

Employee honored for service

By Karen Krien
karen.k@nwkanssas.com

The Cheyenne County Commissioners honored a long time employee when they met on Thursday, May 15.

Dave Fry, county employee for 25 years, and Dave Flemming, public works director, attended the meeting along with Dawn Fry, Mr. Fry's wife. The commissioners presented him with a coat and told him how much they appreciated his dedication and work through the years.

Oil-gas lease

Matt Baker, representing Murfin Drilling Company, reviewed an oil and gas lease with the commissioners. He said the county has a one-third shared interest in the mineral interests on the property also owned by Tom Stevens. Many years ago, the land now owned was put up for auction at a sheriff's sale and the county ended up with one-third of the mineral rights.

Mr. Baker had a check for \$2,666 for the county for its share of the lease. He noted that the check paid \$25 per acre for five years.

Appraiser

A conference call was held with County Appraiser, Bruce Webb. At the last meeting, Mr. Webb had asked to advertise to hire someone to fill the open position in the appraiser's office. However, the request was tabled.

The commissioners gave Mr. Webb permission to advertise, and asked him to bring in the top three applicants for them to review.

Claims management

Alicia Strother, independent agent, and Julie Yarmer, president and general manager, for Freedom Claims Management were in atten-



DAVE FRY (right) receives a coat from commissioner Dale Patton in recognition of his many years of dedication and work for the county.

dance to discuss how their company could be of assistance to the county in identifying problems and establishing economic competitiveness for the county's benefit program. After much discussion on how their agency could assist Cheyenne County, an agreement was signed appointing Ms. Strother as the agent for all client servicing, advisory, and professional assistance to the current Cheyenne County Group Employee Benefit Plan.

In other business

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- Ross Karlin, Eagle Med representative, was back concerning the air ambulance service for county employees. The commissioners agreed to accept the proposal of \$55 per full-time employee, which covers the employee as well as their family. This is a benefit to employees. Mr. Karlin plans to be back to sign up employees on Thursday, May 22.

- Karan Thadani, county attorney, called for five minutes of executive

session to discuss financial matters of a third party. No decisions were made after coming out of executive session.

- Vicki Hubin, Western Kansas Child Advocacy, discussed the services of the agency and the benefits to the county. Sheriff Beeson was also in attendance as a testimonial for the agency. She said any funding for next year would be greatly appreciated.

- Deb Lindsten, county clerk, was

designated as the Freedom of Information Officer. She was also designated as the Kansas Public Employment Retirement System agent.

- An application for rebate for the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan was signed for Sean Straub.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the commissioners will be held at 8 a.m. on Friday, May 30, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

Summer leagues forming now

The days of summer ball games are quickly approaching. The St. Francis Recreation Commission passed out forms at school and Pre-school for T-ball, Pitching Machine league and Boys C-team baseball. Hopefully, your school-age child got the correct form to you to fill out. If you would like to have someone participate, but don't have the form, please call 332-3949. Players are still being accepted. ALL players must have a parent signed liability release waiver before they can begin to participate.



T-ball, 4 years old through kindergarten, begins the first Monday evening in June and will continue for 4 weeks at the grade school ball field. Each player will be given a team t-shirt the first game of the season. Watch next week's paper for team rosters and game times. Coaches are needed to make this program a success.

Pitching machine players are 1st-3rd grade boys and girls. These games are held Wednesday evenings at the St. Francis ball diamond. A team jersey will be issued for use to each player. Again,

coaches are needed in this league.

Boys C-team, coached by Shawn Blanka, has started practice and will begin competitive play in June. Our league consists of Cheylin, Atwood, Benkelman and Wauneta/Palisade.

We need YOU for adult coed softball. Teams are forming now for play on Sunday evenings in June. Also, starting the next few weeks is coed sand volleyball. Come on down to the sand volleyball pit on Wednesday evenings at 8:00. Teams will form each evening according to those present.

Congratulations Northwest Kansas League Track Champions



2013-14 Eighth Grade Boys' Track Team: Back row - (l to r) Kenny Adams, Luin Norris, Martin Beikman, Dalton Straub, Trayton Doyle; front row: Jake Faulkender, Nick Paulsen, Luke Lampe, Coy Cassaw and Tate Bussse.

Photos courtesy of SFCHS Wigwam



Seventh Grade Boys' Track Team: Back row - (l to r) Draven Houtman, Kaleb Hays, Wyatt Hilt, Tayton Weeter, Connor Keller, Tiernan Poling, Alex Queen; front row: Seth Mosee, Jordan Raby, Cody Baxter, Bryce Raby, Mason Schmid, Hunter Helton, KC Krien and Kouper McQuigg.

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Saturday, June 7, 2014

All day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Smoky Valley Ranch south of Oakley, in Logan County, KS

The Visitors Day will offer a close-up look at a working cattle and bison ranch. Driving and hiking tours will showcase conservation grazing practices and research. Presentations will cover early settlement and Native American history.

To RSVP or for more information, please contact Shelby Stacy at The Nature Conservancy
sstacy@tnc.org or 785-233-4400

