

## White Pelicans stop at Bonnie

A flock of about 50 American White Pelicans made a stopover at Bonnie Reservoir north of Burlington on Wednesday, Sept. 10. Darby Shanks, wildlife offers at the reservoir took this photo. In September, white pelicans leave their nesting grounds and head south. Thanks to a 30-year U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service leg banding study, biologists know the pelicans, which nest in the far northern states and in Canada, overwinter in Mexico, Texas and other Gulf States. Bonnie Reservoir is used by migrant birds and occasionally by nonbreeders in the summer.



## Personal wind power system can lower home electricity costs

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Wind powered energy is becoming more common throughout the country. Near Lincoln, there are huge wind-powered towers and, that is what many people think of when they think about wind-powered energy. However, St. Francis man, Rick Reeser, has now become the distributor for a E2D Wind Master all-wind generator systems, a small wind turbine, and has one installed on his land.

He has been studying wind-powered energy for a number of years. But he found it to expensive. He could see that, with the demand for electric cars, there would eventually be a big demand on the electricity produced in the country. Neither Kansas nor Colorado have built new energy plants for years but the population continues to increase in both states.

Then he discovered www.Freetricity.com. He found he could beat the rising price of electricity by installing a financially feasible personal power system. He also found that there are grants available.

Produced by Freetricity, his wind turbine is attached to a pole inside a building on his property. Barely seen, it is lowering his electricity bill and, at times, eliminating the costs. If there is excess, it is sold back to Prairie Land Electric at a low price.

The average home uses 1,200 kilowatt hours of electricity each month and the customer pays for the kilowatt hours used he said.

In an average wind speed of 12-miles per hour for 6 hours a day, each system wind turbine can produce from 100 to 700 kilowatt hours, depending on the system selected he said.

- There are three different systems available.
- The 12-volt system with a battery controller and 1,100 watt inverter costs only \$1,399.
  - The 12-volt system with battery controller and 2,300 watt inverter is priced at \$1,699.
  - The 2.5 kilowatt grid-tie system with inverter is \$3,620.

The systems have an inverter which is plugged into one of the electrical circuits in the garage. This inverter changes the 12 volts DC into the 110 volts AC needed to power electrical outlets on that circuit. This way, there isn't a negative power he said.

A 12-volt system is powerful enough to run a washer and dryer, central air conditioning and central heating plus much more.

He figures, that with the wind turbine, his electricity bill will average around \$25 a month compared to \$85. He has air conditioning, a water well pump and electrical appliances including an electric water heater. He said the grid-tie system will supply one-half to three-fourths of the electricity needed in his home.

On the plains of Kansas and Colorado, he said, there is almost constant wind. With the E2D Wind Master, there is a reliable and powerful renewable energy source which is captured into an affordable and highly productive electrical generating system.

When Reeser became a distributor for the company, he established Electric Power Systems LLC. He is the distributor for the eight counties in northwestern Kansas and most of eastern Colorado to Interstate 25.

He has several distributors working under him and expects more. There are technicians who assist with installation and advice when working with an electric company.

Reeser has a physical science/physics degree from Colorado State University in Ft. Collins, and understands the workings and calculations of turbine-wind power. He is excited at the prospect of supplying a product which is easily accessible, easy to install and is affordable. He said he expects his Wind Master to pay for its self in savings in 4 1/2 years.

Reeser and his wife Laura live east of St. Francis (about halfway between St. Francis and Wheeler) on U.S. 36. For more information, people can call him at (785) 332-3997.



Marlin Queen climbed the ladder to adjust the wind turbine on the building at Reeser's home near St. Francis. He, along with Ron Wieck and Tanner and Ben Lacy installed the wind power equipment. Photo by Karen Krien/The St. Francis Herald

## County meets project spending target

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of the money in the next year or so they could ask the state to give them a check.

"Usually they are asking for more money rather than giving money back," he said. "With state projects there are a lot of little details that may not work out exactly at the end of the contract. Some little items can eat into you by several thousand dollars. When the project is closed out it can take up to 18 to 24 months, and that would be when you are ready to do the chip sealing."

"We are still going to have \$225,000 to spend," Tiede said. "What are we going to do with that money. We have a year to figure out how to spend the other \$200,000.

We do have time on part of that, but we have to spend the \$225,000 today, Rasure said.

Neufeld said having some projects to look at was why the city had contractors give bids on a number

of alternatives, but for the county he did not know of a project they could have ready quick enough other than buying the rock for the chip sealing.

Rasure asked if there were any other county projects.

"The rock is our last project," Thomas said.

Rasure said it would be good to get the projects approved they had talked about and made the motion to approve the bills as submitted and the contracts the city had approved on Monday. After that motion passed Rasure made a motion to pay the state Department of Transportation \$500,000 for the extension of the Road 14 project to the south of old U.S. 24 to the state line of responsibility.

With the addition of a bill for auditing the projects for \$1,800 from Gilmore and Bell the commissioners were left with the \$225,000.

A contract for buying the rock from L.G. Everist of Henderson,

Colo. was approved after the commissioners called the salesman and their financial man and a contract was drafted by County Attorney Bonnie Selby.

The contract would allow the county to purchase 9,000 tons of rock over the next several years, and at a negotiated price at that time. The cost of the rock at the price quoted on Friday would be about \$128,000, but that price is expected to increase over the next few years. Under the contract the quarry company would put the money in escrow and give the county a quarterly accounting of the amount beginning with the last quarter of this year.

With the contract for the rock approved the total of money left was down to \$198,029. The commissioners adjourned at 3:43 p.m. and Tiede signed the checks so they could be put in the mail. The signed contract with L.G. Everist and check were to be issued before close of business on Monday.

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## Frontier Ag Inc. presents the 2nd Annual Flatlander Chili Cookoff Contest

Saturday, September 27th  
from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Entry fee of \$50 per team. Contest will be limited to the first 20 paid entries received before September 17. Checks are to be made payable to Frontier Ag, Inc.

Contestants will prepare their favorite recipe of RED CHILI for judging by a local panel of "experts". The chili

will be judged on the following categories: aroma, appearance, texture, blend and overall taste. Each team shall provide 1.5 gallons of prepared chili in their own equipment. The entry must be maintained at a proper temperature (above 140 degrees Fahrenheit) to prevent food borne illness. A complete

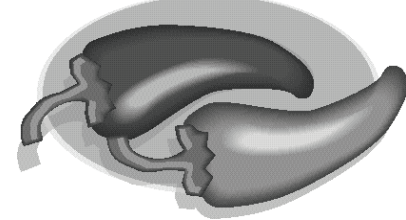
list of rules and regulations are available from Frontier Ag, Goodland location, (785) 899-3681 or by calling:

Dennis Taylor at (785) 728-7161

Buddy Williams at (785) 899-4755

Mike Harrison at (785) 821-0258

Randy Gausman at (785) 821-4713



## A New Star on the Horizon



The Goodland Star-News