

Attorney general okays law plan

By Karen Krien
 The possibility of having consolidated law enforcement in the county was discussed twice during the Friday meeting of the Cheyenne County Commissioners. With the information gained, Jane Brubaker, commissioner, will approach both the St. Francis and Bird City city coun-

cils to see if they will be interested. Several months ago, Kevin Berens, county attorney, submitted a letter to the attorney general's office asking if it would be possible to add to more people to form a consolidated law enforcement board as the present statutes stated that only five people would be able to serve on the board which

included: the commissioner chairman, county attorney, mayor of the largest city (in this case, it would be the mayor of St. Francis) and two elected members. The commissioners agreed that the mayor of Bird City should be included on this board but this was not what the statute stated. At the Friday meeting, Attorney Berens

said that he had received a reply for the attorney general which would allow for the above board members but would also include the Bird City mayor and another appointed member. However, the consolidated law enforcement board which the commissioners and attorney have been looking at would require

getting an affirmative vote of the public to eliminate the position of sheriff and accept the consolidated law enforcement proposition. Sheriff Eddie Dankenbring informed the commissioners that Dundy County, Neb., just north of Cheyenne County, has a different plan.
See PLAN on Page 5

Music concert held on Tuesday

The St. Francis Community High School Music Department and the junior high band will present a spring concert on Tuesday, March 25. The program will begin at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Junior high and high school bands will present several numbers at the beginning of the concert. They will be followed by vocal and instrumental soloists who are preparing for Regional Music Festival. Soloists scheduled to perform are January Fiedler, Kari Gienger, Tara Neitzel, Heidi Rohweder, Tyler Howard, Hailey Crabtree, Megan Ford, Amanda Jones, Danie McFarland, Kali Rueb, Julie Voeller, Chelsey Weeden, Jade DeGood, Ashley Dowgwillo, Janessa Jordan, Sheryl Miller and Sawyer White. Several vocal ensembles and the high school Vocal Class will complete the program. All are under the direction of Debbie Fiala. There is no admission charge for the concert, and the public is invited to attend.



SIXTH GRADE FUNDAY was spent at the bowling alley having a great time. **Joni Pevler, Sidnee Crabtree and Chelsie Lawson** total up their scores to see who is ahead.
Herald staff photo by Sandy Barnhart

Equipment bids tabled until the next meeting

By Sandy Barnhart
 Bids for a trash truck and a forklift were opened and reviewed at the March 11 meeting of the St. Francis City Council. The forklift will be used at the recycling center and a trash truck will replace an old trash truck used in the city. All bids were tabled until the next meeting so the equipment could be examined more thoroughly.

Forklift bids included: Knorr Repair, 1979 Toyota forklift, 5,000 pounds, lifting capacity, \$3,000; Ross Manufacturing, around a 1980 Clark forklift, 1,800 pound, lifting capacity, \$2,750. The council's consensus was that the forklift would need to lift a capacity of around 1,000 pounds. The council asked that Superintendent Landenberger look at both forklifts to see which one better serves the purpose.

Trash truck bids included: Key Equipment - 2004 with trade-in of city's 1988 Chevrolet trash truck, \$82,300; with no trade-in \$83,300; Downing Sales and Services - 2004 Sterling truck (Mercedes engine), \$83,164; 2004 Freightliner (Caterpillar engine), \$85,497; 2004 Freightliner (Mercedes engine), \$85,805.

Recycling center
 Councilman Roger Jensen updated the council on the progress of the four-county recycling group. He said that the group would be officially called Northwest Kansas Regional Recycling Organization and would consist of four counties: Cheyenne, Gove, Thomas and Logan. City attorney Mike Day said he had gone over the by-laws and felt they were okay.

The commissioners needed to approve the by-laws and send a letter of support to the organization, then each county will need to approve two representatives and one alternative from their county.

Cheyenne County Commissioners approved the by-laws at a recent meeting and appointed Susan Hobrock and Councilman Jensen as representatives. An alternate for the county had not been chosen.

Ben Andrist, manager of the center, asked permission to rope off a small area inside the building for vehicles to pull in. The council approved.

Hospital
 Superintendent J.R. Landenberger informed the council that with the new addition to the hospital.
See BIDS on Page 5

Agriculture Week recognizes farmers

March 16 through 22 marks National Agriculture Week. Established in 1973, Ag Week has been an opportunity for the American people to say "thanks" to those hard-working men and women of agriculture. Check Page 7 in this issue to see all of those businesses saluting these hard working people. Despite the dwindling rural population, the business of farming and ranching remains an integral function of the Kansas economy. Twenty-five percent of the state's economic activity can be connected with agriculture, while as much as 42 percent of the state's total exports are agriculture-related. The population in the state of Kansas is growing but the urban and suburban communities are gaining people while the rural farming communities are losing ground. There are fewer people in the rural areas but the demand for agricultural commodities is greater than ever. American farmers produce 16 per-

cent of the world's food on 7 percent of the world's land. Kansas has 47.5 million acres in agriculture which ranks third in the United States. Despite the shifts in population, nearly two million people farm or ranch in the United States. Individuals or families operate almost 90 percent of U.S. farms. Additionally, more than 15 percent of the U.S. population is employed in farm or farm-related jobs, including production agriculture, farm inputs, processing and marketing, and wholesale and retail sales. The average size of a Kansas farm is 742 acres and the average age of a Kansas farmer is 55 years. Kansas ranks in the top two in wheat production, wheat flour milled, grain sorghum, cattle processed, sorghum silage, prime farmland, cattle and calves and the farms have miles of terraces. Just think what the world would not have if it were not for the efforts of the Kansas farmer!



85 BUFFALO arrived at their new home northwest of St. Francis a week ago. They will be living on the farm of Kip and Patsy Rethke and belong to their son and grandson Bill and Colton who live in Tulsa, Okla.
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

85 buffalo arrived two weeks ago; will be calving within the 45 days

On March 7, a herd of 85 Plains buffalo arrived at the farm of Kip and Patsy Rethke north of St. Francis on the old Henry Holzwarth place. There was a lot of dust in the air but when it settled, the buffalo, which were transported in two semi-trailers from Buffalo, S.D., found their new home in a steel-pole pen overlooking the pasture which they will soon move to.

The Rethke's son Bill along with his 6-year-old son Colton of Tulsa, Okla., are the owners. Bill's friend Scott Morgan, came along to see and help with the fencing when the buffalo were unloaded. Another son Randy, brought in a load of hay. And, they will probably all be back sometime next month to see the babies when all 85 buffalo begin calving.

The Rethkes owned around 15 buffalo in 1996 when they were living in Colorado. They enjoyed them but Bill especially liked them. "This (raising buffalo) is something I always wanted to do," said Bill, who makes his living installing swimming pools. Before he is done, he plans to have a couple hundred head, selling off some of the heifers and feeding out

the steers. The buffalo cows will be bred back in August. Those steers fed out will be sold for the meat. Buffalo meat is supposed to be more healthy than beef because it is leaner and has less cholesterol. However, buffalo eat the same feed as cattle but can survive on a lot less food. When it is dry, they will eat weeds and grasses that cattle won't eat.
See BUFFALO on Page 5

Junior Miss heads for Belleville

Jenny Weems, the 2003 Cheyenne County Junior Miss, will be headed to Belleville for the state Junior Miss Program which will be held on March 23. Upon her arrival, she will meet her host family: Mikel, Janell, Erica and Gary Hadachek. This is the 42nd year for the state program and this year's theme is "Racing to Excellence." The theme is racing and the color scheme is black and white. Throughout the week, Jenny will be involved in rehearsals where she will learn routines for the opening number and Poise and Fitness competition. She will also enjoy radio interviews, visiting many of the sites



Weems

of Belleville, a pizza party, bowling and a lunch sponsored by the local Lions Club. Jenny is contestant number 13 and will be performing Poise and Fitness on Friday night, March 28. Her talent number on Saturday will be a clarinet solo, "Beauty and Joy" by Chenette.
See JUNIOR MISS on Page 5

Residents challenge city ordinance

By Sandy Barnhart
 Greg and JaNan Cooper, St. Francis, were present at the March 11 St. Francis City Council meeting to challenge the city ordinance pertaining to their business in residential areas. The council felt that more facts needed to be known before they could make a decision but they planned to have a decision by the first meeting in April. The ordinance had been in place

since 1978 and states that when running a business out of the home in a residential-zoned area, there must be 80 percent of the block residents plus the residents across the street directly affected by the business signing the variance. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper had received 57 percent of the signatures required. Mrs. Cooper noted that she had not been able to find several of the residents at home and one was just moving into

the neighborhood. Mrs. Cooper grooms dogs and has for six years, she has six to eight dogs a week and usually works three hours a day three to four days a week. She explained that she would have her customers park in front of the house instead of the alley, as one resident did not like the traffic through the alley because they had small children. It was also noted that some resi-

dents living on that block refused to sign the variance but they were not following the city ordinance concerning trees hanging in the streets and causing poor visibility. The question raised was, "why the council allowed some to avoid certain ordinances, but the majority were required to follow other city ordinance?" The council did not feel they were following the city ordinance.
See ORDINANCE on Page 5

Obituaries

Elizabeth (Betty) Ann Gleason

June 18, 1928 - Feb. 13, 2003

Elizabeth (Betty) Ann Gleason, died at the age of 74, Feb. 13, 2003, in Dundy County Hospital of Benkelman, Neb. She was born June 18, 1928, in Enid, Okla., to Jesse George and Bertha May Smith Jones. Betty was the youngest child of five girls. She attended school in Bird City where she grew up. As a young girl, Betty spent a lot of her time working for different families by taking care of youngsters, cooking and cleaning.

Betty married Claude K. Gleason on June 20, 1946. Betty and Claude were true soul mates for 56 1/2 years. It wasn't uncommon to see them holding hands, talking, cuddling, and laughing as they enjoyed life together. Their days were filled with a card game every morning, laughter, talks, and an occasional "session" (that was the name Betty gave to their disagreements.) Their days always ended with a kiss and the words, "I Love You."

Their two children Claudette and Jim treasure their parents' example of good communication and a loving marriage. Although Claude and Betty shared many interests together, their love of farming and cattle stands out. Betty enjoyed doing chores such as feeding the cattle and taking care of the other animals around the farm, which they called The Little Ponderosa. They enjoyed God's Creation and the beautiful view from the alfalfa field, on top of the hill overlooking the river and trees.

Betty was the most giving person by always putting others before herself. Being a tremendous cook, she would always bake more than needed. Her famous

cinnamon rolls, chocolate long johns, and fudge squares were always shared with others to enjoy. She loved her family and delighted in having her kids, grandkids and great-grandkids home.

Betty was a woman of faith. Reading her daily devotions was important to her. She shared her beliefs and commitment to the Lord with her children, and made sure they went to Sunday school whether they wanted to or not.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jesse and Bertha Jones, and two sisters, Mabel Murray and Annette Heinz.

She is survived by her husband Claude on their farm, two children, Claudette and her husband, Kermit Bear of Bird City, Jim Gleason and his wife, Annette of Bozeman, Mont.; three grandchildren, Tina and her husband, Kasey Armstrong of Parker, Colo., Jesse and Erica Gleason of Bozeman, two great-grandchildren, Haili and Taylre Armstrong of Parker; two sisters, Irene Kehlbeck of Colby, EJay Query of Bird City, one brother-in-law, Dick Heinz of Bend, Ore., and many nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was held Monday, Feb. 17 in the St. John Lutheran Church, Bird City with Reverend Ron Roberts officiating.

Memorials may be sent in Betty's name to one of the First National Banks or Forch Funeral Chapel in Benkelman.

Carol Christina Black

Jan. 30, 1925 - March 14, 2003

Carol Christina Black, 78, Bird City, Kan., died Friday, March 14, 2003.

Mrs. Black was born Carol Christina Oster on Jan. 30, 1925, in rural Cheyenne County, Kan. She attended local schools and worked as a dental assistant and drug store

clerk in St. Francis.

She married Harold Black, also of Cheyenne County, and a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, on May 22, 1949. They



Black

moved to Denver, Colo., where he worked for a local trucking company and Mrs. Black became a homemaker, after the birth of their son Daniel Black. Mrs. Black also worked for Eagle Claw Company, making fish hooks.

In 1980, Mr. Black retired and the family decided to return to northwest Kansas, settling in Bird City. Mr. Black died in 1996.

Mrs. Black was an active member of St. John Lutheran Church and the Bird City Auxiliary Union. She was friend to all and made the best stuffed eggs in town.

She is survived by her son, Daniel, daughter-in-law Cindy, of Colby, two sisters, Ilone Ketter of St. Francis, and Leone McDaniel of Bird City; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Services were at 10:30 a.m., March 18 at St. John Lutheran Church, Bird City.

Casket bearers were Daniel Black, Joe Pacheco, Ron Ketter, Chris May, Ken Ketter, Don Gilliland.

Burial followed at the Bird City Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the church.

Couple marries in Oct. 5 candlelight ceremony

On Saturday, Oct. 5, 2002, at 6:30 p.m. Stephanie Ann Pollman and Wesley Lee Strode exchanged vows in a beautiful candlelight ceremony at the First Christian Church of Garden City.

The double-ring ceremony was officiated by Donald E. Carter and the bride was given away by her father, Steve Pollman.

The matron of honor was the bride's sister, Summer Claar, and bridesmaids were Dixie Bingham, Kathryn Long, Tami Daniel and the groom's sister, Suzanne Moore. All wore jewel-tone wine colored dresses.

The best man was the brother of the groom, Luke Strode, and groomsmen were Eli Moore, Mickey O'Flynn, Andy Rice and Tom Bredehoft, who wore black tuxedos. Ushers were Curtis Claar, Tod Hooker and Mike Hooker.

Parents of the bride and groom are Steve and Judy Pollman of Garden City; Tom and Jean Bredehoft and Larry and Gayle Strode, all of Flagler, Colo.

Grandparents of the bride attending the wedding were Kenneth and Suzie Zimbelman of Ozark, Mo., and also a great-grandmother, Arrilla Zimbelman, of St. Francis.

Grandmothers of the groom are Fae Teeter of St. Louis, Mo., and

Marguerite Strode of Flagler.

The candlelighters were Dalton Pollman, Andrew Nielsen Pollman and Levi Nielsen Pollman.

Flower girls were Taylor Bredehoft, the groom's sister, and Hannah Williams and both wore floor-length sparkling white dresses. The ring bearer, Jordan Pollman, was dressed in a black tuxedo matching the wedding party.

Music was provided by organist, Elaine Joyce, with soloists, Eli Moore, who sang *From This Moment* and Ellen Mangan and Lucas Proffitt, who performed *Me and You*.

A reception was held at the Plaza Hotel for those in attendance.

After enjoying a honeymoon to Heidelberg, Germany, the couple is at home in Shawnee.

Stephanie is a graduate of the

University of Kansas with a bachelor's degree in health information management. She is employed as a product specialist with Cerner Corp. in Kansas City, Mo.

Wesley is a 1994 graduate of Flagler High School and also a graduate of the University of Nebraska with a bachelor's degree in finance. He is employed as an account manager with State Street Bank in Kansas City, Mo.

Cards are requested

The family of Agnes Burk is requesting a card shower to help her celebrate her birthday. Address greetings to Agnes Burk, P.O. Box 134, Bird City, KS 67731.

Introducing

Kobe Jon Tice

Madison Tice would like to announce the arrival of her baby brother, Kobe Jon. he was born on March 12, 2003, at 11:10 a.m. mountain time at the Wray Community Hospital. He weighed 9 pounds and measured 22-inches long.

Grandparents are Dwen and

Charilyn DeGood of St. Francis, and Kim and Joyce Tice of Hoxie. Great-grandparents are Tom and Marvel Gleason, Coy and Neva DeGood of St. Francis, Norma Tice of Hoxie and Reynold and Hilda Moellering of Oakley.

Proud parents are Derrick and Heidi Tice of St. Francis.

BIDS

Continued from Page 1

date has reached a year, the city hiring the officer is responsible for reimbursing the officers previous employer for the cost of his training.

Mr. Lawrukiewicz was certified on April 19, 2002 with the city of Caldwell already hiring him.

After some discussion the council instructed Attorney Day to draft a letter to the city of Caldwell asking for the full training costs of \$5,100.

Other business

In other business:
• The study at the site of the sewer ponds for bore samples were approved. The cost will be around \$3,215. Superintendent Landenberger noted that the amount could increase up to \$1,000 if more testing is required. This amount will be reimbursed through the sewer grant.

• Trailer park license was approved for Homesteader Motel and Trailer Park.

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Council comments

• Councilman Jensen asked if the council was interested in finishing the remodeling in the back room of the new city hall building. Councilman Bracelin asked that the remodeling wait for now.

• Mayor Scott Schultz asked for permission to block off the streets by the park for the car show in May. The council approved.

Executive session

Superintendent Landenberger requested 5 minutes in executive session for personnel.

Special meeting

The regular March 4th meeting was canceled, the council met on March 7. Bills were reviewed and approved paid. The temporary closing of Keller's Pond was approved. The pond is being restocked with fish and will be reopened for the annual fishing contest.

PLAN

Continued from Page 1

ent form of consolidated law enforcement where the sheriff, who is elected, heads the department with a staff of five and four vehicles. There is an officer who covers Haigler and that area and the other officers cover Benkelman and county. Sheriff Dankenbring said that the Dundy County Sheriff had offered to come to a commissioners' meeting and explain the system. He also noted that Phillips County, about 130 miles east of St. Francis, also has a similar system.

Tim Raile, commissioner, when talking about the first proposal with an elected consolidated law enforcement board, that consolidating is bound to save money because of the duplication of services in the three law enforcement offices.

The matter will continued to be discussed at the commissioners' meetings until there is a definite response of "no" in one of the city council meetings.

In other business

In other business:
• The commissioners granted Mike Antholz, county road and bridge employee, disability leave to take care of knee surgery. After the sick leave is used, he will be on disability.

• Larry Gabel, emergency medical service director, had the commissioners sign permits and licenses for ambulances, noting that in 2002, there 243 emergency responses made by emergency medical technicians; 19 runs were considered

"non-emergency;" and 251 runs were transporting patients. He noted that when technicians bring the ambulance to football games, rodeos and other such events, they are not paid for being there. He also delivered a job description of the ambulance bookkeeper.

• The sheriff and undersheriff went into executive session to discuss personnel. No decision was made coming out.

• Dave Flemming, road and

bridge supervisor, reported that he planned to purchase a 1995 scraper for \$98,000, delivered. He gave the yearly report on the department and then he and the commissioners discussed, at length, whether or not to purchase or lease tractors used for mowing.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the commissioners has been set for 8 a.m. on March 31 in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

BUFFALO

Continued from Page 1

will not eat.

Kip said the buffalo are considered 10 percent labor and 90 percent management which requires some grassland and minimal care. Before, when they raised the buffalo, they were able to contain them with electric fences and expect to do the same this time. The Rethkes have about 300 acres of pasture and wheat stubble for the buffalo and some will

be kept in dry lot.

Patsy said the buffalo are fun to watch and are actually playful about sundown. In Colorado, people would often park at the edge of the road to watch the buffalo.

Buffalo, if they don't know the person, can be dangerous.... Some can be made into pets and some are even rode. They are also used in rodeo in trick riding.

ORDINANCE

Continued from Page 1

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Selling 60 Angus Bulls

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Blackrose Angus Ranch

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308-345-3377 or 3945

Chase & Lori Beeby
Rt. 1, Box 28, Lebanon, NE
308-895-2417 or 308-340-6438

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Podiatrist/Foot Specialist
Reconstructive Surgery
Foot & Ankle Injuries

For appointments call:

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Health Center
785-626-3211

Wed., March 19

Cheyenne County
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Thur., March 20

Atwood - A.M.
Colby - P.M.
CSMC, 175 S. Range
462-3332

CMC, 100 E. College Dr.
462-7511

Fri., March 21

Atwood - All Day

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