



## Fair book printing goes to member

By **Lezlie McCormick**

There were two bids for the fair book at the Cheyenne County Fair Board meeting on Thursday night. After hearing the bids, the board voted to give the bid to one of the board members.

Casey McCormick, ad manager for *The Saint Francis Herald* which has taken care of the fair book printing for the last two years, presented his bid. Mr. McCormick

said that printing costs have gone from \$758 to \$838 in the last two years, however, he had sold more advertising for the book last year. The board receives 15 percent on all ads sold. The total cost for the book in 2005 was \$468, and in 2006 it cost \$375. The books prior to that were being printed through K-State and the cost was approximately \$1,500.

Nick Ketzner, fair board member, gave

his proposal saying that he and his brother Brock Ketzner had found a printer who would print the fair books at "no cost to the fair board." He then went on to say that the printer would charge them (the Ketzners) \$750 which is cost. The name of the printer was never disclosed.

The Ketzners would sell the advertisements for the book. The only money taken out of the proceeds would be the printing

cost, the rest of the money would be at their (Nick and Brock) discretion to donate to the "betterment of the Cheyenne County Fair."

Erika Lehman, member, asked if a decision was needed at this meeting or if there was time to think about it. President Dick Bursch said the sooner the better (the decision).

Jared Douthit, member, then called an executive session, without giving a reason.

When ask by the newspaper reporter, "how long," Mr. Douthit said 10 minutes. It was 15 minutes later when the regular meeting resumed. It was decided to table the fair book until Mr. Ketzner, representing High Noon Feed, and Brock Ketzner, representing Eastern Colorado Seed, could present a written proposal.

At the end of the meeting, Mr. Ketzner **See FAIR BOOK on Page 9A**

## 911 system back on the agenda

By **Karen Krien**

The 911 emergency system was back on the agenda at the Feb. 28 Cheyenne County Commissioner meeting and, again, no decision was made. The plan is to move the new 911 equipment from the St. Francis Power Plant to the courthouse.

Troy Gardner, sheriff; Scott Schultz, St. Francis mayor; Troy Burr, Bird City mayor; and Roger Jensen, St. Francis city councilman; were present to discuss the proposed

system and give their input. The apparent consensus was that the county should be the entity to handle the system and that the cities would pay their share. They talked about "double dipping" as city residents pay both a city tax as well as a county tax but they were not sure just what to do about it.

The \$200,000 grant which the county received will pay for the equipment. The next biggest and on- **See 911 on Page 9A**



**REP. JOHN FABER** talked with **Jeanne Dunn** and **Steve Douthit** after the meeting at Wheeler on Saturday.

## Spring forward

Daylight Saving Time starts Sunday, three weeks earlier than it has started in year's past. It will boost the daylight in the evening so the days will seem a little longer.

Clocks will "spring" forward an hour at 2 a.m. Sunday. Remember to set the clocks ahead before going to bed Saturday night — or you might miss church.

The time change means as the weather gets nicer, people will have more time after work or



school to enjoy activities.

Daylight Saving Time will end Sunday, Nov. 4, a week later than usual. Congress decided last year to include the new dates in the energy bill. One reason for the fall change was to allow Daylight Savings Time to run past Halloween. For years, the change has left trick-or-treaters in the dark by just a few days.



**LAUREN ROSS**, Cheyenne County Young Miss, will head to Belleville to compete in Kansas Junior Miss program.

## Sainty girl competes in scholarship program

Eleven teens from across the state including a girl from Cheyenne County will be competing in the Kansas Junior Miss scholarship program this month.

Lauren Ross, St. Francis, will be competing in the program at 7 p.m. on March 17 in Belleville. Lauren won the title in the Cheyenne County Young Miss program held in June last year.

The contestants will arrive in Belleville on Tuesday and work through the week to prepare for the performance on Saturday evening.

The young ladies will be evaluated in five categories: scholastics, 20 percent; interview, 25 percent; talent, 25 percent; fitness, 15 percent; and self-expression, 15 percent.

Each contestant will be vying for the title of Kansas's Junior Miss for **See COMPETES on Page 9A**

## Legislators visit with constituents

By **Karen Krien**

Between 18 and 20 people were up early to meet Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer and Rep. John Faber at Captain Hook's Fine Dining in Wheeler Saturday morning.

They discussed many issues including schools, the closings of government farm offices, health care and prairie dogs.

Carl Werner, superintendent of the St. Francis Schools, said some people and teachers do not understand that teacher's salaries cannot be taken out of the Capital Outlay Fund. What he would like to see is to allow insurance on the buildings, technology and utilities out of Capital Outlay. By taking these items out, it would keep more money in the General Fund and would help give teacher's raises.

The Legislators talked about the weighting factor which helps fund

rural schools with low enrollment. They said Johnson County Legislators would like to do away with the weighting factor and, if this happens, it could close the doors to schools in western Kansas.

Rep. Faber said Kansas ranks in the top 10 in the national average composite score for reading and mathematics on the American College Test (ACT) assessments. However, the salaries paid to Kansas teachers are low. He said it is just a matter of time until Texas and Florida will be taking our teachers by offering them higher salaries, offering benefits along with paid moving costs. Kansas will not be able to compete, he said.

Sen. Ostmeyer said he had nothing against those who want prairie dogs on their property but they needed to keep them off their **See VISITS on Page 9A**



**SENATOR RALPH OSTMEYER** talks to the crowd about issues coming up. *Herald staff photos by Karen Krien*

## Commissioners agree now is the time to control prairie dogs in pastures

By **Karen Krien**

A chemical to control prairie dogs will soon be restricted to allow only certified people to use it. The commissioners agreed that prairie dogs needed to be controlled starting as quickly as farmers and/or the supervisor could get in the fields.

Dan Schlittenhardt, noxious weed and prairie dog supervisor,

said Rozol, a chemical used to control prairie dogs, is going to be restricted. If farmers buy the chemical now, they can still use it without being certified. However, within a month or two, those applying the chemical will need to be certified. Many of the farmers with prairie dogs will not be certified.

He said the snow had slowed

down the baiting of prairie dogs but chairman Andy Beikman said he had seen new prairie dog mounds in a field within the last day or two. He wondered if the supervisor shouldn't be using the bait as soon as possible to help control the animals.

The supervisor said there is a movement to put the prairie dogs

back on the endangered species list. The supervisor had more bids for a new pickup for his department. The commissioners questioned why the noxious weed department received less of a discount (\$5,000 than the sheriff's department (\$7,500)? The supervisor didn't know why. **See CONTROL on Page 9A**

## Courthouse drive extended, widened

By **Karen Krien**

Extending and widening the handicap drive west of the courthouse was approved by the Cheyenne County Commissioners at the Feb. 28 meeting. The bid deadline for the project is March 14.

At the Feb. 15 meeting, commissioners agreed that the handicap drive was too narrow and confining. It was hard to drive up and especially difficult to back out of it. When people got out of their cars, they stepped on the grass because the drive was not wide enough to use the cement.

Roger Jensen, contractor and St. Francis City Councilman, and Carl Williams, courthouse mainte-

nance man, talked about how the drive could be laid out to meet city codes. The cement is to be 6-inches deep and poured in sections which would allow a section to be removed if needed. There is a sewer line which runs under the a portion of the proposed drive.

The drive will be extended on north of the existing drive, then curve to the west, exiting onto Benton Street. Four feet will also be added to the present width.

Mr. Jensen had drawn up specifications for the job and these specs will be used by all contractors bidding the job. Those interested in bidding need to contact Terry Miller, county clerk.

## Health fair scheduled March 26 through 29

Cheyenne County Hospital will be holding its spring health and lab fair on Monday, March 26, through Thursday, March 29.

The fair will include laboratory testing Monday through Wednesday, 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. Male (prostate) and female (pap smear) exams will be Tuesday through Thursday by appointment.

This is a good time for people to have the check ups as the tests will all be performed with great cost savings.

The laboratory work will include a complete metabolic panel, a lipid panel, thyroid stimulating hormone and an optional prostate specific antigen for men.

The complete metabolic panel,

known as a "CMP," will give information about electrolytes, sugar (glucose), calcium, kidney functions and liver function.

The "lipid panel" will tell cholesterol levels. These will include the "HDL" (good), "LDL" (bad) cholesterol and "VLDL" (bad). Maybe it would be best said as the good, the bad and the ugly!

The thyroid stimulating hormone, known as a "TSH," will tell if there is a thyroid disorder. This is a common disorder that is usually easily **See HEALTH on Page 9A**

