



STUDENTS RECEIVE scholars' bowl awards. Kale Schields presented awards to Robert Glass, Ivan Kemp and Ethan Moore.
Times staff photo by Norma Martinez.

Weeds are problem at the fairgrounds

By Karen Krien
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There has been early rain and some warm weather. Consequently, the weeds at the fairgrounds are taller than usual at this time of year. Getting the grounds cleaned up and looking good was one of the main concerns of the Cheyenne County Fair Board when members met on Thursday.

Marty Fear, county agent, reported that there are several activities coming up including the Spring Livestock Show on Saturday, May 26. The 4-H horse kids will be holding a horse camp on June 3 and practices will be held. He wondered who worked the arena for the practices. In the past, Drew Flemming, board member, had worked them but they didn't know who would or could this year.

Mr. Fear said there would be an ATV and first aid training held at the fairgrounds on May 29 and 4-H rifle practice will be starting.

Dick Bursch, board president, said the weeds in the arena were at least 2-feet tall so he had talked to county road and bridge supervisor, Dave Flemming. Mr. Bursch had taken some weed killer to the shop and some of the county crew had sprayed them.

There are still weeds under the grandstand which need to be taken care of and the load of rock needs to be spread. The board agreed to meet at the fairgrounds between 5 and 5:30 p.m. on May 10. Those having weed whips are asked to bring them.

If we don't get all the work done that night, Mr. Bursch said, we will meet another time.

Grass being planted

The Cheyenne County Conservation District has been planting grasses in an effort to make the fairgrounds look better. The grasses, as they grow, will fill in areas which have been either bare dirt or beds of sandburs.

The county crew has helped level some of the ground south of the livestock barn and west of the 4-H building. However, to keep people from driving on the newly planted grass, barriers need to be placed.

Mr. Flemming suggested putting used REA poles along the edges. The board thought this was a good idea. Mr. Bursch will talk to Mr. Flemming about contacting Prairie Land Electric about the poles.

Agent Fear talked about belt buckles which are given for different livestock events. They cost \$150 and Jeanne Dunn, 4-H supporter, had found people to purchase part of them but was still short of having enough money. She had suggested that those, who were not able to purchase livestock or an item at the 4-H Premium Sale, might be interested in donating part of the amount.

The board said at the last meeting the fair board would help out if sponsors could not be found for all of the buckles.

Mr. Fear said that there was still no one to manage the 4-H food stand at the fair. He wondered if the board would agree to rent it out and, if so, where would the money go?

Mr. Bursch said that the board has to give approval on who would rent the stand. There was no other discussion on renting it or where the rent money would go.

In other business

In other business:

- Shay Realty has offered to buy 38 chairs for the fairgrounds in exchange for letting them use the 4-H building three times a year. The board agreed to accept the offer but Shays would need to pay a deposit, noting they would probably always get it back. The chairs will be kept in Jenkins Hall.

- Mark Mills, board member, offered to talk to the business people about their signs on the fences at the fairgrounds. The signs will cost \$100 a year. On the outside of the fence, the standard size is 4- by 8-foot signs which will be bolted on. On the inside of the arena, the standard size will be 2- by 8-foot signs. All signs will need to be in good repair.

- The board agreed to order 100 T-shirts to be thrown to the grandstand crowd. A portion will be thrown during the Tuff Trucks event, the rest will be thrown during the demolition derby.

- The board agreed to have Adam Peter, board member, hire two judges for the demolition derby to be held Saturday night of the fair. They are from Salina and Abilene and will cost between \$1,000 and \$1,200 but he felt that they were good judges who had no connection with derby participants in this area.

- It was noted that, as of the meeting night, there was no entertainment for Thursday night of the fair.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the board will be to clean up the grounds on May 10. The next regular meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 7, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

Local doctor receives teaching award

The Kansas Academy of Family Physicians has selected Mary Beth Miller, MD, a family physician at Cheyenne County Clinic in St. Francis, as the 2012 Exemplary Teaching Award in the volunteer category. She is a volunteer clinical assistant professor at the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita; Kansas Primary Care Research Network participant; clinical preceptor, Wichita State University Physician Assistant Program; and clinical preceptor, Fort Hays State Nurse Practitioner Program.

The Exemplary Teaching Awards recognize family medicine faculty members in Kansas who have demonstrated exemplary teaching skills or have developed and implemented innovative new teaching models or programs. Medical students, residents and peers nominate the family physician teachers.

Dr. Miller says she has always liked to "figure things out." She enjoyed science and knew in college that she wanted to go to medical school but doubted herself because she felt that coming from a small town in Nebraska of population 420 meant she wouldn't be "smart" enough. So she settled for being a medical technologist; but the desire for medical school never left her.

She finally completed medical school after being a med tech for 12 years.

"Mentors like Dr. Rick Kellerman, Dr. Chuck Allred, and Dr. Richard Ohmart played a big part in that insight," Dr. Miller said. "I never knew I liked teaching, it just happened.

"Again, initially, I felt I wasn't smart enough to teach. Now I realize teaching is more about connecting with each student in

the specific way that helps them learn.

"All the years I spent feeling I wasn't 'smart' enough to do things, I have finally realized that any of us can learn anything. But our success with that is largely affected by how we get along with people.

"I think a person is better at any career when they work well with others. I also realize there is no end to the learning. As long as you like that, medicine is the field to be in. I have always enjoyed being on the learning end! Even when you teach, you learn."

Rick Kellerman, MD (Professor and Chair, Department of Family and Community Medicine, KU School of Medicine-Wichita) writes: "Some people make a permanent imprint on your psyche. For me, Mary Beth Miller, MD is one of those individuals. I remember the very first day that I met her when I served as her preceptor for Rural Health Weekend during the spring of her first year of medical school in 1993. She was smart, personable, enthusiastic, motivated, charming, and yearning to learn. These attributes are as true today as they were almost 20 years ago."

Dr. Miller is also the recipient of the 2011 Doug Parks Community Volunteer Preceptor Award from the Department of Family and Community Medicine at KU

School of Medicine-Wichita.

John Dorsch, MD (Director of Rural Programs, Department of Family and Community Medicine, KU School of Medicine-Wichita) writes: "As director of rural programs, I have placed several medical students with Dr. Miller. Students return from their experience inspired by the relationships and trust between Dr. Miller and her patients. I cannot think of a better example for students than Mary Beth Miller, MD. I believe if all students had an opportunity to work with a preceptor of Dr. Miller's caliber, more doctors would go to rural areas of practice."

"Most people could not tell you where St Francis is located, yet it has become a very popular place for students across many disciplines, in part, because of the exemplary teaching by Dr. Miller," said Megan Brown, MD, a resident in her first year at Smoky Hill Family Medicine Residency Program. "When I think about the kind of physician I want to be in my future practice, I can think of no better role model than Dr. Miller. She is a shining example of family medicine... that wonderful combination of teacher, friend, and advocate."

Dr. Miller is a member of the

American Academy of Family Physicians; Kansas Academy of Family Physicians, currently serving as vice president; American Medical Association; Kansas Medical Society; Saline County Medical Society; American Medical Women's Association; and American Medical Director's Association.

Current appointments include: Statewide Trauma Council (Northwest Kansas representative); Family Doctor of the Day volunteer; Medical Director, Good Samaritan Village Nursing Home; Medical Director, Cheyenne County Emergency Medical Service; St. Francis School Board member; Kansas Health Care Collaborative member; and Kansas Patient Centered Medical Home Initiative clinical site.

Dr. Miller will be recognized at the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians annual meeting and scientific session, June 7-9 at the Marriott Hotel in Overland Park. The awards will be presented during the member luncheon on Friday, June 8. She has also been nominated for the American Academy of Family Physicians Exemplary Teacher Awards, which will be announced in the fall 2012.

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Published in The St Francis Herald, St Francis, KS & Bird City Times, Bird City, KS Thursday, May 10, 2012 (19)	
Fund	Balance
GENERAL	133,854.11
ROAD & BRIDGE	550,902.61
BRIDGE BUILDING	69,582.09
NOXIOUS WEED	10,601.01
NOXIOUS WEED SPECIAL	8,731.70
CAFETERIA PLAN	4,959.04
RURAL FIRE	5,381.06
HOSPITAL	29,123.58
DIVERSION	4,272.93
CO ATTN'Y BAD CHECK	1,101.25
REG OF DEEDS TECH	22,408.78
PROSECUTION	3,568.73
RECREATIONAL VEHICLE	1,323.33
16/20 M TRUCKS	1,542.70
SPECIAL PARKS & REC	6,425.26
E-911	16,515.65
UNCLAIMED FUNDS	2,128.83
AMBULANCE MEMORIAL	5,694.41
INSUFFICIENT FUNDS	-72.86
ADVANCE TAX	18,036.74
SPECIAL FIRE EQUIPMENT	15,899.00
MOTOR VEHICLE TAX	88,602.39
MOTOR VEHICLE FUND	10,615.33
STATE SALES TAX	15,833.32
CURRENT TAX	513,398.04
COUNTY REDEMPTION	12,173.46
DELO PP TAX	3,907.60
ATTORNEY	924.50
FISH & GAME	162.00
STATE GENERAL	10.61
MORTGAGE REGISTRAR	84.40
BENKELMAN TOWNSHIP	620.45
CALHOUN TOWNSHIP	7,122.97
JACUA TOWNSHIP	7,307.57
HANDICAP EQUIPMENT	925.00
EQUIPMENT RESERVE	385,138.41
DELO 16/20M TAX	106.34
CCH/COUNTY HEALTH	23,562.90
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NOTICE • NOTICE

The St. Francis Herald and Bird City Times will be closed on Memorial Day, Monday, May 28th.

Ads and copy DEADLINE for the May 31 issue will be Tues., May 29 at 5 p.m.

Newspapers will be delivered a day later.