

Digital equipment coming soon

By Karen Krien

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The Cheyenne Theater will soon have digital cinema equipment and equipment to show 3D movies.

Robert Grace and Deb Harper, along with councilwoman, Paula Keller, told the St. Francis City Council at the Monday, Jan. 10, meeting that the donations made by individuals and businesses were overwhelming. As of Monday, donations totaled \$41,000. With the city's contribution of \$12,500, there will be enough to make the 50-percent down payment on the equipment.

Mr. Grace had contacted two installation firms and, after checking with the theater owner in Goodland, he felt Claco, a Salt Lake City based company, was the best company for the job. The bids were about the same but Claco has better references and has been doing business with the theater for years.

The projected cost of the equipment and installation is about \$94,000. Labor, Mr. Grace said, is an estimate, [not a bid] which he considered to be a slight problem but still felt that the total cost would not be over the projected cost.

It is possible that a projector would be available in three to four weeks. The screen would be a "silver screen" and will be necessary for showing the 3D movies. He had checked with other theaters in the area concerning the screen. The committee had earlier agreed that by abandoning the theater stage, the screen could be made a little larger and would be the best for the Cheyenne Theater.

The city cannot borrow money but through the bank, they can sign a lease-to-purchase agreement. Two banks, Bankwest and Western State Bank, had given bids, both with the same interest of 3.25 percent and payments to be made for four years. Bankwest had made a donation of \$500 to the Theater Equipment Fund so the bank was given the agreement.

The company installing the equipment will start on a Monday (actual date not known at this time) and will try to have everything ready to go by the weekend. The Theater Committee would like to schedule the first showing with a 3D movie. Depending on the availability of equipment and installation, the committee is hoping to be showing digital movies by March 1.

Candidates need to file by Tuesday

By Karen Krien

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The deadline for filing for seats on Bird City and St. Francis city councils, St. Francis mayor and Cheylin and St. Francis school boards is noon on Tuesday.

Terry Miller, county election officer, reported that those filing are slow coming in. As of Tuesday, there has been only three people file for city offices and one for school board.

In Bird City, one incumbent has filed for the city council; none for the board of education

A number of positions are 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.

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 two candidates running in a district, there will be a primary election on Tuesday, March 1, 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 — Two city council and mayor seats are up for election.

Those St. Francis members whose terms are up are: Roger Jensen and Dale Weeks and mayor, Scott Schultz. Mr. Weeks and Mr. Schultz have filed for another term.

Bird City — Three seats on the city council are up for election. The council positions are currently being served by Loren White, See FILE on Page 7

Governor cuts school's money

By Karen Krien

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The grim facts of the governor's state-of-the-union address on Wednesday, Jan. 12, and what it will do to the school's budget was discussed when the St. Francis Board of Education met on Thursday.

Rob Schiltz, superintendent, said the governor recommended the base state aid per pupil be reduced from \$4,012 to \$3,937, a reduction of \$75 for this school year. An additional \$157 per student be cut from next year's state aid.

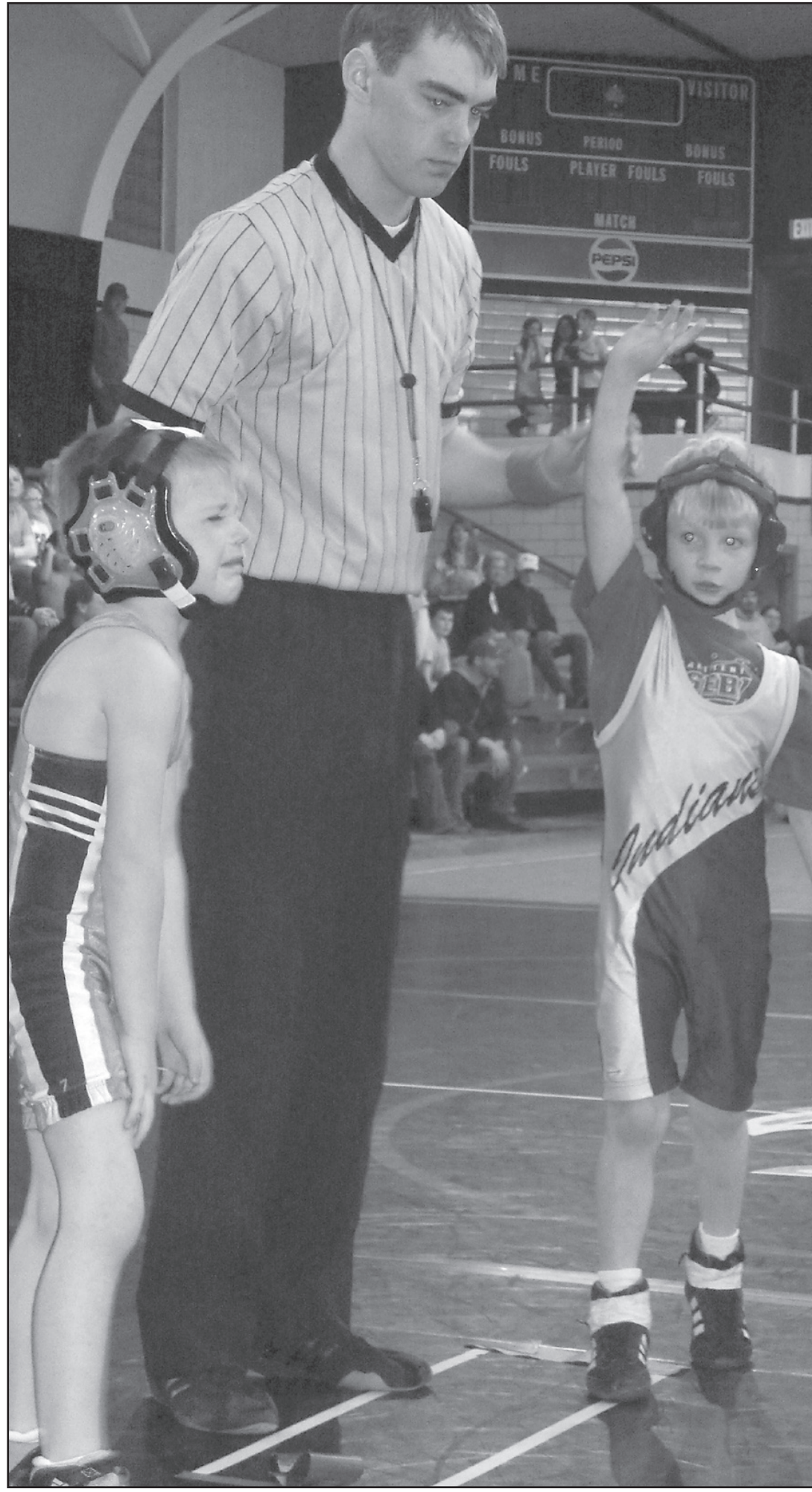
The reduction, he said, is a result of a decrease in the assessed valuation, an increase in at-risk students, and an increase in enrollment. The \$157 per student reduction is a result of the loss of federal stimulus money.

With the weighting factors which is figured into the per pupil numbers, the school will lose \$38,363 this year and next year, will lose \$80,306. The two-year total loss is \$118,669.

We won't know for sure until May, Mr. Schiltz said, but that is

after the teacher contracts have gone out. The board agreed that they had cut all of the little stuff instead of raising the Local Option Budget. We might want to once again start a discussion of our options for the future, he said.

Figures from the Kansas Department of Education's division of fiscal and administrative services listed the schools in Kansas and the reductions they would have to deal with. Some of the area schools and their reductions included: Decatur/Oberlin, \$46,327, this year, and \$96,979, next year, for a total of \$143,306; Cheylin, \$24,945, this year, \$52,218, next year, total, \$77,163; Rawlins County, \$42,557 this year, \$86,994 next year, total, \$128,551; Hoxie, \$39,052, this year, \$81,750, next year, total \$120,802; Goodland, \$107,107 this year, \$225,212, next year, total, \$331,319; Brewster, \$17,152 this year, \$35,906, next year, total \$53,058; Colby, \$105,098 this year, \$220,004 next year, \$325,102 total; and Leoti, \$1,327 this year, 128,379 next year, total \$156,577.



WIN SOME — LOSE SOME! Life is tough when you are five. St. Francis Indian, Preston Witzel, right, won the match and Ethan Zerr of Colby had planned to win. Referee was Trevor Reed.

Herald photo by Robin Petersen

German heritage topic of program

Kansas Day Committee in Bird City will host "The German Heritage of Kansas," a presentation and discussion by William D. Keel at 1:30 p.m. on Jan. 29, at the American Legion hall, Bird City. All interested people are urged to attend the free program. Contact the Kansas Day Committee at 332-3569 for more information. The program is made possible by the Kansas Humanities Council.



Keel

Registration for the 150th Birthday Celebration of Kansas Statehood will begin at 10 a.m. A potluck lunch will follow at noon. The St. Francis Singers will entertain.

More than a third of Kansas residents are of German ancestry. Mr. Keel's presentation explores the major German immigrant groups and their impact on Kansas agriculture, education, and midwestern culture.

More about the speaker

Mr. Keel is professor of German and chair of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures at the University of Kansas. His research interest is German settlement dialects in Kansas. He is the editor of the Yearbook of German-American Studies.

"Kansans claim German as the largest ancestry, according to the U.S. Census," said Mr. Keel. "Over 25 percent of Kansans have German roots."

German Heritage of Kansas is part of the Kansas Humanities Council's Kansas 150 Speakers Bureau commemorating the Kansas sesquicentennial. The special edition Speakers Bureau features presentations and discussions about Kansas and what it means to be a Kansan over time and across generations.

The Kansas Humanities Council See GERMAN on Page 7

First baby of year born on Monday

By Karen Krien

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The first baby of 2011 born at the Cheyenne County Hospital arrived at 1:52 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 17. For the sixth year in a row, the first baby has been a girl.

Shelby Lynn Hartman, weighing in at 6 pounds, 3 ounces, and 19 3/4-inches long, is the daughter of Janna Marie Brooks and Christopher Hartman, both of St. Francis.

Grandparents are Gail Michew, St. Francis; John and Bobbie Hartman, Loxley, Ala.; Randy Carl Sr. and Janet Vedder, Pensacola, Fla.; and Deborah Lynn and Jerold Cook, Gulf Breeze, Fla. Great-grandparents are Phyllis Bexley, St. Francis, Don and Jan Hartman, Loxley, Louise Moore, Kersey, Colo., Barbara Vedder, Pensacola, and Harry Fedler, Gulf Breeze.

Because she is the first baby of the year, Shelby and her parents will receive gifts from seven St. Francis businesses including a \$25 gift card from St. Francis Super's, a \$25 Busy Bee's B-E-E A Saver Savings Account from Bankwest of Kansas, a \$50 savings bond from Western State Bank, a baby gift from Owens True Value, a \$25 gift certificate from the St. Francis Equity, a baby gift from Krien Pharmacy, and a year's subscription to The Saint Francis Herald or Bird City Times. The Prairie Piece Maker Quilt Guild gave a special quilt.

The hospital is also giving



FIRST BABY OF THE YEAR arrived Monday at the Cheyenne County Hospital. Shelby Lynn Hartman, daughter of Janna Marie Brooks and Christopher Hartman, was born at 1:52 a.m. and weighed 6 pounds, 3 ounces.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

embroidered outfits which read "Cheyenne County First Baby of the Year" in a variety of sizes so the baby can wear them for the first year and a case of diapers.

First baby of 2010

The first baby of 2010 born at the Cheyenne County Hospital was Alexis Faith, daughter of Clay and Erika Zimbleman, St.

Francis. She was born on Jan. 13, weighing in at 5 pounds, 9 ounces, and was 18-inches long.

Both Shelby and Alexis were delivered by Dr. Rebecca Allard.