

Wildlife biologist to work at conservancy

By Sam Dieter

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Matt Bain of Colby, who had been a district wildlife biologist for the state, has joined the Nature Conservancy.

Bain said he started working for the conservation group July 23. His main responsibility is as new project coordinator for the Smoky Valley Ranch, near Oakley in Logan County.

"I am very excited about the challenges of managing a working ranch of significant acreage with such diverse objectives,"

he said. "I am honored to be a part of a team that is dedicated to promoting high, yet feasible, land ethics in western Kansas."

His new job involves managing the 16,800-acre working cattle ranch and creating a home for the wildlife species found there.

"We use cattle as a tool to manage all those different animals, all those different habitats," Bain said.



Matt Bain

This might mean gazing cattle only part of the time on some areas of land, he said, allowing time for the grass to recover. In other cases, cattle are temporarily fenced into a small area, eating away undesirable grasses and helping new ones grow by churning up the soil with their hooves.

Lesser prairie chickens require grass that's high enough to give them a place to nest, he said. Prairie dogs, another keystone species for the habitat, eat some of the same grasses as cattle.

"If you manage for those two things," he said, "then you kind of manage for all those important prairie species that really ought to be out there."

Prairie dogs are allowed on about 10 percent of the ranch, Bain said, and other animals such as hawks and black-footed ferrets eat them or live in their holes. Deer, antelope and turkey also live in parts of the ranch.

He said he hopes that the ranch will serve as an example of how conservation-minded land management can work on private ranches as well.

"We hope to be able to demonstrate the profitability of that program," Bain said.

Part of his job will be to encourage landowners to consider similar strategies. He will visit landowners and ask them to consider participating in government programs designed to protect migrating game birds.

"That's what I did for Wildlife and Parks for the last nine years," he said.

Bain was district biologist for the Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, overseeing efforts in nine counties in northwest Kansas. He said he has been involved in agriculture his whole life, having grown up on a ranch southwest of Ness County. He received bachelor's and master's degrees in biology from Fort Hays State University.

"He's an experienced biologist, he's experienced in that part of the

world, having worked there," said Bain's supervisor, Lance Hedges, director of conservation for the conservancy. "We're just very fortunate that we were able to find someone with those qualifications."

The conservancy is a worldwide environmental organization which oversees environmental conservation projects. The Kansas chapter owns 46,500 acres of land at six nature preserves, including Smoky Valley Ranch.

public notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

City Of Goodland is submitting an application under the U.S.C. 49-5311 a federal capital/operating grant funds to be provided through the Kansas Department on Transportation. Persons wishing to make comments on the applications are requested to do so in writing no later than 4:00 p.m. on November 9, 2012. Comments can be sent to: City of Goodland; Attn: Public Transportation; 204 W 11th, PO Box 59; Goodland, KS 67735.

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Shakespeare performances planned in St. Francis on November 9-11

Patrick McWilliams, a former teacher of literature and drama will offer a series of Shakespearean workshops and performances in St. Francis on Friday to Sunday, Nov. 9 to 11, sponsored by the Cheyenne Center for Creativity.

Friday, Mr. McWilliams will work with St. Francis High School instructor David Morrow and his speech class on methods of performing Shakespeare's sonnets. At 2:45 that same day, an assembly at the high school will hear him perform his one-act play, "The Trial of Socrates: A Juror Speaks."

In addition to appearing at the school, Mr. McWilliams will offer "Shakespeare Live" at 9 a.m.

(Mountain Time) Saturday. Saturday evening he will repeat his performance of "The Trial of Socrates" for the public. The evening will begin with a 5 p.m. dinner at Cuppa Joe Espresso, the presentation at 6 p.m., followed by coffee and cookies at 9 p.m. Finally, on Sunday at 1 p.m., he will perform the "The Gospel According to Mark" at the Old Country Church.

Reservations for the Saturday performances should be made at Cuppa Joe Espresso. Suggested freewill donations for these events are as follows: "Shakespeare Live," \$10; "Supper and Socrates," \$15; both events, \$20.

Proceeds will cover expenses and

benefit the arts in Cheyenne County through the Cheyenne Center for Creativity, cc4creativity.org.

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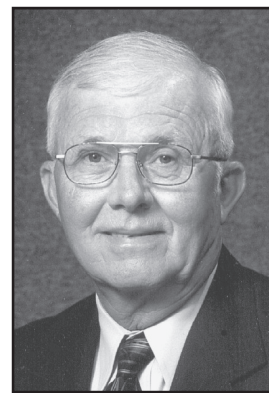


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November Consultant Schedule

ALLERGIST**	Jeffrey Rumbyrt, M.D.	November 19
CARDIOLOGIST	Barry Smith, M.D.	November 14 & 28
CARDIOLOGIST	Vijay Subbarao, M.D.	November 8
CARDIOLOGIST**	Christine Fisher, M.D.	November 12
COUNSELING SERVICES		Thursdays by Appointment
DIETITIAN	Sarah Linton, RD, LD, CDE	Tuesdays by Appointment
EARS, NOSE, THROAT	Alfred N. Carr, M.D.	November 8, 9, & 30
GASTROENTEROLOGIST	Jeffrey D. Huston, M.D.	November 6, 19 & 20
GENERAL SURGEON	David D. Beck, M.D.	TBA
GENERAL SURGEON	Jeffrey Cross, M.D.	TBA
GYNECOLOGY	Laura Rokosz, M.D.	November 7 & 14
NEUROLOGIST		
OBSTETRICS/GYNECOLOGY	David Forschner, M.D.	November 14
ONCOLOGY	Prakash Neupane, M.D.	November 2, 9, 16, 30
ONCOLOGY/HEMATOLOGY	Martin Rubiniowitz, M.D.	November 6
OPHTHALMOLOGIST	Brian Joondeph, M.D.	November 21
OPHTHALMOLOGIST	Ronald Wise, M.D.	November 2 & 16
OPHTHALMOLOGIST**	Eric Fry, M.D.	November 1
OPHTHALMOLOGIST	Robert Fante, M.D.	November 30
ORTHOPEDIST	Tim Birney, M.D.	November 12
ORTHOPEDIST	Armond Hatzidakis, M.D.	December 3
ORTHOPEDIST	James Holmes, M.D.	November 19
ORTHOPEDIST	Edward Parks, M.D.	November 26
ORTHOPEDIST	Raj Bazaz, M.D.	November 12
ORTHOPEDIST	Kevin Nagamani, M.D.	November 28
ORTHOPEDIST	Gareth Shemesh, M.D.	November 15 & 16
PATHOLOGIST	Pathology Services P.C.	Call for Availability
PODIATRIST	Erik Ouder Kirk, D.P.M.	November 14
PODIATRIST	Daniel Mallett, D.P.M.	November 28
PULMONOLOGIST	Ken Weisiger, M.D.	TBA
RADIOLOGISTS	Professional Radiology Services	WEEK DAYS
SPEECH THERAPY	Crystal Schultz	Monday - Thursday
UROLOGIST**	Kevin McDonald M.D.	November 13
UROLOGIST**	Wallace Curry, M.D.	November 27

For an appointment please call 785-890-6030

**For an appointment with the Allergist please call 1-888-849-8424

**For an appointment with Dr. Fry please call 1-800-526-3937

**For an appointment with Dr. Fisher please call 1-888-625-4699

**For an appointment with Dr. McDonald or Dr. Curry please call 1-877-312-1619

Goodland Family Health Center • 106 Willow Road • (785) 890-6075

Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Walk-in Clinic M-F 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m./Saturday Clinic 9-11 a.m.

Dr. Mohamedine Shafei (Out of office on Monday)

Dr. Travis Daise (Out of office on Wednesday)

Dr. David Younger (Out of office on Thursday)

Dr. Lisa M. Unruh - Pediatrician (Out of office on Tuesday)

Jackie Jorgensen, ARNP (Out of office on Friday)

Kathy Wiley, APRN (Out of office on Wednesday)



What should I do if I suspect a natural gas leak?

- Jen asked us

That's an important question, Jen.

While natural gas has an excellent safety record, accidents or misuse of natural gas appliances and equipment could cause a leak. You can't see a leak, but you should be able to smell it. Many people say the odorant we add to natural gas smells like rotten eggs.

If you ever think you smell natural gas:

- Get everyone out of the building immediately - leave the door open as you exit.
- Call Black Hills Energy or 911 from outside using a cell phone or your neighbor's phone.
- Don't touch switches for lights or other electric appliances, and don't use a phone inside the building. Any spark can cause ignition.
- Remain outside the building until emergency personnel arrives.

If you smell natural gas, leave immediately and then call Black Hills Energy's 24-hour emergency number at 800-694-8989.

For more energy tips, go to www.blackhillsenergy.com.

