

Weather hinders repairs

By Casey McCormick

Bone chilling temperatures did not slow down the repair of a section of Nebraska Colorado and Kansas Railroad track near Bird City. Two crews braved the sub-zero weather to replace ties and rails on Monday.

The repair was necessary after a tank car derailed at a switch a week earlier. The damaged track was just north of Highway 161 west of the Frontier Equity location. The line travels beside US 36.

The Nebraska Colorado and Kansas crews came from Curtis and Grant, Neb. Several wooden ties and lengths of steel rails were damaged.

"The weather is the biggest problem," said repairman Dan Vapinik. The cold temperatures froze the section which had to be replaced in the ground. As the job continued the five workers had to endure below-zero temperatures and a constant north wind.

Using a boom truck, they lowered the heavy steel rails from the side of the tracks and positioned them along the new ties.

The job was done by Steve Kehler and Stacy Campbell of Curtis and Mr. Vapinik, Matt Greenwood and Carl Neumiester from Grant.



WORKERS FOR THE Nebraska-Kansas-Colorado Rail Road fight the elements to repair damaged tracks from a derailed tank car west of Bird City. Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

Hospital board needs one new member

The term for one of the Cheyenne County Hospital Board member has expired and the county commissioners need to approve the person for the seat at the Monday meeting.

Swede Calnon, St. Francis, has served on the hospital board for the last four years and has expressed a desire to continue with another term.

"Yes I do want to serve another term," Mr. Calnon said. "I'd like to see the hospital remodeling through to the end and I'd also like to see the hospital funding break even."

During his term, Mr. Calnon said he had talked to Congressman Jerry Moran about additional funding to help students through nursing school.

"There is a great need for nurses and I'd like to see the hospital board and the government help our students and other interested people

—St. Francis News—

Visitors for the holidays with Violet Cranmer were Shirley Younts of Merriam. On New Year's Day other visitors were Drew Robinson and friend Jill of Colorado Springs, Colo.

become nurses — I think it is good to have county residents come back to our hospital."

He also noted that the board had recently agreed to help a county resident with X-ray technician training.

The commissioners are advertising in this week's issue of *The Saint Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times*, asking that anyone interested in serving on the board to please call the clerk's office, 785-332-8800, and talk to Terry Miller before the commissioners meet on Monday. Interviews will be held at the Monday meeting.

The term is a four-year term and the board generally meets once a month. However, with the remodeling of the hospital, there are often more than one meeting a month. Meetings will probably go back to once a month when the remodeling is completed.

For additional information about being a hospital board meeting, talk to any board member, commissioner or Les Lacy, hospital administrator. Those who have previously applied may also be considered for the appointment.



Neitzel

— Introducing —

Cutter William Neitzel

Todd, Tracy and Colton Neitzel are proud to announce the arrival of Cutter William Neitzel born Dec. 17, 2003, at 3:32 p.m. Cutter weighed in at 7 pounds, 12 ounces and measured 19 1/2 inches long.

Grandparents are Karen Neitzel of St. Francis and the late William C. (Bill) Neitzel and Pete and Kathy Fitzgibbons of Goodland. Great-grandparents are Glen Neitzel of St. Francis and Anna Reinert of Hoxie.

A new Neitzel boy has joined the farm, his dark eyes and hair are sure to charm. Cutter William is his name, now our lives won't be the same. Big brother Colton will share his space, gray hairs will come to Todd and Trace

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New deputy hired to patrol Bird City

By Karen Krien

Cheyenne County has a new deputy sheriff who will be living and working in Bird City.

Jeff Moser joined the Cheyenne County Sheriff's department, with his first day of duty being Friday. Officer Moser was hired as part of an agreement with the county and Bird City to patrol the city. He, his wife Lariena and children have moved into Bird City and are thrilled with the small community.



Moser

"We love Bird City. The people are so nice — they accept us and talk to us — we are happy to be here," Officer Moser said.

Officer Moser said he had always wanted to be a law officer, despite the fact that the majority of his family are teachers and professors.

Born in Wheatridge, Colo., he went to school in Northglenn, attended Parks College in Thornton, majoring in the paralegal field, and graduated in 1994. Following graduation from Parks College, he worked for the Reliance Security Patrol and Range Tech. He then started his own company, Great Plains Community Patrol, and had offices in Denver and Wichita. During this time, he was also attending Aurora Community College in the Law Enforcement Academy but his family was growing and a shortage of funds caused him to quit.

In September, he and Mrs. Moser decided it was time to move their children out of the Aurora school system. Their oldest son, Bryce was 9, Cordell was 8, Dalton, 6 and Alicia, 5.

Bryce and Cordell both wanted to become members of the baseball team but there were so many kids that Bryce was the only one selected for the team and Officer Moser was the coach.

The Mosers moved to Goodland where they had family and friends. Officer Moser took a job at Wal-Mart but continued looking for a law enforcement position. When he heard about the

Cheyenne County position, he applied and was hired.

"We are looking forward to working with Jeff and think he will be an asset to the department as well as bring a nice family to Bird City," Sheriff Eddie Dankenbring said.

"We think Bird City is a beautiful town — it has everything we could want in a small town," Officer Moser said. "We are impressed with the school and just looking around, we can tell that the people take pride in their school and town."

"The kids think the baby-back ribs at the Blue Bird Junction are the best and everyone at the grocery store calls us by name and talks to us."

Mrs. Moser is a housewife but for a number of years worked in the media area with Channel 12 in Denver. She may be looking into some type of employment or business in the near future, especially since Alicia will now be in school.

Officer Moser will be attending the Kansas Law Enforcement Academy in the near future where he will be certified.

— Student News —

Kansas Wesleyan University

Kansas Wesleyan University has announced the names of 142 students who were named to the dean's honor roll for the 2003 fall semester. Students who have a semester grade point average of 3.25-3.74 and who have no incompletes are listed on the dean's honor roll at the end of each semester.

Among those receiving academic honors was Patricia Hengen of Bird City.

— St. Francis News —

New Year's Day guests in the home of Lucille Price were the Bandel's - Tom and Sandy, Mike and daughter Lauren, and Matt, Mila, Kyla and Karly.

Christmas guests of Milton and Betty Lampe from Dec. 26 to Dec. 30 were Kirk and Debbie Grizzell and Kyle of Macksville and Travis Grizzell of Hays.

January Clearance Sale

SAVE ♦ SAVE ♦ SAVE



2001 Chev. Lumina

P5204
60 mos. @ 7.1% ... \$8,484.38
*\$149/mo.



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P5436
60 mos. @ 7.10% ... \$9,991.59
*\$179/mo.



1995 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme

G35948A
36 mos. @ 8.25% ... \$5,720.55
*\$149/mo.



2000 Pontiac Grand Am

P6049 ... 60 mos. @ 7.5% ... \$10,402.34
*\$189/mo.



ALSO on the lot ...

- 1998 Ford Ranger Extended Cab - 2 wheel drive, 446129A ... 48 months @ 7.99% ... \$9,942.21 *\$219/mo.
- 2000 Oldsmobile Alero, P5462B ... 60 months @ 7.5% ... \$8,412.35 *149/mo.
- 2002 Chevy Venture Van, P6085 ... 72 months @ 7.19% ... \$15,483 *269/mo.
- 2002 Chevy Impala, B5792A ... 72 months @ 7.19% ... \$15,483.50 * 249/mo.

* Payments based on 999.00 down, W.A.C., taxes, titles & fees extra.
*Terms & Rates subject to change, see dealer for details.



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2004 DOG TAGS ARE AVAILABLE



Come to the City Office, 209 E. Washington, to register your dog(s). ALL Dogs that live in the city need 2 tags: a rabies tag from a veterinarian and a city dog tag from the city office.

Happy 80th Birthday



Great Grandma Marv!

Love,
Madison, Connor
and Kobe



Official notice of annual meeting

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of St. Francis Mercantile Equity Exchange will be held at the **High School Cafeteria in St. Francis, Kansas, January 8, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. CST.** Reports will be presented by the Board of Directors and management along with a review of the financial statements of our auditors. Members will elect one director to serve on the board and we will conduct any other business that may legally come before the members.

Dinner will be served beginning at 6:00 p.m. CST. The business session will follow at about 7:00. Drawings for door prizes will follow the meeting.

Please make reservations by calling the office in St. Francis or Haigler, or by returning the reservation form from the newsletter by January 6, 2004. All patrons are urged to attend.

St. Francis Mercantile Equity Exchange
s/Ted Zielke, Secretary

James E. Reeves, DPM
Podiatrist/Foot Specialist
Reconstructive Surgery
Foot & Ankle Injuries
For appointments call:
Rawlins County Health Center
785-626-3211
Wed., Feb. 4
Cheyenne County Hospital - P.M.
210 W. 1st • 332-2104
Thur., Feb. 5
Atwood - A.M.
Colby - P.M.
CSMC, 175 S. Range
462-3332
CMC, 100 E. College Dr.
462-7511
Fri., Feb. 6
Atwood - All Day