

Insurance agents attend meeting

By Karen Krien
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 The county's insurance agents were present at the Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting on Friday.

As Roxie Neitzel and Kelly Frewen, insurance agents, discussed what increased coverage was going to cost the county, Ernie Ketzner, commissioner, wanted to know more about what it was going to cost the county if Good Samaritan Village nursing home and apartments when and if they are acquired.

Mr. Frewen said he thought the Good Samaritan Society, who will lease the facility, needs to list Cheyenne County on its liability. The commissioners agreed that insurance was again something that should be asked of the Society before the county ends up with the facility.

Dale Patton, commissioner, said he had told Jeff Paulsen, Village administrator, that he would like to see the Society lease the equipment in the nursing home back from the county.

Administrator Paulsen had an update on the financial picture of the nursing home. He said that the facility has 35 beds and last money, there were 30 of those beds filled. This had found the nursing home \$2,000 in the black for January. As of Feb. 15, he felt that there should be a small profit for this month.

Brett Poling, commissioner, questioned the two parties (the Society and county) getting out of the contract. What, he asked, if the county puts a bunch of money into the facility and, then the society wants out of the contract and wants the facility back?

Mr. Paulsen said he thought he had submitted a list of nursing home furniture for insurance purposes.

The commissioners wanted to know who is responsible if there is a personal injury. Karan Thadani, county attorney, said that may not be an issue but it was something that needed to be looked into.

Mr. Patton said that, on a positive note, we are moving forward.

County development
 Helen Dobbbs, Cheyenne County Development Corporation, questioned the hiring of a person to write grants. She said that the county already pays the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development to write grants and they do not charge for writing grants.

Mr. Patton said that he assumed she would be writing grants for things the Planning and

Development service didn't write grants for such as bunker gear for firemen, training, and other such items.

I am not wanting to do anything but what is best for the county, Mr. Patton said. I would like for departments to come up with a "wish list" for what they want and need.

I would like to move forward in getting an assisted living in St. Francis, Mr. Poling said. I will donate my time and my equipment - anything to help get one here.

Mrs. Dobbbs said she had been to Topeka with the Northwest Kansas Travel Commission. They had set up booths and given away samples of Monte's Jerky, a Cheyenne County product. There was also eatable play clay samples available.

She noted that the motels in St. Francis are going through a tremendous amount of brochures about the county. They are doing well in distributing them, she said.

Landfill
 Adam Peter, landfill supervisor, had a quote for pro-panel for the building to house the trash compactor. Mr. Peter said he had the pipe for the frame. After considerable discussion, the commissioners agreed to have him try to get the building done before his last day on Feb. 28. They also gave him permission to use his own welding equipment at \$20 per hour.

While he is working on the building, Mr. Peter was told to get someone to run the scale. He said that if the commissioners would hire someone that could start immediately, he could help train that person while he was working on the building. Later, it was learned that the commissioners had approved of someone to run the landfill after Mr. Peter leaves.

In other business
 In other business:
 • Larry Fahrenbruch, Atwood, to give presentations to county employees that would help them identify theft and get attorney services. The board agreed that he could talk to those wanting the information.

• Peggy Pratt, director of the Northwest Kansas Juvenile Justice Services, told the board about the services the department offered. She said that Cheyenne County is very active in the program.

Next meeting
 The next meeting of the commissioners has been set for 8 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 28, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.



CHECKING OUT THE displays set up for the Center for Creativity open house are Joy Fisher and Helene Landenberger.

Open house held at new location

Over 40 people attended the open house for Cheyenne Center for Creativity's new home at 109 North Quincy. This historic space is rented from the owner, Ron Wilson. It once housed part of the old Danielson Store. Mr. Wilson recently updated and remodeled the two rooms that face Quincy Street.

Guests walked through this facility, and were excited as they caught the vision of the Center's potential. The design of one room creates a spacious gallery with gleaming wood floors and a high hammered tin ceiling, perfect for displaying art. The other room serves as a space for workshops and varied activities.

During the open house Sarah and Lila Whitmore entertained visitors in the gallery with a soul-lifting performance of guitar and flute music. The audience appreciated the excellent acoustics of this space and recognized that it would provide an ideal setting for future events: recitals, dramatic presentations, book reviews, a storytelling festival, and guest speakers, to name a few.

One visitor observed that the facility could host conferences

because of the large open room and the adjacent classroom area, noting that organization's digital projector could be utilized. Others commented that the location would be ideal for small receptions. The capacity for this space is 45.

Susan Griffin announced that several classes and workshops are scheduled for March and April. The first is Glass Fusing 101 on March 10, taught by Kim Zweygardt. Carol Redding will present information on Finance Management on March 16. Kids' Open Art Day will be held March 14. "Canvas and Coffee" and "Canvas and Chianti" by Peggy Moberly will be offered in April. Sunday afternoons at 2 Cheyenne Center for Creativity hosts Cinema Sunday. The feature film on Feb. 24 is "Secretariat." Everyone is welcome.

Look for further details in The Herald.

The Cheyenne Center for Creativity team, local businesses and individuals have joined in supporting the Center's endeavors through sponsorships and donations including \$300 sponsorships and \$150 co-



ENTERTAINING at the open house were Sarah and Lila Whitmore.

sponsorships go toward monthly expenses for the Center. Donations of any amount will help 109 N. Quincy become a high quality, multi-use facility for the St. Francis community.

Ag Talk with Jeanne

Spring Oats for Forage Production

By Jeanne Falk
Agronomy Specialist

Over the last several years, cattle producers across the state have found spring oats to provide excellent spring pasture and hay. With reasonable inputs, spring oats can provide a bridge for producers short on available pasture in April and May until perennial pasture or summer annual forage production becomes available. In addition, it may help fill some of the gaps producers have this year with the dry conditions.

In northwest Kansas, the optimal date is from the first week of March through the end of March. However, adequate pasture is practical after the optimum planting date. To maximize pasture production potential, it is necessary to plant as early as possible. A seeding rate of two bushels per acre is recommended. Under good soil moisture or irrigation, three bushels per acre may be preferable for grazing.

Oats may be successfully planted no-till, however, growth and vigor are typically greater when pre-plant tillage is used. No-till is more successful in fields that have been under no-till for a period of years, and riskier in "opportunistic" no-till situations. In either case, a firm seedbed is necessary for optimal production. Under adequate soil moisture conditions, a seeding depth of 1/2 to 1 inch is preferable. Oats may be planted at depths greater than one inch under dry conditions; however, oat seedlings are less vigorous than wheat and can experience difficulties emerging at deeper planting depths, especially after crusting rains.

Oat pasture should be treated the same as winter wheat pasture in terms of stocking rates and time to initiate grazing. Since grain production is not practical or recommended under grazing, producers should treat oat pasture as a graze-out program or remove it when ready for the next crop. Oats are easily controlled by a variety of herbicides, such as glyphosate and atrazine. The length of effective grazing is a function of stocking rate and weather. Rotational grazing may extend the window for effective

pasture production.

For hay, late boot to early heading is the optimal timing to balance quantity with quality considerations. Harvested at the dough stage, hay should have an approximate total dietary nutrient of 56 percent with 10 percent protein, both on a dry basis. A nitrate test is recommended. Prussic acid levels should not be a concern.

Silage is another option for spring oats. Oats should be harvested for silage from late milk through early dough stages. Expect silage with a total dietary nutrient of approximately 60 percent and 9 percent protein on a dry weight basis.

Finally, oats in Kansas may be planted for grain with expected yields of 50 or more bushels per acre most years. However, typical growing conditions during grain fill normally result in low test weights, making the grain unsuitable for food use. Grain from oats is acceptable as livestock feed; however, a market should be identified prior to planting since few markets exist locally.

Book Review

What's So Amazing About Grace?

By Philip Yancey

In 1987, an IRA bomb buried Gordon Wilson and his twenty-year-old daughter beneath five feet of rubble. Gordon alone survived. And forgave. He said of the bombers, "I have lost my daughter, but I bear no grudge....I shall pray, tonight and every night, that God will forgive them."

His words caught the media's ears-and out of one man's grief, the world got a glimpse of grace.

Grace is the church's great distinctive. It's the one thing the world cannot duplicate, and the one thing it craves above all else-for only grace can bring hope and transformation to a jaded world. In *What's So Amazing About Grace?* award-winning author Philip Yancey explores grace at street level. If grace is God's love for the undeserving, he asks, then what does it look like in action? And if Christians are its sole dispensers, then how are we doing at lavishing grace on a world that knows far more of cruelty and unforgiveness than it does of mercy?

Grace does not excuse sin, says Yancey, but it treasures the sinner. True grace is shocking, scandalous. It shakes our conventions with its insistence on getting close to

sinners and touching them with mercy and hope.

In his most personal and provocative book ever, Yancey offers compelling, true portraits of grace's life-changing power. He searches for its presence in his own life and in the church. He asks, How can Christians contend graciously with moral issues that threaten all they hold dear?

And he challenges us to become living answers to a world that desperately wants to know, *What's So AMAZING About Grace?*

Legislative Town Hall Meetings

with Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer and Rep. Ward Cassidy, Rep. Couture-Lovelady

Saturday, February 23, 2013

8-9 a.m. CT	St. Francis	Cuppa Joe Espresso
10-11 a.m. CT	Atwood	Williams Bros. Grocery
12-1 p.m. CT	Oberlin	Decatur Co. Courthouse
2-3 p.m. CT	Norton	Town and Country Kitchen
4-5p.m. CT	Logan	Hampton Memorial Plaza

Paid for by Senator Ralph Ostmeyer, Christine Niblock, Treasurer
 Representative Ward Cassidy, Michael Day, Treasurer
 Representative Travis Couture-Lovelady, Elaine Adams, Treasurer

Storm spotter classes scheduled March 15

This year's Storm Spotter class in St. Francis will be held on Friday, March 15. The class starts at 6:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

The class is free of charge and open to anyone with an interest in High Plains weather. This program is conducted only once a year by National Weather Service meteorologists so consider attending this fun and educational training in St. Francis. The class will discuss Wireless Emergency Alerts, new Impact-Based Warnings, thunderstorm organization and

evolution, associated clouds and their meaning, thunderstorm hazards, safety, and what and how to report.

For more information, contact the Goodland National Weather Service at (785) 899-7119. A complete listing of the 2013 Spotter Training Schedule across the tri-state area is available on the web page: <http://weather.gov/goodland>.

The class is brought to St. Francis by the National Weather Service and the Cheyenne County Emergency Management.

Cubs Den Daycare

The Idalia Cubs Den Daycare facility has open lead teacher positions. For questions or to request an application please give Karen a call at the number below or email us!

970-354-7587

THECUBSDEN@PLAINSTEL.COM



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