



## Kansans should brace for state budget cuts

State officials and legislators are telling Kansans to brace themselves for budget cuts, which we all know are coming.

With the Legislature and governor trying to trim nearly \$300 million out of this year's budget and \$1 billion from next year's, there are bound to be some painful changes.

Public schools took the smallest cuts, only about 2.6 percent, but already some of the districts which sued the state a few years back are talking about another lawsuit to force the Legislature to give them more.

How they can take your tax money and sue your Legislature to make you pay them more is, shall we say, just a little strange, but when there's money involved, people do strange things.

School boards and superintendents had plenty of warning, and most found room to squeeze something out of the budget. Students and parents will notice, though, when activities fees go up or popular programs like art and band, even sports, get cut.

Colleges don't have to just accept a 10 percent cut in state money. They can and will raise tuition, and tuition costs in Kansas already have shot up. Expect the cost of your kids' diploma to take another jump this year. A decision is expected this month.

Regents colleges are scrambling to find money to fix old buildings, where needs are measured in hundreds of millions but where the Legislature gave only about \$7 million this year.

Some agencies will cut a little here and there, and you'll hardly notice it. Others will want to make their customers sit up and take notice.

The state Historical Society, for instance, dealt with the cuts by, among other things, simply closing some smaller attractions such as the Cottonwood Ranch, a historic Old West sheep

ranch near Studley in Graham County. The one employee was let go and the gates padlocked, though the sparsely populated area needs whatever tourism it gets.

You could argue that the need for state money is far greater in Graham County than in say, Topeka, but the ranch got the ax. In the statewide scheme of things, it's barely a speck.

Other agencies say they're trying to keep taxpayer needs in mind, even though that's obviously not the case.

The Supreme Court ordered layoffs for dozens of part-time workers in court clerks' offices across the state to save \$800,000. In Lawrence, where the Douglas County District Court offices lost four part-timers, the court clerk said the office would have to close over the noon hour because of the cuts.

Court Administrator Linda Vogelsang said she understood that this would be a hardship on people who could only come in during the noon hour, but there was nothing she could do. Apparently the 15 full-time employees either all go to lunch together, or don't get along well enough to schedule noon-hour coverage.

Undoubtedly, some of the cuts will hurt, with more to come that will hurt even more. The state has to live within its means, though, and with 63 percent of the budget spent on education, other programs are really suffering.

The Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, the state's welfare agency, will limit the amount spent on funerals for the poor to \$550, down from an average of \$678. You have to wonder what they will cut out of the service.

But the budget must balance, and there's no end in sight to the current round of cuts.

— Steve Haynes



DO YOURSELF (AND THE FUTURE) A FAVOR, DAD — TAKE THE KIDS FISHIN'...

## News From the Past

### 20 years ago - 1989

Jeff Dankenbring, senior class president, gave the farewell address to classmates at graduation.

Terri Sharp qualified to attend the 1989 National Junior College Athletic Association National Track Championship at Odessa, Texas. She set a record in the high jump for Garden City Community College where she is a student. Her qualifying jump of 5-6 was made at the Barton County Community College meet in Great Bend.

### 30 years ago - 1979

The Style Shoppe will be re-opening under the new ownership of Russ and Melody Smith. The Smiths completed the purchase, taking over the store from Bernice Evans on May 1. The Smiths presented Mrs. Ev-

ans with a dozen roses, one for each year that she owned the St. Francis Style Shoppe.

Members of the junior class used the theme of "Seasons in the Sun" when decorating for the junior-senior prom.

Cheyenne County probably set a record for the largest chuckhole in history when a 3-foot by 5-foot section of the road collapsed in a hole about 4-feet deep in the eastbound lane on the Ray Zwegardt hill.

A leaking acetylene hose provided the fuel for a fire at Walz Metal Works Monday morning. Damage from the fire was confined to a small area but a set of tank gauges and the torch were destroyed as was a tire on a nearby piece of equipment.

Two St. Francis teachers, Jacque Rogers and Norma

Weems, were named first place winners in the professional division of the Kansas Media Festival. The award-winning entry was a 13 1/2 minute 33mm color slide program with synchronized cassette tape entitled "Through the Looking Glass."

### 45 years ago - 1964

The St. Francis Equity will observe its 50th anniversary at their semi-annual member meeting on June 6. They will hold a supper meeting followed by a musical program. The St. Francis Equity was chartered in March of 1914. The incorporating board included C.E. Burnham, C. R. Henry, Wm. Baumeister, W.F. Slagle and W.S. Booth. The amount of capital stock was originally set at \$10,000.

## Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



Last week we said "Good Bye" to a friend, Gordon Orth.

farm accident. The good from that is Gordon left doing one of the things he loved.

As sometimes happens around these parts, he was the victim of a

He was one of those types who had many loves that gave his life

great energy and drew many toward him. I was one.

After I came home a couple years ago from a serious hospital stay, Gordon and his wife, Betty, were some of the first folks to reach out to me.

Gordon and I had something in common, having both wrestled with our demons caused by alcohol. During a phone call he gave me some good advice that helped tremendously during those early and confusing days of sobriety.

His 22-years clean were an inspiration, along with his kind words. I'm early on my path, but the footprints of those who went before sure do help.

I know that mine is just one of many stories of compassion from this humble man of the plains.

"Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and vanisheth away." (King James Bible, James 4:14)

### —Letter to the Editor—

ly in seeing to the success of the 27th Stearman Fly-In and gladly taking my husband for a ride in the aircraft that he learned to fly during the war.

We saw many old friends, classmates, and relatives, shopped in your fine stores, watched with fascination the sky divers who precisely landed on the high school practice field, and have now come home with impressionable memories that will not fade; thank you, so kindly, for those.

Vernie (Anderson) Combellick and husband, Glenn Littleton, Colo.

## Former resident enjoys the Stearman Fly-In

A thank you to the dear people of St. Francis, my hometown!

This past weekend of the Stearman Fly-In has been a very special one to me and my husband. I can't thank you enough for the experience we had in enjoying the many services that you made possible to us: your wonderful park that allowed us to park our RV free so near to all of the excitement at the airport, the airport itself and Robert Grace who worked so diligent-

### —Honor Roll—

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Matt Martin, St. Francis; J. Greg Kite, Wichita; Karla Dimitt, Syracuse; Calvin Raile, St. Francis; Randy Raile, Goodland; Dave Andrews, Eugene, Ore.; Lavern Young, Bird City; Mrs. Leo Lampe, St. Francis; Wendell Warner, Hays; Sharon Olson, Oberlin; Ada Connert, Bird City; Eldon Zimbelman, Wichita; Donna Armstrong, Edson; Richard Cram, Topeka; Margaret Bucholtz, St. Francis; Clarence Roberson, St. Francis; Norma Schleep, Haviland; Neil Burrow, Wichita; Kelly Frewen, St. Francis; Lavona Rand, Goodland; Mary Lee Frewen, St. Francis;

**GOD SAYS**

**Seek the Lord, and his strength: see his face evermore. Remember his marvellous works that he hath done; his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth.**

**Psalms 105:4, 5**

## CheyCoDevelopments

By Chuck Kribs



It has been a busy and rewarding month for Diane and I, here at the Cheyenne County Development Corporation.

In Bird City, with the help of Hal Sager, we completed an inventory of vacant and unoccupied homes and commercial properties, about 40 homes and several commercial properties. Vacant, does not necessarily mean available, but the large number does indicate that we have a nucleus of homes from which to work.

Bird City has applied for a grant which would provide some funding for demolition and renovation of some selected properties. We will be working with interested citizens in Bird City to further expand available housing options.

In Bird City as well, we completed a survey of businesses to

get their opinions and suggestions. Without getting into all the details, they expressed optimism and an interest in participating in creating new businesses.

We created a draft business incentive plan for Bird City which is in the hands of the city council for review, and hopefully, approval.

In St. Francis, we were pleased to see several new businesses start up, and the announcement of a new venture in the south part of the county which will create 15-25 new jobs.

A great group of volunteers turned out to do an "asset inventory" of vacant homes and commercial sites. A survey of business owners is in process, courtesy of the same group. Results are coming in fast, and we will share with everyone the highlights as soon as

we have them compiled.

Diane and I visited several communities which have started service functions and businesses using community-based investment corporations and volunteer programs, successfully. We will bring several projects to the city of St. Francis EcoDevo Committee shortly.

We will be creating a "show and tell" package about Cheyenne County in the next few weeks and intend to take it "on the road" in July to groups on the front range to encourage both retirement and business investment here.

Busy time, but fun and rewarding...Stop in and give us your comments and suggestions! Thanks!!!

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<p><b>Church of Christ</b> 332-2380, Pars. 332-3424 502 W. Spencer Norman Morrow - Minister Bible Class 11 a.m. Morning Worship 10 a.m. Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church</b> 625 S. River • 332-2680 Fr. Roger Meitl Sunday Mass 11:00 a.m. Weekday Mass 8 a.m. Confessions Sat. 4-4:30</p>	<p><b>First Baptist Church</b> 2nd &amp; Scott • 332-3921 J.W. Glidewell, Pastor Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m., Wed. AWANA Club, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.</p>
<p><b>United Methodist Church Office</b> 332-2292, Church 332-2254, 512 S. Scott Pastor Morita Truman Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Salem Lutheran Church</b> 332-3002 Pastor Chris Farmer No Sunday School Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>St. Francis Community Church</b> 332-3150 204 N. Quincy Street www.sfccfamily.com Pastor: David Butler Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Potluck &amp; Communion - Every 2nd Sunday Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>
<p><b>Seventh-Day Adventist Church</b> 785-890-5718 • 3rd &amp; Adams Pastor Jerry Nowack Sabbath School 9:30 Morning Worship 10:45</p>	<p><b>Solid Rock Baptist Church</b> 412 S. Denison Welcomes You! Pastor Allen Coon Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 Prayer Meeting, Wed 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Peace Lutheran Church, AFLC</b> 202 N. College Pastor Ken Hart 332-2928 Pars. 332-2312 Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Communion 1st Sunday of the month</p>

St. Francis Equity

St. Francis Herald

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