



FIREMEN WERE CALLED to the home of Bob Herman, southwest of town, to put out a pickup fire. The pickup caught fire on Aug. 22 but there was no information as to how the fire started.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

DAIRY

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permits, dirt work will start in November and construction will begin in February.

The construction will be done by a company from Canyon, Texas. There will be 40-50 construction workers on the job and it is expected to take four to five months to complete.

Mike McCarty plans to move his family to Bird City in late May or June. There will be five or six key personnel and their families brought from the Rexford site with the needed experience to start operations here.

Approximately 12 more jobs will be open for qualified applicants!

“What types of jobs will be available?” asked Troy Burr, Bird City Mayor.

“There will be inside jobs as well as outside jobs, a herdsman, seven milkers, three pushers, breeders,

feeders, hoof trimmer, many opportunities for the best qualified to do a good job,” Mike McCarty answered.

Housing is one of the main concerns of both the McCarty’s and area residents. Rental properties are needed by the construction crew as well as the families employed by the dairy. In Rexford most of the dairy employees are from Chihuahua, Mexico. The dairy rents homes in the area for their employees and provides their utilities as part of their salaries. There are also bonuses and incentives offered to employees.

“We take a lot of pride in our employees because they are a reflection on us.” Mike McCarty said after the mayor of Rexford, Bill Dible spoke to the assembly about the impact of the McCarty Dairy on the Rexford area. Mr. Dible emphasized how well kept the rentals are and stated that he

owns some of them. When asked if the dairy would buy housing for their employees, Mr. McCarty answered that they need to invest in cattle not real estate.

There will be opportunities for local growers to market high quality feedstuffs to the dairy. Alfalfa, silage, corn, straw, cottonseed and hay will be needed.

In return their will be a supply of manure available from their three stage manure system. They use a sand-base bedding in their open air barns. From there, waste goes to earth basins to settle and a two stage lagoon system. There will be solids available for spreading and the liquids will be pumped through irrigation for fertilizer.

“What does the dairy ask of Bird City?” Mayor Burr asked.

“Patience,” Mr. McCarty said. “It will take us a little while to get going, and smooth out the wrinkles. Maybe no tours right away. We’ll be happy to show folks around once we get going.”

“What is the total estimated worth of the project?” Ernie Ketzner asked. Specialist Smith, said it is estimated between \$9 and \$10 million.

Golden Plains principal, Mr. Baskerville spoke to the group about their concerns and hopes for the Cheylin School District. The question of bilingual teachers was a concern. Golden Plains obtained a grant which offered incentives for some of their teachers to become certified as English as a second language (ESL) teachers.

“The children become fluent very quickly. They’re bright young people who have been a godsend to our school. Right now I’m very envious of you all. You are getting some of the very best families and if I could keep them I would,” Mr. Baskerville said.

SPEAKER

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keep their farms, many of them building the farm before the house.

“C” stands for commitment. She said without commitment, “action” and “belief” will falter. Mrs. Hargraves said that Cheyenne County was the first county in the state to reach memberships gain and voting members. The county Farm Bureau is also to be commended for bringing educational programs to youth as well as adults.

Roger Zweygardt, president, told of the many programs which Farm Bureau had brought to the community. Some of them were giving \$50 to the Food Pantry, gave informational meeting on well meter requirements for irrigation wells, hosted a farm tour for fourth and fifth graders; co-sponsored the

Pedal Pull and gave the winners T-shirts and conducted a ATV safety rodeo.

The Cheyenne County Farm Family award went to Clayton and Lori Janicke and family. Safety poster winners were: Forrest Burr, Tye Carmichael and Reece Leonard.

There was an election of board members. Board members include Mr. Zweygardt, Steve Douthit, Shawna Blanka, Ryan Culwell, Todd Neitzel, Clayton Janicke and Jeanne Dunn. The agency manager is Connie Holzwarth, and Marla Rice is the marketing assistant and county coordinator. District administrator is Craig Cooper.

A meal was served by the high school cooks. Door prizes were drawn before the crowd adjourned.

GIFT

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bid was from Jim’s Electric and Engineering, Colby, which was \$6,323.

Resignations

The hospital had received two resignations from nurses: Beth Gabel RN and Natasha Wilson RN. Vicki Coates had stepped aside as clinic manager and Mr. Lacy said they would hire a manager in the near future. He also said that, at this time, it would not be necessary to use traveling nurses.

Brenda Hays, who had previously been approved by the board to further her education, by pursuing an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner license, reported by letter that she would not return to Fort Hays State University this year but next summer, would re-evaluate. Her contract is for six years and she still plans to be finished by then.

In other business

In other business:

- After Aug. 31, the providers will be able to access lab work from any networked computer terminal.

- At the July meeting, the administrator said the commissioners had asked that consideration be given to the hospital taking over the ambulance service. At the Thursday meeting, he reported that he believed it would not be in the best interest of patients, the county, the emergency medical service, or the hospital for the hospital to operate the service.

- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) audit was completed on site at the hospital in July. Mr. Lacy said the audit cost the hospital \$23,293 mostly because the Provider Statistical and Reimbursement Reconciliation reports from Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services were late in arriving at the hospital. While this seemed costly, Mr. Lacy said he was relieved at the low amount as other hospitals were paying in the excess of \$100,000.

- Last year, the hospital and clinic had a shortage of flu vaccines. An order was placed through another company and, after some concern that this company would have the needed vaccine, it was announced that the county should have an adequate stock.

President’s comments

Jerry Toler, board president, reported on the Kansas Hospital Association meeting, saying that he felt

that it was very good meeting. He thought that it would be good if the board had more contact with Dr.

Mary Beth Miller and department heads. This matter will be discussed at later meetings.

FUND

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\$26,000.

“Sizable donations can make a difference,” Mr. Keller said.

“With low interest rates and minimal funds, it is difficult to distribute meaningful funds.”

He said that the board is reviewing some options including looking into utilizing the grant writing skills of several people in the community. There are a number of private foundations which will give to organizations such as the Generation Fund

“This would give the Fund a ‘kick start,’” Mr. Keller said.

In the months to come, the New Generation Fund board will be informing people of the advantages of giving to the Fund and what their gift could possibly do.

At the Thursday meeting, the members were informed of the \$2,200 donation from the Walter Stephenson and Lucille Carmen Stephenson estate.

“This is a perfect example of the type of giving which will help the New Generation Fund grow,” said Mr. Keller.

The local is administered by an unpaid, local board elected from the public with well-defined term limits.

If anyone has questions or would like to know more about the New Generation Fund, contact the following board members: Dara Carmichael, Mike Day, Robert Grace, Susan Hobrock, Tom Keller, Carla Lampe and Carl Werner.

The next annual meeting will be held in December.

DUTIES

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gives them a break to do other things if needed.

Mr. Carmichael came to St. Francis to coach high school football and teach special education 24 years ago. At that time, he taught in the grade school in the morning and was at the high school in the afternoon.

“Being a principal at both schools is just like coming home,” he said.

Mr. Carmichael said he has resigned from several boards but will continue to be the assistant football coach, a sport he dearly loves.

He is looking forward to having a little more time to hunt and fish with his son Lucas, a sixth grader (“not everyone gets to go to school with their son”). He said he will also have more time to travel and spend time with wife Dara, who is one of his best supporters.

Mr. Carmichael will be available in either of his offices, grade school or high school or call him. He said either Terri (Richard) or Marilyn (Raile) will know where to get a hold

of him.

As the 2006-2007 school year starts, he thinks he is one of the luckiest guys to be doing something he really likes to do!

TOUR

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markers happened when a scouting party led by Lt. Lyman Kidder, with 10 members of the 2nd U.S. Cavalry and an Indian guide, were ambushed and massacred. There were no survivors. The mutilated bodies were discovered July 12, 1867, by Col. (later Gen.) George Custer and a searching party. They were buried there, but the following February they were recovered and moved to Fort Wallace Cemetery by a party under command of Lt. Frederick Beecher, who later that year was to lose his life at the Battle of Beecher Island.

People should plan to bring their own drinking water and wear suitable clothing for this outside adventure on Sept. 10.

Participate in an Upcoming Promotion

For more details, contact: **Casey McCormick**

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