



**'I LOVE YOU, SANTA!' T.J. Hopper had no problems talking to Santa and Mrs. Claus Friday evening and before he left, he gave Santa a big hug and ended up with two candy canes instead of the usual one. T.J. is the son of David and Sarah Hopper, Olathe.**  
*Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*

# Santa and Mrs. Claus to visit with children on Sundays

**By Karen Krien**  
Santa and Mrs. Claus will be in St. Francis again on Sunday afternoon and the next two Sunday afternoons just to listen to the many wishes of children. This Sunday, they will be at Stevens' Kansas Territorial from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Next Sunday, they will be at Krien's Pharmacy and on Dec. 22, they will be making their last stop of the year at Dee's Creations.

The St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce has several other promotions going on to make the Christmas season more jolly and joyful including the Lighting Contest, the Caroling Contest and, on Dec. 15, the Chamber will be sponsoring a chili feed, Santa and Mrs. Claus and a drawing for three

\$200 prizes in scrip and a 24-inch flat screen television.

On Dec. 15, the festivities will begin with many of the St. Francis businesses opening at 1 p.m. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be visiting with children on Main Street and will then go to Krien's Pharmacy at 1:30. At 3 p.m., they will go to the band shell in Sawhill Park.

The chili feed will start at 3 p.m. with a cup of the hot soup selling for only \$1. Starting at 3:30, choirs will begin singing in the Caroling Contest at various sites including the hospital and the Good Samaritan Village. The choirs will end up at the band shell where they will join voices to sing carols before and during the drawings. At this time, the scrip money and television will be drawn for

along with the grand prizes of the Christmas On Us promotion sponsored by 21 St. Francis and Bird City businesses.

The activities should be over in plenty of time for people to attend the church Christmas programs and spend the evening with their families.

Those businesses which will be open on Sundays during the holidays are: Cheyenne Pharmacy, Dee's Creations, Owens True-Value, Tasteful Treasures, Town and Country Clothing, Stevens' Kansas Territorial, Sainty Super Foods, Video Kingdom, Dusty Farmer Restaurant, Pizza Hut, Park Hill Restaurant, Windmill Restaurant and K-Store. Those businesses open only on Dec. 15 are Goodell Greenhouse and Floral, Krien Pharmacy and KM Clothier.

# Bioterrorism agreement signed

## Attack could affect livestock as well as humans

**By Karen Krien**  
Being prepared in the case of a bioterrorism attack was dealt with when the Cheyenne County Commissioners met on Nov. 29.

Susan Roelfs, county health nurse, brought the Northwest Kansas Bioterrorism Regional Agreement to be signed by the commission chairman. The agreement will bring \$10,000 to be used by the county for making plans for a bioterrorism attack. Cheyenne County is working with six other counties in northwest Kansas with the Norton County Health Department handling the funding for all the involved counties. Norton County will receive 3 percent of each county's funds in payment for handling the funding.

# Hospital board members needed

At the Nov. 29 meeting of the Cheyenne County Commissioners, they once again discussed the matter of filling two positions on the Hospital Board.

Leon Brethower, Bird City, and Kelly Gienger, St. Francis, will be coming to the end of their terms on the Cheyenne County Hospital Board at the end of December. Since the county commissioners make the appointments, those wishing to serve should make applications to the county clerk.

There was concern that if each county did not do its own handling of funds, they might not receive its share

Mr. Gienger has already said that he is not interested in serving another term, however, Mr. Brethower would like to serve another four years. Others indicating interest in serving on the board are Lavern Boll, Tracy Neitzel and Joy Anderegg. The commissioners will continue to accept names of interested people until Dec. 16 when they will make personal interviews.

The board members will take the position Jan. 1.

but Mrs. Roelfs did not think this would be a problem as there will be reports

**See SIGNED on Page 5A**

# One winner claims \$50 in scrip certificate

## Six new numbers printed in this week's Section B

There is another winner in the \$50 scrip giveaway sponsored by 21 St. Francis businesses in the Christmas On Us promotion.

Brenda Delano, St. Francis, claimed her prize on Monday and reported she was going to purchase Christmas gifts with the \$50 scrip. She said that the ticket came from Bier's Hometown Store where she had purchased a dishwasher. Last week, Becky McAtee, St. Francis, received \$50 in scrip.



**Delano**

This week, there will be six numbers listed in different ads sponsored by businesses participating in the Christmas On Us Promotion. These ads are found on 1, 2, and 3B of both *The St. Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times*.

Through Dec. 13, there will be a total of eight Christmas giveaway chances for \$50 scrip prizes. Those giveaway numbers unclaimed by the Dec. 13 will be given away at the Dec. 15 drawing held at 4:30 p.m. at the band shell in Sawhill Park.

Those holding winning numbers from this week's issues of *The St. Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times* will have until Monday to claim their prize. Those numbers published in the Dec. 12 issue of the newspapers will have until Dec. 13 to claim their prize.

Anyone over 18 years old may participate in the giveaway by shopping at any participating St. Francis and Bird City business. Customers will receive one red ticket for each \$10 they spend.

People can also get one free ticket each week from The Herald or Times offices. No purchase is necessary.

The numbers on tickets should be matched with the second half of the tickets kept by customers. If a number is claimed before the grand drawing, it will once again be thrown back in with the other tickets to be drawn for on Dec. 15. Be sure to bring in your half of the ticket when claiming the prize and after Monday, the number will not be any good and a new number will be drawn and published in the next week's issue of the newspaper.

At 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 15 in the band shell, the grand drawing will be held. Some lucky person will take home \$1,000 in scrip. Two other Christmas On Us drawings will be held with the second place winner receiving \$500 and the third place winner \$100.

This year, the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce has teamed up with

**See WINNER on Page 5A**

# Sainty wrestling tourney starts at 9:30 a.m. Saturday

**By Betty Jean Winston**

Takedowns, reversals, pins, it's that time of year again!

The annual St. Francis Invitational wrestling tournament starts at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday in the high school gym with teams from Atwood, Colby, Goodland, Holyoke, Colo., Quinter, Scott City, Sterling, Colo., St. Francis, Wichita County-Leoti and Wray, Colo., all vying for the first place trophy.

"It's always a fun way to begin the season," St. Francis head coach Larry Gabel said. "There are some high quality wrestlers attending."

St. Francis mat men always fight for the top medals, as they take this opportunity to preview their talents in front of hometown fans. Last year Sainty placed fourth.

"Expect us to be in the mix this year. St. Francis may surprise some people.

We have a young team but they are real competitors.

"The wrestling tradition in St. Francis is second to none in Kansas," Coach Gabel said.

Colby took home the first-place trophy last December with Goodland finishing second and Scott City third. The year before, Scott City came out on top. These are all 4A teams which have had wrestling success in the last few years and are expected to bring strong teams Saturday.

Returning St. Francis wrestlers who placed last year and are expected to lead the way are Dallas Walz, who placed third, and Kevin Brown and Travis Hilt, who each placed fourth. All are seniors and expected to wrestle tough this year.

"This is one of the toughest tournaments in Kansas," Coach Gabel said. "Even wrestlers who win state championships do not always win here."

Teams from four other Northwest Kansas League schools will be present (Atwood, Colby, Goodland and Quinter) and the Indians compete with wrestlers from these towns on more than one occasion during the season. St. Francis fans are very familiar with their top athletes.

Among those to watch is Jordan Bedore of Goodland, who was a 2001 state champion, and placed second in the nation in freestyle and third in Greco. He will be in the same weight class (215 pounds) as Dallas Walz and Jeff Horinek of Atwood. This will be an outstanding weight class.

Blayze Bahe of Goodland is another strong league wrestler as are Eric Luedke and Danny Mainus of Colby. Colby placed second in 4A at state last year with Goodland placing third.

St. Francis residents are not as familiar.

**See WRESTLING on Page 5A**



**DANCING IS GREAT! Mariah Beikman was enjoying every step getting ready for the program on Sunday.** *Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*

# Music club program set

The annual Yuletide Festival, sponsored by the St. Francis Music Club, will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday at the St. Francis High School auditorium.

Held each year, early in the season, it sets the Christmas spirit. Following the program, people will be able to stock up on their Christmas goodies

at the "Candy Store" where a variety of Christmas candies will be on sale.

The entertainment will include Dance Ranch students performances, piano selections by Juliette Sasek, Silver and String numbers and vocal solos by Talley Morrow.

# Temps cool for opening of season

The opening of the Christmas season in St. Francis was held Friday. The weather was cool but not cold and many people from the area as well as visiting family gathered under the bright lights of Main Street to shop the stores, attend the movie and talk to Santa.

Santa and Mrs. Claus were popular people with the younger set and there were many cameras flashing as the kids sat on Santa's knee at Owens True-Value. While the kids visited, parents had a chance to do a little shopping. Most of the businesses reported people shopping. Sunday afternoon also found numerous shoppers.

Kids started lining up at the Cheyenne Theater at 7 p.m. for the movie Santa Clause 2." The St. Francis banks had agreed to pay for the first 100 kids and 132 kids attend and, including older kids and adults, there were 246 people attending the Friday movie.

The Elf Train, engineered by fireman Rob Schiltz, gave rides the entire evening. This was a big hit.

Stores will be open each Sunday afternoon until Christmas and Santa and Mrs. Claus will be at various businesses. The Christmas festivities will be held Dec. 15. Check related article in this issue.





