

County attorney calls special meeting

By Karen Krien

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A special Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting was requested by Kari Gilliland, county attorney, at 8 a.m. on Monday morning. Mrs. Gilliland announced that the meeting was to deal with sheriff and dispatch employee changes and lack of communication.

Present were Craig Van Allen, sheriff, Jen Padgett, communication director, Tyler Howard, and Tony and Tammy Howard, and Karen Krien, Herald reporter.

Shortly after the meeting opened, Mrs. Gilliland asked for 30 minutes executive session to discuss non-elected county personnel. Those asked to stay besides the three commissioners and Terry Miller, county clerk, were Mrs. Padgett and Sheriff

Van Allen.

Thirty minutes later, Clerk Miller came out of the session to announce that the executive session would last another 20 minutes.

At the end of the second executive session, the door was opened and people were allowed back into the commissioners' room. Chairman Ernie Ketzner said there were no decisions to make and opened up the discussion for questions.

Mrs. Howard asked about Tyler's job (he was a 911 dispatcher). Mr. Ketzner said the job situation was as it had stood before the special meeting. Tyler would receive a letter from Mrs. Padgett which would state that termination was because of personnel conflict, not insubordination.

The Howards talked about an internal investigation through the sheriff's office. Both Mrs. Dankenbring and Attorney Gilliland said they knew nothing about the investigation until recently.

Dale Patton, commissioner, said he had been called to talk to Sheriff Van Allen, Cody Beeson, deputy, and Tyler Howard on Tuesday, Sept. 20. Any comments he had made at that meeting, he said, he was now at fault for making. I thought there was an internal investigation, he said.

The Howards felt like matters were being "swept under the rug." We have taught our children to respect the law and give them what they asked for, Mrs. Howard said. When Mrs. Dankenbring had asked Tyler for papers with information, the sheriff said he was not to give them to her so he didn't. He did what the sheriff had told him to do, Mrs. Howard said.

Craig, Mrs. Gilliland said, was not Tyler's boss, Jen was.

Andy Beikman, commissioner, said that a comment Tyler had made on Facebook in July should have been reason to terminate him. There was no more said about what was written on Facebook.

Kansas is an "at will" state, Attorney Gilliland said. The decision (to terminate) was made by the communication director.

The meeting, which lasted a little over an hour, was adjourned.



CHECK THIS OUT! Norman Morrow looks over his new shotgun he won during the drawing held at the football game from Cheyenne County 4-H Shooting Sports.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Zwegardt

Couple celebrate 60th wedding anniversary

Robert and Gertrude Zwegardt will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on Friday, Oct. 7. Their family would like to honor them with a card shower.

Anniversary wishes can be sent to Robert and Gertrude at 520 S. Valley, St. Francis, KS 67756. No gifts please.

Prayer groups walk to area churches

Two groups of "Prayer Walkers for Life" will be walking to each church in Bird City and St. Francis on Sunday. The walk begins at 2 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church in St. Francis and 2:30 at St. John Lutheran Church in Bird City.

The participants will pray at each church for the congregation and its pastor. The pastor or a member of the congregation will have the opportunity to pray for those who work to preserve and enhance life for all.

Rides will be provided for those unable to walk that distance. Both groups will meet at the Church of Christ in St. Francis at 4 p.m. for a time of fellowship and a brief meeting at the end of the walk.

The event is being sponsored by Cheyenne County Kansans for

Life. Everyone is invited to participate.

For details call: Bird City: 785-734-2703 or St. Francis: 785-332-2950.

Great Tips

- Spray a bit of perfume on the light bulb in any room to create a lovely light scent in each room when the light is turned on. Place fabric softener sheets in dresser drawers and your clothes will smell freshly washed for weeks to come. You can also do this with towels and linen.

- Candles will last a lot longer if placed in the freezer for at least 3 hours prior to burning.

Book discussion at public library

Sara Jane Richter of Oklahoma Panhandle State University will lead a discussion of "A Scattered People: An American Family Moves West" by Gerald McFarland at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 18, at the St. Francis Public Library at 121 N. Scott. The book discussion is sponsored by the library.

This is the second book in a three-part "Westering" series chronicling the westward migration of five generations of five families, the author's ancestors.

This series is sponsored by the Kansas Humanities Council, a nonprofit cultural organization, as part of its Talk About Literature in Kansas (TALK) program. The council's resource center is furnishing the books and discussion leaders for the Garden City program series.

Richter is dean of the School of Liberal Arts and professor of English at Oklahoma Panhandle State University in Goodwell, Okla. She received her Ph.D. in English



Richter

from Oklahoma State University. She has been leading the discussions since 1991.

To check out books and for more information about the reading series, contact the library at 332-3292.

5K walk, 2-mile run scheduled for Oct. 15

In conjunction with the Cheyenne County Health Fair set for Oct. 10 through 14, Pastor Warren Cico is organizing a 5K run and a 2-mile walk. Participants are urged to be at the health clinic at Quincy and First street at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 15.

People can get their registration forms by e-mailing him at warrencico@yahoo.com or call him at 785-772-7098.

People are needed to be timers, give out water and directions and at the time of registration.

Since the health fair has just ended, Pastor Cico said, I think that the run/walk will remind everyone about making health choices including exercising, getting regular checkups and eating healthy foods.



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Contact Bob Ochsner 785-332-2129

Owned by the farmers and ranchers of this community since 1913

Website sponsored by local foundation

The St. Francis Community Foundation is sponsoring the development of a high school alumni website solely for St. Francis high school alumni and faculty. Unlike commercial alumni websites, there will be no cost to the user.

Individuals can choose whether they wish to participate and how much personal information they choose to share online with others.

We feel this site could facilitate communication within classes and between classes for the planning of the annual alumni reunion, said Tom Keller, one of the coordinators. It will also provide another opportunity to maintain year-round contact with classmates and other alumni and faculty. We hope to make available digital memorabilia such

as yearbooks, photographs and other items of interest.

Alumni and faculty are urged to go to the website www.stfrancisalumni.org to view the work in progress and make suggestions. The website will become interactive for interested individuals once someone from their class has volunteered to become an online class administrator for their class.

This is a great opportunity for out-of-town alumnus to be involved with their class. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions or suggesting a classmate fill this role, Mr. Keller said. People are asked to share this news with their classmates and other alumni.

Respond to jcs@padgett-online.com or sfcf967@gmail.com.

Come eat home cooked fried chicken!

Benefit for Linda Elfers

to help with medical expenses while she is undergoing cancer treatment

Sunday, Oct. 2

11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

St. Francis Community High School Cafeteria

Take out orders are available

Call Dolores Jenik at (785) 332-3471 or (785) 332-6182

Free Will Offering

Also,

Bake Sale by 4-H'ers

For those that are unable to attend but would still like to contribute, you may send your donation to: Miriam Yonkey, 145 Clinton Ave., Wheeler, Ks. 67756. Make checks payable to Thrivent for Lutherans.

Sponsored by Thrivent for Lutheran and Friends Thrivent will provide supplemental funds