

New owners for convenience store

There are some changes coming to St. Francis.

The Kugler Company has signed a definitive agreement to sell its K-Store convenience stores and service stations business to Colorado Retail Ventures Services.

The five stores locations include St. Francis and Leoti in Kansas; in Nebraska, McCook, Arapahoe, and Culbertson.

K-Stores will be renamed Eagle Travel Stops and Convenience Stores. The announcement said that the stores will exceed expectations in providing excellent products and services to their customers. All of the present staff will remain.

Plans for expansion include Cenex branding and upgrades will be made to existing facilities to raise them to that high standard.

"We are excited about the expansion and look forward to providing top-notch service and be-

coming a valued member of your community, said Phillip Schumacher, chairman of the board.

Colorado Retail Ventures
Colorado Retail Ventures is headquartered in Sterling, Colo., and is owned by Colorado and Kansas Cooperatives. The company owns and operates multiple convenience stores and truck stops throughout Colorado and Kansas.

Kugler history
Kugler Company, established in 1924, is a third-generation, family-owned company headquartered in McCook, with additional manufacturing facilities and partnerships to deliver quality products in Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, South Dakota and all across the Eastern Cornbelt. The company has established itself as a market leader in fertility with a large portfolio of groundbreaking fertilizer products for agriculture use.

Foundation solicits application for grants

The St. Francis New Generation Fund and Community Foundation is soliciting applications for a \$2,000 grant for projects which are for the betterment of St. Francis. Multiple recipients may split the \$2,000.

Last year, the New Generation and the foundation had accumulated \$1,400 in interest in the endowment fund. Three organizations applied for money. The Cheyenne County Historical Society requested \$500 to help with the renovations of Ye Old Church; the city of St. Francis asked for \$1,000 to help with the costs of the new LED sign to be installed on U.S. 36; and the St. Francis Senior Center board said they would be happy with

anything the board would give them.

After a great deal of discussion, the board decided to give the historical society \$450 and the city, \$950 which took care of the \$1,400. The board then agreed to give the St. Francis Senior Center \$1,400 from the St. Francis Community Foundation.

Organizations wanting to apply for grants need to have applications in by March 1.

To learn more and download a grant application, go to <http://sfcommunityfoundation.org>, or pick up an application at the St. Francis City office. The mailing address is SFNGF&CF, PO Box 967, St. Francis, KS, 67756.

Obituary

Wilford Eldon Martin
Nov. 20, 1928 - Jan. 13, 2013

Wilford Eldon Martin was born Nov. 20, 1928, to Clifford and Jessie Arrants Martin on a farm four miles north of Wheeler in Cheyenne County. He was raised with two brothers, Harley and Elton, and one sister, Elna Gay. He died on Sunday, Jan. 13, 2013, at the Good Samaritan Village in St. Francis.

Wilford went to Riverside School for two years, then went to Wheeler School for six years and to high school for four years. He graduated from St. Francis Community High School in 1946. After graduation, Wilford worked in construction helping to build a new grain elevator in Wheeler and later working on oil pipe lines in Texas and Kentucky.

On Jan. 17, 1951, Wilford was inducted into the Army at the age of 23 years. He was sent to Fort Sill, Okla., for one week. He was then sent by slow train to Fort Bragg, N.C., for basic training.

The 82nd Airborne Division conducted all basic training. After basic training, Wilford was sent to Fort Binning, Ga., for airborne school. He graduated from airborne school with a parachute badge and Silver Wings on July 7, 1951. He was then sent to Company G, 508th Airborne Infantry Regiment (the Red Devils) where he made 19 parachute jumps with two being nighttime jumps. The last jump was as Jump Master.

He was separated from active duty to Enlisted Reserves in January of 1953. He remained in the reserves in St. Francis under Lt. Archie Moberly in Company C353rd Infantry 89th Division. His duties as Drill Sergeant were training new recruits with some training at Camp Carson, Colo., for two weeks in different summers. He was promoted as Master Sergeant in May of 1956. He later transferred to Heavy Motor Company 353rd Infantry Regiment

and was honorable discharged as Master Sergeant from the Armed Forces in April 1957.

After his discharge, Wilford worked at different construction jobs and for Ralph Crawford Water Drilling in St. Francis during which time he met his wife, Carol Pickett of McDonald, in January of 1956. To this union, three children were born: Melissa, Michael and Matthew. They made their home in McDonald where Wilford served as the city maintenance operator and city marshal and as deputy sheriff of Rawlins County for 25 years.

He was also the city fire chief for 10 years. He was one of three people to start and serve as emergency medical technicians on the McDonald Ambulance. He has served on the McDonald City Council for six years and a trustee for RoceWood Township since 1992. He has served as a National Weather Observer for 42 years. Wilford has been active in the Chester Phipps American Legion Post 229 for 51 years.

Wilford was preceded in death by his parents, brothers, Harley and Elton, sister Elna Gay, wife, Carol and son, Michael.

He is survived by his daughter, Melissa (Floyd) Dinning and his son, Matthew Martin. Grandchildren, Roger (Becky) Dinning, Melody Dinning, Marjory (Brain) Els and four great-grandchildren, Sean, Kylie and Trevor Dinning and Bryant Ells.

A memorial service was held on Jan. 17 at Knodel Funeral Home in St. Francis with Jeffrey Paulson officiating. Inurnment was in Grace Cemetery, McDonald, with military graveside services performed by Fort Riley Honor Guard.

Memorials may be made to the McDonald Fire Department or American Legion Post 229 of McDonald.



THE ADVANCED MUSIC Class sang at the Equity meeting held on last Wednesday night. Pictured left to right is Sarah Whitmore, Bailey Merklin, Taylor Archibald and Laura Brunk.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Writers group reads with local residents

The public is invited to the Old Country Church, St. Francis, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 3, for readings by Kim Zwegardt of either selections from her book or some essays she has written. Gerald Wright of Bird City will read a memoir he has written about testifying as a witness for a trial held in Washington, D.C. The trial was over three people who were burned alive.

In addition, some members of the Rough Writers, a local group of writers, will read from their original writings.

This "Rough Writers Read..." is the fourth of a series of quarterly readings at the old church, located near the Cheyenne County Museum on U.S. 36, sponsored by the Cheyenne County Historical Society. Donations help

cover the expenses of using the church.

The Rough Writers have been gathering monthly during the school year since September 2007. Their primary purpose is to encourage each other "to write and to keep on writing." Some also assist with monthly writing workshops at the Good Samaritan Village. A year ago, they published the book, "Memories & Musings," of the residents of the Good Samaritan Village, available through the Cheyenne County Historical Society.

The Rough Writers plan to continue hosting more "Rough Writers Read..." on a quarterly basis. Call Lucille Rossbach (332-8903) if you are interested in doing a reading or joining the Rough Writers.

Presentation explores history of hucksters

Cheyenne Center for Creativity in St Francis will host "Hucksters, Barkers, and Sideshows," a presentation and discussion by Erika Nelson at 7 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 28, at 109 N Quincy. Members of the community are invited to attend the free program.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, businessmen, eccentrics, and entrepreneurs took their work to the smallest communities across Kansas to sell entertainment and cures. Ms. Nelson will discuss snake-oil salesmen, the carnival culture of Kinsley (Midway, USA), and the infamous "goat gland doctor," John R. Brinkley of Milford, among others.

Ms. Nelson is an independent artist, educator, and director of the World's Largest Things, Inc. Her research interests include road-

side attractions and outsider art environments. She explores the back roads of the United States in search of the odd and unique in her mobile museum, the World's Largest Collection of the World's Smallest Versions of the World's Largest Things.

"Hucksters, Barkers, and Sideshows" is part of the Kansas Humanities Council's The Way We Worked Speakers Bureau, featuring presentations and discussions examining the theme of work and working in Kansas and how these stories help define us.

For more information about "Hucksters, Barkers, and Sideshows" in St Francis contact the CC4C at 785-772-7404 or visit www.cc4creativity.org. The program is made possible by the Kansas Humanities Council.

Musical comedy set for Jan. 31 in Oakley

Troupe America is servin' it up again in the church basement kitchen musical comedy, Church Basement Ladies 2: A Second Helping!!

Because of the original musical's phenomenal success, a sequel has been written, which picks up the same group of women as they continue to deal with life, death, and new adventures in the world and their lives. These under appreciated women of the church who volunteer to work in the church kitchen.....will all be here again in the Oakley High School auditorium on Thursday, Jan. 31, at 7:30 p.m. This delightful musical comedy is brought to town by the Western Plains Arts Association as part of its 2012-2013 season.

This time around, the year is 1969 and the world is changing.

As folks protest the Vietnam War and women are demanding equal pay for equal work, in their small rural Minnesota community, the ladies are dealing with changes of their own. With their heartwarming humor and hilarious antics, the show takes us from serving the high school students at the Luther League Banquet to a church sponsored Missionary Night and the rise and fall of a Vikings Super Bowl Sunday. From the elderly matriarch of the kitchen to the young mom-to-be, these women find strength in each other as they deal with the joys and upheavals from below the "House of God".

Admission is by season ticket, or at the door.

Club Clip

P.E.O.

Chapter U met at Cuppa Joe's for dinner at 7 p.m. on Jan. 15. Twenty-one sisters were present for an elegant dinner. Hostesses for the event were Marian Ochsner and Billie Hilt.

They celebrated Founders' Day with a skit produced by Neala Carmichael and Lynn Busse. It was a delightful reminder of the objectives of P.E.O. since 1869 when seven young women founded the organization of P.E.O. at Iowa Wesleyan College.

This organization was formed immediately following the Civil War and there were changes

coming rapidly in our society. These young women wondered if the group would endure for years to come. P.E.O. has not only endured, but has thrived for 144 years as women have succeeded in education, professional careers and continue to strive for the betterment of women in 2013.



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