

I'm going to start this by saying the memorial service for Q Staton was an honor to attend. There were hundreds in attendance, which was a testament to the impact that he had on the community. In honor of Q's fun personality, the performing arts center was packed with tie dye. The family presented a touching representation of his life. Our condolences to the entire Staton family.

We had several guests in attendance at Friday's meeting. Danielle Robbins-Gregory, the new director of the Family Tree Nurturing Center. Andrew Konkell, the new director of United Way and Calvin's friend Charlie Loveridge.

Thanks to Craig for providing the prayer.

Announcements:

- 9/13 is the foundation bingo night at the Knights of Columbus. There will be a social hour prior to bingo. Mark your calendar and plan to come. More will be announced as we get closer.
- Bring school supplies for the United Way drive.
- 9/11 United Way will be hosting a community rally, with music and a carnival.
- Tumbleweed still needs pantry supplies, so please bring items to the meeting, or put a check in the mail to Tumbleweed to help out.
- The BEC board meets next week and they will vote on donating to a charity in honor of Q Staton.
- The District Exchange Gun Raffle is in process, so please spread the word.
- Rene has fliers for the Food Truck Battle on the Yellowstone, so please get some fliers from her and help by hanging them around town.
- New week is a business meeting, please no guests.
- The Food Truck Battle Committee would like to help with hanging banners and flags next Saturday. Please come out at 10am to help.
- The Fair events are on the website, if you haven't signed up and if it's already closed, please reach out to Shannon to let her know you're available.
- Next Thursday at the Yellowstone National Cemetery there will be a Spirit of 45 celebration at 2pm, which is a celebration of the surrender of Japan.

- Craig said the committee list for this year is now on the website, so please go check it out and consider volunteering for more.
- Kordel mentioned that he's looking for more ideas to raise funds for the club, outside of the Metra events. If you have any ideas, he and Shawnee would like to hear from you.
- Congratulations to Huffy on his retirement.

Presentation:

Daneille and Bill Kennedy, from the Family Tree Center presented information on what services they provide for the community. Daneille is the new director of the Center, as Bill has gone to part-time. Danielle is originally from Sheridan, WY, but most recently comes from Kansas City. She has 35 years of experience in early childhood development, mental health, parenting, grant writing, etc.

The Family Tree Center provides childcare, respite care, parenting education classes, works with CPS and the women's prison to provide parenting education. They have connected with the Early Head Start program, to get young ones ready for Head Start. They provide breakfast, lunch and a snack, which is very important for many of these children.

They are having a summer carnival next weekend, Saturday, Augusts 16th from 10 am – 2 pm. Not everyone can afford to go to the fair, but they would still like to provide some fun for their children. Please spread the word on the great event. See the accompanying flier.

They are raising funds to expand with an additional classroom. They always need help from volunteers with various activities, and they need more money for the services they provide. The Family Tree Center also works in conjunction with many other organizations such as Family Promise.

For more information on how to help, please contact the Family Tree Nurturing Center at 406-252-9799.