

Agreement is met to share utilities

By Karen Krien
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The city of St. Francis and the county reached a temporary agreement about sharing utility costs at the new emergency building in St. Francis.

At the Friday Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting, Andy Beikman, chairman, said he had talked to the St. Francis mayor, Scott Schultz, about the new emergency building. The commissioners had received a letter from city attorney, Mike Day, telling that the county's share of the utilities would be 70 percent. The commissioners agreed to start off paying \$750 a month toward utilities at the new building. They estimate that the cost will be around \$1,000 a month. This amount will be reviewed on June 1 to see how much electricity and gas is used.

Road and bridge report

Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, presented contracts that would have Penco Engineering oversee projects 12C-4129-01, the Runzel Bridge, located 7 miles west and 1 mile north of St. Francis, and 12C-4129-02, which will allow the county to do the dirt work. The contracts were approved.

Jerol DeBoer, with Penco Engineering, discussed the biennial bridge inspection for the county. After discussion, an agreement was signed for the inspection.

The county will pay \$60 per bridge. There are currently 90 bridges in the county.

Mr. Flemming asked about purchasing a new road grader at a cost of around \$180,000. After discussion, it was decided to have the Martin Tractor sale representative visit with the commissioners at the Dec. 15 meeting.

Court recording system

Scott Showalter, newly elected judge for District Court Judge, District 15, division 2 and judge Robert Van Allen discussed a new court recording system.

The current Cheyenne County court recorder, Paula Keller, is retiring in January and Cheyenne County will need to look

for a new system of recording. The state of Kansas is suggesting digital recording systems. Mr. Showalter has asked each board of commissioners in his three counties to pay \$400 toward the review of a new system. The commissioners agreed to pay the survey fee. A new recording system could cost \$7,000.

In other business

In other business:
• Tim Carson, Corporate Plan Management vice president, discussed the county's health insurance plan. He determined the county would not need any premium increase.

• A resolution defining fines for unauthorized road trenching or boring, and a resolution updating Cheyenne County's Enterprise Zone commitment were signed.

• The commissioners approved the new charges for the Greater Western Kansas Regional Juvenile Detention Facility. The change will allow a price break for counties that have more juveniles.

• Christmas bonuses of \$200 per full-time employee and \$100 per part-time employees were approved. The bonuses will be in the form of scrip money.

Next meeting

The next commissioners' meeting has been set for 8 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 15, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.



VERTIE BOLYARD bids on one of the trees for the Festival of Trees put on by the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Cheyenne County.
Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

Bird City News

Gene and Marlene Young were hosts to a birthday dinner for Vada Burkhalter who was celebrating her 90th birthday on Monday, Nov. 24.

Guests were Shelley and Jerry Heavilin, Blue Springs, Mo., Vint and Caroline Wolfe, Nampa, Idaho, Jane, Rod and Ethan Young, Trish and Lonnie Willis, all of Bird City, Bill Billington, Floyd Pettit. Afternoon callers were Don and Phyllis Whitmore, St. Francis.

Thanksgiving guests of Gene and Marlene Young were Caroline and Vint Wolfe and Vada Burkhalter.

Thanksgiving dinner guests of Brad and Linda Schneider were Buster Schneider, Waunita, Neb., Curt Schneider, Hamlet, Neb., Fred Schneider, Benkelman, Neb., Jim Ketzner, Bird City and Dottie Cook, St. Francis. The day was spent playing pinochle and visiting.

Lee and Doris Amsberry spent Thanksgiving holiday visiting their son, Kent and family in Fishers, Ind. They spent a pleasant holiday playing board games with their grandsons, Will and Grant, watching Jayhawk sports on television and putting together puzzles.

During their visit, they got to see parts of Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis, which is the third largest public cemetery in the United States at 555 acres. At Crown Hill, they got to see the grave of President Benjamin Harrison, 23rd president of the United States, as well as those of Booth Tarkington and James Whitcomb Riley.

Another treat was a trip to Longs Bakery in Indianapolis and lunch at Famous Dave's BBQ. They enjoyed good food, conversation and chasing the granddogs, Daisy and Ella.

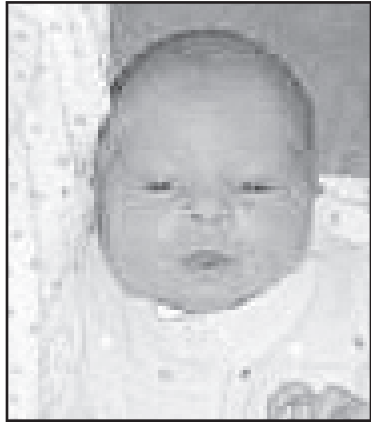
Introducing

Claire Elizabeth Watkins

Samuel Watkins, Hoxie, is proud to announce the birth of his new baby sister, Claire Elizabeth Watkins, born Nov. 17, 2008, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She weighed 7 pounds, 3.6 ounces and was 20 inches long. Proud parents are Steven and Kaylee Watkins of Hoxie.

Grandparents are Dan and Judy Watkins, Hoxie, Martin and Anita Burton, Bird City, and Ardene and Beverly Wilkens, Hays.

Claire's great-grandmother is Pat Nelson of Colby.



Claire Watkins

Television stations to go digital starting Feb. 17

On Feb. 17, all full-power broadcast television stations in the United States will stop broadcasting on analog airwaves and begin broadcasting only in digital. In times of crisis or emergency, television service is a critical communication mechanism to help citizens be prepared and to recover.

The change is going to happen and those with television antennas or older televisions need to make plans.

The Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service was asked by the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Federal Communications Commission to give

information to the county Extension offices for distribution to their residents. This information should prevent residents from experiencing any interrupted services.

The Cheyenne County Extension Office wants to help ensure that citizens, especially elderly and rural residents, are able to make the transition from analog to digital before the change occurs.

Linda Elfers, Extension secretary, can print coupons off of the web page for anyone who needs to buy a converter box. There is also additional information.

Contact the Cheyenne County Extension Office at 785-332-3171.

Christmas letters, recipes needed for special section

Christmas seen through the eyes of a child is often priceless.

This year, as in year's past, the special Christmas and New Year's sections will be published before the holidays. The sections will feature letters from Santa, answers of questions asked of school children, memories and recipes.

The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times staffs welcome participation from children to

adults. All items must be received by Dec. 10 in order to be published in the special section.

Send letters, special memories, articles and recipes to The Herald at Box 1050, St. Francis, 67756, fax 785-332-3001, e-mail to karen.k@nwkansas.com or betty.w@nwkansas.com titling the subject as "Christmas For The Paper."

Holiday Greetings

Herald And Times Happenings:

Christmas seen through the eyes of a child is priceless

This year, as in the year's past, the Special Christmas and New Year's sections will be published before the holidays. The sections will feature letters from Santa, answers of questions asked of school children, memories and recipes.

The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times staffs welcome participation from children to adults. All items must be received by Dec. 8 in order to get them into the special section.

Send letters, special memories, articles and recipes to The Herald at P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 or fax 785-332-3001, or drop them off or e-mail to sfherald@nwkansas.com titling the subject as "Christmas for the Paper."



DON'T MISS
BRINGING IN 2009 WITH A MESSAGE TO YOUR CUSTOMERS IN THE NEW YEAR'S SECTION.



FIRST BABY CONTEST

With the oncome of the New Year comes the new arrival of that bundle of joy!
Coming in January a bundle of business ready to congratulate the new baby and the parents!

To participate in a Special Section contact Casey at:

The Saint Francis Herald
P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 • 785-332-3162

— and —
Bird City Times
PO Box 220, Bird City, KS 67731

Thursday, Dec 11th from 11 am – 2pm

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