

Board of education accepts gift offers

By Karen Krien

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The St. Francis Board of Education accepted two more gift offers when they met on Thursday. Rob Schiltz, superintendent, said Nex-Tech Wireless through the school rebate program for two quarters, had given the school \$1,510. The school had also received \$665 from the Ethyle Roelfs Memorial Fund to be used for scholarships to a student who is planning to go into cosmetology.

Contracts

Mr. Schiltz said the legislature is still proposing budget cuts to

schools. He expects the St. Francis schools to be cut \$140,000 this year. The board reviewed a list of teachers.

The law states that boards need to notify a teacher in writing on or before the third Friday in May if the teacher's contract will not be renewed. The teachers must notify the school board on or before 14 days after the third Friday in May if he or she is resigning.

Mr. Schiltz and board, at the last meeting, had discussed that this year, the same staff could still be hired if the state cut was no more than \$140,000. He asked that the

board consider renewing contracts at the April 14 board meeting.

Summer projects

The board and Mr. Schiltz talked about some of the projects planned for this summer. The money for building improvements will be taken out of the capital outlay fund.

Bids had been received for refinishing the high school gym floor. Four bids had been received: Great American Hardwood, \$15,007; VonLintel Refinishing, \$16,710; Acme Floor, \$18,800; and Bulte Company, \$17,675. The bids included sanding the floor down to

bare wood, painting a large Indian head in the center, lane and sideline lettering, repairs and refinishing with a water-based finish.

Mr. Schiltz had called various schools where gym floors had been refinishing. The recommendations had been VonLintel Refinishing. The board voted to accept the bid of VonLintel.

Other projects included:
 • The elementary hallway ceiling and lights. Scott Schultz won the bid for the project of a labor bid of \$11,361 and material, \$6,063. Jensen Construction had a labor bid and Cheyenne Lumber, a material bid. Mr. Schiltz said all the bids were very close. The lights will be purchased by the school directly from Stanion Electric for \$907.

• High school gym lights had two bids: one from Lampe Hardware and the other from Jensen Construction. Jensen was awarded the bid for \$2,675 which included removing the old lights and hanging the new lights. The lights will be purchased by the school from Stanion for \$5,049.

• Plans for the doors which need to be replaced at the high school were reviewed. There are 14 doors including the curtain walls on the gym walls which have not been replaced. The doors will match the new windows and be energy efficient. Bids will be sent out for the doors.

In other business

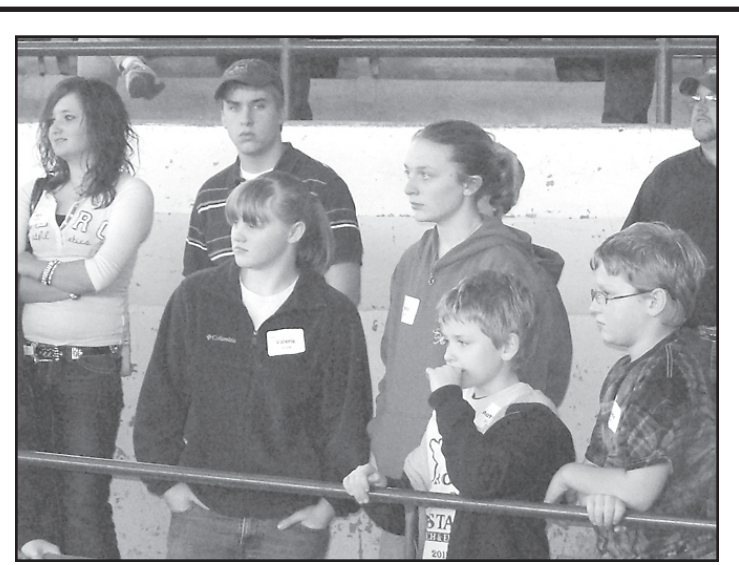
In other business:
 • Sherry Weeks and Derrick Tice, board members, will meet at the Scholarship Committee in the near future.

• Mr. Schiltz talked about the recent visit of the fire marshal, noting that one of the areas counted down by the marshal was the school did not have visible address numbers. He commended Ward Cassidy, 120th District Representative, on his work trying to keep fire marshal recommendations down to a minimum. (See related article.)

• Mr. Schiltz said the Kansas Assessment testing was going well with classes meeting standard.

• Northwest Kansas League had sent invitations to Dighton, Leoti, Sharon Springs and Tribune schools to join the league.

• Board policies, Technology Inventory and Use of Facilities by School Personnel, were reviewed with no changes being made.



JUDGING SWINE — Emily Elfers and Valerie Wurm attended the Junior Swine Producers Day in Manhattan on March 12.

Rec 4 U

Another active month has passed for the Recreation Commission. The biggest news is Girl's Gymnastics!

Our instructor, Conny Paulsen, moved to St. Francis with previous experience in gymnastics coaching and decided to see how much interest there would be in St. Francis. We were overwhelmed by the response. Soon the classes for both first - third grade and fourth - sixth grade were full with 15 in each.

Unfortunately, there is not room to accommodate every girl that wants to be involved. Conny is able to use the wrestling room at the high school as well as the wrestling mats. The area is limited and 15 girls in each class fills the space leaving enough room to complete their activities.

Conny conducted the first set of classes last Tuesday and will continue through the end of the school year. After summer break, she will start back up in the fall and plans to offer more classes to allow other grade school age girls to join in.

The Rec Commission has no gymnastics equipment and some of the school's equipment is looking run-down. Thankfully, a few dads



Stephens

Introducing

Gage William Stephens

Gage William Stephens, son of Ariel Coon and John Stephens of Colby, was born March 8, 2011, at 6:39 a.m. at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. Gage weighed 6 pounds, 2 ounces and was 18-inches long.

Grandparents are Denny and Darlene Coon of Colby and Dan and Rita Stephens of St. Francis.

have stepped up to do what they can to revive the balance beam and spring boards.

Photography

On March 7, Tammy Grice began her classes on beginning photography. Three Monday night sessions will complete the course.

Over the years, Tammy has instructed 4-H'ers in photography and was willing to share her know-how with the community. This summer she plans to conduct a children's photography class, building in camera practice time for children to learn how to take the perfect shot.

Weight training/management

The Weight Training/Weight Management Class jointly sponsored by the Rec Commission, Cheyenne County Hospital and the Cheyenne County Health Department is going strong. They meet three times a week with instructor Greg Wolaver. Several individuals and couples are taking part to change their bodies for the better!

Alternative answers to health issues

In the past few months, Kate Jenkins has facilitated three evening classes for individuals wishing to learn about alternative answers to health issues. Those in attendance are asking for her to continue. Plan now to attend once a month on the third Thursdays. Class titles include: March 17 - Breast Health, April 21 - Clean Liver, and May 19 - Diabetes; a modern epidemic.

Kate holds the classes at the library meeting room from 7 - 9 p.m.

Upcoming

• Upcoming opportunities in April include a Murder Mystery Dinner Party and a Fused Glass Workshop. Jo Ellen Frewen and I put on a Murder Mystery party for high schoolers back in October. We had as much fun as the teenagers.

If you have never had the opportunity to be a part of one of these events give it a try. The mystery is purchased on-line according to how many adults want to be involved. Each person is assigned a character and given suggestions on how to dress accordingly. As you enter for the evening, you will be given clues you must share concerning the crime while visiting

By Penny Gienger



St. Francis Rec Director

with the other characters. Most will be suspects, also.

After snacks and discussion, the details as well as murderer will be revealed.

• Kim Zwegardt will conduct the Fused Glass Workshop for only 6 students on Saturday, April 30. This introductory class will consist of basic information and must be taken if you wish to join in on later classes. Kim learned this art medium a few years ago and makes beautiful dishes and jewelry. Plan now to be a part of the class.

• Got summer plans? Grade school parents mark your calendars for your third - sixth grade child to attend the science camp entitled, Camp Invention - Passage to Planet ROG. The program boasts, "Invest in your child's future by augmenting his/her education with science, technology, engineering and math activities disguised as fun". Kim Queen will conduct five 1-hour sessions the week of July 18 - 22.

The administration and staff of the St. Francis schools are recognized for allowing all recreation activities to be held there, as well as use of equipment. Mr. Schiltz, Mr. Carmichael, Teri Richard, and Marilyn Raile are always willing to assist any way they can.

Watch for more information and sign-up details for the Murder Mystery Party and Fused Glass Workshop in *The Saint Francis Herald*. Call Penny Gienger at 332-3949.

The Wrist Cath

A New Path to the Heart



An important new alternative to traditional cardiac catheterization – transradial, or wrist, catheterization – is now offered by DeBakey Heart Institute and Dr. Richard Markiewicz, interventional cardiologist.

For patients who meet the criteria, Dr. Markiewicz uses the radial artery, located in the wrist, as the access point for catheterization procedures rather than the femoral artery in the groin.

Wrist catheterization can:

- Improve patient comfort
- Decrease recovery time
- Reduce chance of bleeding complications
- Provide less stress for most patients

Each patient must be evaluated individually to determine whether wrist catheterization is appropriate for them. For more information call 888-625-4699 or ask your primary care physician.



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