

# Four members named to board

By Karen Krien

The Cheyenne County Commissioners agreed to appoint four members of the existing Cheyenne County Extension Board to serve on the Sunflower Extension District Board.

On Friday they met with Dan O'Brien, Extension area director, Randy Rueb, Cheyenne County Extension Board member; and Tye Faulkender, county Extension director, told the commissioners that it was time to appoint board members to the Sunflower Extension District Board. The commissioners approved joining the Sunflower Extension District in February. Cheyenne County will have four people representing the county Extension.

They recommended that the commissioners appoint Randy Rueb and Perry Keller to the one-year terms and Cindy Burr and Penny Gienger to the three-year terms. At the April 2007 election, two people will be elected to serve on the board.

After some discussion about whether or not to make a public notice about the appointment, they commissioners agreed to just appoint the four people recommended for the time periods.

The commissioners were given an agreement to let the room in the basement of the courthouse continue to be used for the Extension office. While they had no reason to not let the office be used as it has for a number of years, they agreed to let the county attorney look over the agreement to see if changes need to be made. They plan to sign it at the next meeting.

# MARKET

Continued from Page 1 items down.

"The Hilltop will be a 'convenient' store — not a 'convenience' store with convenience store prices (high)," he said. "I plan to sell more at lesser prices."

In order to offer customers these prices, Mr. Neitzel, who lives in Denver and has an appraisal business, will be bringing items back each time he comes to St. Francis. He has made contacts with numerous wholesalers, has done the figures and knows he can supply the store and still be able to make a living.

Unique to the market is a 1-cent gumball machine. He said when he contacted the manufacturer to order the penny machine, the person asked three times to make sure that it was only a penny — not 25 cents like so many of the machines. They told him that they could special make a penny slot which they did and he has a big supply of gumballs.

The market is set up much like the Hilltop Markets of the past. Mr. Neitzel has done his homework and will be able to offer customers a variety of items in several brand names. There will also be some specialty items, breads, dairy, frozen, some pre-packaged meats and cheeses, soda, seasonal produce and a small line of hardware (many are those "oops, I need this and the stores downtown are closed). He will also sell books of stamps.

What he will not be offering are tobacco products, beer nor lottery tickets. He will not take credit cards and all purchases are "cash or check." He will not have charge accounts.

However, each week starting in mid-May, there will be specials which will be listed in the window of the market. Mr. Neitzel says there will not be a lot of specials but the specials he has will be worth shopping for.

There are pictures of St. Francis years ago; Liz Weber has loaned him a print of Joe Winston, former owner, and Emma Walz, who worked with Mr. Winston, standing in the store (note, the shelving in the print are the same shelving still holding goods today); there is a crank-style phone and old sink pump, just to name some.

Mr. Neitzel, the son of Dale and Alma Neitzel, St. Francis, was born and grew up in St. Francis. He worked at Ideal Super Market for seven years. He said Chix Hixson and Larry Brunow instilled good work habits



**GIANT GUMBALLS will sell for only 1 cents at the Hilltop Market.**

and taught him a lot about the grocery business. He would have liked to have gone in the business when he graduated from college but, instead, actually fell into the appraisal businesses.

When he was back at Thanksgiving, he did some grocery shopping for his parents. He noted that prices were high and, since his parents are retired, saw the financial stress the high grocery prices were putting on the elderly people in St. Francis.

Then, at Christmas time, he noticed the business which had been located in the Hilltop building were moving out. He talked to the owner, Brett Poling (his grandfather had been one of the owner/operator of the Hilltop), about renting the facility.

"He was excited about having the Hilltop open up again and has been very cooperative," Mr. Neitzel said.

Mr. Neitzel began talking to people, organizations including Carol Redding at the Cheyenne County Development Corporation and Gloria Bracelin, St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce. Everyone encouraged him to go forward with his plans.

He has spent a lot of time planning, contacting and setting up with wholesalers, cleaning, painting, putting in new wiring and purchasing equipment and shelving. He said his brothers Ron and Roger have helped a lot and his niece put together the memorabilia on the top south shelving.

### Grand opening

Mr. Neitzel plans a grand opening day the third weekend in May. Look for more information as the date arrives.



**WIND SENT THIS TREE crashing into Carl Hunt's garage on Saturday. Richard Grace, Grace Flying Service, said the winds were recorded at 68 miles per hour on Saturday.**

# Sainty business offers satellite Internet service

Video Kingdom, St. Francis will be offering WildBlue satellite Internet service, providing affordable high-speed internet connections to homes and small businesses.

WildBlue can be accessed in three service packages starting at the value pack for \$49.95 per month to \$79.95 per month. Download speeds range from 512 kbps to 1.5 mbps to upload speeds of 128 kbps to 256 kbps.

All packages include services such as e-mail and Web space, the WildBlue Portal (featuring the latest news, information and entertainment), 24-hours per day customer care and an equipment warranty. Video Kingdom will offer its equipment package below \$300 and the installation fee is free.

"We're excited about providing WildBlue's high-speed Internet access services to the entire community and to areas that cannot be or have not been reached by other providers," said Terry Bandel, owner of Video Kingdom.

An always-on broadband Internet connection, WildBlue's service will offer access speeds that are comparable to DSL and cable modem service. The two-way wireless service provides high-speed data in both directions, upstream and downstream.

Customers will not need an additional phone or cable line or the expense of a traditional dial-up ISP in order to receive broadband Internet access.

Mr. Bandel went on to say the he is pleased to bring rural customers full Internet access options that are comparable to those available in ur-

ban areas.

"WildBlue is the first satellite service to offer Internet options comparable to other high-speed providers, yet available where they are not, and providing a competitive package that other satellite Internet service will be hard pressed to match," he said.

# WIN

Continued from Page 1

ranch south of St. Francis. He has been actively involved in defending family farm agriculture for many years.

"This was a very important decision on behalf of the cattle industry," Mr. Callicrate said. "It gives cattle producers hope for the return of a fair income by way of competitive markets."

"It breathes new life into the Packers and Stockyards Act, a law passed in 1921 to protect livestock producers from a powerful meatpacker monopoly and rarely since enforced."

"Hopefully more cases will be filed that address other anticompetitive practices, such as the unfair price preferences offered to large vertically-aligned cattle feeding companies at the expense of independent

family farmers and ranchers.

"In this case, we proved that the big packing companies hurt competition by the fact that they shortchanged producers. When that happens, the farmers and ranchers lose money and can't stay in the business they love."

The plaintiffs in the case don't stand to benefit a lot financially but are primarily motivated to improve the business environment for other cattle producers, Mr. Callicrate said.

Callicrate started Ranch Foods Direct six years ago to support local family farmers, to avoid doing business with big corporations and to give consumers an alternative to low quality commodity beef, much of which is imported from foreign countries.

For more information, visit the company's website at [www.ranchfoodsdirect.com](http://www.ranchfoodsdirect.com).



# TOUR

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Francis. It is believed that Phillip Eberhart now rests in the Zion Evangelical Cemetery northwest of St. Francis."

The guest speakers are Sherry Schultz, Gilbert Ochsner, Clyde Smith, Albert Keller, Marlin Rueb, Norvin Northrup, Tobe Zwegardt, Donna Northrup, Margaret Bucholtz, Marvin Zimbleman and Robert and Gertie Zwegardt. Each will tell the history of one of the cemeteries.

Tobe will honor the group with his witching of graves, which is almost a dying art.

There will be a meal served at the Kurt Bucholtz farm following the tour. There tourist will enjoy some music and great fellowship.

Those who would rather not take the bus can follow in a car. A free-will donation will be taken to help with the cost of the bus and bus driver. The tour is open to the public.

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Call Casey @ 785-332-3162 for more information or stop by the office at 310 W. Washington, St. Francis, KS.

### Kelsey Dunn

I plan graduate from college, starting college at Fort Hays State University and major in communications.

Kelsey, Good luck in everything you do — we know you will be a success. Love, Mom and Dad

**Parents:**  
Melvin & Barb Dunn

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