

Sheriff meets with county commission

By Karen Krien

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Troy Gardner, Cheyenne County Sheriff, told the commissioners Monday that he had received a lot of complaints that city police cars have been out of the county. He said he has used the city vehicles to transport prisoners to and from Goodland and the county pays for the gas.

He had talked to the county's insurance company who said the sheriff's vehicles and occupants would be covered even if it was being driven by a city police officer.

The sheriff called for 12 minutes executive session to discuss personnel. After 12 minutes, the commissioners came out of session and asked for another 10 minutes.

When coming out, the sheriff said that, pending background and other checks along with approval from the Bird City City Council, Cody Beeson would be hired as the deputy and will cover the Bird City area.

Sheriff Gardner said he and Carol Gamblin, who will be the supervisor of the new 911 facility, had been looking into additional grants to cut expenses when the new system goes in. However, the sheriff will not know if

they have the grant funds until the first of January. So the office will not be short of funds, the sheriff advised that the commissioners have built the full amount of expenses into the 2008 budget.

The commissioners had approved the old sheriff's office in the courthouse to be used as the new 911 dispatcher office. However, carpet is needed. He proposed taking the money from the Capital Outlay Fund and get the carpet laid before the equipment came in.

Both commissioners Andy Beikman and Ernie Ketzner had been informed that the hospital in St. Francis has an area that could be used for the 911 dispatch. The hospital has a back-up generator in case there is a disaster. The center would be completely secured which is necessary.

The sheriff said the state of Kansas is pushing law offices to go to a 800 megahertz radio frequency that will be used in the surrounding northwest Kansas counties. He said county officials have fought against it because of the cost. A grant has been obtained to cover some of the costs but it will cost each county \$500 for licensing.

Farmers need to protect crop history

Farmers should notify the Farm Service Agency of any destruction of crops that may have been affected by the low temperatures and the crop can not be re-planted.

A Form FSA-576 must be completed to maintain history for crops that will be destroyed for other than the primary intended use.

Producers who have already re-

ported planted crops such as wheat, and intend to destroy the crop, need to report to the agency the number of acres that will be destroyed prior to May 31.

Producers who have crop insurance and have already notified their crop insurance agent of any loss will still need to contact the agency to ensure planting history is protected.

Awana's year end fun day

The McDonald Federated Church closed their Awana Club year with an awards program Sunday evening April 29.

Family and friends honored the club members' work with the presentation of awards followed by games and dinner. The Awana Club is directed by Dixie Louderbaugh and has activities for kids from Preschool through Junior High. Club members through all grade levels earned awards.

Marlene Johnson, leader of the preschool Cubbies Club presented Suzanna Coon with her first book award.

The Sparks Club, for first and second grades, is led by Betty Knapp. Betty is assisted by Ruth Coon, Dawn Petty, Joan Tongish, LaVina Waters, and Betty Lewis. Clubbers earning the First Book Skipper Award were Michael Mirto, Jacob Serrano, Leigh Brown, James Coon, Christina Frink, Danielle Frink, and Haleigh Rucker. Clubbers earning the Second Book Hiker Award were Alex Hazuka, Rachel Keltz, and C.J. Antholz. Destiny Clemens was given an award for Participation.

The Truth and Training Club is for Third through Fifth Grade and is led by Margie Hubbard, Jeri Antholz, Betty Coon, Greg Moyer, Gilbert Antholz, Peter Coon, and Jerry Knapp. Reece Leonard and Mark Coon earned the First Book Award, Conner Hazuka earned the Second Book

Award, and Joy Coon and Shayla Hubbard earned the Third Book Award. Ty Carmichael, Cheyenne Hewitt, Alexis Frink, Colleen Montevilla were given awards for Participation.

Hannah Coon completed both the First and Second Book in the Junior Varsity Club and earned the coveted Timothy Award for completing four books in the Awana program.

Parents were encouraged to join Clubbers as they sang songs from the club year and played Bible Jeop-



Alexandra Hazuka holds "Rosie" a tarantula at the Butterfly Pavilion during her field trip. Photo courtesy of Tammi Carmichael

K-4 students take trip to study nature

By Melinda Basnett

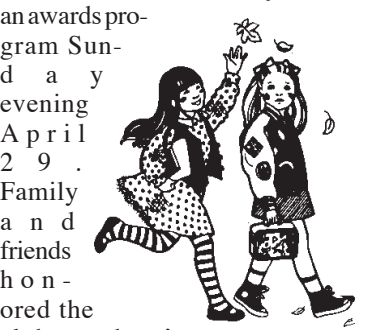
Last Thursday 36 students and 42 parents and teachers from the Cheylin kindergarten through fourth grade en-

joyed a wonderful spring trip to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science and the Butterfly Pavilion. They were able to explore dinosaur fossils, as well as

learn about Tarantulas, Madagascar Cockroaches, butterflies, and many other wonders of nature.

This trip to Denver is one of

the favorite field trips students take at the elementary level. Teacher Tammi Carmichael arranges the trip each year.



Awana's Club members, Ty Carmichael, Joy Coon and Jacob Serrano race their chariots during the celebration on Sunday evening.

Times photo by George Louderbaugh

ardly. Devotions for the year centered on books of the Old Testament and Jeopardy questions were drawn from the year's devotionals.

Following the awards presentation, the clubbers competed in Chariot racing on the field behind the firehouse and visited several game booths. The colorful chariots were made by George Louderbaugh and were used by clubbers for more leisurely strolls following the races. Throughout the evening everyone worked hard to stay out of "jail". If

anyone was jailed, they had to answer a Bible quiz question to get out. Clubbers got to visit with a baby calf brought in by Dave Hubbard or a llama brought in by Lindon Montgomery. Clubbers also got a chance to ride a horse or enjoy a pony ride courtesy of Hal and Becky Antholz. Everyone enjoyed a delicious cook-out and pot luck dinner following the games. The Clubbers got to taste several traditional Jewish foods prepared by Club leaders.

This is the 28th year for the Awana

Club at the McDonald Federated Church. The club name "Awana" is taken from II Timothy 2:15 and stands for Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed. Pastor Greg Moyer had high praise for all the adults who worked so hard throughout the year enabling the club to run, the parents who allowed their children to participate each week, and all the kids who worked diligently all year long. Pastor Moyer described them all as a good example of "approved workmen".

Relay plans in progress

As summer approaches, plans are being made for the 2007 Cancer Relay for Life. The Relay will be held on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 18 and 19, at Sawhill Park, St. Francis.

"The local committee is excited to plan this year's event," said Betty Loudon, local committee member. "We hope to break all our records for participation and donations."

Last year, the county ranked first in the state for per capita survivor participation and third in per capita income in the state of Kansas.

"This is a remarkable feat and one that we want to strive to and to beat this year," Mrs. Loudon said.

Several teams for the relay have already signed up but more teams are needed. Those planning to have a team need to contact Penny Krien, 785-332-2173 or Jenny Busse at 785-332-3251, team co-chairmen. They will give information and packets to start the team activities. The teams will be out all over the county selling luminarias.

A luminaria is a candle lit in a paper bag of sand, placed around Sawhill Park, burning all night. It honors either a friend or relative who has survived cancer or have died because of the disease.

"If you have not been contacted personally but want to purchase a luminaria, contact Sherry Schultz at 785-332-2860 or Keely Loyd, 785-332-2438," Mrs. Loudon said.

Suzie Walz is in charge of the Survivors Ceremony and invites anyone who has participated in the past and those who have never celebrated survivorship to call her at 785-332-2968.

"Start making your plans to support and participate in this year's Relay," Betty Petersen, corporate chairman said.

The second annual auction will once again be held in the band shell.