

# Plant to begin operation

By Casey McCormick

With a "down" economy and still riding out a drought, the hope of financial growth is welcomed. The new Western Plains Energy ethanol plant near Oakley couldn't come at a better time. And better yet it will begin producing ahead of schedule.

"By Jan. 10 the first few gallons of ethanol should be coming out," said local Bird City business man and board member Ken Krien.

The plant will be operational later this month but rather than starting the new crew and then breaking for the Christmas holiday, the decision was made to bring the plant up to full speed after the new year.

The men who will be running the facility will be sent to the Russell plant for two weeks of training in the meantime. The original plan allowed one year from ground breaking to completion of the plant. However the two crews who handled the construction of the project, I.C.M (an American firm) and Fagan Incorporated (from Germany), found them-



**TWO CONSTRUCTION CREWS worked in concert to speed up the task of building this ethanol plant in Campus, just outside of Oakley. The plant will be up and running in early January, converting corn into fuel.**

selves between plants. With the combined efforts of the crews construction only took eight months.

This brings the opening at a good time when recent Kansas legislation has made it more profitable for corn growers to provide the needed raw materials for the plant.

Also it is hoped that when the United States Congress reconvenes soon that they will take another look at a renewable fuel bill. At this time a cap of 30 million gallons of ethanol fuel production is in place. If a plant produces more than this amount it then loses \$1.5 million federal sub-

sidy and \$1.42 million state subsidy. "This plant will be capable of 40 to 42 million gallons a year," said Mr. Krien, "with a production of 2.8 gallons per bushel of grain." He is hopeful that the congress will increase the cap from 30 million to 60 millions gallons per year.

## Letter to the Editor

Letter to the Editor:

I'd like to take this time to recognize the nurses, aides and other hospital staff.

The past four months have been very hectic. Our census has exceeded our expectations and, combine that with the hospital construction, it has been very busy.

I'd like to make sure that the staff here at the hospital is given the credit and thanks they deserve. There is no way I can identify everyone fully, but I can say that 100 percent of the hospital staff arose to the occasion.

The dedication of the nursing staff allows us to provide personal care that the big city hospitals just can't deliver.

The Physical Therapy Department helping to pass dinner trays in order to keep them from getting cold when the nurses were busy. The administrative staff helping with the never-ending stream of paperwork in order to let the nurses continue to focus on patient care. The emergency medical service,

helping us with patient transfers in a professional and competent manner. The housekeeping department keeping ahead of the construction as well as the constant turnover of patient rooms.

Thanks to the invisible staff — the staff that you don't see, but who work hard to make sure that your stay is a pleasant one. All these and more are the reason that the Cheyenne County Hospital is able to provide the quality of care we do.

I'd also like to recognize the patients and their families for their patience during the construction. I know that it was frustrating for some to have to move from one room to the next.

There is also the community thank for supporting the hospital upgrade. The changes we can already see will allow us to continue to provide and improve the quality of care we provide.

Craig A. Button, RN, CEN  
Director of nursing  
St. Francis

## Mailbox News

### Put Your Holiday Gifts Under Wraps

Wrap your gift as pretty as you please. But when preparing it for mailing be practical and protective. Sturdy packages with complete, legible addresses help your gifts to arrive quickly and in good shape.

So, holiday mailers are advised to use a sturdy carton large enough to accommodate the gift package plus cushioning and to remove or mark out any conflicting address information already on the carton. Do not use wrapping paper or twine cord on the outside of the carton; paper can rip and twine can become tangled in mail processing equipment.

It is important to seal your parcel securely. The United States Post Office recommends pressure-sensitive tape, nylon-reinforced craft tape or glass-reinforced, pressure sensitive tape.

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Before sealing your package it's a good idea to put the delivery address on a sheet of paper inside the package. Then, if something happens to the outside address, postal personnel still have a way to identify the recipient. To minimize this possibility use permanent, not water soluble, ink or makers and place clear tape over the entire label.

Proper addressing means complete and legible addresses. Always include apartment and suite numbers and correct ZIP Codes. The ZIP Code belongs on the same line as the city and state, that is where postal sorting clerks and automated processing equipment look for it.

May you and your packages have a safe and happy holiday season, arriving to and from your proper destination.

## McDonald Public Library

### Wild Orchids

By Jude Deveraux

For years, Ford Newcombe loved his wife, Pat, more than anyone in the world. She came into his life when he was just an inexperienced college student with big dreams of becoming a published author. Since Pat's death six years ago, Ford has lived a life of solitude, and rumors are flying that it was Pat who actually created the books the world so loved. If there's one thing that Ford needs it's inspiration, and it finally comes in the guise of Jackie Maxwell — a smart, sassy university researcher with just enough attitude to match Ford's sharp intellect. But it's her intimate knowledge of the story of a young woman's friendship with the devil — and what the townspeople did to her — that persuades Ford to hire Jackie as his as-

stant and to move to Cole Creek, North Carolina, where the story is said to have taken place. As Ford and Jackie work to unravel the truth, they discover a connection between their lives and the past, a connection that not only helps them solve a long-ago crime but offers the promise of new love.

Jude Deveraux is the author of twenty-nine New York Times bestsellers. To date there are more than forty-five million copies of her books in print. Jude Deveraux lives in North Carolina with her five-year-old son, Sam.

## Introducing

### Kaitlyn Hope Stasser

Keith and Bethany Stasser of Great Bend announce the birth of their daughter, Kaitlyn Hope, born Nov. 27, 2003, on Thanksgiving Day at the Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend. She weighed 6 pounds and 8 ounces and was 19 inches long. She has a sister Tierra LaRae Stasser to welcome her home.

Grandparents are Larry and Cathy Atkins (Stasser) of Edgemont, S.D., Larry and Deb Stoney of Herndon, Joe and Pan Ballinger of Norton, great-grandparents Paul and Edna Roesener of McDonald, Harvey and Rose Stoney, Herndon, Helen Roach, Norton and great-great-grandmother Margaret Stasser of St. Francis.



Schneider

### Perrin Grace Schneider

Hayden Dae Schneider is very excited to have a new baby sister, Perrin Grace, born Nov. 17, 2003. Perrin was 18 1/2 inches long and weighed 5 pounds, 7 ounces. Her parents are Michael and Kandee Schneider, McPherson

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ken Krien, Bird City, and Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Schneider of Rossville and great grandmothers are Olga Applegate and Gertrude Skidmore of Rossville.

## Decorate memorial tree while helping Hospice

Is there an angel in your life? Is there someone whom you would like to honor or remember in a special way? Now is your chance. Hospice Services, Inc. will be decorating a tree for the holidays at First National Bank in St. Francis. In this season of giving and caring, they welcome you to help decorate their Memorial Christmas Tree.

Here's how it works. Stop by First National Bank in St. Francis and give a tax-deductible donation to Hospice Services, Inc. With your donation to the annual campaign, a special ornament with the name of the individual is placed on the Christmas Memorial Tree. The ornament will be displayed throughout this holiday season.

The holidays are a wonderful

time of year. The sounds, smells and activities of the season all say "love", "family", and "friends."

By giving to the Hospice Services Memorial Christmas Tree you honor the cherished memories of loved ones. It is also a tradition of helping others in Cheyenne County to receive much needed care and comfort during a final illness. By giving to Hospice Services, Inc. you allow someone to share their gift of life with family and friends to the very end.

## Bowling News

### Wednesday Night Mens 11/19

Team standings: Cox Construction 31-17, First National Bank 30-18, Haigler 29-19, Grace Flying Service 26-22, Krien Steel Buildings 26-22, Post Plumbing 25-23

High game (scratch): Wayne Mahon 204, Shaun Henry 196, Kale Zimbelman 190

High series (scratch): Mahon 558, Bill Cox 552, Henry 546

### Wednesday Night Mens 11/26

Team Standings: Cox Construction 35-17, 1st National Bank 32-20, Haigler 31-21, Krien Steel Buildings 29-23, Grace Flying Service 27-25, Post Plumbing 25-

High game (scratch): Rod Heaton 207, Ed Schauer 195, Bill Smith 192

High series (scratch): Heaton 563, Wade Krien 513, Smith 509

## Sheriff attends workshop

Edward Dankenbring Jr., sheriff of Cheyenne County, participated in the workshop "Counter-Terrorism for Law Enforcement Executives" in Topeka.

The program was hosted last month by the Regional Community Policing Training Institute at Wichita State University.

The program went beyond the basic issues of terrorism and looked at emerging trends and local relationships of terrorism to crime in communities.

## Bird City News

Mr. and Mrs. August Homburg of Ellis were recent dinner guests of Keith and Hulda Dorsch. Mrs. Homburg is a sister to Mrs. Dorsch.

Norman and Mary Dorsch and Bonnie Burr were Monday evening supper guests of Keith and Hulda Dorsch along with Tom Dorsch who is visiting in the United States along with doing some business for Campus Crusade for Christ. Tom will return to Quagadogou, Burkina, Faso, on Saturday.

Paul and Edna Roesener helped their granddaughter, Colleen Shrader, celebrate her birthday, Nov.

18 with supper at Roy and Karen Shrader and after attended the Cheylin Science Fair.

Friday, Nov. 21 to Dec 1, Oriona Stasser of North Platte, Neb., was a guest at her grandparent's, Edna and Paul Roesener and uncle and aunt's, Roy and Karen Shrader, Colleen and Grant's.

Thanksgiving guests of Paul and Edna Roesener were Jaylene Shrader, Goodland, Oriona Stasser of North Platte, Neb., Roy, Karen, Colleen and Grant Shrader, Bird City, Loren, Wendy, Lucius, Jacob, and Jeremiah White and Joey White of Bird City.

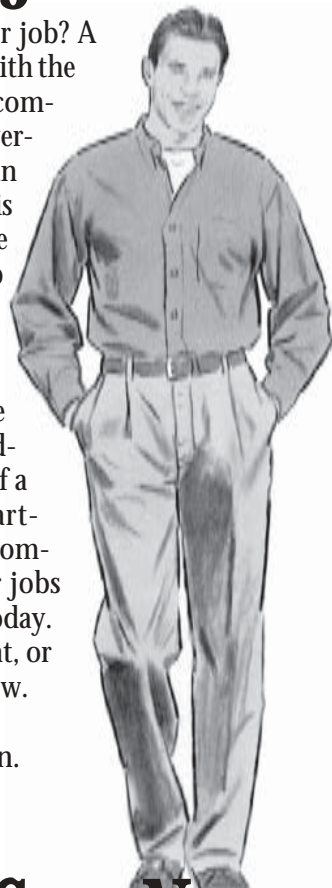
## This could be your next job

Are you interested in a better job? A professional position, dealing with the business community? With a compensation package well above average? And being a key player on an award-winning team? Then this could be your next job. The Goodland Star-News, the Top award-winning newspaper in Kansas, is looking for a full or part-time advertising executive. This person will represent the newspaper and the Country Advocate with customers as part of a four-person advertising department. Pay includes generous commission. There are few better jobs available in Sherman County today.

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## Video Kingdom Holiday Newsletter

### HI DEFINITION TV IS HERE NOW!

Hi Definition TV is now available from DISH Network, DIRECTV and the local ABC Network. We are showing several different types of Digital TV's in our showroom. There are a lot of choices when it comes to HD, and we have the expertise and resources to provide you with the best possible system in your price range. We have complete HDTV Systems for under \$1,000! Come in and see what your missing!

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Happy Holidays to All and thanks to everyone for their support in the past!

## Business Directory

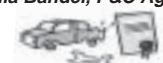
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