



BUSY FIRST GRADERS — Jude Faulkender and Hannah Bracelin were hard at work in Joyce Faulkender's first grade class. *Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*

MONEY

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 \$25,000. There was then \$386 extra. Suppliers include:
 • St. Francis Sand and Redi Mix, St. Francis, for concrete, sand and gravel, \$46,962. There were no other bids.
 • Rasure Lumber, Goodland, for reinforced steel, bolts, masonry

mix, lumber, plywood, thermal and moisture protection, doors, windows and gypsum board, \$99,368. These items were lumped together but other bidders were Owens True Value, Krien Steel Buildings, and Cheyenne Lumber, St. Francis.
 • Krien Steel Buildings, St.

Francis, pre-engineered metal building, \$99,836. Woofter Construction, Colby bid \$130,620 and QMC, Inc., Quinter, had an unacceptable bid.
 • Owens True Value, St. Francis, finishes - paint, \$1,397. Others bidding on that item were Rasure Lumber, \$2,100 and Cheyenne Lumber, \$2,271.
 • Claco Supply, Wichita, specialty equipment, \$550. Rasure Lumber bid \$704.
 • Lampe Hardware, St. Francis, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, \$43,040. CB Heating, Colby, had a bid of \$74,467.
 • Sam's Electrical Service, St. Francis, electrical, \$28,019. Other bids were Rasure Lumber, \$28,021 and an unacceptable bid from Wolters Electrical Construction, Ludell.

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 sonnel and no decision was made.
New addresses assigned
 The staff at the appraiser's office and the Cheyenne County Sheriff, Troy Gardner, have been working on assigning 911 addresses to the county residences. Bonnie Zwegardt and Deb Smith said all numbers have been assigned and they are now at the post office where they will be checked and approved.
 They were concerned about funding. The 911 Funds can be used for much of the project and it was noted that Sheriff Gardner was working on a grant for additional money to help with the project.

The appraiser staff said that it would only be a short time before many of the people in the county will have new addresses. By having these precise addresses, it could possibly save a life when the ambulance is called. People will need to notify businesses and others who send them mail of their new address. There will be no address change cards which are used when people move.
 There will be additional information when the system is ready to be implemented.

New programs, computer
 Treasurer Dolores Jenik asked that the commissioners consider several different computer softwares which are now available. The programs are for the Homestead filing, antique taxes, escrow programs and the new Government Solutions Enhanced Software. She also said that she needs a new computer. The commissioners asked her

to get bids and bring them back at a future meeting.
 She said that the county will have the opportunity to be a beta testing site for the new check approval system. She was given approval to proceed with the project. She also asked about implementing a new credit card system that would allow the county department to accept credit card payments. She will continue to looking to this project.
In other business
 In other business:
 • Chimney bid from Mid-Continent Restoration had been sent to Historical Society and it was ap-

proved. The bid was \$4,500 and the work crew will start immediately.
 • Schooling for Karen Flemming and Mary Morrow was approved.
 • The Sherman County Commissioners had contacted the commissioners about the county's policy on prairie dog control. They were concerned about a Cheyenne County landowner's prairie dogs coming over the county line.
Next meeting
 The budget hearing will be held at 9 a.m. at the next commissioners' meeting on Friday, Sept. 15. The public hearing for the Bird City dairy will be held at 10 a.m.

CLOSING

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 done an exceptional job of getting conservation on the land and this was the reason the funding for the state was being cut back.

The federal money is being given to other states that did not care enough about conserving the land, he said.
 "What it amounts to is we are being punished for doing a good job," Mr. Rueb said.
 "The NRCS people say that in eastern Kansas, there are more farmers and more of a work load; however, in northwest Kansas, there is more agricultural land which needs more conservation practices."
 What he said really concerned him was the fact that the Farm Service Agency office is under a study and it could be the next

area under attack.
 "It not only affects the farmers but it is also going to affect the businesses in our small community," Mr. Rueb said.
 Pat Owens, owner of Owens True Value, St. Francis, said taking the office (Natural Resources Conservation Service) out is just another nail in the coffin for small counties like Cheyenne County. He said that of course, people traveling to the Sherman County office will buy things which could have been purchased in St. Francis.
 "Just seems like the government doesn't care about counties in this part of the state," he said.
 Dave Yost, Yost Farm Supply, said any office that is removed hurts the community. People going out of town will get their groceries and other stuff there instead of shopping at home.
 Mr. Klaege said that, with the state getting less money, the cuts are necessary. He said that with cell phones and computers, farmers don't depend on the office people like they did a number of years ago.
 He said that most of the cuts in staff will be through retirement or "attrition." The present staff in offices to be cut will either need to move or travel, however, they will still be making the necessary field visits.

REUNION

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 will be singing; Mark Mahlberg will give the historical presentation of "The Life of a Dog Soldier" and there will be drawings for prizes.

Throughout the weekend, there are booths with crafts, antiques and other items for sale.
First reunion
 The first Beecher Island Reunion was held 30 years after the battle in 1898 when two scouts, Chalmer Smith and H.H. Tucker, along with rescuer J.J. Peate returned to the battle site. With the help of some of the settlers, enough rock was hauled to erect a monument.
 Mr. Smith and Mrs. Peate used their pocket knives to mark the stones "The Battle of Beecher Island Fought September 17, 1868."
 In 1899, the Beecher Island Memorial and Park Association was formed and they were incorporated in 1903. A deed to the land around the battle site was signed

to the association by Theodore Roosevelt.
 In 1925, Kansas and Colorado put up \$5,000 to build an auditorium. However, 10 years later, the flood of 1935 scoured the Arikaree Valley. The high, rushing waters toppled the monument and the top three blocks were never seen again. What was found of the monument was moved to higher ground and re-erected with a new top.
 Since then, a Sunday school, kitchen and rest room facilities have been added.
 "Each year, people from all over the world come to the reunion," Mark Mahlberg said. "Everyone enjoys the food, games, entertainment and history."
 "The grounds are open and welcome to visitors 365 days a year."
More information next week
 More information about the reunion and the entertainment will be available in next week's *Saint Francis Herald*.

THEFT

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 Mrs. Bowers said motion sensor lights might discourage intruders.
 It was pointed out that this action is endangering lives. If the ambulance was called out and the items which were stolen were not available, it could mean the difference between saving a life or losing it.
 Council members asked Sam Beeson to check on prices and get the lights installed.

AIRPORT

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 tients to other hospitals.
 The apron is estimated to cost \$152,953. However, the grant is a 95/5 matching grant with the county only paying \$7,647.
 "To get the major projects done on the airport with so little local funds required is a chance in a lifetime," Mr. Yost said.
 Other improvements made at the airport with grant funds include a master plan which was necessary before most improvements could be made and/or buildings erected; an

AWOS which provides the weather to pilots automatically (if the weather is bad, even though the airport has an instrument approach, a commercial flight may not attempt the landing if there is no approved weather reporting available). Future projects include lengthening and widening the runway, new runway lights and the continued maintenance of the runway.
 Mr. Yost commended the commissioners and their cooperation in seeing these projects through.

TOUR

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 He told that, in 1867, a scouting party led by Lt. Lyman Kidder, with 10 members of the 2nd U.S. Cavalry and an Indian guide, were ambushed and massacred. There were no survivors.
 The mutilated bodies were discovered July 12, 1867, by Col. (later Gen.) George Custer and a searching party. They were buried there, but the following February they were recovered and moved to Fort Wallace Cemetery by a party under command of Lt. Frederick Beecher, who later that year was to lose his life at the Battle of Beecher Island.
 Two markers were erected, the main one that was similar to those

of the Kansas Historical Society, but financed by local contributions, was placed where the Bird City to Edson highway crosses Beaver Creek. A smaller monument was placed about a mile east, at the place where the bodies were found, and has the names of those who lost their lives there.
Bring water; refreshments available later
 People should plan to bring their own drinking water and wear suitable clothing for this outside adventure.
 Connie Miller, owner of Heritage Corner Cafe, Bird City, will keep the door open so people can stop by following the tour.

HUNT

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 take the buyers and lookers to the site of the sales.
 Shirley Sherlock reported that there are numerous items listed on the St. Francis map including antiques a kerosene range, church pews, tools, quilts, furniture and just "old stuff." Carol Marsh said the Bird City map had a variety including antique toys such as pedal cars and tractors as well as antique salt cellars, dishes, and antique bed and dresser and patio furniture.
 "We are excited about the Treasure Hunt and, since we hold an annual city-wide sale each year, people have been collecting items through the year and getting ready," Mrs. Marsh said.
 There are other such events held in other states. This is the first year for the U.S. 36 Treasure Hunt and

it is expected to continue.
 "We are looking for lots of people to stop by and see what we have," Mrs. Sherlock said. "It should be lots of fun."



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