

Getting rid of e-waste

Margaret Bucholtz

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Where do old televisions, cell phones and computers go to die?

Many of us just throw it into our waste system adding cadmium, lead, mercury and other toxins to the soil.

Two years ago, the United States generated 2.6 million tons of electronic waste, which is 1.4 percent of the country's total waste stream. Only 12.6 percent of this "e-waste" was recycled.

The problem will only get worse with the new analog to digital television. People will have to get new televisions or the converter boxes. The Northwest Kansas Recycling group recognized this problem and has started forward with the project.

City council member Roger Jensen reported at a city council meeting that they have received grant money and have now secured a building, and a trailer and will, in the near future, be picking up the e-trash in the nine-county area.

"We are looking very careful at our vendors as we want to make sure the waste is recycled in the right manner," Mr. Jensen said.

The group will be meeting with two vendors this week so they can pick the one that is the most responsible.

Many vendors send their e-waste to the Third World countries which has caused problems. The young children are melting them down to get the precious metals. This is very harmful to not only the children, but pollutes the atmosphere for others.

Mr. Jensen asked that the community hold on to their e-trash for a few months until everything is set up and then send items to be recycled.



WILDLIFE BANQUET is all about sports, hunting and spending quality time with family. Cory Busse helps his son Tate with his steak dinner.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

Over 300 people attend annual Wildlife Banquet

By Casey McCormick
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The Cheyenne County Wildlife members held their annual meeting and banquet on Friday. More than 300 outdoor enthusiasts filled the American Legion Hall in Bird City for the sold-out event.

"It was a huge success and everything went well," said Tim Stimbert, president of the organization.

The group uses the proceeds of the evening to sponsor a fishing tournament, scholarships, the local gun club, support of the Coyote Calling Contest, fish food for the Keller Pond feeder and cost share with the Farm Service Agency for tree planting and wildlife habitat.

In addition Francis O'Leary operates a chronic wasting disease checkpoint.

In past years they have also provided feed for game birds when the winter weather makes it difficult to find food.

The focus of the organization is on future generations.

"We try to promote outdoor activities for the youth," Mr. Stimbert said, "The future of our sport is with young hunters and fishermen."

During the evening's activities an award was presented for the Sportsman of the Year. This year's honoree was Brent Rueb of St. Francis.

"Brent has been active in supporting Cheyenne
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Board takes resignation

By Karen Krien
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The St. Francis Board of Education accepted one resignation and discussed staffing plans for next year when they met on Thursday.

Ward Cassidy had submitted a letter of resignation as the high school boys' basketball coach. He will continue as the counselor.

Rob Schiltz, superintendent, and Scott Carmichael, principal, talked about how the departmentalization in the grade school had worked this year. In grades fourth, fifth and sixth, the three teachers had taught a particular subject to the top three grades. For instance, Julie Wolters taught math; Lynette Nolan taught science; and Becky

McAtee taught reading.

"It (departmentalization) had worked very well," Mr. Schiltz said. "The teachers are in their expertise area."

Judy Raile was moved to a full-time position in the At Risk program. Mr. Cassidy is the At Risk coordinator and focused on the grade school, especially in the lower grades. Sandy Smull and Gloria Cassidy were moved from one-third time to one-half time in the lower grades. Susan Dinkel began teaching computer skills in the grade school.

"There is no time to teach students these skills when they move into junior-senior high,"

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Farmers honored during the week

National Agricultural Week occurs every year on the first day of spring and honors agriculture for providing safe, abundant and affordable products, a strong economy, and sources of renewable energy and job opportunities.

American agriculture is doing more – and doing it more efficiently – than ever before. Today, each American farmer feeds more than 144 people. In 1960, each farmer fed 46 people. Innovations in farming techniques and technology have increased efficiency in the food production process.

But the industry provides more than food, feed and fiber, said Greg Webb, vice president, state government relations, Archer

Daniels Midland Company. It also produces biofuels, solvents, lubricants, plastics, building materials and more.

Today, more than 22 million people work in the agriculture industry. This includes careers in everything from food chemistry to banking to commodity trading. And the job descriptions of tomorrow's agriculture professionals may look quite different due to advances in farming technology and the broad opportunities that extend far beyond the field.

Check the page of advertising located in this issue to see those businesses honoring our farmers and agriculture.

911 dispatch board down to five people

By Karen Krien
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For weeks, forming a 911 dispatch board has been discussed. It has gone from 9 to 11 members to five.

At the Friday meeting of the Cheyenne County Commissioners, the board decided on a five-member board with a subcommittee of three law officers.

Andy Beikman had contacted an official at the state highway patrol training center and the official

had suggested that there be only five members. Mr. Beikman said that more members made decision making more difficult. The subcommittee will have veto power over the dispatch board.

Before the meeting, he had contacted the proposed members and they had agreed to serve on the board. The 911 board will consist of Natalie Knodel, St. Francis City Council member; Janelle Bowers, director of

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Easter Egg Hunt

11:30 a.m.
St. Francis
Grade
School



St. Francis journalism students earn honors

Yearbook, senior recognized among thousands of books

The 2007 St. Francis Community High School yearbook, *The Wigwam*, is featured in the Jostens "Gotcha Covered Look Book."

Having a yearbook featured in the Look Book is a "significant achievement" according to Gary Lundgren, senior marketing manager for education with Jostens. A team of yearbook experts selected approximately 475 yearbooks from the thousands of books printed by Jostens to be included in this year's edition. "Your yearbook was very nicely done," Mr. Lundgren said of the *Wigwam*.

The double-page spread selected to be featured by Jostens was designed by se-

nior Heather Hnizdil. It appears on pages 22-23 in the 2007 *Wigwam* and features the publications department at the high school.

"I was amazed and surprised to see my own work in the Look Book," Heather said. "I feel like my love for design is finally being taken seriously by everyone, including myself."

The Look Book will be mailed to every school producing a 2008 yearbook with Jostens. Mr. Lundgren finished by saying, "Jostens salutes the students, advisers and administrators responsible for the production of such an outstanding yearbook."



Examining the Jostens Look Book with seniors in the Yearbook III class, Heather Hnizdil beams with pride. Hnizdil's Layout on the Publications Program from the 2007 Wigwam was featured on page 105 of the Look Book.

Photo by Brenda Day



Hobrock

Keller

Miller

Schlepp

Students place high in Regional contest

St. Francis Community High School journalism students traveled to Fort Hays State University on Feb. 21 where they competed in the Kansas Scholastic Press Association Regional Contest. Sixteen journalism students in Brenda Day's Yearbook class placed at the contest.

Sara Miller, Chance Hobrock, Holly Keller and Aubree Schlepp each placed first in the categories of Editing, Editorial Cartoon, Newspaper Sports Writing and Yearbook Copy Writing respectively.

Second placers were Jami Pevler in Advertising, and Cassie

Dankenbring and Holly Keller in Theme Development. Andrea Holzwarth brought home a third in Yearbook Sports Writing as did Chance Hobrock and Dara Loyd in Theme Development.

Honorable Mentions were awarded to Dale Northrup-Editing, Matt Whitmore-Feature Photography, Mikaela Grace and Aly Marin-Feature Writing, Joni Pevler-Infographics, Heather Hnizdil-Layout, and Kaycee Williams-Newswriting.

All will move on to compete at the State Contest in Lawrence on Saturday, May 3.

BANQUET

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County Wildlife since its start," Mr. Stimbart said.

Kerby Krien and Canda Orten kept busy preparing 311 prime rib dinners. They were served by Deanna Nelsen, Avis Hazuka, Denise Keltz and Diana Carson.

The event's auctioneer was Tom Quiggle and Erica Wieck was the sales clerk. Tending bar were Dr. Judy Baxter, Cathy Biggs and Rick Frisbie.

Raffle tickets were distributed by Colleen Shrader, Blanca Ponce and Joni Pevler and Jamie Pevler. They also handed out many prizes.

Every kid got a pick from a special table that included Red Rider BB guns, pocket knives, fishing rods, sleeping bags and other sporting goods.

Several firearms were raffled along with a lifetime hunting and fishing license.

Some of the auction items were: a painted minnow bucket and saw blade by Peggy Moberly, a metal sculpture from Ross Manufacturing, David Nelsen novelty fishing lures, a custom-made knife and hatchet by Tony Howard, a two person-50

quail hunt from Ringneck Country, 10-week-old pheasant chicks from Spring Creek Game Birds and bags of seed corn. Over 80 businesses and individuals provided prizes and donations.

The officers for the 2007 Cheyenne County Wildlife were Mr. Stimbart, president; Francis

O'Leary, vice president; Hal Sager, secretary and Gordon Ross, treasurer. Other members of the board of directors are Dustin Gilliland, Kyle Schultz, Martin Hilt, Richard Walters and Duane Wilkens.

One member, Richard Walters, will be ending his term. He will be replaced by Rodney Radcliffe.

BOARD

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Mr. Schiltz said.

The administration didn't see any other major changes for the next year.

Bonnie Zwegardt, board member, asked if there would be any way that foreign language could be worked into the grade school program.

Mr. Schiltz said that maybe they could but something would need to be cut. He noted that he is in favor of implementing teaching foreign languages in the grade school and hopefully it could be arranged in the future. However, with the "No Child Left Behind" requirements, there is just no time.

In fact, he had talked to Jean Ann Confer, music instructor, and because of lack of time for practicing, there will be no grade school spring music program this year.

Mr. Schiltz said the industrial arts program at the junior-senior high is still uncertain. The teacher, Brad Matthies, has a temporary teaching certificate. Mr. Schiltz said he has been in contact with state officials but there are no definite answers.

Kindergarten enrollment had been held and it appeared that there would be at least 20 kindergarten students. There is a possibility that there will be two classes.

Five

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the county emergency medical service; George Harper, St. Francis Fire Chief; Gary Rogers, county emergency manager; and Mr. Beikman.

The subcommittee, which the law requires, will be made up of the current county sheriff, county attorney and St. Francis chief of police.

A resolution will be drawn up to create the board.

Tractors purchased

Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, and Rich Cox, sales representative for Sellers Tractor Supply, Salina, talked about tractors for the road and bridge department. The supervisor had proposed seeking bids for two tractors for the county and the bids had come in.

Sellers' bid was for a JCB 2155 Fastrac tractor. The bid was \$95,680 for one tractor if the county purchased two tractors. Otherwise, the bid was \$101,732 for one. The commissioners had several questions about the tractor and it's operation. Mr. Flemming had also seen one in

Greeley County.

Other bids for one tractor included: Yost, St. Francis, \$64,621; Goodland Greenline, Wheeler, \$79,111; Martin Tractor, Colby, \$68,300; Witzel and Rhea, Goodland, \$65,960.

The commissioners agreed that they could buy two New Holland 6070 tractors from Yost for almost the same price that one Fastrac tractor cost. Mr. Flemming will buy the tractors from Yost Farm Supply.

Trenching across roads

Mr. Flemming was concerned that there have been some companies trenching across county roads without permission from the commissioners. In Cheyenne County, there is no fee to trench across or bore under the roads. But, the road and bridge supervisor needs to know about it so, in the future, there will not be lines accidentally caught while grading or working on the roads.

Justin Barrett, county attorney, will draw up a resolution which will state that companies trenching across or boring under county roads

without permission from the county officials could be fined.

Instructor to be paid

Mrs. Bowers asked for permission to create a part-time position in her department for Mike Hanson. Mr. Hanson will be teaching recertification classes for emergency medical technicians. The board approved the request and Mr. Hanson will be paid \$10 an hour for teaching.

Executive session

The county attorney asked for 10 minutes of executive session to discuss privileged attorney-client communications. No decision was made.

In other business

In other business:
• Sheriff Craig Van Allen was given permission to attend several training classes including a concealed carry training, a mandatory racial profiling training and a pharmaceutical abuse investigation training.

• The sheriff said officer Jonathan Lanz has completed officer training.

Members send architect back to the drawing board

By Karen Krien
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The St. Francis Board of Education sent the architect back to the drawing board at the last meeting and he had returned at the Thursday meeting to show them what he had come up with for a second high school gym.

Architect Glen Strait, Colby, presented an updated drawing of the proposed gym showing the changes as proposed by the Facilities Committee at the last board meeting. Mr. Strait reviewed the changes and answered questions.

There will be an additional 25,848 square feet with the new gym. The board talked about having air conditioning. Mr. Strait said that it could be figured in but with the new ventilation system, there shouldn't be as much need for air conditioning. Parking would be on the west side and some of the east side. South of the gym will remain the football practice field.

The national average cost per square foot is \$120 but, he said that now is a good time for bids to go out and those coming in on other jobs have averaged between \$90 and \$105 per square foot. The cost for this gym would be around \$2.5 million. It was noted that, several years ago, when the building of a second gym was proposed, the "dream" gym which was bigger with more features was the same price. The board agreed that the price of materials and building will continue to get higher.

There will also be a school program that day. One of the favorite groups to see in Branson, the Duttons feature vocal harmony, instrumental virtuosity, high-energy dancing, and heartwarming comedy. Variety and versatility characterize their performances. They have toured world-

Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee reported that the available

funding for the Alice Gillispie Scholarships this year will again allow one \$1,000 academic scholarship (nonrenewable) and one \$500 athletic scholarship (nonrenewable) to be awarded to graduating seniors.

Mr. Schiltz pointed out that the initial amount was \$41,278, and since it was first awarded in 1979, there have been 70 students receiving a Gillispie scholarship for a total of \$82,400, by using the interest off of the memorial money.

Access control system

Superintendent Schiltz reported that the access control system and intruder lock project had been installed at the elementary school. Access Control Systems, Salina, completed most of the work over spring break, and will be back soon to complete the project.

This has been a good project and it is a great step in the right direction," Mr. Schiltz said.

"It is money well spent," said Mrs. Zwegardt, board member.

The teachers and administrators are now using the new security system.

In other business

In other business:
• Board members received in their packets the agenda for the upcoming Kansas Association of School Board Spring Region 9 meeting which will be held at the Goodland High School on Tuesday, May 6.

• Superintendent Schiltz reported that the 2008 sophomores had completed the Kansas Reading Assessment. Nineteen students were tested; all nineteen students scored "Meets Standard or above."

Executive session

Mr. Schiltz called a five minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with no official action taken when coming out.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 10, in the high school library.

Popular music group to appear in Oakley

The Dutton Family, a popular Branson group, will appear at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 27, at the Oakley High School auditorium. The performance is presented by the Western Plains Arts Association. Admission is by season ticket or at the door.

There will also be a school program that day.

One of the favorite groups to see in Branson, the Duttons feature vocal harmony, instrumental virtuosity, high-energy dancing, and heartwarming comedy. Variety and versatility characterize their performances. They have toured world-

wide and have appeared on television networks in Europe, Asia, Africa and North America. One of the special treats their audiences enjoy is the three generations performing on the show, often including very young children.

This presentation is supported by Mid-America Arts Alliance with generous underwriting by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Kansas Arts Commission, and foundations, corporations and individuals throughout Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas.



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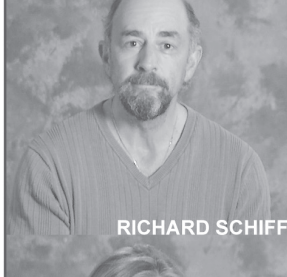
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Job Description:

This position is responsible for: (including but not limited to): developing an understanding of the natural gas industry. Provide routine assistance in mechanical equipment repairs and preventative maintenance efforts in all functions within operations. Also has housekeeping responsibilities throughout the area of operations in which he/she works. Builds an understanding of operations while assisting in the maintenance and/or operation of various types of Company property, including, but not limited to; buildings, machinery, rights of way, pipelines and other equipment related to the operation. This is a key training phase intended to build an adequate understanding of overall operations and maintenance as part of an individual's progression to a higher level of performance and expertise.

Primary Responsibilities include (but not limited to):

Completion of a Defensive Driving training course. Completion of First Aid/CPR training. Completion of assigned Natural Gas Transmission self-study courses. Completion of assigned Computer based training modules. Read and understand Safe Operations Manual. Learn the Emergency Procedures for location. Assists in maintenance including cleanup tasks, e.g., sweeping, mopping and cleaning of machinery. As directed, assists in any job or project that requires attention. Learn and qualify for all identified and assigned tasks under D.O.T. mandated Operations Development Plan. Ability to work an 8 or 12-hour rotating shift assignment (Day, Evening, Night), which requires a rotation of days off.

Physical Requirements

Primary physical requirements include (but not limited to): Working in extreme temperatures, both hot and cold. Lifting and pulling of up to 100 pounds. Working with and/or around chemicals. Repetitive lifting, stooping, crawling, walking standing and sitting. Working in high or elevated areas. Monitoring multiple functions with multiple required tasks. The work environment will include extreme weather conditions and high noise levels. Travel of up to 10-20% of the time, which will require overnight stays. Long distance driving in both day and night hours. Flexibility of working unscheduled overtime based on business needs.

Qualifications:

- Minimum**
- High School Graduate
 - Must be a licensed driver

Preferred

- Two-year Associates degree in general mechanics or related field preferred
- Basic computer knowledge of Microsoft Windows
- Experience working in technical area
- Experience working around machinery

The company reserves the right to require any applicant selected for an interview to complete a battery of tests consistent with the requirements of the job.

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No Phone Calls Please

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We thank all applicants for their interest, but will only respond to those selected for interviews.