

Commissioners talk about lease

By Karen Krien
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The lease between the county and Good Samaritan Society was not any further along than it was at the Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting two weeks ago. This concern was discussed at the Thursday, May 31, commissioners' meeting.

One of the main holdups was the lack of a proposed budget from the Society. We need those figures before we can move forward, said Andy Beikman, commissioner. We need to know why the society wants \$200,000 from Cheyenne County but others pay only \$20,000.

The commissioners had also heard that the Society wants 5 percent of the net revenue but this has never been stated in writing.

Kari Gilliland, county attorney, said was working on the language. She had talked to Les Lacy, hospital administrator, and will talk with Kevin Berens, Village Advisory Board president, concerning some of the wording.

Randy Fitzgerald, director of operations for the Society, at an earlier meeting, said he would have a proposed budget to the

commissioners by June 15. The commissioners set the county's budget in July.

They also briefly discussed a letter addressed to the commissioners and Mr. Fitzgerald from Tom Keller, St. Francis. The letter had questions and suggestions for both the Society and the commissioners. He pointed out that in a 2011 survey of county residents, it showed that residents wanted to provide a continuum of care for its aged and those with special needs. The election also showed support, when the residents voted to allow 6 mills for the nursing home.

Ernie Ketzner, commissioner, pointed out that Mr. Keller had said that the ideal location for a new facility would be on the existing property; however the county may choose to build at another location. Mr. Keller suggested that a location in Bird City might be a viable option for a new facility if the Century II Foundation board actively pursued placing it in their community.

Mr. Keller concluded the letter with, "How do we get past this stalemate?"

Hospital board hires maintenance worker

By Nathan Fiala
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The Cheyenne County Hospital Board met on Thursday, May 24.

They first heard a department head report from Bill Wilger, engineering supervisor. He told members Joe Weverka was hired as a new maintenance man. He also briefly went over the remodel of the conference room and medical records room, and remodeling projects scheduled to be done next.

Les Lacy, Hospital Administrator, first said when giving his report that cash had to be borrowed from the funded depreciation account to make payroll for the month. He also said that the hospital's payable on their cost report is considerably less than anticipated, as with a receivable from medicare, the payable was approximately \$3,000 instead of what was projected.

Mr. Lacy also told the board that Tina Sager was now working at the front desk of the hospital.

Also to quash any possible rumors, Mr. Lacy also told the board that Darryl Reed, laboratory and ultrasound director, will continue working here, but will also be working in North Platte, Neb. to get more experience because of the volume of patients. Brooke Lohr will be the assistant manager of the lab.

Mr. Lacy also pointed out the award Dr. Mary Beth Miller had received from the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians. He also said that Vicki Coats and Stacy Kaup received scholarships for further schooling.

A handout was passed out that showed insurance rates went up slightly, approximately one-half of a percent, and went over equipment additions to the hospital this year, such as the blood chemistry analyzer.

Mr. Lacy also asked the board about repayment of some student loans' as part of a potential work contract for Dallas Walz, which was approved.

Item 10 on the agenda for the meeting was a budget request to county commissioners. Due to financial injuries from four years ago and the tax structure, Mr. Lacy suggested the board ask for 12 mills, which was approved.

Jackie John gave her Great Plains Health Alliance board report, focusing mainly on regulatory changes to Conditions of Participation for Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals, starting May 10.

The Quality and Risk Management Roundtable also met in Salina on May 10 to go over quality reporting activities and what, if any, changes needed to be made. An increase on infection control management was emphasized.

Great Plains Health Alliance has also signed an agreement to participate in the Kansas Hospital Engagement Network. The hope of the program is to reduce hospital acquired conditions and lower readmissions.

The hospital board will meet again on June 28 at 3 p.m.



THE RED HAT MAMAS look at the 3 Corners plaque on May 15. Pictured (l to r) are Marlene Young, Theresa Knapp, Vernetta Haack, Bev Higgins, Carol Mears and Bethel Goltle.

Red Hat Mamas travel to The Breaks

Dazzling in non-formal Red Hat attire the McDonald/Bird City Red Hat Mamas motored to St. Francis, May 15. Prior to the tour the agenda included: Red Hatter Chicken Dinner at the Majestic Dining Room. A spirited meeting was conducted by Queen Mother Margaret Voorhise and Coordinator Beverly Higgins.

The meeting consisted of humorist readings by Phyllis Wingfield and Bonnie Burr, and a bestowal of prestigious permanent Red Hat Mamas' Associate Membership to Iris McIntosh and Frieda Black.

Next on the agenda was a viewing of "The Arikaree Breaks, Kansas Canyon Lands" on DVD, and then touring them.

The Red Hat Mamas' were honored to have Helene Landenberg as guest, presenter and tour guide and the afternoon was spent enjoying Cheyenne County's history by visiting the Arikaree Breaks. Everyone enjoyed standing on the stone where the three states, Kansas, Nebraska, and Colorado come together. On their return trip they visited the sod house jail in

Haggler, Colo. Edna Roesener, the Red Hat Mamas' photographer cleverly captured the group making history in the presence of history. Red Hat Mamas in attendance were: Connie Rooney, Edna Roesener, Lois Morelock, Carol Mears, Theresa Knapp, Beverly Higgins, Vernetta Haack, Bethel Goltl, Linda Carroll and Bonnie Burr.

Bird City News

Clint Antholz a former Bird City resident and the son of Hal and Becky Antholz was in Bird City to preach at the Wesleyan Community Church last Sunday. He was welcomed by a full congregation of members and visitors who came to hear him preach. Sixteen years ago he preached his first sermon here at Wesleyan and then left for Manhattan to become the pastor at the Baptist Church there.

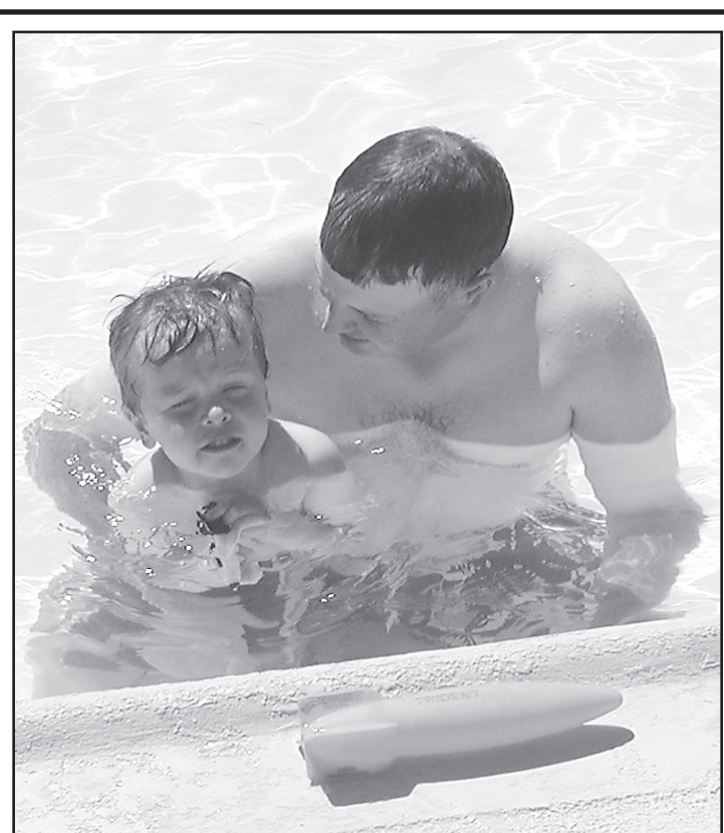
His wife, Jenni and sons Jack, Charley and Henry accompanied him. Several old time friends helped fill the church to listen to him preach, and visit with him and his family afterwards.

Twelve adults from Wesleyan Community Church left Sunday morning for Arizona to conduct a five day Bible School on the Indian Reservation. Members in this group were: Pastor Dan Carson, Jayden Cahoj, Whitney Churchwell, Hal, Becky, and C.J. Antholz, Mandy Barnett, Austin Cobb, Nakita Schneider, and Derek and Casey Vandike.

The group will be back on Saturday with stories of blessings they received from the Indian reservation and in time to listen to Kent and Joan Banister from McDonald and Paula Keller from St. Francis and see their slide presentation of their recent educational trip to Israel. Last month they spent two weeks there and saw a lot of different places of historical interest, and have lots of slides to show.

They left Kansas feeling uncertain as to what they would find when they got there, but the only unsafe situation they were faced with was the long camel rides. There will be a pot luck supper at 5:30 p.m. followed by the slide presentation at 6:00 p.m.

On Sunday June 17, Wesleyan Community Church will be starting a Sunday evening worship service. It will be contemporary music and interactive Bible study/preaching. Come check it out!



LANDON HENDRICKS shivers in the Bird City swimming pool while David Hendricks holds onto him on Memorial Day. Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

South of McDonald

By Sandy Binning

Joe and Charlene Kramer spent Friday through Sunday in Ozawkie with Leon and Nancy Brunton. They attended the Ozawkie High School Reunion Saturday and the Kramer Family Reunion Sunday.

Sunday dinner guests of Bethel Goltl and Alan Goltl were Don Bruder, C.W. and Sandy Antholz, Charles and Val Coleman, Don and Barbra Krantz, Elaine Johnson, Kenny Johnson, Gary and Penny Loker, Edna Roesener, and Jerry, Sandy, and Robert Binning. They all enjoyed the BBQ and helped

Bethel celebrate her birthday.

Tom and Kelly Dewey attended the Clark-Rippe Wedding dance in Colby Saturday evening.

Lynn and Rita Officer met Rita's brother, Marvin Dewey in Colby Sunday for lunch at Montana Mikes. The Gundlach family and the Regier family joined them for lunch also. They enjoyed visiting and watching Marilee and Mark Gundlach play softball at the Wesleyan Church. They all had supper and returned home.

Flea market in Colby

"Agora," a flea market named for the place where early-day Greek merchants displayed their goods in outdoor shops and booths, will fill the parking lot of the Colby United Methodist Church, 950 S. Franklin Ave., from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

Homemade crafts and goods, ready-made items, foods and the like will be for sale at more than 50 booths outside. Inside the church, shoppers may browse through a giant rummage sale, choose some of their favorite goodies at a bake sale or just sit and enjoy a morning plate of biscuits, sausage and gravy.

Kansas, Colorado and Nebraska, organizers believe Agora will be among the largest art and craft shows in western Kansas. All proceeds from indoor sales will be used by the church for local and mission projects.

Anyone who has rummage-sale items may bring them to the church before Friday. Organizers ask that items be prepriced and request no large electronic items.

Agora has 14 vendors committed for next year. Anyone who wants to participate in this year's market or next should call (785) 462-9050, (785) 443-0657 or (785) 443-3025 or e-mail agora_cumc@hotmail.com for an application.

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AGORA
"THE MARKET PLACE"

SATURDAY, JUNE 9TH • 2012 ▶ 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Colby United Methodist Church
950 South Franklin • Colby, KS
Parking Lot - South Side

HUGE VENDOR SHOW!
• OVER 50 •
(south parking lot)

HUGE RUMMAGE SALE!
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HUGE BAKE SALE!
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