

# Council establishes special fund

By Sandy Barnhart

The St. Francis City Council agreed to set up a special account for diversion fees when they met on Nov. 18. Attorney Mike Day explained that when criminal matters in municipal court end up with a diversion fee being granted, the fee is put into the city's General Fund. Attorney

Day suggested that instead of putting the fee into the General Fund, a special fund for the police department be established with the money being used for police equipment or training.

For instance, the money could be used for breathalyzer equipment. At this time a blood sample must be taken and then sent to the

Kansas Bureau of Investigation for testing. This not only takes four to six weeks but costs around \$400 for lab use.

A breathalyzer would not only eliminate this procedure but the hassle of taking the person to the hospital to be tested. The breathalyzer costs between \$3,000 and \$4,000 with a monthly maintenance cost.

The council approved setting up a special fund in which the diversion fee could be distributed. It was also noted that the charge for a diversion would not increase.

**Complaint**

Uriah Williams discussed an incident which had occurred at the Halloween Haunted House. Uriah explained that for two

weeks he had been attempting to press charges of battery against an individual and had talked to two of the officers and both county attorney and city attorney with no luck. He had come before the council requesting that the matter be allowed to come before a judge so that the judge could determine the

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## Holiday season opens Friday

By Karen Krien

A little snow and a lot of cold over the weekend helped put people in the mood for Christmas. The Chamber Christmas Committee reported around 15 commitments for entries in the St. Francis Light Parade which will start at 6 p.m., Nov. 28, and will travel down Main Street.

The Light Parade is new this year and entries are open to businesses, groups, organizations, families and individuals. The entries will be much more simple to make than those in the Fair Parade as what are needed are lights and a generator on a platform. However, it is obvious that some of those creating floats are putting a lot more into it so everyone, if they are not on one of the floats, is encouraged to come downtown and see the spectacular array of lights.

It is not necessary to enter prior to the parade but the committee is encouraging anyone planning to have a float or other entry to stop by either of the St. Francis banks and fill out a form so the announcers will have information. It also gives the committee a better idea of how many entries will be coming down the street.

Those entered in the parade are to line up at 5:30 p.m. at the high school on College Street.

Gloria Bracelin, Chamber secretary, asks that those not pre-entering to bring an entry form with them when they line up.

"We plan to have the parade started down Main Street when the whistle blows at 6 p.m.," said Mrs. Bracelin.

**Treasure Hunt**

The Chamber Christmas Committee has brought back the annual Treasure Hunt and numbers are in this week's issue of *The Saint Francis Herald*. Numbers will be displayed on the windows and doors of the 18 participating businesses and will be posted at 5 p.m. on Friday. People having matching numbers will receive a prize from that business where the number is found.



SANTA'S HUT has been decorated by his elves: Dara Carmichael and Dawn Lucas, (standing) and Brooke Lucas and Gloria Bracelin. (Right) Bonnie Zweygardt strings lights on a tree for the courthouse float. Also pictured is Marge Peter.

New Treasure Hunt numbers will be posted each week on Thursdays so don't throw the Treasure Hunt number away because, if the number has not been claimed, it could be the winning number sometime during the season.

**Santa**

On Friday, Santa will be at his hut located in the Midwest Energy building on Main Street where he will check out the Christmas wishes of children. The Chamber will be serving hot chocolate and popcorn and Santa will be handing out candy canes.

There will be room for parents to take pictures and people just wanting to watch the children or visit with friends and neighbors, while enjoying the popcorn and hot chocolate.

The St. Francis Volunteer Firemen will also have the Elf Train going for the evening after their trip through the parade. Children will

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## Magistrate judge resigns

By Karen Krien

The district magistrate judge of the 15th Judicial District has resigned.

The announcement came from Kansas Supreme Court of Kansas clerk of the Appellate Courts, Carol Green, who reported that an agreement had been met in the disciplinary proceedings involving Judge Tamara Zimbelman which halts any further proceedings by the Commission on Judicial Qualifications.

On Nov. 19, Judge Zimbelman agreed to resign her judicial position on Jan. 1 and she will not accept a position or serve as a judge at any time in the future. Judge Zimbelman will also submit a letter of apology to the residents of the 15th Judicial District.

The hearing had been set for Nov. 20 and 21 in Topeka after Judge Zimbelman had been found guilty of

intimidation of a witness in Cheyenne County District Court on March 21. Kay McFarland, chief Justice, Supreme Court of Kansas, reported on March 25, that Judge Zimbelman was prohibited from performing any judicial duties in the District Court and allowed to do only administrative assignments by the Chief Judge of the 15th Judicial District.

Nine counts, all pertaining to her conduct which violated the provisions of the Canon 1 and 2 rules of the Supreme Court were listed against Judge Zimbelman by an investigative panel.

Counts included the judge:

- Intimidating a witness.
- Making threats against Chris Merklin.
- Requested that a St. Francis Police officer meet her at the home of

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## 'Christmas On Us' promotion gives \$1,500 in scrip

By Karen Krien

In the Nov. 20 issue of *The Saint Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times*, 15 businesses were featured as those sponsoring the annual Christmas On Us promotion which will find 10 people taking home a total of \$1,500 in scrip money throughout the Christmas season.

There will be two numbers in two different ads on the Christmas On Us pages located on 1, 2 and 3B of this issue. The numbers, which are drawn, are taken from tickets collected in the participating Christmas On Us businesses. Everyone with a ticket should compare their ticket numbers with those in the newspa-

per. There will be different numbers listed each week.

Those finding a matching number should bring their ticket into The Saint Francis Herald office by 5 p.m. on the following Monday to claim \$50 in scrip. Those ticket numbers not being claimed will be listed with two more numbers the next week's issue. A total of \$400 in scrip will be given away to those holding the numbers which match those printed in the newspapers.

The grand prize Christmas On Us giveaway will be combined with the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce's giveaway on the after-

See \$1,500 on Page 8A

## Board discusses construction stages

By Karen Krien

Progress can be seen daily on the hospital construction in St. Francis. During the Thursday night meeting, the Cheyenne County Hospital Board members discussed the progress and problems, pay applications, parking and stages planned for construction.

The construction stages included:

- Stage I which includes the new addition should be completed by February.
- Stage II will find the construction crew working in the east part of the hospital where the staff will be shifting rooms to different areas of the hospital and clinic to make room for the crew to start tearing out walls

to make room for the new lab and X-ray department. At that time, the main entrance to the hospital will be moved to the southwest part of the hospital.

Administrator Les Lacy pointed out that having the new parallel parking space ready at the west end of the hospital needed to be done before the entrance is moved. He said the city superintendent had already approved the project but the board was concerned about cold weather stopping the progress.

The board discussed having additional parallel parking on the east end of the hospital but, until they were sure there were sufficient

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## Northwest Kansas suffers cold temps

It snowed Saturday night but not enough.

Kathy Woodcox, St. Francis weather observer, reported 1.5 inches snow and only a trace of moisture over the weekend.

However, the wind did blow — It blew a lot! Richard Grace at Grace Flying Service, St. Francis, reported a steady 34 mile per hour wind with gusts to about 40 miles per hour. Consequently, much of the snow, what little there was, ended up in the ditches.

It was also cold — extreme cold.

The weather observer said it was 7 degrees on Saturday and 2 degrees on Sunday. But, with the winds, wind chills fell well into the double digits below freezing. The wind chills were registered at -13 degrees.

The extreme cold came after a week of temperatures which ranged 73 to 75 degrees. People were wearing only jackets but that changed in a hurry.

Decision Weather reports the temperatures are forecast to be around 50 degrees and lows

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## Students gather clothing

By Karen Krien

Each year, Steve and Connie Jenkins take coats, hats and gloves to the Urban Peak shelter in Denver where homeless teens come in off the streets to get warm. In October, Mrs. Jenkins lets county residents know that she is collecting warm clothing for these kids and there is always a generous outpouring of warm coats, hats and gloves left on her front porch.

The Jenkins delivered the coats several weeks ago and, in talking to the kids in the shelter, they discovered there was also a great need for clothing such as jeans, shirts, dresses, blouses and shoes.

Mr. Jenkins, who is an American History and psychology teacher at the high school, mentioned the homeless kids' plight to his students. As the students talked, they



SAINTY STUDENTS gathered clothes to send to homeless kids in Denver.

Herald staff photo by Betty Jean Winston

mentioned that there are surely other clothing needs.

"What if they wanted to go to church, they might need dress clothing." "Maybe they need something

to wear for a job interview." The discussion just continued to grow with what these kids might need.

Within days, there were 20 boxes of teenage clothing. On Monday,

other kids told Mr. Jenkins they also had clothing they were bringing so there will more than 20 boxes.

"I had clothes that weren't ben-

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# Business sells bird seed

By Casey McCormick

When most folks think about the businesses of Bird City the first that come to mind are the more established ones that have been there for years and are tied to agriculture. But they might be surprised to know about Bird City Bird Seed.

Established in March of 2001 this small operation manufactures unique bird seed ornaments and gourmet packaged seed. It combines the name of the "only Bird City in America" with a product that is a natural fit. Bird City Bird Seed is now being sold in each of the United States except Hawaii, for now.

The company is privately owned and operated by Bird City residents Tabetha and Noel Ketzner. It provides employment for ten part time workers.

"The idea (for starting the business) was for something for the community as well as ourselves," said Mrs. Ketzner.

The raw bird seed the company uses is sent to Yuma, Colo. where it is cleaned. It then comes to Bird City to the production facility on Bird Ave. There it is mixed into special designs that Mrs. Ketzner has developed. The seed is either packaged as loose seed, to be put into bird feeders, or molded in forms. The formed seed is made



**BIRD CITY BIRD SEED employees 10 people and distributes seed to almost every state in the nation. Pictured (l to r): Tabetha Ketzner, owner of the business, and Michelle Schneider.**

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

into different shapes: wreaths, stars, hearts, etc.

The finished products are then tied, packaged and boxed up to be shipped either by U.P.S. or put on pallets to be shipped by freight. The colorful ornaments and packaged bird seed is also available for sale at the production facility.

Before starting her business Mrs. Ketzner did her homework. She studied birds and the industry of bird feed-

ing. "Bird feeding is the second largest hobby in the United States," said Mrs. Ketzner, "which is only behind gardening." Her research leads her to believe that the favorite seed of North American birds in this region is the black, oil sunflowers. "They really love it," she said.

Bird City Bird Seed tries to purchase as much of the seed the company needs from area farmers. Sunflower, millet and red and white proso

are easily found here in northwest Kansas.

As well as supporting the area farmers the company hopes to continue growing and providing additional jobs in Bird City. "We saw an increase of 300 percent from last year in sales," said Mrs. Ketzner. Bird City Bird Seed's goal is to be twice as big by next year with 15 to 20 employees. And it's likely you will be able to buy it in Hawaii.

## FUND

Continued from Page 1A

charges. Attorney Day explained that after examining the various statements from the witnesses to the incident at the Haunted House, he, along with the police and county attorney, did not feel there was substantial evidence to support Uriah's complaint.

### Superintendent's report

Superintendent J.R. Landenberger said that Alltel was now interested in a full cell site at the water tower. The project would involve some concrete and he would have more of the details at a later date.

After some discussion as to setting up a committee for the swimming pool, the council asked Attorney Day to check into some of the criteria that would be required.

### Building permits

Building permits were approved

for the following resident: Robert Doggett, pour concrete slab.

### Other business

In other business:

- The council approved to increase the amount of scrip money to be given to the employees for Christmas.

- The council set the date of Nov. 24 to have the designated code chapters proofed and back to Attorney Day so that a meeting to review the chapters could be established. The council hopes the city codes can be approved before the first of the year.

- Superintendent Landenberger, council woman Natalie Knodel and councilman Rodney Bracelin will form the Health Insurance Committee.

- Councilman Roger Jensen will be looking into different plaques to display the Duncan family names at the Roadside Park. The family has do-

nated picnic tables for the park.

- The council approved to give Western Prairie Resource Conservation and Development the same amount as last year, \$25.

### Executive session

Attorney Day requested 2 minutes in executive session for legal matters. The superintendent asked for executive session for personnel.

## OPENING

Continued from Page 1A

have a chance to ride up and down Main Street with the pick up and drop off point being at Santa's Hut.

### Soup supper

The senior citizens will be hosting a soup supper at the senior center at Washington and River streets. They will be serving from 5 to 7 p.m. and the menu includes chili soup, cheesy potato soup and cinnamon rolls.

### More holiday activities

Other Chamber activities throughout the season will include:

- The Treasure Hunt with new numbers posted each Thursday evening and businesses encouraged to stay open a little later.

- Santa will be visiting with kids on Dec. 4 at Super Foods; Dec. 11 at Video Kingdom; Dec. 18 at Owens

True Value.

- The annual Lighting Contest will be held with \$150 in scrip money given to the winners.

- A big celebration on Dec. 21 at Sawhill Park where the Chamber will join the annual Christmas On Us giveaway by giving away \$300 in scrip (must be present to win). A caroling contest will be held, cups of chili will be sold, Santa will be present and there will be singing and lots of Christmas spirit in the band shell.

## CLOTHING

Continued from Page 1A

efiting me any more and I was glad to help out," said student Megan Ford.

"The clothing they brought was nice stuff," Mr. Jenkins said. "The kids brought the clothes on their own — there was no incentive to bring them in."

"I just wanted to help out the kids in need and I plan to do it every chance I get," said Jesse Schield, a senior.

"I was really proud of the kids," Mr. Jenkins said.

The clothes were sorted, neatly folded and bagged by sizes. And, since they were clothes worn by these students, they are styles that kids wear today.

Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins along with Jesse will be making trip with the clothes to the Urban Peak shelter this weekend.

## RESIGNS

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a couple she thought had stolen her purse.

- Told a St. Francis police officer that she was sending someone to scare the couple previously questioned.

- Denied, during an investigation by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, the St. Francis Police Officers statement about scaring the couple.

- Wrote a letter to Agent Butler with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation stating she had been intimidated by him and a Mr. Atteberry into making false statements.

- Wrote a letter to the St. Francis Police Chief and an officer threatening them with contempt of court if they failed to inform her about al-

leged criminal action against a member of her family.

- Called the sheriff and his wife to the home of a minor who had been "patted down" by the sheriff's wife.

- Appeared at the site where her husband had been stopped by law enforcement officers who discovered probable controlled substance present in the Zimbelman pickup. When the judge attempted to get into the pickup, she was told to stay out because it was being impounded and she proceeded to curse the officers.

With the resignation from office and when the judge has fulfilled the stipulations of the agreement, the Commission on Judicial Qualifications will halt further proceedings against Judge Zimbelman.

## COLD

Continued from Page 1A

throughout the week into the weekend should be in the 20s. As of Monday, there might be a chance of snow at the start of next week.

Temps for the last six days are:

Date	High	Low	Prec.
Nov. 18	73	32	
Nov. 19	74	34	
Nov. 20	75	22	
Nov. 21	43	10	
Nov. 22	25	7	T
Nov. 23	27	2	

# Residents, staff host craft show

The St. Francis Good Samaritan Village staff and residents will host their annual holiday craft show from 9 to 11:30 a.m. on Dec. 6 in the "great room" located at the east end of the building.

Cathy Loop, coordinator for the event, reported that there will be a variety of wood and tin crafts including snowmen, angels and gingerbread men. There will also be baked items for sale.

"Just a little bit for everyone,"

Mrs. Loop said.

Each year, the proceeds from the craft show buys some needed item at the facility. This year will be no different but they have not decided what it will be.

"Everyone is urged to stop by and see what crafts and food items we have and, while you are there, stop by to visit some of your old friends and neighbors who are now residents at the Village," Mrs. Loop said.

## STAGES

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funds available, they were not going to plan this parking area.

The oxygen storage unit which will be placed in the northeast area of the hospital campus came in well under the \$10,000 budget. The weather had remained warm enough to complete this project.

The architect had recommended that the board consider remote diagnostic equipment be installed on the new cooling system — that the equipment could save money as a technician will not need to travel to St. Francis to see what a problem is. The equipment will cost an additional \$2,800. Robert VanAllen, board member, thought that the diagnostic equipment should be further investigated before making a decision. There were three questions that they asked the administrator to find the answers to: 1) could the equipment be put in later? 2) were there on-going charges? and 3) were there others in the area who could service the cooling system?

At the construction meeting held prior to the board meeting, several of the board members had detected there might be some building problems so went into executive session with the reason being stated as "Contract." No decisions were made when they came out but some of the board members agreed to try to be present at the next construction meeting which will be held at 8 a.m. on Dec. 18. Traci Neitzel, board member, suggested that the next pay application have more de-

tail and the breakdown of costs.

President Rueben Schultz was concerned that the pay application was over the original bill on the new part. The board and administrator went over the bill which included materials already purchased and stored. The administrator noted that the architect had signed off on the pay application which meant he had approved. The pay application for \$209,320.20 was reluctantly approved.

### Administrator's report

Administrator Lacy reported that those staying in the hospital had been up as well as those seeing outpatient doctors.

"We hate to see people sick but we are glad the hospital is here to take care of them," the administrator said.

Administrator Lacy also reported:

- He and Dr. Mary Beth Miller had met with the county commissioners to discuss the possibility of the hospital doing the billing for the ambulance service at a cost of \$6 per run and a one-time training fee of \$1,000.

- The Community Service Project is just short \$15,860 of reaching the goal of \$300,000. He is confident the goal will be met, especially since a contact person is willing to fill the commitment.

- The hospital staff has made application for a Bioterrorism Preparedness Grant of \$25,000. The grant will help the medical staff be prepared for a variety of natural disaster situations as well as purchasing computer equipment and erecting a decontamination shower behind the hospital and protective clothing.

## \$1,500

Continued from Page 1A

noon of Dec. 21 in Sawhill Park. At that time, one lucky person will receive the grand prize of \$1,000 in scrip; another will receive \$100; and any of the \$50 weekly scrip prizes which have not been claimed will also be given away along with the Chamber's drawings of \$300 to three people.

A ticket will be given for each \$10 purchased in participating businesses. However, it is not necessary to make a purchase to claim a ticket. Each week, those coming to *The St. Francis Herald* office or the Chamber office may receive one ticket.

Each week, participating merchants will be advertising sales and specials in the ads on the Christmas On Us pages so while people are look-

ing for matching numbers, be sure to take a good look at the specials.

Participating businesses where tickets will be given away are:

- Bankwest
- Bier's Hometown Store
- Cheyenne Bowl and Dairy King
- Cheyenne Pharmacy Plus
- Goodell Greenhouse and Floral
- Tim Poling DDS
- Owens True Value
- Parkhill Restaurant
- P&L Ideal Meat Market
- Saintry Super Foods
- Schultz's
- St. Francis Equity
- Saint Francis Herald
- Tri-State Lumber & Tubing

The contest will end on Dec. 19 and the grand prize drawing will be held Sunday, Dec. 21.

## Herald Happenings:

### Christmas Tab

This supplement will be filled with Christmas Cheer: Letters to Santa, Recipes and Memories. The advertising is reserved for well wishes!



### Winter Sports Tab

This supplement will feature St. Francis and Bird City Jr. High and High School Basketball players, Wrestlers and Cheerleaders!

## The Saint Francis Herald

P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756

• 785-332-3162

— and —

### Bird City Times

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785-734-2659

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2003 TAX LEVIES FOR CHEYENNE COUNTY, KANSAS USED TO FUND THE 2004 BUDGETS

Prepared by Cheyenne County Clerk  
Taxable Valuation of Cheyenne County is \$35,951,970  
(Levies shown are taxes per \$1,000.00 valuation)

Comparison of 2002 and 2003 levies and valuations:				
	2002 Valuation	2002 Levy	2003 Valuation	2003 Levy
State	\$36,234,780	1.500	\$35,951,970	1.500
County	\$36,234,780		\$35,951,970	
General		17.917		25.060
Road & Bridge		10.136		12.669
Bridge Building		2.046		0.062
Noxious Weed		0.641		0.349
Hospital		8.138		6.347
Bond & Interest		8.884		7.457
Total		47.762		51.944

2002 Valuations (Dollars)	Levy	2003 Valuation	Levy
Bird City	2,113,537	32,721	-3,150
St. Francis	6,822,704	26,713	2,108
USD 103	18,454,620	33,187	2,108
USD 297	24,412,528	33,580	0.572
Cemetery Dist 1	12,452,113	0.793	0.022
Cemetery Dist 2	23,782,757	1.002	-0.004
Rural Fire 1	26,163,094	1.532	0.998
Rural Fire 3	1,139,533	1.561	0.031
NWKS Library	27,298,629	0.846	0.965

Levies of Taxing Units			
State Levies	K.S.A.	Levy	City of Bird City
KS Ed. Bldg.	76-6b01	0.600	79-1953
State Institutions	76-6b04	0.300	79-5032
State General	12-1678a	0.600	
Total		1.500	29.571

City of Bird City			
General	K.S.A.	Levy	City of St. Francis
General	79-5032	27.237	79-5032
Library	79-5032	2.334	79-5032
Total		29.571	25.356

City of St. Francis			
General	K.S.A.	Levy	Library
General	79-5032	25.356	79-5032
Library	79-5032	3.465	79-5032
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Library	79-5032	3.465	79-5032
Total		28.821	

USD 297			
Supp. General	K.S.A.	Levy	Supp. General
Supp. General	72-6435	9.152	72-6435
General	72-6431	20.000	72-6431
Recreation	12-1927	1.000	12-1927
Capital Outlay	72-880		