

# Farm families honored for outstanding practices

By Karen Krien  
karen.k@nwkans.com

The 62 annual meeting of the Cheyenne County Conservation District was held Monday, Jan. 30. There were four awards presented to those who have been outstanding in their farming practices.

Three awards, The Soil Conservation Award, Water Conservation Award and the Wildlife Award were considered Kansas Bankers Awards. Tim and Robyn Raile took home the Soil Conservation Award; Clint and Kayla Bursch, the Water Conservation Award; and Glenn and Louanne Isernhagen, the Wildlife Award. The Cheyenne County Conservation District presented the Grassland Award and the winner was the Stevens Ranch, Tom and Donna Stevens and Shawn and Shawna Blanka.

The awards were presented after those present enjoyed a dinner provided by the Cheyenne County banks and the winners of the poster contest were announced (see related article). Following the presentation of the bankers and conservation awards, Bernadette Luncsford, district conservationist, and Cale Rieger, conservation technician, recognized many volunteers who have helped with the different programs.

During the meeting, Roger Orth gave the report of last year's happening in the district. There were 5,631 containerized, pasture dug and bare-root trees distributed. The profits from the sale of trees, weed barrier, drip irrigation and other such sales were used to fund education activities. They also planted four Hackberry trees that were donated and planted at the

fairgrounds. The office staff took care of the watering of the trees throughout the year.

The education of landowners, cooperators, youth and the general public is a high priority of the district board. Some of the activities they promoted included the conservation programs in both St. Francis and Cheylin schools, they also gave students a blue spruce tree and helped co-sponsor the Kids Conservation Roundup in Colby. They co-hosted an all-day conservation tour for sixth grade students.

The terms of two board positions were up for election. Both Randy Rueb and Roger Orth were re-elected.

The board then handed out over \$400 in gift certificates and gift prizes that were table decorations.



POINTING OUT HER POSTER Molly Gilliland shows her work to Emma Johnson during the conservation meeting.  
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

## Students receive awards

During the Cheyenne County District Conservation meeting on Monday, Jan. 30, students from St. Francis and Cheylin schools were named winners for their poster and coloring contests.

The first place winners were given a book bag... the rest also received nice prizes. Kindergarten coloring contest winners were: Rhonald Neitzel, first; Holly Herrera, second; Connor Hathaway, third; Nate Leibbrandt, honorable mention.

First grade coloring contest: Talexa Weeter, first; Preston Witzel, second; Molly Gilliland, third; Ellee Krien and Javier Yanez, honorable mention.

Second grade coloring contest: Dylan Ketzner, first; Kaden Lee, second; Audrey Moore, third; Kaily Robbins and McKenna Poling, honorable mentioned.

Third grade poster contest winners: Emma Johnson, first place; Jade Ketzner, second; Karely Chaparro, third; Kattie

Wurm, honorable mention.

Fourth, fifth and sixth grade poster winners: Rachel Keltz, first place; Jessie Frisbie, second; Joslyn Ketzner, third; Kaylynn Hendricks, Alexandra Hazuka and Andy Miller, honorable mention.

Mini-power point contest winners were sixth graders: Emileigh Dinkel, first place; Erika Ramos, second place; Kenneth Adams, third; Hanna Bracelin, Matthisen Witzel and Madison Tice, honorable mention.



WILDLIFE AWARD presented to Louanne and Glenn Isernhagen by Josh Williams at the annual conservation meeting.  
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

## Commissioners set meeting with operational director

By Karen Krien  
karen.k@nwkans.com

The Cheyenne County Commissioners met with two Good Samaritan Village Advisory Board members and the Village administrator on Tuesday. The discussion found several questions unanswered and a meeting was set up with the Good Samaritan Society's operational director.

The nursing home has been under construction and renovation since the October 2010 fire. It is nearing completion and the Society has suggested selling the facility plus the apartments to the county for \$1. The renovations are almost complete and the Society has said they would run it for a year and then, if the commissioners agree, it would be taken over by the county.

Glenn Isernhagen and Ken Quigley, Village advisory board members, and Jeff Paulsen, Village administrator, asked the commissioners if they had thought about lease contracts and a process to develop a plan for future needs. Mr. Isernhagen said he was concerned that the Dec. 31 deadline would be here and there would be no plan.

Dale Patton, commissioner, said Randy Fitzgerald, the Society's director of operations, had presented a preliminary contract but there were several questions. This matter, he said, will have a dynamic effect on the county and the people. There was also the question as to when in the year the Society would run the facility. Was it one year starting at the beginning of the year or one year after the renovations are completed?

But, Mr. Isernhagen was pressing the fact that he felt there needed to be some start on the plans soon, if not now.

Andy Beikman, commissioner, said it was the commissioners understanding after one of Mr. Fitzgerald's visits that, in order for the facility to be turned over to the county, there had to be the added assisted living and, if the county wasn't going to add it, then the Society wouldn't turn it over.

Mr. Paulsen said that was not his perception.

If the assisted living (Phase 3) were not in place, Mr. Beikman said, then, I didn't think we could get all that done.

There are too many questions, he said, and we need to get the details down so we are all on the same page.

I am not comfortable with the answers we are getting from Randy, Andy said. When he leaves, it seems like there are questions that are beat round the bush and not answered.

There will be an open house to show the improvements of the Village on Sunday, Feb. 12 from 2 to 4 p.m. Mr. Fitzgerald will be there so a meeting with the commissioners has been set up following the open house.

Ernie Ketzner, commissioner, asked if the boiler at the Village had been taken care of, Mr. Paulsen said the Society had taken care of it and it had cost \$24,000.

### Club Clip

#### United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women held their first meeting of 2012 at the Fellowship Hall Feb. 1 with 16 members present. The meeting was called to order by vice president Vickie Schliep in the absence of president Marsha Zimbelman.

Following the business session, Carol Rogers presented the program entitled "A Time for Change: Technology." She emphasized that times are changing. So much more can be accomplished in all aspects of United Methodist mission endeavors as technology is implemented. At the close of the

program an opportunity was given for members to contribute to this ministry.

Sherry Schultz expressed thanks and appreciation to all those that volunteer at the Thrift Store.

Following the meeting, refreshments, carrying out a Valentine theme, were served by Carol Rogers and Mrs. Schliep.

The next meeting will be April 4 at 2 p.m. at the Methodist Church. Rev. Warren Cico will have the program. All ladies are welcome to attend.

## Red Cross needs blood

The American Red Cross must be prepared to respond to patient emergencies with blood products 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Through the everyday support and generosity of blood donors, the Red Cross can be prepared to do this day-in and day-out, no matter when or where these blood products are needed.

Upcoming Blood Donation Opportunities in Northwest Kansas.

- Feb. 14 - Colby, National Guard Armory, noon to 6 p.m.
- Feb. 15 - Colby, National Guard Armory, 7:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Feb. 15 - Atwood, Knights of Columbus, noon to 6 p.m.
- Feb. 28 - Peace Lutheran Church, noon to 6 p.m..

To donate whole blood, call 1-800-733-2767 or visit www.redcrossblood.org for more information or to make an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome.

All blood types are needed to ensure the Red Cross maintains an adequate blood supply. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in.

Donors must be in general good health, weigh at least 110 pounds and be at least 17 years old (16 in Kansas with completed Parental Consent Form). New height and weight restrictions apply to donors 18 and younger.

## Coming Soon:

HONOR



SCOUTING

Show your support on the Boy Scout page



## WORKING WOMEN'S SECTION

Coming this month!

THIS SECTION IS PACKED WITH ADS FEATURING WOMEN.



## Smile it's Spring!

Advertise your business in the SPRING Home & Garden Special Sections Coming Soon!



For more details, contact

Tim Burr at the Saint Francis Herald at 785-332-3162

Bird City Times

The Saint Francis Herald