

Clerk explains changes on 2004 primary election

There will be a few major changes at this year's primary election.

Until this year, Kansas had closed primaries, meaning if you weren't a Democrat or a Republican, you didn't vote. Now the Democratic primary will be open to Democrats and unaffiliated voters. The Republicans were going to open their primary to unaffiliated voters, but a lawsuit blocked that.

Terry Miller, Cheyenne County election officer, said that what it all means is if the person is registered to vote as an unaffiliated voter, he or she may go to the polls on Aug. 3, and tell the election worker that they would like to vote the Democratic ballot and the worker will hand the voter a ballot.

If the unaffiliated voter would rather vote as a Republican, they can do that, too.

"The only difference is you, the voter, will have to fill out a 'Change of Party Affiliation' card stating for that day, at least, you will be a Republican," Officer Miller said. "You then will be handed a Republican ballot and can vote for the Republican candidates. You can fill out the exact same card the next day, or anytime thereafter, (at the clerk's office) and become unaffiliated again.

If there are any questions, either before the election or at the polls, those working will help unaffiliated voters.

"You can always call the clerk's office as well," Officer Miller said.

Biggest change

Officer Miller said probably the biggest change has been due to the "Help America Vote Act."

"This year, the voter must show a form of identification before they vote if they are a 'first time voter,'" Officer Miller said.

According to the Help America Vote Act, first time voters must provide identification to a county election official before receiving a ballot.

"You are considered a 'first time voter' if you have never voted in Cheyenne County.

"If this is you, be prepared to

show one of these forms of identification: a) A current and valid driver's license or non-driver's identification card issued by the Kansas Division of Motor Vehicles; b) current utility bill; c) bank statement; d) paycheck; e) government check; f) other government document showing the name and current address of the voter."

The name and address on the above forms must match the voter's registration information. If the voter doesn't bring identification to the poll and is a first-time voter, he/she will still be allowed to vote a provisional ballot.

"You will then have until the canvass of votes, Friday, Aug. 6, to show identification. If you cannot provide the identification by that time, your vote will not count," Officer Miller said. "If you have questions about whether you'll need to show identification at the polls, call the clerk's office (785-332-8800).

Those knowing they will need to show identification when they vote can also come to the clerk's office anytime before voting and provide identification and they won't have to show identification at the polls.

"This would speed up the process to vote, so you're welcome to come by the office and show us who you are," Officer Miller said.

Provision ballot

This year, those issued a provisional ballot will be able to check with the clerk's office to see if their vote was counted or rejected.

"Before, you never knew if your

vote was rejected or accepted," Officer Miller said. "You will be told the reason if it is rejected"

A provisional ballot is any ballot that is cast that may have questions regarding the voter's status. For example, if the address doesn't match what is registered at the clerk's office, they would be allowed to vote, but the ballot would go in a special envelope. Another envelope would explain the details of the discrepancy and the board of county commissioners, along with the county election officer/clerk would count or reject the ballot depending on the situation, at the canvass of votes.

-St. Francis News-

On Thursday, Karen Krien accompanied Sue Ella Touslee of Emporia, and Kelly Allen of Clay Center to Finley, N.D., where they were guests of Ed and Wanita Kroeplin. While there, they made a trip to the Peace Gardens which border the United States and Canada, saw the rising water levels at Devils Lake, the tallest tower in the United States as well as the marker designating the center of North America. They also visited Royce and Diane Kroeplin and Ken and Sharon Kroeplin. They made their way back to Kansas on Sunday.

Chantelle and Angeleo Sparks from San Antonio, Texas, are visiting this week with their great-grandparents, Coy and Neva DeGood.

— Something to Think About —

The Gossiper

A woman repeated a bit of gossip about a neighbor. Within a few days the whole community knew the story. The person it concerned was deeply hurt and offended. Later the woman responsible for spreading the rumor learned that it was completely untrue. She was very sorry and went to a wise old sage to find out what she could do to repair

the damage. Go to the marketplace," he said, "and purchase a chicken, and have it killed. Then on your way home, pluck its feathers and drop them one by one along the road."

Although surprised by this advice, the woman did what she was told.

The next day the wise man said, "Now go and collect all those feathers you dropped yesterday and bring them back to me."

The woman followed the same road, but to her dismay, the wind had blown the feathers all away. After searching for hours, she returned with only three in her hand.

"You see," said the old sage, "it's easy to drop them, but it's impossible to get them back. So it is with gossip. It doesn't take much to spread a rumor, but once you do, you can never completely undo the wrong."



SELF-EMPLOYED real estate investor, Don Morreale, Denver, is riding across the United States in hopes of earning \$62,500 to help the orphaned children of India. Mr. Morreale plans started from Las Cruces, N.M. and to end his crusade in Washington, D.C.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Man rides scooter for cause

Every summer, there are runners, bikers and even horses crossing the United States for one cause or another. On Monday, a different sort of travel could be seen coming to St. Francis as a Denver man is crossing the United States on a motorized scooter to raise money for the SOS Children's Villages of India.

"The motorized scooter is a way of bringing attention to my plight of orphaned children," said Don Morreale, a self-employed real estate investor and landlord from Denver.

Mr. Morreale is also the author of two books on Buddhism in America.

He started his cross-country journey on the two-wheeled, standup scooter called "The Mosquito Stinger" on Feb. 15 and intends to raise \$62,500 for the SOS Children's Villages of India.

He left his home in Denver, proceeded by car to Las Cruces, N.M., and then rode the Stinger 62.5 miles a day to San Diego, Calif., covering about 680 miles within the first two weeks. Three days ago, he left Denver and had come from Cope, Colo., to St. Francis. He will ride through Kansas, Missouri, Illinois and Indiana. He'll cross Ohio to West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland,

winding up his second segment in Washington, D.C., having taken approximately four to six weeks to complete the journey.

Mr. Morreale said his inspiration came from a trip he took to India in 1976 when he witnessed firsthand the plight of orphaned children dressed in rags.

"They were swarming over garbage heaps in the sweltering streets of Old Delhi. With no one to care for them, they were left to fend for themselves," he said. "I resolved that somehow, sometime, I would do something to help them."

That resolve strengthened in 2000 when Morreale attended the funeral of a close friend who had been killed in a Colorado mountaineering accident. The man's mother, who lives in New Delhi, asked that the money be sent to SOS in lieu of flowers, since she was actively involved in raising funds for that organization.

The only thing left to do was to find sponsors. In 2003, Rotary International agreed to participate. The Mosquito Company of Salt Lake City, eager to see their vehicle tested against the rigors of a nearly 2,500-mile journey through deserts, mountains and rolling countryside, happily do-

nated the hybrid (it has bike brakes, 16-inch bike wheels and an auxiliary bike seat, but is powered by a two-stroke motor roughly the size of a leaf-blower and is ridden mostly standing up) and will also provide logistical support.

Mr. Morreale plans to raise enough money through sponsorships and donations to educate 1,000 children for one year (the cost of a year's education for one child at SOS/India is only \$62.50) and to encourage contributors to provide ongoing support. After the ride, he will go to India to photograph SOS Villages and then retrace his transcontinental route by car, stopping to speak to local Rotary organizations in small towns along the way.

He will be keeping a journal throughout his journey and aims to publish a book about his cross-country adventure when he returns.

On Tuesday, he was speaking to Rotary members in Oberlin and is currently looking for other organizations to speak to as he travels the U.S.

Mr. Morreale can be contacted at 303-698-9320. His cell phone number is 303-204-9251 or he can be reached by e-mail at donnorreale@hotmail.com.

Published in The St. Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, Thursday, July 29, 2004 (31)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of City of St. Francis

will meet on the 10th day of August, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. at 113 West Washington, St. Francis, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax.

Detailed budget information is available at the City Office and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2005 Expenditures and Amount of 2004 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2005 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	2003		2004		Proposed Budget 2005		
	Prior Year Actual Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate *	Current Year Est of Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate *	Expenditures	Amount of 2004 Ad Valorem Tax	Est. Tax Rate *
General	511,467	19.196	775,025	25.356	893,661	160,446	24.957
Library	29,785	3.680	30,000	3.465	29,000	24,628	3.831
Employee Benefits	227,205	3.837	11,924				
Special Highway	7,090		8,000		170,230		
Special Parks & Recreation	520		600		3,334		
Equipment Reserve	147,264		51,345		79,543		
Capital Improvements	98,647		36,500		325,351		
Electric & Water Utility	1,567,019		1,519,240		1,570,030		
Refuse Utility	129,414		150,992		167,992		
Sewer Utility	50,389		145,000		265,315		
Theatre Enterprise	47,873		62,278		64,786		
Wireless Utility	9,270		140,800		132,036		
Totals	2,825,943	26.713	2,930,804	28.821	3,701,278	185,074	28.788
Less: Transfers	470,000		591,924		665,000		
Net Expenditure	2,355,943		2,338,880		3,036,278		
Total Tax Levied	182,254		183,791		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX		
Assessed Valuation	6,822,704		6,377,206		6,428,971		

Outstanding Indebtedness, January 1,	2002	2003	2004
G.O. Bonds			0
Revenue Bonds			0
Other		400,000	400,000
Lease Purchase Principal			0
Total	0	400,000	400,000

*Tax rates are expressed in mills
Mary Jane Clark
 Clerk

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STATE OF KANSAS USD# 297
 Budget Form USD-A
 2004-2005

NOTICE OF HEARING 2004-2005 BUDGET

The governing body of St. Francis USD 297 will meet on the 12th day of August, 2004 at 8:00 P. M., at the USD 297 superintendent's office for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied. Detailed budget information (including budget profile) is available at the superintendent's office and will be available at this hearing.

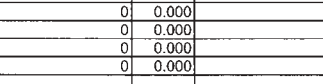
The Amount of 2004 Tax to be Levied and Expenditures (published below) establish the maximum limits of the 2004-2005 Budget. The "Est. Tax Rate" in the far right column, shown for comparative purposes, is subject to slight change depending on final assessed valuation.

Code 99 Line	2002-2003 Actual		2003-2004 Actual		PROPOSED BUDGET 2004-2005		
	Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2004 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)
OPERATING							
General	2,735,390	20.000	2,652,336	20.000	2,787,927	493,268	20.000
Supplemental General (LOB)	190,070	8.580	267,327	9.152	450,000	250,803	9.152
SPECIAL REVENUE							
Adult Education	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Adult Supplemental Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bilingual Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay	48,009	4.000	147,927	4.000	2,200,000	109,617	4.000
Driver Training	21,618	0	21,974	0	50,000	0	0
Extraordinary School Program	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food Service	24	231,238	24	236,125	360,000	0	0
Professional Development	28	8,634	28	2,266	30,000	0	0
Parent Education Program	28	0	28	0	0	0	0
Summer School	29	0	29	0	0	0	0
Special Education	30	235,858	30	222,436	450,000	0	0
Technology Education	31	0	31	0	0	0	0
Transportation	32	148,797	32	0	0	0	0
Vocational Education	34	65,085	34	61,989	65,000	0	0
Area Vocational School	36	0	36	0	0	0	0
Special Liability Expense Fund	42	0	42	0.000	0	0	0.000
School Retirement	44	0	44	0.000	0	0	0.000
Extraordinary Growth Facilities	45	0	45	0.000	0	0	0.000
Special Reserve Fund	47	0	47	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	07	119,479	07	119,549	130,493	0	0
Gifts and Grants	35	0	35	0	0	0	0

Mastin

Chris and Iris Mastin, St. Francis, would like to announce the arrival of Tod Jacob, born on July 12, 2004. He was 8 pounds, 4 ounces, and measured 20 inches.

Grandparents are Rick and Mary Lou Mastin of Hays and Josephine Henderson of Tulsa, Okla. Great-grandparents include Fred and Marie Schwarz of Oakley, and Shirley Bruner of Scott City.



Code 99 Line	2002-2003 Actual		2003-2004 Actual		PROPOSED BUDGET 2004-2005		
	Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2004 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)
KPERS Special Retirement Contribution	51		51		127,721	853,688	33.152
Contingency Reserve	53	14,678	53	16,057	0	0	0
Textbook & Student Material Revolving	55	15,425	55	16,111	0	0	0
DEBT SERVICE							
Bond and Interest #1	62	0.000	62	0.000	0	0	0.000
Bond and Interest #2	63	0.000	63	0.000	0	0	0.000
No-Fund Warrant	66	0.000	66	0.000	0	0	0.000
Special Assessment	67	0.000	67	0.000	0	0	0.000
Temporary Note	68	0.000	68	0.000	0	0	0.000
COOPERATIVES**							
Special Education	78	0	78	0	0	0	0
TOTAL USD EXPENDITURES	100	3,834,481	100	3,764,097	6,851,141	853,688	33.152
Less: Transfers	105	633,489	105	569,622	566,921	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX
NET USD EXPENDITURES	110	3,200,992	110	3,194,475	6,084,220	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX
TOTAL USD TAXES LEVIED	115	751,529	115	765,596	853,688	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX
OTHER							
Historical Museum	80	0.000	80	0.000	0	0	0.000
Public Library Board	82	0.000	82	0.000	0	0	0.000
Public Library Board Employee Benefits	83	0.000	83	0.000	0	0	0.000
Recreation Commission	84	29,105	84	27,282	40,000	27,404	1.000
Rec Comm Emp Benefits & Spec Liab	86	0.000	86	0.000	0	0	0.000
TOTAL OTHER	120	29,105	120	27,282	40,000	27,404	1.000
TOTAL TAXES LEVIED	125	775,942	125	790,032	881,092		
Assessed Valuation - General Fund	128	\$22,221,015	128	\$22,213,403	\$24,663,395		
Assessed Valuation - All Other Funds	130	\$24,412,528	130	\$24,435,602	\$27,404,173		
Outstanding Indebtedness, July 1,	2002	2003	2004				
General Obligation Bonds	135	0	135	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay Bonds	140	0	140	0	0	0	0
Temporary Note	145	0	145	0	0	0	0
No-Fund Warrant	150	0	150	0	0	0	0
Lease Purchase Principal	153	0	153	0	0	0	0
TOTAL USD DEBT	155	0	155	0	0	0	0

* Tax Rates are expressed in Mills
 ** Sponsoring District Only
Sherry L. Osbeck
 President
Sharon K. Olson
 Clerk of the Board