



Few races in Tuesday's election

By Karen Krien

The general election will be held Tuesday for seats on the St. Francis and Cheylin school boards as well as the St. Francis City and Bird City city councils. Also to be on the ballot will be a place where people can vote for members on the Sunflower Extension District Number 6.

The election will be held from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. In St. Francis, the only voting place is at Peace Lutheran Church, College Street; in Bird City, at the American Legion Hall, West Fourth Street. People can also vote early in the county clerk's office in this office has been set up and voters will be able to cast their ballots there until noon on Monday.

There are four people running for a seat on the St. Francis City Council but only two seats are vacant. Those running are incumbents Dale Weeks and Roger Jensen along with Bud Erskin and Bruce Roelfs. Scott Schultz is running again for mayor.

There are no races for a seat on the St. Francis Board of Education. Incumbents are Bonnie Zweygardt, District 1, position 1; John Knodel, District 3, position 3; and Member

At Large, Sherry Weeks. The new candidate is Dr. Mary Beth Miller who will be filling the seat of Cliff Raile.

Bird City

In Bird City, there are three seats up for election and four people running. They include incumbents Ray Magnani, Frank Serrano and Loren White. Hal Sager has also thrown his name in the hat.

Cheylin Board of Education has three open positions. There is a race in District 2, position 4 where both Dale Hazuka and Belinda Serrano have filed. Others running for seats on the Cheylin school board are David Frisbie, District 1, position 5; and Lori Janicke, District 2, position 2.

Extension board

The Sunflower Extension District Number 6 needs two people from Cheyenne County to fill seats on the board. Randy Rueb's name will be on the ballot. However, there will be a blank for another person on the ballot. Voters will need to fill in the blank. John Hendricks, Bird City, had agreed to fill the vacancy but was too late to register to get on the ballot. If people are looking for a name, Mr. Hendricks could be the other representative.

Area receives rain

April does, in deed, bring spring showers!

On Saturday, the clouds rolled in and the thunder rumbled. For a while, the rain came down fairly hard in St. Francis. Kathy Woodcox, weather observer, reported .19 inch total.

Date	High	Low	Prec.
March 20	68	38	
March 21	68	36	
March 22	64	34	
March 23	72	37	
March 24	69	40	.19
March 25	76	39	
March 26	76	39	



ALL WRAPPED UP! Fourth graders from St. Francis and Cheylin were at the Roger Zweygardt farm on Wednesday to learn more about what goes on at the farm. Mat Moberly demonstrated what can happen if a worker gets too close to the power takeoff. Among those were (l to r) Kyler Zweygardt, Kalin Ritchey, Shakotah Blanka.

Herald photo by Shawna Blanka

Public forum set for Friday

The Cheyenne Initiative Association Forum will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday in the cafeteria at the St. Francis Community High School. There are four goals to be discussed:

1) Mobilizing local leaders. Building a skilled and increasingly inclusive leadership group with a capacity to improve and sustain the community.

2) Energize entrepreneurs. This is a way to build local business and create jobs.

3) Engage and attract young people. Retaining and attracting youth and young families that are involved in community leadership.

4) Capture wealth transfer. Acting now to capture a portion of the wealth that will transfer between generations, and to hold these assets as community endowed funds. The next 10 years are critical because the wealth transfer will peak for many rural communities due to the age of the population.

Starting in small group discussions, people will be focusing on the different county assets and needs. Following the group discussions, the assets and needs will 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.

Input from the forum will be used to update the county's strategic plan.

The forum will be led by outside professionals from the Ogallala. See FORUM on Page 9

Council talks about putting park on historical registry

By Sandy Barnhart

The registration form to put either the band shell and fountain or the entire Sawhill Park on the historical registry has been completed. However, at the March 20 St. Francis City Council meeting, the members were now questioning whether the sites should be

put on the Kansas Historical Registry or the National Historical Registry.

Superintendent J.R. Landenberger, who had completed the form, noted that once on either registry, changes to the site(s) would need to be approved at either a state or national level. He did not feel this would in-

volve repairs but improvements that would change the appearance.

The council will contact former resident Greg Kite, president of the Historic Preservation Alliance of Wichita/Sedgwick County, to ask if he would recommend including the entire Sawhill Park or just one

or both of the structures.

KAN STEP

Councilman Dale Weeks updated the council on the progress of the emergency building. He said that several days had been spent preparing for the erection of the building. Ron Krien, local building contractor,

would be working evenings and weekends until the frame is up.

Councilman Weeks told the council that he had been approached concerning organizations and/or private parties wanting to donate money to the project. Councilman Weeks said he would like to see the project completed. See PARK on Page 9

Board agrees to pursue income tax credit project

By Karen Krien

At the March 22 meeting, the Cheyenne County Hospital Board voted to pursue writing for a Kansas Income Tax Credit. If granted the income tax credits will be used to buy room lifts and renovate the hospital's kitchen/dining area.

The hospital has received three other tax credits which were used to remodel the clinic, physical therapy and ambulance entrance, along with the installation and purchase of the

heating and air conditioning system in the hospital. Les Lacy, hospital administrator, will be writing for the Kansas tax credits.

He said that, typically, there are around 100 applications but only about 28 are granted. He estimates that the two projects will take around \$135,000.

"We (Cheyenne County) have a 25-percent chance of getting the credits," Mr. Lacy said.

The credits will be used for the

purchase of six room lifts (one for each of the new rooms in the hospital) and they will cost approximately \$4,000 each. The rest of the money will be used to remodel the kitchen and dining area, plus purchase new equipment.

Mr. Lacy said the number one project is the kitchen remodeling and equipment but added that both projects are very important.

Originally, when the board had

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Over 300 people attend banquet

By Casey McCormick

The Cheyenne County Wildlife members held their annual meeting and banquet on Friday. Almost 300 outdoor enthusiasts filled the American Legion Hall in Bird City for the sold-out event.

"It was a huge success and everything went well," said Tim Stimbart, president of the organization.

The group uses the proceeds of the evening to sponsor a fishing tournament, scholarships, the local gun club, support of the Coyote Calling Contest, fish food for the Keller Pond feeder and cost share



TIERNAN POLING was checking out prizes at the Wildlife Banquet on Friday. However, it appeared that Rylan and Trayton Doyle weren't too happy with his choice.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

with the Farm Service Agency for tree planting.

In addition Francis O'Leary op-

erates a chronic wasting disease checkpoint. During the winter, food See 300 on Page 9



FIREMEN FROM BIRD CITY, St. Francis and Dundy County, Neb., met to fight a house fire on Thursday. The home of Tommy Herring was completely destroyed. Pictured, Bird City and Dundy County firemen battle the blaze.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

Fire destroys farm house

By Casey McCormick

Disaster struck as fire consumed the farm house of Tommy Herring on Thursday afternoon, March 22. Three area fire departments responded although the home was gutted by the flames.

Fire departments from Bird City, St. Francis and Benkelman arrived at the property, located near the Re-

publican River and less than a mile from the Nebraska line. Bird City and Benkelman firemen fought the blaze while St. Francis backed them up.

The two story, stucco building soon became fully engulfed. About 12 residents were safely evacuated. Many rounds of ammunition, stored in the structure, exploded as the fire-

men and members of the St. Francis Sheriff's Department worked the fire.

The walls remained standing after the fire, but the house was a total loss.

Bird City Fire Chief, Dave Hickert, was pleased with the new inter-local agreement that allows the

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