

Commissioners approve final price for the new ambulance

By Karen Krien
karen.k@nwkans.com

When the Cheyenne County Commissioners met on Thursday, they approved the final price on the new ambulance.

Jannelle Bowers, emergency medical service director, and Mike Hansen, technician and instructor, reported that the final bill for the new ambulance would be \$134,400. They noted that the Ford discount wasn't as high as expected, going from \$5,500 to \$3,500. The ambulance is a 2009 Ford F450 4 by 4, instead of a 2008 model. That raised the price \$2,500. The Community Development and Building grant paid for \$73,000 and the county will pick up the other \$61,400.

The ambulance will have "Cheyenne County Ambulance" painted on it but it will be located in Bird

City.

Mrs. Bowers said Ambulance 7A was in the body shop having damaged repaired from a summer storm. Troy Meyer, body repairman, said the roof of the ambulance had some cave-in damage because there was no cross brace. He will add a cross brace in the repair.

Talk then turned to the new emergency building in St. Francis. Mrs. Bowers said they had moved into the office but was wondering about moving the ambulances into the building. She said the floor still wasn't fixed. (The floor is flaking away in the ambulance bay area.)

"We don't know where we stand on the floor," she said. "We would like to get everything moved in."

Commissioner Andy Beikman was hesitant for the ambulances to be brought in until the floor was

fixed and until they had a firm contract on what it was going to cost to house the county equipment.

Mr. Beikman said he had talked to Dale Weeks, city councilman, and J.R. Landenberger, city superintendent, about the floor. It is a brand new building, he said, and the floor should be done right. They also discussed the fact that they had been asked to share the cost of paint for the floor. No decision was made except the ambulances will continue to be housed in the old ambulance building.

Mrs. Bowers said the first responder's class was just about complete. There are four students who will have a mock test on Nov. 8 and the final exam is Nov. 15. Someone from the state will come to St. Francis to do the testing.

Elementary students share what it takes to be president

Now that the elections are over and the nation's adults have made their decision, let us take a moment and find out what Cheylin Elementary students think about what it takes to be the president of the United States.

Kayla Bursch's first grade class was asked, "What the President does for fun." 1. Goes to war. 2. Talks to his mother. 3. Plays ball

games. 4. Talks to people and then plays games like "Go Fish." and 5. Rules the town.

Everyone knows that President George W. Bush will no longer be in office, but what will he do? Kathy Weber's second grade class had some interesting answers. 1. Do welding. 2. Swim in a pool. 3. Work in a store. 4. Get a mansions. 5. Stay at home all day. 6. Work in an of-

office. 7. Open a swimming pool. 8. Be a cook somewhere. 9. Work at Walmart. 10. Work in a bank. 11. Be a missionary. 12. Be a teacher. 13. Become an artist.

So, what does the president do while at the White House? Third grade teacher, Ken Hankins, put the question to his students. 1. Fills out papers. 2. Does laws. 3. Looks up information on his computer. 4. Sends bad guys to the judge. 5. Makes important phone calls. 6. I have no idea. 7. Types on his computer all day.

Tammi Carmichael's fourth grade students answered the question "To be a president a person must..." 1. Go through certain steps like be a governor. 2. Have people like what he has done or is going to do. 3. Take care of the country. 4. Like the state he lives in. 5. Have meetings and give speeches for the community or town. 6. Have people like them a lot. 7. Do a lot of paperwork.

For more personal information, Cristi Antholz's fifth grade students were asked "A president must..." 1. Be smart. 2. Be nice. 3. Be a Christian. 4. Loyal to nation. 5. Know how to run the country, not a dictator. 6. Have good leadership and experience. 7. Be ready for challenges. 8. Know what is good for our country. 9. Has to know what you are talking about. 10. At least be 18 years old. 11. Know what is going on in the war on terrorism. 12. Should talk about energy. 13. Be respectful and helpful to everybody in the United States. 14. Should have lots of answers for people. 15. Do things that are good for our country. 16. Make our country safe. 17. Love his people of America. 18. Try to get people to like our country.

Kale Schields' sixth grade students answered the thought provoking question "If I were president I would..." 1. Help stop the wars in the world. 2. Make sure we would try to use less trees so the animals could have more habitat. 3. Try to get the government to lower gas prices. 4. Try to make the world a better place by picking up litter, helping senior citizens, and other things. 5. Do good things for the country. 6. Help the environment. 7. Stop global warming and give money to the poor.



LES LOKKER, Energy Analyst, from Midwest Energy measures air leaks in a home as part of a new energy saving program. Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

Number of accidents involving deer is rising

Steadily rising number in Kansas vehicle accidents involving deer have prompted a need for constant defensive driving this fall, according to Sandy Praeger, Commissioner of Insurance.

More than 200 additional deer-vehicle accidents occurred on Kansas roads during 2007 than in 2006, according to statistics from the Kansas Department of Transportation, 9,417 compared to 9,197 in 2006. With five deaths and 298 injuries, those numbers also are up from 2006.

"A frightening reality of driving on Kansas roads and highways this time of year is the possibility of an unexpected encounter with a deer," said Commissioner Praeger. "I urge Kansans to drive cautiously, especially around sunrise and sunset."

Commissioner Praeger urges motorists to check with their insurance agent to find out the type of vehicle accident and damage coverage their policies have.

To help avoid deer-vehicle collisions, Commissioner Praeger suggest the following, stay alert, always wear your seat belt and drive

at a safe, sensible speed. Watch for the reflection of deer eyes and deer silhouettes on the shoulder of the road and do not rely exclusively on devices such as deer whistles, deer fences and reflectors to deter deer.

When driving at night, use high-beam headlights when there is not opposing traffic, the lights will illuminate the eyes of deer on or near a roadway. Brake firmly when a deer is in or near the path, but do not swerve into another lane to avoid hitting the deer. Potentially, there is less risk of injury by hitting the deer than another vehicle.

If the deer stays on the road, stop on the shoulder, put on your hazard lights and wait for the deer to leave the roadway; do not try to go around the deer while it is on the road. Moreover, if a deer is blocking the roadway and poses a danger to other motorists, report the incident to local law enforcement agency.

Finally, if a deer is hit and there is uncertainty of whether the animal is dead, keep at a distance; it is an injured, wild animal with sharp hooves that can inflict serious injury.

ahead with the qualifying improvements, contractors can be notified and start adding the energy saving improvements to the home. Midwest Energy does not recommend contractors; however, to participate in the program, a HowSmart Contractor Master Agreement must be on file with Midwest Energy.

Midwest will then set up a repayment surcharge plan that will be no more than 90 percent of the potential savings at 4-percent interest over a 15-year period. To illustrate the payment plan, if projected savings were to amount to \$50 per month, the repayment would be \$45. The actual surcharge would depend on cost of the improvements and the monthly utility savings.

Furthermore, if there is a change in the homeowner or tenant, the surcharge stays with the improved property. The first step is to make the call to Midwest Energy to get the information on this energy saving program.

Energy program is available

Midwest Energy has recently implemented a new energy saving program available to homeowners, landlords and tenants who are electric and/or gas customers. Customers must also be in good standing with their utility bills. In addition to improving energy efficiency and lower utility bills, there is no upfront investment from the customer.

The program is called HowSmart and Midwest Energy is the first utility in the nation to voluntarily adopt such a program. Midwest received the Governor's Energy Award at the Kansas Wind and Renewable Energy Conference held in September. The program was approved by Kan-

sas Corporation Commission.

The program provides money for energy efficiency improvements such as insulation, sealing, and heating and cooling systems to customers who will pay a monthly surcharge that will always be less than the projected savings.

Here is how it works. A Midwest Energy specialist will make a visit to the customer upon request to audit the home and identify potential utility savings. The testing is computerized and a full report on projected utility savings will be sent to the customer upon evaluation, in approximately two weeks.

If the customer decides to move

ahead with the qualifying improvements, contractors can be notified and start adding the energy saving improvements to the home. Midwest Energy does not recommend contractors; however, to participate in the program, a HowSmart Contractor Master Agreement must be on file with Midwest Energy.

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Sainty boy comes home

By Karen Krien
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Trevor Reed is back!

Trevor, 15, was injured in a one-car accident on Sept. 30. Trevor was rushed to the Cheyenne County Hospital and then flown to Swedish Hospital where he underwent several surgeries.

But, he is back! He made it to St. Francis in time to support his football team members at the St. Francis vs Rawlins County game on Thursday.

His mother, Lacy Reed, said he is gaining each day. He will be taking physical therapy at the Cheyenne County Hospital and is going to school a few hours a day until he has regained his strength. When he has more nerve feeling, he will be going back to Colorado for intense therapy.

Mrs. Reed said Trevor has nerve damage to the spinal cord but he has no spinal cord damage.

"He has time to heal and there is no time frame," Mrs. Reed said.

For the Record

At the November Bird City Council meeting, Sheriff Craig Van Allen reported that in addition to the October duties performed in the city limits, skunk and loose dog calls have gone down. Moreover, Deputy Ted McCoy will be graduating from the Sheriff's Academy in three weeks.

Deputies responded to over 137.5 hours of patrol and casework that included two tickets, five traffic warnings, one possible Driving Under the Influence complaint and one

auto accident.

They also answered one missing child, one burglary, one noise complaint, one warrant, three vandalism reports and one criminal trespassing.

As reported by Sheriff Van Allen, there was one skunk call and one vicious dog call.

As preformed patrol duties, the deputies checked doors of businesses and patrolled at home football games.

Be Inspired Everyday!

November 7 and 8-Holiday Open House.
We will show you the latest in holiday home fashion. YOU WILL BE WOWED! Load everybody up and come on over!

Friday the 7th-Two demonstrations at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.-
Seasonal Circle-Create a cheerful holiday wreath! We'll help show you how with your own kit (fee charged).
Unforgettable Cocktail Party 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday the 8th-Two demonstrations from 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.- Gift Giving Guide and Unforgettable Gift Wrapping- We have come up with some delightful ideas to help make the holidays more merry and bright! We will also show you unforgettable ways to wrap it all up in fabulous festive styles.

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Thanks to everyone who voted in this year's election. Thanks to those who showed confidence in me and voted for me. Thanks to all the election workers and counters who braved the front line and helped make this election a success.

**** Thanks to Mary Beth and Marvin for helping set up and take down the polling place.****

I couldn't do it without you all.

Terry Miller, County Election Officer

★ McCook Farm & Ranch Expo ★

Wednesday, November 19, 2008 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday, November 20, 2008 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Red Willow County Fairgrounds in McCook, Nebraska

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Special Features:

Miss Rodeo America Amy Wilson will be signing autographs on Wednesday, November 19 from 10:30 to 1:30 and Thursday, Nov. 20 from 11:30 to 1:00

Stock Dog Demonstrations On Thurs., Nov. 20

Wrangler L. FINALS VIDEO

Steven Dent, 2XX NFR Qualifier and PRCA All-Around Rookie of the Year will be signing autographs on Wednesday, Nov. 19 from 10:30 to 1:30 and Thursday, Nov. 20 from 11:30 to 1:00

Free Parking Free Admission

www.mccookfarmandranchexpo.net

'No Hunting' signs available

at the St. Francis Herald

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