



Harvey County News

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

SUMMER 2012

POINTS OF INTEREST

- **Courthouse Closed:**
Wed, July 4
Mon, Sept. 3
- **Attorney's office now open through lunch**
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- **Primary Elections**
Tues, Aug. 7

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Health Department awarded

The Harvey County Health Department has received the Silver Level "Breastfeeding Employees Support Award" from the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition and its *Business Case for Breastfeeding* program.

The award is based on proven and established standards to benefit employers and employees. It recognizes businesses that provide support services to their nursing employees, to include education as well as time and space for employees to nurse or pump breast milk at their workplace.

The award, the second-ranking of three sponsored by the coalition, was presented by Brenda Bandy, director of the *Business Case for Breastfeeding* program in Kansas. According to Bandy, Harvey County Health Department received the award for

achieving a high level of support to their employees as outlined in the coalition's criteria. She said they provide a "silver level" pumping room, allow flexible time to pump and have instituted

a model breastfeeding support policy.

Pointing out that many nursing mothers abandon breastfeeding when they return to work because they lack the support and appropriate facilities at their place of employment, Bandy said,

"We want to help change that unfortunate situation." She cited research showing adequate support for nursing employees benefits businesses through savings in health care expenses, reduced turnover rates, lower absenteeism and increased employee loyalty. Employers that have established support services for nursing employees have reported a

\$3 for \$1 return on investment plus realizing a more productive working environment.

"Many Kansas employers recognize the benefits of supporting their nursing employees. We want to shine the spotlight on as many employers as we can for doing their part to make returning to work while nursing easier in hopes that will encourage more businesses to follow suit," says Kathy Walker, a pediatric clinical nurse specialist and Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition president.

The *Business Case for Breastfeeding* is a program to assist employers in developing or enhancing support services for their nursing employees. The Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition is a non-profit 501(c) 3 with the mission of working collaboratively to promote and protect breastfeeding in order to improve the health of Kansas families.



West Park Series

Harvey County West Park embarked on a new tradition this year: a summer education series. The series, which includes topics ranging from baby animals, reptiles and birds to common plants and a nature hike, focuses on educating citizens about the wildlife and nature in Harvey County.

Jackson Meat of Hutchinson and Troy's True Value of



Halstead, sponsors of the series, provide marshmallow roasting materials at the end of each evening if weather permits.

Upcoming events include:
July 14, 7 p.m. - Nature hike
August 18, 8 p.m. - Common plants
September 15, 8 p.m. - Hawks and owls

For more information, call 316-835-3189 or write to westpark@harveycounty.com.

Dream Big

Get ready for the Summer Games opening in London on July 27 by celebrating our own Harvey County Olympian! Halstead native Conrad Nightengale trains for the 1968 Olympics held in Mexico City. Nightengale set the record for the mile in 1966 with a time of 4:03:4, followed by a record for the distance medley relay in 1967 with a time of 9:44:6.





Next time you head to the polling station, don't forget your photo identification!



“The job of Sheriff is defined by statute, but the position is defined by character.”

Kansas Voter ID Law

Beginning this year, every voter must show photo ID when voting. A voter requesting a ballot by mail must either write his or her driver's license number on the application or send a copy of a photo ID to get a ballot.

The following documents may be used as identification for purposes of voting in Kansas:

- Driver's license or ID card issued by Kansas or by another state
- U.S. passport
- Student ID card from an accredited post-secondary education institution in Kansas
- U.S. military ID
- Employee badge or identification document issued by a government office
- Concealed carry of handgun license issued by Kansas or by another state
- Public assistance identification card issued by a government office

A voter age 65 or older may use an expired document. If you need additional information, please contact Harvey County clerk Joyce Truskett at 284-6842.

Sheriff's Brief

The Harvey County Sheriff's Office provides a variety of services to the citizens of Harvey County. Road Patrol deputies respond to emergency calls throughout the county as well as assist other police departments within Harvey County. Deputies are on duty 24 hours a day, seven days each week. Road deputies are the first responders to major crimes, accidents, fires and calls for help. The Road division is led by Sergeants Perkins and Motes supervising 10 road deputies.

The Sheriff's Office has an investigation division that works a variety of crimes from homicides to simple thefts. The Investigation Division is led by Undersheriff Todd Hanchett. The Sheriff's Office has one deputy assigned to the civil process division. Civil process is the delivering of court papers, civil actions, writs or other orders issued by lawful authority. One deputy is assigned as a transport/warrant officer whose job is to maintain county warrants, execute county warrants and transport incarcerated adults and juveniles to court and places of detention.



Sheriff T. Walton is proud of his staff's dedication to their jobs and their desire to provide excellent services to the citizens of Harvey County

The Sheriff is in charge of operating and running the Harvey County Detention Center. The Sheriff employs a jail captain, four jail sergeants and 14 detention deputies to provide operations of the detention center. The average daily inmate population at the center is 108 inmates. The detention center has its own medical unit, kitchen and laundry facility. The detention center is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The detention

center houses prisoners for the U.S. Marshalls which provides the county nearly \$1 million in revenue each year.

Other programs the Sheriff's Office provides the citizens of Harvey County are: "The Suicide Intervention Team," providing resources and counseling to families who are the survivors of a tragic suicide and providing education to the community about suicide issues. The Sheriff's Office in conjunction with Harvey County R.S.V.P. sponsors and operates the "Senior Patrol." The Senior Patrol is made up of 20 volunteers over age 55. Their mission is to patrol the county, provide vacation house checks and alert the Sheriff's Office to any suspicious activity. The Sheriff's Office also accepts all expired or unused prescription drugs during normal business hours.

Sheriff Walton is proud of the men and women of the Harvey County Sheriff's Office. Their dedication to the jobs they perform is a testament to their desire to provide excellent services to the citizens of Harvey County.

Build-A-Bear builds buddies



Some Harvey County students are doing their best to care for their neighbors. Sedgwick High School student council donated 11 Build-A-Bears to the Harvey County Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Task Force.

Build-A-Bears are stuffed animals that are as unique as their owners. The Build-A-Bear Workshop company, whose motto is "Where Best Friends Are Made" created an interactive process in which customers choose the stuffed animal of their choice and assemble and customize it with fluff and outfits during their visit to the store.



The Build-a-Bears were dressed in a variety of costumes including a princess bear, basketball bear and a Marine bear.

The Build-a-Bears went to the children that are currently at the

Safe House. The Harvey County Safe House currently works with 134 families. Between July and December of 2011, the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Task Force worked with 521 victims face-to-face.

The Sedgwick High School students hold fundraisers every year. At the end of the year the students choose what they want to do with the money they raise. This year, they chose to do the Build-a-Bears and donate them to the families of the Safe House.

The staff of the Harvey County Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Task Force would like to thank the Sedgwick High School students for their donation. "Words cannot express what this gift, and the student's generosity, means to the families seeking a safe place to stay" said Laura Vella, Adult Safe House Advocate. "The children cherish and enjoy these thoughtful gifts."



Eleven Build-A-Bears recently found their way into the arms of children in need.



Harvey County joins FEMA rating system

Harvey County recently joined FEMA's community rating system in an effort to receive discounted flood insurance rates.

The national flood insurance program's (NFIP) community rating system (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements.

As a result, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community actions meeting the three goals of the CRS: reduce flood losses, facilitate accurate insurance rating and promote the awareness of flood insurance.

Harvey County has the opportunity to get a higher percentage of discounts if we gain additional points in the program. Additional points already earned come from new planning and zoning director, Gina Bell. Bell came to Harvey County as a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM). Having a CFM on staff adds points for the program. Most points are gained through educational opportunities.

Steve Samuelson from the Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources, National Flood Insurance Program presented Harvey County with a plaque for joining the community rating system. The rating will provide a 5

percent discount to Harvey County residents who purchase flood insurance at our current level in the program.



(l-r) Anthony Swartzendruber, Steve Samuelson, Nadine Rees and Gina Bell

July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Commission Meeting	3	4 Courthouse closed	5	6	7
8	9 Commission Meeting	10	11	12	13	14 West Park Educational Series: 7 p.m.
15	16 Commission Meeting	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 Commission Meeting	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Commission Meeting	31				

August

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Commission Meeting	7 Primary Election	8	9	10	11
12	13 Commission Meeting	14	15	16	17	18 West Park Educational Series: 8 p.m.
19	20 Commission Meeting	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Commission Meeting	28	29	30	31	

September

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 Courthouse closed	4 Commission Meeting	5 Vaccination Day Burrton 8:15 a.m.	6	7 Vaccination Day Halstead 8:15 a.m.	8
9	10 Commission Meeting	11	12	13	14 Vaccination Day Northridge Elem. 8:15 a.m.	15 West Park Educational Series: 8 p.m.
16	17 Commission Meeting	18	19 Vaccination Day Santa Fe 8:15 a.m.	20	21	22
23	24 Commission Meeting	25	26 Vaccination Day Newton High 2:15 p.m.	27	28	29
30						