage shown.

The B-25s, launched from the deck of the U.S.S. Hornet on April 18, 1942, dropped the first bombs on Japan. This surprise attack resulted in immediate hero status for all 80 of the crew members who were awarded Medals for Bravery. Unfortunately, only 69 were eventually able to receive those medals.

This program is held in conjunction with the Stearman Fly-In and was organized by Dr. Curt Kimball of Sterling, Colo. Dr. Kimball also arranged the first St. Francis Stearman Fly-In.

More about the Doolittle Raid
During the early months of World War II, America suffered a devastating series of losses, leaving the public's morale at a dangerously low tide. In response, President Franklin

D. Roosevelt secretly authorized an extremely dangerous mission to retaliate against the Japanese Empire. This expeditionary mission was to bomb major industrial targets in Tokyo and other large cities on the Japanese homeland.

One obstacle was how to place heavy Army bombers in range of Tokyo, something that had been impossible to do with aircraft carriers before.

To accomplish this task, the aircraft carrier USS Hornet, on Feb. 2, 1942, successfully launched two Army Air Force B-25 bombers from its flight deck. On April 1, 1942, bombers were towed to the dock alongside the Hornet and hoisted aboard. The crew assumed they were ferrying the bombers to Hawaii or some other South Pacific island.

On April 2, the crew was informed that they were going to span the Pacific Ocean, over 5,000 miles, to bring Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle's bombers and crews within striking distance of Tokyo. The Hornet's job was to get the bombers within 400

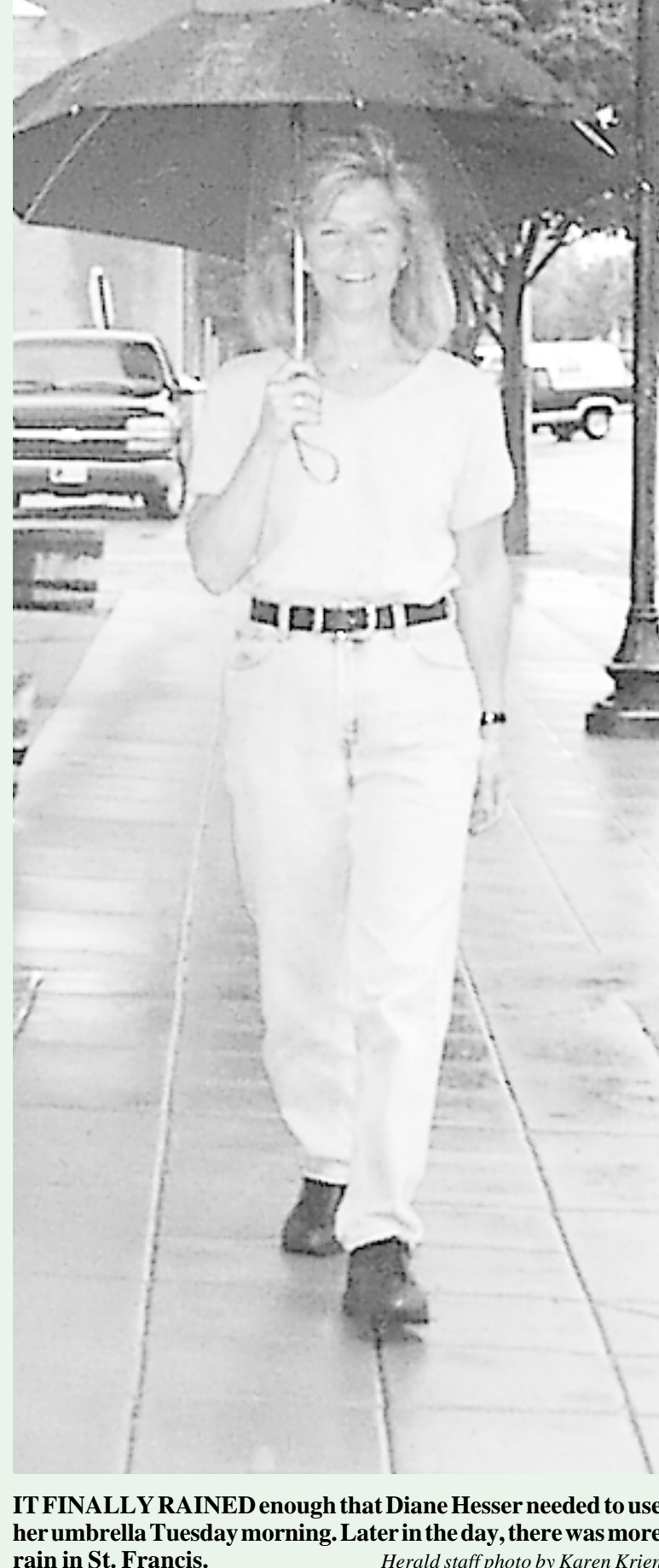
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will be available to the public. A tandem skydive allows a novice passenger to share a parachute jump with an experienced skydiver.

The admission is free, and, both days, breakfast and lunch will be served on

the airport grounds for the convenience of pilots as well as the spectators. There will also be cold drinks available along with seating and shade.

For more information, contact Grace Flying Service at 785-332-2251.



IT FINALLY RAINED enough that Diane Hesser needed to use her umbrella Tuesday morning. Later in the day, there was more rain in St. Francis. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Wheat tour set June 17

The Cheyenne County Wheat Field Day has been set for June 17.

An afternoon tour of Cheyenne County will begin at 1:30 p.m. from the Bird City Legion hall. K- State Research and Extension Crop Production Specialist, Jim Shroyer will be on hand to answer questions including crop production, marketing. The test plot is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at the Bill and Vada Leach farm 4 miles west and 2 miles north of Bird City.

The Cheyenne County grain dealers will sponsor a meal at the Bird City Legion Hall following the test plot tour at 7:30 p.m. Following the meal, Dan O'Brien will present a program about wheat marketing and the farm bill.

Anyone interested in attending should make reservations by June 12 to the Extension office at 785-332-3171.

Market sales start June 29

The Farmers' Market Committee is marching forward with plans for the first sale to be on Saturday, June 29, on Denison Street between Jackson and Washington streets (east side of the city park).

For two months, the committee has been making plans, checking into regulations and insurance, and meeting with the St. Francis City Council, making sure everything is in order for opening day.

Jo Hagney, temporary vice chairman, reported that St. Francis consumers will be able to get fresh produce directly from farmers' gardens at the Farmers' Market. There will also be hand-crafted items available.

"The Cheyenne County Farmers' Market offers a unique opportunity to connect St. Francis shoppers with fresh fruits, vegetables, herbs, flowers, preserves, eggs, baked goods, craft items and more," Ms. Hagney said. "Each week several vendors will be on hand to insure the greatest variety and highest quality of fresh products for the consumer."

The Cheyenne County Farmers' Market will be open from 8 to 11 a.m. every Saturday from June 29 to Oct. 26 with the exception of the Saturday during the fair in August.

Vendors' meeting

A meeting of the Farmers' market board of directors will be held to finalizing arrangements for the 2002 market season. All potential vendors are requested to attend the meeting to be held at 7 p.m., June 12 at Tasteful Treasures (on Washington Street two businesses down from the post office).

Hot temps followed by rain

Rain finally came after two days of temperatures of 100 degrees and 106 degrees and another with 99 degree temps.

The high temperatures were tough on crops, especially the wheat. The grass in the pastures was getting crisp and there was little for livestock to eat.

According to Kathy Woodcox, weather observer, the rain on Tuesday measured .64 inch however, there were other reports around the country of up to an inch of needed



PUTTING FOOD ON THE PANTRY SHELVES were Susan Knodel, Trevor Reed and Alice Lampe, left. The Join Hands food drive will be held June 15 in St. Francis. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Young, old join to collect food

By Karen Krien

In today's world, young people and adults have developed differing preferences in work, leisure and lifestyles — they don't know each other. There is now a new program called "Join Hands Day" where young and old will join hands in helping others. Last year was the first time that Join Hands Day was held and food for the pantry was gathered along with suitcases for Kansas children headed for foster homes. However, this year, the suitcases are not being asked for. Also again this year, will be fliers on recycling made by the Cheyenne County Development Cor-

poration.

Sponsored by Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL), individuals and groups of organizations in St. Francis will meet at 9 a.m. on June 15 at the west entrance of the courthouse. From there, they will be canvassing the town, gathering food and funds for the food pantry and distributing fliers on recycling.

Anyone wanting to give food should leave the items on their porch or front steps on the morning of June 15 and they will be picked up.

Cash donations are a more convenient way to give to the food pantry and this money will be used to purchase

perishable food items at the grocery store. Checks can be made out to AAL 3895 and sent to Miriam Yonkey.

Reva Pownell, Food Pantry coordinator, reported that most food items are needed but, at this time, the Pantry has plenty of canned vegetables.

"We need items like canned fruit, spaghetti sauce, Chunky soups, canned meats such as salmon, tuna, chicken, ham, sloppy joes and canned drinks that children will like," she said.

She also pointed out that items such as pancake mixes and syrup, cereal (hot and cold) and microwavable oatmeal,

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Harvest Countdown contest begins this week in St. Francis

By Karen Krien

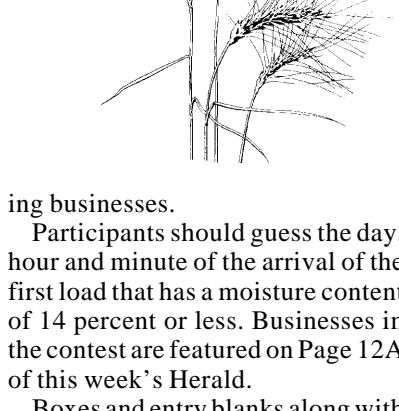
It is just the first of June but with the hot, dry weather throughout the spring, what wheat is left will most likely ripen earlier than in the past. This is why the St. Francis Herald is starting the Harvest Countdown contest this week.

However, if the weather remains cool and wet like it was on Tuesday, harvest may be later. It is the "ifs" that makes the Harvest Countdown contest, sponsored by St. Francis businesses, more interesting.

Last year, the first load of wheat was brought into the St. Francis Equuity on June 22.

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 2002 wheat will be brought into one of the elevators in St. Francis and Wheeler.

Winners will receive \$50 for first place, \$35 for second place and \$25 for third place. All prizes will be in scrip which can be used at participat-



ing businesses.

Participants should guess the day, hour and minute of the arrival of the first load that has a moisture content of 14 percent or less. Businesses in the contest are featured on Page 12A of this week's Herald.

Boxes and entry blanks along with the contest rules are located in participating businesses. Look for the sign and sign up at the service counters. Be sure to check their merchandise and services while in the business.

Department of Agriculture launches farm bill to Website

Just one day after President Bush signed the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 into law, the United States Department of Agriculture launched a new website aimed at helping farmers, ranchers and the general public learn the latest information about the new farm bill.

"The new farm bill is very broad and contains many new programs to assist America's farmers and ranchers," said Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman. "This website will serve as a repository of information on the new farm bill as we begin vigorously implementing its provisions."

The website can be directly accessed from department's official website at <http://www.usda.gov/farmbill> or by simply clicking on the 2002 Farm Bill icon on department of agriculture's main website at <http://www.usda.gov/>. The 2002 Farm Bill icon will also appear on department of agriculture's agency websites.

The new website will include farm bill program details, questions and answers, program applications and sign-up forms, as well as other important materials from department agencies on farm bill implementation. The website will also contain advanced electronic

applications to help program applicants receive program benefits faster and more efficiently.

The website will help farmers, ranchers and others locate information through one site rather than searching through web pages of the many agencies that make up the department of agriculture. Information will be indexed by farm bill title and by agency. Users will be able to access specific agency information through the site and easily return to the home page by clicking on the Farm Bill 2002 logo located throughout department of agriculture agencies' web pages.

Information to be posted on the site over the next several weeks includes:

- A comparison of 1996 Farm Bill provisions and 2002 provisions prepared by the Economic Research Service;
- Fact sheets in English and Spanish that cover the changes in conservation programs administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service;
- Information from the Farm Service Agency on program details and instructions on how to calculate new yields;
- On-line applications and electronic forms to help make processing time more efficient.

The website will be updated regularly as new information and program announcements become available. The "What's New" link will alert users to updates and added information.

President Bush signed the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 into law on May 13, immediately following the Congress sending it to him for signature. At the signing ceremony, the President said, "The farm bill will strengthen the farm economy, and that's important. It will promote farmer independence, and preserve the farm way of life for generations. It helps America's farmers, and therefore it helps America."

The new farm bill provides rebalanced loan rates, lives within the Congressional budget resolution agreed to last year and is consistent with international trade obligations. The farm bill also contains record-level support for environmental stewardship, a renewed commitment to renewable fuels programs, additional investments to help expand international markets, rural community programs and food stamp assistance for low-income Americans.

Secretary Veneman added, "This legislation will now provide certainty and support for America's farmers and ranchers in coming years."



LUCAS RAILE and his teacher Jennifer Krien had some serious discussions about putting cans in the proper place at the recycling center.

BONDS

Continued from Page 1A

Road and bridge report

Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, told about the updated drug and alcohol policy book for his department. County attorney, Kevin Berens looked over the changes before the commissioners agreed to accept the policy book.

The commissioners signed agreements for Penco to do preliminary engineering on the Cooper-Olofson bridge project northeast of St. Francis and the River Road asphalt extension project southwest of St. Francis. The fees were \$19,000 and \$10,000, respectively.

Speed limit signs for the Old Wheeler Road were discussed and the crew will be erecting them soon.

In other business

In other business:
• The commissioners accepted the resignation of Mark Davidson, undersheriff, at the end of two weeks; and read the letter sent from Jason Ryan, St. Francis Chief of Police,

stating that he and all of his officers had turned back their deputy cards to the county sheriff.

- A request to have a courthouse-wide auction was rejected.
- The commissioners read a request from Rita Koros, owner of the Main Street Sweets shop located across the street south from the courthouse, asking that courthouse employees not park in front of the business after it opens. The commissioners said they would advise employees to refrain from parking in front of the business but they had no control over others coming to the courthouse on business as Washington Street was a public street.
- The commissioners talked about cleaning up property in the country, especially those businesses which are located along U.S. 36. No decisions were made.
- The commissioners agreed to not fix the air conditioner that was not working as there is sufficient units to cool the courthouse. However, they

would start putting money away to replace all of the air conditioning units in the future.

- Deb Smith, appraiser's office employee, was approved to go to school and an employee wage agreement was approved for Deb Lindsten, deputy clerk. The commissioners also signed the 2002 Noxious Weed Plan.
- The courthouse steps which were vandalized and are not weathering well were discussed and Terry Miller, clerk, will check with a contractor to see if the steps could be repaired and, if not, how much it would cost to put on another finish.
- Sheriff Eddie Dankenbring asked for executive session to discuss personnel and, when back in session, Commissioner Ron Krien announced that Undersheriff Davidson will cover and be paid overtime while the sheriff attended a schooling.
- The natural gas bid of \$4.67 MMBtu from Oneok was accepted. The other bid was from Post Rock for \$5.40 MMBtu.
- The month's ambulance write offs for \$1,742 was accepted.
- Gary Rogers, emergency manager, reported on computer software which, with the grant money, will cost around \$75. He still needed a computer and would be pricing some so it could be included in the 2003 budget. The commissioners decided that old pagers and radios will be destroyed, not sold.
- Susan Wegeley with Northwest Kansas Family Shelter, gave a brief review of what services the Shelter gives and asked that the commissioners give the Shelter \$500 again next year. The county attorney added that he felt that the Shelter was benefiting the county.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the commissioners will be held at 8 a.m. on June 14 in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

Genealogy Korner

By Marilyn Holzwarth

Have you ever heard the name Tomai? Thomas Tomai married Josephine Friedley in Davenport, Iowa in 1875. They were in Bird City by 1886 where they operated the Globe Restaurant, and he was noted as a French Restaurateur.

While they lived there, he applied for a pension for serving in the Civil War because he had a chronic liver and kidney complaint. Seven children are listed on the pension, R. Edd, who changed his name from Adam, Rosa, Mary, Lola, Inez, Vira and Hertha. Little son Frank is buried in the Wheeler-Cheyenne Valley

cemetery. The family was not aware that Thomas and Josephine had lost a child here in Cheyenne County.

The family joined quite a few others from Cheyenne County in 1893 who left for Oklahoma. Thomas and Josephine are buried in Shawnee, Okla.

We enjoy learning about the lives of our early settlers, and are glad to share what information we have found here in the county. If you have questions about any of our early people, please let us know, we will see, if we can find some interesting facts about them.

FOOD

Continued from Page 1A

along with jellies and jams, hamburger, chicken and tuna helpers, boxed potato mixes, puddings and Jello. The givers might also consider giving some sugar-free puddings and Jellos are needed.

Don't forget paper goods such as toilet tissues, Kleenex and paper towels. The county health office also reported a shortage of special needs for babies. Baby food (Steps I and II) and formula (Enfamil and Carnation Good Start) are needed along with infant Tylenol.

Look for a more detailed list of needs

and how people needing the help to get back on their feet and feed their families can benefit from the Food Pantry in next week's *St. Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times*.



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