

# HAXTUN-FLEMING HERALD

"What can we reason but from what we know?" —Alexander Pope

Haxtun, Colorado

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## This Weeks' Features ...

### Wastewater and lagoons continue to dominate Fleming TC discussions

Wastewater and sewer lagoons continue to be topics of discussion at Fleming Town Council meetings and April's was no different. Over the past month, members of the Council met with representatives from the State Governor's office about the required replacement of the town's sewer lagoons.

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### Provider fee bill clears State Senate hurdle

The biggest bill of the session, which could free up millions of dollars for rural hospitals, schools and roads, cleared its first and one of its most important hurdles in the past week.

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## Fire relief benefit held Saturday in Haxtun

By Candie Salyards  
candie@hfherald.com

Six short weeks ago the Haxtun Fire Hall was full of volunteers, community members and firemen who were frantically doing their part to put out a fire that dangerously spread from Iliff to Haxtun on March 6. This weekend, the fire hall was again packed with those very same volunteers, community members and firemen but in a much different atmosphere.

The Logan/Phillips County fire burned more than 32,500 acres, claimed four homes and destroyed a number of other buildings but one thing it did not destroy is the spirit and strength of the Haxtun community. Saturday night, during a benefit to honor those who fought the fire and to bring relief for those who suffered losses, more than 1,100 people packed the fire hall for dinner and fellowship and to come together to help those whose lives have been forever changed.

Mayor Todd Workman spoke to the packed house Saturday evening after a free-will offering dinner that fed nearly 970 people. Workman said he recently signed a proclamation declaring March 6 Firefighter Appreciation Day in Haxtun.

The proclamation starts, "firefighters are unsung heroes who are prepared to be summoned at any moment to risk their own safety to preserve lives and suppress fires."

Workman thanked the many volunteers who battled the blaze until 100 percent containment came two days later on March 8. His proclamation ends, "the Town of Haxtun is greatly indebted to the valiant and hardworking volunteer firefighters that saved lives, homes, acres and our small community."

Also to speak Saturday night was Jared and Sara Firme, who lost their home north of Haxtun on the evening the fire began. The couple thanked the community for their



(Herald photo by Candie Salyards)

**JARED AND SARA Firme thank firefighters, volunteers and community members who have shown support in a number of ways following the loss of their home in the recent fire while at the benefit on Saturday evening. The couple presented the HVFD with the picture Sara holds.**

support, donations and prayers since the devastating fire that burned over the 26 miles. They also presented the Haxtun Volunteer Fire Department with a canvas photo of four local firemen battling the blaze at their home.

Jared said Haxtun firemen stayed at their home throughout the night on March 6 while other departments went onto other locations to continue to fight the fire and that is one thing he would never forget.

Austin and Val Wilson, with help from their nephew Caid Smith and his agriculture teacher and former Haxtun resident Andrea (Whitmore) Andersen, presented a metal cut out of the United States with the American flag, fireman logo and the hashtag #haxtun-

strong to the HVFD.

Once the presentations were finished, auctioneers Tyler Knode and Josh Larson auctioned more than 200 live auction items that brought in \$142,650. Silent auction items on display added another \$12,337 to the grand total of \$154,987 brought in throughout the evening.

When the last items were sold and the silent auction closed, performers Braydon Zink and Madison Rodges played for the crowd until the event's end. For more information on how to donate to fire relief efforts or to stay up-to-date with information on the Logan/Phillips County fire visit Haxtun Community Fire Relief on Facebook.



(Herald photo by Candie Salyards)

**HAXTUN VOLUNTEER FIREMEN** pictured at a benefit Saturday evening are back row (l-r), Steve Statz, Lila Statz, Garrett Krogmeier and Tracy Ham; middle row (l-r), Trever Fix, Jeff Firme, Stan Kennedy, John Davis, Levi Davis, Jeremy Atchison, Andrew Duell, Tom Bullard, Michael Davis, Jonah Wernsman, Kelly Michael and Dillon Workman; front row (l-r), Dan Firme, Tanya Mayhew, Ron Carpenter, Chad Bamford, Bruce Mahnke and Marc Bornhoft. Not pictured are Tracy Dickerson, Buck Widgery, Caleb Contreras, Tracy Oberle, Mark Evers, Cyrus Duell, Keith Davis and Tommy Davis.



\$35/year within 50-mile radius; \$40/year outside 50-mile radius