



Consolidating being considered in schools

The big "C" is being heard in northwest Kansas with the agreement of Herndon and Atwood schools consolidating. With the cuts being handed out to Kansas schools, it is hard for some schools to keep the doors open. Sometimes, it looks like the government is deliberately trying to shut those doors.

While it will be good for the Atwood school district as they will soon have more state aid coming in, which will help the school to do more for students. It will also give Atwood stronger sports teams. Sadly, it is also the end of the Herndon school.

There are so many small towns in northwest Kansas that are struggling including those in Cheyenne County. Very few schools in Kansas are not taking advantage of the Local Option Budget to raise some local tax money to help with heating, electricity, insurance — the list goes on and

on — just anything to keep the schools open.

And, every little town that has lost their school appears to struggle. The school is the "hub" of the community. In St. Francis, people plan meetings, gatherings and other functions around the school calendar which comes out in August.

Consolidation is to be feared in small communities whether it be schools, government or churches. What will it be like to have to go to Colby to pay taxes, renew a driver's license or do business with the Farm Service Agency? What will it be like to have your child ride the bus for an hour?

Yes, times are hard and, yes, we need to conserve, but be like the new governor — start with the little things like she did with the stationary and the printing of excess budget books, then put those nickels saved into our schools and communities.

—Karen Krien

Baseball teams commended

Letter to the editor:

I've wanted to write this letter since last summer and somehow, time has gotten away from me.

I took over as the K-18 Baseball Commissioner last year. I want to recognize all of the coaches, fans and players who make this season a wonderful experience.

The sub-regionals were held in Colby and Stockton. The regional was in Ellis and the state tournament was in Lucas. I complement these cities for the fine job they did hosting the tournaments.

My main reason for writing this letter is to thank the coaches, fans and players for the best sportsmanship I have ever been around. I can honestly say I am proud to be from a small town in Kansas, and proud to be associated with K-18 baseball.

I am looking forward to being a part of your K-18 baseball program this summer.

Letters to the Editor

John Walz, Ellis

From the editor:

Last year's K-18 team members were: Levi Weeden, Darren Laffond, A.J. McAtee, J.D. Hawkins, Matt Brown, Gabe walz, Brennan Wilger, Joel McAtee, Mac Frewen, Jacob Jensen, Alex Hengen, Gabe Smull and Cody Tharp. They were

coached by Bill Wilger.

Positive comments such as these are often heard about the St. Francis youth as they participate in sporting events whether it be baseball, football or any of the other sports. Congratulations and thank you for giving St. Francis a good name.

—Karen Krien

Sainty girls — a team to be proud of

To the St. Francis High School Girls Basketball Team:

Our team would like to say thank you for the gift you presented us after the game at St. Francis. It was awesome!!! We had gone through a tough week in Oakley and our spirits were low. We didn't expect

such a neat surprise after the game. Your team is a special bunch of girls and we will never forget your gift and your thinking of us. Thanks again — you are number one!!! Your town should be proud of you!

The Oakley High School Girls Basketball Team

Hangin' With Marge

Being at the bottom of the 'pecking order'

I grew up on a farm several miles out in the country so I didn't have the privilege of having places to go and other children to play with. It was just my older brother and I and we were the very best of friends. However because he was older he was definitely the boss.

Our parents bought us some used bicycles and we rode them miles and learned to do all kinds of neat things.

At the fair we had seen the "Thrill Drivers" who raced around the

track and put one side of the wheels across a ramp and bounce off. We knew we could do this with our bikes so we made ramps and would fly off the end of them.

One day we were over in our pasture riding our bicycles when we came across a pretty big canyon. Gary and I talked and thought it would be fun to ride real fast and jump the canyon. He had us do several practice tries where we would ride up fast and then turn away or stop until we would know the exact speed we would need to make the jump. Finally he thought we were ready and since I was the youngest he usually would talk me in to trying first. I was getting a little wiser and had figured out that being

younger wasn't the real reason why I always went first, so he revised the plan, and said we would start out and jump together.

What a thrill, when we got to the edge he turned his bike but I just kept on going. It wasn't exactly flying, like I thought it would be, it was more like the bike and I just dropped and somewhere close to the bottom of that canyon I hit the other side.

Needless to say my dad had some repairs to do on my bike when we finally got it home. I was not hurt just a little shook up. As for my brother, I can still see him peeking over the edge saying "Are you dead?"

By Margaret Bucholtz



GOD SAYS
And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.
Matthew 24:4, 5

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News From the Past

100 years ago - 1902

Farmer Schields is laying the foundation for a large addition to his implement warehouse and preparing for a big business in the spring.

Grant Ernest has finished painting the Wheeler school-house the improvement in the looks of the building is alone worth the cost.

Owing to the prevalence of scarlet fever, the school board has declared a three weeks vacation beginning next Monday.

Reverend Dunham has been engaged in laying a side walk from the parsonage north to Washington Street.

75 years ago - 1927

The Bird City and St. Francis football players all enjoyed a banquet at the Hotel Odell in St. Francis following the last game of the year. This joint banquet has become a custom with St. Francis hosting one year and Bird City the next.

The closing out sale of the Slick Jewelry Company was scheduled to open up at 10 a.m. but because the first 35 ladies to enter the store were to receive a strand of pearls the sidewalks in front of the store were lined over an hour before opening time.

The operetta "Goldilocks Adventures" given by the grade school was one of the most pleasing entertainment given through this school term.

60 years ago - 1942

By winning every game this year, the Cheyenne Indian football team, emerged as undisputed champions of the Northwest Kansas League for 1942.

Cheyenne County people are patriotic. Once again they have gone over their bond quota. The quota for the period was set at \$23,000 and the county sales for November was \$45,167.30.

All over the middle west there is to be a trail blackout on Monday, Dec. 14. The blackout pe-

riod starts at 9 o'clock p.m., when the sirens will sound and is to continue for 20 minutes. During that time all activity is to stop, all lights will be turned out on the outside as well as inside.

35 years ago - 1927

An open house, featuring refreshments, exhibits and opportunities for family airplane rides will be held by Mountview Aircraft at the St. Francis Airport this weekend. Mountview is conducting a flight school in St. Francis.

Larry Henry, Cheyenne County Extension agricultural agent received a U.S. Department of Agriculture Tenure Award for 10 years of service. The award was presented at the Kansas Cooperative Extension Service Conference at Kansas State University.

The St. Francis basketball team opened league action this week. Players include Dave Carroll, Greg Wolters, Tom Kite, Kevin Winston, Dennis Busby, Jeff Cahoj, Robert Grace, Larry Johnston, Brad Burnham and Randy Andrist. The head coach is Tom Breunich and the assistant is Bud Burnham.

The nose gear of a light aircraft struck the top of a car Thursday night at the St. Francis airport as the plane attempted to land on the darkened runway.

"Amahl and the Night Visitor" is being presented at the First Methodist Church, among the cast members are Bonnie Cram, Douglas Fair, Giles Stagner, Don Kramer, Barry Gaston and Ione Cram. Joan Wellman is the accompanist.

Phyllis Roelfs attended the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago.

The junior class of the high school will be presenting "The Egg and I," a two act comedy. John McDonald, drama coach is the director.

J.C. Hixson of St. Francis closed out his college football career at Kansas University this fall. He earned high praise from the coaching staff.

20 years ago - 1982

On Wednesday members of the first grade classes of Gloria Cassidy and Shirley Swihart dressed as Pilgrims to get ready for the Thanksgiving feast, while the second grade classes of Sandy Smull and Debbie Wilkes completed a unit of instruction on American Pioneers and dressed to fit the lesson.

Tom Bandel was re-elected chairman of the Cheyenne County Extension Board. Doug Busby was elected vice chairman. Rachael Keller received an Extension Recognition Award. It was only the third time the award has been presented.

Tri-State Antique Engines and Threshers Association will be holding a school in Bird City in January and February for prospective steam engine operators as well as tractor operators.

A clothing thrift shop is open for everyone in the United Methodist Church Educational Building on Friday afternoon. Mrs. Dorothy Curry runs the operation with the help of other volunteers. The clothing is all donated by residents of St. Francis and surrounding area.

10 years ago - 1992

Members of the St. Francis Community High School Academic Team include Chad Miller, Kendall Day, Jason Welch, David Morrow, Tonya Pothoff, Teresa Douthit, April Lyons, Stephanie Polly and Tish Busby.

Libby Curry, Cheyenne County Extension Agent, was awarded the National Association of Extension Home Economists Distinguished Service Award as the professional association's annual session held in Washington, DC.

New automatic scorers have been installed at the Cheyenne Bowl.

Worship Warms the Heart

Peace Lutheran Church
202 N. College
332-2928 Pars. 332-2308
Pastor David Rossbach
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

First Christian Church
332-2956 • 118 E. Webster
Pastor Richard Garcia
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Church Service 10:30 a.m.
Wed. night Bible Study 7 p.m.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church
332-2888 • 3rd & Adams
Pastor Arlin Cochran
Sabbath School 9:30
Morning Worship 10:45

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
625 S. River • 332-2680
Fr. Beryl Gibson
Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m.
Weekday Mass 8 a.m.
Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

United Methodist Church
Church Office 332-2292,
Church 332-2254,
Pars. 332-3170
512 S. Scott
Pastor Nel Holmes
Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

First Baptist Church
2nd & Scott • 332-3921
J.W. Glidewell, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening
Service 6:30 p.m.,
Wednesday prayer
service, 6:00 p.m.
Wed. AWANA Club
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Clough Valley Baptist Church
Pastor Al Davis D. Min.
12 m. west, 6 m. north of SF
332-2506
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. CT
Worship 10:00 a.m. CT

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