

Inside the Beacon

SPECIAL

Celebrate the Fourth



Get the scoop on Independence Day celebrations around the area. **See Special Insert**

14 PAGES

Animal shelter hit with \$11k theft

By Jeff Harrison
Managing Editor

Thieves rode off with a horse trailer, lawn equipment and animal supplies from the Midwest City Animal Welfare Center last weekend, according to police.

Midwest City Police say thieves cut through a fence at the Animal Welfare Center, 7221 NE 36th St., and broke into a garage. They took the trailer and several items, including a zero-radius lawnmower, lawn chemicals, pet food, and others.

Adrian Sanders, Animal Welfare supervisor, said the stolen items were worth about \$11,000. The trailer was purchased with donations from the community.

"This was a big loss," Sanders said. "It's irritating that thieves think they can just come in and take these things. And it's especially hard when it was equipment that had been donated."

The 2015 W&W 15-foot trailer is painted maroon. The trailer was marked with City of Midwest City logo on three sides and a decal "Tom Farrel Trailer Sales."

Sanders said he noticed the theft about 7 a.m. Sunday. He said the shelter had been closed since 6 p.m. Saturday.

"I noticed the garage door was wide open, but I

See TRAILER, page 3A



Police say thieves stole \$11,000 worth of equipment from the Midwest City Animal Welfare last weekend.

-Provided photo

LOCAL

Comic convention



SoonerCon 24, a multi-genre, convention will be in Midwest City Friday through Sunday. **See page 7A**

SPORTS

CA ropes Bronchos



-Staff photo by Jeff Harrison

Tanner Toney lays down a bunt Sunday during a game against the OKC Bronchos in the Yukon Tournament. **See page 8A**



-Staff photo by Jeff Harrison

Michelle Ashley, a teacher at Schwartz Elementary School, receives a free snow cone from Tasty Snow Monday afternoon as part of the Rewards of Honor program. The initiative provides free perks to Mid-Del School employees from various local businesses.

Community shows the love for Mid-Del Schools

Rewards of Honor program offers free perks to all school district employees

By Jeff Harrison
Managing Editor

Working in public education can be a challenge, especially in Oklahoma.

Funding shortfalls, changing test standards and low teacher salaries are among the obstacles state school districts face. Employees with Mid-Del Schools are finding some relief.

Local businesses are providing relief with free goods and services just for Mid-Del School employees. The perks – which include food, drinks, oil changes and more – can be redeemed by showing a school district ID badge.

The free offers are part of the Rewards of Honor program, a local initiative that aims to use generosity to improve society. Steve Faulkner, Rewards of Honor founder, believes the program will be a boom for local teachers and businesses. Faulkner owns The Transformation Agency, a boutique marketing and advertising firm in Oklahoma City, and has more than 30 years of experience in cause-based marketing.

Angie Wages, a kindergarten teacher at Soldier Creek, said the program has been a blessing for school employees. She said teachers are typically not financially motivated, but they appreciate support from local businesses.

"Teachers tend to be givers and it feels different to be on the receiving end of it," she said. "An oil change, a snow cone or a Jersey Mike's sub might seem like little things, but they say a lot to us. And we appreciate it."

Pam Deering, school superintendent, was

See REWARDS, page 6A

Council approves grocery store plat

By Jeff Harrison
Managing Editor


A new grocery store and retail development is one step closer to opening.

The Midwest City Council Tuesday night approved a final plat to allow WinCo Foods to construct a new grocery store and retail center near the intersection of Reno Ave. and Midwest Blvd.

The Boise, Idaho - based company plans to build a grocery store at 7601 E. Reno Ave, the site of the former Target store. The company plans to demolish the old Target building and construct a new building. The development could also include three additional buildings for commercial development.

Billy Harless, community development director, said

See WINCO, page 7A




-Provided photo

The Midwest City Council Tuesday evening approved the final plat for WinCo Foods store at the site of the former Target Store at 7601 E. Reno Ave.


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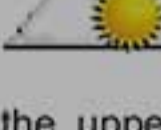
Local Weather

Fri 6/26 92/67 


Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s.

Sat 6/27 85/65 


Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 60s.

Sun 6/28 87/67 

Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the upper 60s.



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Suspect makes getaway through storm drain


By Jeff Harrison
Managing Editor

Authorities are looking for two suspects who fled a traffic stop last week in Del City.

At about 3:50 p.m. on June 18, Oklahoma County Sheriff's deputy attempted to stop a blue Hyundai for seat belt violation near the intersection of SE 15th St. and Howard Dr. The driver pulled into a gas station and three male suspects ran away in separate directions.

The deputy caught up with one of the suspects and saw another man, later identified as Thomas P. Duffy, 40, run into a drainage ditch. The third suspect was able to get away. Bryce Wynniger, 22, was detained in the back of the deputy's patrol car.

See CHASE, page 3A



-Staff photo by Jeff Harrison

Oklahoma County Sheriff's deputies use a K-9 officer to help find a suspect inside a storm drain near the Del City Walmart.

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James: jfhowell@lawyer.com



David: dhowell@coxinet.com

