



# ADAIR COUNTY COMMUNITY

# VOICE

50¢

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62 pages

**DON'T FORGET!**



Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m. Sunday. Turn clocks back before going to bed Saturday night!

## THE GREAT DEPRESSION

### Locals recall dark days of history



Photo by Toni Humphress

World War II veteran Edgar Holmes has cherished memories of years gone by but also recalls the difficult times during the Great Depression.

*(The first in a series of articles reflecting the nation's history.)*

Eighty-five years ago this week the Great Depression fully struck the United States. In late October 1929, the stock market took a devastating crash, kick starting the Depression that would last for 12 years.

"Eighty-five, it seems just like yesterday to me," said Edgar Holmes, a 93-year-old veteran who can still be seen behind the wheel driving around Columbia.

Holmes and several other locals still recall their childhood days during a difficult season in American History.

#### THE BEGINNING OF THE DEPRESSION

"It started instantly, almost overnight," recalls Phyllis Williams, a 95-year-old woman who grew up in Compton, Calif. "Everything was going fine, then all of a sudden, 'boom!'"

Williams recalls the madness following the crash of the stock market.

"I wondered, 'What on earth is happening?'" Williams said. "People were going crazy. They were jumping out of windows and shooting themselves."

People who were prospering prior to the crash were particularly devastated, but not everyone was equally affected, Williams said.

"Those who didn't have money knew what to do," Williams said. "We lived without money, so we knew what to do."

George Keltner, an 88-year-old Adair County native, recalls how the decade-long drought in the Midwest and Southern Plains during the 1930s affected the nation's economy.

"Really the starting of the Depression was the Dust Bowl," Keltner said. "The farmers had to just walk off and leave their farm because they couldn't make a living on them."

Keltner thinks the events surrounding the election of Franklin Delano Roosevelt may have played a role as well. Presidential inaugurations usually take place on Jan. 20 or 21, but in 1933 Roosevelt was not inaugurated until March 4.

"The government really just shut down after the election (in November 1932) because the two parties could

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This special edition of the Adair County Community Voice is being mailed to every home in Adair County. This is our gift to you!

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Special Health Section

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### ACHS BAND HEADS TO STATE

Beginning on page 4B

## Hospital district may net agreement with feds

An offer is on the table and officials now await word to see if the hospital district has a future.

Neal Gold, CEO of the local hospital district, said Tuesday night that a plan of adjustment has been presented as part of bankruptcy proceedings.

Attorneys with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service are in possession of the plan, and Gold is optimistic after a conversation with a CMS attorney. An agreement with CMS is imperative for the hospital district to survive.

"If we can't settle with the government we can't settle with anybody," Gold said.

The attorney said he was forwarding the proposal "to his superior for approval. That was his words. For approval. We're keeping our fingers crossed," Gold said.

An agreement with CMS would settle recoupments now owed and limit future liability for past payments of Medicare and Medicaid. The CMS payments

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## School board may build new bus garage

A new bus garage could be in the works for the Adair County school system.

A bus garage does not qualify for facility construction funds, which are bonded through the state, and the district will consider using local tax revenue and has a current bonding potential of \$1.33 million, superintendent Alan Reed said.

The board decided Tuesday night to dig a few test spots in the possible future site for the

building to see if there is rock underneath and where it's located. The school district recently purchased property from Sherman Burton near the bypass that could be the site for a new garage.

Transportation and grounds director David Jones said he would contact Brockman Construction about taking a backhoe to campus and checking out the

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Photo by James McIntosh

Head Start hosted an awareness walk Saturday to celebrate 50 years. Popular cartoon characters awaited the children taking part in the fun walk. Here, Molly Froedge gets a toy from SpongeBob.

## Band takes top spot in regionals

### Moves on to state competition this weekend

The Adair County High School Band took first place in the AAA West Regionals in Elizabethtown this past Saturday and will move on to the semifinals this coming Saturday in Bourbon County.

The top eight bands from the AAA West and top eight from the AAA East move on to semifinals.

That same night, four of those 16 bands, regardless of their re-

gion, will go on to the finals in Richmond.

The Adair Band may face some competition from home because the AAA East first place winner was the Bourbon County High School Band, whose director is from Adair County, according to Shamarie Claiborne, public information officer for the Adair County Board of Education.

The award-winning band has built a reputation by out-performing other top-level bands, however, and looks to add another trophy to the trophy case this weekend.

A special salute to the band can be found beginning on page 4B. Coverage of the state competition will be available in next week's issue of the Community Voice.