

Farmers spouses added to program

Farm program payment limitations weren't changed in the 2002 Farm Bill, but because of other changes in the law some producers may hit the \$40,000 payment limit for the first time this year. The changes — higher direct payment rates and the addition of soybeans as a contract commodity — may lead producers to add their spouses as joint operators when describing their operations to the Cheyenne County Farm Service Agency.

According to Angie Bock, County Executive Director for the Cheyenne County Farm Service Agency, many farming operations involve both a husband and wife who could qualify as separate "persons," but, for various reasons, only one spouse has been the program participant and payment recipient. In these cases, both spouses were part of the farming operation as of April 1, but the farming operation was not necessarily represented to the Farm Service Agency as being comprised of both spouses.

Producers can normally add qualified spouses as program participants before April 1 each year. Since the 2002 Farm Bill was signed into law on May 13 and the new commodity payment rates were announced after that, Director Bock said Farm Service Agency is giving eligible producers until Aug. 1 to add qualified spouses as program participants, effective for 2002.

Director Bock cautioned that payment eligibility and payment limitation determinations that apply for 2002, apply to all 2002 payments and benefits, including those already made this year under the 1996 Farm Bill. If based on a revised 2002 "person" determination, the original spouse would not be eligible for 100 percent of the payments already received. The amount of the overpayment must be refunded before the revised determination can be applied.

Additional information about "person" determinations and payment limitations is available from the Cheyenne County Farm Service Agency, West Highway 36 or by calling (785) 332-2183.



DONNA DRAPER SERVES pie to Garnett Miller who was 99 in April. Times staff photo by Peggy Horinek

Two women still enjoy their pie

By Peggy Horinek

These two women love good pie and it must be good for them. Garnett Miller, who turned 99 on April 25, and her sister Esther Walter, 86, both of St. Francis, drove to the Blue Bird Cafe in Bird City "because we heard you had good pie." They also have sisters, Lydia Webster, 101, of McCook,

Emma Tilton, 94, of California and Pearlene Rath, 88 of St. Francis.

When they lived in Haigler, there was a guest house close to their house and they would get Johnathon apples, peel and make pies. One year they made 73 pies in two days. The next year they slowed down a little and only made 53 pies. The following year it

was 35 and slowly dwindled until they quit altogether. Garnett and Esther would each keep 1/3 of the pies and give 1/3 to Garnett's daughter-in-law. They said it was quite nice when going to a pot luck to just pull a pie out.

It was a joy visiting with these two women and we hope they will visit Bird City again soon.

South of McDonald

By Sandy Binning

Judy Crawford of Indianapolis, Ind., was a Tuesday overnight guest of Joe and Charlene Kramer. Diane Shay and children were brief evening callers at the Kramer home to see Judy. John and Phyllis Scott were Tuesday evening and supper guests of the Kramers. Judy Crawford is a cousin of John and Charlene.

Lynn and Rita Officer attended the wedding of Rita's nephew, Joel Dewey at Ellinwood Saturday. They visited with family and friends at Great Bend Friday until Sunday.



Couple announces November wedding

Mr. and Mrs. David Zumbahlen, Bird City are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Manda Kay to Dustin Michael Thompson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Thompson, Centralia.

Manda is a 1997 graduate of Centralia High School and a 2001 graduate of Washburn University in Topeka. She is currently employed at Community Hospital Onaga and Nemaha Valley Community Hospital as a

registered nurse. Her grandparents are Freda and Art Siems of Beatrice, Neb.

Dustin is a 1998 graduate of Centralia High School and is currently attending Kansas State University majoring in Wildlife Management. His grandparents are Ronald and Mary Meade of Centralia and Elaine Thompson of Frankfort.

A Nov. 30 wedding is planned at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Corning.



Zumbahlen - Thompson

Improvements made at St. Francis theater

By Karen Krien

The Cheyenne Theater is providing better, more recent movies since the committee changed movie brokers about two years ago but people may not realize that there are changes which may not be as apparent.

Bob Bixler and Kelly Frewen, Theater Committee members, reported that in the last year, a new speaker system was installed. Now, the audience will have sub-woofer, center, left and right channel speakers which enhances the old system. Mr. Bixler pointed out that with the new sound system, it is like the person on the screen is speaking directly to the audience.

"In the past, all of the sounds were mixed and came out in just two speakers," Mr. Frewen said.

When the speakers were installed, it was necessary to install a perforated screen which allows the sound to come through. Some new equipment in the project booth was also added.

The cost for these items was around \$8,000 which was an accumulation of income during the last year to year and a half.

Mr. Frewen pointed out that the Theater Committee would not have had this money for improvements had it not been for the city which owns the building, pays the utilities and repairs including installing a new roof.

It should be noted that the Theater Committee donates many hours of work. They put up the screen which,

according to Mr. Frewen, took several tries. And, recently, they painted the lobby and entrance area.

Lastly, the ceiling fans, donated by former St. Francis resident Bill Keller of Stanion Electric, Pratt, were finally hung and are now operating. The fans had been put off because of the cost and local companies were busy. Because of the high location of the fans, local companies were glad when Dennis Shelton, instructor of the electrical department at Northwest Kansas Area Vocational College in Goodland volunteered to put up the fans to give the students hand-on experience and the costs would be only \$1,000 which was for parts not included with the fans.

"You would be surprised how much those fans move the air around," said Mr. Bixler.

Now the fans better cool the main seating area which is okay since the balcony is used only as "overflow."

The popcorn machine is being repaired and within the next few weeks, the aroma of popcorn will be luring people into the theater and, while they are there, look around and appreciate the improvements.

Members of the Theater Committee are: Colleen Shannon, president; Mr. Bixler, Mr. Frewen, Robert Grace, Deb Harper, Naomi Holliman, Tim Burr, Rell Zimbelman, Steve Orth, Natalie Knodel, city council representative; and Mary Lampe, city clerk.

Book Review

Bird City Public Library
A Painted House

John Grisham has rocketed to the top of the bestseller lists with 11 legal thrillers. Now this talented author offers us an evocative coming-of-age novel that will warm your heart.

To the Chandler family in 1950's Black Oak, Ark., the cotton season means hard work, an influx of temporary workers- and a host of complications. Hank Spruill, one of the hired hands, has a violent temper that has gotten him into trouble with the law. Tally, his sister, is smitten with Cowboy, a Mexican laborer Hank despises. And with all the turmoil, seven year-old Luke Chandler has seen a lot more than most kids his age.

In fact, Luke knows many interesting secrets. And although he innocently dreams of playing ball for the Cardinals and visiting the carnival, trouble is brewing...for one of the dark secrets he keeps may jeopardize his life.

Free Tumbleweed Round-up Free

Cowboy - Cowgirl Poets & Musicians
And Just Plain Story Tellers



We here at St.FrancisKs.com

With the help and support of businesses in the community
Are having a Poetry and Music Gathering
Wednesday, July 31, 2002

At 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
& 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

At the Cheyenne Theater
St. Francis, Kansas

No Admission Charge

No Admission Charge

Final program scheduling will depend on the number of participants.
If you would like to participate, or want more info?

Please Contact me at
(785) 332-2367

or by Email plcra@ruraltel.net
Phil Crawford (roundup foreman)
P.O. Box 454, St. Francis, KS 67756

FREE

FREE

Cheyenne Co. Hospital
Farm Bureau Insurance
Owens True Value
Shay Realty
Yost Ford Mercury
Ross Manufacturing
Sunshine Travel
Goff Agency
All Pro Auto Parts
Homesteader Motel
The Artist Corner
Goodell Greenhouse
Marci Rueb

First National Bank
K.M. Clothier
Schultz's
Video Connection
Bankwest
Country Collage Antiques
Dee's Creations & Floral
Dusty Farmer Restaurant
Sainty Super Foods
St. Francis Tire & Service
Tasteful Treasures
The Windmill Restaurant
Town & Country Clothing

Grace Flying Service
Bier's Hometown Store
Pizza Hut
Captain Hook's
Yost Farm Supply
Bandel Home Center
Keller Auto Supply
Frewen Insurance
Stuarts Jewelry
Empire Motel
Park Hill Restaurant
Tri-State Lumber
Van Allen Inc.

District 1 - Commissioner

Richard Bursch for District 1 Commissioner

I would like to ask for your vote on August 6.
Below are some issues I intend to work on if voted into office.

1. Work to help people realize how great Cheyenne County is to live in.
2. Work at county level to encourage our young people to stay in Cheyenne County.
3. Work at a county level to have the best medical care possible.
4. Work to ensure that Cheyenne County provides the best education possible in our schools.
5. Work on a long term plan to improve our roads so that they can properly handle the larger farm equipment that most farmers now own.

Please feel free to call me on these issues or any others that you are concerned with. I would be honored to be given the opportunity to be your commissioner. I would greatly appreciate your vote on August 6. Please, above all, exercise your right to vote.

Pol. adv. pd for by Richard Bursch