



JEANNE DUNN presented Casey McCormick a basket of fresh baked bread to kick off Food Check-Out Day.

Herald staff photo by Sandy Barnhart

America's food is most affordable

Food in America is affordable. In fact, in only about 40 days, the average American will have earned enough disposable income to pay for his or her food supply for the entire year, according to the Cheyenne County Farm Bureau.

As a result, the Cheyenne County Farm Bureau is celebrating Feb. 5 as Farm Bureau's Food Check-Out Day. According to the latest statistics provided by the Agriculture Department, the average American devotes just 10 percent of his or her disposable personal income to pay for food.

"Not only is America's food supply the world's safest, but it's also the most affordable," said Jeanne Dunn, Farm Bureau board member. "It speaks well of our nation's increasing standard of living, which would certainly be reduced without the safe, abundant and affordable domestic food supply produced by America's farmers and ranchers. In comparison to Food Check-

Out Day, Tax Freedom Day, the day the average American had earned enough money to pay federal, state and local taxes, was April 19 last year, according to the Tax Foundation.

"I find it amazing that people can pay for their yearly food supply nearly three months earlier than it would take them to satisfy their tax burden," Mrs. Dunn said. "Rather than being an economic burden, food remains quite a bargain for shoppers. That the way it should be."

Mrs. Dunn hopes Americans will come to understand that the high-quality, affordable food they enjoy is "a product of our successful food production and distribution system, as well as America's farmers retaining access to effective and affordable crop protection tools."

"This day should hold meaning for most Americans," she said. "As food producers, we are concerned that some Americans cannot afford to buy the food they need, but we are proud of the role Kansas farmers play in making our food supply ore affordable for all."

The percent of disposable income spent for food has declined over the last 25 years. In 1970, Food Check-Out Day would have been 14 days later, Feb. 21. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, food is more affordable today due to widening gap between growth in per-capital incomes and the amount of money spent for food. This overall decrease is made more notable by the fact that trends indicate Americans are buying more expensive convenience food items for preparation at home, as well as more food away from home.

"Producing safe, quality food is our job, and we hope that consumers take note of Food Check-Out Day and join us in this celebration of American agriculture's success," she said.

Farm Bureau will be celebrating Food Check-Out Day by having a drawing for a \$50 food certificate. Sign up will be available on Feb. 5 at the grocery stores in St. Francis and Bird City.

Card shower

Join in a card shower for Lester Confer's 95th birthday on Feb. 13. Address greetings to him at HC 1, Box 81, St. Francis, KS 67756.

Changes in sporting schedule

The junior high wrestling competition today (Thursday) will be St. Francis, Wray and Quinter in St. Francis beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The Indian high school varsity wrestlers will be competing in a 12-team tournament at Republican Valley High School, near Indianola, Neb., on Saturday rather than traveling to Cheyenne Wells.

City Council
The St. Francis City Council meeting, originally scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 3, has been changed to 7:30 on Tuesday, Feb. 10.

Lifeline
Lifeline - Help is just a push of the button away. Contact Glenn Glasco in Bird City at 734-2643 or Jessie Schield in St. Francis at 332-2294

Kansas Senior Day
AARP is having a Kansas Senior Day at the State House in Topeka on Feb. 18. If you care to go contact Barb Finley, Erva Gene De' Aragon, Wilma Lampe or Annette Erskin. Let them know by Feb. 6. AARP is making a bus available at no charge. The bus will leave from Hays at 6:30 a.m. on the 18th. AARP will pay expenses and a nights lodging. For more information contact Barb at 332-8991 or at the Village 332-2531 or one of the other women named above.

Older Kansans Day
Older Kansans' Day sponsored by the Kansas Area Agencies on Aging Association will be Friday, Feb. 13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Topeka at the Capitol with lunch at the Assumption Catholic Church.

Older Kansans' Day gives senior advocates an opportunity to visit with their legislators. Advocates wishing to schedule a visit with legislators should contact the Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging in Hays at (785) 628-8205 or 1-800-432-7422.

Alzheimer's Support Group
The Alzheimers Support Group

will hold their February meeting on Monday, Feb. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the St. Francis Public Library.

Third anniversary celebration

KM Clothier is holding a third anniversary celebration on Thursday, Friday and Saturday with not only discounts but also if a woman wears red into the store on Friday, KM Clothier will make a donation to the American Heart Association.

Library display
On display at the St. Francis Public Library Gallery during February is a display of aerial photos of farms and vintage clothing by Donna Northrup.

Girl Scout cookies
Residents only have a few days to purchase their Girl Scout cookies as scouts will be selling cookies through Friday. Cookies will be delivered between Feb. 24 and March 12. If a Girl Scout has missed selling you a box of cookies, call a scout or leaders Dee Wilson, 785-332-2258 or Lisa Schlepp, 785-332-2383.

Alumni meeting set
A St. Francis Community High School alumni reunion organizational meeting has been planned for 7 p.m. on Wednesday at the Equity meeting room, 123 N. River Street, St. Francis. Alumni are encouraged to attend and help with the plans.

Board of Education
The St. Francis Board of Education will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12.

AARP
AARP will have their Feb. 12 meeting at 2 p.m. at the senior citizen center in St. Francis. Roll call will be "Presidential Homes or Summer Homes."

Annette Erskin will be the hostess.

Cheyenne County Historical Society
The Cheyenne County Historical Society will meet at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10 at the Cheyenne County Museum.

Spring Crop meeting
Neitzel Insurance Service is sponsoring a Spring Crop meeting begin-

ning at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 19 at the Equity meeting room.

Estate Planning Seminar

The Cheyenne County Farm Bureau is hosting an Estate Planning Seminar, given by Larry Schlapp, estate planning specialist. He will present educational seminars on estate planning, retirement planning, annuities and long-term care issued.

The seminar will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 16, at Koinonia Coffee House at 216 W. Washington Street, St. Francis. It is free to all Farm Bureau members. RSVP by Feb. 13 by calling (785) 332-3312 or e-mailing holzwarth@kfbs.com

Cheyenne County Fair Board

The Cheyenne County Fair Board will meet (tonight) Thursday.

Area Chamber of Commerce

The St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce will meet at noon Friday, Feb. 6 at Parkhill Restaurant.

Check the name label

Have you checked the name label on your paper? This label also shows the expiration date of your subscription. Note that if your subscription runs out completely it will take two weeks after you resubscribe before it will once again be delivered to your mail box. In order to not have a break in your service, re-new by the expiration date.

Alcoholic Anonymous/Al-Anon

Alcoholic Anonymous and Al-Anon open meeting, held at 8:30 p.m. Thursday at the Methodist Educational Building, upstairs. Contact 332-2078.

For the Record

St. Francis Police

Jan. 9: At approximately 11 p.m., a St. Francis police officer was called to the Pizza Hut to assist the Cheyenne County Sheriff's Department in a traffic case.

Jan. 19: At approximately 8:30 a.m., a police officer took a report of a lost wallet.

Jan. 21: At approximately 9:30 p.m., an officer was called to assist in an accident in the county.

Jan. 22: At approximately 1:05 p.m., an officer took a report from a St. Francis resident involving a defamatory letter.

Jan. 23: An officer responded to a dispute in the 300 block of West Webster.

Jan. 13: A silver Buick driven by Barbara Van Allen, Wheeler, was backing from a parking space on W. Washington when a silver 1996 Lincoln Continental, driven by Mardell DeGood, St. Francis, was struck as she was traveling west on Washington Street. Damage was estimated to be in excess of \$500.

Jan. 27: At approximately 7:30 p.m., St. Francis police officers responded to a domestic battery in process at a West Webster address. A juvenile was transported to the detention facility at WaKeeney.

Jan. 16: An officer was contacted regarding vandalism that occurred between Jan. 15 at approximately 7 p.m. and Jan. 16 at approximately

7 a.m. The brake appeared to be released on a grain car causing the line of 18 train cars to roll into the engine located at Bartlett Grain. Damage was estimated to be in excess of \$3,000.

Jan. 29: At 6:05 a.m., an officer was called to a N. Quincy address on a report of an attempted burglary. The attempt occurred sometime between the hours of 3:30 a.m. and 6 a.m.

Feb. 2: At approximately 10:30 p.m., Chelsey Cranson, Colby, was arrested for driving under the influence and transportation of an open container. A bond was posted and she was released from custody.

Feb. 2: At approximately 8 a.m., a 1989 Chevrolet Blazer, driven by Donna Carmen, St. Francis, was traveling south on Francis Street when the vehicle slid into a 1990 Dodge Daytona driven by Mario Tafoya, St. Francis. The Tafoya vehicle was traveling east on Sepncer Street. Damage was estimated to be in excess of \$500.

Correction

The St. Francis Community High School has corrected the list of students receiving Northwest Kansas League academic honors for volleyball. The name of Amy Grace has been added and the corrected list now reads Toni Rice, Amy Grace, Janis Dodd, Lori Faulkender and Allyse Lampe.

Pre-payment on vet book will help cost

The Cheyenne County Veterans Book, which will be available May 1, is being put together and it's going to cost a lot to have it printed and bound!

Milton Lampe, who, with his wife Betty and others in the county, are compiling the 600-page book full of veteran stories, all bound in a hard cover. The labor to put the book together is volunteer however, Mr. Lampe reports that it is going to cost to have it printed and bound.

"We would appreciate if people who are planning to get the book would order it with a check by April 15," Mr. Lampe said. "Paying in advance will help with the costs."

The book will cost \$60 with tax, handling and postage charges. Checks can be made to the Cheyenne County Historical Society, 250 Birch Street, St. Francis, 67756. Or call Mr. Lampe at 785-332-3119.

Wear red on Friday

Make it red! Not because it's sexy or Valentineish or powerful — though it is, in spades.

Wear red because it's National Wear Red Day.

National Wear Red Day, spear-headed by *Glamour* magazine and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute to call attention to the health hazard most likely to kill women: heart disease. More women, young ones included, die each day of cardiovascular conditions than of any other disease

and yet, many women breeze through life clueless about their own risk.

So, get out the red! Every time you get a compliment — and there are sure to be many — tell people why you are decked out. Be one of thousands of women around the country sending this powerful message: We know, we care and we're spreading the word!

KM Clothier, St. Francis, is offering to give a donation to the Red Cross when a woman wearing red comes into her shop.

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m. 3 hours 30 min.

Feb 6, 7 & 8 **The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King**

Action/Adventure, Science Fiction/Fantasy and Drama

Rated: PG-13 for intense epic battle sequences and frightening images.

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Children 11 & under: \$2 12-18 yr.: \$3 Senior Citizens: \$3 Adults: \$4

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The Cheyenne County Hospital is accepting

BIDS for the SIDEWALKS and PARKING AREA on the west side of the new addition.

Bids must be submitted by Fri., Feb. 13, 2004. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Bill Wilger at 785-332-2104.

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