



ARLENE WALZ (left) and Charlsie Rogers participated in Hat Day at the St. Francis Senior Center on Friday.
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Bids for final work on Scout Hut opened

By Karen Krien
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Bids for the final work on the Scout Hut were opened at the St. Francis City Council meeting and the low bid of \$4,975 was taken.

The bids included: Justin Gardner, Gardner Construction, \$4,975; Travis Jensen, \$5,941; and Jason Howard, Howard's Tri-State Construction, \$9,000. Councilman Roger Jensen excused himself from the bid process.

The bid is to paint all the trim that is exposed, furring out the log siding, putting on a protective wrap, then putting on the siding. There was a question on Mr. Gardner's bid as he had included 2- by 2-inch furring lumber and had omitted a small window. When contacted, he said he would still do it for the bid he had submitted.

The Scouts will take care of putting the stain and finish on the siding and other minor work. The job is to be completed by Memorial Day when the swimming pool opens.

Wage increases
Increasing employee wages was once again discussed. If the wages were increased 2 percent, that would cost \$13,631 over last year's wages. The employees had also received help with health insurance. If they were to get a cost of living increase plus the cost of the health insurance increase, they would be getting an approximate 6.4 percent increase. Later, it was reported that it was not 6.4 percent but a 2.34 average.

Since wages are paid with tax money as well as utilities, the council talked about how the school and hospital had not given raises. Also, that those on Social Security had not received a cost of living increase for two years.

Carla Lampe, councilwoman, pointed out that \$13,631 would pay for a block of curb and gutter. People are struggling, she said. Seniors are having a tough time making it and, now, gas and utilities are going up. The matter was tabled.

Village long-term care group
Bruce Swihart, councilman and representative on the Long-Term Care group, reported that a meeting was held April 17 with Ron Ross, whose company manages the Hester Home in Benkelman. He had talked to the county commissioners and a small group of people about operating the Good Samaritan

Village nursing home. On March 18, the committee had met with a consultant, John Grace, who some of the group wanted to hire. There are questions: is the property gift contingent on a lease with the Good Samaritan Society? How did the Society spend the insurance money?

Some of the group, Mr. Swihart said, are satisfied with the answers, others have questions. People will need to determine if they want a long-term care facility. If they don't, then sacrifices will be made.

The ultimate question, he said, is how bad does the county want long-term care?

In other business
In other business:
• Mayor Scott Schultz was given permission to use Sawhill Park for the annual car show on May 16. He said not only will there be lots of cars but also a large number of motorcycles coming.
• Dale Weeks, councilman, reported on a Resource Conservation and Development meeting where agri-tourism workshops were discussed. There was concern about state budget cuts, he said. The next meeting will be held on May 19.

• Paula Keller, councilwoman and member of the Theater Committee, said the popcorn popper needed to be replaced. The committee wanted to know if the popper could come out of the money collected for the digital equipment, if there was any left over. Mrs. Keller was told that, when money is donated for a certain thing, it is used for that. The popper should be purchased out of the theater's budget.

• Shane Guggenmos, police chief, said gas prices are on the rise which seems to encourage gas theft.

• Attorney Mike Day said he had received the survey concerning the

water wells on the Uplinger land. He will draw up an easement for \$2,500 for the right of ways to the wells 10 and 11.

• Mikaela Grace was hired as the manager of the city swimming pool. Bruce Swihart, councilman, said others applying were Corbin Sherlock, Andrea Holzwarth and Jennifer Fritz. He said the rest of the staff will be hired in the near future.

• Mike Callicrate had requested that water from a slaughter facility be put into the city's sewer system. The council agreed that they needed to find out what the Kansas Department of Health and Environment requirements were and a contract would be needed.

• Business incentives for \$100 were approved for Natasha Wilson, Just Like Home Daycare; and to Rose Mary Bierig, Classic Rose floral shop.

• Rodney Neitzel presented the plans for a July Fourth celebration. See related article.

• The council talked about how they could help the St. Francis Senior Center. It was noted that they pay for the pool, library and Scout Hut utilities but these are owned by the city. Some more information will be gathered.

• A condemnation order has been placed on the Sherry Smith property on Emerson Street. Ms. Smith is still working on cleaning up the property.

• The description of contractor has been an on-going discussion. It was decided that anyone needing a building permit will need a licensed contractor. If the neighbor is the contractor, he doesn't need to have the insurance liability insurance.

Next meeting
The next city council meeting has been set for 7:30 p.m. on Monday at city hall on Main Street.

St. Francis News

Spring Health Fair plans include blood draws/exams

By Karen Krien
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The Cheyenne County Hospital, clinic and health department is sponsoring the spring health fair Monday to Friday. During these days, there will be blood draws, male and female exams

Screenings are offered to catch health problems like diabetes, thyroid, prostate and high blood pressure. Catching them early can reduce the risk for costly complications.

Lab work or chemistry panels are groups of tests that are routinely ordered to determine a person's general health status. They help evaluate the body's electrolyte balance and/or the status of several major body organs.

The lab draws will be offered for three mornings in St. Francis (April 11, 12 and 13) from 7 to 10 a.m. in the basement of the Cheyenne County Clinic in St. Francis and two mornings in Bird City (Tuesday and Wednesday, April 12 and 13) from 7 to 10 a.m. at the Bird City Clinic. No appointments are needed

for the lab draws.

Remember to not eat or drink except water after midnight the night before the lab draw. Those having the lab draws can take their morning prescription medications with water prior to the draws.

There will also be male and female exams available for the health fair on April 13 (afternoon), 14 and 15 (all day), in the St. Francis Clinic. In the Bird City Clinic, exams will be made April 13, 14 and 15 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Appointment for exams are a must and can be made by calling 785-332-2682. The female exams will offer breast and pelvic exams with pap smears; the male exam will include a prostate check. The fees for the labs and exams are at a reduced price and will not be charged to your insurance.

Exhibit booth fair
There will be an educational exhibit booth health fair with health and safety information in the near future. For more information regarding the fair, contact Mrs. Bandel, 332-2381.

Echoes Across the Plains

By Dorothy L. Mast

The Bird City area was once considered a part of the great American desert, where only the Indians could survive. In 1873, the Legislature created counties out of the western half of the state of Kansas. About the same time, an enterprising young man from the Denver area started on a journey by horseback across this so-called desert and continued across the western part of Cheyenne County. There were very few trees, but to his astonishment, the plains were alive with prairie grasses.

As he crossed the Republican River, he envisioned the possibility of a great cattle ranch. A few years later, with the interest and support of his family, this became a reality, with the headquarters on the northwest side of the Republican River.

In the 1880s, it is not known exactly how two wealthy merchants (Mottle and Wheeler) from St. Joseph, Mo., became aware of the richness of these prairie grasses. However, they soon formed the Northwest Cattle Co., and sent Benjamin Bird (who lived with his family at that time in St. Joseph) as manager, to Cheyenne County, who established ranching headquarters on the northeast side of the Republican River.

By 1882, Benjamin Bird soon had cattle grazing from the upper Republican River to the Smoky Hill River. This was

a productive enterprise, even with the encroachment of the homesteaders, until the blizzard of 1886. Benjamin Bird and his cowhands were completely unprepared for a blizzard on the plains with the driving winds and freezing temperatures. The

loss of men and cattle devastated the enterprise, and eventually bankrupted the Northwest Cattle Company.

Sources - The Benkelman Post, Early Courthouse Records, Early Newspapers and the Bird Family Records.

Club Clip

Cheyenne County Hospital Guild

The Cheyenne County Hospital Guild, with 15 members present, met April 6 at the Senior Center.

Dr. Mary Beth Miller gave a very informative talk about new medications that will be available soon or are already being used. Dr. Miller also said thank you to the members of the Hospital Guild for their continued support of the hospital.

Following the business

meeting, hostesses Helen Burnham and Dolores Wiley served coffee and cake from a table decorated with spring flowers, etc.

The Cheyenne County Hospital Guild is having a bake-less sale to raise money for the hospital. Those wishing to contribute should send their donations to Dolores Kincheloe, Box 574, St. Francis, KS 67756.

Great Tips

- Spray a bit of perfume on the light bulb in any room to create a lovely light scent in each room when the light is turned on. Place fabric softener sheets in dresser drawers and your clothes will smell freshly washed for weeks to come. You can also do this with towels and linen.
- Candles will last a lot longer

if placed in the freezer for at least 3 hours prior to burning.

- To clean artificial flowers, pour some salt into a paper bag and add the flowers. Shake vigorously as the salt will absorb all the dust and dirt and leave your artificial flowers looking like new! Works like a charm!

Annabelle Nelsen Estate
Sat., April 16, 2011
9:30 a.m.
Sale Site: Bird City Legion Hall,
Bird City, Kansas

David Nelsen, Personal Representative, 785-734-2572



Antiques
2 - 5ft glass show cases
8ft glass cabinet
Hat boxes, old plates, vases and dishes
German harmonica, Old car calendar
Toys: JD Stationary engines, cast JD 4440 & Case tractors, cast trains, circus wagon, stage coach, barrel wagon
Spinning top, jack-in-box, stuffed
Pocket watches & buttons of all kinds
Antique wrenches, glass insulators
Oilers for steam engines, pressure gauges
Iron Men magazine collection
Glass chandelier, ice tongs, wood washer
Sev. Collections: Thrasher badges, thumbtacks, XLarge pen & pencil collection, ball caps, 500+ cigarette lighters
Auxiliary plates, 1980, 81, 82, 83, 88 & 89
Centennial plates, 1885-95
Lamp, umbrella, 2-man saw
Roth trumpet, 33 1/3 records
Gas iron, 1920 crock, box camera, scales
Thrasher pictures, Waterloo boy picture & other old pics & frames
HO train engine, cars & caboose w/track
1937 Rexair vacuum



Tractor, Trailer, Vehicles, Mower - SELL at 1 p.m.
1980 JD 950 tractor, FWA, 3pt., 2400 hrs w/JD 75 loader
Poulan Pro riding mower 300 EX, 19.5hp, 42", hydro
Rhino 3pt blade
18ft car trailer, steel floor
2001 F150 Ford XLT pickup, auto, 4x4, 56,705 actual mi.
1981 Buick Park Avenue car (Slick)



Shop Tools & Related
Craftsman 150 PSI, 17gal air compressor
Forney 225 AC welder
9 drawer tool box
Dual-wheel grinder
Jet Drill press
Craftsman 16gal shop vac
Comealong, shovels, hoes, rakes, etc.
Air bubble, grinder stones & wheels
B&D edger, fertilizer spreader
2 Finco 12v sprayers
Skil circular saw, Craftsman grinder, B/D 3/8" drill, 1/4" drill, CP air wrenches/sockets
40 pc tap & die set
40 pc 1/4" & 3/8" drive socket set
Flaring tool, tapping driver, pop rivet tool, snap ring tools, gear pullers, files, sockets sets, ratchets, electrical supplies, terminal, soldering gun, punches, chisels.



Household
Dresser w/mirror, twin bed
Kitchen table w/6 chairs
Glider rocker
Vinyl chair & sofa
Metal cabinet
Desk & office chairs, lamps
2-drawer & 4 drawer file cabinets
Folding chairs, folding table
Community silver plate set, silver cup
Souvenir plates
Salt/Pepper shaker collection
Silverware
Lots of bakeware, pots & pans, casseroles etc.
Num fancy bowls & glassware pcs, vases, etc.
Tablecloths and bedspreads



Miscellaneous
Lot of children's toys
Deer antlers
Army coats
Lots of Christmas decorations
Picnic table, coolers, water jugs, etc.
Helmets
Small bike, like new
Wall hangings
Watkins jet sprayer for livestock



Appliances
Kenmore refrigerator
Kenmore dryer
Freezer
Ice cream maker
Farekva vacuum
Dehydrator
Nesco roaster
Bread machine
Sewing machine
Console TV
Box & oscillating fans

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Wray Community Health Fair

Blood Draw Dates: Weekdays, April 11- April 28, 6-9:30 a.m. MT

Wray Hospital

Idalia Visions April 7 & April 28, 7-9 a.m. MT

May take normal medications prior to test
Fast for 12 hours (but **DRINK** plenty of water!)

\$25 - Chem Panel (glucose, blood count, electrolytes, thyroid & more)
\$15 - PSA (prostate blood test for men)

Fair Date: May 7, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Wray Schools Kitzmiller Building

Call for a Blood draw appointment: 970-332-4811
(Appointments Highly Encouraged!)

Jennifer Kramer, RN; Karen Keller, RN; Denice Baucke-RN

Sponsored by: The Wray Community District Hospital, Wray Clinic, and the Wray Lions Club