

# School board accepts three resignations

By Karen Krien

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Resignations from three teachers were accepted when the St. Francis Board of Education met on Thursday evening.

Sandy Smull, Lynette Nolan and Steve Jenkins had letters of resignations although Mr. Jenkins' resignation was from coaching high school football and junior high wrestling. Mr. Jenkins had coached for 39 years.

Mrs. Smull has been a teacher and a part-time teacher in the grade school for 39 years. Mrs. Nolan has been a teacher in the grade school for 27 years. Both teachers expressed appreciation for being able to teach in the St. Francis schools.

Mr. Schiltz said he appreciated having the resignations early so plans could be made on what the board would do next year.

By law, a teacher who is resigning must notify the school board on or before June 1.

The board and administration talked about how the positions would be filled. Rob Schiltz, superintendent, said he and Scott Carmichael, principal, had discussed bringing the sixth grade to the junior high. They felt that it was a workable situation both educationally and in sports.

Moving the sixth graders to the junior high will come at some time, Mr. Schiltz said.

The board discussed at length

the pros and cons of the move. Board members had already been approached by parents who did not want their sixth grade students in the building with high school students. The administration said there would seldom be a time when the older students would meet with the younger ones.

In an effort to save money, Mila Bandel, board member, asked what Mr. Schiltz thought about a four-day school week. Mr. Schiltz said that he didn't think the savings would be that great but, why he was mostly against it was the fact that he didn't think, educationally, it was better. Those extra minutes in the classroom each day will not make up for a full day of classes.

In the end, some of the board members indicated they didn't think the savings of moving the sixth graders to the junior high was enough to make the move this year. Mr. Schiltz pointed out that he was responsible for the budget and that money could make a difference.

The board talked about Gov. Sam Brownback's proposed budget and how it would affect the St. Francis schools. Since there have been no decisions, Mr. Schiltz will continue to follow the legislative news.

#### Nex-Tech gift

The board accepted a gift of \$833 from Nex-Tech Wireless and Republican Valley Auto Supply. Nex-Tech has given a total of \$2,700 to the school. The money is put in the Capital Outlay Fund.

#### Boiler replacement

At the January meeting, the board met with a representative from Ennovate Corporation, Aurora, Colo., that several rural schools in Kansas and Colorado are using to help with determining equipment that needs to be replaced and what is the best replacement that will save the school money in utilities.

The boiler at the high school needs to be replaced but Mr. Schiltz said he didn't know enough about it to feel comfortable in deciding what the school needed.

After talking to the Ennovate representative, he told the board that he had found out that the school might be eligible to have an engineer tell the board and administration what boiler would be the best for the school through the Resourceful Kansas program.

Mr. Schiltz and board member, Derrick Tice, had attended a meeting in Manhattan, and, while they saw a lot of impressive things, the energy-saving equipment would cost a lot.

Mr. Schiltz had recently been notified that the school had been approved for a free energy audit at Level One but, that was all. Until Mr. Schiltz has more information, he suggested that the boiler project be put on hold.

#### Weather

Date	High	Low	Prec.
Feb. 7	25	10	
Feb. 8	33	11	
Feb. 9	44	15	
Feb. 10	25	5	.12
Feb. 11	20	5	
Feb. 12	36	18	.01
Feb. 13	41	18	

# People are urged to order daffodils

American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days is here.

Orders are being taken with the deadline set for Monday, Feb. 27. Orders will be delivered March 5.

To order, call Gary or Miriam Yonkey, 785-332-2025, and leave a message.

This is the third year the Yonkeys have helped with Daffodil Days. Gary said he supports the program. When a member of your family has cancer, he said, you know how important cancer research is.

Daffodil Days is one of the American Cancer Society's oldest fundraisers. It celebrates the Society's mission to eliminate cancer as a life-threatening disease by offering daffodils to donors in appreciation of their contributions.

For more than 30 years, Daffodil Days has enabled people to join the fight against cancer by raising funds and sharing hope for a future where the disease no longer threatens loved ones.

There are three different price ranges including a \$25 bunch which also includes a bear. There is a sunshine bouquet which includes a vase for \$15 and an individual bouquet of 10 daffodils for \$10. The person can order as many bouquets as they want.

There is also the "gift of hope" which is a bouquet of daffodils delivered anonymously to those who have been touched by cancer. The flowers will be delivered to hospitals, treatment centers, nursing homes and churches on the donor's behalf.

## —Student News—

Adam Guthmiller, a freshman at Sterling College, is on the Dean's List for the fall of 2011 semester.

Criteria for the Dean's List include the completion of at least 12 graded credit hours and a cumulative and semester grade point average of 3.5 or better.

Guthmiller is a 2011 graduate of St. Francis Community High School and the son of John and Kristi Guthmiller, St. Francis.

# Three diseased deer found in Kansas

The number of cases of chronic wasting disease (CWD) detected in Kansas deer continues to be low and is currently isolated to the northwest part of the state, according to the Shane Hesting, wildlife disease coordinator for the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWP). Samples from three white-tailed bucks taken during this year's hunting season were confirmed positive for the disease in tests completed last week. Counties where the deer were taken include Wallace (new county of detection), Decatur and Rawlins. The Kansas Department of Wildlife will continue testing some vehicle-killed and sick or suspect-looking deer, as well as deer taken with depredation permits, through July 31.

"This season's testing results

bring the total number of confirmed chronic wasting disease cases in Kansas to 43 since testing began in 1996," said Hesting. "About 2,400 samples were collected during the 2011-2012 deer seasons, but testing has been slow, and testing kits are continually on back order. We're about 35-percent done. More importantly, U.S. Department of Agriculture funding will not be available for collecting and testing samples next season. Without federal financial assistance, surveillance will be very limited and less robust."

Testing has been a part of an ongoing effort by Kansas department to monitor the prevalence and spread of chronic wasting disease. The disease, fatal in wild deer, was first detected in deer taken in Cheyenne County in 2005.



DAVE PENTON, Cheyenne County Hospital employee, put new cords on the flag pole and raised the flag Monday afternoon. Dave is retiring after 31 years. Herald photo by Karen Krien

# Employee retires Friday

By Karen Krien

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As of Friday, Dave Penton will retire as the hospital maintenance man.

Mr. Penton began working at the hospital in September 1980 and, after 31 years, he has decided that it is time to retire and do some things he has been putting off. He said his wife, Sharon, has found a paint brush for him and he wants to restore a 1949 Case tractor.

Mr. Penton said he has seen a lot of changes at the hospital since he started. He has worked for several different administrators starting with Helen Burnham and ending with Les Lacy, the present administrator. Among those other administrators included Dale White.

There have been three major changes to the facility including the remodeling the X-ray and lab, and the front entrance of the building as well as the new addition to the west end of the building.

Through the years, he has been

in charge of the maintenance of the inside of the hospital and clinic as well as the outside. Several years ago, the hospital also hired Bill Wilger.

There have been some exciting happenings at the hospital but he best remembers the time the high pressure boiler blew a pop-off valve and the room filled with steam. When some employees opened the door, they couldn't see me any where, he said. And, he

wasn't there. When the room started filling up with steam, he said, I just walked on through and went out the other door but it had caused some concern.

He said he has worked for really nice nurses and doctors. He has also been fortunate to work with Brian Ford and Bruce Roelfs who were in the maintenance department.

## DEW Drop Angus

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