

Phillips County Raceway to reduce stock car track

Written by April Peregoy

The Holyoke Racing Group is reducing the size of the stock car track at Phillips County Fairgrounds, according to Phillips County Commissioners at their meeting Thursday, April 30.

Currently, the race track is one-half mile in length. The group plans to reduce it to a 3/8 mile track.

To help cover the costs, the group has sought monies from the Heginbotham Trust. The Trust has approved \$12,500 toward the efforts.

According to commissioners, the project was not going to move forward until Arvada Excavation agreed to the work at a very minimal cost. They added the company's decision to do so might have been influenced by the fact its personnel are also racers.

Phillips County is not providing funds for the change, but will be helping with the use of its equipment and in-kind efforts as time is available.

New landfill supervisor announced

Phillips County Commissioners announced at their meeting Thursday that they have promoted Bill Andrews to replace Matt Meusborn as the Phillips County Landfill supervisor. He started his new position on Friday, May 1.

The county is now conducting interviews to fill the position vacated by Andrews.

In other landfill news, horticulturalist Linda Langelo with Golden Plains Extension has secured a semi-load of compost. It was delivered to the landfill and is available for donations. Information about the project can be attained by contacting Langelo at 854-3616.

Wisdom Farms awarded grant

Wisdom Farms has been able to secure a grant of \$15,500 from the Colorado Department of Agriculture to pay for a feasibility study to create a poultry processing plant in the Haxtun area.

Phillips County Economic Development director Nici Bishop has been working with Wisdom Farms in preparing the application for the grant, and will monitor the project. However, state statute requires the money to pass through county government.

Commissioners recently signed a contract with the Department of Agriculture to act as the pass through government for the grant. They noted the \$3,000 required match will be paid entirely by Wisdom Farms.

County Govt. Week celebrated at Event Center

In honor of National County Government Week, Holyoke Chamber of Commerce hosted its first spring spotlight at the Phillips County Event Center, located at the Phillips County Fairgrounds, on Wednesday, May 6.

Construction is coming along well at the new building, and commissioners said they know everyone is curious. Hosting the first spring spotlight there, they said, will give visitors the chance to tour it and see what's happening so far.

Other business

In other business during the month of April, commissioners:

—purchased a 2008 Polaris ATV from MV Equipment for the Weed & Pest District for spraying noxious weeds. With a cost of \$7,600, the county sold a 2000 Arctic Cat for \$2,100, leaving a total net cost of \$5,500.

—noted they received an anonymous letter in April. They appreciate the concerns of the letter, but want the public to know they can't really do anything about the issue unless someone

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is willing to sign it. In this particular instance, the letter concerned someone who is not a county employee.

—announced the county’s free clean-up days for residents will be Friday and Saturday, June 5-6.

—approved a request from the Fair Board to hold a beer garden during the 2009 Phillips County Fair on Friday and Saturday. This approval was forwarded to Holyoke City Council, which has the final decision on any liquor licenses within the city.

—noted the annual Colorado Counties, Inc. Summer Conference in Vail will be June 8-10.