

Commissioners to appoint member

By Karen Krien

The county's emergency manager told the Cheyenne County Commissioners on Friday that they could still appoint someone to serve on the Homeland Security Council. Gary Rogers, emergency manager for Cheyenne County, presented a rough draft of the by-laws for the Northwest Kansas Regional Homeland Security Council. He said that commissioners still had an opportunity to appoint someone to set on the Council. Mr. Rogers represents the Northwest Kansas Emergency Management and does not represent the county. Several people were suggested to serve on the Council which starts meeting once a month and these people will be contacted. Mr. Rogers talked about the Homeland Security Grant money. He said that next year, the state will get 20 percent of the money; 40 percent will go to the Council and the counties will get the last 40 percent. He said he thought that it was critical that Cheyenne County have representatives sitting on the Coun-

cil. He said there will be some big issues statewide including better communications. While it will be costly, some radios have been ordered and, in time, there will be good communication. The regional money will be used along with some 911 money. He said that he and the sheriff will be developing their own mutual aid frequency and will be able to communicate with Nebraska and Colorado. The next meeting will be held May 16. The meetings are now being held in Hoxie. Mr. Rogers is a shared emergency manager, working with Sherman and Rawlins counties as well as Cheyenne County. He told the commissioners that the work within the three counties was busy but going well. He said that the counties have until April 29 to spend the 2005 grant money. The money has to be spent only on certain things. If it is not spent, then it is lost. He will be going to a Federal Emergency Management Agency board meeting at the end of May.

What a ride!



MARGE PETER couldn't have celebrated her birthday any more spectacular than having her co-workers arrange for a ride down Main Street on the fire truck, escorted by the police. Happy Birthday Marge! Herald staff photo by Karen Krien



St. Francis News

Coy and Neva DeGood returned Sunday, April 16 from Fresno, Calif., where they visited their daughter and husband, Dick and Tammy Larson. They were gone nine days and saw the harvesting of Oranges, grapefruit and lemons. They visited many area tourist sights including Sierra Nevada Mountains, Gresno Zoo (Chaffee Zoo), King River, Kelly's Beach, Vineyards, Pluett Trees (plum-apricot cross), Walnut, Pistashios, avocado and almonds trees in Larson's orchard which is on the Blossom

Trail in Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Norvin Northrup were weekend visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Steven Northrup, Cody and Holy in Roswell, New Mexico. Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Bucholtz were Easter dinner guests of the Mr. and Mrs. Casey McCormick and family. In the afternoon they visited Mr. and Mrs. Doug Ross and family. Trey and Lexi hilt were Saturday afternoon guest of the Kurt Bucholtz family. Doug, Marla and Lauren Ross were Sunday evening guests of the Bucholtz's.

Quotes

• A little five-year-old boy was looking at his parent's wedding album with his dad who tried to explain the ceremony and its meaning. Finally, the little boy understood, or thought he did, and exclaimed, "I think I get it now! That's when Mom came to work for us, right?"

• Bulletin Bloopers: Please bring your baked goofs for the Fall Sale. Thursday night - Potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow. There is joy in heaven over one singer who repents. The choir will meet at the Jones home for fun and sinning.

Conservation announce program ranked high

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service Chief Bruce Knight recently announced that producers in several Conservation Security Program (CSP) pilot watersheds ranked Natural Resources Conservation Service employees very high for professionalism and courteous service in carrying out that program. Many respondents said they were satisfied with the services they received after enrollment in the program. "Natural Resources Conservation Service employees are the agency's greatest strength and this national customer satisfaction survey affirms our confidence in their service," Mr. Knight said. "We are proud of the score achieved during the Conservation Security Program's first year. I commend all our employees for their excellent service to our farmers and ranchers."

Service is in the midst of its third Conservation Security Program sign-up, which ended March 31 in 60 watersheds nationwide. According to the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI), Natural Resources Conservation Service received an overall score of 76 out of 100 for administering Conservation Security Program, first established in 2004 in 18 pioneer watersheds in 22 states. Natural Resources Conservation Service Environmental Quality Incentives Program (75) and Natural Resources Conservation Service Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (77). The Environmental Quality Incentives Program and Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program customer satisfaction surveys were conducted in 2004. The Index identified four "drivers of satisfaction"—the Conservation Security Program Self-Assessment Workbook, the Interview with Natural Resources Conservation Service, Contract Review and Award Pro-

cess and Natural Resources Conservation Service Staff. Responses to questions regarding Natural Resources Conservation Service staff rated highest at 87, with courteousness, professionalism, helpfulness and availability ranking in the high 80s and low 90s. Survey respondents relied heavily on Natural Resources Conservation Service employees to clarify the program, including the application process, through interviews and workshops. The Index arrived at its overall customer satisfaction score by conducting telephone interviews—from Sept. 12-16, 2005—with 250 producers from 13 of the 18 watersheds nationwide who were awarded Conservation Security Program funding in 2004. Respondents were asked how satisfied they were with the services provided by Natural Resources Conservation Service in Conservation Security Program; to what extent have the services provided by Natural Resources Conservation Service in Conservation Security Program fallen short or exceeded their expectations; and how well do they think Conservation Security Program compares to the ideal way of allocating funds. This is the first customer satisfac-

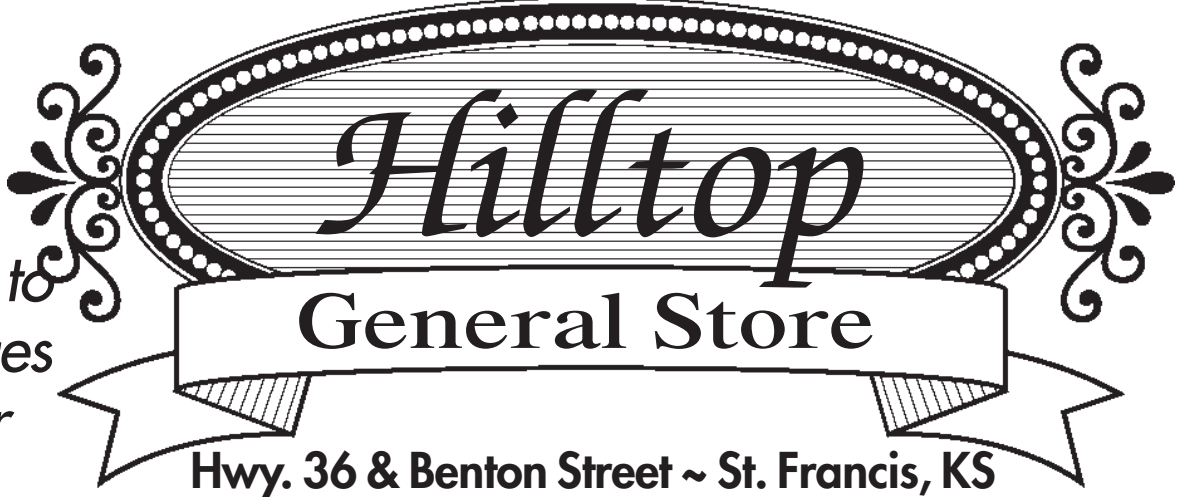
tion survey for this new program. The Index is the only uniform, national cross-industry measure of satisfaction with the quality of goods and services available in the United States in the federal government and the private sector. In 1999, the federal government began to use the Index to measure citizen satisfaction. More than 55 federal government agencies have used the Index to measure citizen satisfaction of more than 110 services and programs. The index is produced by the University of Michigan in partnership with the American Society for Quality and the CFI Group, an international consulting firm. Many federal agencies are using the Index methodology to determine priorities for improvement from the citizens' perspective and to benchmark performance against other government agencies and the private sector. For more information about the American Customer Satisfaction Index results, please visit "http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/about/spa/documents/CSP_ACSI_2005_Report.pdf" and scroll down to "Customer Satisfaction." For more information about Conservation Security Program, please visit "http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp"



OPENING 8:00 a.m. Friday, April 21st

In advance of our opening, we want to show you some of our everyday prices and how we compare to our larger competitor, St. Francis Super's.

So, on April 14th and 15th we directly compared some of St. Francis Super's everyday prices to the Hilltop everyday prices. We believe the numbers speak for themselves!



	Hilltop	Super's	Difference
Bananas	52¢/lb.	67¢/lb.	15¢/lb.
Betty Crocker Hamburger or Tuna Helper	\$1.98	\$2.39	41¢/box
Kraft Macaroni & Cheese Dinner original flavor (7.25 oz. box)	79¢	99¢	20¢/box
Progresso Soups Variety of Flavors (approx. 18.5 oz. can)	\$2.09	\$2.77	68¢/can
Stokes Green Chile Sauce w/Pork (15 oz. can)	\$2.09	\$2.99	90¢/can
Pam Original Cooking Spray (6 oz. can)	\$2.98	\$3.49	51¢/can
DelMonte Whole Kernal Corn or Cut Green Bean (14.5-15.25 oz. can)	89¢	\$1.19	30¢/can
Green Giant Whole Kernal or Cut Green Beans (14.5 oz.-15.25 oz. can)	85¢	\$1.23	38¢/can
Campbells Cream of Mushroom Soup (10.75 oz. can)	97¢	\$1.15	18¢/can
Chicken of the Sea Chunk Light Tuna (In Water, 6oz. can)	79¢	85¢	6¢/can
Bush's Baked Beans (Original, 28 oz. can)	\$1.69	\$1.95	25¢/can
Nabisco Chips Ahoy Cookies (12 oz. bag)	\$2.78	\$3.93	\$1.15

	Hilltop	Super's	Difference
Nabisco Nilla Wafers (12 oz. box)	\$2.98	\$4.05	\$1.52
Keebler Club Crackers (Original, 16 oz. box)	\$2.94	\$3.85	91¢
Dawn Dish Soap (25 oz. bottle)	\$2.79	\$3.29	50¢
Bounty Paper Towels (single mega roll)	\$1.96	\$2.47	51¢
Kleenex Tissue (100 CT sq. box)	\$1.89	\$2.19	30¢/box

Hilltop General Store

- REASONABLE PRICES
- HIGH QUALITY PRODUCTS
- SPARKLING CLEAN
- 100% HOME OWNED

