



THIS SINGLE CAR accident occurred last Wednesday on K-27, about 3 miles north of U.S.36. The vehicle, driven by Christian Samelor of Benkelman, Neb., struck several sections of guard rail before stopping on a slope. No injuries were reported.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

NEW

Continued from Page 1

years, and the board thought that renewing both leases at the same time would be easiest for the future board at that time. Therefore the First Christian Church will lease the building for \$1 for the length of time that remains on the United Methodist Church lease (the board was uncertain what length of time remains, although past records will clarify, it was guessed about another 18-20 years remain).

The board also clarified that during the remaining term of the lease, the church is not allowed to sell or sublease to anyone else. If they choose to no longer lease the building prior to the termination date, they will forfeit the remainder of the lease.

It was also decided that the church will not be required to sell only ice cream products during its lease; they may add or change their menu as long as it does not interfere with the 4-H's food booth sales.

The church will need to carry its

own insurance and utility hook-ups will need to be handled by them as well. Due to the extensive amount of underground lines, the church members were recommended to call for locates before digging. However, they are not allowed to do any future digging without first receiving approval from the board.

The church plans on repainting the building immediately and although the board didn't have exact specifications, it was noted that it must stay in good condition and have overall esthetics that match the other buildings on the fairgrounds.

Since all of the stipulations of the lease were approved by the board members, it was determined that the church can break ground immediately. However, board president, Dick Bursch, also reminded everyone that once the building is moved onto the fairgrounds, it will become property of Cheyenne County.

Board member, Erika

Zimelman, announced that a 4-H club had approached her about the board possibly replacing the tie-outs for the beef steers during fair. However, there was some confusion about where exactly the club was referring to. Although the board has plans of replacing some of the planks used for tie-outs, it was decided to table this discussion until the board is able to contact the 4-H club for clarification.

Mr. Cooper also noted that the board had already received a \$100 donation for fair, and although the board has a grandstand account set up at First National Bank, the board gave him permission to set up a separate account to be used only for donations.

Mr. Bursch was happy to announce that Stanton Electric once again donated their services to the board. They ran electrical lines from the crows nest to the new building that will sit at the back gate and donated the underground wire, security lights, boxes and their time.

The board also decided that now the weather is becoming warmer to clean up the grounds. They'd like to focus on replacing the pasture fence on the west side of the grounds. There are also several items, such as an old trailer and scales, that the extension office gave to the board. Butch Ewing thought he'd be able to sell these items for them.

The next board meeting will be held as scheduled, at 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 3 in the commissioners' room of the courthouse.

GOOD

Continued from Page 1

communities of Studley, Angelus, Tasco and Seguin will also be provided with a trailer drop-off service. Gove County will be providing better service with their new trailers to Quinter, Grinnell, Grainfield and Park. The new trailers are expected to be in place around the end of April.

Other activities during 2007 included discussions with two neighboring counties, which resulted in one joining the Organization in January.

"We are excited to welcome Scott County into our membership, she said.

Scott County did not have a recycling program in place when they joined the organization. She noted the Organization will be assisting them over the next few months helping them set up their new recycling center and educating their citizens about the new recycling program.

Their plans are to have a 24-hour drop-off area at the new facility as soon as the new collection bins can be obtained. In the meantime, they plan to start accepting some material on a limited basis until the outdoor collection bins arrive.

"One thing we were able to offer Scott County that we have never been able to offer before is a new baler, Ms. Koon said.

Through an agreement with Sonoco Recycling, the Organization leased seven new vertical balers last year. The new balers were distributed to the recycling centers in Cheyenne, Decatur, Sheridan, Logan and Gove counties in December and January. The seventh baler, intended for the regional collection center located in Colby, has been set up in the new Scott County recycling center, located in Scoot City.

In addition to expanding its membership, the Organization will be expanding its recycling program this year to include E-waste (electronic waste) recycling. The Organization was accepted by Kansas Department of Health and Environment as one of the eight pilot projects in the state for E-waste recycling. The Organization was awarded a grant from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for \$288,262 to purchase a new building, equipment, and supplies, and for a public education program. The Organization has received permission from the department to start implementation of the project. More information will be released shortly on e-waste items that will be accepted. The group hopes to have this new program operational by the first of June.

Club Clip

Ramblers

The Ramblers Club met on March 12 at the home of Shirley Sherlock. Gary Rogers and David Floyd were guests.

David Floyd talked to members about "Safety in tornadoes and blizzards." Some of the old safety

and protection ideas were found to be unreliable. The new ideas were presented.

It was very interesting and members had questions and experiences to share.

Shirley and Betty Miller were hostesses.



TICKLES

Continued from Page 1

"This is my hobby," he said. "I like surprising people with a nostalgic look of the past and brightening their day.

"There is so much negativity today and I can bring someone back to their time in the spotlight."

Affordable hobby

There are several things that makes Mr. Bixler's hobby possible and affordable: a digital video recorder used for storing the game shows; inexpensive DVDs which he buys by the 100s; DVDs are small, making them easy and cheap to send; the internet where names, addresses and a huge amount of information is available; and cheap unlimited calling plans.

Closely watching

Viewing the old shows, carefully studying them, catching the name, where they are from, maybe the name of a school or a job or a business is the guideline for finding the people on the show is important.

"It's like being a private detective," he said.

He is selective in choosing the contestants he tries to find. For instance, he looks for people with unique names and once lived in small towns. They are easier to find.

He uses the internet to find them, also using reverse address on the internet. He contacts older residents living in the town who may have known the contestants, goes through historical societies, businesses or companies. There are often old neighbors who are still living in the neighborhood where the contestant once lived.

When Mr. Bixler tells them why he is looking for the person, most people are very cooperative.

"I am the only person contacting these people about appearing on the show," he said.

And how does he know?

When he tracks down a contestant, they are thrilled. Many have looked for the reruns where they appeared, he said. Obviously, no other person is doing this service.

They are also surprised that he wants no money for the DVDs.

After watching a show and taking notes, he goes to his basement where he begins his search. He averages finding one to two contestants a day. His goal is to find the contestant within 30 minutes. However, he did spend three hours finding one, and while he said it was well worth the time of the search, he probably wouldn't spend that much time again.

He said that he may not find the person who appeared on the show but spouses, children and other relatives are generally eager to get the DVD. One woman wrote

him, saying that she could thank him 1,000 times but it wouldn't be enough. Her husband had appeared on the show years ago but, today, has Alzheimer's disease. His secret was that, following serving in the Army, he had gone back to college on a GI Bill and played football. What made the secret interesting

was the fact that his two sons also played on the same team.

After watching the CD about the show, he came out of his Alzheimer's state and was able to talk rationally about that time for a short time.

With those types of reactions, it is worth everything, he said.

STORY

Continued from Page 1

was the fact that he had been in a car accident earlier and, consequently, had his spleen removed. Otherwise, the spleen would have ruptured and he would have bled to death.

While recovering, he said no one in the hospital thought he would live but he knew he was going to live.

When Mr. Bixler contacted his home, his wife said her husband was on a tour in Guam but she knew he would be very interested in the DVD when he returned. In only minutes, the man had called him from Guam and talked for 45 minutes.

In 1950, Mr. Bixler watched a 98-year-old man totter onto the stage. His secret was: "I saw John Wilkes Booth shoot President Lincoln." He was a young boy at the time but could give a first-hand account of the incident. His grandson was thrilled to get the video.

On a 1950 What's My Line show, a Chicago chief of police was on the show. Mr. Bixler said he was harder to find and he had contacted the pension board. He told the person answering the phone why he wanted to talk to the chief and found out he was dead. However, shortly, his son, a retired congressman, called Mr. Bixler. As he talked about his father, he told about how his dad had captured gangsters, often he attended weddings where they all would get together. It made the arrest easier and he was able to arrest more gangsters at one time.

A 4-year-old boy had appeared on "I've Got a Secret" and his secret was he was a professional drummer. Mr. Bixler wasn't able to contact him directly as he now lives in Sweden but he talked to his uncle and sent him a DVD. Today, that drummer, James Bradley Jr. is still drumming.

One show had two teenage girls whose "line" was counting worms. Forty-four years later, Mr. Bixler was able to contact one of the women who now lives in Denver. He asked her how many worms she had counted?

Two brothers had fallen into a pond and a dog by the name of "Dutch" had saved them. When Mr. Bixler called one of the brothers up, he asked if the name "Dutch" meant anything to them? Of course they

knew exactly what he was talking about.

He has talked to the man who pushed a peanut up Pikes Peak. The nut is in a museum but it helped him promote his musical career. Another interesting story was about a general who, in 1909 was the entire Air Force. Orville Wright taught him to fly. There were twins who were both preachers. They often traded churches, even changing places during a sermon and the congregation did not know.

Museums are interested in his work. He has sent DVDs to the National Baseball Hall of Fame when he found Bonnie Baker, who played on the American Girls Baseball team. One man had built the smallest airplane which was now in the Smithsonian. Another DVD went to the Toy and Yo Yo Museum because one of the contestants was a Yo Yo champion.

Neil Armstrong's parents appeared in 1963, shortly after their son had been accepted into the National Astronaut Training Program. Gary Moore had asked, "How would you feel if your son was the first man to walk on the moon?" Six years later, he achieved that feat.

The stories are endless and, as long as there is no one else providing DVDs to former contestants, he said he will probably continue his hobby.

He said the hobby is challenging as well as interesting and he likes "tickling something in the nostalgic brain."

Write a book?

He has been asked if he might write a book about all the contacts he has made? Mr. Bixler has written a number of articles which have been in different publications and knows what it will take to get a book published.

"I would have to follow up with many of the people by going to their homes and that would take money. Then there is no guarantee that the book would be published," he said. "I doubt that I would write a book."

"I just enjoy the challenge of the hobby and, if I were to charge for the DVDs, it would take out the fun and defeat the purpose."

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