

Floyd and Janice Neitzel

Family requests cards for parents

at First Christian Church in St. great-grandchildren. Francis on Aug. 24, 1952.

They are the parents of Larry

Floyd and Janice Neitzel Neitzel, Steven Neitzel, Susan will be celebrating their 60th Shearer and Nancy Neitzel. wedding anniversary. Floyd They have six living and one Neitzel married Janice Alsbury deceased grandchildren and 12

The family of Floyd and Janice Floyd has retired from Boeing would like to have everyone in Wichita after 30 years. He celebrate with them by sending presently owns and operates a them cards of well wishes to True Value and storage units in 2415 Herrington, Wichita, KS

Visitors express concerns to board

By Nathan Fiala

nfiala@nwkansas.com The Cheyenne County Hospital Board met in the basement of the clinic on Thursday, July 16.

Sherry Schultz, and Ron and Betty Louden were visitors at the meeting and were addressed first. Mrs. Schultz said she had heard a rumor that Dr. Rebecca Allard's contract was not going to be renewed. Les Lacy, hospital administrator, said that was a personnel issue that couldn't be discussed in an open meeting, but that the hospital has no desire to dismiss Dr. Allard. Mr. Lacy said there are standards that all personnel must meet to get all medical staff on the same page.

Mrs. Schutlz said she had heard a lot of complaints about billing and Mr. Lacy invited her to stay until after the review of the audited budget when they had scheduled to talk about the centralized billing office.

Dave Dellasega, chief financial officer of Great Plains Health Alliance, joined the board remotely from Wichita to go over the annual audited budget. He said the budget is pretty straight forward and that the auditors felt the budget was very clean and have no problems with it. Mr. Dellasega said the the hospital's financial standing has improved markedly since 2010. This was largely due to better performance from accounts receivable, and allowed them to save for future capital acquisitions.

cash flow was due to the contract with their concerns, and that accounts receivable shortening in some cases a question about the time of collections from an billing on the patient's part goes average of 78 days in 2010 to 67 days in 2011. That time had become even less in 2012 so far, down to 63 days.

Mr. Dellasega said that the No actions were made. accounts payable department is

has one of the better balance sheets he's seen this year. He said the hospital had a good year as far as cash flow is concerned and he thought the audit went

board moved into The discussing the centralized billing and the department head report by Heidi Tice, the hospital's chief financial officer. Both Mrs. Tice and Mr. Lacy wanted to address community concerns about questions and dissatisfaction with billing as it's now being done off-site. Mr. Lacy had a spreadsheet that showed a marked increase in revenue collected from when the hospital itself had done the billing, showing an approximate 20 percent increase in collected fees. Erika Zimbelman expressed concerns she had heard from county commissioners about outsourcing jobs and while Mr. Lacy agreed that he would rather not out-source jobs, he could not argue with the considerable revenue that the centralized billing office has been able to

As to patient dissatisfaction and questions with billing, Mrs. Tice wanted to emphasize that she and on-site hospital staff are available to answer questions and can even assist with billing and address problems, as they have access to the same billing records. Mrs. Tice said she has had very few instances of people Mr. Dellasega said the better coming to the hospital directly unasked and is assumed to be a

> The board then went into executive session for personnel.

Mr. Lacy a good sign of liquidity for an administrator report, stating that

organization and that the hospital money had been borrowed from kitchen remodel has begun and is the funded depreciation account expected to be done by Aug. 13, to cover payroll and pay Dallas and that Elena Paulsen has been Walz's student loans, as he had signed a contract to work for the hospital upon graduation. Mr. Lacy said that inpatient and board will next meet at 3 p.m. on outpatient volume had been very low compared to last year. The basement.

hired as the temporary nutrition services assistant.

The meeting adjourned and the Thursday, Aug. 23, in the clinic

Woman celebrates 95th birthday

The family of Alma Walter, Lampe, Elmer and Dorothy former St. Francis resident, Kellner, Bonnie and Raymond gathered in honor of her 95th Armknecht, Jim and Edie birthday Sunday, July 29, at Walters, all of St. Francis, Verna Center in Goodland.

Ice cream and cake were served to guests by her great- Frazier and great-grandsons granddaughters Kaydence and Gavin, Trevor Turner and Kara Kassidy Hardin, daughters of Daniel and great-grandson Tracy and Randy Hardin of Logan of Topeka, Merlyn and Peyton, Colo. Others attending were: Alma Zimbelman of St. Francis, Rita and Steven Colo., and Nancy and Ed Turner Prokopisk of Broomfield, of Phillipsburg. Colo., Milton Lampe, Wilma

Wheatridge Acres Retirement Mae and Jim Miller of Flagler, Colo. and grandchildren Josh and Aliyah, Diane and Jason Vicki Walter of Lewellen, Neb., Linda and Edd Williams of Wray,



Tristan Thomas and Megan Ford

Couple plan wedding in Goodland

Megan Ford of St. Francis and of Goodland and his grandparents to marry at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 11, 2012, in the backyard of their home at 3202 Sunset Drive, Goodland with the Rev. Shelly Petz presiding.

Megan's parents are Bryan and Loretta Ford of St. Francis. Her grandparents are Jo Ford and the late Jack Ford of St. Francis and Leta Gillispie of Colby. Tristan's parents are Chuck and Jan Thomas

Tristan Thomas of Goodland plan are Janette and the late Ralph Wilson and Fran and the late James Thomas, all of Wisconsin.

The bride-to-be graduated from St. Francis Community High School. She works for Accounting and Tax Services in Goodland.

The future groom graduated from Goodland High School in 2001. He works for Helena Chemical in Goodland.

Commissioners talk with landfill supervisor

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkansas.com The new landfill supervisor pit. was present at the Tuesday, Commissioners' meeting.

Adam Peter, supervisor, said there is a huge pile of lumber at the landfill. He was wondering what to do with the lumber. lumber as "burnable" lumber.

lumber could not be put in the as quickly. tree pile. He also needed to Dave

of Atwood announce the birth

of their daughter, Madilyn

Dorsch.

was born Thursday, July 5, at

8:07 a.m. at Chevenne County

Hospital, weighing 5 pounds and

Madilyn was welcomed home

by big sister, Makenna, 3 ½. She

is the granddaughter of Noble

Dorsch Jr. of Saint Francis, Vickie Dorsch of Salina, and Keith and Sharon Newton of

Wilmington, Ohio.

measuring 17 1/4-inches long.

Barbara

the construction and demolition

Mr. Peter said that in the July 31, Cheyenne County future as dumping rules are enforced, there will need to be two employees at the landfill.

Getting a compactor for the landfill has been discussed several times at prior commissioners' He had given some of it away meetings. Mr. Peter said that and was interested in giving a compactor would do a better come in and fix them. There is more away. The commissioners job than the loader is doing. By suggested that Adam market the compacting the trash, it would save 30 to 40 percent on space They discussed that painted thus, the landfill will not fill up

Madilyn Barbara Dorsch

calking gun cartridges end up in information on used compactors an operating plan. Several names but they had a lot of hours of use. of people to contact for examples Andy Beikman, commissioner, of plans were discussed. The said he was not in favor of buying one of the used compactors as he felt that they would be putting in a lot of repairs. The compactors are extremely big and heavy, consequently, they would be Gilliland, said that the Good hard to transport and it would be expensive to have someone a company which the county has dealt with before that rebuild and certifies the equipment. Mr. Flemming will look at what they

have to offer. be careful that things such as and bridge supervisor, had will last 10 years," Mr. Beikman Francis. See related article for

Blowing trash was one of the violations the county was cited on by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. More fence is needed so Mr. Peter will get prices on metal pipe. He would like to get the fence up before winter and the ground freezes. They talked about making screens out of chain-link fencing which can be pulled over the trash piles to keep paper and plastics from blowing.

They talked about the need for

plan will be put in place when they have one ready.

In other business In other business:

• County attorney, Kari Samaritan Society had not given any more information on insurance costs for the nursing home facility.

Roger Jensen, St. Francis city councilman, and J.R. Landenberger, St. Francis city superintendent, talked about the "We need to get something that recycling center located in St. more information.

Next meetings

The next meeting of the commissioners will be at 8 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 13, when they canvass the votes from the primary election. The next regular meeting will start at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 15, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

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Madilyn



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