

SIRENS

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p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Mr. Rogers said that, with the drought and dry conditions, one of the important lessons people will learn is what clouds to look for that might produce lightning.

Severe weather spotters are always needed but those living out in the country might find the information useful when storm clouds start rolling in.

In 2005, Kansas was hit by 135 tornadoes, 81 above normal, with 16 touching down in Trego County, the most tornadoes in any one county last year. The month of November saw 19 tornadoes and that was the highest total in November since 1950. The total number of tornadoes in 2005 was the highest in recorded history.



SPRING WAS IN THE AIR on Tuesday when the daffodils were delivered. Deb Lindsten and Ericka Wieck, left, Cheyenne County American Cancer Society representatives, delivered a bunch to Vickie Cress. *Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*

Benefits are told on breastfeeding

Today's trends in newborn nutrition emphasize the important benefits of breastfeeding. This trend is supported by the majority of medical providers involved in newborn care.

Benefits exist for both the newborn child and the parents. Those benefits include improved immune system (needed for protection against infections and diseases) for the baby, a nutritionally balanced diet for the baby, as well as a significantly improved bonding between the parents and the baby, especially between the mother and the baby.

The southwestern Nebraska area is fortunate to have a newly certified lactation consultant, Carla Bundy. Ms. Bundy is the obstetrical nursing supervisor at Dundy County Hospital. Under a grant from Southwest Public Health Department, she recently completed a week-long train-

ing program and completed the certification examination to become an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant.

The lactation consultant is a health care professional who possesses the necessary skills, knowledge and attitudes to provide quality breastfeeding assistance to mothers and babies. They encourage self-care and parental decision-making, before and after birth, with a focus on preventive health care.

Ms. Bundy will be sharing the knowledge and skills she has learned with those who enroll in childbirth education classes at Dundy County Hospital as well as with all obstetrical patients with the hospital.

Any person interested or in need of Ms. Bundy's knowledge and skills may contact her through Dundy County Hospital.

FAIR

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Serving as a fair board member is a good way to be involved with the fair. Call any one of the board members or one of the commissioners for more information.

Amusement Authority

Building additional rest rooms at the fairgrounds has been discussed for several months. In September, Bill Erhman, representing the Amusement Authority, had asked the fair board if they would be interested in building more rest rooms as there are long lines of people waiting to use the facility on Friday and Saturday nights during the fair.

At the November meeting, President Bursch said if the Amusement Authority could come up with the money for the materials, the fair board would help put them up.

Mr. Erhman, at the Thursday meeting, said Amusement Authority members were not interested in helping build extra bathrooms at the fairgrounds. He said that the members did not want to tie up their money in bathrooms.

However, Mr. Erhman said they did want a key to the fair building or Jenkins Hall so the ladies on the board could use a bathroom when they were working at the fairgrounds.

Mr. Zimbelman brought up the matter that the Amusement Authority does not pay for any electricity? When the St. Francis city superintendent was asked why, he said that the Amusement Author-

ity had asked that they not be charged. The matter was tabled until more information was available.

Ms. Douthit asked if fair board members went to amusement meetings? Mr. Erhman said she was welcome to come. He will let her know when and where they would meet.

Derby

Mr. Zimbelman, who was appointed as the demolition derby chairman at the February meeting, had a proposal on the Cheyenne County Fair demolition derby.

He had put together general derby rules along with rules for a welded derby that followed the Thomas County demolition derby regulations. He also had another proposal which were the rules used for a hobo derby used by Dundy County and Sherman County.

After some discussion, the members voted for either a welded derby or a hobo derby but the vote ended in a tie. President Bursch broke the tie with his vote going with a hobo derby, using the same rules as Sherman and Dundy counties.

Wade Krien, board member, made a motion to have himself as co-chairman and to add Jared Douthit to the Derby Committee. Neither men had been present at the February meeting to sign up.

President Bursch ask for a second to the motion but no one spoke up, so the motion died on the floor. Mr. Krien then resigned

from the board and left the meeting.

The board voted to have some specific adjustments made to the rules, so that Mr. Zimbelman could get them sent out as soon as possible.

4-wheeler mud bog

Roger Zwegygart, coordinator of the event, discuss the 4-wheeler mud bog held during the demolition derby.

The mud pits will be in front of the grandstands again this year. The 4 wheelers will run the opposite way, which will keep them at the north side of the grandstands out of the way of the ambulance.

The 4 wheelers will also be roped off from going through the derby pit area.

Mr. Zwegygart asked if the announcers stand could be moved to the grandstand. He said that it was difficult to hear when they are right over all the cars.

The board felt that this could be done.

Goats

Director Faulkender had some complaints about the wood chips in the sand in the goat pens. The board decided to remove the sand from that area and build the goat pens similar to the sheep pens. That way the wood chips would not be a problem.

The board also asked how many kids there were in the goat project so they had an idea of how many pens they would need. The director said there were eight enrolled and there could be a few more sign

up before the April deadline.

Mr. Zimbelman has applied for a grant which could help with the cost of the goat panels. However, at the meeting, he did not know if the county would get any grant money.

Mr. Finley, board member, will check on the prices for panels to make goat pens.

Business sign rent due

The board had discussed the signs on the fence around the arena. Those business people still wanting to advertise will need to pay their dues and have their sign painted at their expense.

The contracts run for three years and are \$100 to renew. New advertiser fees are \$300. Ms. Douthit will get a notice sent to present advertisers.

In other business

In other business: The matter of the policy which states that there will be no alcoholic beverages at the fairgrounds was once again discussed. The board talked about having some law officers on the grounds to enforce the policy but no decisions were made.

Director Faulkender asked about using the fair building for March 6, March 23 and April 2. Approval was given.

The board will get prices on both beef and pork then decide which they will use for the barbecue held Saturday of the fair.

FIREMEN

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The firemen presently have the equipment installed in a suburban and the chief felt there was a safety issue because of the weight of the equipment. He said the cost would be around \$5,000.

Commissioner Brubaker said that the conversion needs to be done if there is a matter of safety involved. The commissioners approved of the amount to convert the truck.

Chief Harper said he had applied for a K-State Forestry grant which is a 50/50 matching grant. Among the items he is applying for are hoses. He figures the county's share will be \$1,000. The commissioners said they would go along with the expense.

On April 2, the firemen plan to host an open house to show off the new fire trucks as well as the equipment. People will have "hands-on" demonstrations and everyone should have fun as well as learning what equipment the department has as well as how the equipment works.

Sheriff's report

Sheriff Gardner said the Federal Emergency Management officials had agreed to pay Cheyenne County \$2,200 with \$1,500 going to the county and \$700 to the cities. The department which had been reimbursed were: law \$900; fire department (not firemen), \$200; and emergency management - \$400.

The sheriff reported he had hired Tom Raile as the undersheriff who will live in Bird City. He

takes the place of Mark Davidson who recently retired.

The commissioners agreed that Officer Raile should attend methamphetamine prevention training. Since he was an officer with the city police, he will start at a Level II pay rate.

In other business

In other business: The ambulance write-offs were \$2,994. The amount received in February was \$12,416. The amount billed was \$11,248.

Roxie Neitzel, Neitzel Insurance, had called Terry Miller, clerk, and informed him that she had talked to the insurance adjusters about the high values on two of the buildings on the county's insurance. She suggested that the commissioners have a local building contractor estimate what it would cost to replace Jenkins Hall, the block building at the fairgrounds. If the estimate is lower than the figure the adjusters had given, then the county's insurance could be lowered. The commissioners agreed that, if something were to happen to the building, they would not replace it with blocks but probably a pole building. No decision was made.

Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, said he had bought two Ranco trailers for \$42,000. The final cost was less than he had originally thought.

Wage agreements for road and bridge employees Fred Magley and Kevin Ritchey were signed by the commissioners.

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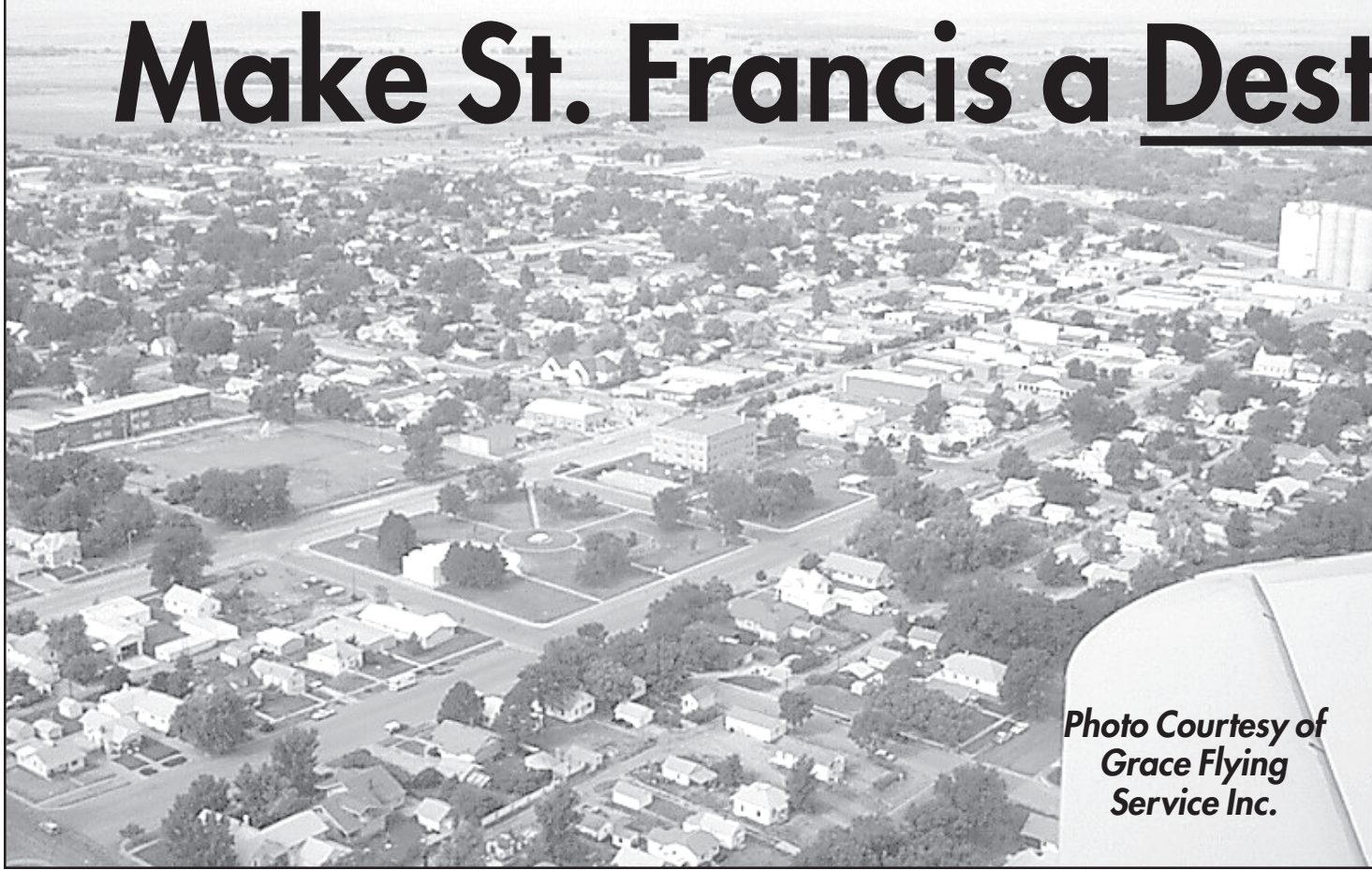


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