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Council encourages recycling

By Karen Krien
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Each month, the St. Francis city crew hauls 80 tons of trash to the Cheyenne County landfill. This is after many residents and businessmen in town have taken items to the recycling center in St. Francis.

When the county landfill is full, said Roger Jensen, St. Francis city councilman, we will still have 80 tons of refuse to get rid of.

The object is to save the landfill from filling so fast and that is why people are encouraged to recycle.

Residents and most businesses have a big blue container they fill and each week, the city crew makes the rounds and empties them. However, there are other businesses which have more containers and they are emptied more than once a week.

Several years ago, Patrick Owens at Owens True Value, began breaking down the cardboard boxes and taking them to the recycling center instead of piling them up to be hauled to the trash.

Mrs. Owens said the trash was picked up two to three times a week but now it is only once a week. On Tuesdays, the Owens break down the boxes, putting

smaller boxes into one big box and it is taken to the center. They also recycle all the magazines, display cardboard and catalogs.

Recycling is also a matter of money. Businesses are charged \$18.50 a month to empty the blue containers unless the trash is picked more than once a week, then it costs \$4.65 each time.

Some businesses have large dumpsters and it costs \$20.50 a month, and if picked more once, it costs \$2 for each time the city empties it. One business requires the crew to empty its dumpster twice a day. Another dumpster has several businesses sharing it and one business puts more in the dumpster than the others but they all pay the same share.

The St. Francis City Council had no answers when they met Monday evening but felt that something needed to be done. Mr. Jensen, who is also a member of the Northwest Kansas Recycling Council, said, in Colby, each pick up is monitored and the business charged for the amount of time and what is being discarded. They agreed that a fair rate needed to be charged.

They noted that the trash men
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PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT at the city park is installed and should be ready for play by the weekend.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

City crew installs play equipment

By Karen Krien
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Most of the playground equipment at the city park is set in cement and ready for the kids to play on. The city crew has spread the pea gravel under the equipment.

There are four new pieces of equipment for climbing and

two spring motorcycles. There are also several benches.

Eric Fiala and Mike Meyer, along with other members of city crew, have spend endless hours putting the equipment together and then bringing it to the park and putting in the cement.

The playground equipment cost around \$8,500. From

2004 to 2008, through the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce, the St. Francis Community High School homecoming candidates were sold at a "slave auction." Thanks to those people who participated in the auction and the candidates, the money raised is the money used for

the playground equipment. However, said Gloria Bracelin, Chamber secretary, we couldn't have put the equipment together and set up without the city council's cooperation and the city crew.

The city council approved the purchase of \$1,750 in pea gravel for the project.



PLAYING A FLUTE SOLO, Sarah Whitmore earned a I rating at State Music Festival held in Concordia on Saturday.
Herald photo courtesy of Lila Whitmore

Three students earn I ratings

Six soloists from the St. Francis Community High School music department performed at the 2A State Music Festival in Concordia on Saturday.

"All of the students turned in

solid performances and did an excellent job of representing our school," said Debbie Fiala, music instructor.

Earning medals for I ratings were Jacquelyn Ketzner, vocal solo; Lo-

gan Whitmore, trumpet solo; and Sarah Whitmore, flute solo.

Performances receiving II ratings were vocal soloists, Tilyn Bell, Brandon Keeker and Alyssa Lee.

Art students receive awards

By Karen Krien
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The Fort Hays State University Art Exhibition was held Wednesday, April 14, at Gross Memorial Coliseum. Schools, statewide, participated in the day's events. Forty St. Francis students were recognized for their outstanding work.

"Having 40 students receiving awards is outstanding," said Mary Beikman, art instructor.

St. Francis students toured the art department's "Annual Students Honors Exhibition," in the Moss-Thornas Gallery of Art, Rarick Hall. There was a sidewalk chalk drawing competition, interior design projects and materials

display; graphic computer presentations, ceramics and blacksmithing demonstrations.

The St. Francis students receiving awards were:

Cody Sherlock/Alex Draper, string art; Kaitlin Figgins, rock; Garrett Figgins, string art; Alex Draper, marker; Cody Sherlock, glass etching; Jalyn McCauley, glass/abstract; Luke Guggenmos, ceramic; Luke Guggenmos, rock; Audrey Hoyes, basket; Adam Guthmiller, string.

Kaycee Williams, marker; Braden Schmid, abstract; Elena Paulsen, colored pencil; Brooklyn Hnizdil, mosaic; Stephanie Perry, scratch board; Robbie Herman, ink; Isaac Schiltz, scratch board;

Zach Zweygardt, acrylic; Tyler Lauer, string art; Brooks Hobrock, pencil.

Mikaela Grace, colored pencil; Allison Grice, acrylic; Allison Grice, metal sculpture; Tilyn Bell, glass mosaic; TJ Perry, marker; Trista Orth, mixed; Elena Paulsen, pencil; Marvin Miller, ink; Grady Brunk, marker; Adam Guthmiller, chalk.

David Stephens, scratch board; Luke Guggenmos, scratch board; Brock Zweygardt, mixed; Aubree Schlepp, acrylic; Brett Lampe, string mosaic; Hayley Brown, mosaic; Aubree Schlepp, abstract; Nick Smith, tempera; Elena Paulsen, acrylic; Kaitlin Figgins, mixed.

Tax credits funded again

Les Lacy, Cheyenne County Hospital administrator, reported Tuesday that, for fiscal year 2011, the Kansas Community Service Tax Credit Program will be funded.

There had been some question whether the program would be funded at all given the challenges faced by the state legislature, Mr. Lacy said. However, the hospital staff learned today that it will be funded for this fiscal year.

In an effort to balance the budget, on May 9, the Kansas legis-

lature voted in support of a broad 10-percent cut on the value of tax credits for tax years 2009 and 2010. This means, Mr. Lacy said, that when donors claim their tax credit for those years, they will receive 90 percent of the value of the normal program tax credit (50 or 70 percent). Currently for tax year 2011, credits will be given for their full value.

This tax credit program has been used effectively by the hospital three times in the past for a total of \$780,000 raised for vari-

ous projects including the clinic remodel, heating and cooling for the hospital and the ambulance entrance.

"This is an important opportunity for the hospital and community that may not be available again in the future," Mr. Lacy said.

He also said he believes a CT scanner replacement would be one potential project and that the deadline for submittal of the program is May 7. He indicated that he would be visiting with the hospital board about this.

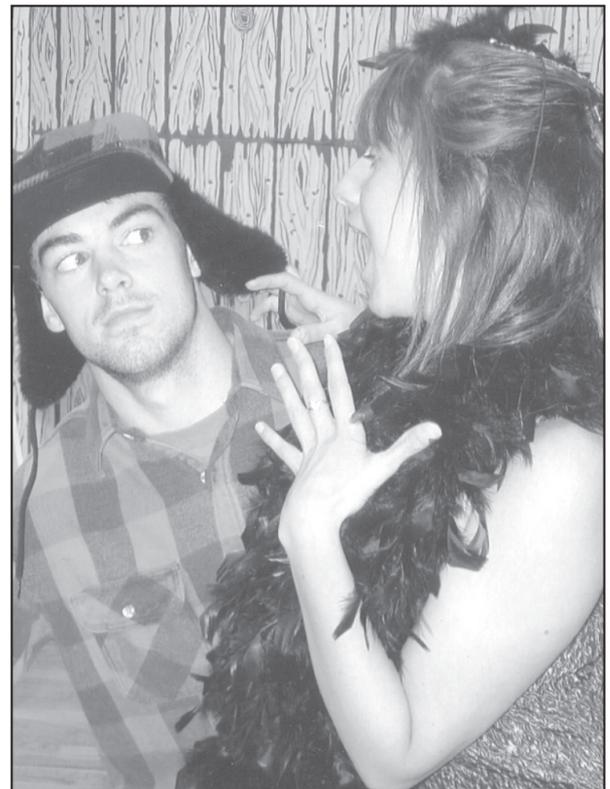
Music department class presents melodrama

Boo the villain and cheer the hero at the St. Francis Community High School music department melodrama on Monday. "ALASKA" or "The Secret of Yonder Mountain" will be presented in the high school auditorium beginning at 7 p.m.

In the melodrama, a gold mine has been discovered on yonder mountain by the hero, Cyril Twigbucket. Cyril is brave and daring, but unfortunately not too bright. He can't remember exactly where his gold mine is located. The efforts of Cyril's true love, Miss Persephone Proudheart, and the villain Rhinestone Fred and his accomplice Goldust Gertie to restore Cyril's memory will keep the audience entertained.

The cast includes Trevor Reed as Cyril Twigbucket, Alyssa Lee as Persephone Proudheart, Brandon Keeker as Rhinestone Fred, Agathe Bourdon as Goldust Gertie, Robbie Herman as Alaska Al, and Brandon McGinnis as the Widower Proudheart.

Additional cast and production crew members include Taylor Archibald, Mikaela Grace, Jodie Hilt, Trista Orth, Stephanie Perry, Christina Schoenrogge, Sarah Whitmore, Tilyn Bell, Hayley Brown, Krissy Harris, Christina Hilt, Shayla Hilt, Jacquelyn Ketzner, Caitlin Northrup, Chauntell Peter, Sarah Trembly, Kaleb Zwick, Silvia Bartoli, Ross Nicklos, Sam Reed, Isaac Schiltz, Logan Whitmore, Brock Zweygardt and Ty Zweygardt. The melo-



CYRIL TWIGBUCKET, played by Trevor Reed in the melodrama set for Monday evening, doesn't believe a thing Goldust Gertie, played by Agathe Bourdon, is saying.
Herald photo courtesy of Debbie Fiala

drama is directed by Debbie Fiala.

"ALASKA" or "The Secret of Yonder Mountain" is produced by special arrangement with

Pioneer Drama Service, Inc., Englewood, Colo. It is written by Robert Fulton Kennedy. Admission is at the door.