

Council discusses police

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Police Chief Shane Guggenmos has been working with Cheyenne County Sheriff Cody Beeson since the city police department has been reduced to two people. The sheriff has agreed to take the calls that come in for the department when there is not anyone on duty. The St. Francis City Council is looking at doing away with the city police department and merging all law enforcement after deciding, on a 3-2 vote at the April 14 council meeting, to put off filling an open position in the police force.

The department accepted the resignation of Officer Darrell Thomas last month, the council heard, opening up a full-time job at the end of April. However, when members voted on whether to fill the opening, the motion failed.

At last Monday's meeting when Chief Guggenmos gave his report, he said that he and Sheriff Beeson have been communicating on how to handle the situation. Sheriff Beeson said that weekends work best for him to cover.

At this point the Sheriff's Department is just handling calls if they come in. However, Sheriff Beeson was concerned about the amount of hours that could be accumulated, Chief Guggenmos said. The sheriff also said he could not guarantee patrol.

City attorney Mike Day asked if there was anything in writing with the sheriff at this time. Chief Guggenmos said no. He added that if the council wanted the sheriff to handle patrol, he would have to hire another person.

In addition to the city police department being a person short at this point, Chief Guggenmos said that the Sheriff's Department is also stretched thin. The department cannot run overtime, and so there are times when there is not anyone on patrol. However someone is always available on-call.

-St. Francis News-

Donna and Norvin Northrup spent Thursday and Friday in Aurora, Colo., where they attended the beautiful retirement ceremony for their grandson, chief petty officer Troy Dankenbring, who retired after 24 years in the Navy. Many other family members and guests also attended

Chief Guggenmost told the council he thought they should speak with Sheriff Beeson.

Mayor Scott Schultz said that if the council hired the sheriff's department to cover another shift, they are right back to where they started expense-wise.

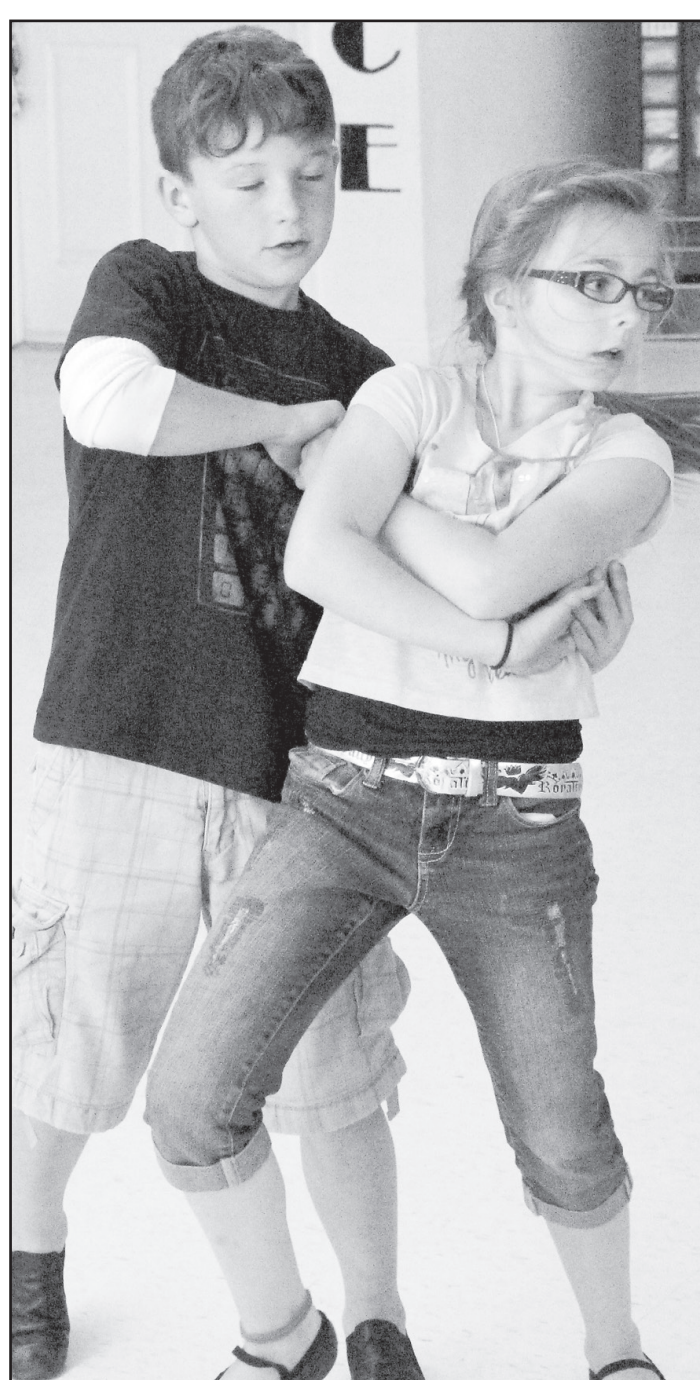
Council member Bruce Swihart said the only way that the council will really save money is by reducing coverage.

Mr. Day said that he thought Sheriff Beeson was coming in. Mayor Schultz said that he

thought the council had discussed it, but that no decision was made and so the sheriff had not been asked to come.

After some discussion, it was decided that they would talk with Sheriff Beeson and the county commissioners at the scheduled time the council has with the commissioners on May 15 at 7:30 a.m.

Mayor Schultz suggested in the meantime each council member be thinking about what they want for police coverage.



HADLEIGH HILT AND LOGAN HAMILTON practice for their upcoming dance recital. The Dance Ranch will have all their students performing at their Spring Recital, "Applause," at the high school auditorium on Sunday, May 11 at 2 p.m. Herald staff photo by Douglas Sloper



SENIOR EDITOR, Aly Schlepp shares her honorable mention state journalism sports photo with co-editor Rande Grover. Schlepp traveled to The Dundy County track meet on April 8 to capture her award winning shot of Katie Schmid doing the hurdles. Schlepp also received third place for Feature Writing and Grover was awarded honorable mention in Yearbook Copy Writing.

Journalism students place

The St. Francis Community High School journalism students tied for second place at the State Journalism Contest held in Lawrence at the University of Kansas on Saturday, May 3.

Individual placers were: Aly Schlepp - third place for Feature Writing and honorable mention for Sports Photography; Rande

Grover - honorable mention for Yearbook Copy Writing; Bailey Merklin - honorable mention for Cutline (caption) Writing and for Infographics; Erik Nelson - second place Editing; Carol Eve Harris - honorable mention for Editorial Cartoon; Hannah Stafford - honorable mention for News Page Design.

In February, journalism students competed in the regional journalism contest in Hays. Twenty-three members of the high school Wigwam staff placed and qualified for state journalism. The Saint Francis journalists also took home more points than any other 1A-2A team.

Donate blood to save a life

With summer right around the corner, the American Red Cross asks eligible donors to make giving blood as much a part of their summer plans as barbecues, ball games and road trips. Donors of all blood types are needed.

"Blood donations often decline during the summer when schools are out of session and families are vacationing," said Tricia Quinn, CEO, Central Plains Blood Services Region. "But the

need for blood is constant. Eligible donors are encouraged to make an appointment now to roll up a sleeve and give patients a chance for hope this summer and throughout the year."

The Red Cross provides blood to approximately 2,700 hospitals and transfusion centers across the country. Each day, the Red Cross must collect about 15,000 blood donations to meet the needs of patients at these facilities.

Learn more and make an appointment to donate blood by visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities in Cheyenne County: May 20, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Peace Lutheran Church, 202 N College, Saint Francis, Kan.; in Rawlins County: on May 14, Noon to 5 p.m., Knights of Columbus, Atwood, Kan.

Rough Writers read with students at old church

About forty people attended "Rough Writers Read with Students" on Sunday afternoon, May 4, at the Old Country Church near the Cheyenne County Museum.

Fourteen students from Lisa Holzwarth's Grades 8 and 9 English classes in St. Francis and a student from Lucille Rossbach's Colby Community College Composition I and II classes in Bird City read some of their original poetry and essays.

The afternoon started with Helene Landenberger, a member of the Rough Writers, reading her essay on what she learned for her speech teacher years ago.

The St. Francis student participants and their works are as follows:

Hanna Bracelin - "Being a Team" (Essay), Coy Cassaw - "Where the Water Meets the Shore" and "Fall to Winter" (two poems), Julia Davis - "Who Is She?" (essay), Luke Lampe - "Teamwork in Sports" (essay),

Jylian Laten - "Country Living" (essay), Jeremiah Neitzel - "The Mystery Player" (essay), Luin Norris - "Moving to St. Francis" (essay), Nick Paulsen - "Life Changing" (essay), Jessica Pacheco - "Death The Loss of Someone Special" (essay), Janeth Elena Perez-Medina - "Friendship" (essay), Taylor Rogers - "I Compete" (essay), Zoe Sundstrom - "What Does Veterans Day Mean?" (essay), Madison Tice - "What Does Veterans Day Mean to Me?" (essay), Matthisen Witzel - "What Patriotism Means to Me..." (essay)

Several of these students have won awards and/or received cash prizes for their writings.

Cheylin student Ellie Pochop read a narrative essay that she wrote for her Comp I class, entitled "Life Changing."

The Rough Writers, a local group of writers, were represented by Marie Holzwarth, Helene Landenberger, Bonnie Cram, Janet Carman, and Lucille Rossbach. Holzwarth, Carman, and Landenberger also read some of their original works.

The Cheyenne County Historical Society sponsored this tenth in a series of quarterly "Rough Writers Read..." Freewill donations received will go toward the renovation and upkeep of the Old Country Church.

Idalia News

By Pastor **Chuck Wright**



discussion of, The Story, Chapter 30: Ephesians 1-6.

Wednesday, May 14, 1 p.m. The Women's Fellowship will hold its monthly meeting at the church. All Idalia women are invited to come for a time of fellowship and service.

Sunday, May 18, 10:30 a.m. The St. John congregation will conclude its year-long study of the Bible in, The Story, with a discussion of, The Book of Revelation.

May 26-30, 8:30-11 a.m. St. John will host the annual Community Vacation Bible School for youth, pre-school to 5th grade. The theme will be, God's Workshop of Wonders. Students will learn about how we work with God through music, bible stories, science, and art. Contact Kim Hall for further information.

Idalia school news

Free sports physicals for Senior High and Junior High students will be available at the Wray Clinic on Wednesday, May 14, 5:30-6:30 p.m. A bus will

leave the Idalia school parking lot at 4:45 p.m. Please sign up in the school office if you are planning to take the bus.

Tuesday, May 13, 7 p.m. Academic and Athletic Awards Night.

Thursday, May 15, 5 p.m. Pre-School graduation in school gym.

Sunday, May 18, 2 p.m. Idalia school graduation in school gym.

Thursday, May 22. Last day of school for students.

Community News

Idalia weather for April 2014, submitted by Tom Mandis
Average High 63.8
Average Low 35.7
Warmest day 83 April 23
Coolest day 20 April 15
Precipitation for month 0.62 Inches
Precipitation to date 2.13 Inches

Tuesday, May 20, 3-6 p.m. The Idalia school invites everyone to a retirement cake reception in the school cafeteria honoring Debbie Crites for her many years of service to the school.

Members of the Idalia Book Club invite all Idalia bookies to join them in reading, The Book Thief, by Marcus Zusak, during the month of May. Club members will discuss this book on Friday, May 23, 6 p.m., at the Cornerstone Center.

St. John News

Sunday, May 11, 10:30 a.m. The worship will include a celebration of Mother's Day and a

Tyler Lee

Tyler,
You did it your way and we couldn't be prouder! You have truly been a blessing to us! Bob will miss his buddy who has been with him almost daily for years. Grandma will miss it when you just happen to know she needs a hug especially when our family has had some very hard times. Thank you for being you! Good Luck in Beliot and your future colleges day! Love, Grandma and Bob



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