

# Council votes down extending sewer

At the last St. Francis City Council meeting, the matter of running a sewer line to the south end of River Street at the city's cost was discussed and a special meeting was held on May 15. At the May 21 meeting, the sewer line project which would have cost the city \$32,000, was voted down 3 to 2.

River Street runs south across U.S. 36 past the state building and a row of houses. The city limits is approximately 800 feet past the end of the sewer line. The discussion of putting the sewer lines to the edge of the city limits on River Street was opened with a motion by Councilman Roger Jensen to go ahead with the project as

detailed by Miller and Associates of McCook. Councilman Rodney Bracelin seconded the motion.

Mayor Scott Schultz added that the council should take note that the city does own industrial land on the north side of the Ron Krien property and this land could be developed and/

or sold.

Councilman Rick Kriegh said that, yes, even though there were lots which the city could utilize or sell, the city was talking about spending \$32,000 on a project. He pointed out that the materials and engineering costs were estimated at \$14,000 plus \$18,000 labor costs and, at this

point, may or may not bring in any revenue as far as tax dollars because the property was outside the city limits.

"We (the city council) went into this as cost-sharing project and this is not a cost-share," Councilman Kriegh said.

**See SEWER on Page 7**

## Filing deadline is June 10

*By Karen Krien*

Voters will be casting their ballots for a number of candidates in the primary election on Aug. 6. There will also be some Cheyenne County seats which will be up for election and candidates to file for those positions on or before noon on June 10. The primary election will be held on Aug. 6.

The position of county commissioner, District 1, presently held by Jane Brubaker, Bird City, is up for the election. Commissioner Brubaker has held the office for eight years. Other positions up for election at the county level are the township clerks for Benkelman, Bird City, Calhoun, Cleveland Run, Jaqua, Orlando, Wano I and Wano II townships and one precinct committeeman and one committeewoman in each precinct.

Those filing will need to either pay a \$5 fee or submit a petition with a required amount of signatures. If a candidate is thinking of submitting a petition, he or she should check with the county clerk to find out the number of signatures needed as there are different numbers for each district or precinct.

After a candidate has filed for office, he cannot withdraw his name, no matter what the situation.

Voters will also be voting for one United States senator, Representative, 1st District, a pair of candidates for governor and lieutenant governor, one candidate for Secretary of State, Attorney General, State Treasurer, Commissioner of Insurance, State Representative 120th District and State Board of Education 5th District.



**CUB SCOUT PACK 120 raised the flag at the Memorial Day service held at the St. Francis Cemetery Monday morning. They are helped by Cubmaster Jerry Whitmore.**

*Herald staff photo by Sandy Barnhart*

## Lots of wind; little moisture

*By Karen Krien*

On Thursday night, the clouds rolled in and the moisture began to fall in the St. Francis and Bird City area. It was a welcome rain but many are saying that it may be too late for a good wheat crop. On May 21, the wind blew a steady 40 miles per hour with gusts reported up to 60 miles per hour.

The National Weather Service in Goodland reported wind gusts to 70 miles per hour and some property damage in some of the areas of northwest Kansas, eastern Colorado and southwest Nebraska. A strong high pressure center was anchored over the central east coast of the United States. At the same time, an unusually strong, low pressure center moved across the Continental Divide. The pressure difference between these two weather features produced extremely windy con-

ditions across the plains states.

In Flagler, Colo., 35-foot pine trees were uprooted and tree limbs broken and shingles blown off houses at Norcat and Colby.

The Goodland Airport reported that the average wind speeds for the entire day made it the sixth windiest day in Goodland since weather records have been kept.

Shane Wurm, senior agronomist for Servi-Tech, reported that the wind had taken what little moisture was in the ground. The corn crop which was planted several weeks ago, has also had some trouble coming up as one day, the weather is in the 80s, and the next day, it is down to the 50s and 60s. The wheat is in the flowering stage and is starting to head.

Kathy Woodcox, St. Francis weather

**See WIND on Page 7**

## Wireless internet proposed as utility service for few people

*By Karen Krien*

At the May 21 meeting, Superintendent J.R. Landenberger updated the city council on the proposed wireless internet system which the council is looking at installing. At the April 2 meeting, the superintendent and councilman Rick Kriegh had reported on bringing wireless internet to St. Francis and it would be handled as a "service" much like the utilities (water and electricity).

To bring the wireless system to St. Francis, the equipment would need to be purchased. This purchase will cost

around \$107,000 the first year and the money would come out of the city's Capital Outlay Fund.

They also took a survey of people interested in the wireless system which gives customers faster service. There were 194 people signing up and part of the signers lived in the country. As a "service," the city is planning on serving 180 customers out of the 800 to 850 city residences (1,497 residents live in the city). In three years the city would pay for the equipment and other costs and, in five years, would double the

**See WIRELESS on Page 7**

## New city hall renovations underway; council lets bids for work

*By Sandy Barnhart*

The old Veterans of Foreign Wars building on Main Street which was purchased by the council in November, is being renovated to serve as the new city hall and the St. Francis City Council made more decisions on work projects during the May 21 meeting.

The council approved advertising for bids on the finish work to be done at the city hall building. The job will include trimming windows, installing doors,

painting and plumbing. The council will pay for material at two week intervals and appointed Superintendent J.R. Landenberger and Councilman Roger Jensen to inspect the progress.

The council also approved advertising for bids on the concrete work in front of the building. It was noted that before the city could move into the building the front would need to be American Disability Act accessible.

Councilman Jensen noted that for the

public's information, he, in no way, was being compensated for any time or supplies that are being put into the new city building.

**Property cleanup**

•The council allowed Larry Forsythe 45 to 60 days at his request to finish the addition to his home. It was noted that Bud Houtman and Dale Henderson, the owners of the other two pieces of property discussed at the last meeting, were making progress.

•A special meeting was held May 15 at College and Second streets at the property owned by ErvaGene DeAragon. The council inspected the two trailers on the property. The council noted that there was a rodent problem in the white trailer which created a health problem and advised Mrs. DeAragon not to make any major repairs to the trailers until the council could discuss the matter at the May 21 meeting.

Mrs. DeAragon was present to hear the decision of the council concerning the extension from May 15 to the end of July to have her property cleaned up.

The council informed Mrs. DeAragon that they had received a petition signed by 22 surrounding resident asking that the two trailers be removed and the property cleaned up. Mrs. DeAragon explained that due to newspaper articles in the past, this had frightened a lot of the residents.

The first motion passed stated that Mrs. DeAragon could have an extended time (until the end of July) to cleanup or remove the orange trailer which sets by College Street. The council noted that Mrs. DeAragon could not rent the trailer as she does not have a trailer park license and the only person legally able to live in the trailer house was herself.

The second motion stated that on

**See WORK on Page 7**

## County courthouse listed in Register of Historic Places

The Kansas State Historical Society has announced that the Cheyenne County Courthouse in St. Francis has been entered onto the National Register of Historic Places.

Jennie Chinn, acting state historic preservation officer, reported that the listing of the courthouse will provide recognition of the community's historic importance and assures protective review of federal government projects that might adversely affect the character of the property. However, now that the property is listed in the National Register, there are certain federal investment tax credits for rehabilitation and other provisions which may apply.

She pointed out that the listing in the National Register doesn't mean that limitations will be placed on the property, public visitation rights will not required nor will the government attach restrictive covenants.

The Heritage Trust Fund provides for the awarding of state grants for

**See REGISTER on Page 7**

## History of courthouse reveals interesting facts

The Cheyenne County Courthouse is a Classic Revival style, four-story masonry structure and shares the block with a playground in St. Francis. Inside, a grand staircase, flanked with decorative torches, rises from the ground level to the other levels.

The floor plan of the courthouse is typical of the majority of Kansas courthouses built during that period ranging from World War I to the onset of the Depression years.

The county was organized in 1886 when the governor of Kansas appointed a board of commissioners consisting of J.M. Ketcham, W.W. McKay and J.F. Murray. Their first responsibility was the establishment of three voting precincts for the May 15, 1886 election that filled the county's first positions of

county clerk, treasurer, probate judge, attorney, clerk of district court, register of deeds, sheriff, superintendent of public instruction, surveyor, coroner and three new commissioners.

According to the information sent from the National Register of Historic Places, the history of Cheyenne County reflects turbulent beginnings. The lure of inexpensive land brought the earliest Anglo-European settlers who were primarily of Germanic and Russian cultures, many of whom settled areas further east in Kansas before making their way to Cheyenne County. As late as the 1890s, inhabitants of the county suffered from famine and drought. In March and April of 1895, the county purchased oats, wheat, millet, corn

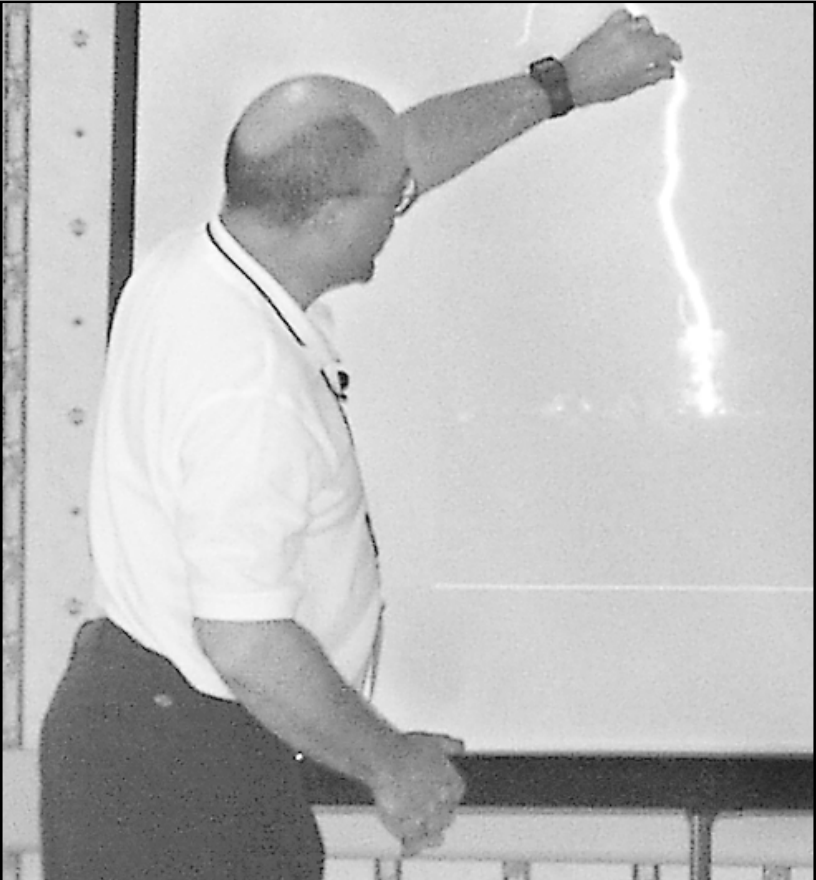
**See HISTORY on Page 7**



**LITTLE CHANGE CAN BE SEEN between pictures taken earlier and the picture (above) taken today.**

*Herald staff photo by Margaret Bucholtz*





DAVID FLOYD with the National Weather Service talked to the Village staff about tornadoes. Photo courtesy of Paul Rainbolt

# Village staff training to keep up with changes

Annually the Good Samaritan Village staff are educated on the various training items to keep current with changes.

On Tuesday, emergency coordinator for Cheyenne County, Gary Rogers, and St. Francis Fire Chief George Harper were guest presenters at the monthly in-service. Chief Harper reviewed the various fire extinguishers and proper usage of these tools in fighting fires.

Mr. Rogers introduced David Floyd from the National Weather Service in

Goodland. Mr. Floyd is new to the northwest Kansas area and provided training specific to weather-related emergencies. Tornadoes were a big concern to the Good Samaritan Village staff and he answered several questions in his presentation about severe weather in the high plains of Kansas.

"It was an outstanding presentation to our staff, who are always wanting to learn how better to protect our residents," said Paul Rainbolt, the Good Samaritan Village administrator.

## SEWER

Continued from Page 1

He added that if Gordon Ross, the person wanting to purchase land from Mr. Krien, and Mr. Krien and the city would cost-share, he would be more willing to consider the project.

Councilwoman Kay Shay voiced her agreement with Councilman Kriegh noting that in weighing the pros and cons of the project she could not see much return to the city. She also said that even if someone would purchase one of the lots south of town there was no guarantee that they would need sewer hookup, especially in the event they would put up storage sheds.

Councilman Jensen expressed concern as to who would own the lines if there was cost sharing. Attorney Mike Day assured him that the city would still own the lines.

Councilman Jensen was concerned that St. Francis has a sewer line around the edge of the city limits and have had several hook ups outside city limits which were hooked up at the homeowners expense. However, in this case the sewer lines stop at the alley

behind River Street. He also said that the city does not know what kind of development will be there in 20 years and he felt that the growth of St. Francis would be to the south and east.

Councilwoman Natalie Knodel agreed with Councilman Jensen that the addition of the sewer line would be an improvement toward the city's future.

Attorney Day urged the council to consider that this project would start a precedence.

"You are breaking away from what the standard procedure is, where basically people pay for their own improvements, and you are making a capital expenditure of city funds for people who are not on city taxes," he said.

After the discussion the mayor asked for a show of hands for the motion Councilman Jensen had previously made. Voting yes to run the sewer lines another 800 feet were Councilman Jensen and Councilwoman Knodel. The three remaining council members voted against the motion.

## HISTORY

Continued from Page 1

seed, barley, sorghum seed and potatoes to be distributed for planting. They also distributed carloads of coal, clothing and food to the needy. These early inhabitants survived and prevailed at establishing thriving towns that were linked through a network of roads and bridges.

The county first operated out of a building in Bird City leased from D.W. Cave, Benjamin Bird and Charles Kerndt for \$75 a month. In July 1888, the board of commissioners purchased the building for \$2,827. The use of this building proved to be temporary. In February 1889, voters moved the

county seat to St. Francis where a new courthouse was to be constructed. By October 1889, a new 40-by-60-foot, two-story, wood, frame Italianate style structure opened for occupancy. The first building stood where the band shell in Sawhill Park, east of the courthouse, now stands.

In 1924, the county erected the current Classical Revival style courthouse at a cost of \$163,921. With the exception of the replacement of original window sashes and casements, and the installation of a handicapped accessible entrance, the building appears much the same as when it was first constructed in 1924.

## REGISTER

Continued from Page 1

the preservation of the property. Applicants will have the opportunity to apply for grants but applicants will have to provide a matching share of perhaps 20 percent and will have to agree to follow the Secretary of the Interior's standards and guidelines for rehabilitation in carrying out the projects.

Two other financial incentive programs also available to assist with rehabilitation of historic property include the Kansas State Income Tax Credit and the federal investment tax credit.

The courthouse and other property

approved for nomination to the National Register by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review are automatically listed in the Register of Historic Kansas Places. Under the law, application for permits and changes which have the proposed potential to adversely affect national and state register properties must be reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Officer for their appropriateness before the permit is granted or the zoning change occurs. If significant alteration of the courthouse results, it could be removed from the National Register.

## WORK

Continued from Page 1

June 4 the council will review the decision to adopt Resolution 2002-3, which basically states that the Mrs. DeAragon will have 20 days to correct the situation. If it is not corrected, the matter will be taken before a District judge in District court. The judge will determine if the property owner is or is not in violation. If found in violation and the property is still not up to code, the city will then go in and correct the situation with the expenses being charged to Mrs. DeAragon's property tax.

### Police report

Chief of Police Jason Ryan informed the council that Officer Jed Leibbrandt was attending a meth class. Next month, Chief Ryan plans to attend the class.

### Building permits

Building permits were approved for the following residences and businesses: Rita L. Koros, remodel store front; Tammi Sherlock, erect patio; Natalie Knodel, tear down house and shed; Larry Forsythe, pour driveway; Robert Erskin, pour concrete; Sean Straub, cement work; Travis Milne, pour concrete; St. Francis Housing Authority, off-street parking, retaining wall, handicap ramps, remove and replace sidewalks; Arleene Touslee, remove and replace sidewalk; Kris Doyle, concrete work; United Methodist Church, remove and replace curb and gutter.

### Clerk report

City Clerk Mary Lampe reported that Tom Smull had approached her and would like to donate a flag for the new city hall building. She noted that he also suggested for future use, letting people donate a flag in memory of someone.

### Other business

• Donaldca Germain expressed concern in behalf of herself and neighbors of two dogs at 417 E. Emerson. She explained that one of the dogs had mange and at time there was no water in the pen nor was the pen cleaned. She also noted that the smell and habitual barking of the dogs was a nuisance. The neighbors and herself had tried talking to the owner but this had not solved the

problem and now the owner had added a third dog to the pen. The chief of police will look into the situation.

- Superintendent Landenberger said that street work by LaFarge company will begin June 10 with the estimated cost to be \$70,189. (See related story.)
- The council approved the contract for natural gas with Midwest United Energy for a locked-in amount of \$4.65 from Nov. 1 to March 31, 2003. The amount now being paid is \$5.68. It should be noted that this gas is used only for city-owned buildings.
- Councilman Jensen informed the council that the city would be receive-

ing around \$5,000 in grant money for the recycling building. He explained that the holdup had been waiting for St. Francis workmen to complete installing some lights and the sign. He noted that the wait was also due to slow return of paperwork by Bird City.

- George Harper, St. Francis Fire Chief, ask the city to pay for half the cost for the firemen to take the required cardiopulmonary resuscitation training class. He noted that the county had agreed to pay the other half. The council approved.
- The council approved to purchase the materials for shelves in the fire house.

The firemen will be building the shelves.

- The council approved to adjust the Chief of Police's salary as requested in an executive session at the May 7 city council meeting.
- The Farmers' Market still plans to open on June 22 in St. Francis (see related article).
- Superintendent Landenberger further explained the wireless internet plans (see related article).

### Next meeting

The next city council meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday at the St. Francis Public Library.

## WIRELESS

will cover an approximate 10-mile radius. One of the access points will be on top of the St. Francis Equity elevator and the other will be located in Wheeler.

The councilman and superinten-

dent have talked to a number of people in cities where this type of internet is available. They will be talking about contracts and giving more information at the next city council meeting.

## WIND

Continued from Page 1

observer, reported that only .29 rain fell. Tom Sawyer, Bird City weather observer, reported a little more rain with .48 inch., and again on Tuesday they received .07 inches. There was a little snow reported in the early morning hours but Colby, which is 70 miles southeast of St. Francis, made the national weather with heavy snow which quickly melted. The snowfall broke a record as being the latest snow on record.

Agronomist Wurm reported that soy beans are beginning to poke their heads out of the soil and pinto beans are being planted.

It has been a



strange spring with little moisture, lots of wind and, now temperatures are forecasted to be in the high 80s and low 90s. Harvest is expected to be close to the first part of July with some fields being harvested a little earlier.

Several weeks ago, Angie Bock, county extension director, reported that even if adequate or surplus rain were to fall on pastures, it is going to take several years to regenerate—it takes grass longer to regenerate.

Temperatures and moisture for the last week follows:

Date	High	Low	Prec.
May 21	80	45	
May 22	82	46	
May 23	72	36	.29
May 24	45	35	
May 25	79	44	
May 26	87	48	
May 27	89	50	
May 28	88	55	

## BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY

To list your business drop us a card!  
Call 785-332-3162 today.

For all Your Insurance NEEDS  
**See Gary or Elsea Goff Agency**  
785-332-2898  
St. Francis, KS

**Melvin Dunn, Dentist**



Office Hours:  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Monday - Friday  
**785-332-2062**  
300 N. College

**Dr. D.F. Schnee**  
Optometrist  
601 E. Hwy. 24  
Goodland, KS 67735  
**785-899-5501**  
or 1-800-864-4612

**EASTERN COLORADO SEEDS, LLC**

FORAGE SPECIALS

- AT-A-GRAZE
- HY-GRAZER
- SWEET SUNNY SUE
- HONEY-SIOUX V
- HT 211 BMR
- HT 311 BMR PPS
- HT 110 BMR SORGHUM SILAGE

THE FORAGE SPECIALISTS  
BARENBRUG DISTRIBUTOR FOR THE HIGH PLAINS

OFFERING A FULL LINE OF IRRIGATED PASTURE MIXES TO FIT YOUR NEEDS


- PERNNIAL RYEGRASSES
- ORCHARD GRASSES
- BROME GRASSES
- ITALIAN RYEGRASS
- BERMUDA GRASSES

ALFALFA, CRP GRASS, BG CLOVERS, CORN, FORAGE OATS, GRAIN SORGHUMS, MILLETS, RYE, TURNIPS

CONTACT BROCK KETZNER  
HOME 719.348.5882 MOBILE 785.332.6454

**Dr. R.K. Driver**  
Optometrist  
110 W. 10th  
Goodland, KS 67735  
**785-899-3654**  
Closed Wed. afternoon and all day Sat.

**Unger Chiropractic Clinic**



**Ryan R. Unger, D.C.**  
Practice of Chiropractic, Nutrition & CPK

P.O. Box 1133  
120 N. Scott  
St. Francis, KS 67756  
(785)332-2186

Hours:  
Mon.: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Wed.: 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Fri.: 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

**Hot Brush** *Since 1974*

**SIGNS-LETTERING & PINSTRIPES**  
**Custom Vinyl & Painting**

Box 309  
BIRD CITY, KS 67731  
FAX 785-734-2459

**800-886-2423**

**Looking For Great Chiropractic Care?**  
Give Dr. Poling A Try!  
We're Located Right On Highway 36.

**Poling Chiropractic & Family Health Center**  
"The Healthy Choice"  
709 S. Benton • St. Francis, KS 67756  
(785) 332-3105

OFFICE HOURS:  
Mon.-Fri.: 8 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Saturdays by Appt. Made Prior

Brett T. Poling, D.C.  
Home: (785) 332-3188