



MEMORIAL FUNDS GIVEN TO VILLAGE — The Good Samaritan Village volunteer dinner was held April 30. The family of Ed Schlittenhardt, (l to r) Mary Schlittenhardt, Michele Rohweder, Ron Schlittenhardt and Lavone Schlittenhardt, told Rick Reeser, administrator, that they were donating \$600 plus much of Ed's music equipment.

Dispatch board members held meeting last Thursday

By Karen Krien

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The second 911 dispatch board meeting for Cheyenne County was held Thursday in the courthouse. Also attending were two of the three sub-committee members.

Dispatch board members are Andy Beikman, chairman; Natalie Knodel, secretary; Gary Rogers, George Harper and Janelle Bowers. County 911 dispatch director, Carol Gambelin, was unable to attend because she was sick. Sub-committee members, Craig Van Allen and Jim Walters were present but county attorney Justin Barrett was not there.

The board, even after the second meeting, was unsure as to what, specifically, they were to discuss at the meetings.

Officer Walters reported that, if the ambulance is dispatching, they can't hear other calls. He was told that the frequency should be put on the scanner, then regardless of what is going on, they will be able to hear other information on the radio.

He said that a city police officer will be responding to all calls. He also wondered if the city police could get a key to the courthouse as there are times, after the courthouse has closed, that they would like to talk to the dispatcher.

Mr. Beikman said that the commissioners have approved a video camera and equipment be installed so, if someone wants or needs to come up to the dispatch office after hours, the dispatcher can see who it is and, if he/she approves, will release the lock for the person to enter.

Technician runs

There is a problem that, when there is a run for the Bird City emergency medical technicians, not all of those responding radio in to the dispatch office. Then, when others from St. Francis start or get them, there are enough technicians already there.

Mrs. Bowers said she had discussed the matter with the technicians and hoped they would respond quicker.

It was noted if they could just call into dispatch and the dispatcher would repeat that the technician's name and that they were responding.

Mrs. Bowers said they had recently had a tornado drill with the hospital and noted, when she was in the basement, her radio was dead. Mr. Rogers said that will happen when the person with the radio is in a confined area, underground and surrounded by cement. If there were a repeater in the ambulance, their radio would bounce off the repeater and the radio would work.

They talked about putting repeaters in the ambulance or maybe a base radio or repeater for the hospital. Sheriff Van Allen will look into the cost.

Tornado drill

Mr. Rogers said he was concerned that the tornado drill had not been hooked up to the 911 dispatch system. See related article.

Getting information

Officer Walters said there are times when having a clip or a small portion of the dispatcher's records are needed to clip with a report. It verifies the information and, sometimes, there is a little more that the caller did not men-

tion to the responding officer. They talked about the equipment being digital and, while Sheriff Van Allen did not think it would be a problem, he suggested that they consult the county attorney about procedure for the dispatcher to use.

Directing calls

Sheriff Van Allen reported that all county calls go through the 911 dispatch system, even through they are made directly to the sheriff's 332-8880 number. He said that, when the caller wants the sheriff's office, they are immediately connected. It was suggested that the city police's 332-3330 phone number also be put through the dispatch. If there is an emergency, the city police will not have to stop and inform the 911 dispatcher and will also have the call recorded through 911 dispatch. It was noted that there could be a liability issue and, also, the dispatcher is only interested in 911 calls.

More guidance

Mr. Rogers and Officer Walters both had suggestions of a 911 directors in other counties who might come to a Cheyenne County meeting and explain what they do in their meetings and what they are responsible for. In the end, Mr. Roges was asked to see if Chrissy Conger, Sherman, would come. Ms. Conger also has some portable equipment she would like to show the board.

Next meeting

The next meeting will depend on if Ms. Conger's schedule. It has been tentatively scheduled for 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 15, in the basement of the courthouse.

Postage is going up again; Forever stamps are available

They are going up again! The pony express is gone and modern technology has taken it's place and with it comes another raise in the price of a postage stamp.

On May 12, the price of a stamp will go from 41 cents to 42 cents.

Dewayne Lalicker, St. Francis postmaster, suggests that people purchase Forever Stamps.

The Forever Stamp, as the name suggests, can be used to mail a 1-ounce first class mail letter at any time in the future without additional postage, re-

gardless of when the stamps were purchased and no matter how prices may change.

He said the demand for the Forever Stamp continues to increase as the May 12 stamp price change approaches. The past week, postal service customers have been buying the stamp at a rate of about 60 million per day, bringing the amount sold to more than 6 billion since they were first offered in April 2007.

"We knew the Forever Stamp would be a big hit with our customers and we continue to re-

plenish our stock to meet the demand," Postmaster Lalicker said. "We introduced these stamps as a customer convenience to ease the transition during price changes, and they also deliver economic value."

Forever Stamps feature an image of the Liberty Bell and are available at post offices, online at usps.com, by phone at 1-800-STAMP-24 and from automated postal centers and ATMs. They are sold in booklets of 20 and sheets of 18.

Congratulations... Journalism Students



SFCHS Yearbook: Back row (l to r)—Kaycee Williams, Matt Whitmore, Holly Keller, David Stephens Chance Hobrock, Ben Neitzel, Mikaela Grace, Aubree Schlepp; Third row — Sarah Guthmiller, Elizabeth Gienger, Heather Hnizdil, Jenice Hartman, Cassie Dankenbring, Andrea Holzwarth, Sara Miller; second row —Dara Loyd, Cara Hunt, Joni Pevler, Taryn Richard, Jami Pevler, Kate Marin; front row—Marvin Miller, Emily Mullins, Dale Northrup, CJ Douthit, Aly Marin.

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Program 6:30 pm

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