



# The Saint Francis Herald

75¢

12 Pages

Thursday, March 6, 2008

124th Year, Number 10



**LOWERING 20-FOOT SECTION** of steel pipe to carry natural gas — the pipe is being laid across Cheyenne County. This pipe is being put in out north of St. Francis.

## Line laid across county

By Casey McCormick

scmcormick@nwkansas.com

The Overland Pass Pipeline is snaking its way across Cheyenne County, one section of pipe at a time. But soon the crews will be on to other counties and the supply line will be buried, with little to show for the big job.

The group working in this area is under the lead of C.D. Calvin of Jomax Pipeline Construction Company of Great Bend.

This project involves several smaller groups working as a larger team.

See LINE on Page 8



**WELDER JOINS PIPES** — one of the many steps to laying the pipe for the Overland Pass Pipeline.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

## Board makes decision on remodeling

By Karen Krien

karenk@nwkansas.com

Finding money to proceed with projects was discussed at length when the Cheyenne County Hospital Board met on Thursday. In the end, the board agreed to stay on track with the original plans to complete the projects.

For months, the board has been talking about finishing the labor/delivery room project and remodeling the kitchen.

The kitchen will not pass the Kansas Department of Health and Environment inspection again. The administrator and architect

were working on the kitchen project when an inspector arrived. Since there was obviously work underway, the inspector gave the project some time to be completed. The cost of the kitchen remodel had originally been projected at \$140,000.

The obstetrics labor and delivery room had come in way over the \$40,000 projected budget. Room five in the hospital has been designated for babies and their mothers. The room has worked but is far from what was planned.

Les Lacy, hospital administrator, See REMODEL on Page 8

## Spring clocks ahead on Sunday

Spring is still several weeks away but, this year, people will be setting their clocks ahead a little earlier for Daylight Saving Time. Before going to bed Saturday night, people should plan to set their clocks ahead an hour or they might be late to church Sunday morning.

Daylight Saving Time actually begins on Sunday at 2 a.m. but most people will not be up at that hour and should take care of the clock changes a little earlier.

It will stay light longer in the evening which is nice for those working in the fields or playing golf. However, it will still be dark when many people, especially school kids, get ready for the day.

It would also be a good idea

to get to bed an hour earlier than usual or you'll end up losing an hour of sack time and it could take the whole week to catch up.

Daylight Saving Time will end Sunday, Nov. 2, right after Halloween, but for the next eight months it's time to take advantage of the extra time to get outside in the evening.

**Change batteries/alarms**

While changing the clocks, it is a good time to change the batteries in the smoke alarms rather than to wait until there is strange sound like a bird chirping or there is an emergency and the alarm doesn't go off. Firemen suggest that by changing the batteries, it could save a life.

If the alarm is old, it may be time to get a new one.

## Director looks for new Bird City ambulance

By Karen Krien

karenk@nwkansas.com

The county has received a grant and now the ambulance director will begin looking for a new ambulance for the Bird City area.

At the Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting on Friday, Jannelle Bowers, director of the emergency medical service, said she had talked to Amy Griffey,

representative of Northwest Kansas Planning and Development. Ms. Griffey said Mrs. Bowers could start getting bids on March 1.

Mrs. Bowers said she will be looking at a four-wheel drive vehicle, noting that if and when needed, it will be there for both the St. Francis and Bird City technicians to use.

The grant is for \$81,000 and the matching county money was \$81,000. Ernie Ketzner,

commissioner, asked if she thought \$142,000 would cover the cost of a four-wheel drive ambulance. Mrs. Bowers said she was sure it would.

Recently, the Bird City ambulance had failed to start when it was needed. She said she had contacted Yost Ford Mercury and the mechanic had start it but, to repair it, two of the batteries needed to be replaced.

Mrs. Bowers said it is time to have the

ambulances checked and licensed. The cost for each ambulance is \$40 for the check and \$100 for the license.

She said Mike Hansen will be going to school so he can teach first responder's classes. She also wanted a different desk than what had been recommended. The cost of the desk will be taken out of money made at the soup supper they held.

See LOOKS on Page 8

## Meeting held in Bird City

Senator Ralph Ostmeyer and Representative John Faber will be in Bird City for a legislative town hall meeting on Saturday from 8 to 9 a.m. People are urged to stop by The Heritage Corner Cafe, have a cup of coffee and hear what is going on at the Capitol.

## Birthday is special

By Karen Krien

karenk@nwkansas.com

Sondra Bracelin, St. Francis, was born on Feb. 29, 1944, and for the next 60 years, she only had 15 birthdays. Consequently, on Friday, she celebrated her 16th birthday.

"Having a leap year birthday is unique and special," she said.

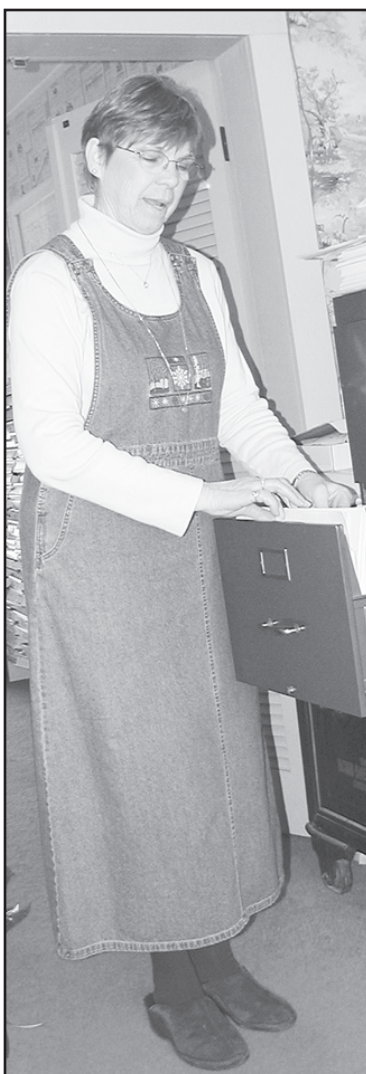
She was born in the "old" Cheyenne County Hospital and, 30 minutes later, a second baby, Gary Pfeifer, was born. She kept in touch with him up until a few years ago.

Mrs. Bracelin said she remembered her first birthday that fell on Feb. 29.

"I was in the hospital (same one that I was born in) with pneumonia. I remember pushing a woven basket doll buggy up and down the hall and I was wearing fuzzy slippers."

She said her parents, Noble and Barbara Dorsch, didn't have a lot of money but, for her 16th birthday (actually her fourth), they hosted a birthday party with all of her classmates.

"We had a dance, listened to all that wonderful music and I had presents," she said. "One present that I remember was a bottle of valve oil for my cornet from Jim Touslee — I was always borrowing his."



**LEAP YEAR BIRTHDAYS** come only once every four years. Sondra Bracelin had one this year.

Her birthday was always remembered each year but, having that fourth year "real" birthday was always made special by her family. Now former students (she

See SPECIAL on Page 8

## Senior competes for title

By Karen Krien

karenk@nwkansas.com

Cheyenne County's 2008 Young Miss, Holly Keller, will travel to Belleville this weekend to compete for the Kansas Junior Miss title.

Holly will join high school senior girls from across the state where a week of hard work, fun, competition and friendships begins on Sunday.

Holly is a senior at St. Francis Community High School. She is a football and basketball cheerleader, pom captain, yearbook editor-in-chief, Fellowship of Christian Athletes' counselor, volleyball and track letterman, AWANA's Cubbies leader, vice-president of Luther League, Homecoming Queen, and recipient of a Hansen scholarship.

The judges' interviews will begin Friday morning with a full dress rehearsal later that day. An autograph party in honor of the young ladies will be held Saturday afternoon, with Kansas Jr. Miss finals beginning at 7:30 Saturday night. For her talent, Holly will be playing a piano solo entitled "Sonatina in G."

Holly's host family is Dr. Nolan and Holly Beavers. Their address is 2309 K. Street, Belleville, KS 66935. It is a long week for the girls and cards and letters from home always help.

Holly was the winning contestant in the Cheyenne County Young Miss Committee's program in June.

Junior Miss promoted the "Be Your Best Self" program, an outreach aimed at encouraging self-esteem

See TITLE on Page 8



Holly Keller — Cheyenne County Young Miss

## Society asks for support

Cheyenne County Historical Society submitted a grant proposal to myhometownhelper.com, but they need community support in order for the proposal to be considered by the sponsors, Hamburger Helper.

Hamburger Helper is giving away up to \$15,000 per community to help fund projects in hometowns all across America.

Historical Society grant proposal requests \$15,000 to help refurbish the museum's country church and gives three reasons: 1) to preserve our history; 2) to attract tourists to our isolated corner of the state; and 3) to be used as a cultural arts center to host community literary readings, small choirs, history lectures, art shows, recitals, family gatherings, etc. Money generated from these events would help maintain the building.

But these granters need to see community support when evaluating a project proposal. For that reason, the Historical Society is requesting everyone in the

See SOCIETY on Page 8