

# Commissioners discuss nursing home concerns

By Karen Krien  
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The nursing home lease between the county and Good Samaritan Society was again at the top of the Cheyenne County Commissioners' agenda on Friday.

Kari Gilliland, county attorney, said she had been working with Kevin Berens, member of the Good Samaritan Village advisory board, on the wording of the proposed lease. The commissioners had been concerned about the wording in paragraph nine which basically stated that the county, after the Society had handed over the facility for \$1, would give the Society \$200,000 per year for 5 years to be used for capital improvements and to supplement operating funds.

The new wording would give the commissioners the right to review the finances and see how much to budget each year. There would also not be a guaranteed amount.

There was other discussion but no decisions were made other than to send the amended lease back to the Society. The Society wants the county to take over the facility at the first of the year but there appears to be some major agreements to be made by then.

### Neighborhood Revitalization Program

The timeline for getting the Neighborhood Revitalization Program going was discussed. Helen Dobbs, Cheyenne County Development Corporation coordinator, Carol Redding, member of the corporation board, along with Cathy Domsch, Rod Young, Gary Leach, Chad Sheldon and John Deeds, were there to discuss the program.

The Neighborhood Revitalization Program is a tax rebate program on new structures or new additions. Mrs. Dobbs

has been working on getting the program ready to present to the attorney general for several months.

She said the earliest the tax rebate program could be put in place would be Aug. 1. After considerable discussion, the commissioners agreed that there would be a public meeting at 9 a.m. on Monday, July 16, in the commissioners' room so the necessary papers could be signed.

### Cheyenne County Development Corporation

The proposed budget for the Cheyenne County Development Corporation was discussed. Members of the St. Francis City Council, mayor and city superintendent, along with Mrs. Dobbs and Ms. Redding, talked about how to give the needed funds for the organization. The St. Francis council members said they would try to help as much as possible.

Roger Jensen, council member, suggested that since the St. Francis Chamber had dissolved, maybe dues could be paid to the corporation. No decisions were made other than the money needed to operate the corporation will be considered further.

### Hospital budget

Les Lacy, Cheyenne County Hospital administrator, as well as the hospital board consisting of Mike Bandel, Jane Young, Erika Zimelman and Kari Gilliland, presented the hospital's budget request of 12 mills. Last year, the commissioners gave the hospital 11.660 mills or \$440,000. No decision was made.

The commissioners asked Mr. Lacy about the centralized billing system used by the hospital. They all said they had heard many unfavorable comments and wondered just how much the county pays to have the bills sent there. They also said maybe the

hospital would be ahead to pay one or two people in the county to take care of billing, rather than send it off.

Mr. Lacy said not all of the hospitals with Great Plains Health Alliance are using the service. He said he would look into the matter.

### Sheriff's report

Sheriff Craig Van Allen asked for five minutes executive session to discuss personnel. Upon the return to regular session, Chairman Dale Patton announced no decisions had been made in the session.

The Bird City Law Enforcement Contract was discussed. The commissioners felt a \$1,000 per year increase was within reason. This is less than a 3-percent increase.

### In other business

In other business:  
• The commissioners signed the ambulance May write offs of \$8,316.

• The bid from St. Francis Tire and Service, St. Francis, for tires for the newest fire truck was accepted. The amount paid for the tires was not available

• Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, along with Adam Peter, St. Francis, asked questions about the landfill operator position. Commissioner Andy Beikman, Adam's uncle, excused himself from the meeting while the discussion was held. No decisions were made.

• A county delinquent tax sale was discussed. No decision was made.

### Next meeting

The next regular meeting of the commissioners is set for 8 a.m. on Tuesday, July 31, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

*Editor's note: The above article was taken in part from the unapproved June 29 minutes.*



A CREW trims the big tree on Spencer street in front of Art Krueger's home. Herald staff photo by Tim Burr

## Moments With Mila

### Keeping Safe in Extreme Heat

Heat is the number one weather-related killer in the United States. When temperatures soar close to or over 100 degrees as well as with humidity leaving you sweltering and sticky, you should be careful to protect both yourself and your loved ones from falling ill due to the heat.

Here are some tips to prevent heat-related illness: • Spend more time indoors, drink plenty of water even if you do not feel thirsty you need to push fluids.

• Avoid caffeinated and alcoholic beverages.

• Wear loose light colored clothing and apply sunscreen throughout the day.

• Schedule outdoor activities carefully – try to schedule activities early in the day or later in the evening.

• Monitor people at high risk for heat illnesses such as; the elderly, children and their pets.

People who are at highest risk are the elderly, the very young, and people with mental illnesses and chronic diseases. Check on family, friends and neighbors without air conditioning, including the elderly who are more vulnerable to falling ill due to the heat. Never leave your child unattended in a vehicle, even with the windows down. Ensure your pets have free access to fresh drinking water and are not suffering due to the heat.

Sunburns should be avoided because it damages the skin. Although the discomfort is usually minor and healing often occurs in about a week, more severe sunburn may require medical attention.

Proper sun protection practices such as using sunscreen and wearing appropriate clothing can reduce a person's risk for developing skin cancer.

Heat exhaustion is a milder form of heat-related illness that can develop after several days of exposure to high temperatures and inadequate or unbalanced replacement of fluids. It is the body's response to an excessive loss of the water and salt contained in sweat.

Those most prone to heat exhaustion are elderly people, people with high blood pressure, and people working or exercising in a hot environment. Some warning signs of heat exhaustion include; heavy sweating, paleness, muscle cramps, tiredness, weakness, dizziness, headache, and nausea or vomiting.

What should you do to help the heat stroke patient? Cool the patient down with nonalcoholic beverages, take a cool shower, bath or sponge bath, get in an air-conditioned environment, and put cool compresses on the patient or water hose if not close to air-conditioner.

Heat stroke occurs when the body is unable to regulate its temperature. The body's temperature rises rapidly, the sweating mechanism fails, and the body is unable to cool down. Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not provided. Warning signs of a heat stroke include; red, hot and dry skin; rapid strong pulse; throbbing headache; dizziness, nausea; confusion; unconsciousness. Call for immediate medical

By Mila Bandel  
County Health Nurse



assistance and begin cooling the patient by getting them in a shady area; place in a tub of cool water.

Don't let the heat get the best of you this summer. Beat the heat and keep your cool in the hot weather.

For more information contact the Cheyenne County Health Department at 785-332-2381.

## Help Wanted

The Cub's Den in Idalia, CO is now accepting applications for a full-time Director position, as well as, an Early Childhood Preschool Teacher position. Applicants must hold current Director qualifications for the Director and current Early Childhood Teacher qualifications, as per the State of Colorado Rules & Regulations. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled. Please inquire to Brittany at (970)354-7587 for further details.

## Many Thanks to You

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the doctors and staff for the excellent care I received during my stay at the Cheyenne County Hospital. Thanks, too, to my family and friends for the phone calls, visits, flowers, cards, and prayers given in my behalf. At last, but certainly not least, a big, big thank you to Bonnie, Troy and Cindy Burr. After many unanswered phone calls, Bonnie knew there was a problem. Through their persistence, they were able to get into my locked house and called the ambulance. Thanks everyone, you are the best. Vernetta Haack

## Thank you

to the Saint Francis Fire Department and EMS. We appreciate all you do, you're such a blessing to our community. We're praying for your safety.



## Sign up early for mud volleyball

The Cheyenne County Fair is set for Aug. 1 through 4. Many activities have been planned including the co-ed mud volleyball contest.

The event is held each year and several of the teams plan their vacations so they can participate.

This year, there are new coordinators organizing the games. Kelsey Andrist, Dennon Flemming and Amber Dunn have set a few new rules for the 16-team, double elimination contest including the fact that teams will need to pre-register on or before July 27 and the entry fee must be paid when registering. If it is not paid for, the team could be eliminated by a team that will have their money on time.

Team players must be 13 years

old and up. Each team must have at least three men and three women and the teams are limited to eight team members.

Kelsey said the brackets are

already filling up so people need to get their teams together and pre-register.

For more information, contact Kelsey at 785-332-6025.

## Student News

Sterling College has released the list of Kelsey Scholars and two St. Francis Community High School graduates, Adam Guthmiller and Lauren Zweygardt, are on the list. They were among 117 students receiving the award.

Kelsey Scholars are full-time students who, at the end of the spring semester, are in sophomore

standing or above carrying a grade point average of at least 3.5, have a minimum of two semesters in residency at the college and have no incompletes on record.

Lauren, a senior, is the daughter of Kary and Kim Zweygardt, St. Francis. Adam, a sophomore, is the son of John and Kristi Guthmiller, St. Francis.



### Patient-centered surgical consultation and care

Brenda Kopriva, M.D. is now offering surgery consultations at the Trenton Medical Clinic!

General surgeon, Dr. Brenda Kopriva, is now accepting surgical consultation appointments at the Trenton Medical Clinic on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month.

Dr. Kopriva offers a wide range of surgical procedures in Community Hospital's new, technologically advanced surgery department.

To make an appointment with Dr. Kopriva, call 308-344-8376.

Dr. Kopriva performs such surgeries as:  
Hernias • Endoscopy  
Breast Surgery  
Laparoscopic and Intra-abdominal  
Limited head and neck procedures



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## Thank you

We would like to express our sincerest gratitude to our dedicated fire department for responding so quickly to putting out our pasture fire Friday night and coming out again twice on Saturday. Thank you to Stan Keller for the use of his water truck. We would also like to thank Callicrate Feedyard especially Rosendo Fierro for all his help and watchful eye. The kindness of friends and family do not go unnoticed, a special thanks to Mike Hanson as well as Mom and Dad for helping move our cattle. Thank you all! Kyle and Crystal Schultz