



Board discusses Supreme Court order

By Casey McCormick

The Cheylin School Board had their regular meeting Monday night. Two of the main topics discussed were what could be expected from the Kansas Supreme Court ruling on education and the purchase of additional laptop computers for instructors.

The court ruling states that the schools in Kansas do not have enough funds to provide adequate educations.

Superintendent David Zumbahlen has been contacted by

Dale Dennis, the Commissioner of Education in Topeka, to provide him a cost break down per pupil. Mr. Zumbahlen is one of 20 superintendents asked to give this information.

"It's putting a lot of pressure on the legislature to do something, but what that something might be isn't known," Mr. Zumbahlen said.

He also stated how local legislators are reluctant to raise taxes.

Some areas, such as Salina and Olathe, where the economy is strong are adding to their school

budgets by using sales taxes.

Another difficulty for the school is attracting new teachers. Currently retiring teachers out weigh prospective educators.

"What are we going to do to make teaching attractive to new teachers?" Mr. Zumbahlen asked.

In other markets, like Texas, teachers are being paid much higher wages and even receive bonuses up to \$5,000.

With the school's continuing Technology Rich program the board decided to purchase nine

more laptop computers. Two will be used by the teachers in the second and third grade classrooms and the rest will go to instructors in the high school and as pool computers.

Also additional software will be purchased to make the computers more versatile. The computers that came with the original Technology Rich grant had their licensing fees covered. However, the new computers will need to be licensed and the school is looking into what is needed.

The board discussed contacting

Chuck Peters of St. Francis to help train Cheylin teachers in the Power School program. Mr. Peters is the computer technician with St. Francis school where Power School is already in place.

"It would give a little boost on that project," David Hendricks, Cheylin's computer technician, said.

Mr. Zumbahlen will contact Mr. Peters.

In Other Business

The Board of Education 2005-06 Goal Setting Meeting will be

held on Feb. 2.

The Board/Staff Meeting will be held on March 1.

No action was taken on suggestions from the Jan. 3 meeting with coaches on their suggestions for changes. Some of the items discussed were putting a handicap accessible rest room in the McDonald gym, hiring someone to supervise an open gym program, possibilities of coaching clinics and camps, upgrading the Bird City weight room and locker rooms and an Adopt a Kid athletic program.



JESSICA MARSHALL, Aubrey Kehlbeck, Nathan Ketzner and Natasha Gordon are all business in Darla Dible's Social Studies class. It's hard to believe a week ago they were on Christmas break. Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

Filing deadline is approaching

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 elec-

tion. 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 of mayor up for election. These positions are currently being served by Larry Henry and Wendy Richmeier.

See DEADLINE on Page 4

Tri-State cow and calf show to be held in St. Francis, Jan. 29

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 pro-

ceedings 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, See SHOW on Page 4



COMMISSIONERS, (l to r) Ray Lee, Andy Beikman and Jane Brubaker, along with county attorney Justin Barret and county clerk Terry Miller, far right, listened to Susan

Roelfs, county health nurse, as she revealed plans for the coming year. Times staff photo by Karen Krien

Grant to allow purchase of new 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 the rural 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 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 Barret, 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. See COUNTY on Page 4

Donors are needed for blood drive

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

See BLOOD on Page 4

County

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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

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.

Officers elected at meeting

The Cheyenne County Historical Society meeting was held Sunday afternoon at the museum in St. Francis. The election of officers was held, the announcement that the audit had been completed was made and members were asked to help with the Museum's cleanup before the summer tourist season began.

The elections found the same slate of officers with the exception of the trustees. Elected by unanimous decision were Margaret Bucholtz, president; Clarence Liff, vice president; Dorothy Kellner, secretary; and Bert Follett, treasurer. Chuck Kribs was elected to the board of trustees. Dorthy Mast had previously served on the board.

President Bucholtz said she would be calling members to form the committees. Those wishing to serve on a particular committee were asked to sign up or talk to the president.

Merlyn Yonkey, St. Francis, had conducted an audit on the Historical Society books. He said "everything was in order and that it was being ran as well as expected when you are a volunteer organization."

Dee Dorsch announced there would be an archeologist training dig near Kanorado in June.

President Bucholtz said a summons had been delivered to her concerning the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce's asking if the museum could use the building that Don Postlethwaite had left to the Chamber. If the Chamber couldn't use it then it was to go to the Cheyenne County Museum. Several months ago the Historical Society had been contacted to see if they wanted the building. It was voted down by the members at that meeting as they felt they did not have the funds to maintain it. The building costs approximately \$300 a month to maintain. It will now be necessary to sign a waiver so the Chamber will be able to sell the building.



HISTORICAL SOCIETY president, Margaret Bucholtz, shows off an antique chest of drawers that is displayed at the Cheyenne County Museum.

Times staff photo by Karen Krien

President Bucholtz announced that the Vergie and Ray Rogers Memorial money given to the museum had been put in a certificate of deposit until it was decided how to spend the money. Mrs. Mast questioned just which organization the money had been donated to. She questioned if it was to go to the Museum or the Historical society as that would matter as to which used it. She suggested the president talk to the County Clerk concerning the matter.

Milton Lampe said the U.S. 36 Association was planning to come to St. Francis in June for the annual meeting. The Museum and Ye Ole Country Church will be toured. June is also the opening of the tourist season and members felt that the facility needed to be cleaned by

then. A cleaning day was set for 8 a.m. on June 4. All members and anyone else interested should plan to help with the cleaning. It is a large building with many nooks and crannies filled with many items to be cleaned.

The president thanked all those volunteers who had worked at the museum, keeping it open, cleaning and setting up room arrangements.

Following the brief meeting, finger foods were enjoyed and the facility was open for people to see the new items which have been donated to the museum.

Club Clip

Beardsley Beaver 4-H Club

On the evening of Dec. 20, the Beardsley Beavers 4-H Club met at the McDonald Legion hall at 6:30 p.m. to prepare fruit and cookie trays to be delivered around McDonald while Christmas caroling. Before going out to carol, they all enjoyed chicken noodle and chili soup, got dressed in warm clothes, grabbed blankets and flashlights and loaded on the trailer.

Following caroling, they warmed up with hot chocolate and had their monthly meeting. The meeting was called to order by Tiffany Antholz, president. Roll call "What is your favorite thing about Christmas break?" was answered by 11 members and one leader.

What to do for 4-H Days was the new item of business. A committee was formed to decide on an activity. The committee consisted of Jessica Davis, Emily Holub and Tiffany Antholz. Discussion of activities was held and Josh Johnson moved not to do a line dance. A bill was then presented by Tiffany from Lisa Johnson for Buyer's Supper supplies. Mindy Antholz and Jessica moved to pay the bill.

Lincoln Pochop announced that the next meeting is Jan. 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the McDonald Legion hall. Josh and Dagan Holliman moved the meeting be adjourned.

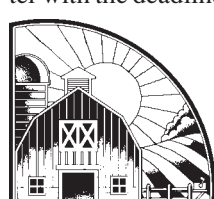
Josh Johnson, reporter

Grant forum to be held

On Feb. 10, Western Prairie Resource Conservation and Development will be hosting their sixth Grant Funding Speakers Forum featuring The Kresge Foundation. A special luncheon will be held for Kansas Foundation (free of charge) from noon to 1:30 p.m. to network with The Kresge Foundation.

The Kresge Foundation has two challenge grant programs. The first is for capital projects, most often for construction or renovation of buildings, and also for the purchase of major equipment or real estate. The second is to upgrade and endow scientific instrumentation and laboratories in colleges and universities, teaching hospitals, medical schools, and research institutions. They award funds on a national basis and are interested in networking with Kansas Foundations, looking for partnership opportunities.

Please contact Western Prairie Resource Conservation and Development at (785) 462-2602 to register with the deadline being Feb. 1.



Bowling News

Monday Night Mixed 12/27

Team standings: Frewen Insurance 6-2, Captain Hooks Fine Dining 6-2, Twiss & Wilson Drilling 5-3, Fearless 4 Some 4-4, Neitzel Insurance 4-4, Let's Bowl 4-4, Johnson Body Shop 3-5, Krien Pharmacy 0-8

High game (handicap): Tammy

Zimelman 274, Trevor Rushton 256, Randy Johnson 251, Kale Zimelman 240, Sally Baird 216, Judy Gienger 214

High series (handicap): T. Zimelman 685, Johnson 651, Rushton 649, Gienger 623, Earl Hankins 611, Kelly Rushton 602

Deadline

Continued from Page 1

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.

Show

Continued from Page 1

Cynthia Dixson, Rawlins County Extension Agent.

- Technologies and Tools for Implementing Individual Animal

Blood

Continued from Page 1

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.

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.

Obituary

Frido Mesecke

1934 - Jan. 8, 2005

Memorial services for Frido Mesecke, 71, of LaGrange, Texas, and formerly of Houston, were held at 2 p.m., Jan. 8, at the Koenig and Strickland Chapel in LaGrange with Reverend Willie Rotter officiating.

Mr. Mesecke was born in Bremen, Germany, the son of Friedrich Wilhelm Mesecke and Gretchen Clara Johanna (Backenkohler) Mesecke. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and received his education in Germany.

He came to the United States in 1960 as a steel trader in the steel industry and married Brigitte H. Wittmann on Dec. 19, 1963, in Houston, Texas. A Houston resident until 1996, he moved to his farm near LaGrange where he enjoyed farming, raising cattle and building fence and barns. He also enjoyed sailing, fishing, stamp collecting and following the Bremen Soccer Team from Germany.

Mr. Mesecke died Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2005, in a LaGrange nursing home due to complications from a stroke at the age of 71 years, five months, and 13 days.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Friedrich W. and Gretchen Mesecke and one sister, Hilde Peper.

Survivors include: his wife, Brigitte Mesecke of LaGrange; one daughter, Kristin Burns and husband, David of Bird City; one son, Sven Mesecke and wife Saysha of Austin, Texas; five grandchildren, David, Clinton, and Blaine Burns; Taylor and Abby Mesecke; two nieces, Renate Peper and Dorie (Peper) Hanna and husband, Phil, all of Houston; one aunt, Irma Gravert of New Jersey.

Memorials may be made to the Fayette County Animal Shelter, 240 Svoboda Lane, LaGrange, TX 78945.

Funeral arrangements by Koenig and Strickland, 208 W. Pearl, LaGrange, TX 78945

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WHAT DO THE RESEARCH STUDIES SAY?

In Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, Vol. 33, #2, D.A. Norman R. Newton, and G.V. Nicholas reported the results of treatment of 42 patients with d.c. current therapy. They noted "All patients were successfully treated and symptom free at a mean duration of follow up of 18.2 months." They concluded "This painless outpatient treatment of all grades of hemorrhoids is effective and safe", and "warrants consideration as the treatment of choice of hemorrhoidal disease". In the American Journal of Gastroenterology, Vol. 83, #9, Dr. S. Zinberg reported the results of treatment of 193 patients with this method. "Good results were achieved in 95% of patients."

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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 Minert, K-State Research & Extension

Breakout Sessions

- What Producers Need to Know About Foreign Animal Disease
Hallie Hasel, DVM, USDA/APHIS
- Carcass Evaluation 101
Cynthia Dixson, 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.

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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