

Grant comes in for fire trucks

By Karen Krien

Cheyenne County Commissioners met on Monday and were notified by the governor that they had received the Community Development Block Grant to purchase three new pumper fire trucks.

Governor Kathleen Sebilus had sent a letter that the county had received a Community Improvement Grant through Kansas Small Cities Community Development Block Grant program to purchase three new pumper fire trucks.

The trucks were estimated to cost \$265,929 but with the grant, the county's cost will only be \$66,434; the grant will amount to \$199,466.

There were 21 communities receiving Block Grants including Rawlins County which received a \$400,000 grant to renovate the Rawlins County Health Center Clinic which will eliminate violations of the American with Disability Act; and Sherman County which received \$92,975 for a pumper/tanker fire truck for the rural fire district.

The Kansas Department of Commerce (Commerce) said the 21 Kansas counties or cities will share a total of \$5,020,001 in federally funded grants for a variety of Community Improvement projects.

\$6,600 received
Eddie Dankenbring, outgoing sheriff presented a check for \$6,600 from the city of WaKeeney—\$6,600 which covered

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First baby is here



By Karen Krien

The first baby born to parents living in Cheyenne County arrived on a snowy Jan. 5 to Kevin and Angie Berens and their son Joshua, St. Francis. Matthew Ellis Berens arrived at 2:25 a.m. at the Goodland Regional Medical Center in Goodland. He was 20-inches long and weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces.

Matthew and his parents will receive a number of gifts from St. Francis businesses including: The parents of this year's first baby winner will receive a car wash from the St. Francis Equuity, a \$50 gift certificate from St. Francis Super's, \$50 bond from Bankwest, a \$50 bond from First National Bank, a baby photo album from Schultz's, a baby gift from Owens True Value, a baby basket from Krien Pharmacy, two bottles of champagne from Burr Liquor, a spinal adjustment for Mommy and baby plus a tube of Biofreeze from Poling Chiropractic and Family Health Center, and a year's subscription to *The Saint Francis Herald* or *Bird City Times*.

The first baby of the year also received a special quilt from the Prairie Piecemaker Quilt Guild, Goodland. Some of the members of the quilting group include: Carol Tupper, Goodland, who did the machine embroidering on the quilt; Betty Miller, Jean Loyd, Charlsie Rogers, Bonnie McQuillen, Shirley Ochsner and Nancy Follett, all from St. Francis; and Cara House, Joan Reid and Deb Fixsen, Goodland.

Matthew's grandparents are: Ellis Flickner of Kingman and the late Sharon Flickner;



FIRST BABY OF THE YEAR, Matthew Berens arrived on Jan. 5 at the Goodland Regional Medical Center. His parents are Kevin and Angie Berens. His brother Joshua is pretty pleased with his new brother.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Gerald and Marsha Berens, and Loyall and Barbara Nichols, all of Colby. Great-grandparents are Robert and Pansy Barton, Colby, and Lee Nichols, St. Francis.

Last year's first baby of the year was McKenna Marie, daughter of Dr. Brett and Cynthia Poling. McKenna was born at the Wray Community Hospital at 9:14 a.m. on

Jan. 21. She weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce and was 21-inches long. She was welcomed home by three brothers, Foster, Tiernan, and Tyson.

City, school board filing deadline is noon, Jan. 25

By Karen Krien

The city and school elections will be held in April but those filing for office will need to have their names submitted at the county clerk's office by noon on Tuesday, Jan. 25.

Those filing will need to either pay a \$5 fee or submit a petition with the required amount of signatures. If the candidate is thinking of submitting a petition, he or she should check with the county clerk to find out the number of signatures needed as there are different numbers for each city and school board.

It should be noted, that after a candidate has filed for an office, he cannot withdraw his name after the last date provided by law for filing for such candidacy.

There are a number of positions open in both cities on both the school and city boards. In both cities, the council can have any number of candidates running but only the seats which are up for election will be

filled by the candidates with the most votes in the April 1 election.

To run for a seat on the city council, the candidate must live within the city limits.

School board elections have different rules and if there are more than three candidate running in a district, there will be a primary election on Feb. 25, eliminating the extra candidates.

There are also different districts in the school district and to run for a certain position, the candidate must live in that district. A map showing the districts can be obtained at the county clerk's office.

City council/mayor

St. Francis—There are three city council seats up for election.

Those members whose term are up are: Rodney Bracelin, Natalie Knodel and Kay Shay.

Bird City—There are two seats on the city council and the position

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Blood drive held today in St. Francis

The American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Thursday in the grade school gym in St. Francis. Currently, there is only 5 percent of the population giving blood but 60 percent of the population is eligible.

"When one in three people will need blood in their lifetime, it is easy to see why relying on 5 percent of the population to supply all of that blood is not reasonable, and why we hear more and more about blood shortages," Dr. Mei-Chien Fucci, American Red Cross Central Plains Region Blood Services chief medical officer, said.

"The seven minutes it takes for the actual blood donation is a short time compared to the lifetime you can give someone else. If we all do our part, we can make sure blood is there when we need it

or it is needed for our loved ones."

"As blood shortages continue to become more severe and more frequent, we all hope there will be progress in the development of artificial blood products," Dr. Fucci said. "But the reality is that right now, there are 5 million patients each year that need blood and we need to direct our attention to increasing the number of blood donors. We don't know how long we will have to wait for something else, and in the meantime, we need to make sure blood is there to save lives."

Those who have not been contacted by a Red Cross representative and would like to be a part of the Red Cross Blood Drive should call 1-800-448-3542 for an appointment.

The Rebekah organization will be helping with the drive. People can also call Ruth Moore in St. Francis.



NEW SHERIFF Troy Gardner signs in following being sworn in by county clerk Terry Miller.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

New sheriff presents plans for county office

By Karen Krien

Troy Gardner was sworn in as Cheyenne County Sheriff on Monday morning. Following the ceremony, he attended the commissioners meeting to tell them that he was planning on having a good relationship with them and they could expect accountability from him.

He immediately asked for executive session to discuss personnel and salaries and, when they were back in regular session, Commissioner Jane Brubaker reported that no decision had been made. The commissioners had a work session scheduled following the meeting and they

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Cow/calf seminar set in St. Francis for end of month

The Tri-State Cow/Calf Symposium and Trade Show titled "Focus on Information and Opportunities" will be held on Saturday, Jan. 29. It will start at 8 a.m. and run through 3 p.m. at the St. Francis Community High School.

"The cow/calf industry is a very dynamic state at present," said Tye Faulkender, Cheyenne County Extension Director. "Cattlemen of the tri-state region are among the best at staying progressive minded."

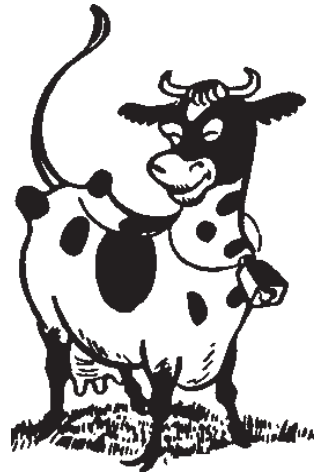
"The Tri-State Cow/Calf Symposium will be another informative and useful tool that can be utilized. We look forward to bringing this highly informational event to the cattlemen of the area."

The meeting will be held at one location and has a registration fee of \$20 with additional group members fee of \$15 which should be paid before Jan. 25. The cost will be \$30 after the Jan. 25 deadline. Included in the registration fee will be trade show activities, a meal and the proceedings for the day. Brochures with registration forms will be coming soon in the mail.

Schedule of events

The schedule for the day involves a trade show with a large variety of interest.

Topics included are:



• Update on the National Animal ID Program by George Teagarden, Kansas Livestock Commissioner.

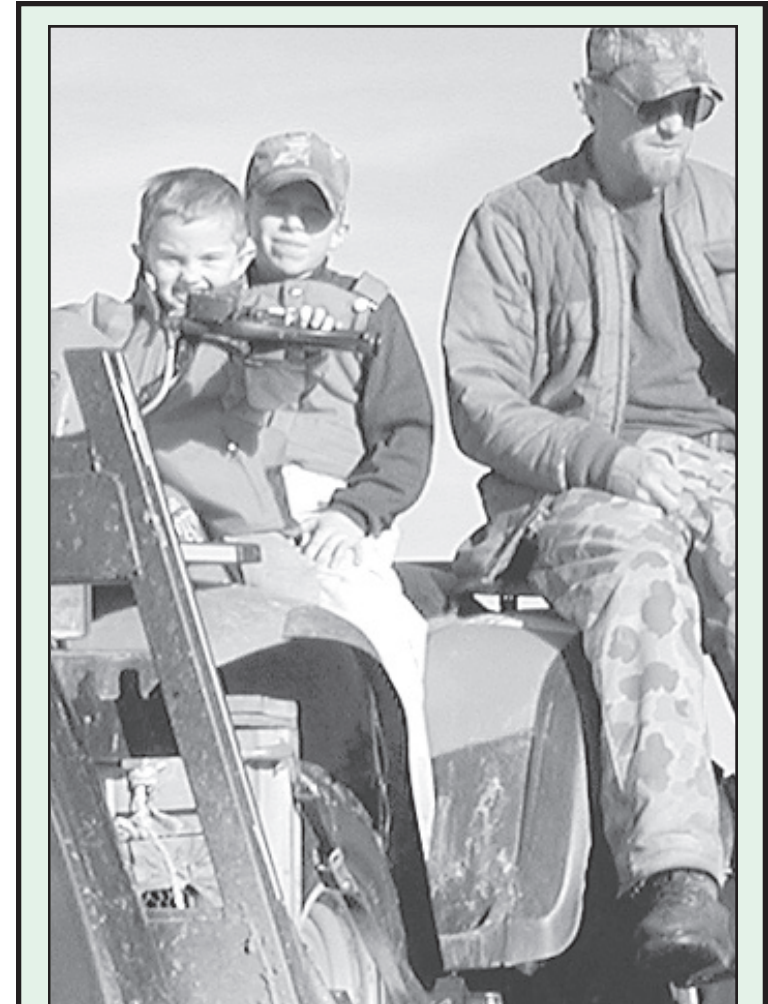
• Turning Animal ID and Information into Profit, Bill Mies, E-Merge Interactive.

• What Producers Need to Know About Foreign Animal Diseases, Dr. Hallie Hasel, State DVM, USDA, APHIS, VS.

• Rebuilding the Cowherd, Options for Replacements, Jack Whittier, Colorado State University.

• Selecting Genetics to Match Today's Market, Jim Gosey, University of Nebraska.

• Carcass Evaluation 101, Cynthia Dixon, Rawlins County See SEMINAR on Page 9A



FUTURE COYOTE CALLERS, Tristen Stasser and Coy Johnson were pretending to be hot on the trail of a coyote while Doug Johnson talks to other hunters.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Serviceman writes home

Dear "Post Office crew,"
 First of all, thank you so much for the package! I really appreciate your prayers and support! I am doing well, (considering the circumstances), but at times I've been so busy that I really don't have the time to think about how I'm doing, which is a good thing, I guess? I miss the small town atmosphere of home, but that can be expected. My parents send me newspaper clippings of articles about me. I just laugh because

they make me seem like some sort of Hero or War Legend. Anyway, no matter what kinds of terrible things you see on TV, we are making a difference! Ask anyone who has been here, (besides actors like Shawn Penn). Hah! Hah!

Again I want to send my greatest thanks for all your prayers and support! Happy Holidays! I'll see you all when I get home.

Sincerely, Corporal Smith, J.D., U.S.M.C.

Scholarships are available to cancer survivors

The Heartland Division of the American Cancer Society announces the opening of the application process for the fifth year of the Young Cancer survivors' Scholarship Program. During the first four years of the program, the Heartland Division awarded a total of 272 scholarships for \$1,000 each to bright enthusiastic, young cancer survivors within the four states of the Division.

The completed applications must be returned to the Division office by early April (the postmark deadline is April 4). Notification will be given to the renewed and new awardees in July. While they do not guarantee their scholarship will be renewed, applicants who received a scholarship last year can reapply for one this year.

Here are the current eligibility criteria for the Young Cancer Survivors' Scholarship Program.

- Have a diagnosis of cancer before the age of 21
- Be a legal resident of Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska or Oklahoma
- Be a high school senior, or, if already in college, have a grade point average of 2.0, based on a 4.0 scale
- Accepted to an accredited university, college, community college, or vocational technical school
- Be 25 years or younger at the time of application.

If you have questions about the Young Cancer Survivors' Scholarship Program, please contact Joyce Watson at (816) 218-7135, or locally, Sherry Schultz at (785) 332-2860.

PLANS

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 told the sheriff that they would study the figures and if they had questions, would talk to him.

Sheriff Gardner, who is also the St. Francis Chief of Police, said he planned to run the two offices as "separate offices." However, he would like to have a commissioner serve as a liaison person on a committee to study the future of the county's law enforcement.

First of all, he wanted to assure the commissioners that nothing would be done concerning law enforcement without their consent.

As for the study, he said there were probably three basic options: 1) keep the two offices (sheriff and St. Francis Police) as they are now; 2) contract with the city of St. Francis in the same way that Bird City now contracts with the county; and 3) consolidate the county into one law enforcement.

Commissioner Brubaker said she had always been interested in pursuing consolidation but felt like Commissioner Ray Lee, with his many years of experience in law enforcement, would be a better candidate for the committee. He agreed to serve.

SEMINAR

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 Extension Agent.

- Technologies and Tools for Implementing Individual Animal Identification, Dr. Dale Blasi, Beef, Forage and Nutrition, K-State Research and Extension.
- What's Ahead for Cow/Calf Producers: Cattle Outlook for 2005 and Beyond, Jim Minert, Livestock Marketing, K-State Extension and Research.

For further details, call Dr. Sandy

Johnson, Area Extension Specialist, Livestock at 785-462-6281; Tye Faulkender, Cheyenne County Extension Director, 785-332-3171; or your local Extension office.

Make checks payable to Cheyenne County Extension office, P.O. Box 667, St. Francis, KS 67756.

"Come take advantage of this information and the highly accredited speakers and their ideas," Director Faulkender said.



COMMISSIONERS, (l to r) Ray Lee, Andy Beikman and Jane Brubaker, along with county attorney Justin Barrett and county clerk Terry Miller, far right, listened to Susan Roelfs, county health nurse, as she revealed plans for the coming year.
 Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

GRANT

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 deputy Jeff Moser's training. The deputy had left in October to go to WaKeeney.

Sheriff Dankenbring said there was \$7,000 left in the sheriff's budget at the end of the year. He said he had not hired a deputy to replace Deputy Moser and, short handed, had worked many hours through the holidays so Deputy Carol Gamblin could have her vacation time. He didn't get his vacation time and wondered if he could get paid through the whole month of January instead of through the 10th.

The commissioners said they appreciated his dedication to the job to work through his entire term and, had he come to the commissioners before the year ended, they may have been able to pay the entire month, but, it was too late to ask for it at this meeting. Several options were discussed on how to pay the sheriff extra money but the commissioners did not come up with the money.

Sheriff Dankenbring thanked the commissioners for all they had done during the four years he had served and even though there had been a few bumpy times along the way, they were able to work together.

Chairman named

Following the swearing in of newly-elected officers, the commissioners took their place with Jane Brubaker being elected as chairman. Other commissioners at the table were Ray Lee and Andy Beikman. Terry Miller, clerk, and Justin Barrett, county attorney, were also present.

Program update

Susan Roelfs, county health nurse, told the commissioners about the programs which the county health department was involved in and the dates when they will take place.

She said the child's car seat check and distribution event would be held on Wednesday at Yost Ford Mercury.

The health office will be encouraging people to focus on National Folic Acid Awareness Week and Chairman Jane Brubaker signed a proclamation. She said more information will be printed in the county newspapers and will be at the clinic.

The money which comes to the county health office through tobacco tax collections is being used for "Cheyenne County Kids Making a Connection." There are several other programs which will be presented with the help of the funds.

The commissioners had received a letter from Debbie Whitmer, public health nurse specialist for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Local and Rural Health office, commending Nurse Roelfs on the job she is doing in Cheyenne County and that she was very impressed with her.

Re-organization on agenda

The commissioners looked at appointments and committees as they re-organized for the new year.

The Airport Agreement with Grace Flying Service was signed along with the Law Agreement between Bird City and the county. Appointments to the Airport Authority were not made at the meeting as the commissioners felt they needed to see if the present members were interested in continuing to serve. If not, they needed to find someone to fill the position.

They will continue to pay the city of St. Francis \$200 a month to house the county fire trucks and emergency preparedness office; and Bird City \$300 to keep the county fire trucks and ambulances (St. Francis has a separate ambulance barn).

They designated The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times

as the official county newspapers; and First National and Bankwest as the official county banks. The commissioners' meetings will continue to be held on the 15th of each month and the last working day of the month.

Dr. Mary Beth Miller was appointed as the county health officer.

Commissioner Beikman was appointed to the Kansas Legislative Policy Group with Commissioner Brubaker being the alternate.

It was noted that Bob Van Allen's term on the Hospital Board was expiring. An ad will run in the newspapers seeking someone interested in serving the four-year term.

Courthouse holidays which will be observed in 2005 are President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's.

In other business

- The commissioners agreed to pay the 2005 dues for Kansas Association of Commissioners for \$1,139.

• Sheriff Troy Gardner presented his plans for the future. (See related article.)

• The attendance of meetings was approved for Danny Schlittenhardt, noxious weed supervisor; Dolores Jenik, treasurer; and Terry Miller, county clerk.

• At Clerk Miller's suggestion, the commissioners agreed to purchase Norton AntiVirus for all 15 courthouse computers which costs \$44 per computer. The money will be taken out of the Computer Fund.

• Commissioner Brubaker commended the courthouse departments for staying within their budgets. According to the figures, all departments with the exception of Emergency Medical Service and Ambulance were within budget.

Next meeting

Next meeting they will need to have a reorganizational meeting and appoint people as well as commissioners to committee and organizations. Especially important to have someone on the committee which deals with landfill regulations.

FILING

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 of mayor up for election. These positions are currently being served by Larry Henry and Wendy Richmeier, council; and Dave Hickert, mayor.

Election officer Terry Miller reported that, as of Monday, nobody had filed for any of the positions

Board of education

St. Francis — There three seats up for election on the St. Francis Board of Education. Positions and the people currently serving are: District 1, position 4, Bruce

Feikert; District 2, position 5, Gene Dodd; District 3, position 6, Pete Raile.

Mr. Dodd moved out of his District and is now living in Mr. Feikert's District. He said he would not be running against Mr. Feikert.

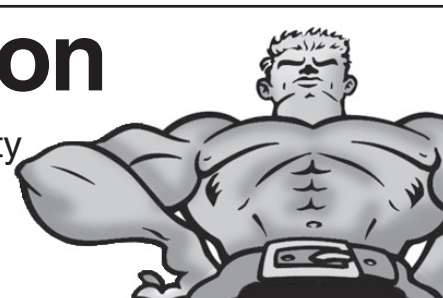
Cheylin — The Cheylin Board of Education has four seats up for election including District 2, position 6, Rod Young, District 1, position 3, Hal Antholz; and District 1, position 1, Gerard Pochop; Member at Large, Cheryl Wilkinson.

COMING SOON —

Winter Sports Section

This supplement will feature St. Francis and Bird City Jr. High and High School Basketball players
 Wrestlers and Cheerleaders!

To be inserted in your paper in January.



Romance In Bloom

"Don't Gamble With Love" Promotion ...
 Coming this Valentine's Day!



Conservation

This section features the Conservation Award Winners in Cheyenne County.



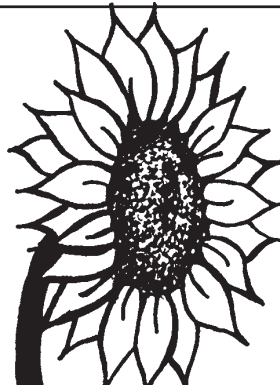
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— and —

Bird City Times

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Tri-State Cow/Calf Symposium

January 29, 2005
 St. Francis High School, St. Francis, Kansas
 8:00 am CST

- Program Topics**
- Update on the National Animal ID Program
George Teagarden, Kansas Livestock Commissioner
 - Turning Animal ID and Information into Profit
Bill Mies, E-Merge Interactive
 - What's Ahead for Cow-Calf Producers:
Cattle Outlook for 2005 and Beyond
Jim Mintert, K-State Research & Extension

- Breakout Sessions**
- What Producers Need to Know About Foreign Animal Disease
Hallie Hasel, DVM, USDA/APHIS
 - Carcass Evaluation 101
Cynthia Dixon, Rawlins County Extension Agent
 - Rebuilding the Cowherd, Options for Replacements
Jack Whittier, Colorado State University
 - Selecting Genetics to Match Today's Market
Jim Gosey, University of Nebraska
 - Technologies & Tools for Implementing Individual Animal ID
Dale Blasi, K-State Research & Extension
- During breaks and lunch take the opportunity to visit with area seedstock producers & industry representatives at the trade show.

Sponsors — BANKWEST OF KANSAS, SUNWEST BANK OF COLORADO, Farm Credit of Western Kansas, First National Bank, K-State Research & Extension, University of Nebraska, Colorado State University

Registration \$20.00 before Jan. 25th, additional family members \$15. \$30.00 at the door. (Includes meal, breaks & proceedings.)

Make check payable to Cheyenne Co. Extension, P.O. Box 667, St. Francis, KS 67756-0667. For more information call 785-332-3171 or contact your local county Extension office.

Name _____ \$20 before Jan. 25th
 Address _____ additional family
 Phone _____ members \$15