



Winning poster picked

Mayor Troy Burrs picked the winning drawing for the "National Dog Bite Prevention Week" stamp design contest. Alexandra Hazuka won with the picture "Sitting Dog." She won an ice cream sundae coupon from the Heritage Corner Café. Joseph Augusta, Susanna Coon, Mark Coon and James Coon each received a coupon for an ice cream cone from the Heritage Corner Café for their entry.



TROY BURR picks the winner of the drawing. The drawings are on display in the Post Office lobby.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

Emergency medical technicians needed

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkansas.com

The county needs emergency medical technicians. On Thursday, the Cheyenne County Commissioners agreed to have the emergency medical service director set up a class.

Director Jannelle Bowers said some of the technicians are out of town, others are working farmers in the field and, then there is one who is leaving town.

Mike Hansen, technician, had completed his classes and would be able to teach a first responder class. She said a first responder can do almost everything that an emergency medical technician can but it takes only 90 hours of training, compared to 220 hours for a technician.

She had been talking to different people and, at the time of the meeting, had four people who were seriously considering taking the class. The cost of the class was not known at the time.

The commissioners asked that Mrs. Bowers figure the cost of paying the technicians when they were on call. At least, then they would know what the cost would be when figuring the budget.

Mrs. Bowers said that one of the ambulances was caught in a terrible hail storm between Park and Quinter. The windshield will need to be replaced and there is quite a bit of hail damage to the vehicle. If the ambulance is down for any length of time, an ambulance from Bird City will be brought over to St. Francis.

Shelves are needed for the ambulance department in the new St. Francis Emergency Building. The commissioners asked her to buy the shelves locally and to consider the cost.

911 Dispatch report

Carol Gamblin, dispatch director, told the commissioners about a recent 911 Dispatch Board meeting. She said the county attorney had written a letter to the commissioners on Jan. 29, asking that the city police have their phone system turn over into the dispatch. So far, the city hasn't complied, she said. She noted that now all calls to the sheriff's office will go over the dispatch to the sheriff's office.

Mrs. Gamblin was allowed to go to sex offender registration training in Garden City.

Road and bridge department report

Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, said the crew will be chip sealing the St. Francis Cemetery road on June 9. He said he had sold the mower at auction for \$2,500. He had bought a bucket for the excavator for \$250. He also purchased a 1998 Chevy pickup for \$900 (as is) through the internet.

The crew had put in a Living Fence at the Terry Culwell place. He also talked about county bridges which need repair.

Auditor's report

Auditor Jack Eldridge talked about the changes in accounting. He explained that there are things that the commissioners can do

to make the financial statements their's, not necessarily the statements made by the auditors. He pointed out that commissioners need to be able to look at the statements and know what is there and what is supposed to be there.

"The county, as a whole, needs to have this expertise," he said.

He had taken a check list and modified it so the commissioners can use it to compare the statements.

The auditors, he said, should not be auditing something they created.

In other business

In other business:

- Attorney Barrett presented two scholarships for \$1,000 each to Taylor Leibbrandt and Katlin Marin. The scholarships were made available through the Diversion Fund.

- Attorney Barrett was given permission to attend a spring conference in Wichita.

- Sheriff Craig Van Allen said he had tentatively hired a new officer to replace the one who recently resigned. The commissioners asked that all officers hired sign an agreement to serve a certain amount of time or pay back the expense of their training as it is expensive. They estimated that the training cost is around \$15,000.

- Danny Schlittenhardt, noxious weed and prairie dog manager, had his report of work since the prairie dog season is over. He was approved to go to a summer training in Hiawatha. The train-

ing qualifies him for recertification hours.

- Dick Bursch, fair board president, wanted to know where the deed was for some fairground land. The county attorney will be working on it.

- Virginia Cooper was approved as a part-time employment as she had worked in the appraiser's office when the other staff had meetings.

Executive sessions

Throughout the commissioners meeting, three executive sessions were called to discuss personnel and, after coming out of session, no decisions were made.

The commissioners called executive session with Attorney Barrett for 15 minutes. Fifteen minutes executive session was called with Kathy Graf, former secretary in the appraiser's office. Ernie Ketzner, commissioner, called for 10 minutes executive session with the other commissioners and Mrs. Gamblin to discuss personnel.

Vouchers reviewed and approved

Vouchers reviewed by the commissioners and approved were: 16604, \$552 paid to Yost Ford Mercury for ambulance maintenance; 16609, \$83 paid to Dundy County Hospital for a blood draw; 16616, \$60 paid to Ken Johnson for computer services; 16617, \$621 to Gary Rogers for mileage (\$486) and chairs (\$135); 16631, \$896 paid to St. Francis Equity for chemicals and supplies; 16634, \$27 paid to Dan Schlittenhardt for tractor rental; 16638, \$2,182 paid to Blackwolf Brokerage for hauling concrete rock; 16639, \$1,135 paid to LG Everist for crushed gravel.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the commissioners has been set for 8 a.m. on Monday, June 16, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

Acreage available for hay and forage

The Department of Agriculture has authorized certain acreage enrolled under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) to be available for hay and forage after the primary nesting season ends for grass-nesting birds, according to Ed Schafer, Agriculture Secretary.

"This action will provide much needed feed and forage while maintaining the conservation benefits from the nation's premier conservation program," said Mr. Schafer. "Eligible farmers and ranchers will be able to plan for harvest of forage after the end of the primary nesting season this summer."

Prices for most field crops have advanced to record or near record levels in recent months, reflecting strong demand, tight supplies and competition for acres. The increased demand for commodities and resulting higher prices has impacted the livestock industry in particular.

More than 24 million acres of land enrolled in the conservation will be eligible for this critical feed use program. The department estimates that this program will make available up to 18 million tons of forage worth \$1.2 billion.

"In authorizing this critical use of reserve program acres for forage, the department is also taking strong measures to preserve Conservation Reserve Program's environmental benefits," said Mr. Schafer.

Eligible land may not be hayed or grazed until after the end of the primary nesting season. Also, some of the eligible land or for-

age of the land must be reserved for wildlife and any land that is used under this authority must have a conservation plan. In many instances, the removal of some of the grass cover will increase the diversity of the stand and provide long-term benefits for wildlife. Further, the most environmentally-sensitive land enrolled in the program will not be eligible.

The land will be subject to a site inspection to ensure compliance with the conservation plan. No rental payment reduction will be assessed on contracts being utilized for this critical use. However, a \$75 fee will be charged to process this contract modification. Signup for interested participants will begin June 2, at local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices. This modification for critical feed use is only for 2008. All forage use must be completed no later than Nov. 10.

Under Conservation Reserve Program, farmers and ranchers enroll eligible land in 10- to 15-year contracts with the department's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). Farm Service Agency administers the program on behalf of Commodity Credit Corporation. Participants plant appropriate cover such as grasses and trees in crop fields and along streams. These plantings help prevent soil and nutrients from running into regional waterways and affecting water quality. The long-term vegetative cover also improves wildlife habitat and soil quality.

Cut-off is announced for program incentives

The Kansas Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced Friday, June 20, as the cutoff date for the final Fiscal Year 2008 signup for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) including Ground and Surface Water Conservation (GSWC) and Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP).

Funding decisions will be made by July 11.

Limited Resource

Beginning Farmers and Ranchers

"The Environmental Quality Incentives Program is available to help address the unique circumstances and concerns of limited resource and beginning farmers and ranchers, who have natural resource concerns that need to be addressed on their land," said Thomas A. Perrin, acting state conservationist.

"In Kansas limited resource and beginning farmers and ranchers may receive a higher payment rate through this program for structural and vegetative practices."

Apply at local office
Agricultural producers interested in participating in the program including Ground and Surface

Water Conservation and Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program can apply at any time at their U.S. Department of Agriculture Service Center at their local Natural Resources office or conservation district office. Phone numbers are listed in the telephone book under United States Government or on the internet at offices.usda.gov. Information about the programs is available on the Web site at www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov/programs and scrolling to the specific program.

Fun Facts

- The first holes-in-one scored by both a father and son in the same game of golf were shot by Charles H. Calhoun Sr. and Jr. on August 24, 1932.

- Prior to Cornelius Vanderbilt's donation of \$1 million in 1873 Vanderbilt University was known as Central University.

- During her lifetime, the novelist Jane Austen had difficulty finding a publisher. As a result, two of her works - Northanger Abbey and Persuasion were not published until after her death.

Club meets for lunch at steakhouse

Bird City/McDonald Red Hatters enthusiastically entered the dining room at Two Lee's Steakhouse south of the track in McDonald May 14, to enjoy Sandy's famous fried chicken lunch.

Favors were a cleverly deco-

rated cookie/cake to form a Mother's Day hat, compliments of our queen, Phyllis Wingfield. Phyllis read a humorous story of a 10 year old getting an "A" in math after being presented with scare tactics.

After lunch, the group gathered at Albert Antholz's metal art studio. The disc blades became extraordinary creations of art. Some displayed a "3-D" effect with the use of sickle sections.

Another of Albert's interest could be seen hanging from the rafters with the variety of remote control model airplanes. After the tour, Ana delighted the group with coffee and a dessert bar.

Our June 17, meeting will be a tour of the new local dairy and lunch in Bird City. Red Hatters attending were Ana Antholz, Florence Antholz, Frieda Black, Bonnie Burr, Bethel Golt, Vernetta Haack, Bev Higgins, Diane Kribs, Iris McIntosh, Carol Moars, Lois Morelock, Edna Rosensner and Phyllis Wingfield.

McDonald Library

The following books are now available at the McDonald Library. Someday by Karen Kingsbury; Snowfall at Willow Lake by Susan Wiggs; Beverly Hills Dead by Stuart Woods; Light of the Moon by Luanne Rice; The Secret Between Us by Barbara Delinsky; Honor Thyself by Danielle Steele; In My Dark Dreams by J.F. Free-

man; Strangers in Death by Nova Roberts; Zapped by Carol Higgins Clark; Deadly Deception by Linda Lael Miller; A Sisters Test by Wonda E. Brunstetter; The Dark Tide by Andrew Gross; Where Are You Now? by Mary Higgins Clark and Hokus Pokus by Fern Michaels

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Technique Wrestling Camp

Tuesday, June 10

10 a.m. - Noon & 1 - 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 11

10 a.m. - Noon & 1 - 3:30 p.m.



St. Francis Community High School Wrestling Room

All ages are welcome.

Techniques for all levels will be taught.

The fee is \$20 per day per wrestler.

Coaches: Derek Ross (2008 All American, placed 8th at Nationals) and Jordan Gienger, University of Nebraska Kearney wrestling team members and 2008 National Team Champions.

Hosted by the St. Francis Little Kids Wrestling Club. For more information contact: Shawna Blanka or email sblanka@carrollswb.com

UPCOMING AUCTION

SELLERS; Jimmy J. Bowles & Et al
SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH, 2008, 10 A.M.
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