



INVESTIGATORS GATHERED at the scene on Wednesday where Brad Figgins was found dead.

## Man found dead at scene

A 45-year-old man was found dead in his home in St. Francis last Wednesday, and agents of Kansas Bureau of Investigation were in town processing the crime scene later.



Figgins

Emergency medical technicians were dispatched to 541 E. Third Street that evening. Sheriff deputies and St. Francis police officers responded to the scene. Resident Brad Figgins was in the basement of his home when law enforcement arrived. He was transported to the hospital by ambulance. Figgins was pronounced dead at the hospital. The home was surrounded by yellow police tape and secured.

A woman at the scene was held for questioning. A closed-door hearing was held in Cheyenne County District Court on Monday.

Cheyenne County Sheriff Cody Beeson said that because of the complexity of the case, he asked for assistance from the K.B.I. As of Tuesday, no further details were available but Sheriff Beeson said the investigation is ongoing.

We are waiting for the official autopsy results, he said.

"The Cheyenne County Sheriff's office, St. Francis Police Department, KBI and the Cheyenne County Attorney are working on the case," the sheriff said. "Our concern is always for the safety of the community. The community is not in danger at this time. Our hearts go out to the family."

Mr. Figgins was a driver for FedEx. Survivors include a son, Gar-



SHERIFF CODY BEESON and his deputies were investigating with the help of KBI agents.

Herald staff photos by Tim Burr

rett, and a daughter, Kaitlin, and his parents, Richard and Diane Figgins.

Funeral services were set for

noon Tuesday at Peace Lutheran Church in St. Francis, with burial in the Kanorado Cemetery.

## Talent show scheduled for Sunday

By Karen Krien

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The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Talent Show will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 14, in the St. Francis grade school gym. This is the third talent show held by the organization and Tracy Neitzel, one of the coordinators, said the response has been great.

Some of the talent expected include singing, dancing, reciting poems and speeches, instruments and comedy routines.

Individuals can enter one event and/or one group event. When a group enters, they will be judged in the category according to the oldest participant.

Categories include: kindergarten through third grade; fourth through sixth grade; junior high and high school.

Judges are Randy Smestad, Neala Carmichael and Louanne Isernhagen. Disc jockey for the afternoon is Darren Kannady of Goodland.

There will be cash prizes given to the first-, second- and third-place winners.

Monetary prizes will be awarded for first, second and third prizes in each division. There will be one grand prize winner.

The senior class will be having a fundraiser meal prior



to the show. Contact the high school or a senior for ticket information.

There will be admission charged but all proceeds go back to the students. The association gave each student a book at Christmas, they sponsored Family Fun Night, provide scholarships to help the spelling bee winner and essay winners, and, on the last day of school, provide the pop and popcorn at the movie. These are just a few of the services Parent Teacher Association provides to the students and school.

Everyone is encouraged to come support the kids at the talent show.



FRESH SEVEN COFFEE officially opened Monday. Heidi Plumb makes a fresh cup of espresso while Kale Dankenbring looks on.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

## Unique coffee business opens on West Washington

St. Francis's first coffee bean micro-roastery and traditional espresso bar, located at 314 West Washington, is now open for business, serving fresh-roasted coffee seven days a week - hence the name, Fresh Seven Coffee.

Owners Kale Dankenbring and Heidi Plumb have converted a 16-foot by 8-foot box trailer into a small espresso bar that roasts and bags organic coffee beans on site. There is also a five-person seating area inside the trailer and a custom-made, pour-over copper station fabricated out of drier tubing that will brew every cup of coffee individually.

Each cup of coffee at Fresh Seven will be ground and brewed at the time an order is placed. Once

coffee beans are ground, Heidi said, they immediately begin to lose their freshness and flavor, especially in the case of espresso. One cup of drip coffee takes about three to four minutes from start to finish. But, said Kale, all good things take time and our pour-over drip coffee is definitely worth the wait.

Fresh Seven's focus is on freshness and quality rather than speed of service. Price points range from \$1 for a small cup of drip coffee to \$5.25 for a large, quadruple-shot caramel-vanilla latte with almond milk.

Kale and Heidi recommend trying the traditional espresso drinks on Fresh Seven's menu before adding flavors. Traditional drinks

such as a double espresso, Americano, cortado or cappuccino will allow customers an opportunity to actually taste and compare each coffee bean origin's distinct flavors.

Our Peruvian beans have a mild sweet taste to them, she said, while our Nicaraguan beans taste more earthy with a hint of citrus due to the richness of that region's fertile volcanic soil.

Fresh Seven Coffee will only work with small importers and brokers that sell seasonal arabica beans from small, fair-trade organic, shade-grown farms. This is the only way to ensure sustainable practices are observed from plant to cup.

See COFFEE on Page 7

## Couple renames business

By Karen Krien

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Lampe Hardware, 306 W. Washington, St. Francis, has a new name.

Ed and A.J. Marin, owners, have officially changed the name to Heartland HVAC Electrical and Plumbing on March 1. While it is a new name, they will still be doing heating and air conditioning repair and installation as well as electrical and plumbing service. Other services include installing and repairing lawn sprinklers, selling and repairing appliances and tankless hot water heaters.

We are pleased with the tankless hot water heaters, Mr. Marin said. They are energy efficient and it produces endless hot water.

They are building inventory, adding more items weekly. They are carrying lawn and garden supplies, rakes, shovels and hose along with a quality dog food.

We are encouraging customers to ask us if they need a certain item and we will do our best to get it, he said.

Mr. Marin started working at Lampe's the summer of 1999 under the employers, Rod Lampe, Kurt Bucholtz and Roger Neitzel. In 2000, he purchased Mr. Bucholtz's share and has eventually bought out the rest of the owners.

Mr. Marin attends heating and air conditioning classes twice a year to keep abreast of the new technology as well as attending



ED AND AJ MARIN talk about the tankless hot water heaters and how they will be stocking their shelves.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

a market in Kansas City at least once a year.

Today, he has Greg Neel and Ralph Wolaver working for him. Mr. Bucholtz also fills in when needed.

We have recently hired Terrence Lampe although he is still attending Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland, said

Mr. Marin. He is in pursuit of his electrician's degree and has been working on the job with Kurt.

Ed and A.J. have three daughters, Samantha, Katlin and Allison. A.J. teaches third and fourth grade in Stratton, Neb. Ed is an emergency medical technician and is on the St. Francis School Board.

## Local theater raises prices

The Cheyenne Theater will be presenting a series of four Disney Nature films on a bi-weekly basis beginning Sunday, June 16, at 2 p.m., with "African Cats." The movies will be shown as special matinees, with the regular feature presentation shown on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights.

The Disney films are G-rated, and feature spectacular visual footage which is especially suited to the digital projection system. The other three titles are "Oceans" (June 30), "Earth" (July 14), and "Chimpanzee" (July 28).

For the first time since the March 2011, premiere showing of the new digital system, the theater board

has raised prices on 3D movies. The up charge for 3D movies, which was previously only \$1, has been increased to \$2. This change is mandated by the movie producers. About a third of the movies shown are in 3D, and the regular 2D prices are unchanged.

Despite the increase, the movie ticket and concession prices are still quite competitive. It is a goal of the theater board, said Robert Grace, board member, to keep the theater experience in Cheyenne County affordable.

For more information on theater showings, history or pricing, check out the website: <http://cheyennetheater.com>.