

# The Saint Francis Herald

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**BIG AND LITTLE FISHERMEN** were bringing in the trout Sunday at Keller Pond. Ward Cassidy, left, brought his grandsons to participate in the fishing contest. Pictured, left to right, are Adam Krien, KC Krien and Tate Busse. Ben Busse is in the background.

*Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick*

## Fishermen bring in 305 pounds trout

**By Karen Krien**

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It was only the seventh day of March but the day was like a breath of spring when a record number of fishermen met at Keller Pond for the annual trout fishing contest. It was calm with no wind — “the pond was like glass” one fisherman commented.

Sponsored by the Cheyenne County Wildlife organization, the contest had 46 teams of two participating. In the past, the most teams fishing at the contest was 26 teams.

Each year, the Wildlife organization stocks the pond with rainbow

trout. This year, in December, there were 400 to 450 trout dumped into the pond with four tagged. Two of the tagged fish were snagged, one by Vanessa Wieck and the other by Hal Sager, and each weighed over 5 pounds.

There were 154 trout caught Sunday and they weighed a total of 305 pounds.

Taking first place was the team of Hal Sager, Bird City, and Tim Stimbart, St. Francis. They had 10 fish weighing 18.25 pounds. They were done fishing by 11:39 a.m.

Second place went to Cody Baxter and Mike Hanson, St. Francis. They only had eight fish but they

were big, weighing a total of 16 pounds.

BJ Killingsworth and his dad, Ben, St. Francis, took third with 10 fish weighing 14.75 pounds. They were done fishing by 10:23 a.m.

Fourth was Brittany Lucas and her dad, Rick, St. Francis, with nine fish weighing 14.25 pounds.

Fifth place went to George Harper and Eric Harper who caught eight fish weighing 13.75 pounds.

The pond had recently been dredged and the size of the pond had been brought back to the original size. Fishermen commented on how nice it was to be able to fish

the pond with better shorelines. However, as the morning sun warmed up the ground, the new dirt became mud.

Hal Sager, who is one of the coordinators for the fishing contest, said there were many fish snagged but not landed. Out of the 46 teams, 12 teams went home empty handed.

All in all, Mr. Sager said, it was a nice day for the fishing contest.

Keller Pond has been closed to fishermen since the pond was stocked in December. It is now open to the public for fish-

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## Fair board makes plans for cleanup

**By Linda Schneider**  
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With most of the events scheduled for the 2010 county fair taken care of, the March meeting for the Cheyenne County Fair Board was about getting work days planned. There are always repairs to be made and a general cleanup of the grounds after the winter months.

### Financial report

Lacy Reed, treasurer, reported that presently the board account is at \$24,714.85. She reported that \$5,682 was paid to Troy Porter for horse barn repairs, Walz Welding \$104, Neitzel Insurance \$3,279, city of St. Francis \$126, Midwest Energy \$277, AT&T \$43. She told the members the grandstand payment of \$9,200 has not been made yet, but was added for their information.

### Extension office shows

Linda Elfers, representing the county extension office, reported on several informational meetings she recently attended and updated the members on upcoming events at the fairgrounds.

She said there will be an all-terrain vehicle safety program on April 15, hog and sheep weigh-in on April 28, and the Spring Show on May 31.

### 4-H Club awards

Mrs. Elfers discussed the topic of 4-H club awards and said the Cheyenne County 4-H Clubs will go along with whatever decision is made about fair trophies.

She had sent out e-mails to other counties to get some suggestions on what they are doing.

“The younger kids really love their trophies,” Mrs. Elfers said. “But the older ones would rather have something else.”

She added that other counties have used three-year rotations with their awards/trophies. Some ideas for trophies/prizes tossed around included jackets, towels, director chairs and duffel bags.

Adding that in Colby, the duffel bags with embroidered lettering are well liked. She was asking for direction from the board and gave members a catalog on items and costs.

Megan Douthit Downey, member, asked if there was discussion about wanting to do away with prize ribbons? Mrs. Elfers said they wanted to keep the ribbons.

Clay Zimbelman, member, said that he liked the duffel bag idea and Mrs. Elfers discussed several designs to accommodate both St. Francis and Bird City colors by changing them year to year.

“Or you could just make them  
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## Time changes Sunday at 2 a.m.

The sun is coming up earlier and the days are a little longer. The first day of spring is March 20 and this year, Daylight Saving Time will arrive on Sunday at 2 a.m.

With the change, the evenings will be lighter longer. Those itching to get out in the yard and garden after work will now have an extra hour. It will also give the golfers a little more time to hit those balls around Riverside Recreation.

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2 a.m. Sunday, although most people spring their clocks forward Saturday night before they head to bed. If not, you might miss church on Sunday.

While Daylight Saving Time used to come later in March, even in April, last year was the first time



under federal law that it began the second weekend in March.

While there will still be some cold weather and even a snow storm or two, the time change means that the weather is on the way to being nicer — a little warmer — just a couple of months until school is out, the swimming pool is open and harvest will be just around the corner.

## Hospital board OKs purchase

**By Karen Krien**

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The Cheyenne County Hospital Board at the Feb. 25 meeting, was told that the blood gas analyzer had been replaced after it had failed.

Les Lacy, hospital administrator, said it was a necessary piece of equipment and he had made the purchase of a new analyzer for \$14,000. Since it is considered capital equipment, the purchase was made out of funded depreciation.

He said the blood bank refrigerator is 15 years old. The vaccine refrigerator at the clinic had recently quit and he didn't want to take the chance that the blood bank refrigerator would quit. He is getting bids but expects it to cost around \$5,000.

### Physical therapy department report

Shara Johnson, physical therapy department head, gave a brief summary of what has been happening in the department. She noted that volume is up and down and Dr. Ryan White, an orthopedic surgeon, had made a number

## January statistics

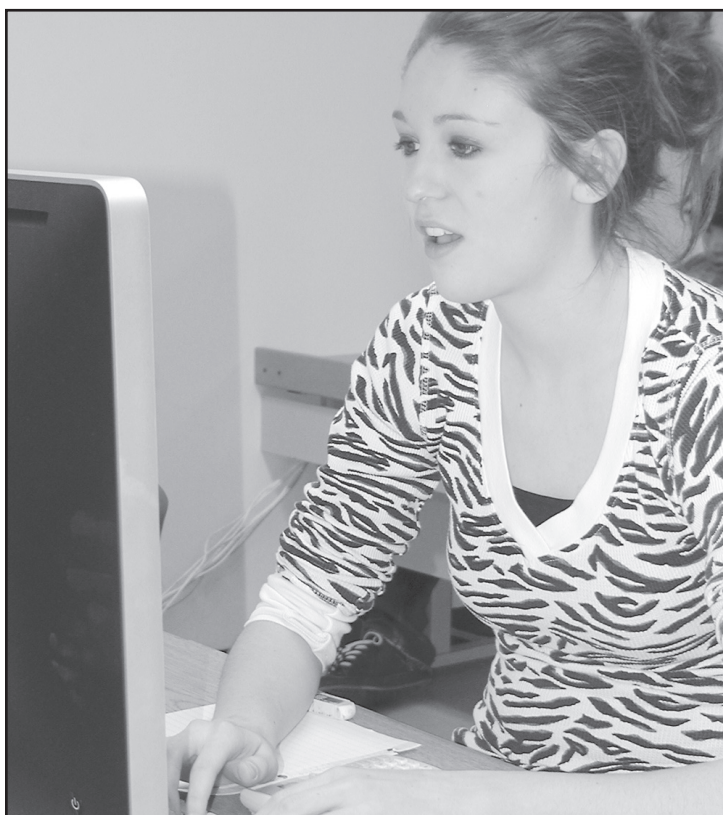
Total Patient days: 118 — This would be an average of 3.8 patients per day.  
Lab tests: 1,959  
Outpatient specialty clinic visits: 83  
Emergency room visits: 44  
Outpatient services: 1,790

of referral patients to the department which will help the volume.

Jane Young, board member, asked if the physical therapy department was adequately staffed? Mrs. Johnson said that it was and, when the volume is low, JoAnn Klie, who is the risk manager, will work in that area.

Jackie John, area director for Great Plains Health Alliance, the company which leases the hospital, asked if the pool therapy was

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**WRITING LETTERS TO THE GOVERNOR** were Aly Schlepp, left, and Lane Hoffman.

## Students thank governor for proposed budget

Recently, Kansas governor, Mark Parkinson released his proposed budget for the state. He called for no more cuts in education.

In a time when schools are hurting because of funding

cuts, it was a welcome surprise.

In an effort to let Governor Parkinson know how much they appreciated the fact that maybe some of the programs might not be cut, the Sainty students wrote letters. Some were hand written

and others were written on the computer but all were addressed to the governor.

Trevor Reed, a high school junior, wrote the following letter:

Dear Mr. Governor Mark Parkinson,

I am a junior at St. Francis Community High School. I just wanted to take a little time to say THANK YOU for staying in the fight against school budget cuts. What some people

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