

60 grain producers meet in Bird City

Interest shown in investing in area ethanol plant

About 60 interested grain producers met at the Legion hall in Bird City on Thursday to hear about the Western Plains Energy's proposed ethanol plant. Members of the board including Ken Krien, Bird City, talked about the different areas of the proposed plant and how participating producers could invest.

Western Plains Energy was formed in July 2001 to build and operate a 30-million gallon ethanol production facility. The plant will be located on 53 acres east of Oakley in Campus. The western Kansas site was selected because there was enough grain, there was access to ethanol and distilled grain markets, good transportation and available water, and natural gas and electricity.

Mr. Krien reported on the risks of investments in the plant which included: loss of inventory, cost of

corn, loss of market for the distilled grains, water restrictions, unexpected conservation and environmental issues, the loss of markets for ethanol and operation costs, just to name some.

Ben Dickman of Grinnell, board member talked about the legal structuring of the plant and the classes of equity ownership. The ownership was available to producers in Kansas and Colorado only. In Class A, each unit cost \$5,000 and there was a minimum ownership of \$10,000. There would be no delivery requirements and a freight allowance option. Class B units were \$5,000 and there was a minimum of seven units per investor. There was also a Class C and Class D.

After the units are sold, there will no longer be any units sold unless they are bought from an individual owner. Financing is available and the board thought it was a good plan for investors.

A series of meetings were scheduled throughout the week. For more information, contact one of the board members: Jeff Torluemke, Hoxie, (president and chief executive officer); Dick Sterrett, Quinter (vice president and chief executive officer); Ben Dickman, Grinnell; Ron Blaesi, Sharon Springs; Dave Mann, Quinter; Brian Baalman, Hoxie; Gary Johnson, Oakley; Ken Krien, Bird City; and Bob Casper, Wichita.

City visitor disturbed

Charles Martin, a Denver resident, recently decided to make a trip to St. Francis on his motorcycle to visit long-time friend Rita Koros. He spent time visiting with Ms. Koros on the deck of her new business Main Street Sweets and enjoyed talking to the customers as they came and went but, before he knew it, the time had slipped by to 9:30 p.m. and, knowing there were no gas stations between St. Francis and Denver (unless he went to I-70) decided to spend the night.

Ms. Koros had lived in Denver for many years but, after several visits to St. Francis, decided to move to the quiet life of this small community and took no time at all to adjust. However, Mr. Martin didn't know what to think when he heard a noise outside the house.

Ms. Koros said she was awoken when he shook her on the shoulder telling there was something outside. She listened but could hear nothing out of the ordinary. She went outside and still nothing. She told Mr. Martin to go back to bed, the noise was probably a raccoon and, after all, he was in St. Francis. However, Mr. Martin thought it could be something much bigger — maybe a moose or a bear???

While in St. Francis, Mr. Martin had noticed that there were few foreign cars on the streets and few places that accepted credit cards. Well, Mr. Martin made it through the night and went on back to Denver the next day, noting that he had enjoyed his stay, despite the "noise in the night."



RANGRETTES: left to right: Laura Rudder, Jo Maring, Connie Carpenter, Debbie Lampe, Vickie Calnon, Kathy Hoagland, Debbie Gorthy, Cindy Gorthy, Gail Bolts, Brenda Zwegardt, Kathy Landenberger, Sue Gorthy, Sherry Shrock, Cindy Burkhalter, Kaye Ann Zwegardt, Donita Zwegardt, Helene Landenberger.

Picture courtesy of Helene Landenberger

Reunion picnic planned following rodeo

By Karen Krien

Horse riders who rode with the Rangerettes, Pride Riders and Ladies Riding Club will be gathering for a reunion on Aug. 2 and 3 of the Cheyenne County Fair. Letters have been sent to many but records kept in those days were few and the memories of those who rode with the groups have grown dim. So, if you didn't receive notification, take this article as your invitation to come join the group for a sundown chuck wagon supper at 9 p.m. on Aug. 2 after the rodeo at the fair and then meet with your horse near the St. Francis water tower about 9 a.m. Aug. 3 so the group can ride in the Fair Parade.

Time is getting short and all those planning to attend the barbecue on Aug. 2 will need to have their reservations made by Wednesday so the co-

organizers can tell the cook how many to plan for. Contact Helene Landenberger at 783-332-2528 or Brenda Nelsen at 785-332-2705.

"All riders and their families are welcome to attend the barbecue," said Ms. Landenberger. "We just want to have everyone get together and have a good time."

Rangerettes

The Rangerettes Club was organized in 1967 by Brenda Bracelin and Connie Carpenter who asked Ms. Landenberger to take over the direction of the club. The club members' goals were to organize a drill team and club of such high quality that they might be asked to ride at events in other towns. Ten to 18 girls met twice a week and were ready to perform at the Cheyenne County Fair. They also performed at the Goodland and

Benkelman fairs and the Haigler Centennial Celebration.

They participated in gymkhanas and trail rides.

Ms. Landenberger said their outfits were always "sharp." Their first outfits were blue ruffled shirts and blue wranglers. Then there were gold flowered blouses with gold jeans, antique gold chaps and metallic gold hats. The most elaborate of the outfits were purple metallic blouses with purple stretch lame pants and purple hats.

Through the years, members included: Connie Carpenter, Vickie Calnon, Leanna Gienger, Debbie Gorthy, Becky Douthit, Beverly Holzwarth, Jo Ann Maring, Debbie Lampe, Monica Raile, Peggy Johnston, Gladys Wheaton, Patty and Brenda Connitt, Sherry and Kristi Cook, Polly Henderson, Kathy Whitmore, Brenda Bracelin and Julie Holzwarth. They were directed by Ms. Landenberger and honorary flag bearer was Laura Rudder.

Ladies Saddle Club

Mrs. Rudder organized the Ladies Saddle Club with a fall hay ride and buffet supper on Oct. 14, 1972. There were 17 members joining the club and they agreed to meet monthly to go horseback riding. The club later became known as the Ladies Riding Club.

They went on hay rides, overnight camp outs and trail rides. They held steak fries, picnics, historical tours, demonstrations for learning horse

and tack care and even hosted fund-raising events where they and their families competed on horseback. The competition included a couple, each on a horse with one delivering an egg on a spoon to the other. One couple even got bucked off in the tire race. During a trail ride, a horse laid down in the middle of the stream with the rider getting soaked.

For money making events, they served lunch at farm sales, roping contests and gymkhanas. One of the highlights of the club was organizing the Rodeo Princess program in 1978.

Mrs. Rudder continued as the only charter member until her death in 1985.

Pride Riders

The Pride Riders was organized by Helene Landenberger and, in 1972, Butch and Diane Aschnewitz took it over. The younger riders met twice a week for a rigorous workout on their horses, running the drills until the riders knew them. They performed at the fair, gymkhanas, the Thresher Show, Cheyenne Frontier Days and local parades. They were easy to spot with their banner and kids dressed in blue jeans, red shirts and white neckerchiefs and hats.

Mrs. Aschnewitz said there were generally 25 to 38 riders each year and they ranged in ages from 6 to 18.

"There were lots of them (riders) and we had a good time," she said.

When the Aschnewitzs left in 1980, Alvin and Judy Hilt took over the organization.

School board sets meeting time; elects new officers for year

Appointments and meeting times and dates were set when the St. Francis Board of Education met on July 11. Bruce Feikert was elected as president and Gene Dodd was elected vice president.

Other officers of the board include: Sharon Olofson, clerk of the board; Robyn Raile, treasurer of the board; and Kite and Day as the law firm to represent the board.

The board of education will meet in the board room the second Thursday of each month except in the following months: Sept. 9; Oct. 7; Dec. 16; Feb. 10; and March 10. The time will be 7:30 p.m. central standard time or 8 p.m. central daylight savings time.

One noncertified personnel contract had been signed and returned for the board to sign. The board then turned to discussing some plans for covering the counseling responsibilities for next year and some coaching vacancies that have not yet been filled. Since no contracts were ready for recommendation, the matter was tabled until the next meeting.

Anita Marin was appointed to serve a four-year term on the Recreation

Commission, replacing Natalie Knodel whose term had expired. Mr. Dodd was reappointed as a representative to the Kansas Association of School Board governmental relations network and board member Sherry Weeks was reappointed to serve as the representative on the Northwest Kansas Education Service Center Board in Oakley.

In other business

In other business:

- The board agreed to pay \$4,315 to join the Kansas Association of School Boards and the Kansas Association for School Board Legal Assistance Fund.

- The board approved to allow out-of-district students Tony Tiegs, Daniel Oikarinen and Dennon and Alecia Zimelman attend the St. Francis schools without tuition charges. Transportation arrangements will be made with the individual families as necessary.

- The board reviewed the proposed schedule for preparing and publishing the 2003 budget. A special meeting will be held at 8 a.m. in the board room to study the budget and to approve its

publication. The budget hearing will be held as part of the regular board meeting on Aug. 8.

- A summary of the superintendent's automobile expenses for April through June was reviewed. Total cost per mile was \$.6019 in comparison with the school's reimbursement rate of \$.365 per mile.

- Thank you notes were distributed to the board from two graduating seniors who expressed appreciation for the scholarships they received.

Next meeting

The next regular meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on Aug. 8 in the board room at the high school.



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NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING State of Kansas
Special District
2003

The governing body of
Cheyenne District 2
Cheyenne

will meet on the 5th day of August, 2002 at 1:00 p.m. at Cheyenne County Courthouse for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied.

Detailed budget information is available at Cheyenne County Clerk's office and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY
Proposed Budget 2003 Expenditures and Amount of 2002 Ad Valorem Tax* establish the maximum limits of the 2003 budget. Est. Tax Rate* is subject to slight change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	2001		2002		Proposed Budget 2003	
	Prior Year Actual Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Current Year Estimate of Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Amount of 2002 Ad Valorem Tax
General	22,933	1.140	49,921	1.700	54,855	13,449
						0.960
Total	22,933	1.140	49,921	1.700	54,855	13,449
Total Tax Levied	23,733		24,018			
Assessed	21,011,576		22,460,108		24,832,216	
Valuation	0		0		0	

Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1

	2000	2001	2002
G.O. Bonds			
Revenue Bonds			
No-Fund Warrant			0
Lease Pay Princ			0
Total	0	0	0

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.

Kaye O'Brien
Clerk

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DOINGS AT THE MILL

Due to circumstances beyond my control Mill and Seed will be **CLOSED:**
July 20-22, 27 & August 3

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9 a.m.- Noon and 1-5 p.m.
August 1-2 from 9 a.m.-Noon

Thanks and Sorry for any inconvenience
Bob
Enjoy the Fair!
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AN ANNOUNCEMENT!



Pictured above, left to right, includes: Darrel and Vicki Wiley, Sabrina Crone and John Willard.

John Willard, of Premier Accounting, is pleased to announce the new addition of staff to assist him in his income tax and accounting practice. Sabrina Crone has been working for John since October of 2001. Previously employed at Spellman-Schmidt Funeral Home, she brings to Premier Accounting her business experience and love for accounting. Sabrina is currently enrolled in Metro State College of Denver to complete her degree in accounting and eventually sit for the CPA exam. She and her husband, Randy, have lived in the Wray area for the last 14 years.

Also joining John are Darrel and Vicki Wiley. For the last 18 years, they have conducted a farm operation in the Hale area. They bring with them farm management and operation experience and have a desire to help farmers with their specialized income tax needs. Darrel is currently enrolled at Oral Roberts University and plans to sit for the CPA exam upon graduation. Using her organizational skills, Vicki will be assisting in a multitude of administrative duties.

Premier Accounting provides tax and financial planning as well as business consulting. John's desire has been to serve his clients with excellence and integrity by focusing on client service. Demand for services has increased, and John felt the addition of Sabrina, Darrel and Vicki, would enable Premier Accounting to meet the needs of his clients and provide the personal, hometown attention they deserve and have trusted in.

John, Sabrina, Darrel, and Vicki would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support in the past and encouragement going forward. Please feel free to stop by and say hello.

309 Main St. Wray, Colo. 970-332-5800