

\$1,000 reward offered in theft

Midwest Energy is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the theft of several brass switch tops earlier this month, from a storage yard near Colby.

Sometime between Sept. 1 and Sept. 13, thieves cut the fence at a Midwest Energy outdoor storage facility in the 1200 block of North Franklin, just north of the Colby city limits. They pried open several storage crates containing electrical switches. Thieves stole the brass tops from a dozen switches, valued at over \$10,000, rendering them useless in the event of a storm or an outage.

The Thomas County Sheriff's Department is leading the investigation into the theft.

"The switch tops themselves have no other application, other than as scrap metal," said Chris Gerstner, Colby operations manager for Midwest Energy.

The scrap value of the metal is minimal, estimated at less than \$300. Scrap dealers in Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado are aware of the theft, and are looking for anyone trying to sell the uniquely shaped items.

Anyone with information on the theft is encouraged to contact the Deputy Mark Finley at Thomas County Sheriff's office at 785-460-4570. Tips can be made anonymously.

Davisson named farm agency executive director

Amanda Miller
amiller@nwks.com

Cheyenne County has a new face at the Farm Service Agency office.

Alicia Davisson is the county executive director at the county office. As the new director, she is responsible for federal farm program delivery and related administrative duties. She took her office on May 20.

Ms. Davisson works closely with the county committee to make sure that all programs are administered effectively. She also ensures that all the producers submit their reports accurately and timely so that they meet the program eligibility requirements. Accurate acreage reports are necessary to determine and maintain eligibility, for example for the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, and Automation, before being accepted into training with the Kansas Farm Service Agency in August 2012.

Like many others, Alicia is waiting for the updated Farm Bill. Elected officials have yet to tackle the major piece of agriculture and nutrition policy, she said. Although it is difficult to predict which programs might be available, she encourages producers to continue to report their acres to her office to keep current on any programs offered.

The deadline to report 2014 grass and alfalfa acres is Nov. 15. The 2014 wheat acreage reporting deadline is Dec. 15.



Davisson

the Colorado State University Crops Testing Program. For four years, Alicia was responsible for multiple program areas, including Payment Limitation, Direct and Counter-cyclical Program, and Automation, before being accepted into training with the Kansas Farm Service Agency in August 2012.

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RAIN COMES – Cheyenne County received rain starting Thursday and lasting into Saturday. The much needed moisture, ranging anywhere from 3 to 4.5 inches (depending on who was asked), will help farmers get their wheat planted.

Herald staff photo by Norma Martinez

September declared hunger action month

As we start into the fall and winter months, Cheyenne County Food Pantry is hitting our peak season for financial donations that will sustain us through the upcoming year.

Several months ago in the pantry article written by Carol Sloper, one of the coordinators, she said the county is serving almost 25 families every month and this number is expected to increase by at least 10-20 families in the winter months.

Financial donations can be dropped off at First National Bank, St. Francis. Non-perishable food items and meat are welcome and can be received either at the Cheyenne County Courthouse by calling Carol 785-829-3679 or Candi Douthit, 785-332-0068.

It is also hunting season, Mrs. Sloper said. If anyone has game animal meat they don't wish to keep, we would be happy to pay for game animal processing as meat costs are quite high and this would greatly reduce our expenditures while providing local meat to our clients.

Through the years, people have supported the Food Pantry, Mrs. Douthit said. We thank you for your ongoing support in alleviating the food shortage in our county.

2013 hunger statistics

The local food pantry shares data on a routine basis with the Kansas Food Bank and Feeding America which conduct a comprehensive study every four years which helps shape policy, legislation, spending,

grants, and many more tasks at both the national and local levels for years to come.

The most recent published study showed in the 85 counties served by the Kansas Food Bank, about 40 percent of adult clients reported going a whole day without eating because of lack of money for food; nearly half reported eating less, or skipping meals entirely, every month because of financial difficulties. Roughly 17 percent of Food Bank clients also reported that children "sometimes" or "often" went without eating because there wasn't enough money for food.

These economic conditions create difficult choices for most Food Bank clients. Survey results found:

- 45 percent of clients have had to choose between paying the mortgage or rent, and buying food; 20 percent were late on the previous month's mortgage and 13 percent said they currently had no place to

live.

- 43 percent of clients have had to choose between transportation and food; 37 percent do not have a working car.

- And 36 percent have had to choose between medicine or medical care and food; a quarter have a family member in poor health, a third don't have any health insurance coverage, and over half have unpaid medical bills.

- 54 percent have had to choose between paying for utilities and food.

- Kansas is among the top 10 states with the worst hunger problems.

- Kansas has the seventh highest percentage of residents who are either cutting back on the quantity and quality of food, or skipping meals entirely.

- 53,000 households reported regularly skipping meals in 2007. Going hungry adversely affects

everyone, but growing children are especially vulnerable to the effects.

• Kids who don't get enough to eat are more likely to struggle in school, four times more likely to need mental health counseling, seven times more likely to get into fights and 12 times more likely to steal.

More information can be obtained at www.kansasfoodbank.org/hunger-statistics.



Best Decision I Ever Made!
Happy 30th Anniversary

*Do you know what makes it a beautiful world?
It's all my dear relatives, neighbors and friends
who remembered to send cards, gifts, flowers,
phone calls, visits and parties for my 92nd
birthday! How in the world could I ever thank
each of you for so much love? I will try by
being good to you. May the Lord bless you
and keep you!! —Barb Ewing*

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*Please join us on Oct 5, 2013 for
Ron and Dot Hill's
25th wedding anniversary
and
Dot's 80th birthday celebration!*

*We will be celebrating at the Holiday Inn Express
in Goodland, KS. from
1:30 to 4 p.m. MT!*

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Cheyenne County, Kansas Cropland & Grass
FOR SALE AT AUCTION
Approx 160 acres - SW/4 9-3-40 - Just North of St. Francis!
Friday, October 4, 2013 @ 1:30 pm CT
Auction Site: Western Auction & Real Estate Pavilion, St. Francis, KS
Patricia Friedman, Mona Belle Moore, Roberta Rininger, Sellers

Cheyenne Co., Kansas & Yuma Co., Colorado Dryland
FOR SALE AT AUCTION
Approx 560 acres in 4 Tracts
Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013 @ 1:30 pm CT
Auction Site: Western Auction & Real Estate Pavilion, St. Francis, KS
Elmer E. Brunswig & Esther R. Brunswig, Sellers

Northwest Kansas Ranch
JUST LISTED!
Approx. 191 ac. Grassland w/ Home, Fabulous Outbuildings,
Livestock Facility, Grain Storage located Southwest of St. Francis, KS
Check this listing out online!

Sherman County, Kansas Dryland
FOR SALE & LEASE
For Sale: NE/4 35-6-42, For Lease: 2 quarters near this property!

Sherman County, Kansas Irrigated Cropland
FOR SALE
SE/4 32-8-42: Minerals included, Sprinkler

Cheyenne County, Kansas CRP
FOR SALE
160.9 ac. w/ \$29.92/acre Contract expires 9/30/22
W/2 NE/4 & W/2 SE/4 5-5-37

Bird City Commercial Properties
FOR SALE AT AUCTION
Prairie Land Electric, Sellers
Watch for more details on 3 locations in
Beautiful Bird City, Kansas

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Good Bye Summer ... Hello Fall!!!
... and it's "that" time again!
CITY-WIDE CLEANUP
St. Francis Citizens
Call the Power Plant 332-3031
between 7:30 a.m. to 12 noon
and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Do not leave cleanup requests on
the answering machine, they will
not be picked up, talk to the
dispatcher. Requests can be
called in Monday thru Friday.
DEADLINE OCTOBER 11th.
Calls received after the deadline
will have to wait until next fall.
Your cooperation and patience
will be appreciated.

The Uptown Market and Deli
(Downtown St. Francis)

Chili Days Ahead Sale
Friday & Saturday, Sept. 20-21

Ground Beef 85/15	\$3.68/lb.
Our Own Homemade Sausage	\$2.98/lb.
Beef Stew or Fajita Meat	\$4.18/lb.
Big Buy Original or Peppered Bacon	\$2.98/lb.
Hillshire Farm Polska Kielbasa Rope	\$2.98/14 oz.
Farmland Bacon Wrapped Pork Filets	\$1.48 each
Clear Value Boneless-Skinless Chick Filets	\$4.98/2.5lb bag
"Grade A" Large Eggs	\$1.48/doz.
Crystal Farms Shred Cheese	\$2.98/8 oz. bag
Fuji Extra Fancy Apples	\$3.48/3 lb. bag
Butter Kernel Corn, Peas, Green Beans	78¢/can
Swiss Miss Hot Cocoa Mix	\$2.48/box
Mom's Best Cereals Cinn or Frosted Squares	\$2.98/box
ShurFine Chilets Beans	78¢/can
Hudson Cream Flour	\$2.98/5 lb. bag
Lakota Natural or Butter Mico Popcorn	\$2.48/box
J. Skinner Krumble Cake, 3 types	\$2.98
Essen Haus Amish Noodles	\$2.98/bag
Loft House Soft Cookies, 4 types	\$3.48/10 count
Marzetti Caramel Apple Dip	98¢

We also have pumpkins, gourds and colored corn
413 E. Washington • St. Francis • 785-332-2774