

# Plans starting for band shell grant

**By Karen Krien**  
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Restoring the band shell in Sawhill Park was again on the agenda when the St. Francis City Council met on Monday evening.

Mayor Scott Schultz said he had talked with Greg Kite, former resident of St. Francis and the president of the History Preservation Alliance of Wichita and Sedgwick County. Several years ago, Mr. Kite wrote a grant to have the steps to the courthouse restored and the steps were completed this summer.

Now, he had said he would write a grant to restore the band shell which is unique as well as historical. With Mr. Schultz's call, Mr. Kite said he would get the grant process going.

Mr. Kite said he would contact the same architect that worked on the courthouse steps. He said he would have more information in a couple of weeks.

**Property cleanup**  
The council and J.R. Landenberger, superintendent, had received information from the Kansas Department of Transportation concerning property cleanup. There was a disagreement concerning exactly what the department of transportation officials were referring to and the city attorney was not present. The matter was tabled.

**Chief police's report**  
At the last council meeting, Shane Guggenmos, police chief, said he had talked to the owners of the pit bull dogs and she said she will be moving out of the city limits to live. She said the dogs have never been out of the house without being on a leash. She asked that the chief give her a month to make all the arrangements. Chief Guggenmos told the council that, as long as she was trying to make arrangements and communicating, he was willing to work with her.

The chief said he had participated with other emergency responders mock evacuation training on Nov. 5 and it had been a good training which had gone well. He will be working together with the sheriff on a final report of the activities.

He said he was able to purchase four small cameras for the department's vehicles. The original price was \$600 but he was able to make the purchase for \$300.

He reported three motor vehicle

accidents, four tickets, two parking warnings, 18 traffic warnings, one theft report, five animal complaints, three medical assists, two domestic disturbances, three motorist assists, one criminal damage to property, and eight unfounded call for service.

**Building permit**  
Building permits were given to: Bob Modrell, pour cement; Dale Leydig, wood deck; Joyce Faulkender, poured concrete; Tina Kehl, carport; Nancy Ellefson, close in porch; Brock McAtee, small cement pad, Good Samaritan Village, garage.

**Superintendent's report**  
The superintendent said the cold mix for filling potholes should be in this week. He talked about continuing to look for a used double-axle state-owned truck. He had not been able to get to the last sale in Garden City.

Concerning Keller Pond's condition, Mr. Landenberger said he had talked to Tim Stimbart, president of the Cheyenne County Wildlife organization. Mr. Stimbart said all the paperwork with the state had been approved and renovation work could proceed.

The plan is to take the original shoreline back to where it originally was. At one time, the shoreline was 50-feet east of where it is now. Over time, the sand has stilted in. The county is removing the silt but Dave Flemming, county road and bridge supervisor, was wondering what to do with it.

Mr. Landenberger said there was rough land to the east of the pond but Mr. Flemming had suggested that the debris be taken a mile west to the old landfill area which was filled in years ago.

At the old landfill site, the debris, which will smell, can be spread out to dry and used as additional fill. The council thought this would be an excellent solution to the problem.

Mr. Landenberger said a walking path will be put in on the west side of the pond and the city crew has been repairing the bridge.

Keller Pond is located north of River Street, across the bridge and to the north of the road. It is managed by the city and the Wildlife organization holds a fishing contest there once a year.

**Scout Hut**  
The Scout Hut was discussed at length with Deb Gohl, representing the Girl Scouts. The council planned a walk-through the following day. Look for more information.

**In other business**  
In other business:  
• The council agreed to give city employees \$200 each in scrip money for a Christmas bonus. There are 20 employees including the two part-time employees. This is the same amount which was given last year.

• Clerk Mary Lampe said the city had received \$257 from the state of Kansas for Keller Pond improvements.

• Mayor Schultz said the city's web site should be done in two to three weeks.

• The Christmas banners will go up before the Christmas opening, the day after Thanksgiving.



'THERE WILL BE PEACE' was sung at the Veterans Day Program put on by the grade school music department. Pictured, l to r, are Devin Patton, Zoe Sundstrum, Erika Ramos, Jessica Pacheco and Jacey Jones.

## HUNTING

Continued from Page 1

year. This count found a strong breeding population, said Pitman; the crow county was probably the highest since the department started doing the survey back in the 1990s.

Another way biologists check bird numbers is to survey rural mail carriers. Four times a year, he said, in January, April, July and October, surveys are sent to 500 participating mail carriers across the state. They count animals they see on their routes, including pheasants, quail, prairie chickens, jack rabbits and cottontails, and squirrels, depending on the time of year.

Then from the middle of July to the end of August, department members count the number of male birds they see.

All of those numbers, said Mr. Pitman, show what the breeding population and bird production numbers are for the state.

It seems that ever since that bad winter storms back in 2005 or 2006, he said, the pheasant population has been on an upward trend. Birds can recover quickly with good breeding weather, he said.

Even the quail numbers are looking better than they did. In the northwest, those are still fairly low compared to eastern Kansas, he said, but they are up from last year.

The surveys, said Pitman, don't just help the department forecast the upcoming season, but also help identify areas of the state where there might be problems. That allows the department to know where they might need to focus management efforts.

The department, he said, has private lands programs which helps focus money on improving habitat for the birds. The birds need good habitat to provide a nest and raise their

chicks. The department tries to focus money on improving those needs in areas with low numbers.

This past year, he said, northwest Kansas had a mild winter, which helped increase the bird numbers, but most importantly, the area had good nesting conditions. The area had normal to above-average moisture and summer temperatures were lower.

Wheat harvest was delayed, which Mr. Pitman said, helps nesting success, since pheasants like to nest in green wheat. The delay gave

the birds more time.

Statewide, he said, the pheasant population trend is up from 10 years or so ago. In the east, quail are on a steady decline because of land-use changes. In the central part of the state, he added, the quail numbers seem to be stable, showing some increase over the past 10 years.

It's important, said Mr. Pitman, to do some number predictions, not only so that the department can look

for any areas that might need some help with more or improved habitat, but lots of people from out of state look at those numbers when they want to decide where to hunt.

It's good to have more nonresident hunters coming in for the bird seasons, he said. It's not only good for the agency in license sales, but also for business in Kansas towns where hunters pay for lodging, food, gas and buy equipment.

## HARVEST

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quality yet. Most of the corn was under the 20-percent moisture limit.

Some of the fields, he said, had some hail damage where the yields weren't as good. And, in some areas, the combine was having trouble picking up the stalks which had blown over but that only in a few spots.

Corn prices are a little higher than they were earlier this year. Mr. Weeks said, on Tuesday, corn was selling for \$3.50 to \$3.60 per bushel. The higher prices, he said, may be because corn harvest is slow in many areas because of the cool summer temperatures and wet conditions.

Elevator operators are trying to accommodate the farmers by being open later and on the weekends. This week is supposed to be dry with temperatures ranging anywhere from the high 70s down to the 50s. However, there is a chance of rain on Friday and Saturday.

## Pharmacist speaks at diabetic meeting

Dr. Kody Krien, pharmacist at Krien Health Mart Pharmacy, will be the speaker at the Diabetes Support group meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, in the clinic basement.

He will talk to the participants about the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan. This Medicare Fall Open Enrollment Period will begin Nov. 15 and end Dec. 31.

This is the time of year when all people with Medicare should review their current health and/or prescription drug plan and compare it to others to make sure it is still the

best option for the annual enrollment period.

Any changes or enrollments made between Nov. 15 and Dec. 31 are effective Jan. 1.

The purpose of Dr. Krien meeting during this session is to give those participating the information and resources necessary for assisting with Medicare prescription drug needs.

This meeting is free of charge and open to the public to attend. For more information, please contact educator, Susie Walz at 332-2104 or Mila Bandel, at 332-2381.

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## HELPING

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Archery Supply, 1430 Road 6; Kugler K-Store and Majestic Service, both on U.S. 36. They can also be purchased on line.

**Hunting guide**  
Each year, Nor'West Newspapers (located in St. Francis, Bird City, Goodland, Colby, Oberlin and Norton) produces a hunting guide, complete with stories and a pull-out guide map. These hunting guides are available Majestic Service, Dusty Farmer Motel, Cook's Empire Motel, Homesteader, Hilltop General Store, Cheyenne County Courthouse, Ringneck Country and The Saint Francis Herald.

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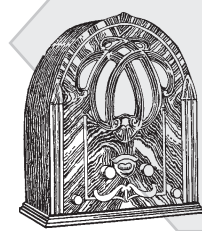
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