



RESIDENT OF THE MONTH, Florence Peacock shares memories throughout her life with Kathy Loop and her son, Gary Peacock.
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Resident at Village honored

As a child, Florence Peacock helped her Grandfather and Grandmother Bragg at and around the general store in St. Francis. She also helped her mother with laundry she took in.

Mrs. Peacock is the October Good Samaritan Village resident of the month. She was the youngest child born on Oct. 1, 1933, to George Haskell and Eva Mae (Bragg) King. Her five siblings were Eleanor, Bob, Jim, Rich and Ray, all of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Peacock attended school through all 12 grades in the St. Francis schools. She graduated in 1951. Her high school class just had a 55-year reunion in June and there were many classmates in attendance.

On March 16, 1952, she married Neal Peacock from Bird City and moved onto the family farm 11 miles south of Bird City. That is where they made their home for over 40 years.

They had two children, Kathy of Bird City, and Gary of Colorado Springs.

She spent the early years making a home for Neal and the kids,

always having a huge garden and canning all kinds of vegetables and meat for the winters. There were days when she and the "Grandma's" would do nothing but can from the garden. She worked several years at the Dairy King in Bird City for Neal's mom and aunt.

Harvests were always big events at the farm. There are many stories she can relate when it comes to the good crops, bad crops and the so many stories with the harvest crews. Whether the crops are good or bad, there is always a good story.

Holidays were big in the family. Big things were made for everyone's birthday and all holidays. When the kids were growing up, every holiday was spent at big family gatherings. Lots of good homemade food and desserts were always plenty!

Florence and Neal loved the lake and had a mobile home at Trenton. For years, they spent many great weekends and weeks at the lake.

Many happy vacations were sent heading back to North Caro-



Florence Peacock

lina to visit Neal's family.

They loved to play cards and, throughout the years, played pinocle with neighbors and friends. Florence played pinocle for cancer for many years when she was living in her home in St. Francis.

Mrs. Peacock loved the farm but moved to St. Francis after Neal died in 1994. She bought a home in her childhood hometown in April of 1995. There she lived until health issues brought her to the Good Samaritan Village.

Mrs. Peacock has five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren and is very active in the lives of her son and his family, Gary, Branson, Jill and Stacey. Jill is married to Nick Levine and they live in Bremerton, Wash., where Nick is an officer in a nuclear submarine. They have two children, Dylan and Riley. They love sending pictures to their great-grandma.... just look at her walls.

She loves making plastic canvas crafts and has spent many hours making all kinds of fun things for many people.

Three more ambulance runs already recorded in 2006

By Karen Krien

Jannelle Bowers, emergency medical service director, told the Cheyenne County Commissioners at the Monday meeting that there had been 39 ambulance runs in September and, as of Monday, there had already been 235 runs. That is already three more runs than were made in the entire year of 2005.

She talked about a class which would certify emergency medical technicians to start IVs in the field. At this time, there are on two or three technicians qualified but there is no instructor available to teach a class.

She said Tom Raile and Craig White are taking the emergency medical technician class in Goodland.

The emergency medical service repeater tower was recently repairs. She didn't have the bill for the repairs but expected it to be high. The repeater is 16 years old and needs replaced. The commissioners said the 911 fund could be used to purchase a new repeater but they asked her to talk to the sheriff and emergency manager to see what kind of condition their repeaters were in and if they also needed new equipment.

Airport work

Dave Yost, Airport Authority member, talked to the commissioners about the work done at the airport. He was not pleased with the asphalt work on the aircraft parking area (apron). Recent testing showed the asphalt did not meet the specifications set by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Mr. Yost had three options. The first option was to make the contractor remove the asphalt and redo it to specifications. This was the consensus of Dave Flemming, road and bridge department supervisor; the commissioners as well as two members of the Airport Authority.

During the discussion, Ron Loudon, Airport Authority member, arrived and said he didn't think it would be wise to "rock the boat" with the contractor, fearing the airport couldn't get anyone to finish the project with the county possibly taking the current contractor to court.

The other options were to place a seal over the top of the inadequate work and pay one-half of the cost and repair as needed.

No decisions were made but Mr. Yost was told to keep the commissioners up to date with any progress.

Sheriff's report

Sheriff Troy Gardner said, on rare occasions, he has found it necessary to purchase items out-of-town and has been charged and paid sales tax. (County departments should not have to pay sales

tax and the commissioners had sent out a memo so employees would be aware of the matter.) They talked about county employees, if they are found in this situation, should be able to produce an employer tax exempt number.

Sheriff Gardner said there were going to be two classes dealing with anhydrous ammonia and keeping it from being used to make meth. One class is set for 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 19 in the Cheylin school; the other class will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 24 in the St. Francis Grade School cafeteria.

The sheriff has received a \$1,000 grant from the Kansas Department of Transportation. The money will be used to purchase spike strips which are used to stop high-speed chases.

Prairie dogs

Employee Dan Schlittenhardt had an article from the Goodland Star News, telling how the Sherman County Commissioners were handling the county's prairie dog problems which included cost-sharing bait expenses. Earlier, the Cheyenne County Commissioners had been told that cost-sharing could not be legally worked into the budget.

Mr. Schlittenhardt was concerned that if the service of getting rid of prairie dogs was not offered, there were landowners who would not take care of the pests. He asked the commissioners if they would be interested in buying bait wholesale and having him apply

it. The landowners would be charged but it would be at a reasonable price.

The commissioners agreed to have Mr. Schlittenhardt look into what it would cost for the bait and how much the application would be.

Business incentives

Carol Redding, Cheyenne County Development coordinator, said there were two St. Francis business owners interested in taking advantage of the county's incentive plan for new businesses: Main St. Coffee and Sainty Stitches. After discussion and the fact that a representative from each of the entities (St. Francis, Bird City, commissioners and the Development Corporation) had not met to go over the paperwork, the matter was tabled.

Employees from the appraiser's office were also present and showed concern that the county could be in trouble when a building is appraised at \$100,000. That amount would appear on the taxes but it won't be there and cannot be spent. They suggested that Randy Sangster, appraiser, come to the next meeting and talk about it.

911 maps and signing

The 911 maps and signing for the county was discussed. The commissioners agreed to proceed with the plans. See related article.

Next meeting

The next commissioner's meeting will start at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 31, at the courthouse.

Pumpkin carving tips spice up jack-o-lanterns

Spice up your jack-o'-lantern with advice from farmer Mike Valladao, a master at his craft, who shares secrets on how to carve an eye-popping pumpkin that's sure to turn heads. This and other tips come from the 2007 edition of The Old Farmer's Almanac.

Mr. Valladao shared these tips, secrets, and tricks that will enable you to carve pumpkins that will be the envy of the neighborhood.

How to pick a good pumpkin for carving: Look for one that is a little misshapen and will lend itself to interesting facial features. Reject any pumpkin with soft spots.

Hollow or whole? Hollow it out if the inside is going to be exposed or to illuminate the pumpkin from the inside.

The tools to use: Use a water-based marker to outline the face that you want to carve.

Carve with care: Use two hands at all times: To avoid cutting yourself, use one hand to control the pressure with which you cut (and thus the depth).

Make a face: To achieve a three-dimensional appearance, carve the entire pumpkin, instead of just holes for the eyes and a hole for the nose.

Enjoy it while it lasts: Pumpkins, which are actually a fruit, not a vegetable, are 90 percent water, so they usually last only three days to a week.

The 2007 Old Farmer's Almanac is on sale wherever books and magazines are sold.



Club Clip

AARP

Cheyenne County AARP Chapter 1739 met at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 12, at the Senior Center for their regular monthly meeting. There were 10 members present.

The meeting was called to order by Wilma Lampe, vice president, in the absence of the president. Roll call was answered by telling a favorite fall memory.

Secretary ErvaGene DeAragon read the minutes of the last meeting and gave a report on the Western Summit meeting held in Hays recently. Reports were also given by

the treasurer and the courtesy fund.

The business meeting adjourned and a very interesting program was then given by Ilene Raile. She showed a video on the Cherokee Ranch, entitled "Jewel of the Rockies." Several members had visited the ranch in the past and it is very fascinating. It is located north and east of Castle Rock, Colo.

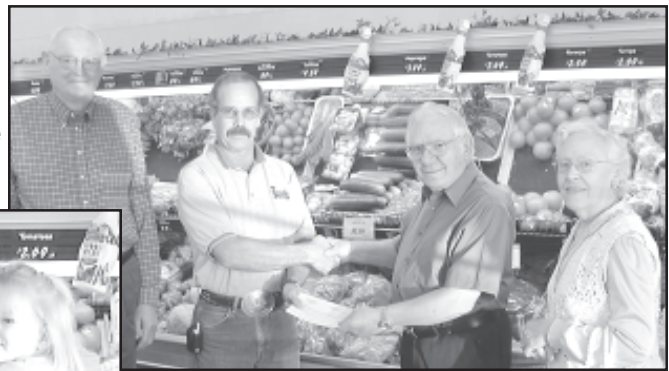
Refreshments of cake, coffee and ice cream were then served by the hostess, Ms. Lampe, after which all enjoyed visiting around the tables to end the afternoon.

St. Francis
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GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY


SENIOR CENTER: Art Krueger, Manager Robert Weatherly, Ken Quigley and Ervogene DeAragon.



DRAMA CLUB: Manager Robert Weatherly, David Morrow with daughter Mia.



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH: Manager Robert Weatherly, Lea Keller, Carol Wolters, Toby Cooper



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Thank you to the Senior Center & Peace Lutheran Church for participating in the Receipt program and to the Drama Club for helping with the Steak Dinner Feed!