

Conservation district holds 60th annual award meeting

By Karen Krien

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The Cheyenne County Conservation District held its 60th meeting and awards dinner at the St. Francis Community High School on Thursday.

Following a meal provided by Bankwest, First National Bank of Bird City and St. Francis, and Western State Bank, the meeting was held.

Roger Orth, chairman, welcomed the crowd and Lonnie Willis, treasurer, said grace before dinner.

The walls were lined with posters submitted by kindergartners through sixth graders from St. Francis and Cheylin elementary schools. Later in the evening winners were announced.

Randy Rueb, board member, gave the annual report. It was noted that due to state budget deficits, the district received a 33-percent cut in cost-share programs funding. However, they distributed \$24,270 for cost-sharing on livestock wells, tanks, pipelines, range seeding, terraces and terrace enlargement through the Water Resources Cost-Share program.

Through the Non-point Source Pollution Cost-Share Program, the district distributed \$9,820 for six septic system upgrades. Annually, one contract from each of the past 10 year's contracts is randomly selected for spot check by the supervisors to verify maintenance of the practices. Over 100 miles are traveled by the supervisors and office staff inspecting the 10 cost-share contracts selected.

Tree sales were down last year. The staff sorted and handed out 2,376 conifers and bare-roots from four different nurseries. Profits from the sale of trees, weed barrier and drip irrigation funds conservation education activities in the county.

The Education Committee sponsored many activities for landowners, cooperators, youth and the general public. The dis-



TROY HILT, president of Western State Bank, announces the Bankers Award winners.

trict sponsors two Herman Antholz Memorial Scholarship for college junior or seniors who are residents of the county and majoring in agriculture or wildlife.

The Local Advisory Committee sponsored a water conservation insert and a lawn and garden tour.

Reuben Burr, who had been a National Resource Conservation Service technician for 31 years and three years with the conservation district retired.

The elections were held and Mark Keller was elected, replacing Lonnie Willis.

As the crowd finished their meals the award presentation began. Randy Rueb, Myra Hyde and Roger Orth started with the elementary poster awards.

This year's coloring contest winners were:

Kindergarten - Hadleigh Hilt, first place; Haily Robbins, second;

Taiya Hicks, third; Caleb Todd, honorable mention.

First grade - Kattie Wurm, first; Soledad Bermudez, second; Garin Cooper, third; Andrew Schields, honorable mention.

Second grade - Isaiah Lee, first; Marlo Jensen, second; Audrey Meyer, third; Trenton Bartels and Brady Dinkel, honorable mention.

The poster contest winners were third, fourth and fifth grade students.

Third and fourth grade winners were: Rachel Keltz, first; Jesie Frisbie, second; Manuel Casillo, third; Josie Frisbie and McKinnley Bartels, honorable mention.

Fifth and sixth grade: Thomas Frisbie, first; Elizabeth Keltz, second; Sophie White, third; Reece Leonard and Ryan Grover, honorable mention.

Mini-power point contest win-



BANKERS AWARD — Ron and Beth Maifeld receive the award from Troy Hilt.



CONSERVATION AWARDS —Kattie Wurm and Andrew Schields receive an award presented by Roger Orth.

ners were sixth graders and included: Seth Hart, first place; Francisco Fernandez, second; Philip White, third; Kylie Sherlock, Garrett Brunk, Jakob Church, Austin Patton and Kayle Reed all received honorable mention.

Following the poster awards

Troy Hilt, president Western State Bank, St. Francis, announced the Kansas Bankers' Awards. The Farm/Ranch Conservation Awards went to Ron and Beth Maifeld, St. Francis; Jon Waters, Bird City; and ZAZ Farm - Ron, Bonnie and Zack Zwegardt. The Windbreak

Award went to Martin, Tammy and Jakob Church.

During the presentation of the Kansas Bankers Awards, there was a power-point presentation.

After all the awards were given out, the drawing for door prizes was held.

Chapter to give out scholarships

Vietnam Veterans of America Hays Chapter 939 is announcing that they will be awarding two \$500 scholarships for college or trade school this spring. Cheyenne County is one of 19 northwest/southwest Kansas counties where students are eligible.

Application deadline is April 15 with recipients being announced May 7.

"Our Vietnam Veterans chapter has decided to sponsor two \$500 scholarships for post-high school or vocational training," said Wayne Purinton, president of the chapter. "The scholarships will be awarded each year in our declared area of coverage. Hays Vietnam Veterans of American Chapter 939 has members residing in 19 northwest and southwest Kansas counties. We are doing this as a public service. The applicants need have no connection with a Vietnam Veteran."

"We are aware that academic scholarships exist in abundance. The criteria for this particular scholarship are not entirely, or even primarily, academic. Our focus is upon students who have been reasonably conscientious as students, though not necessarily having distinguishing themselves in academics. We are interested in students who have been employed for pay throughout most of their high school careers. Employment illustrates reliability and a degree of self-discipline, but tends to detract from academic performance at the higher levels of achievement."

The employment factor will not be limiting.

For further information regarding the scholarships, contact Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 939, P.O. Box 1224, Hays, KS 67601 or contact your school counselor.

Horseman's day scheduled for April

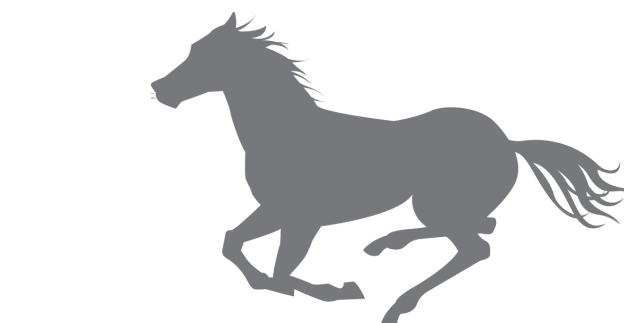
The High Plains Horseman's Day is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 17, at the Logan County Fairgrounds in Oakley. This year our featured clinician is a husband and wife team from Cambridge, Neb., Steve and Jeanne Mueller.

Mr. Mueller has been involved in horses from an early age. Early on he had an open mind on handling horses and studied the effectiveness of current methods.

Always seeking better methods of horse handling, he quickly adapted to the natural horsemanship method. Steve has worked hard to earn many accomplishments in his lifetime including: qualifying for the Mid-States Rodeo Association Finals mul-

multiple times and winning an average award, he is the 2004 United States Calf Roping Association World Champion and the 2005 Reserve United States Calf Roping World Champion, and he also teaches eager students in the Colt Starting class at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture-Curtis.

Mrs. Mueller has been running barrels since early childhood. Although barrels and other speed events were her favorites growing up, she has shown and competed in all spectrums of the western horse world. She has been training her own horses since she started competing and has won many champion awards as well as placing at many of the top barrel futurities in the nation,



including: The Speedhorse, BFA Futurities, The Lazy E Futurity, and the Nebraska Open Futurity.

The Muellers do not employ negativity in their training of horses or coaching of riders. They always find the positive and build upon that. They have a strong belief that "A Positive Attitude is what it takes to develop A Winning Attitude."

Join the Muellers at the High Plains Horsemen's Day as they show how to go through ground working basics with colts, how to effectively use your leg cues with the horse, and how to achieve a finished horse.

For more information or to pre-register for this event contact Thomas County Extension Office at 785-460-4582.

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