

# County law agreement approved at meeting

By Karen Krien

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The Cheyenne County Commissioners signed the county agreement with Bird City for law enforcement when they met on Friday.

Sheriff Craig Van Allen had the updated contract for the county agreement with Bird City. The county provides law coverage for Bird City and the city pays \$30,000. With the new contract, they have agreed to pay \$31,500, a 5-percent increase.

Two of the officers live in Bird City and there is more coverage during school hours.

Sheriff Van Allen said he will be attending a mandatory training for sheriffs. Andy Beikman, commissioner, asked if he had enough people to cover for him while he is gone. The sheriff said he did.

He noted that one of the radios had gone out in one of the officer's vehicle. The repairman recommended that the radio be replaced rather than repaired. Another radio is also needed but the sheriff said he could get by for the time being. The commissioners agreed to have him replace one radio with it being paid for with 911 funds.

The sheriff asked for an executive session to discuss safety issues. No decision was made coming out of the session.

He said one bullet-proof vest would be ordered with half of it being paid for with grant money. The county's share is \$350.

### Emergency medical service report

Janelle Bowers, emergency medical service director, talked about Medicare's new billing system which has some problems. She said Cheyenne wasn't the only county that has had disagreements with the new system which was shorting them on air ambulance charges.

Five emergency medical technicians from St. Francis are traveling to Goodland to take "I" classes so they will be qualified to give IVs in the field. The commissioners wanted to make sure that these technicians knew that they would not get extra pay.

Mrs. Bowers said there are four first responder students who were testing their skills the following

day. She said she needs a secure internet service at the new emergency building office. She will be talking to the internet representative.

The adjustments not paid by insurance, Medicare or Medicaid, was \$2,706.

### Road and bridge department

Dave Flemming, road and bridge crew supervisor, said two used radios, purchased from Prairie States, Imperial, were installed in the two tractors recently purchased. He had a number of permits for gas and oil companies to cross county roads with lines. The commissioners discussed the need for having a resolution concerning road crossings as some companies are not getting the needed permits and then paying a small fine. They felt that the resolution would put some "teeth" into making the companies follow the rules.

One company wanted to trench across the county road. The commissioners did not agree to the trenching but, instead recommended boring underneath the road.

### Emergency building

Clerk Terry Miller was asked to e-mail Mike Day, St. Francis City Attorney, about the Emergency Building contract. The commissioners had received a contract which requested that the county pay 75-percent of the utility costs. Mr. Beikman said the emergency medical service director provided the facts that, as of Nov. 1, of the 250 runs, 164 were St. Francis runs.

I feel, he said, that the utilities need to be split 50-50.

The commissioners also did not think they should pay for part of the costs to repair a new floor.

The commissioners agreed that they want to work together with the city of St. Francis but they also want to keep it simple and fair.

They also agreed that they will not move the vehicles into the

building until they have a signed contract.

### In other business

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- When the commissioners met, there were still 47 days until the first of the year. They reviewed the budgets and noted that money could be tight before the year ends. Mr. Miller was asked to send memos to all of the office heads asking them to purchase only items that are absolutely needed.

- Mary Morrow, register of deeds, after executive session, announced that she would be putting in an ad for part-time help in her office. She was also given permission to get bids on a second copier in her office.

- The commissioners agreed to up the county employee's life insurance from \$10,000 to \$20,000. The additional insurance will cost around \$6 more or \$11 per employee.

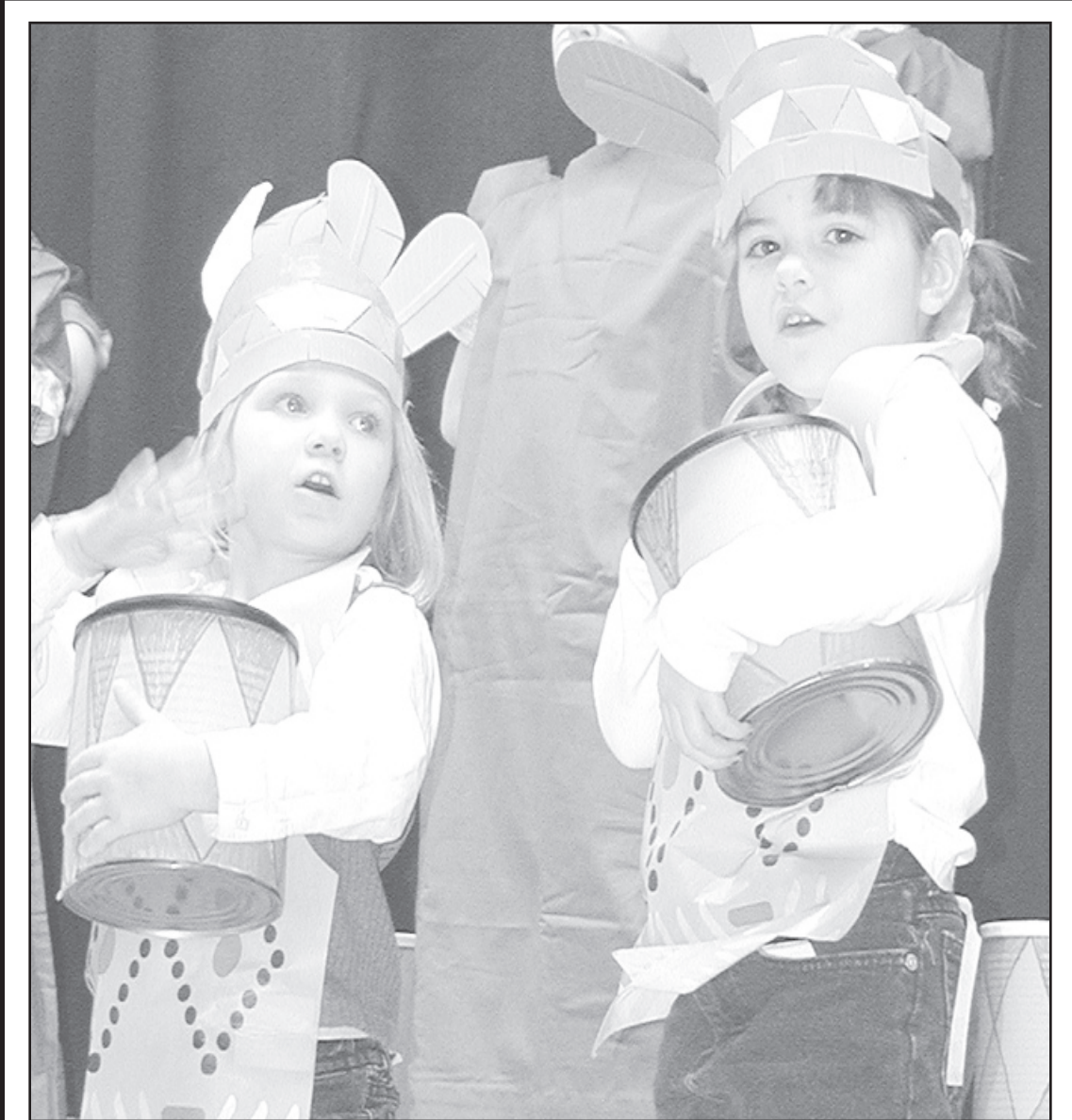
- After talking to Justin Barrett, county attorney, about mileage for his secretary, they agreed to pay the \$20.70. The attorney said she had met him half way with information concerning a case from this county. It was cheaper than having it sent overnight mail.

- The commissioners had been contacted about having a metal pick up at the landfill. Since there is already someone picking up metal at the landfill, they were not interested.

- Shane Guggenmos, St. Francis Police Chief, presented a bill for \$2,194 for the two radios put in the St. Francis city police vehicles. He said the materials were purchased from Prairie States but the radios are being put in by the Goodland sheriff and his charge was not known.

### Next meeting

The courthouse will be closed for the Thanksgiving holidays, Thursday, Nov. 27, and Friday, Nov. 28. The commissioners will meet on Wednesday, Nov. 26. The meeting will begin at 8 a.m.



INDIAN DRUMMER girls, Kaycee Luke and Stephanie Meyer, take part in the grade school Thanksgiving program that was performed on Tuesday. Their kindergarten class presented an old-fashioned Thanksgiving pageant.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

## Idalia News

By Angela DeLeon



### St. John's News

Men's Bible study is weekly from 7 to 7:30 a.m. on Thursdays at St. John's Church. All men are welcome.

Sunday, Nov. 23, congregational budget meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Sunday, Nov. 23, there will be a Thanksgiving service in Burlington at 6 p.m.

### Idalia Student Council

The student council is collecting used but not abused, or new pairs of athletic shoes size 7 and up, including sports cleats. Once collected and totals 600 pair, they will provide a well, an irrigation system, training, seeds, and livestock that allows a poverty stricken family in Ghana, Africa to lift themselves out of poverty. There is a shoe drop barrel at the Idalia school. For more

information call Sherri or Logan at 970-354-7375.

### Additional school schedule

School will be closed Wednesday, Nov. 26 - Nov. 28, for Thanksgiving break.

### Community schedule

Thursday, Nov. 20, FCE meeting. Bring cookie platters (2 to 3 dozen). Hostesses are Susan Knodel and Sally Parker. Roll call will be "where are you going for Thanksgiving."

The Lions Club will have their meeting on Monday, Nov. 24.

### Missing Dishes

With all the recent funerals and dinners at the church, there are many unclaimed dishes left in the kitchen at St. Johns. If you think you may have left one, stop by the church anytime and pick them up.

### Christmas Shoebox project

An opportunity to make a troubled child smile! Many are having tough times from natural disasters, war, famine, and other events. All you need is a simple box filled with four types of gifts - new toys, school supplies, hygiene items, and other items such as hard candy, small flashlights, caps and gloves. Decorated boxes will be available at St. John's UCC or you can decorate your own. Deadline for boxes will be Nov. 30. You can leave your items at the church anytime between now and the end of the month. For more information call Betty Moellenberg at 354-7343.

## Early Deadline!

Articles and Ads are due Friday, Nov. 21, at 5 p.m. for the Nov. 27 paper.

# Herald And Times Happenings:

To participate in a Special Section contact Casey McCormick at

**The Saint Francis Herald**

P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 • 785-332-3162

— and —

**Bird City Times**

PO Box 220, Bird City, KS 67731

## Christmas seen through the eyes of a child is priceless

This year, as in the year's past, the Special Christmas and New Year's sections will be published before the holidays. The sections will feature letters from Santa, answers of questions asked of school children, memories and recipes.

The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times staffs welcome participation from children to adults. All items must be received by Dec. 8 in order to get them into the special section.

Send letters, special memories, articles and recipes to The Herald at P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 or fax 785-332-3001, or drop them off or e-mail to sfoerald@nwkansas.com titling the subject as "Christmas for the Paper."



## DON'T MISS

BRINGING IN 2009 WITH A MESSAGE TO YOUR CUSTOMERS IN THE NEW YEAR'S SUPPLEMENT.



## FIRST BABY CONTEST

With the on come of the New Year comes the new arrival of that bundle of joy!

Coming in January a bundle of business ready to congratulate the new baby and the parents!