



Director supports medical techs

By Karen Krien

The Cheyenne County Commissioners met on Tuesday, Aug. 31, where they talked with Larry Gabel, emergency medical service director, Janelle Bowers, ambulance bookkeeper, and Beth Gabel, emergency medical technician. Director Gabel had several

matters to clear up with the commissioners including the fact that he felt his department was being "micro-managed." When the meeting ended, the commissioners thanked the director for coming to them with his concerns but also asked that next time he has concerns to come in earlier.

Items of concern included: emergency medical technicians' meals when on a run, mileage, technicians' run sheets, the bookkeeper's hours, ambulance budget and the director's salary.

The commissioners had earlier set a meal limit of \$10 per meal when all employees

were on county business. Last year, Director Gabel had said that he would pay for the technician's meals that went over the limit — it had amounted to a little over \$19 and he felt that this small amount could have been picked up by the county. He said he had told the commissioners to take it out of his

salary just to show how little over the \$10 they spent. He said that other counties did not require technicians to turn in an itemized receipt.

The commissioners said they were elected to watch over departments — it was
See TECHS on Page 11.



WIND FUELED THE FIRE that burned the home of Frank Sowers, north of Bird City, on Tuesday. Below, Wade Carmichael was helping fight the fire.
Herald staff photos by Casey McCormick

Fire burns rural home

By Casey McCormick

Tragedy came in the form of a fire to Frank Sowers home and property north of Bird City on Tuesday.

Strong winds blowing from the south fueled the fast moving fire that is believed to have started in the old farm house. When the Bird City Fire Department arrived flames had spread to several vehicles and other property outside of the structure.

"Frank said he thought it was electrical," said Fire Chief David Hickert, "He had a switch in the house that hadn't been working right."

When the fire fighters arrived they were able to move one vehicle out of harms way. However, the house was a total loss and property damage was extensive.



Fair board makes plans for next year

The Cheyenne County Fair Board met on Thursday to discuss the 2004 fair and start making plans for the 2005 fair. They also set a Clean-up Demolition Derby to be held at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 18, at the Cheyenne County Fairgrounds.

There were several people attending the fair board meeting concerning the horticulture exhibits. Cindy Henderson, St. Francis, was present representing the 4-H horticulture exhibits and she asked the board if they would allow the 4-H horticulture exhibits to move from Jenkins Hall to the fair building with the other 4-H exhibits. The board did not have a problem with moving the exhibits as there was plenty of room

available. Mrs. Henderson also asked that the 4-H'ers be allowed to check in their exhibits on Wednesdays with the other 4-H exhibits.

Linfred Oster and Elmer Kellner, both St. Francis, were present to discuss keeping the 4-H and open class exhibits together. The board agreed that both divisions could be put in the fair building with check in and the judging to be held on Wednesday instead of Thursday.

There was some discussion about moving the chicken and rabbit exhibits back into Jenkins Hall depending on how many livestock will be entered. If the goat project grows as they expect, there may need to be

See PLANS on Page 11.

Vehicle stolen from parking lot

A 1993 Ford Escort wagon was stolen from the Good Samaritan Village early Sunday morning. The owners, Chris and Deb Cisneros reported that the vehicle had only a little gas and didn't think the thief would get very far.

In the vehicle, there were two weapons, a 22 caliber rifle and a hand gun along with some ammunition.

"My sons and I had been doing some target shooting, and, when the guns were left in the car, we didn't even think about Deb taking the car to work early the next morning," Mr. Cisneros said. "We feel bad that we had set the guy (person) up (with firearms)."

The St. Francis Police officer Mark Davidson worked the case and
See STOLEN on Page 11.

Hospital hosts golf tournament

By Karen Krien

The Cheyenne County Hospital's annual Swing Fore Your Heart golf tournament has been set for Sunday at Riverside Recreation. Registration will begin at 11 a.m. and tee-off is at noon.

The tournament is a three-person scramble. There will be team prizes as well as special event prizes such as:

- Hole one - shortest drive.
- Hole two - shortest iron.
- Hole three - closest to pin on second shot.
- Hole four - hole-in-one.

- Hole 5 - longest putt.
- Hole 6 - closest to the outhouse hole.

- Hole seven - closest to pin.
- Hole 8 - longest putt.
- Hole 9 - longest drive.

There will be a variety of door prizes given out following the tournament at the dinner banquet.

The banquet will start at 6 p.m. and tickets will be available at the door for those who have not participated in the golf tournament. The tournament fee includes the dinner ticket.
See GOLF on Page 11.

Fun, games are part of Fall Festival

By Karen Krien

The St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Fall Festival promises to be lots of fun with games, activities and food on Sept. 18. To add to the festivities will be the auction of the Homecoming candidates and signed football and volleyball along

with the drawing for a \$1,000 Shopping Spree which will be held at 10:10 a.m. in front of Milliken Law Office.

The day will start at 7 a.m. with the pancake feed provided by the senior citizens at the center on Main Street.

Stores will open their doors at 9 a.m. to start selling sale items and there will also be sidewalk sale items. The Plinko, Sponge Toss and Duck Pond games will begin at 9 a.m.

At 9:15, registration for the Turtle races will be held with the race to

See FESTIVAL on Page 11.

Turtle races set

Kids! Find your turtles and start training them for the turtle races at Fall Festival.

Beecher Island Days held Sept. 17 and 18 at the grounds

By Karen Krien

For 105 years, people have been coming to Beecher Island for the annual celebration of the Sept. 17-18, 1868, Battle of Beecher Island. This year is no exception.

The Beecher Island Reunion will be held Sept. 18 and 19 at Beecher Island located 18 miles west of St. Francis on U.S. 36 and then turn north. (Watch for the directions.)

"There will be fun and entertainment for people of all ages starting with a hearty breakfast," said Mark Mahlberg, one of the coordinators of the event.

Breakfast will be served by the Idalia Family Community Education Bicentennial Club starting at 7 a.m. on Saturday. The Idalia Lions Club members will serve breakfast on Sunday, again starting at 7 a.m.

The Black Powder Shoot, sponsored by the Idalia Gun Club will start at 9 a.m. on Saturday. It will last throughout the morning and people are urged to come watch the fine

shooting and enjoy the costumes. Other Saturday activities include the Kid's Peddle Tractor Pull which will start at 10 a.m. and kids of all ages are welcome.

At 1 p.m., the games and races begin.

"There will be categories for those under 5 years of age to where it's not nice to ask!" Mr. Mahlberg said.

Some of the favorite games and races are the three-legged race, sack races, egg toss and the historically accurate cow-chip throwing contest.

Cash prizes are awarded in all events and every child under the age of 5 who participates will leave with a prize.

The crown jewel event is the world famous Grand Champion Dryland Turtle Race. Kids need to bring their turtles early to get them registered.

During the afternoon, the Swingin' Seniors will be performing.

At 7 p.m., a live music show featuring Hal Wofford and The Hibeams will take place inside the Beecher Island Auditorium.

"This will be a 'Grade A Country Music Show' in the tradition of Hank Williams and the other old-time favorites," Mr. Mahlberg said.

The Wray Lions Club will be serving food and refreshments throughout the day on Saturday.

Sunday

Following a pancake breakfast, there will be a flag raising by the Wray Boy Scouts at 9:45 a.m. The national anthem will be sung by Bill and Peggy Carpenter. The Sunday worship service will begin at 10 a.m. Terry Coverts will present the message and Mel Berg will provide music.

Lunch will be served by the Wray Lions Club members.

The afternoon program starts at 1 p.m. with a music performance by the band, "Joyful Sound," followed
See BEECHER on Page 11.



SAINTY FANS CHEERED the Indians on to their first victory at the football game in Oberlin on Friday evening. Pictured are (l to r) Maddie Knodel, Sam Marin and Sawyer White.
Herald staff photo by Cynthia Haynes

