

Board begins looking at reduction

By Karen Krien

The St. Francis Board of Education continued to talk about what to do as the enrollment of students declines each year. As of Sept. 22 at the official enrollment, the St. Francis schools were down 40 students. There were no decisions made but the board and administration will be looking at reduction-in-force procedures for next year and the years ahead.

Superintendent Carl Werner said, that in order to reduce administrative costs, at the November board meeting he plans to submit a letter requesting that he be released from the second year of his current contract so that he can retire effective Aug. 1. At the same time, he will recommend that the board approve a contract for him to serve as superintendent from September 2004 through June 2005 at a salary that is within the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System guidelines of what he can earn annually during the retirement from the school.

The school will save the difference between his current salary and the new salary. The board can then consider continuing this arrangement on a year-by-year basis until the size of the school staff is stabilized and the school can again afford to hire a new superintendent at full salary.

Bonnie Hill, school food service manager, turned in a letter of resignation which the board accepted. Mrs. Hill has worked for the St. Francis schools for 28 years, 23 of those years were as food service manager. She will retire at the end of her contract.

Resignation

Health insurance
See REDUCTION on Page 7A

Carnival set for Tuesday

By Karen Krien

Come one! Come all!! would be the cry of the barker if the tent were set up for the PTA Carnival. But, this time, an Old-Fashioned Carnival will be held at the St. Francis Grade School from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday. Not only will there be action in the grade school gym and cafeteria, but there will be games and activities going on outside (weather permitting).

"Come and enjoy this exciting evening," said Mila Bandel, PTA officer.

Tickets will be sold at 10-cents each but each child will receive five free tickets for each parent or grandparent they bring. They will also receive five tickets for each canned good item they bring.

"While this is a fund raiser for the PTA, we want to also turn it into a community service project," Mrs. Bandel said about the canned goods which will be given to the Food Pantry.

School-aged children, parents and grandparents will be able to win a cake in the Cake Walk, participate in the Pie-Eating Contest; eat a donut if they are fast enough in the Donut Race or ride on the Firemen's Train or the hayrack.

There will be a Jail House where kids can land their best friends in jail for a ticket but, of course, the person jailed can find his way out if he can get another friend to donate five tickets to his cause.

Other games will be Putt Putt Golf, Pinko, Free-Throw Shooting, Sponge toss, Ring Toss, Bean Bag Throw, Dart Game, Skeet Ball, Fishing Line and the Obstacle Course. There will be face painting and the Duck Pond. Prizes will be awarded.

The Shriners will be selling cotton candy, popcorn and pop from their Wagon.

Where the money goes
See CARNIVAL on Page 7A



HEAD START KIDS and their instructors took advantage of the nice weather and went for a hike at the River Walk. Connor Cisneros, Bird City, was excited as he looked for a frog in the mirky water.
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Council studies building permits

By Sandy Barnhart

The St. Francis City Council clarified the procedures of building permits at the Oct. 7 meeting.

Councilwoman Kay Shay had noticed that at times the work had been started or completed before the building permits had been approved by the council. Attorney Mike Day explained that Superintendent J.R. Landenberger was doing an inspection of the work first and most of the time there were no problems. When he finds a problem, the work does not begin until he comes to the council for approval.

Electrical upgrade

Superintendent Landenberger reported that Gordon Ross had approached him concerning putting in three-phase electricity to his new building.

Mr. Ross has purchased the building north of Yost Ford-Mercury and, with the equipment he will be running, the business will need to have three-phase electricity. Mr. Ross was concerned with getting the project started and did not want the

cost to be a stopping point. Superintendent Landenberger presented the council with a list of materials and noted that it was up to the council whether they assumed the whole, part or none of the costs.

Attorney Day said that it had been the policy of the city to bring the electricity to the property and then it was the property owner's responsibility to bring the electricity to the facility. Although Attorney Day noted that in a previous case with the St. Francis Equity the city had consented to cost-share.

After some discussion it was the consensus of the council that the city pay the costs as the business would offer more jobs, economic development and increased electrical use. Councilman Roger Jensen, being a contractor for the Ross building, abstained from the discussion and voting.

Goodell Greenhouse

Mike and Shirley Marino were present to discuss putting up a fence at their place of business, Goodell
See PERMITS on Page 7A

St. Francis man honored at opening

By Patty Decker

More than 120 people attended the open house for the Kansas Cattlemen's Association in Brewster last weekend.

Along with celebrating their new office in downtown Brewster, the organization also honored the first recipient of the association's "Legacy Award."

Mike Callicrate, who was one of the founding members of the organization, received the award, honoring him for his time, expertise and

commitment to the cattle industry, said Mike Schultz, executive director.

Having started with less than 30 members in 1998, he said, the organization has expanded to some 1,600 members across Kansas and in many other states, and Callicrate was a big part of that leap.

"Knowing the sacrifices and the hardships that it takes to make a difference, we really felt like it was important to honor someone who has made a huge commitment to this industry," Schultz said. "After five years of rapid growth, this is a chance to look back on all of the hard work leading up to this day and to appreciate what we've been able to
See HONORED on Page 7A



Callicrate

Association gives next two years football districts

By Karen Krien

The Kansas State High School Activity Association has released the listings of the football playoff districts for the next two years (2004-2005 and 2005-2006). St. Francis Community High School will continue to be a Class 2A school in all Kansas State High School Activity Association activities.

The Classes are determined by the enrollment of grades 10, 11 and 12. Enrollment in St. Francis is at 105 students. Class 2A schools now range from a low of 88 to a high of 131 students in these three grades.

For next two years, St. Francis will be meeting Atwood, Leoti and Syracuse in football District 13 play. The Sainty Indians will be competing with these three teams along with six other Northwest Kansas League schools.

Class 2-1A, District 12 football play will be made up of Hill City, Hoxie, Oberlin and Stockton; District 14: Ness City-Dighton, Oakley, Quinter, WaKeeney-Trego; District 11: Ellis, Osborne, Plainville and Smith Center.

Class 4A, District 15: Clay Center, Colby, Concordia and Goodland.

In eight-man, Division 1, District 8: Bird City-Cheylin, Brewster, Rexford-Golden Plains, Sharon Springs-Wallace County, Weskan, Winona-Triplains.

Northwest Kansas League schools, Classes and the number of students in the upper three grades are: Colby, 4A, 269 students; Goodland, 4A, 236; Oakley, 3A, 135; Hoxie, 3A, 100; Quinter, 2A, 90; St. Francis, 2A, 105; Oberlin-Decatur Community, 3A, 121; Atwood, 1A, 83.

A few of the other schools which readers might be interested in are: Hill City, 2A, 105 students; Leoti-Wichita County, 2A, 99; Stockton, 2A, 100; Syracuse, 2A, 111; Sublette, 2A, 111; WaKeeney-Trego, 2A, 108; Smith Center went from 3A to 2A, 121; Bird City-Cheylin, 1A, 35; Brewster, 1A, 46.



GOODELL GREENHOUSE suffered considerable damage during the storm. Shirley Marino, owner, was working with the plastic early Tuesday morning. *Herald staff photos by Margaret Bucholtz*

64 mile per hour wind does lots of damage

After weeks with little but a trace of moisture, there was thunder and lightning and a little bit of rain last night. However, the wind was fierce. Richard Grace at Grace Flying Service reported winds up to 64 miles per hour.

Wind damage was evident around St. Francis. Goodell Greenhouse had considerable damage; a set of scaffolding was blown over on Main Street and a 20- to 30-foot tree was blown over at the home of Raymond and Shirley Straub.

Unfortunately, there was not enough rain. Kathy Woodcox reported .15 moisture. The wind has destroyed wheat just coming up and pastures are extremely dry.

Date	High	Low	Prec.
Oct. 7	92	52	
Oct. 8	92	52	
Oct. 9	92	59	
Oct. 10	92	47	
Oct. 11	80	37	
Oct. 12	82	39	
Oct. 13	64	36	.15

HONORED

Continued from Page 1A
accomplish. Mike is an exceptional leader in our industry, and he is also someone who has been an inspiration to me personally.”
Callicrate is a St. Francis cattle feeder since 1978, who owns and manages a branded beef fabrication plant and retail store in Colorado Springs. He also is involved in other agribusiness enterprises.
Since 1996, Callicrate has been involved in political and social efforts to promote the interests of family farmers and ranchers, Schultz said. He has been a driving force behind organizations like the Kansas Cattlemen’s As-

sociation that are fighting corporate concentration and monopolization of the cattle industry.
In citing Callicrate for the award, Schultz also said he is a lead plaintiff in a class action lawsuit against meatpacker IBP, now part of Tyson Foods, alleging unfair and discriminatory marketing practices. That case is scheduled to go to a jury trial in Montgomery, Ala., in January of 2004.
Mayor Mike Baughn of Brewster, and an association member, praised the group for its accomplishments in the face of rapid economic and social changes affecting agriculture during the open house Saturday that

started with a hamburger feed featured by Ranch Foods Direct, the company Callicrate is involved with in Colorado Springs.
“Our new office just proves the amount of growth we’ve had over the past five years,” Schultz said. “It will allow us to have our records and information more readily available to the public. Even with the strides we’ve made, the association hasn’t stopped growing, and that is very rewarding.”
Schultz encourages anyone interested in learning more about the association to stop by the office or call (785) 694-2906.

PERMITS

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Greenhouse and Floral on Whittier Street. The problem arose in 1978 when the previous owners Les and Velma Goodell built the greenhouse around 5 feet onto the city’s right-a-way. The city, at that time, entered into a lease agreement with the Goodell’s which has continued with the Marinós. The Marinós were interested in buying as much of the right-away that the city would allow.
Superintendent Landenberger felt that the city needed to keep no less than 5 feet of right-away. At the present time there is approximately 11 feet of right-away. The council asked that Superintendent Landenberger stake out what the city would need to retain for a right-away so the council could see if that would be enough and report back at the next meeting.

Kelly Morris on the sewer at the Ron Krien Addition. The payment amounts to \$8,905. The contractor also requested the 5 percent retainer payment. The council approved the payment request #2 but denied the 5 percent retainer payment until the work was tested.
• The council approved for Miller and Associates of McCook to proceed with the water study. The study will cost approximately \$22,100 and be done sometime in November. The cost for the study is in the budget for this year.
• Superintendent Landenberger told the council that John Amack had approached him wanting to do some improvements on Parkway Drive. The street has several problems with water drainage off of U.S. 36 and Mr. Amack felt that he could help the situation. The council asked that Superintendent Landenberger ask Mr. Amack for some type of proposal.

that a bill for mileage had been received from former officer Larry Lawrukiewicz for two different trips to St. Francis after being subpoenaed for trials. The council approved the payment of \$600.
Other business
In other business:
• George Harper, fire chief, invited the council to the fire departments open house Thursday, Oct. 16. Mr. Harper also informed the council that both fire trucks had passed recertification.
• The council approved an amount not to exceed \$1,250 for a lap computer for the clerk’s office.

REDUCTION

Continued from Page 1A
The school’s health insurance with Blue Cross-Blue Shield has increased for the year starting in November.
The board, as in the past, agreed to helping with health-insurance costs for school employees, thus trying to retain those employees already in the group and perhaps attracting others to join the group.
The board agreed for the school to pay an additional amount as follows: \$28 per month (for a total of \$85) on each single plan and \$56 per month (for a total of \$170) on each plan that is other than single. The school payment, an estimated overall total of \$47,940 for the 2003-2004 plan, will be paid from the school’s General Fund and the Contingency Reserve Fund.

grade size in grades kindergarten through sixth is 23 students and the average grade size in grades seven through 12 is 33 students.
• Listened as the superintendent said the board would need to reduce the General Fund budget from the published amount of \$2,926,609 down to \$2,697,919 which is based on the full-time equivalent enrollment of 392.8 on which this year’s budget was based. He recommended where cuts would be made to absorb this \$228,690 reduction in budget.
• Were informed that the superintendent’s travel costs for July-September was \$.60 per mile. The school’s current reimbursement rate is \$.36 per mile.
• Heard board member Bonnie Zweygardt report that the St. Francis Chamber of Commerce had started

a fund to purchase a floor covering to be used in the school gyms to protect the floor during events such as the craft fair, Christmas programs and commencement. Before the Chamber members pursued the project further, they wanted to have the approval of the board. The board approved the project.
• Received a note of appreciation from the Yearbook class for the board’s support of the Regional Journalism Conference in Hays which the class had attended. Another note of appreciation was received from Plum Creek 4-H Club as well as a plateful of cookies and snacks which were enjoyed during the meeting.
Much of the above article was taken from the unapproved minutes of the Oct. 9 St. Francis School Board meeting.

Attorney report
City Attorney Day reported that he had checked into the request to set up a tax deductible charitable trust fund at First National Bank. The request was as a result of a contribution to the city in the amount of \$5,000. The donors are interested in putting up a shelter at the swimming pool to be dedicated to Ed and Lettie Duncan and their children. They are in hopes that other family members will contribute to the fund.
Superintendent report
Superintendent Landenberger presented the payment request number two for the contractor

Police report
Officer Tom Raile, in place of Chief Jason Ryan, presented the police report. Officer Raile noted

Building permits
Building permits were approved for the following residents: Shawn Straub, pour sidewalk; Troy Gardner, erect privacy fence; Tim Poling, pour driveway.
Next meeting
The next city council meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday in the old city office building on Main Street.

CARNIVAL

Kids Voting Kansas
Roger Jensen, St. Francis, was present again to inform the board that he had talked to teachers in both buildings about the Kids Voting Kansas project and the consensus of the teachers was that they would support the program. The board then approved the resolution officially endorsing the St. Francis schools participation in the project.
In other business, the school board:
• Reviewed the Kansas State High School Activities Association classifications (see related article elsewhere in this issue).
• The official enrollment on Sept. 22 found the St. Francis full-time enrollment count was 353.5 which is a decrease of 39.3 students from last year’s enrollment of 392.8. Actual head-count enrollment is 365 students, down from 405 last year. It was also noted that the average

Continued from Page 1A
“We are hoping that many children, their parents and other people of the community will have lots of fun but money raised over the cost of the carnival will be used for the many activities PTA provides,” said Mrs. Bandel.
Some of the funds will be used for the Reading Is Fun (RIF) program where students each receive two free books each year; the sixth grade basketball games, Teacher Appreciation, Meet the Teachers pizza party; and sponsoring the winners of the county Spelling Bee and PTA Essay Contest so they can go onto Topeka.



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Tues., Oct. 21
6:30-8 p.m.

St. Francis Grade School (Outdoors, Cafeteria & Gym)

- Donut Race
- Dart Game
- Putt Putt Golf
- Skeeel Ball
- Plinko
- Face Painting
- Sponge Toss
- Duck Pond
- Ring Toss
- Fishing Line
- Cake Walk
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- Pie Eating Contest
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