



LAURIE LEONARD is one of the donors that helped the American Red Cross meet its goal. A Red Cross technician draws blood as Cheryl Lee looks on. Times staff photo by Karen Krien

County meets blood units goal

By Karen Krien
The Red Cross Blood Drive was held Jan. 13 in St. Francis and Ruth Moore, Rebekah coordinator for the drive, reported the drive had 113 donors but 11 were deferred. "There were 13 first-time givers this time which is great," Mrs. Moore said. The county met their goal of 100

units of blood. Mrs. Moore also said there were several pins received by donors who had donated a gallon or more of blood. Vicky Copess, with the American Red Cross, commented that when the Red Cross lets the people of northwest Kansas know there is a need for more blood, the people respond.

"Thank you all for giving the gift of life," she said, adding that many will never know how many lives they touched by this act of kindness. "People will never know the patient they might have saved or the family that gets to laugh one more time with their loved one."

Free-throw contest is Sunday

All boys and girls ages 10 to 14 are welcome to participate in the local level of competition for the 2005 Knights of Columbus Free-Throw Championship. The local competition will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 23, at the St. Francis Community High School gym. The contest is sponsored annually with winners progressing through local, district and state

competition. International champions are announced by the Knights of Columbus International Headquarters based on scores from the state level competitions. All boys and girls 10 to 14 years old are eligible to participate and will compete in respective age divisions. Last year more than 247,000 sharpshooters partici-

pated in 4,017 local competitions. All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation in the event. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. For entry forms or additional information contact Dave Ritter at 332-0146 or Ernie Ketzner at 734-2755.

Kansas Day comes to town on Jan. 29

By Casey McCormick
The 76th Annual Kansas Day celebration will be held in Bird City on Saturday, Jan. 29. This year's theme is Kansas Dancin' and the featured entertainer will be Mark Berry who will portray "Californy Joe." This year's president, Darla Dible, and her committee have been busy organizing the event which honors Kansas on the anniversary date of its statehood. "We are looking forward to a fun day that celebrates Kansas Dancin'," said president Dible. The festivities will begin at 9 a.m. when the American Legion Hall will open for the setup of table displays. "Anyone or group who has an interesting item from Kansas or relat-

ing to Kansas history is welcome to display it," said President Dible. To reserve a place for a display, contact the Kansas Day Vice-president Casey McCormick at 734-2659. Registration will open at 10 a.m. and at 11:30 a.m. the Kansas Day potluck will be served. After the dinner the program will begin at 12:30. Among other activities will be a sing along with songs from Kansas. Entertainment will include dancers from Dance Ranch of St. Francis and Kansas biographies and snapshots by the Cheylin fourth and seventh graders. The feature entertainment will be Mark Berry's "Californy Joe." "Californy Joe" combines frontier



humor and history. Like in year's past, a memorial tribute will be read with the names of Cheyenne County residents who are no longer living. Along with President Dible and Vice-president McCormick, the 2005 Kansas Day officers are Marsha Magley, secretary, and Helene Landenberger, treasurer. This year marks the 144th year of Kansas statehood.

Four candidates file for office; three in Bird City, one in Sainty

By Karen Krien
The deadline for filing for one of the seats on Bird City or St. Francis city councils and Cheylin or St. Francis school boards is noon on Tuesday, Jan. 25. The elections will be held in April. Terry Miller, county election officer, reported that those filing are coming in slowly. As of Tuesday, only four candidates had filed. Canda Orten and Jan Busse have filed for the Member-At-Large position on the Cheylin Board of Education; Rod Young filed for District 2, position 6 on the Cheylin Board of Education; and Rodney Bracelin has filed for a seat on the St. Francis City Council.

He said several of the board members had picked up the papers for filing but not all had turned them back in but they do have a few more days before the deadline. Those filing will need to either pay a \$5 fee or submit a petition with the required amount of signatures. If the candidate is thinking of submitting a petition, he or she should check with the county clerk to find out the number of signatures needed as there are different numbers for each city and school board. It should be noted, that after a candidate has filed for an office, he cannot withdraw his name after the last date provided by law for filing for such candidacy. There are a number of positions open in both cities on both the school and city boards. In both cities, the council can have any number of candidates running but only the seats which are up for election will be filled by the candidates with the most votes in the April 1 election. To run for a seat on the city council, the candidate must live within the city limits. School board elections have different rules and if there are more than three candidate running in a district, there will be a primary election on Feb. 25, eliminating the extra candidates. There are also different districts in the school district and to run for a certain position, the candidate must live in that district. A map showing the districts can be obtained at the county clerk's office.

City council/mayor
St. Francis — There are three city council seats up for election. Those members whose term are up are: Rodney Bracelin, Natalie Knodel and Kay Shay. Bird City — There are two seats on the city council and the position of mayor up for election. These positions are currently being served by Larry Henry and Wendy Richmeier, council; and Dave Hickert, mayor. **Board of education**
St. Francis — There three seats up for election on the St. Francis Board of Education. Positions and the people currently serving are: District 1, position 4, Bruce Feikert; District 2, position 5, Gene Dodd; District 3, position 6, Pete Raile. Mr. Dodd moved out of his District and is now living in Mr. Feikert's District. He said he would not be running against Mr. Feikert. Cheylin — The Cheylin Board of Education has four seats up for election including District 2, position 6, Rod Young, District 1, position 3, Hal Antholz; and District 1, position 1, Gerard Pochop; Member at Large, Cheryl Wilkinson.



Livestock barn has \$1 million sale

By Casey McCormick
On Wednesday, Jan. 12, pickup trucks and cattle trailers filled the lot at the sale barn and poured onto U.S. 36. Ranchers showed up to take advantage of good beef prices on a cold, blustery winter day. "There were 1,392 head sold," said Betty Petersen, St. Francis Livestock. "Most were from 500 pounds on up." The sale brought in \$1 million for cattlemen from Cheyenne, Rawlins and Sherman counties. As of Friday, the prices for fats were \$92 to \$93 per hundred.



1,392 HEAD OF CATTLE sold. (top) Trucks and trailers brought the cows to market. (right) Troy Burr keeps track of which animals went into pens. (above) These guys are ready to get out of a trailer. Times staff photos by Casey McCormick