



## Drought touches many; prayers are offered

By Karen Krien

Each night this week, different church groups and organizations will be meeting at the band shell in Sawhill Park, St. Francis, to pray for rain. The prayer meetings start at 8 p.m. Everyone is urged to come to each night's meeting. For more information, contact Bethany Bartlett, coordinator, at 785-332-3379.

On Sunday night, the prayer meeting was led by Pastor David Rossbach, Peace Lutheran Church. He talked about Palestine and how drought was not strange to Palestinians and how, when the Old Testament was put together, God called his people together to form a covenant.

Pastor Rossbach read from Deuteronomy 11 which talks about rain.

The pastor asked the audience several questions for each individual to think about.

He asked, "Is there a connection between what we suffer today and our faith in God?"

He referred to the drought in much of the midwest but noted Texas was getting more than enough rain. "Are we greater sinners than the folks in Texas?" he asked. "I don't think so."

He turned to God's promises in Psalms 145 and 147 and then to Zechariah 10.

He told that the Peace Church congregation, along with the other church congregations had been praying for rain for sometime.

"Are we to understand that we are without moisture because we're not walking straight?" he asked.

"There's hope and strength in the scriptures as well as in each other.

"And, we know what it is like to re-



PRAYING FOR RAIN on Sunday evening were a number of residents. Songs were sung, people spoke, and prayers were offered.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

ceive good blessings. We need to gather strength in each other, in our faith and endurance."

Other speakers were Keith Dankenbring, Kim Zwegardt, John Bartlett, Lea Keller, Kathy Rainbolt and Paul Rainbolt. Bethany Bartlett also challenged the audience to share

their blessings with those present.

Mr. Dankenbring reminded individuals that the ultimate goal of each person is heaven and that God has promised to provide for his children's needs. That, maybe today, wealth and other things are really more than people's "needs."

"We should look at the way we are living our lives: to love one another, follow the Ten Commandments and remember that the rain will fall on the just and unjust."

Mrs. Zwegardt had brought her Bible with her and quickly read over See PRAYER on Page 7A

## Sun continues to scorch crops

By Karen Krien

Northwest Kansas like much of the rest of the midwest, is suffering from drought. In Cheyenne County, it is the third year where little moisture has been recorded. Since January, St. Francis weather observer Kathy Woodcox has totaled around 3.5 inches of rain.

Ninety-year-old Gus Zwegardt has been in the farming business since 1929 when he and his father, L.E. Zwegardt bought a threshing machine. However, he started at the age of 10 when his father found him a job with another farmer. He worked from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. with an hour break at noon all for the wage of \$1.

"In 1934, we went through a whole season with no rain but we raised some crops. But I have never seen it as dry as it is right now," said Mr. Zwegardt. "Now, there's no moisture in the ground to even plant a crop."

"There is not the dust like there was in the 30s," he added. "Once it started blowing, there was no stopping it — no equipment, only horse energy."

He credits the fact that there is less dust today to better equipment and farming techniques.

During the Dust Bowl days, Mr.



Gus Zwegardt looks toward the west to see if there are any clouds in sight.

Zwegardt lost his way after farming with six horses. His wife Martha told about her and her brother going after their grandfather who had missed the gate.

Times were so tough that horses and cattle starved to death. Mr. Zwegardt and his brother were given the hides for the skinning and the hides were sold See DROUGHT on Page 7A

I have never seen it as dry as it is right now.

—Gus Zwegardt

## Fair activities begin Monday with style revue

By Karen Krien

The Cheyenne County Fair is just around the corner with the first activities of the fair starting Monday with the 4-H Fashion Revue and the festivities will end with the annual demolition derby and Attendance Award drawing on Saturday evening.

"The fair is shaping up and it looks like we are going to have a real good fair," said Dick Bursch, fair board president. "We are still short a few volunteers here and there but we will still

have an excellent fair — the best in the whole area!"

During the week, there will be a number of 4-H and FFA activities including the horse show, swine show, beef show and Premium Sale, just to name a few. A schedule of events, sponsored by the Cheyenne County Fair Board, can be found on Page 8A in the Herald and Page 4 in the Times. Clip and save it for further reference.

Grandstand shows and the home-owned carnival will open the fair on Wednesday evening.

The carnival will be open each evening of the fair and again on Saturday afternoon.

The grandstand show on Wednesday will be a local team roping and barrel racing contest which will begin at 7 p.m. The barrel racing is a National Barrel Horse Association barrel race.

On Thursday, new this year will be the kid's Ranch Rodeo.

The 4-H/FFA Premium Sale will start at 5:45 p.m. and the rodeo and barrel racing will follow in front of the grandstand at 7 p.m. on Friday.

The rodeo is put on by the Kansas Pro Rodeo Association and Nebraska State Rodeo Association.

Saturday's events include the Fair Parade, a concert, the rocket launch and the mud volleyball contest. The grandstand show will feature the demolition derby which will start at 7 p.m. with the Attendance Awards being drawn following the derby. Check next week's newspaper for more information on Friday and Saturday events.

## Fair roundup

The grandstand shows will entertain many viewers. Shows for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday are found elsewhere in this issue.

- The local team roping and barrel racing contests will be held Wednesday evening. See Page 3A for more details.
- Thursday is the kid's Ranch Rodeo production. See Page 5A.
- The rodeo and barrel racing contest will be held on Friday. See Page 3

## St. Francis woman honored

Barb Ewing has been selected as "Outstanding Older Worker" for the state of Kansas for 2002. The St. Francis City Council has designated "Senior Appreciation Day," and an open house for Mrs. Ewing will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday at the St. Francis Senior Citizen Center. Ice cream and cake will be served.

Mrs. Ewing's son Ron has been going to each of the businesses, asking for donations of items which will be drawn for at 3 p.m. on Sunday. He is eager that everyone know that the money raised, which on Monday was over \$400 in gifts, is not for Mrs. Ewing's trip but for the "Experience Works," the organization, formerly known as "Green Thumb."

People are to look for the big blue cans which designate a place where tickets can be purchased. Winners do not need to be present to win a prize.

Mrs. Ewing has been awarded the Prime Time Award which honors the valuable contributions older Americans make to their communities and places of work. In September, Mrs. Ewing and her son will be traveling to Washington, D.C., to represent Kansas where she will be recognized during a series of high-profile media and Con-



MAYOR SCOTT SCHULTZ, center, recognized Barb Ewing as Kansas' Outstanding Older Worker. Her son, Ron, holds the award.

gressional events capped off by an awards ceremony and banquet.

She has been busy passing out cards to senior citizens to write their input about issues and she will bring those comments with her to Washington.

"I want concerns, compliments, sug-

gestions and solutions to problems seniors have," Mrs. Ewing said.

National Prime Time Awards Program was launched from the Experience Works, Inc., in 1998. The program focuses national attention on the fast-

See HONORED on Page 7A

## Council approves purchase of pickup for city superintendent

By Sandy Barnhart

The St. Francis City Council approved the purchase of a 2003 Ford extended cab four-wheel drive pickup and a used garden tractor when they met on July 16.

The pickup was purchased from Yost Ford-Mercury for \$26,600. Superintendent J.R. Landenberger told the council that he had checked on a similar pickup and, with the government discount, Yost was approximately \$190 below the price. The 1996 Jeep Cherokee now used by the superintendent will be turned over to the city police department.

A two-year-old garden tractor was purchased from Van Allen's. Superintendent Landenberger explained that the deferential on the city's 1988 garden tractor had gone out. In checking on a deferential to repair the tractor, he was informed that a rebuilt deferential would cost \$800 and a new one would

cost \$1,200.

While at Van Allen's, he had found that the city could trade in the 1988 garden tractor on a two-year-old tractor with a payment difference of \$1,200. The council approved the trade.

**Wireless Internet**  
Superintendent Landenberger updated the council on the wireless internet system which he plans to have installed in the near future. He noted that the air conditioning had been ordered for the network room at the new city building plus a dedicated phone line would be needed. A table, chair and file cabinet will need to be purchased for the room. All of the expenses are within the budgeted amount.

Superintendent Landenberger told the council that an individual had talked to him concerning tech support for the system. This would include a 9 a.m.-5 p.m. support on the wireless hardware and software, network equipment, up-

## Council roundup

For more about the city council meeting on July 16:

- The council is still cleaning up property on Page 3A.
- The new city hall continues to be remodeled on Page 3A.

grade and upkeep, user management and administrating the network. The matter was discussed in executive session with no decisions being made.

**Swimming pool report**  
Swimming pool manager Danielle Kriehg said the key for the front door was giving the guards trouble. She also requested that the trash be picked up See PICKUP on Page 7A

## It's almost time for the Fair Parade!

The Cheyenne County Fair Parade is only a little over a week away, set for 10 a.m. on Aug. 3 on St. Francis' Main Street.

"Entries are slow coming in," said Dawn Lucas, coordinator of the parade. "But, it's not too late to put something together!"

This year's parade is one of special meaning since the Sept. 11 attack. The theme is "United We Stand."

"Show your support by participating in the parade. There are several family reunions and we would like to see your family in the parade."

If those planning on having 4-wheelers, vehicles, motorcycles or decorated golf carts want their name mentioned as they go through the parade, they will need to get an entry form. Forms can be picked up at Bankwest, First National

Bank, the extension office or at the St. Francis Herald.

"Please don't wait until Saturday morning to register," Mrs. Lucas said.

The parade will flow the same route as last year and it will begin at the high school on College Street. The parade will leave the school at 9:30 so it can be on Main Street at 10. All entries are expected to be at the high school around 8:30 a.m.

For more questions, contact Mrs. Lucas at Bankwest, 785-332-3333 or at home, 785-332-3212.

**Fair parade marshal**

John Finley has been selected as this year's fair parade marshal. He has been helping with the Cheyenne County Fair for years and seldom missed a parade. Check next week's St. Francis Herald and Bird City Times for more about Mr. Finley.

**Maverick Bank to perform**

For the past two years, the Maverick Bank has provided music for the fair parade and this year, they plan to play again. Van Burrus along with Abby Burr and Hal Sager will be participating with the band. Following the parade, the band will be in concert in the



## Fashion revue features 69 garments

The 2002 Cheyenne County Fashion Revue will be held Monday. Participants in the buymanship, clothing construction and knitting divisions will be judged during the day, starting at 8 a.m. Life Skills Judging will also be held during the day from 9 to 11 a.m.

The theme for this year's Fashion Revue will be "4-H The Power of Youth."

There will be 53 buymanship garments, 13 sewing construction garments, and three knitting garments shown.

Abby Burr and Crystal Murray will be the mistresses of ceremonies, introducing each division and reading the commentaries. The 2003 Cheyenne County Junior Miss Jenny Weems, will be helping hand out the awards.

Superintendents will be busy working on the stage decorations this week.

"We encourage the public to come out and support our 4-H'ers and view their accomplishments in these projects," said Susan Knodel, 4-H assistant.

Admission is free and everyone is welcome to attend this event.

