



School starts Monday

By Karen Krien

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The St. Francis swimming pool will close Friday and school begins on Monday, a little later than in year's past. Fall sports practices began on Aug. 15.

School enrollment was held on Aug. 10 and 11 and it looked like the school was holding at the same number as last year. There could possibly be a few more, said Scott Carmichael, principal.

There were 24 graduating seniors and this year, there were 18 kindergarteners enrolling

"There were several new students enrolling that we hadn't expected," he said. However, there could be more students enroll before school starts. The official enrollment count will be taken on Sept. 20.

Those missing the enrollment days can come to the school and enroll before school starts.

The first day of school will be a full day with school beginning at 8:35 and ending at 3:45 p.m.

The lunch menu can be found on Page 2 of this issue.

There are several new improvements in the school. Students will enter the high school through new doors which is a big improvement to the school. The old doors had been there longer than most could remember.

Some of the other improvements included refinishing the high school gym floor which now has a huge Indian painted in the center; new lighting and ceiling in the downstairs grade school hallway and new counter tops in the grade school kitchen.

Bus routes have tentatively been set but there could be some changes. Rob Schiltz, superintendent, said those with questions should call the bus garage manager, Sean Straub, 332-8190, or the superintendent's office, 332-8182. This year there is one less bus route.

The PTA and Chamber will sponsor "Meet the Teachers" at 6:30 on Monday at the grade school. Parents are encouraged to attend.

The football and volleyball open house will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday at the school.

The first varsity high school volleyball game will start at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 30. The Sainty Ladies will be competing at Hoxie against Hoxie and Golden Plains.

On Friday, Sept. 2, the Indians football team will be playing their first game of the season at 7 p.m. in Colby, against the Colby Eagles.

Doors will be locked

In an effort to ensure the safety of students and staff, all doors but the main entrance door to the school buildings will be locked after the bell rings. Parents and other people coming to the school need to plan to use these doors closest to the office and then check in at the office.

PowerSchool Website

The school has a web site: www.usd297.org. To access the PowerSchool website location, parents need to set their browsers to stfrancis.powerschool.com. The PowerSchool website is individualized. Parents needing an access code should call the school at 785-332-8153 or 332-8143.



FOOTBALL PRACTICE began Aug. 15 and the pads are on, despite the heat. The first game is set for Friday, Sept. 2, in Colby against the Eagles. Game time is 7 p.m. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Conservationist begins duties

By Karen Krien

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Cheyenne County has a new Natural Resources Conservation Service District Conservationist.

Bernadette Luncsford started the new position at the office on West U.S. 36 on July 5. She came from Bainbridge, Ga., where she was a district conservationist while she was waiting for a position to open in this area.

She hasn't regretted coming.

I like Kansas, she said, and I like Cheyenne County.

Her duties as the conservationist is to make sure the soil stays in place.

This service was developed out of the Dust Bowl, she said.

Keeping the soil in place can be done by using various methods including ground cover, rotation and strip tilling. It is also important, she said, that landowners have all the information available to them.

One of her goals is to bring all the dollars available into the county - that the county residents get their share for protecting resources.

Between the conservation service and the conservation district, both located in the same office, the county has the opportunity to bring in both federal and state money. One of her jobs, she said, is helping people to understand cost share programs and get them signed up.

With recent talks of government offices closing, Mrs. Luncsford

said it is important that participants sign up. The more participants, she said, the better the chances are for the office staying open.

Mrs. Luncsford was born and raised in Maine. Her grandfather was a tree farmer. Here she felt the close connection with the land and learned the importance of utilizing it wisely.

She went to the University of Maine where she received her bachelor's in Environmental Science, then went on to earn her master's in Natural Resources from Virginia Tech.

She married a Navy man, who for 14 years, spent much of his career out to sea. She and Sam also had a farm in Maine where they raised sheep and bees and had an orchard. She loved her bees. They were calming, she said, and the honey was a bonus.

They sold fruit, heirloom egg plant and tomatoes, along with the wool.

They have five children. Michelle attends the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and Allen goes to Missouri State University in Springfield. Darby is 12 and was hesitant to move to St. Francis so she is staying in Maine. However, Darby, with her vocal solo, was the winner of the Variety Show held Friday night of the fair.

There are also two small children, Camille, who is three, and Emelline who is one and a half.



NEW CONSERVATIONIST, Bernadette Luncsford, uses the wheel to measure land. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Sam retired from the Navy and they moved to St. Francis where they bought a house on Francis and Washington streets.

I loved the house, she said. Sam, who arrived recently, was also impressed.

Besides finding a house, she said she has also found warm and welcoming people. They are so nice, she said.

She is anxious to meet everyone and welcomes people to stop by the office and say hi.

City clerk dies unexpectedly

Mary Lampe, St. Francis City Clerk, died unexpectedly on Tuesday Aug. 16. The city council, at the Monday meeting, paused to remember Mrs. Lampe.



Lampe

Mrs. Lampe had been the clerk for 13 years, having been the assistant clerk several years before. Those she worked with said she seldom, if ever, raised her voice.

Whenever the council would ask her if they had enough money to make a major purchase, said Scott Schultz, mayor, she would

give him a look to let him know that he and the rest of the council needed to be careful how they spent the taxpayer's money.

But, he said, she always knew just what money was on hand and understood the budget. She also knew that the city needed to be prepared for the unexpected expenses and government mandates.

The council laughed because of all the things she knew, she always had trouble pronouncing "Guggenmoss," the name of the chief of police.

Mrs. Lampe was always present at the council meetings and as Mayor Schultz said, she will be missed.

See a complete obituary on Page 5 of this issue.

Petition to save Bonny Lake in Sainty businesses

There are now petitions to save Bonny Lake located in St. Francis. Lavern Boden, Idalia, was in St. Francis last week to get the petitions out and to talk to people about the proposed closing of the lake.

Petitions are located at Bankwest, First National Bank, Western State Bank, Equity Service Station, Bumper to Bumper, Dr. Dunn, Diamond R Bar and Grill, Frewen Insurance, Yost Farm Supply and The Herald office.

The petitions, as they are signed, is an effort to save Bonny Lake in Yuma County, Colo. Supporters feel they have a good way to save the water and the state park.

However, time is running out as the Colorado Division of Natural Resources has announced the lake will be drained sometime after Labor Day, - Monday, Sept. 5 - unless an agreement with Kansas can be worked out.

In the Aug. 18 issue of The

Herald, an article written by Tom Betts, *Goodland Star News*, talked about how the people are pulling together to save the lake and park facilities. The latest effort is to get people in northwestern Kansas and northeastern Colorado to show their support for saving Bonny by signing petitions scattered around or by signing an online petition asking Colorado and Kansas to seek a joint way to save and operate the lake and state park.

Don Stewart is president of Flatlanders Campground Club from Burlington, and the club has volunteered to maintain the 56 acres (visitor center and campground) for three years as long as Colorado will keep it a state park.

Audrey Hase of Kirk, Colo., took up the challenge to save Bonny, and wrote to Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback. Brownback wrote back saying the decision to drain the reservoir has been made

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Feed yard receives orders from agency

By Karen Krien

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Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 on Monday issued administrative compliance orders to six concentrated animal feeding operations in Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, directing those operations to correct a range of violations of the federal Clean Water Act. Among those listed was Callicrate Feeding Company, St. Francis.

The enforcement activity, is aimed at encouraging producers' compliance with the Clean Water

Act and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permitting program.

According to the report, an inspection in February identified failure to maintain adequate wastewater storage capacity, failure to meet nutrient management plan requires, failure to conduct operations within areas that are controlled to prevent pollution and failure to maintain adequate records.

A.J. Jones, manager of the feed yard, was upset when talked to on Tuesday. We were following the

Kansas Department of Health and Environment's instructions, he said, noting that the only violation might have been in keeping exact records.

Callicrate Cattle Company has been operating without issue under the rules of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for over 20 years, said Mike Callicrate, owner.

"I don't understand why the Environmental Protection Agency is involved or why the Kansas Department of Health and Environment has appeared to cede their author-

ity to the Feds," Mr. Callicrate said. "The department of health and environment has authorized us to operate as we currently are."

"We run the cleanest cattle feeding operation I know of. We have never discharged even one drop of water outside our facility - never!"

Mr. Callicrate was also outraged that hay was being classified as a pollutant, requiring to be stored in a controlled discharge area.

"This really smells!" he said.

The order requires the opera-

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