## Fire department to receive money

Bird City Rural Fire Department in Auburn: \$45,600. is among six fire departments receiving \$45,600 for fire operations and safety.

U.S. Senator Pat Roberts announced over \$806,200 in six grants were awarded to Kansas firefighters to improve homeland security.

"I am pleased to announce these funds, which are vital to improve firefighting efforts and first responder needs in rural Kansas," Senator Roberts said. "It's imperative to support our local fire departments."

Others receiving grants were: • Shawnee County Fire District 2

• Derby Fire and Rescue Department: \$32,947.

• Sherman Township Fire District

in Farlington: \$36,290. Anderson County Rural Fire Department in Garnett: \$155,800.

• Olathe Fire Department: \$490,000

The funds were awarded by the 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program under the United States Department of Homeland Security. The program assists rural, urban and suburban fire departments throughout the United States.

## **Obituary**

Rodney Lee Kleweno

Aug. 5, 1948 - April 22, 2010

Long-time Burlington, Colo., ventures included irrigation pipe died suddenly from heart failure on

Thursday, April 22, 2010, at the age of 61.

Rod was born Aug. 5, 1948, to Ralph and Luella (Gross) Kleweno Goodland, Kan. He was second of three children born to



this union, with Sherry Kleweno (Wiedman) as his older sister and Roger Kleweno as his younger brother. Rod grew up in a farming and ranching environment north of Burlington along the Republican River, where he eventually made his permanent home until his death.

Rod attended Idalia school, but ended up graduating from St. Francis Community High School in 1966. Following high school, he attended electronics trade school in Denver. He then made is home north of Burlington and soon married Barbara Taylor in 1967. To this union was born Rod's only child, Leesa Lynn in 1968. Leesa remained with her father until her graduation from Ida-

lia High School in 1986. Rod enjoyed many hobbies and interests including fishing, cooking, traveling and - most especially - flying. He was a member of the Aviator Owners Pilot Association (AOPA) and maintained several private air-

craft over his adult lifetime. Other

area resident Rodney Lee Kleweno sales, bait shop management, and managing an active farm and ranch.

He met and married Tita (Martino) Kleweno on April 16, 2008 in Las Vegas, Nev.

Rod took a special interest in alfalfa-hay production. He developed center-pivot irrigation on his river-bottom farm and ranch, and sold thousands of tons of alfalfa to customers over many years until his death. His reputation for high-quality hay is well-established and persists to this day. Rod also was a talented welder, and had special skills for working with large equipment. Mechanical and electrical issues of all types were within his abilities to handle.

He will be missed by his wife, Tita, of Burlington, his daughter Leesa McCue, her husband Troy, and his grandchildren Mercedes and Austen McCue, all of Arriba, Colo. He will also be missed by many friends and members of his extended family.

Preceding him in death are his

Memorial services for Rod were held on Saturday, May 1, at the Love Funeral Home in Burlington.

Memorials may be made in Rod's name to Northwest Kansas Technical School in Goodland and may be left or sent to the Kit Carson State Bank in Burlington.

Friends may go to www.lovefuneralhomes.com to leave a condolence for the family and to sign their register book.

## Commissioners table several requests

**POURING CONCRETE** — Work is nearing completion at the new location for Western State Bank in St. Francis.

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkansas.com

The Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting on Friday was short with few decisions made and several requests for purchases, which were tabled until more information was available.

Jennifer Padgett, communications director, had talked to the commissioners several months ago about purchasing a new dispatch console. She was unable to be present at the Friday meeting but asked the commissioners to consider the purchase. The console costs \$22,861 however, she has a grant for \$13,260. That would leave a difference of less than \$10,000 for the county to pay. The money would come from 911 funds but there has been talk in the state legislature that money which is a telephone tax charged to customers.

The commissioners agreed that they wanted more information on possibly repairing the console before buying a new one.

purchasing a truck cab and chas- vealed. sis, then putting a 3,000-gallon water tank on it.

revisit the tanker truck at another gun. meeting.

#### Work on county road curve

bridge supervisor, said the Kansas Department of TransportaFrancis.

In November 2006, a Burlington man, Brett Files, was killed when he took his four wheeler on the road and failed to make the corner. In April 2007, Raymond Armknecht, St. Francis, offered the land to change the lay of the curve.

He said there had been several wrecks but no one had been is a benefit to everyone particikilled before Mr. Files.

"I don't want to come out there someday and find some has taken advantage of this proone who has been killed or seriously injured," Mr. Armknecht said. "That why I am donating the land to have that curve changed."

Work will start on changing the curve in the near future

Illegal landfill site cleanup Kari Gilliland, county attorabout allowing counties to have ney, discussed the consent agreement that had been reached with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment after the county landfill had been fined for not enough coverage of trash. The county road and bridge crew will Another request came from the clean up the solid waste from an St. Francis Fire Chief, George illegal landfill site located in a Harper, who had talked to Andy ravine in the county but the lo-Beikman, commissioner, about cation of the ravine was not re-

The work must be finished within 45 days after signing the The chief was asked to get agreement. The agreement had bids and the commissioners will been signed and work had be-

Attorney Gilliland said she was researching state sanitary codes and talking to other coun-Dave Flemming, road and ty attorneys to see what they are doing about those people having nuisance property. She is also retion had sent an agreement to searching a sanitary code which help with the county's project to the county will have to adopt and redo the dangerous corner south- get approved by the department west of town. The agreement, he of health and environment. After said, states the corner is 13 miles this procedure, the county com-

west and 11 miles south of Saint missioners can then proceed with a letter to Doug Austin regarding letter of support for the hospital the clean up of his lot located on east U.S. 36, St. Francis.

#### Support signed for tax credit

Les Lacy, Cheyenne County Hospital administrator, said the state was allowing the Tax Credit Progarm again this year. The program returns the tax dollars directly back to the county and

He said the hospital and clinic gram three times in the past. He plans to ask for \$300,000 in credits so the hospital can purchase a new 16-slice CT scanner. Currently the hospital is using a single slice scanner.

The new scanner, he said, will use less radiation and scan at a much faster pace.

to apply for the tax credit pro-In other business

The commissioners signed a

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

In other business:

· Dolores Jenik, county treasurer, said she would need to make a decision on the person to replace Marge Peter before the next meeting. The commissioners gave her permission to make the decision.

 Mr. Flemming was approved to attend a Road Safety Assessment meeting in Colby and the Kansas County Highway Association Spring Conference in Hutchinson.

#### **Next meeting**

The next commissioners' meeting is set for Friday, May 14, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

### **CheyCoDeveloping**

By Chuck Kribs, co-coordinator Cheyenne County Development Corporation

You can get the neatest cell More reasons to shop Cheyenne County FIRST!

Lots of good things happening! Captain Hook's is back open, Lavelle Carpenter is serving up those good breakfasts at Majestic Service, and the St. Francis Senior Center has a new stove!

A big thanks to the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce for putting together funding to complete the travel video featuring 'The Breaks" and other Cheyenne County high lights.

We mentioned in the last col-

umn that a proposed hi-voltage power line would soon provoke a renewed interest in wind energy. That seems to be happening phones at the NAPA store, beau- as the Commissioners and Cheytiful bananas from Honduras at enne County Development have Hilltop Market and flowers for been contacted regarding "wind any occasion at Prairie Rose, farms," I have seen a map of the tentative routing of this power line, and we will be following that activity closely, to push for a route close to the county.

Retail merchants will be getting a letter and a phone call from the Cheyenne County Development shortly to set up a work session to define what we all need to do to further promote existing local business.

The Car Show is this weekend and I'll be driving the people mover. Hope to see you - It's a GREAT car show!

## WANTED Part-time Office Help

**Applicants will need** computer and office skills. Will be required to answer phones, wait on customers, proof read, type, take photos and make pages.



The Saint Francis Herald

To apply or for more information, contact Karen Krien at the Saint Francis Herald, 785-332-3162 or stop by the office at 310 W. Washington, St. Francis.

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