

# The Saint Francis Herald

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## Sainty seniors graduate Sunday

By Karen Krien

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Twenty-two St. Francis high school seniors will graduate at 2 p.m. on Sunday in the high school gymnasium. Both Cheylin and Idalia seniors graduated last weekend.

Class president Amber Smull will give the senior talk and Brooklyn Hnizdel, class vice president, will bid farewell on behalf of the seniors.

The class song is "Never Going to Be Alone," and parents will be presented

flowers. The concert band will present "Ain't No Stoppin' Us."

Pastor Jeff Landers, First Christian Church, will present the message along with the benediction and invocation.

Each year, St. Francis seniors are the recipients of many scholarships provided through local organizations and individuals as well as those provided by colleges and universities. The scholarships will be awarded by Principal Scott Carmichael and class sponsor Steve Jenkins. The presentation of diplomas will be made by Dr.

Mary Beth Miller, board president, with the help of Mr. Carmichael.

St. Francis graduating seniors are: Grady Brunk, Erick Estrada, Brooklyn Hnizdil, Audrey Hoyes, Darris Keller, Terrence Lamb, Alex Long, Jeff Meyer, Marvin Miller, Emily Mullins, Benjamin Neitzel, Dale Northrup, Freddy Pacheco, Elena Paulsen, Troy Perry, Matt Raile, Trent Raile, Amber Smull, David Stephens, Kaycee Williams, BreAna Zwegyardt and Drew Zwegyardt.

Graduation dance

New this year is the graduation dance which will be open to the public. It will be held on the pavement at the rear of the high school which offers a great venue for dancing. The dance will be from 8 to 11 p.m.

In the past, the dance has been held for high school students.

By opening it to the public, Mr. Carmichael said, it will allow kids and others to come together for the last time.

Special section

In last week's issues of *The Saint Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times* was a special section with photos of the seniors from St. Francis, Cheylin and Idalia schools. Some photos also include the senior's baby photo sponsored by his or her parents.

Take time to recognize these outstanding seniors and the businesses and individuals who sponsored them.

Additional copies can be picked up at *The Herald* office at 310 W. Washington, St. Francis.

## Board faced with difficult decisions

By Karen Krien

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The St. Francis Board of Education had some difficult decisions to make when they met on Thursday. In the end, the board agreed to not renew the contracts for five teachers

By the time of the Thursday night meeting, the state legislature had passed the 1-cent sales tax increase and Rob Schiltz, superintendent, said it will help with the school's general fund budget but the school was "still not out of the

woods." The tax increase may insure that no additional cuts will be needed.

The list of licensed personnel was reviewed and there was considerable discussion. Mr. Schiltz said if there is money left at the end of the fiscal year (end of June), they would offer contracts to those five teachers whose contracts had not been renewed but he was responsible for the school. Until he knew for sure, he recommended not offering contracts to

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## Congressman's staff in St. Francis

A staff member of Congressman Jerry Moran will be in Cheyenne County on Tuesday.

Chelsey Gillogly, district representative for the First Congressional District, will be in the commissioner's room of the courthouse in St. Francis from 2 to 3 p.m. to meet with area residents. Individuals who wish to voice their opin-

ions about the federal government or are experiencing difficulties with Social Security, Medicare, Veterans Affairs or other issues are encouraged to attend.

For further information, or to speak with a district representative, please contact Ms. Gillogly or Rachel Robben at (785) 628-6401.



'BUTTER' is the name of the painting which will be sold by silent auction. The picture was painted by Rachel Huffman.

## Painting sold in silent auction

By Karen Krien

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A silent auction is being held at the United Methodist Thrift Store which will end May 28. Rachel Huffman, St. Francis, donated a painting and the money raised will go to help the victims of the Haiti earthquake.

The oil painting was created many years ago. Mrs. Huffman said. It is entitled "Butter." All the items in the painting are used to make butter.

Mrs. Huffman said she had inherited some of the items and purchased others. They were on display in her home and she had pulled them together in the still life painting.

"I've been painting forever," Mrs. Huffman said.

She started as a girl, taking

classes in high school, then college, and after that, whenever she found a class.

"I felt I had a talent and I just needed to do it," she said. So, she painted whenever she had a chance. Her brothers, she said, are very talented and clever. She also had an aunt that painted.

Her favorite medium is watercolor but she said, it is also the hardest for her to create.

"I've ruined more paper!" she said.

Today, Mrs. Huffman says she doesn't paint.

"I guess I've lost interest."

But her artistic talent is continuing in other ways. She helps at the Thrift Store by making the signs telling where the store has donated money.

## Kindergarteners promoted Friday

By Karen Krien

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St. Francis kindergarten promotion was held Friday morning.

Twenty-one students were kept occupied as their teacher, Shirley Swihart, and paras, Judy Raile, Molly Bartels and Theresa Sowers, helped them into their new promotion robes and their caps with ribbon tassels.

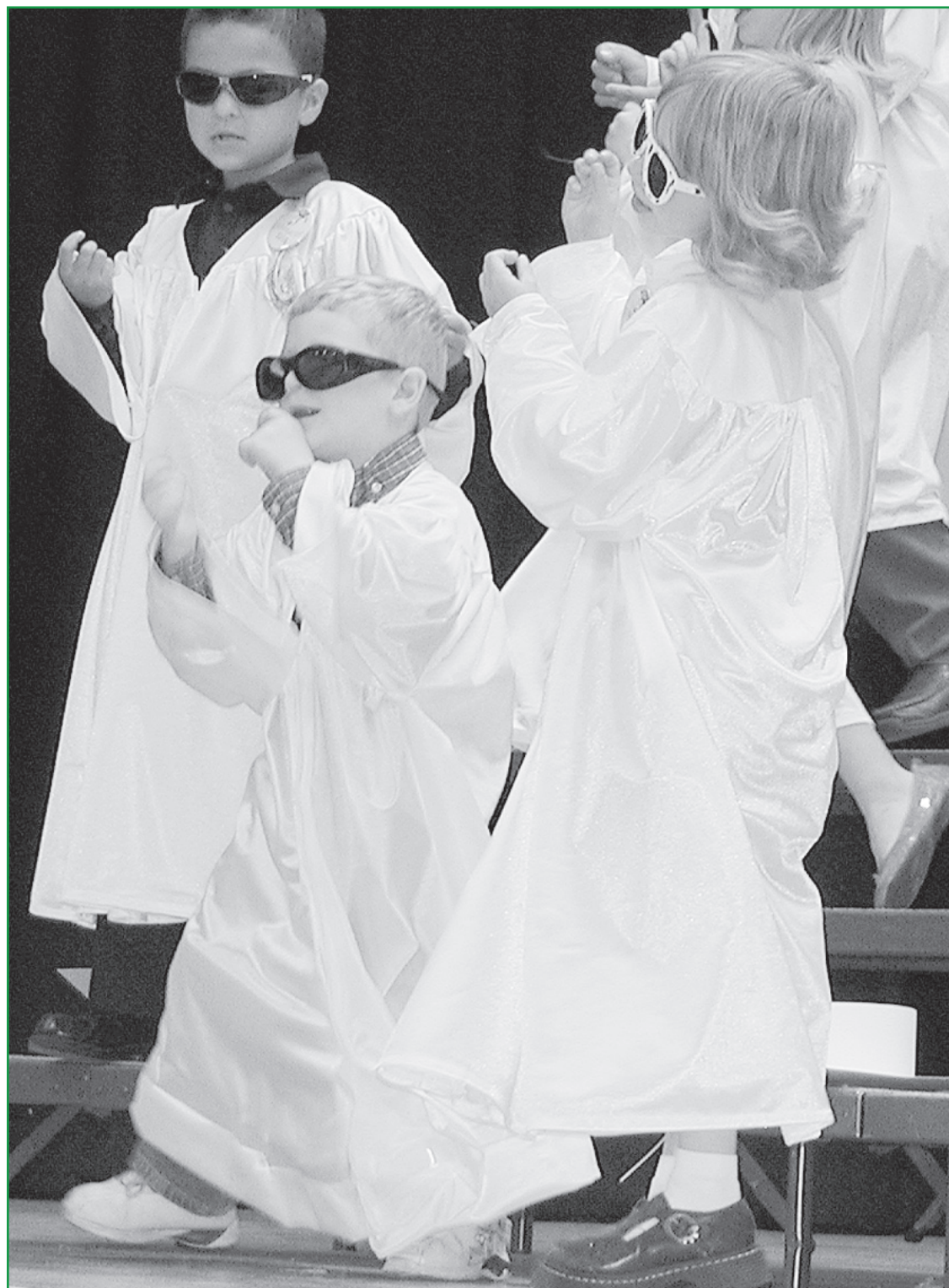
Jean Ann Confer, music instructor, played the piano as they made their way to the stage. This year's theme was "Fun in the Sun."

Songs and skits included: "Down at the Beach," "To the Beach," "Swimming in the Sea," "Five Craky Crabs," "Waves at the Beach," "Have You Ever Been Fishing?", "I'm a Little Fish," "Fishy Pokey," "Five Little Fish," "Down By the Shore," "The Lighthouse Song," and "Three Little Fishes."

The children had parts in the songs and poems. At the end of the program, the students were presented certificates.

Following the ceremony, cookies and punch were served in the cafeteria. Their art work was also on display.

Those graduating to first grade were: Joshua Berens, Jordyn Faulkdender, Alvaro Fernandez, Dawn Gilbert, Isaac Hathaway, Taiya Hicks, Hadleigh Hilt, Lyden Lampe, Kaden Lee, Adam Leibbrandt, Kara Maybury, Eli Mills, Mia Morrow, Amanda Neitzel, Cutter Neitzel, McKenna Poling, Kylee Reiser, Hailey Robbins, Shannon Semler, Caleb Todd and Bailey Workman.



GETTING INTO THE SWING were kindergarteners, (1 to r) Alvaro Fernandez, Adam Leibbrandt and Lyden Lampe.

## Much of phone tax dollars taken away

By Karen Krien

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Since the mid 1980s, the counties in Kansas have received a tax raised through the telephone companies on their bills. The money given to Cheyenne County has been used to purchase 911 equipment along with radios and pagers.

Recently, phone company officials lobbied the matter of the tax collected and how it was spent

to legislators. Consequently, it was decided that the tax collected would be given in full to counties this year and it could be used only for 911 equipment -- that was what the tax had originally been established for.

The tax collected was 75 cents per land line and 50 cents per cell phone.

The county receives \$10,000 to \$13,000 a year in the phone tax money and about \$5,000 to

\$8,000 a year is used to purchase radios and pagers. It was used to help establish the county's 911 system and do the signage in the county. It will still be used to pay for the monthly costs of the phone lines in the 911 office.

Terry Miller, clerk, said, on Monday after reading up on recent legislation decision, that the money (75 cents and 50 cents) will continue to be collected this year and distributed to counties as in

the past but they will not be able to spend it on radios or pagers. It will be cut at the end of 2010. Because the money will not be available in the future, the commissioners will need to budget for radios and pagers with local tax money.

The county communication/911 director, Jennifer Padgett had talked to the commissioners about getting a dispatch console in the 911 office which would cost \$21,000.

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## 1935 river flood is remembered

Seventy-five years ago in late afternoon on Memorial Day, May 30, heavy rains, downpours and cloudbursts began falling in eastern Colorado and western Cheyenne County. Together these forces brought about the most devastating flood in Republican River history.

Plan to attend the program "1935 Republican River Flood Remembered" at the Cheyenne Theater, St. Francis, on Saturday to learn more about this historic event. Beginning at 10:30 a.m., the program will feature a presentation of interviews and photos by Joy Hayden of the National Weather Service. The meeting will move to the Municipal Light Plant at 11:30 a.m. where Dave Floyd of the National Weather Service will present Gary Rogers, emergency management coordinator, with a High Water Mark Sign to be placed on the building.

## Livestock show set for May 29

The Cheyenne County 4-H and FFA Spring Livestock Show will be held Saturday, May 29, at the fairgrounds in St. Francis.

There has been a very good entry response again this year, said Linda Elfers, Extension coordinator. Everyone is urged to come out and support the youth with their livestock.

There are four age divisions: senior (ages 14-19); intermediate (10-13); junior (7-9) and pee wee (6 and under). Prizes will be awarded for grand and reserve champion market beef and breeding heifer, grand and reserve champion pig and grand and re-

serve champion goat and lamb.

weigh in is from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The program begins with the swine showmanship and swine show, followed by the lamb, lamb show, goat showmanship, goat show, beef showmanship, heifer show and market steer and market heifer show.

The Sullivan's livestock equipment trailer will be on site for needs during the show. The Hobo trailer will be serving breakfast which includes cinnamon rolls, biscuits and gravy, as well as a variety of sandwiches for lunch.

For more information, contact the Extension office, 785-332-3171.