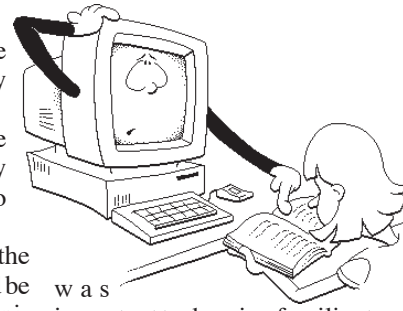


UPGRADE



Continued from Page 1A

With the remodeling of the lab, there will be approximately 30 computers.

Mr. Schiltz would like to see the lab used by the public by having a computer class, just to name one activity.

Mr. Schiltz estimated that the cost for the remodeling would be \$16,000 to \$17,000. The furniture and equipment would cost between \$24,000 and \$25,000. He thought the high figure for the complete project would be no more than \$50,000.

Bonnie Zwegardt, board member, said that she thought it was important to offer students all the technology possible.

Kelly Gienger, board president, added that having a school with a good technology program

was a s important to drawing families to St. Francis and the students to the school.

After some additional discussion about the other computers in the schools including making sure that the computer program was updated regularly, the board agreed to have Mr. Schiltz proceed with the remodeling. The money to cover the expenses will be taken out of the Capital Outlay Fund.

OBSCENE

Continued from Page 1A

"We will call you before coming to your door," he said. "It might really be frightening if you heard a knock on the door after receiving a call and you didn't realize it was a law officer."

Sheriff Gardner answered the question about calls being made to Bird City residents and he said that he was not aware of calls being made in that community.

He said that officers do have a phone number. They will be going through paperwork to discover who is making the calls. He also said that the number is being made from a phone outside the area.

Stopping the calls

People can stop these unknown calls by pressing *77. At least those receiving the prank calls will not be getting them up in the middle of the

night. It should be noted that others calling such as your family will still be able to ring through.

To remove the *77 service, press *87.

However, Sheriff Gardner said that he thought having the blocked calls stopped all the time was a good idea. Those not having the service for stopping blocked calls can contact the phone service. Anyone needing help stopping the blocked calls can call the sheriff's department at 785-332-3330.

"We will be glad to help," Sheriff Gardner said. "These calls have made us (officers) very angry and we want to get them stopped."

"People getting harassing calls need to report them to the police by calling 911. It is possible to trace these calls."

NEEDS

Continued from Page 1A

Each group will finally be considered by all those in attendance.

Tom Keller, chairman, said everyone will be given the opportunity to present their ideas and concerns. The outcome of the evening will be a proven method of focusing on and addressing the major issues selected by those present.

Everyone will then be given the opportunity to volunteer to work on the selected projects developed from the forum.

Mr. Keller said that input from this forum will be used to update the current county strategic plan.

What is the Cheyenne Initiative Association

The Cheyenne Initiative Association, along with Rawlins and Norton

counties, are participating in the High Plains Regional Cluster. The Cluster is facilitated by Ogallala Commons, a resource development network for creating thriving communities in the High Plains — Ogallala Aquifer region.

Also participating in the Cheyenne Initiative Association are: The commissioners, cities of Bird City and St. Francis, Bird City Century II Development Foundation, Cheyenne County Economic Development, St. Francis Community Foundation and New Generation Fund, Bird City and St. Francis Ministerial Alliance, St. Francis and Cheylin school districts, Cheyenne County Hospital, Good Samaritan Village and Bird City Community Club.

RIGHT

Continued from Page 1A

Anchor, said this about Sunshine Week:

"If we present ourselves to the world as patrons of democracy, then we must be vigilant stewards at home of the oxygen that it requires — access to what our government is doing and the right to speak freely about it. The Greatest Generation fought valiantly to preserve and protect those freedoms. It is up to us to ensure during Sunshine Week and all year that their sacrifices were not for naught."



I am proud that community newspapers provide their share of oxygen. Our immediate past president, Jerry Reppert, publisher of the *Gazette-Democrat* in Anna, Ill., for example, sued for copies of employment contracts for top officials of a state university, reasoning that citizens supporting higher education had a right to know how money was spent.

The *County Courier* in Enosburg, Vt., in an editorial in advance of Sunshine Week, made the point both visually and with words by "redacting," or blacking out, portions of the text.

"There's always room for more sunshine in our lives," he wrote. "When it comes to government, we just have to be willing to stand up in the darkness and demand it."

Newspapers in Kansas helped to test local governments' responses to requests for public records, and found a reasonably good response except from sheriffs. Two years later, it tried again and found remarkable progress: only four of 33 offices failed to comply with the law.

The *Altoona Mirror* in Pennsylvania asked for information at 40 agencies. A reporter was surprised by confrontations and threats he met while trying to examine the public's business.

Newspapers there have banded together in "Brighter Pennsylvania," a program designed to help officials better understand open government laws.

And just recently our friends at a small daily paper in Missouri, pursuing information at city hall, reported that the mayor said, "The way you come to City Hall will determine whether you are worked with or not."

Somehow, I have the feeling that isn't what our Founding Fathers (and Mothers) had in mind. I imagine some of our Founding Mothers might have washed that mayor's mouth out with soap.

That reminds me that community groups like the League of Women Voters participated in Sunshine Week last year, as well as groups as diverse as university journalists, local attorneys and even a fire department in Los Angeles.

I have two messages for newspapers and their readers.

One is: remind public servants that we trust them the most when we know the most about what they are doing.

The other is: read the newspaper. It's the best way to enjoy the sunshine.

Jerry Tidwell of Granbury, Texas, is president of the National Newspaper Association and publisher of The Hood County News.

OFFICER

Continued from Page 1A

grant money would cover the hardware and equipment for the system. The 911 funds which are funded through levies on home and wireless cell phones, could cover a lot of the expected expenditures, although Chief Gardner hoped not to use the funds for this and save the money for further down the road for equipment replacement or upkeep. This money cannot be used for wages.

Chief Gardner's projected costs included a wage of \$10 an hour for four full-time and one part-time dispatchers. The yearly cost for the dispatchers and expected expenditures is estimated at \$140,000 and adding benefits would be approximately \$193,000.

Chief Gardner said that the group had looked at different options in funding the system, he had checked with other communities finding that Sherman County was completely funded by the county; Colby is funded half by the county and half by the city; in the other communities, Chief Gardner found that the cities did contribute a portion. Chief Gardner felt that the commissioners were leaning more toward the county running the system.

The city crew has started patching streets that were damaged from the ice and snow.

The city crew met at the city hall board room for a flex-plan presentation.

Employees will have the option of a flex-plan which will enable them to have tax-free funds put into the plan to be used for medical expenses, eye glasses, dentist and such expenses which their insurance does not pay.

Superintendent Landenberger met with Miller and Associates of McCook and submitted more information concerning the water problem on Parkway Street. The council will study the information and talk about it at a later meeting.

cated on the vacant lot by the old city hall building at 133 W. Washington. Mr. Toler would like to put tables with umbrellas out and would offer hot and cold lunch items when weather permits. He noted the cart would be able to be moved in order to take in special events happening in town.

- The addition to the city ordinance concerning snow travel was passed. See related article.
- Art Krueger and Ken Quigley were present to go over the Senior Center's financial year. Mr. Krueger noted the center had basically broke even for the year. They appreciated the city's contribution of \$5,000 toward the center. The center served around 8,771 meals and delivered around 3,390. The facility is now being rewired.

- Tom Keller was chosen for the "Spotlighting the Positive" award. Also receiving certificates for "Spotlighting the Positive" were the council members: Rodney Bracelin, Roger Jensen, Natalie Knodel, Carla Lampe and Dale Weeks. Each certificate was given for the volunteer time the person had contributed to different organizations.
- Economic Development business incentives were approved for Ann Fromholtz, Kut N Kurl, 315 E. 4th.

Building permits

A building permit was approved for Kelley Faylor to erect a covering on the front of his home.

Executive session

Mike Day, city attorney, requested 2 minutes in executive session for legal matters.

Pool report

Bruce Swihart, swimming pool board, updated the council on the board meetings. He told the council that the board had interviewed, and, with the council's approval, hired Lauren Ross for the manager position.

Improvements to the bath house were discussed, including work on the doors, plumbing, fixtures and stalls. There are plans of stripping the floor and painting it with a higher quality of paint. If funds provide, a shelter will be put up by the baby pool.

Clerk report

Mary Lampe, city clerk, reported the repairs to the firehouse which was damaged because of heavy snow will cost approximately \$1,890. A check was received from Employers Mutual Company for \$968 and from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for \$715, leaving the city with the cost of \$171.

The council approved Clerk Lampe to advertise the 1991 Ford pickup for sale by sealed bid. Bids will be opened at the March 20 City Council meeting.

WILDLIFE

Continued from Page 1A

weeks of cold, snowy weather. Led by Bob Bixler, Hal Antholz first provided grain for the birds, asking that people come pick up the grain and spread it in areas where there were pheasants. Later, Tim Burr, St. Francis Equity manager, saw to it that grain was in the barrels for people to get. Others helping with the project were Lance Long, Matt Small, Chris Bracelin and Tim Stimbert.

The Wildlife organization's clubhouse south of St. Francis was once again the place where hunters could bring the deer to be tested for chronic wasting disease. Samples were taken and sent to the K-State labs. Francis O'Leary, member, said no disease had been found in the samples sent in from Cheyenne County.

Some of the items auctioned off will include a Remington Over/Under shotgun, Henry 22 youth lever action, .270 cal. Howa Bolt Action, 870 20 ga. youth Remington, 870 3 1/2-inch 12 ga. Remington, 20 ga. Charles Daily Over/Under shotgun, .22 long rifle Henry Levor action, .17 HRM pistol, and a .17 HRM bolt action Marlin.

There will be numerous other prizes for young and old.

This year, to encourage membership, those joining with their paid membership will enjoy the free prime rib meal along with the banquet activities.

To purchase a ticket to the banquet and auction, stop at Bumper To Bumper, or Owens True Value in St. Francis; Heritage Corner in Bird City; or contact any Cheyenne County Wildlife member.

Chat with Rosalie

News from Topeka

By Rosalie Seemann

There are two bills going on in Topeka the Silver Haired had worked on but had dropped for lack of cooperation.

In the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee, two recent bills, Concurrent Resolution SCR 1602, the other was Senate Bill SB29, which would provide tax breaks that Senior Haired Legislator's have discussed in previous years, but not recently.

SB29 would remove the state income tax on any Social Security benefits, which become taxable by the federal tax and therefore carried down Kansas tax. Kansas is one of only 10 states which still tax this money.

The other bill, SCR 1602, would

prohibit increases for certain residential property owned by a person 65 years of age or older for property tax purposes. Members of this committee are Barbara Allen of Overland Park, chairwoman; Les Donovan of Wichita, vice chairman; Derek Schmidt of Independence, vice chairman; and Pat Apple of Louisburg; Terry Bruce of Hutchinson; Roger Pine of Lawrence; Janis Lee of Kensington, ranking minority member; and Greta Goodwin of Winfield.

If you know one or more of these members, contact them with your feelings about the two bills and that you are in favor of them. Please pass the information along to your senior centers or your senior groups.

BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY

To list your business drop us a card!
Call 785-332-3162 today.

Western Kansas Center for Comprehensive Dental Diagnosis & Rehabilitation
1690 W. 4th • Colby, KS
460-3999 or toll free 1-866-305-3999

Jeffrey M. Rayl, D.D.S.

- Comprehensive bite analysis
- TMJ/TMD diagnosis and rehabilitation
- I.V. Sedation for all dental procedures including surgical removal of wisdom teeth
- Dental Implants: surgical placement and restoration
- Complete endodontic services (root canal) molar and anterior teeth
- Extensive cosmetic procedures
- Laser periodontal (gum disease) therapy
- Esthetic crown and bridge restorations; all ceramic (no metal)
- General dental procedures: cleanings, tooth colored fillings, partial dentures, biologic dentures

Bison
Rx compounding & Therapy

Customized prescriptions for patients with unique medical situations requiring unique medical solutions.

James E. Hampton, RPh, PCCA Member
416 State Street, Suite A
Atwood, Kansas 67730
(785) 626-3237
(800) 696-3214
Bison Rxcompounding@atwoodtv.net

Residential & Commercial ROOFING

Local DURO-LAST Contractor

Murray Roofing
740 E. 4th
Colby, KS 67701

THE WORLD'S BEST ROOF
Duro-Last Roofing, Inc.

FREE ESTIMATES
785-462-6908
800-794-3204
Jeff Dreiling/Sales

Independent Insurance Agent

FREWEN INSURANCE AGENCY

Office: (785) 332-2108
Fax: (785) 332-3121
Residence: (785) 332-3466
frewenins@sbcglobal.net

Kelly L. Frewen, CLU, ChFC, CIC
115 W. Washington
ST. FRANCIS, KS 67756-0987

ART, ANTIQUES & MORE
Partnering with **ebay**

Bringing the Power of the Internet to you...
Even if you don't own a Computer!

With over 7 years of Internet Marketing Experience -
Let me help you turn your unused items into CASH!

ART, ANTIQUES & MORE is taking consignments now to sell your items on ebay®

For consignments or more information:
ART, ANTIQUES & MORE
Torre Conway ~ artnmore@iglide.net
888.212.0769 or 785.332.9080 ~ St. Francis

Elmer Kellner
Field Representative
U.S. 36 Highway Association, Inc.
www.us36.com

The shortest route between Indianapolis and Denver

KANSAS 36

St. Francis, KS 67756-5901
785-332-2950
eldoro1@juno.com