

Commissioners discuss handicap driveway

By Karen Krien

Commissioner Andy Beikman said he had been told that the handicap drive on the west side of the courthouse needed improvement. The commissioners, at their Feb. 15 meeting, agreed to see what it would cost to extend and widen the drive.

Commissioner Beikman said older people and/or people with handicaps have trouble getting out because the drive is so narrow that there is not room to get out of the car without stepping on the grass. It is also difficult to back out of the drive.

He suggested that the commissioners look into the cost of a "drive thru" with the handicap drive being extended to make a circle drive that would exit on Benton Street. He also suggested that it be made wider.

Those using the handicap drive can enter the courthouse at the basement level and use the elevator to go to the other floors. There are also handicap door entry pads. However, the narrow drive discourages people from using it.

Maintenance person Carl Williams will get some measurements and Terry Miller, clerk, will see about getting some bids for the work. Bid deadline will be March 14.

Snow removal

For a number of years, there has been little need for snow removal from county roads. However, this year, there has been weeks of snowy conditions and complaints that the county was not clearing private drives.

Commissioner Beikman had talked to the insurance agent, Roxie Neitzel, who said the county was covered while clearing roads and drives. But, if there are a lot of claims, the insurance coverage may need to be reviewed.

The commissioners felt that the first removal of snow should be to the roads and that the county crew didn't have time to open private drives. Commissioner Ernie Ketzner said the county crew used to clear drives when needed. They discussed the fact that some county residents had the equipment to clear drives while others had nothing.

Commissioner Ray Lee thought that, if nothing else, if there is an emergency, the county should clear

that person's drive. It was agreed that the crew would do this.

Commissioner Beikman said the county has a policy that if there is a business which can remove snow or any other service, the county crew does not interfere.

The matter of snow removal was tabled until after Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, visits with the St. Francis Board of Education about bus routes and private drive snow removal.

Records moved

The county's voting machines are required to be kept under lock and key. The machines are currently being stored in the history room in the basement of the courthouse. When someone wants to look at the school and census records, the room needs to be unlocked and monitored.

Margaret Bucholtz and Janet Carmen, Cheyenne County Historical Society, said the museum on U.S. 36 had an area where the school and census records could be safely stored. Mrs. Bucholtz said it would be convenient for everyone if they could move the records from the history room to the museum.

The commissioners thought this would be a good solution for all involved and agreed to the moving of the records.

Noxious weed supervisor report

Dan Schlittenhardt, noxious weed supervisor, had a letter of support for the commissioners to sign. The letter asked that the application for Rozol be extended from March 15 to April 15. Rozol is used in getting rid of prairie dogs.

The commissioners talked about cost sharing for eliminating prairie dogs. Mr. Schlittenhardt said Logan County Commissioners are taking ranchers to court because of their prairie dog problems.

Mr. Schlittenhardt had a bid for a new pickup but, looking at the cost, the commissioners asked that he get another bid so they could compare prices.

In other business

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• Tammy Pettijohn and Tracy Winchester-Hillmer, High Plains Mental Health, told the commissioners some of the services provided.

• Sheriff Gardner presented two bids for a pickup but no decision was made.

• Randy Hrabe, executive director of Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission, presented the Community Development Building Grant contracts for signature. The contracts are for the dairy being put near Bird City. One contract was for Northwest Kansas Planning and Development to serve as the grant administrator and the second contract was the State of Kansas Economic Development Grant Agreement (Bird City Dairy Community Development Building Grant). The contracts were signed.

Mr. Hrabe then talked about the work provided by the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission, noting that the commission could possibly help with a grant to purchase a generator for the new 911 emergency system.

• Janelle Bowers, emergency medical director, has been informed that Medicare wants the write-offs to be referred to as "adjustments." Adjustments of \$1,194 were approved.

• Director Bowers said she has had trouble with the one of the ambulances starting even after it had been worked on by Yost Ford-Mercury. She was concerned that the ambulance would be needed for an emergency run and it wouldn't run. The commissioners gave her permission to go to another qualified mechanic.

• Mark Mills, emergency medical technician, has taken the necessary training to recertify emergency medical technicians.

• Commissioners agreed to move forward with the new 911 emergency system. See related article.

• Judge Robert Van Allen had asked for assistance in paying for mileage to Denver and round trip airfare to Reno, Nev., so that he could attend the Judicial College in May. The judge received a scholarship for the college and the Kansas Supreme Court will pay for the conference fee, lodging and meals. The commissioners agreed to pay the mileage and airfare.

Next meeting

The next commissioners' meeting will be held at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 28, at the courthouse.



DAN SIEGFRIED SCOUTS OUT Keller Pond for the best place to start drilling holes. He and Grady Brunk made up one of 15 teams that participated in the Cheyenne County Wildlife Association's annual fishing contest.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

Musicians coming to town

The Golden Cords from Union College, Lincoln, Neb., will be performing at the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Third and Adams streets, St. Francis, on Saturday, March 3. The program, titled "We Have This Hope," will begin at 5:30 p.m.

The Golden Cords is a group of students and their faculty sponsor that consists of a string quartet, pianist, artist and a student missionary. They present a program consisting of classical music and hymns, a mission story and children's story, while the artist draws a picture all during the program. The picture stays with the church as a memory of the visit of the Golden Cords.

The group is under the direction of Dr. Tom Shepherd, professor of religion, who also is the cellist in the group. Dr. Shepherd says, "It is a joy for the students and me to bring this program to St. Francis. Our program is centered around the theme of the soon coming of Jesus."

We introduce all of our music with Scripture passages that revolve around this theme, he said. The student missionary tells of her experience overseas in Kenya, Africa, and there is an exciting Bible story for children.

"Our artist draws a picture that links to the theme," Dr. Shepherd

said. "I won't tell you what it is she draws — you will have to come and see, but many people enjoy watching her picture unfold before their eyes."

The group began touring in 1997 to locations throughout the midwest going both to large cities and small towns. Dr. Shepherd notes that they enjoy taking the program to people throughout the midwest.

"The people are so welcoming and friendly," he said. "We like the fact that we can connect with people both during and after our concert, talking about Union College, mu-

sic, art and the way God has blessed our lives."

The Golden Cords have traveled more widely to Florida, Washington, Oregon, California, British Columbia, Alaska, New York City, Washington, D.C., New England and even Brazil. In May, they will visit Arizona, Nevada and southern California.

Families of small children are welcome at the program. Children taking piano, violin, viola or cello lessons may talk with members of the group after the program and can ask to try out their instruments.

Club Clips

Ramblers Club

Ramblers Club members met at the home of Dolores Kincheloe on Wednesday, Feb. 14, for a delicious Valentine luncheon, co-hosted by Betty Winston and Arlene Walz.

Roll call was answered by "a song sung at my wedding." Elaine Kehlbeck gave the library report about thimbles and salt dips dis-

played by Virginia Cooper.

Louanne Isernhagen gave a delightful presentation about Laura Ingalls Wilder and played music on her violin from that time period.

The next meeting will be on March 14 at the Cheyenne Manor with Tobe Zwegardt presenting some of his metal sculptures.



Free screening for pre-school children

Cheylin School District will be offering preschool/pre-kindergarten screenings on Tuesday, March 6, for children from birth to school age. These screenings are required for children who will be attending kindergarten next August, but parents are also encourage to bring babies and preschoolers.

Hearing, vision, speech and language, concepts, and fine and gross motor skills will be screened. Parents are the primary and most influential teachers their children will ever have and these screenings will help parents discover their child's developmental stage and how best to encourage their ever changing skills. They also help the school districts plan and prepare for future students in order to try to offer the best educational experience.

The St. Francis School District offers screenings in the fall of the year while Cheylin offers them in the spring. Those unable to attend the fall screening or are new to the county are welcome to bring their child to the Bird City site which will be the Methodist Church. The screenings are free but appoint-

ments are needed and can be made by calling the Cheylin Elementary School secretary at 785-734-2351. Have questions, call Judy Sager at the same number.

James E. Reeves, DPM
Podiatrist/Foot Specialist
Reconstructive Surgery
Foot & Ankle Injuries
For appointments call:
Rawlins County Health Center
785-626-3211
Wed., Feb. 21
Cheyenne County Hospital - P.M.
210 W. 1st • 332-2104
Thurs., Feb. 22
Atwood (a.m.) • 626-3211
Colby (p.m.)
CSMC, 175 S. Range
462-332
CMC, 100 E. College Dr.
462-7511
Fri., Feb. 23
Atwood - All Day

Benkelman Pharmacy

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LEAGUE BUILDERS SUPPLY

We will be CLOSING our Benkelman, NE Store, effective March 1.

We thank you for your past patronage, and ask that you please use our Stratton, NE location for your building needs.

Our Stratton number is 308-276-2142, and we will be offering daily delivery from that location.

Tim Baxter
6/15/64 ~ 2/24/06
God saw that he was getting tired and a cure was not to be. So he put his arms around him and whispered "Come With Me."
With tearful eyes we watched him suffer and saw him fade away, although we loved him dearly, we could not make him stay.
A golden heart stopped beating, hard working hands were laid to rest. God broke our hearts to prove to us HE ONLY TAKES THE BEST!

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United States Government Department of Veterans Affairs Eastern Colorado Healthcare System Is Competing for Lease Space Eastern Colorado or Western Kansas

The United States Government is seeking to lease clinical, office and related space for use by the Department of Veterans Affairs for the establishment of an Outreach Clinic.

REQUIREMENTS: Square footage must yield approximately 1780 contiguous, occupiable square feet, with a minimum of 7 (5 regular +1 van-accessible/handicapped +1 for Government Vehicle) on-site parking spaces, inclusive for daily trash pick-up, housekeeping, utilities, life safety, building maintenance and environment of care assurances. Space must be suitable for an efficient layout to meet the following:

- SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:** •Handicapped accessible; IAW, ADA
- Provide VA with ability to secure medical records, offices/clinic space
- Infrastructure to support TI/DSL/ATM data connectivity, VA may consider "build-out"
- VA specified directional signage, internal and external
- Close proximity for routine/plain radiography with reports
- Immediate access to imaging, CT, ultra sound, fluoroscopy, laboratory services for STAT testing

DELINEATED AREA: Area is within city limits of a city located in Burlington, CO, Yuma, CO or Goodland, KS

LEASE TERM: Up to 3 years with 7 option years

OCCUPANCY: April 1, 2007 is desirable.

Interested offerors (owners, brokers and their legal representative) should submit information concerning their properties to Mark A. Moriarty, not later than March 3, 2007, at 4:30 p.m. Information should at a minimum, identify the address site, square footage and estimated cost per square foot. Submit to: Department of Veterans Affairs; Rocky Mountain Regional Contracting Center; ATTN: Mark A. Moriarty; 4100 East Mississippi Ave, Suite 1110; Glendale, CO 80246; Telephone No. (303)691-6544; email: mark.moriarty@va.gov

The Government is limited by law (40 USC 27a, as amended 10/1/81) to pay no more than the appraised fair market rental value for space.

RESPONDENTS ARE ADVISED THAT THE VA ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY TO AWARD A LEASE BASED UPON RESPONSES TO THIS ADVERTISEMENT.

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NWKTC
(gsn)