

General election Tuesday, Nov. 6; check candidates

The general election will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 6. This should be an interesting election with the office of president of the United States up for election as well as several area and local elections. Area races include the seat of state senator of the 40th district, Ralph Ostmeier and Allen Schmidt.

On the local scene, there is the race for the position of Cheyenne County Sheriff with three contenders, Cody Beeson, Shane Guggenmos and David Warren.

There are several write-in candidates vying for offices including the seat of commissioner

of District 3 and the treasurer's seat. Brett Poling won the primary election over incumbent Andy Beikman. Mr. Beikman is running a write-in campaign against Dr. Poling. Dolores Jenik, treasurer, won the primary unopposed. However, a campaign is now being conducted with voters being asked to write-in Melissa Tabor-McAtee.

This week, those running for sheriff, Beeson, Guggenmos and Warren, are being featured in The Herald's and Times' "Meet the candidates." See Page 3 in this issue for more information on sheriff candidates.



NEW HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR, Judy Rockwood, right, talks to Heidi Tice, chief financial officer.

New administrator takes responsibilities

By Karen Krien
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About a year ago, Judy Rockwood joined the Cheyenne County Hospital as the director of nursing. Today, she is not only the director of nursing but has taken on the job of administrator, taking the position of Les Lacy, who resigned to take on the vice presidency of Great Plains Health Alliance. Great Plains is the company which leases the county hospital plus a number of others in Kansas and Nebraska.

Ms. Rockwood has many qualifications to fill the position including being the director of nursing at Rice County Hospital in Lyons and the director of the Children's hospital in Cheyenne, Wyo., but most recently, she was in nursing administration at West Virginia University Hospital in Morgantown, W. Va.

She came to the Cheyenne County Hospital because, she said, it was almost like coming home. She came from the small Kansas town of Little River. She also has a daughter, son-in-law and two grandsons, ages 1 and 4, living on a farm near Logan.

She said the director of nursing position actually goes hand-in-hand with the administrator's position. She went on to point out that she works with a strong and talented executive team as well as a great nursing staff and providers.

As administrator, she will oversee the day-to-day management of clinics and hospitals, however, she said she is not a micro manager.

"I am a people person," she said. "I care about the staff and the people."

"My philosophy has always been 'family first - not this job.'" One of her main responsibilities is the bottom line on finances.

"I need to make ends meet and the government is making it difficult for small hospitals," she said. However, the patient indicators show that small hospitals outdo the larger hospitals when it comes to care.

People, she said, have no idea what a blessing the hospital and staff is to the county. Each of the staff, no matter what they do, consider their job more than just a job - they care about what they are doing and the people they care for.

She noted that while everyone does their job well, everyone can always strive to do better. She proves this by taking higher education classes, working on a master's degree from Fort Hays State University and she is board certified in nursing administration.

In the future, Ms. Rockwood sees regulations from the government becoming more difficult to meet and money will be tighter.

"We need to be lean and it will require making smart decisions," she said. There will be no opportunity for errors - only quality services."

In the future, Ms. Rockwood and the executive team are making some plans that will be "giving back to the people."

We are looking at different services to bring people into the communities. There will be two new providers coming to the county in the future. Since there is limited space in the hospital and clinic, she and the staff have been looking at where more room can be made available.

"We just need to think outside the box," she said.

Ms. Rockwood said she is excited about becoming the hospital administrator but pointed out that she doesn't look at the position as a "job." I am concerned about the community and the people who live and work here. I want to make sure we have the very best service possible!

Besides her daughter, Elsie, who lives in Logan, Ms. Rockwood has a son, Clay, who is an engineer and lives in Massachusetts, and a daughter, Sadie, who lives in West Virginia and works at Quantico where she runs the FBI arson and bomb lab.



CHEYLIN FIRST GRADERS helped the Bird City Senior Citizens last week. Below, Edna Roesener helped several of the children make turkey feathers. Above, Bonnie Burr, left, and Hulda Dorsch hang the turkey which adds lots of color and holiday cheer to the center.

Time staff photos by Norma Martinez

Auxiliary gathers items for soldiers

The list of items being collected for service men and women overseas has been posted in the grocery stores in both St. Francis and Bird City as well as the post office in St. Francis. Boxes are available to put items in.

It is the time of year when everyone needs to spend a little money to let our military overseas know we have not forgotten them, said Hulda Dorsch, American Legion Auxiliary chairman, and I am sure I am speaking for the vast majority of Americans.

For the next month everyone will want to show their solidarity and support for the United States troops by an ingathering of items

that are needed, appreciated, and are moral boosters for the men and women in service.

Places where items can be taken include: Hometown Market and the senior center in Bird City, and Bella's Market and the senior center in St. Francis. The deadline for collections is Friday, Nov. 16.

Items needed

Some of the items needed include:

Heat and eat meals - Chef-Boy-Ar-Dee, Dinty Moore meals, Ragu Express Pasta - No pork items, easy Mac-N-Cheese.

Powdered drink mix (pre-sweetened Kool Aid, lemonade, iced tea.

Canned snack food.

Puzzle books, crossword puzzle books, paperback books.

Snack crackers, tuna and chicken salad mixes, jerky.

Dried fruit, small cans of fruit with pop top lids, snack size puddings.

Gum, Tootsie Rolls, jelly beans, hard candy, licorice, nuts, granola bars.

White tube socks, batteries (AA and AAA).

Seasonings - Onion and garlic salt, cayenne pepper, Italian seasoning, salsa.

Coffee (small instant containers or singles).

Breakfast cereal (Raisin Bran,

Corn Pops, Lucky Charms, Frosted Flakes individual small boxes), Pop Tarts.

Powdered laundry soap (Soap is packaged into 20 ounce soda and water bottles).

Toothbrushes, toothpaste, shaving cream (male/female), disposable razors, deodorant, shampoo (trial sizes work best), chapstick, sunscreen.

More information

Mrs. Dorsch is the chairman and Christie Wurm is the 4-H chairman. For more information, call them at 785-734-2792 or 758-332-2650, respectively.

Craft show set for Saturday

Stop by the Cheylin Grade School gym at 10 a.m. on Saturday to purchase your holiday gifts and goodies. We are sold out again this year with 25 vendors, said Barb Gerdes, coordinator. It is a great way to find new friends and crafters.

Most of the consignors are back for another year along with several new faces, she said. There are vendors coming from Colorado, southwestern and central Kansas and Nebraska, along with the local crafters.

New items are woven rugs, stained glass, Serenity jewelry, shadow boxes and wreaths.

Along with these are the popular cloth books by Lily Ruth Edmonston and baked goods.

Most all booths this year, Mrs. Gerdes said, are handmade.

"I have tried to keep it as much crafts as possible," she said.

There is a lot of variety that the vendors bring

into the community. It is a great time to get ideas for Thanksgiving and Christmas without having to spend a lot. It also shows off all the talent in this area.

The Kids' Korner will also be at the show.

"It is a great way for kids to find their crafts and keep busy while moms shop. The cost of the Kids' Korner is \$5 and they can make as many crafty things as possible. The cost goes to the workers for keeping an eye on the kids as well as replenishing the supplies for next year.

"The Kids' Korner has gone over really well in the past 5 years," Mrs. Gerdes said.

The kids can glue, color, use markers and make all kinds of things. All of which is theirs to take home.

Shoppers want to plan to eat lunch while at the show. Tina Sager will be serving lunch for the shoppers' convenience.



Wednesday at 3:15 p.m., the spook parade will go down main street to the four-way stop.

Come Boo~tifully dressed, and possibly include a trick or treat for 100 or less. If you would like to participate please call the school at 734-2351.