

County attorney suggests changes for handbook

The county attorney Kevin Berens spent considerable time going over changes he had suggested for the county employee's handbook when the Cheyenne County Commissioners met on Monday. One of the items changed to clarify the policy concerned vacation days, when and how they could be taken and that they could not be carried over into the next year.

Attorney Berens had looked into the consolidated law enforcement requirements and had found that a board for the county-wide law enforcement would include the chair person, county attorney, the mayor of the largest city and two elected members at large. The commissioners agreed that there should be better representation from Bird City, the smaller city in the county.

Attorney Berens said that, in the case of consolidated law enforcement, "home rule" where commissioners can make changes in statutes, would not apply. The commissioners asked that the attorney get an opinion from the state attorney general to see if the requirements on this law enforcement board be changed. Otherwise, they did not see that consolidated law enforcement would work in Cheyenne County.

Emergency medical service
The clerk reported that Larry Gabel will teach the emergency medical technician class and will be contracted through Colby Community College. The county will pay the tuition for the students and the college will then reimburse the county. Commissioner Jane Brubaker asked about Rawlins County students attending the class and what the county should charge. The commissioners, after discussion, agreed that Rawlins County Commissioners should go through Colby Community College — that the Cheyenne County Commissioners had no say in the matter.

When Director Gabel had talked to Commissioner Tim Raile on Jan. 6, he had asked, that since he was agreeing to teach the class at no

charge to the county, that the commissioners consider allowing technician's meal charges to go over \$10 since sometimes an ambulance run could take the technician all day and he could miss two or three meals. He offered to pay the amount over the \$10 meal out of his own pocket. However, the commissioners decided that this could be an "accounting nightmare" and if the director chose to pay more for the meal, he could do this on his own — that the policy of a \$10 per meal policy would stand as written.

Emergency manager's report
Gary Rogers, emergency manager, reported that he had been approved to spend Mitigation Grant Funding for a printer which will cost between \$200 and \$300. Manager Rogers' request was okayed by the commissioners and he was told to purchase the printer for the best deal. The Mitigation Program Grant Agreement requests that the funding received should be placed in a non-interest bearing fund and, if possible, separate from other accounts. The clerk will discuss the matter with the auditor and the treasurer.

There was \$680 left in a Department of Justice Terrorism Response Equipment Grant that will need to be spent before Jan. 31. This year, the county will receive \$16,400 in grant funding. Manager Rogers reported that he is applying for a Cascade System for the Bird City Fire Department

Sheriff's report
Sheriff Eddie Dankenbring asked and received permission to go to a sheriff administration and management training the first part of February. Carol Gamblin, sheriff's office dispatcher, asked to attend a training conducted by the state highway patrol. The sheriff was asked to see if a similar training is offered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and, if so, that may be the training she should attend. The board was also informed that personal phone calls made by the undersheriff were reimbursed. Some of the vouchers from the sheriff's

department which were made before the first of the year were reviewed and okayed.

The sheriff invited the commissioners to attend the meth seminar to be held on Jan. 21 at the high school in St. Francis. He also said that he had applied for a grant to pay for meth awareness.

In other business
In other business:
• Commissioner Jane Brubaker was sworn in and will be serving her third term of four years. Commissioner Brubaker was also elected as the new board chair person.

• Eric Fiala, who had previously served as the county's representative on the Western Prairie Resource, Conservation and Development Board, reported that he had asked Elmer Kellner to serve, replacing him on the board and he had agreed.

• The commissioners agreed to pay one-half of the cost with the city of St. Francis for payment of each fireman attending a Farm Accident Extrication program. The total cost for each fireman is \$15.

• Two highway permits were signed by the commissioners for Gerald Feikert, St. Francis, to bury a water line and electrical wires on the county right-of-way. Road and bridge supervisor Dave Flemming reported that he was waiting to receive the contracts from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment concerning the three illegal dump sites in the county. The Gale and Mary Walz gravel pit agreements had been completed.

• Leadership Cheyenne County members were present for part of the meeting where they observed and asked some interesting questions.

• Dues of \$1,056 for the Kansas Association of Commissioners were approved. It was noted that the total was down from last year's dues.

Next meeting
The next meeting of the commissioners has been set for 8 a.m. on Jan. 31 in the commissioners' room in the courthouse in St. Francis.



NEW BUSINESS OPENS—Bill Hook shows Larry and Marlene Kramer some furniture in the Hook's Household Hut store.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Used household furniture business opens in St. Francis

By Karen Krien
Looking for used furniture? Hook's Household Hut at the corner of Jackson and Quinicy streets (the south side of Bandel Home Center) has opened under the ownership of Bill and Phyllis Hook and will be selling a wide variety of furniture and other household items.

They opened almost two weeks ago and Mr. Hook said he was surprised at how much furniture and household items have come and gone through the store.

"We knew there was a need for a used furniture store and we had looked into another location but when Eric and Leslie (Hook) decided to make some changes, we decided to use this area of the building," he said.

The Hook's will not be taking consignment furniture. It will be furniture that they have purchased and Mr. Hook said that if an item does not sell, it will go to the auction block. In fact, he said that people can come in every week and will see different items for sale.

Mr. Hook has conducted auctions for years and knows what people want and what they want to pay so is hoping to purchase items that will give his customers a better buy.

There are going to be some new and exciting things happening in the future on the corner of Jackson and Quinicy. Besides other businesses opening, there will be an auction held in the steel building at least once a month. The auction will be conducted by Hook's Auction but Bill said that the auction has nothing to do with the Household Hut.

Hook's Household Hut will be open weekdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. On Saturday, the hours are from 9 to 11 a.m. Those wanting more information may come in during business hours or people can call them at home at 785-332-2073 or at the shop, 785-332-3571.



Coyote calling contest has big turn out

By Karen Krien
The Midwest Coyote Calling event held Saturday and Sunday in St. Francis had one of the largest turnouts in the seven years it has been held. In fact, Brent Rueb, coordinator, reported that this event had more calling teams than the national and world events.

Mr. Rueb said that one of the reasons the St. Francis event draws more callers is the fact that it is closer and more centralized than the national and world competitions which are held in Wyoming and Arizona, respectively.

He also noted that while there is prize money awarded, this is not the card that brings the callers to St. Francis. Actually, it is more work for the callers as they need to contact landowners and get permission to come onto their land and, like the team from Tennessee had come several days earlier just to line up land to call on.

"These people love to call coyotes and would come if we were giving away crackerjacks," Mr. Rueb said.

Another reason people come is because there are two classes — a

Sportsman class and Midwest Calling Class. The sportsman class allows the novice callers and/or father and son teams to compete.

There were 150 callers making up 75 teams. The team traveling the most miles was from Tennessee and they had drove 1,100 miles just to reach St. Francis. The teams reported seeing 462 coyotes and 180 coyotes were killed.

There were 49 Midwest teams and 26 Sportsman teams participating. There were 11 midwest states represented.

A new award established this year in memory of Kirk Spears, the Coyote Caller of the Year award, went to the team of Olson of Minnesota, and Hoard from Missouri. Mr. Spears, who participated in last year's contest, died last year. He was an avid hunter and loved to call coyotes.

The final results of the event were:

Midwest Coyote Calling
First, Schmid-Schmid, Colorado Springs, with 13 coyotes; second, Baucke-Mekelburg, Wray, 10 coyotes; third, Carr-Seelhoff, Rangely, Colo./Burlington, nine coyotes;

fourth, Gazman-Kolman, Brush, Colo., eight coyotes; fifth, Neiblock-Neiblock, Phillipsburg/Brewster, seven coyotes; sixth, Cox-Cox, Colby/Weskan, seven coyotes; seventh, Jarrett-Gallego, Wray, seven coyotes; eighth, Barrell-Barrell, Parks, Benkelman, six coyotes; ninth, Meyer-Lewis, Bennett/Byers, Colo., six coyotes; 10th, Smull-Keller, St. Francis, six coyotes.

Sportsman Class
First, Long-Larson, St. Francis, six coyotes; second, Holste-Holste, Atwood, four coyotes; third, Jack-

son-Blake, Limon, Colo., three coyotes; fourth, Taylor-Taylor, Colby, three coyotes.

The largest coyotes were brought in by the teams of Jackson-Blake, 38.4 pounds; Brandt-Holmes, 36.6 pounds; Guzmann-Kolman, 35 pounds; Cox-Cox, 35.8 pounds.

Smallest coyotes: Miller-Kehoe, 13.8 pounds; Long-Larson, 16 pounds; Nordstrom-Nordstrom, 16.8 pounds; Schmid-Schmid, 18 pounds. The Midwest teams averaged 4.3 coyotes per team and the Sportsman teams averaged 1.9 coyotes per team.

nwkansas.com
INTERNET Access as low as \$14.92/month
➔ Tech help Available
➔ Hookup Same Day as Signup
The Saint Francis Herald
•P.O. Box 1050 • St. Francis • 785-332-3162

We're Two Lee's Steakhouse
Highway 36—McDonald, KS
Back!! Will be OPEN Fridays & Saturdays starting January 17
Thanks to all our customers for the patience & understanding during our recent illness.
HELP WANTED: Fridays & Saturdays, must be 21 years of age. Call 785-538-2256 (home) or 785-538-2404 (restaurant)

FREE Satellite TV System & Installation
dish NETWORK
You Buy a Dish301 system for \$149 or \$199 w/2nd receiver. You get 12 monthly equipment credits for \$12.50 or \$17. **FREE** Standard Professional Installation. Subscribe to America's Top 50 for one year for \$22.99/mo.
Call **1-866-SKY-EYES** or email **info@decisionweather.com**
Offer ends 1/31/03. For new, first-time DISH Network residential customers only. All prices, packages and programming subject to change without notice. Local and state sales taxes may apply. All DISH Network programming, and any other services that are provided, are subject to the terms and conditions of the Residential Customer Agreement, which is available upon request. Hardware and programming sold separately. Significant restrictions apply to DISH Network hardware and programming availability, and for all offers. See your DISH Network Retailer. DISH Network product literature or the DISH Network website at www.dishnetwork.com for complete details and restrictions. All service marks and trademarks belong to their respective owners. ©2002, EchoStar Communications Corporation. All rights reserved.

THANK YOU
A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped at the kids wrestling tournament on Saturday, Jan. 11. Every effort, however great or small, helped make the tournament run very smoothly. This was one of the largest kids tournaments in recent years and many nice comments have been heard about how well it was run. Thanks to all of you!
*Clay & Dana Keller
Dan & Rita Stephens*

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS
The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the St. Francis Sale Barn, Inc. will be held **Sat., Jan. 25 • 1 p.m.**
at the St. Francis Livestock Sale Barn Cafe
The Statement of Operations for 2002 will be read and directors will be elected.
Randy Rueb, president

FREE TRAVEL BOWL
No obligation of any sort. Hosted by the travel leader of Kansas with 125 years of combined experiences in arranging personal travels & group travels to all 7 continents, and upon all the oceans, of the world!
2:00 p.m. (MST) Sunday, January 19
Senior Citizen Center, 208 West 15th, Goodland
Everyone welcome. Bring your friends.
You will learn about the latest opportunities and best savings on:

- Personal Vacation Travels
- Special Group Departures
- FREE travel for you and/or your group

Refreshments ... Travel prizes ... 18-minute Alaska Video
Your RSVP is helpful! Everyone doing will receive \$10 travel certificate.
PLEASE GO AWAY™ VACATIONS
800-362-9347/pleasegoaway@cpics.net/www.pleasegoawaytravel.vacation.com

In Celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day we will be CLOSED Mon., Jan. 20
FIRST NATIONAL BANK
"Where The Employees Are The Owners"
Bird City • Colby • Goodland
Kirk, CO • Oberlin • Quinter
Sharon Springs • St. Francis
FDIC

AUDIBEL America's Best-Kept Hearing Secret:
You may not have heard of us, but millions of Americans hear better *because* of us.
CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE NO-OBLIGATION CONSULTATION IN YOUR HOME OR IN OUR OFFICE.
STEVENS HEARING CENTER
1218 East B Street • P.O. Box 806
McCook, NE 69001
Tel: (308)345-4836 • Toll free: (800) 371-4836
We Will Service All Makes And Models Of Hearing Instruments