



## Insurance costs may increase in 2004

By Sandy Barnhart

Councilman Rodney Bracelin and councilwoman Natalie Knodel updated the council on the Health Committee meeting. The two also met with Superintendent J.R. Landenberger and insurance agent Kelly Frewen.

Councilman Bracelin said that from Dec. 1, 2001, to Nov. 30, 2002, 37 percent of what the city paid to Blue Cross Blue Shield was paid out in claims for the city. The next year

Blue Cross Blue Shield increased the city's premium 37 percent. Plus with Blue Cross Blue Shield, St. Francis is put in the pool of cities that have 25 employees or less, creating a higher premium.

Two options discussed were the insurances which Cheyenne County carries, Corporate Plan Management and the State Insurance Fund. It was brought up that through the State Insurance, the rates were guaranteed for 3 years.

After a short discussion the council asked that city clerk Mary Lampe contact Tim Carson, representative of Corporate Plan, and ask that he attend the Jan. 6 meeting and possibly set up a meeting at the end of the month with Blue Cross Blue Shield.

### SBC Communications

James Allman, representing SBC Communications, was present to offer to the city a telecommunications systems called Plexar. The system would allow each de-

partment to connect to each other using a three- or four-number extension. St. Francis schools, Cheyenne County Hospital and Cheyenne County Courthouse have the system. He noted that SBC Communications was now offering a promotion of waving the \$600 installation charge should the city sign a five-year contract by the end of January. He also added that there would be very little work done to switch the city over and most of the work would take place at the switch

office. The outcome of the system would be a 25- to 35-percent savings on the city's telephone bill.

No decision was made until references could be checked and the council asked that a contract be sent for review.

### Property cleanup

Superintendent Landenberger reported that there had been no progress on the property belonging to Ed Zuege at 610 S. See INCREASE on Page 5

## Donors asked to give blood on Jan. 15

The American Red Cross blood drive will be held from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Jan. 15 in the St. Francis Grade School gym.

Julie Claybaugh's twin 6-year-old boys Jon and Josh were sick almost every day for the first three years of their lives. About the time they turned four, they needed monthly treatments to bolster their weakened immune systems. These treatments were made from blood donations.

"Blood donors enabled my sons to stay in school and play like other kids their age instead of having to lie on the couch constantly sick," Ms. Claybaugh said. "These people that donated blood for their treatments made life so much better for the boys, and I thank these donors from the bottom of my heart."

Jon and Josh are two of the nearly 500 people who need blood each day in the American Red Cross Central Plains Region Blood Services area, which serves 100 hospitals in Kansas and northern Oklahoma.

"When you give the gift of life, you give someone another hug, another laugh, another chance," said Pam Head, Red Cross Central Plains Region Blood Services chief executive officer. "Donating blood takes about an hour with the actual donation lasting only about 7 minutes. Your single donation can help three different hospital patients."

The local Rebekah organization blood drive will be starting from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Jan. 15 in the grade school on Washington Street, St. Francis. People wanting to give blood should call 1-800-448-3543 to schedule an appointment to give blood. All blood types are needed, especially O-negative and O-positive.

## Rules change for donors

Beginning Jan. 1, the American Red Cross volunteer blood donors there are some new requirements.

All donors will need to provide identification before donating blood at the drive. If a prospective donor is unable to provide appropriate identification, he or she will not be allowed to donate.

The American Red Cross officials have established these new regulations to make sure donors are properly identified in Red Cross records; are not currently disqualified from donating and can be reached for further follow up if needed.

Donors will need to have the following identification:

- A government-issued picture identification such as a driver's license or a Red Cross blood donor card.

If a donor does not have either of the above identification, he or she will be required to provide two other forms of identification.

A high school student who does not have acceptable identification will be required to have his or her identity and age verified by a school official.

Some of the other requirements for blood donors which have been in place for years include:

- Be at least 17 years old.
- Weigh at least 110 pounds.
- Be in general good health.

Most medicines are not cause for deferral but blood donors are reminded to drink plenty of water prior to their donation.

Visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) for more information.



MAKING ROAD AND STREET SIGNS were Gary and Carol Rogers who spent over 70 volunteer hours making the signs for the county and city. Several months ago, it was discovered that many of the signs needed to be 6-inches tall so new equipment was purchased with 911 Funds and the sign making began.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

## First baby to receive gifts

By Karen Krien

The "First Baby of the year 2004" contest will begin Jan. 1

The only requirement is that the baby be born to any parents living in Cheyenne County for one month or more. These parents and their new born infant will be awarded gifts from sponsors.

The rules are simple:
• As stated, the parents must have lived in Cheyenne County for at least one month.

• The Saint Francis Herald office must be notified as soon as possible. The Herald's number is 785-332-3162.

The parents of this year's first baby

winner will receive a full car wash from the Steven's Kansas Territorial, baby blanket and stuffed animal, St. Francis Equity, \$50 savings bond from Bankwest, \$50 savings bond from First National Bank, \$15 gift certificate for baby food or formula and new-born diapers from Saintry SuperFoods, \$15 gift certificate from KM Clothier, and a year's subscription to The Saint Francis Herald or Bird City Times.

The parents receiving the gifts should pick up their gifts or claim their services within 60 days after the birth.

Since most babies are not on schedule, it's hard telling when the first baby of 2004 will be born.

### 2003 First Baby of the Year

The 2003 First Baby of the Year was Joseph Lee Melton. He was born on Jan. 13 to Jim and Tanya Melton of Wheeler. Joseph weighed in at 7 pounds, 2 ounces and was 18 3/4-inches long.



Joseph Melton

Today, Joseph is an active little boy weighing about 25 pounds.

"We were thrilled with the gifts we received in the First Baby promotion — it was great," Mrs. Melton said.

## Christmas is warm

Kathy Woodcox, St. Francis weather observer, reported Christmas Day to be in high 50s but on Dec. 22, the temperatures reached a high of 64. Unfortunately, no rain was reported.

Date	High	Low
Dec. 22	64	19
Dec. 23	59	22
Dec. 24	56	14
Dec. 25	57	15
Dec. 26	58	18
Dec. 27	52	18
Dec. 28	46	7

## Check out some of the happenings throughout 2003

By Margaret Bucholtz

Many things happened in 2003 and following are just a few of the events.

### January:

Drug dog found drugs on New Year's Eve when Officer Flock stopped a 1987 Honda west of St. Francis on U.S. 36.

City of St. Francis was one of 19 Kansas communities to receive a water and sewer grant.

The seventh annual Coyote Calling Contest was one of the largest ever held in Cheyenne County.

Commissioners freeze salaries for the new year.

Jim and Tonya Melton, Wheeler, were the proud parents of the first baby of the new year.

### February

Good Samaritan Village ap-

proves the plans for building a new four-plex apartment.

Casey McCormick, Bird City, took over duties from Peggy Horineck as the new editor of the Bird City Times.

The recycling center in St. Francis is now open for recycling after Nita Construction donated their labor and poured a new cement floor.

### March

Three Saintry Indian wrestling boys earned medals at State wrestling. They were Dylan Loyd, Derek Ross and Trevor Richard. Saintry Lady Indians ended the basketball season with 12-7 record.

Kip and Patsy Rethke now have a herd of 85 buffalo on their farm.

War began on March 12 in Iraq. Sonja Weeden took over as the

new postmaster at the Bird City Post Office.

### April

Election results are in with Dale Weeks winning the St. Francis City Council seat, Scott Schultz, Mayor; Troy Burr, Bird City Council; Cliff Raile, St. Francis school board; Wade Carmichael, Cheylin school board.

### May

The second Classic Car Show was held on Main Street and was a success despite rain.

Thirty-seven seniors graduated this year. They receive over \$148,000 in scholarships.

Jackson Street Mercantile opened as an antique store on Main Street.

### June

Board approved bid for the hos-

pital renovation.

School bus manager Stan Wahrman retired after giving years of service.

Around 300 St. Francis high school alumni attended the reunion.

Steerman Fly was a great success.

First load of wheat arrived at the Wheeler Equity on June 23.

Hayley Young, Bird City, was the Junior Miss winner for the year 2003.

Tri-State Paints Plus opened a paint store on Quincy Street.

### July

Wind gusts of 84 mile an hour were received in St. Francis.

Bird City Thresher show celebrated 50 years.

### August

Cheyenne County Fair was a

success.

West Nile Virus was diagnosed in two Cheyenne County people.

Ingrid Garcia opened a new coffee and pastry shop on Main Street.

### September

St. Francis school had 40 less students this year compared to last.

The Village apartments were completed and were ready for people to move in.

### October

The high school FFA Judging Team participated in two events this fall, including a Land and Homesite judging and a soil judging.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital collected \$463 from the trail ride that is held annually. The ride was along the river bottom.

Kansas Cattlemen Association

honored Mike Callicrate with the Legacy Award.

St. Francis Fire Department celebrated its 80th anniversary.

Melodrama "The Devious Dentist" was held in the theater with local actors performing.

Police shut down a meth lab.

### November

St. Francis Indian football players went to sub-state football playoffs.

Magistrate Judge resigns.

### December

Committee put together a fantastic light parade to kick off the Christmas Spirit.

State mandates computer system for District clerk.

Oberlin man shot in St. Francis. Winners of the lighting contest were Cindy Henderson, Mike and Michelle Stafford and Mat Moberly

## Warren Wilbur Northrup

Dec. 4, 1923—Dec 23 2003

Warren W. Northrup was born Dec. 4, 1923, to Edwin Ward and Alice Leota (Brown) Northrup on the family farm in Cheyenne, Kan., located about 14 miles northwest of St. Francis. He began learning the art of farming as a small boy when his father let him hitch a horse to a little wooden corn stalk drill so he could drill wheat between the corn stalk rows when he got home from grade school during wheat drilling season. He had a happy, carefree childhood, riding his horse all over the Clough Valley neighborhood with a group of little boys who formed a "horse club."

He was much younger than his siblings, Lawrence W. Northrup, Vera Northrup Seavey, and Ray W. Northrup, so he learned to make his own fun and excitement.

Warren was a very good student and he always took his studies seriously. He attended the Northrup grade school and St. Francis High School, where he graduated in 1942. He loved to participate in sports so he played football, was a wrestler and runner in track. Warren was recognized for his leadership abilities in high school and was elected to hold many offices including president of the Junior Class, a member of the Boy's Training Council, and The National Honor Society.

He gave his heart to the Lord Jesus Christ as a young boy. During his early years of high school, he was baptized and he became a member of The First Christian Church where he served as a faithful servant for many years. He was elected as an elder when he was 26 years old.

Warren taught the high school Sunday school class for many years, and then he taught the Adult Class. He was chairman of the Board several times and always was respected for his wisdom, integrity and love of the Lord which was his first commitment in life. On Sept. 15, 2002, Warren was honored at the church in a special ceremony where he received the award of being named "Elder Emeritus." He was truly someone to whom the Lord could say, "Well done Thou good and faithful servant."

After graduating from high school, Warren attended Wichita State University for a year. He was called into military service by "Uncle Sam" and inducted into the Army at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., on April 23, 1943. He received his basic training at Camp Barkeley, Texas, and then he was sent to Camp Maxey, Texas. He was selected as a member of "the Army Specialized Training Program," and he was sent to the University of Utah in Salt Lake City to be educated as an engineer. He was then selected to go to the University of California in Berkeley. The Army specialized Training Program was later cancelled, as the Army needed more soldiers in the infantry and less engineers. Warren was sent to Camp Cooke at Lompoc, Calif., and he was a medical aidman attached to Company B of the 63rd Armored Division of the 11th Armored Division.

In September, 1944, the 11th Armored Division was shipped out to England, but not before Warren had married his high school sweetheart, Jeneva Waters, on June 21, 1944, at the Methodist Church parsonage in St. Francis. While their ships were crossing the ocean, another armored division, which was already in Europe, needed the armored equipment of the 11th Armored Division, so the equipment was sent on to the battle

field. The soldiers were sent to England, where they waited three months to receive new equipment from the United States. In December, they crossed the English Channel and landed in Cherbourg, France. They arrived in Europe just in time to be sent into "The Battle of the Bulge" when the Germans had broken through the American lines.

Warren was wounded in action near Nimbermont, Belgium. The Headquarters 11th Armored Division, APO 261, U.S. Army citation dated Jan. 25, 1945, states: With his battalion pinned down on an exposed slope of a prominent hill under intense artillery, mortar and machine gun fire, Private Northrup, with complete disregard of his personal safety, rendered aid to the wounded. While rendering aid to Staff Sergeant LaVoid J. Calvin, who had been wounded by mortar fire, Private Northrup was himself wounded by a machine gun. The fearless devotion to duty and disregard of personal safety by Private Northrup was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army.

Warren was awarded the Silver Star Medal, the Combat Medical Badge, the (European, African, Middle East) Ribbon with two Bronze Stars and the Good Conduct Medal. He was in the Rhineland Ardennes Battles and Campaigns.

Warren spent the next nine months recuperating from his serious wounds, and he was in hospitals in England, Baxter General Hospital in Spokane, Wash., and the Hospital Center at Camp Carson in Colorado Springs, from which he was discharged on Sept. 18, 1945.

After getting out of the Army, Warren and his wife, Jeneva, attended school at the University of Colorado in Boulder.

Warren must have been dreaming of that little corn stalk drill he had used as a small boy when he announced to Jeneva that he had decided to go home and take over the family farm rather than becoming a doctor as he had planned.

After resuming his career as a Kansas grain framer and cattleman, Warren settled into a life of doing all the things he had loved since he was a small child. In his life, he put God first, then his wife and children, and then his love of the land, where he could stir up quite a dust, raise good crops, and have fat cattle eating in green pastures and his own feedlot on the family farm. He was a community leader serving on the country school board, the Haigler Equity Board, the Cheyenne County School Reunification Committee and many more positions.

Warren and Jeneva were blessed with two daughters. Gaye Lynne was born in 1948 and Myra Lee in 1950. When his daughters were in high school, Warren's family was named "The Musical Family of Kansas" by the Kansas State Federated Music Clubs. They presented the musical program at the state convention that year. Music was a very important part of Warren's life as he was blessed by God with a beautiful singing voice, and most of his life he sang in a men's quartet for numerous community events and in many churches. His good friend, Don Love, was always a member of the same quartet and the other two members changed from time to time as people moved in and out of the community. Warren and his wife, Jeneva, started singing duets together when they were 16 and 17, and continued to sing together until Warren's health failed.

Warren was totally delighted with

the birth of his three very special grandchildren. In 1976, a granddaughter, Corrie Elizabeth, was born to Dr. G.W. and Myra Lee Pogson in Kansas City, Mo. Corrie is now a doctoral student at the University of Akron in Akron, Ohio. In 1978, twins were born to George M. and Gaye Lynne Mitchell of Eupora, Miss. Matt is now living in Houston, Texas and has a masters degree in information systems. He works as an information systems analyst for ExxonMobil. Mandy has a master's degree in Public Policy and Administration, lives in Jackson, Miss, and works for the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency.

Warren's pride and joy were found in his family: daughter Gaye Bekkering and her husband Ernst Bekkering, daughter Myra Northrup, his three grandchildren, and his wife and best friend, Jeneva.

In 1984, Warren was badly hurt in a truck wreck. In 1988, his doctor in Denver began to notice the development of Parkinson Disease. Through the following years, the Parkinson Disease gradually ravaged his body, and April 4, 2000, he became a resident of the Good Samaritan Village to receive the special care he needed.

Early in the morning of Dec. 23, 2003, Warren succumbed to Parkinson Disease after fighting the good fight and winning the race by living a wonderful life committed to his Lord. Warren set a sterling example of what a Christian man should be.

Warren is survived by his wife, Jeneva; his daughters, Gaye Bekkering and husband Ernst of Eupora, Miss. and Myra Northrup of Sterling, Colo.; grandchildren, Corrie Pogson, Matt Mitchell; Mandy Mitchell; sister Vera and husband Merle of Wichita; in-laws Patricia Northrup, Janetta Evins, Dr. E.R. and Bonnie Cram all of St. Francis, Fred Waters and wife Lavina, McDonald, Dolly Frederickson and husband Loyd of Midland, Texas; many cousins, nieces and nephews; and a host of friends.

Warren carried in his wallet these words turning yellow with age and that expressed the theme and focus of his life:

My farm is not where I must soil  
My where in endless, dreary toil  
But where, through seed and swelling pod,  
I've learned to walk and talk with God.

Christ is the answer to all my longings,  
Christ is the answer to all my needs,  
Savior, Baptizer  
The Great Physician  
Oh Hallelujah!  
He's all I need!

Funeral services for Warren were held at the First Christian Church, St. Francis with Pastor Emeritus John Bartlett officiating. His daughters sang "My God And I" and "In The Garden."

Honorary pallbearers were elders of the First Christian Church Bert Follett, Don Love, John Finley, Royce Cook, Tim Poling, Danny Penn, Pat Stuart, Lanny DeGood and Pastor Bartlett. Casket bearers were Ernst Bekkering, Matt Mitchell, Ed Seavey, Scott Northrup, Lewis Evins and Jim Dorsett.

Interment was in the St. Francis Cemetery. Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis, was in charge of the arrangements.

**Leonard Ray Rogers**  
Dec 21, 1917-Dec 22 2003  
Leonard Ray Rogers was born

December 21, 1917, in a sod house built by his parents Elza and Emma Pelstrom Rogers on the farm they homesteaded northeast of Bird City, Kan.,

He was the seventh child born in a family of nine children.

Leonard attended Evergreen school until the eighth grade. He left school after his fathers death to do the farming. He also took care of his mother until a short time prior to her death.

Leonard was always busy in his farm shop working on projects and helping his neighbors.

Upon his retirement Leonard moved to his present home in Bird City until his death on Dec. 22, 2003 at the Dundy County Hospital, Benkelman, Neb. at the age of 86 years and one day.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Elza and Emma Rogers, sisters Lenora Keenan, Corella Dykens, Pearl Harris, May Rogers who died at birth a twin of Faye Simpson; brothers Dale Rogers and Roy Rogers

Leonard is survived by his younger sister Faye Simpson of Catawba, S. C., Nine nieces and eight nephews.

Funeral Service was held at the Knodel Funeral Home on Dec 27 in St. Francis with the Rev. Rusty Rogers officiating. Casket bearers were Jerry Carmichael, Keith Dorsch, Louis Gipe, Scott Smith, Wade Carmichael, Norman Dorsch, Dean Smith and Terry Glasco. Interment was in the Bird City Cemetery.

**Hazel Stafford Wiggins**  
Nov 5, 1908-Dec 24, 2003

Hazel Irene Stafford Wiggins was born to William and Amealina Stafford on November 5, 1908, in Kanorado, Kan., Hazel was one of the youngest of the Stafford children.

She attended school through the sixth grade and then worked at home. Times were hard and through part of Hazel's life, she was reared by Lloyd and Winnie Weeden. The Weeden family took care of several of the Stafford children and adopted Walter, known as Mike, when he was fourteen. His mother recognized his need for help.

In 1933, Hazel married Frank Wiggins. She was a homemaker but worked out in different jobs to help make a living. She worked in the O'Leary home as well as doing janitorial work in other places.

Though Hazel and Frank never had any children, Hazel poured her love onto others. She was fond of her nieces and nephews and of other young people of the community and her church. Hazel was a faithful member of the Church of Christ in Cheyenne County, meeting in those earlier years in Wheeler and then in St. Francis. She and Frank served by doing janitorial work until the little white church building burned.

After Frank died, she moved to the Good Samaritan Village and relied on her niece, Bettye Winston, to be her guardian and help look after her.

Hazel passed away early in the morning, December 24, 2003, at the Good Samaritan Village.

Her parents, her husband, and all her siblings preceded her in death. Her siblings were Ralph, Eva, Edward, Harold, Walter (Mike Weeden), Flora, and Ray who died as an infant.

Nieces, nephews her church family, and many other friends survive Hazel and will miss her.

Funeral Service was at the Church of Christ with Rev. Norman Morrow officiating. Burial was at the St. Francis Cemetery.



**HEAD START CHILDREN** went to the St. Francis Senior Center where Charlsie Rogers helped children make ornaments for Christmas. *Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*

## Plain Sense

### Making resolutions

Webster's Dictionary defines the word resolution as a thing determined upon or a decision as to future action. With the start of another new year, many people start thinking about such resolutions; things they want to do differently, usually designed towards self-improvement or getting along better with someone else. The most common resolutions relate to losing weight, stopping smoking, getting more exercise, and spending more time with various family members and friends.

For most people, those well-intentioned resolutions don't last past the first month of the year. Resolutions that require giving up something can be very hard to achieve, such as quitting smoking, or giving up favorite foods that add to weight gain. And because behaviors such as smoking or overeating are long time habits, abruptly stopping is usually more than most people can successfully accomplish. Thus, it is important to set realistic resolutions that are designed to make big changes in reasonably obtainable smaller steps. For example, beginning with a reduction in the number of cigarettes smoked per day might be better accomplished

than stopping all at once. As a person succeeds with each small step, the sense of accomplishment provides self-encouragement to move into the next phase. The same can be said for attempting to improve difficult family relationships. For example, trying to get along better with a family member who is not interested in improving the relationship may result in more frustration. The feelings of discouragement from lack of success then can make it very difficult to even want to continue to pursue the effort. As a small step, a phone call or personal letter on a regular basis to a difficult relative may be easier to accomplish than a visit, yet still convey a message of concern and caring.

Remember when making those resolutions for this year to keep the desired goal realistic and take it one step at a time.

Contributed by Karen D. Beery, LCPC, Consultation and Education Department of High Plains Mental Health

The views expressed here are those of the individual writer and should not be considered a replacement for seeking professional help.

## INCREASE

Continued from Page 1

Frances. Superintendent Landenberger said that he had attempted to call Mr. Zuege several times but had been unable to reach him. The council asked that Attorney Mike Day draft a letter to Mr. Zuege.

**Superintendent report**  
Upgrade - Superintendent Landenberger reported that the electrical power at the Good Samaritan Village needed of upgrading and that through the summer was not able to handle the load. He reported that the most economical way to upgrade the system would be to put a single underground transformer for a cost of \$4,280. The council tabled the matter until the first of the year.

Well 9 - Superintendent Landenberger said that Seargent Well Drilling will be pulling Well 9 sometimes after the first of the year.

**Other business**  
In other business:  
• The council will meet on

Wednesday, Dec. 31, to pay yearend bills and approve cereal malt licenses.

• The council approved to pay the membership fees to the League of Kansas of Municipalities. The fee includes membership dues of \$524.58 and a subscription to the Kansas Government Journal for \$150.

• The council approved renewal to the city's Attorney Association in the amount of \$35.

• The council approved Ordinance 521. This ordinance approves adopting the codification of the 2003 Code Book.

**Building permits**  
Building permits were approved for the following residents: Marlin Burr, erect building.

**Executive session**  
Superintendent Landenberger requested 5 minutes in executive session for personnel. No action.

Attorney Day request 15 minutes in executive session for pending legal matters.

**EARL...**

"I DON'T NEED ANY ENCYCLOPEDIAS... MY WIFE ALREADY KNOWS EVERYTHING."

*Big Dry Syndicate*

**St. Francis Equity**  
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**Holiday Schedule**

**Wednesday, Dec. 31 (New Year's Eve)**  
Lobby & Drive up will Close at Noon  
All 2003 year-end business must be in by Noon CST

**Announcing**  
**FNB.com Community Calendar**  
We encourage you to post your upcoming events on our website!

- Go to FNB.com
- Click on the community tab
- Choose your community
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