

Several businesses inquire about moving to county

By Doug Sloper
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The St. Francis City Council meeting had two groups addressing the council.

Helen Dobbs representing the Cheyenne County Development Corporation presented the council with the 2014 proposed budget. She said several new small businesses have contacted her regarding moving their business to the county.

The entrepreneurial program, she said, has been very successful with the students learning a lot of ins and outs of owning their own businesses. She is currently updating the St. Francis website, making sure that all the links are working properly. There will be a booth at the Cheyenne County Fair, to hand out information on Cheyenne County.

Swimming pool committee
The new pool committee, consisting of Holly Hingst, Trista Smull, Sandy Smull, Jenny Busse, Margaret Poling, A.J. Marin, Bruce Swihart and Mila Bandel addressed the council to get ideas as to what they would need to do to move forward, building a new pool. The council stressed the need for a straw poll to get citizens input.

This project would also need to have input and support from the county commissioners, as it is too large for the city to handle on its own. After much discussion, it was decided that the committee would come up with a step-by-step plan, involving citizen input, county input and financial support.

Police report
Police chief Shane Guggenmos reported that all is well in the city.

There has been an incident with dogs running loose at Kelly Lampe's business. The chief contacted someone at that location and explained that the dogs need to be controlled at all times. There have been no incidents since.

The chief has been monitoring the cleanup of Roger Sauer's property. Mr. Sauer has been very cooperative and intends to get the front house cleaned out and will be moving back into it. He will also be working on yard cleanup. The chief said that he was very impressed with the effort so far and will continue to monitor and keep communication lines open between Mr Sauer and the city.

Keller Pond/River Walk
A committee has been formed consisting of J.R. Landenberger, Tom Keller, Bernadette Luncsford, Terry Reiger, along with Carla Lampe and Dale Weeks, representing the city, to discuss and oversee the new lease agreement that was just signed by the city. Mr. Keller has expressed his concerns that since the new lease agreement has been signed the city has done little as far as improvements to the area, which were spelled out in the agreement.

Mayor Scott Schultz has cancelled the purchase of the utility vehicle that the Police Department had requested. This is due to issues that have come up regarding the River Walk. There were questions about where the vehicle would be housed. He felt there is also a need to have just one vehicle that both the police and maintenance department can use. These issues will be explored further in the future.

Band shell
Mayor Schultz had a meeting with representatives of Phisny Restoration Services. The contract for restoration work on the band shell was for approximately \$95,000. The

higher cost is due to that fact that there could be an issue with the brickwork underneath the stucco covering. Phisny will bore several sample holes in the shell to check the condition of the brickwork. If the brickwork is found to be sound then the holes will be repaired and the cost will be reduced. The council approved letting Mayor Schultz sign the contract with Phisny Restoration Services.

2014 budget
The 2014 budget will be approximately 8 percent higher than the 2013 budget. This is due to the fact that electricity costs have risen dramatically over the last year.

After a lengthy discussion a vote was taken as follows: Paula Keller, no; Dale Weeks, abstained; Roger Jensen, yes; Carla Lampe, yes. Bruce Swihart was not present at this meeting to vote. Mr. Weeks abstained due to the fact that he had missed the council meetings when the budget was discussed.

An additional discussion followed and another vote was taken. This vote was a unanimous "yes," to approve the budget.

A special city council meeting was convened on July 23 to again discuss the budget and the vote. Present were council members Carla Lampe, Roger Jensen, Dale Weeks, Paula Keller, Mayor Scott Schultz, city attorney Mike Day, along with Jen Blair representing the city clerk's office.

A waiver in lieu of notice was signed by all council members and the mayor. After a short discussion on the budget, another vote was taken as follows: Paula Keller, no; Dale Weeks, yes; Roger Jensen, yes, Carla Lampe, yes. Roger Jensen then made a motion to approve the 2014 budget. The motion was approved.

Attorney report
City Attorney Day reported that

the former Clapper properties at 426 and 430 Emerson streets are now owned by the city. The Clappers have finally signed and returned the corrected deeds to the properties. He will be meeting with Superintendent Landenberger to finalize an ad to put into the paper putting the properties up for sale again.

He also informed the council that the Bowling Alley and Dairy King properties had been seized and shutdown by the state of Kansas, due to sales and employee taxes not being paid by the owners.

Building permits
Building permits were reviewed and approved for: Fred Mahlberg, driveway approach; Gary Rogers, cement; Tim Raile, fence.

Pool report
In Bruce Swihart's absence, the pool report was read by city clerk Glorianne Milne. Tentative date for the pool closing is Aug. 18.

The pool board met on July 18 to discuss needs and issues for 2014.

In other business
A meeting will be scheduled with county clerk Terry Miller on Aug. 12 to discuss and explain the valuation and taxing process. A meeting with the county commissioners will be scheduled for Aug. 26, if possible.

Councilman Roger Jensen will be meeting with the county commissioners on July 31 to discuss landfill issues.

Next meeting
The next meeting of the city council is set for 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 12, in city hall on Main Street.

The mayor and city council members would like to remind all citizens that the city council meetings are open to everyone. Contact the city clerk if there is an issue you wish to have added to the agenda.

Hometown Hero

Shirley Zwegardt has been selected as the Hometown Hero. For the last 31 years, she has been the coordinator for the St. Francis Community High School alumni gatherings. Her retirement from the coordinator position was announced at this year's alumni gathering on June 15.

Shirley took on the job after Manette Keeler retired. While she never thought it would be easy, it was often a lot more work than she had anticipated.

The early alumni reunions were held at the high school. The meal was held in the gym where it was so hot that the jello melted in the dishes. The banquet was then moved to the cafeteria where there was air conditioning. If there was a big crowd, the overflow moved to the new wrestling room.

When the St. Francis centennial was held, the meal was a barbecue and the alumni celebration was moved to the park. There were people who liked the park so it continued in this location for several years but, with the park location, there were some problems.

Tables and chairs had to be moved to the park and set up. Table paper was fastened to the tables. Sometimes, there were as many as 350 people attending and that was a lot of tables and chairs.

Then the food was also moved to the park right before time to serve.

Good ole Kansas weather sometimes kicked in. One time, there was rain and the wind always seemed to blow. Even though it was in the evening, it was the middle of June and it was generally hot.

When it rained, the banquet had to be moved to the fairgrounds.

Shirley started getting complaints from the older graduates who found it hard to walk on the uneven ground at the park. They also found it harder to visit with classmates.

With the continuing complaints and the fact that she was moving tables at 2 a.m. after everyone had gone home, the alumni gatherings went back to the high school.

Shirley, who works at the St. Francis Equity as the grain manager, started working on alumni plans in February. The alumni mailing list had to be updated and honor class representatives needed to be contacted (the honor classes meet every five years).

When the representatives had their plans set and their letter to classmates written, she then started stuffing envelopes and getting them mailed. Once the responses



Shirley Zwegardt was presented a bouquet at the St. Francis Alumni celebration on June 15.

start coming in, she compiled the lists.

Unfortunately, some people are a little slow about getting their reservations in but the food still needs to be ordered. However, in the end, it always worked out.

The money paid for reservations was used mostly for school related projects with the exception of a donation to help build the restrooms in the park and, this last year, the association provided the disc jockey both nights of the St. Francis 125th celebration which was held the same time as the alumni reunion.

Through the years, everyone has relied on Shirley's efficiency, knowing that she would get everything done. When the people arrived, the signs in the gym were on the wall designating where alumni classes were to gather. The meal had been planned and prepared. The band would be playing and there would be an emcee.

At this point, there has been no one to step up to take Shirley's place as the coordinator – they will be hard shoes to fill!

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Thirteen swimmers attend championship meet

The Sainty Sharks were in action at the Plains Tsunami Swim Championship meet on Saturday, July 13. Thirteen swimmers from the Shark team attended the championship meet.

The weather was a hot 104 plus degrees and humid said Margaret Poling, coach. The swimmers were in top condition and it really paid off. Almost every swimmer improved their times and moved up in placement.

With only the top 16 swimmers in each event with 23 teams represented it was quite a spectacle to watch.

Adam Krien was our top swimmer, said Coach Poling. He was a heat winner in each of his individual events. In one of his events he was only 10/100ths of a second from breaking a championship meet record.

I was proud of all the swimmers and especially the ones who came to the meet to make sure our relays could run, Coach Poling said.

Each of the swimmers who participated received some kind of medal or award.

We hope they can all come back and do it again next year, Coach Poling said.

Next week a list of the Shark awards will be printed.

18-and-under age division 100-yard medley relay, Shadryon Blanka, KC Krien, Adam Krien, Caleb Frink, third

8-and-under age division 25-yard butterfly, Elle Krien, sixth.

9-10 age division, 25-yard butterfly, Emma Johnson, seventh.

9-10 age division, 25-yard butterfly, Adam Krien, heat winner, first; Shadryon Blanka, fourth.

11-12 age division, 50-yard butterfly, Cassie Cooks, eighth.

11-12 age division, 50-yard butterfly, KC Krien, fourth.

15-18 age division 50-yard butterfly, Alexis Frink, eighth.

9-10 age division, 50-yard freestyle, Shadryon Blanka, sixth; Adam Krien, heat winner, first.

8-and-under age division, 25-yard backstroke, Elle Krien, seventh.

9-10 age division, 25-yard backstroke, Emma Johnson, sixth, heat winner.

9-10 age division, 25-yard backstroke, Shadryon Blanka, second.

11-12 age division, 50-yard backstroke, Cassie Cooks, sixth.

15-18 age division, 50-yard backstroke, Emily Elfers, fifth.

10-and-under, 200-yard free relay, Dawn Rice, Audrey Meyer, Elle Krien, Emma Johnson, heat winner, fifth.

200-yard free relay, Christina Frink, Cassie Cooks, Emily Elfers, Alexis Frink, sixth.

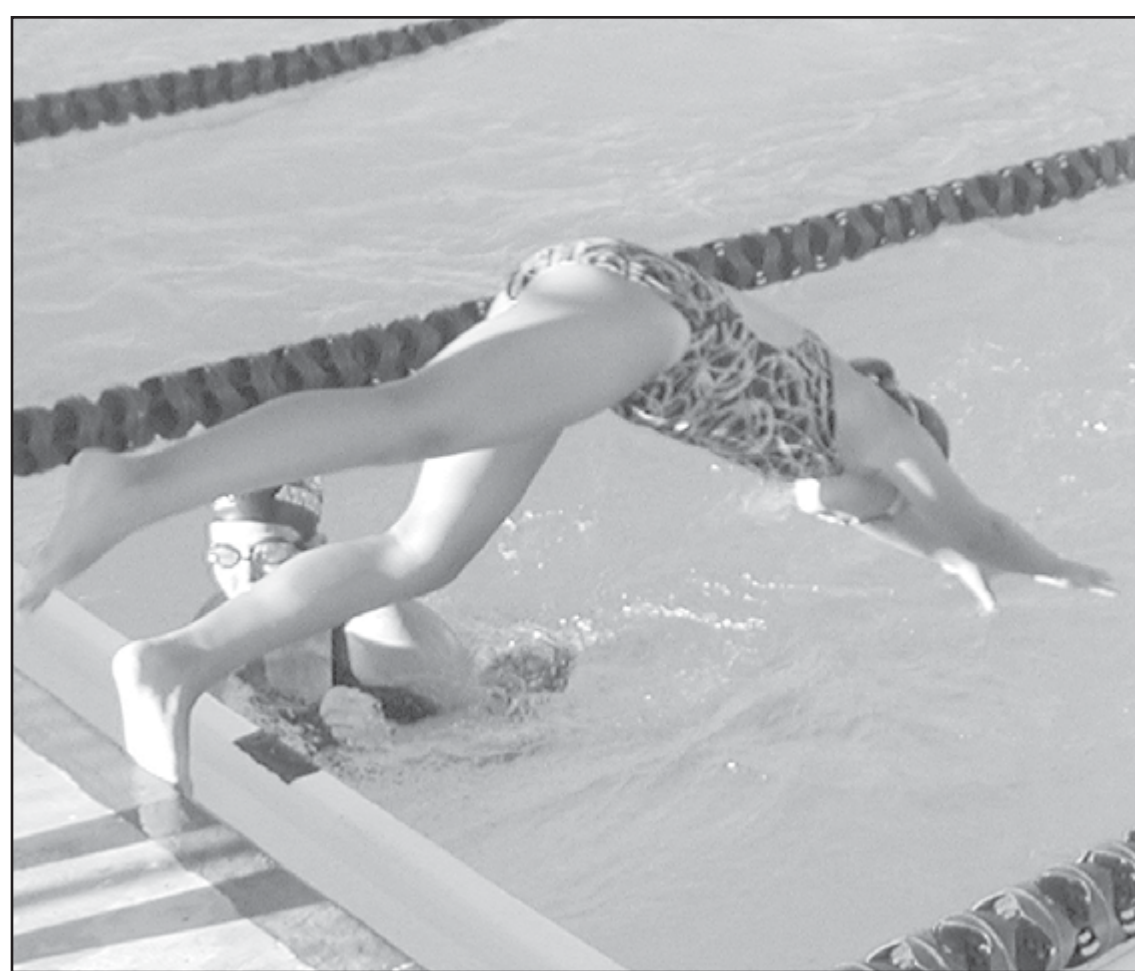
11-12 age division, 50-yard breaststroke, KC Krien, fifth.

9-10 age division, 25-yard freestyle, Adam Krien, heat winner, first.

11-12 age division, 50-yard freestyle, KC Krien eighth.

15-18 age division, 50-yard freestyle, Caleb Frink second

8-and-under age division, 100-yard individual medley, Skye



A SWIMMER dives in at a previous meet held in St. Francis. Herald staff photo by Doug Sloper

Feldman, honorable mention; Elle Krien, seventh.

9-10 age division, 100-yard individual medley, Shadryon Blanka, second; Adam Krien, heat winner.

11-12 age division, 100-yard individual medley, Cassie Cooks, sixth.

11-12 age division, 100-yard individual medley, KC Krien, fifth.

15-18 100-individual medley, Alexis Frink, heat winner, eighth

18-and-under age division, 100-yard free relay, Christina Frink, Cassie Cooks, Emily Elfers, Alexis Frink, sixth.

18-and-under age division, 100-yard free relay, Christina Frink, Cassie Cooks, Emily Elfers, Alexis Frink, sixth.

18-and-under age division, 100-yard free relay, Shadryon Blanka, KC Krien, Adam Krien, Caleb Frink, third.

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