Spooktacular thrills children with activities and more

BY CHRISTY DRAPER
Contributing Writer

In downtown Coffeyville more than 40 local businesses participated in the Spooktacular event Monday, Oct. 23. Store fronts had spooky displays and hundreds of kids were dressed to impress while they trick or treated.

There was a bounce house, face painting provided by the Coffeyville Community College art students and at 5:30 p.m. children gathered for a costume parade around the plaza. The event was hosted by the Coffeyville Chamber of Commerce.

The local Wal-Mart provided a special discount to the Chamber of Commerce for candy to pass out for their members.

The Coffeyville Fire Department served Kool-Aid and the area D.A.R.E. truck was provided by the Coffeyville Chamber of Commerce.

There were children of all ages from tiny babies, middle aged and plenty of adults who dressed up to participate in the event. According to a statistical survey from 2015 Halloween is ranked to be the third favorite holiday in the United States while Christmas is number one.

According to History.com, Halloween originated in the United States from the practices of Celtic paganism in the British Isles, and their feast of Samhain, the new year. They believed it was the time when ghosts and spirits came out to haunt, and the Celts would appease the spirits by giving them treats.

Cancer Center open house at Coffeyville Regional Medical Center

Coffeyville Regional Medical Center (CRMC) will host a Cancer Treatment Services Open House Wednesday, Nov. 1, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., at 1400 W. 4th St., Coffeyville.

“We are inviting the community to meet our amazing oncology team, take a look at the comprehensive services we offer and learn about our new partnership with Midwest Cancer Alliance,” explained CRMC CEO, Mark Woodring, DrPH, FACHE.

Midwest Cancer Alliance (MCA) is a membership-based organization that brings cancer research, clinical and support professionals together to advance the quality and value of cancer prevention, detection, cure and survivorship in the heartland. Staff from MCA, the outreach division of The University of Kansas Cancer Center, will be attending the open house.

As a Clinical Research Partner, CRMC has access to MCA’s network of leading-edge clinical trials, ongoing professional education, patient education, networking, and outreach opportunities. In addition, patients at CRMC have access to additional cancer prevention, screening, diagnosis and care information, along with other health education resources.

The full range of radiology and oncology services at CRMC include Radiation Oncology Center and Tatum Cancer Center staffed by a highly skilled care team led by oncologists Dr. Michele Ogundipe, MD, Nathan Uy, MD, and Cancer Center Director, Vicki Portwood, RS, MSN.

This event is free and open to the public. To learn more about Coffeyville Regional Medical Center and the Midwest Cancer Alliance, please visit www.crmcinc.org.
County commission talks raises for employees

BY STEVE McHUCKE

Montgomery County commission jumped into the discussion that was tabled last week after County Manager Ron Dierks was absent, concerning making the county attorney’s position full-time. County at- torney Larry Markele presented the proposal to the commissioners last week and wanted a decision quickly. However, commissioners Larry McManus and Fred Brown tabled it. Markele was wanting to increase his salary from $64,142.64 to $95,000, making the county attorney’s a full-time position, accord- ing to Markele. He addressed the other commissioners, “You guys know I have been an advocate of higher wages and less rich benefits so we can attract better quality employees.”

Before any decision was made, the opin- ion of Paul Kritz, county counselor, was read to the commission. “I think we have a conflict of interest to set the county attorney’s office budget,” he said. Essentially what he meant by that statement is the commissioners can only set the budget for the county at- torney’s department, but any more details on how the budget is spent is the responsibil- ity of the county attorney. York, “If that is the case, why are we talking about this? Do you do whatever you want with your budget and set your own salary.”

The commission then passed the resolu- tion on the county attorney’s full-time position.

After the discussion of the county at- torney’s office budget, York talked about the need on the county for the need to increase all county employee wages. “My proposal for a wage increase is based on the comparison of other counties. We have enough money from what we have saved in health care. As we have decreased benefits and increased cost to employees I really think we need to increase their compensation.”

There was confusion expressed from commissioner Jeff Phelps about how the increase could be budgeted after the 2018 budget is set. However, if the commission voted to give county workers a raise, it would have been ap- proved for one of the three bridge projects they requested funding for through the 2019 Off-Site Bridge Program.

York concluded the discussion from Robert Bester, Public Works coordinator, and Jeff Phillips, maintenance supervisor, reguarding the replacements of lights that left the commissioners last week. The Public Works department had asked the commission for permission to replace the lights with LED lights and parking lot lights. The total operational cost savings of using LED lights will be at least $40,000 per year, according to Public Works. The savings from installing LED lights, including installation, would be approximatly $8,500.

Services for inmates—Sherriff Bobby docks the commission programs

Twenty-two percent of the inmates are mentally challenged and I don’t have any services for them,” said Dierks. He is in hopes of arranging Four County to come with three inmates through parenting classes, drug and alcohol abuse counseling and help paying child support. “Several ministries have helped a lot and actually have turned some inmate’s lives, but I want to do a little bit more to help these people out and maybe we will quit having these repeat offenders,” said Dierks. York encouraged Dierks to contact Four County Mental Health and discuss the matter with Greg Heuken then get back to the commis- sion on his findings.

They determined to offer the city of Cof- feyville $30,000 for the building at 601. Union that would become the Montgomery County Health Department.

The commissioners had been asked by Nancy Chibure, county treasurer, to set a resolu- tion for a tax sale next fall with a date to be determined. They also were shown an ex- ample of the new design of a tax statement that will give the taxpayers a more detailed breakdown of where their tax dollars are going. The county will also construct a pie chart that will be posted on their website.

Tahila Works said she had received notification from Kansas Department Of Administration that they had been ap- proved for one of the three bridge projects they requested funding for through the 2019 Off-Site Bridge Program.

In addition, the commission heard discussion from Robert Bester, Public Works coordinator, and Jeff Phillips, maintenance supervisor, regarding the replacements of lights that left the commissioners last week. The Public Works department had asked the commission for permission to replace the lights with LED lights and parking lot lights. The total operational cost savings of using LED lights will be at least $40,000 per year, according to Public Works. The savings from installing LED lights, including installation, would be approximatly $8,500.

What does it take: Becoming a member of the Army National Guard

BY CHRISTY DRAPER

Con’t from Page 1

Since August, there have been five Cof- feyville teens who have set a higher stan- dard for the county, with support and determination, they are now members of the Army National Guard. These kids are Pvt. Jacob Jackson, Pvt. Timmy Collins, Pvt. Brandon Miller, Pvt. Samuel Base, and they are currently in training at Joint Forces STT (State, Territorial, and Total) Center in Topeka.

Congratulations to these young indi- viduals who are not your stereotypical soldiers — they are a product of the Coffeyville community. There are several requirements involved in joining the Army National Guard prior to any service. You must be between the ages of 17 and 25, be a US citizen or per- manent resident, be at least a junior in high school, have a high school diploma or a GED certificate, achieve a minimum score on the ASVAB test, and meet medi- cal, physical and moral requirements. In comparing the difficulty of the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) test to popular college-entrance exams like the ACT and SAT, multiple factors are assessed. For example, the science section of the ASVAB test asks questions on biological sciences, physical sciences, life sciences and earth and space sciences, according to TodayMilitary.com. The science section of the ACT does not test prior knowledge but scientific reasoning, according to ACTStudent.org. The science test for the ASVAB is intended to interpret given scientific data or charts. The ACT science section has 45 ques- tions that are comparable to both the SAT and ACT science sections, and one section is comparable to the ACT science section. The ASVAB sections cover vocational areas like computer, math, and general information, shop information, mechanical comprehension and technical information.

In addition to the ASVAB you are also required to pass the Army Physical Fit- ness Test (APFT) before you graduate from BCT (Basic Combat Training) and go to AT (Advanced Individual Training). After BCT, you will take the APFT once a year and the results will become part of your record.

Jackson is a combat engineer and has a vocal scholarship and plans to attend Coffeyville Community College. Collins is attending Kansas State University. He is also in ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) which is a college program that prepares young adults to become officers in the military. Jackson is a combat medic and plans on going to college.

Jackson has already graduated from high school and he said, “Being out in the field is the hardest part. We marched 22 miles in three days, you’re on the ground sleeping with bugs and spiders crawling on you. I don’t do spiders,” Col- lins was confident he would get into the Army. Marcus Collins, father of Collins, said, “I demand my son to be confident in who he is. I hope the Army will provide focus for him.”

Jackson is in ROTC, the term is required, he said, “I am proud and honored they joined.” Some of the kids joined because they wanted to follow in their parent’s footsteps, Jackson joined because he was always a leader, and others like Nickel joined be- cause they wanted to follow in their parent’s footsteps. Nickel joined because he was a leader, and others like Nickel joined because they wanted to follow in their parent’s footsteps.

The Army National Guard provides a way for adults to be officers in the military. Niles Jackson has already graduated from Jackson High School and is in ROTC, he said, “I am proud and honored they joined.” Some of the kids joined because they wanted to follow in their parent’s footsteps, Jackson joined because he was always a leader, and others like Nickel joined because they wanted to follow in their parent’s footsteps. Nickel joined because he was a leader, and others like Nickel joined because they wanted to follow in their parent’s footsteps. Nickel joined because he was a leader, and others like Nickel joined because they wanted to follow in their parent’s footsteps. Nickel joined because he was a leader, and others like Nickel joined because they wanted to follow in their parent’s footsteps. Nickel joined because he was a leader, and others like Nickel joined because they wanted to follow in their parent’s footsteps.