

# Cheyenne County visited by senator

U.S. Senator Pat Roberts was in St. Francis Tuesday, Aug. 21, to meet with about 35 residents. He was on a 3,300-mile listening tour, talking in 33 town hall meetings. The senator talked about everything from immigration to the farm bill, rural health to the war in Iraq.

Norman Morrow, St. Francis, opened the meeting asking about sealing the Mexican border. He said Senator Harry Reed was not going through the regular order — that it was a "passionate" issue. There is \$3 billion to extend the fence and for agents but sealing with electronic means will take several years. He talked about amnesty for those in the country but was not in favor of it.

He said the bill presented didn't deal with human behavior. He said that people are not going to declare they are illegal, to be sent back to their country and wait in line for years.

Senator Roberts noted that there is a need for support for law enforcement here. Illegals are stopped and then released as there is no funding for holding them. He didn't see a reform bill happening soon.

Arlie Archer, McDonald, was concerned about a regulation from the department of transportation which forbids grain trailers to be over 28.5 feet long. The senator said he would check with the state to see

if there wasn't some flexibility in the matter.

Ernie Ketzner, Bird City, asked about the farm program. Senator Roberts said the proposed farm bill is "a worry." He said the first bill was written by outsiders and members of the Ag Committee were not even invited to testify.

"It is a good thing farmers out here had a good crop this year," he said. "It does nothing to help drought problems."

"It's a lousy bill in the House," Mr. Roberts said.

The current farm bill doesn't help farmers if you don't have a crop and northwest Kansas hasn't had a crop in six years, he said.

What the farmers need is crop insurance, he said.

But the House bill has cut that out to put in specialty crops produced in California, the area Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi represents, he noted.

"There's nothing in there for the High Plains," he said.

The crop insurance program has been cut \$6 billion and the Senate Ag Committee will try to change this. He noted that much of the money does not even go into agriculture.

Tom Keller, St. Francis, asked about the health care reform. Senator Roberts said there are 83 critical



SENATOR PAT ROBERTS explains a point during his Listening Tour of Kansas counties.

Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

access care hospitals in Kansas and "we can lose our hospitals, providers and home health care providers," he said.

He talked about the children poverty health care program, telling that the program has been misused. It has been extended to adults earning a maximum of \$82,000. In New York, this limit is constantly met and he said the bill needed to be cleaned up and reformed. It needed to be funded at a responsible level.

Dr. Mary Beth Miller, St. Francis, commended the senator on what he has done. She said for eight years, she had been the only provider and she finally has a physician to help her.

She thanked him for his support when Medicare was wanting to cut funds — please don't cut critical care hospitals, she said. "I highly commend you for your efforts!"

Mr. Keller asked what was the senator's view on the war in Iraq?

Senator Roberts said he thought there was progress being made in Iraq and the challenge remaining is to counter terrorism plans.

He said that more would be known when General David Petraeus, commander of the Multi-National Force-Iraq, returned from Iraq and made his report. However, he was not sure that there is enough progress there for Congress to support the war effort.

"I want every man and woman out of that situation but I don't want to have to send them back," he said.

He went on to talk about there being terror cells in the United States and questioned what the country would do if there are more terrorist attacks.

After an hour, Senator Roberts left for Atwood.

"The questions and concerns I heard from farmers, students, seniors, hospital administrators, business owners, teachers, veterans, pharmacists and many others were passionate and personal," the senator said about his trip. "I have long said there is no substitute for personal contact with those you represent, and this tour gives me the best chance to hear from people in a small setting."

# Dove season opens on this Saturday

By Karen Krien

karenk@nwkansas.com

Dove season will open Saturday in Kansas. It is a split season with the first opening on Saturday through Oct. 14; then it will close for a couple of weeks and reopen Nov. 1 through 16.

Hunters can buy licenses at the clerk's office in the courthouse, at K-Store, U.S. 36, all in St. Francis. The licenses can also be bought online at [www.kdwp.state.ks.us](http://www.kdwp.state.ks.us).

Mourning doves are migratory game birds and are federally regulated. Rules require that shotguns be plugged to hold no more than three shells and the daily bag limit is 15. No more than 30 can be possessed.

A Kansas hunting license and Harvest Information Stamp are required to hunt doves except for those Kansas residents younger than 16 or older than 65.

## Dove banding

Hunters are asked to look for leg bands on the mourning doves they shoot. The purpose of banding is to estimate annual survival rates, harvest rates and distribution of the harvest, as well as to refine techniques for a future dove-banding program. This date is necessary for understanding population trends and managing dove harvests.

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks officials report that hunters are a critical link in the banding study. By checking all harvested doves for bands and reporting the banded doves, hunters help biologists manage this important migratory game bird.

Because dove bands are small, hunters can easily overlook the bands so they are asked to carefully check all doves bagged. If they find a band, call 1-800-327-2263 or go

to [www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl/](http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl/). Hunters can keep the bands and will be provided with a certificate identifying the age, sex, date and location the bird was banded.

## Baiting

It should be noted that baiting doves by placing grain out to intentionally attract birds is illegal for any migratory bird hunting.

## More information

For more information about hunting places in Kansas and regulations, stop by the county clerk's office in the courthouse in St. Francis

# Still time to become a booster

School has started and each year, *The Saint Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times* feature sports teams, music groups and other activities on "Booster Pages." These pages are sponsored by businesses, organizations and individuals for a one-time fee. The number and size of booster ads depends on the number of sponsors.

Those listed on the booster pages last year will be listed again unless they have notified *The Herald* office that they do not want to be a booster.

Students are asked to take note of these booster sponsors and thank them for their participation and helping record the "memories" of their school years.



## In Loving Memory of Norman Haack

December 8, 1920 - September 4, 2003

### The Broken Chain

We little knew that morning that God was going to call your name. In life we loved you dearly, in death we do the same. It broke our hearts to lose you, you did not go alone; for part of us went with you, the day God called you home. You left us peaceful memories, your love is still our guide; and though we cannot see you, you are always on our side. Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same; but as God calls us one by one, the Chain will link again.

Your Loving Wife & Family

## GRAND OPENING

Sept. 3, 2007 ~ 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

## 2nd Beginnings Thrift Store

309 N. Bird Ave. ~ Bird City, KS

Used Clothing, Furniture & Miscellaneous

### Regular Hours

Wed. - 9 to 9; Fri. - 9 to 6; Sat. - 9 to noon

Beginning Wednesday, Sept. 5

For info contact CINDY BURR 785-734-2443

## MYCOGEN FIELD CORN PLOT

Thurs., Aug. 30 • 7:00 p.m. CT  
Melvin Schlepp Farm

**From St. Francis:** Go 11 miles west on Hwy. 36 to Rd. 3, south 10 miles.

**From Kanorado:** Go 17 miles north on the Kanorado road, then 1 1/2 east, then 3 north, then 1/2 east

The time is here to view all the new and exciting varieties along with your old favorites of the Mycogen family in a side by side test plot. Showing will be the new **RR corns**, the new **Herculex BT corn hybrids**, and the new **Corn Root Worm hybrids**. Join us for a steak sandwich, Keiser beans, and all the trimmings after the plot tour. This is a drip tape irrigated plot showing all of the varieties listed above.

## Benkelman Pharmacy

# 1-877-423-2759

"It's worth your time to check us out"

## Attention Diabetic Patients

Your Medicare Plan will allow you a new pair of shoes every year.

Call toll-free today to find out how!

# Cheyenne Bowl

St. Francis, KS

## Under New Ownership

Leagues now forming  
Starting in September

Monday night mixed  
Wednesday afternoon ladies  
Wednesday night mens  
Thursday night ladies

For more info call  
785-332-2211

If enough interest  
Saturday morning league for kids

# Board gives okay for new equipment

By Karen Krien

karenk@nwkansas.com

The Cheyenne County Hospital Board agreed to purchase two important pieces of equipment for the hospital when they met on Monday, Aug. 20. Equipment included an Ultra Sound and a picture archival communication (PAC) system which will be used to store digital X-ray and CAT scan images.

The Ultra Sound equipment has been discussed for almost a year but administrator Les Lacy wanted to make sure there would be patients to help pay for the equipment. Now, with Dr. Rebecca Allard coming to the hospital and delivering babies, the need for the equipment had increased.

Shawna Blanka, administrative assistant, reported that Dr. Allard had arrived to work at the hospital on Aug. 6 and already had three OB patients.

As the board discussed the pros and cons of getting the Ultra Sound, Kari Gilliland, board member, said that the hospital needed to be on the cutting edge of technology. Swede Calnon, board member, agreed saying that the board needed to give the staff the equipment they needed to work with.

Jackie John, area director for Great Plains Health Alliance, the company which leases the hospital, said that, by getting the equipment, it sends a message to the physicians that the board cares about them and provides the needed equipment.

They had three bids for the Ultra Sound equipment which had been converted to 5 year costs: a GE for \$113,335; Toshiba, \$125,690 and a Phillips IU22, \$139,560.

Darrell Reed, lab technician, recommended purchasing the Phillips. Mr. Lacy had looked into lease purchases and Western State Bank, St. Francis, offered the lowest interest rate of 4.74 percent. The rate at Bankwest, St. Francis, was 5.45 percent; and at First National Bank, St. Francis, 5.75 percent. The board agreed to purchase the Phillips for \$139,560 and using Western State Bank for the lease agreement.

There were three options for purchasing equipment to store the digital images, which were also presented as a five-year cost: a Sectra, \$103,000; Novarad, \$54,000; and Opal, \$73,500. Mr. Reed had gathered the information for each piece of equipment and recommended the Novarad but said that, with the CAT scan usage, he expected the storage space to last only four years. Since this is a replacement for equipment, the board agreed that the purchase could

be made out of Funded Depreciation, instead of board funds.

## Report by human resource manager

Sandi Murray, human resource manager, reported that she started at the hospital in 1996 and moved to human resource manager in 2000.

She meets with the new employees, gives them a tour of the hospital, gets their orientation set, explains insurance, benefits and gets all their paperwork filled out and signed. She continues to work on the orientation to constantly improve the entire process and make it better.

She reported that there are 59 full-time employees and 14 part-time employees for a total of 73.

Sandi also does the daily in-patient charges and helps record in the emergency room if needed. She said the biggest improvement has been the addition of the CAT scan machine, adding that it has saved lives of patients in the emergency room.

## Administrator's report

The administrator reported that the work on the memorial garden behind the hospital had been pretty much completed. The staff will be adding some plants and a picnic table.

Dr. Karen Johnson, a dermatologist, has a temporary Kansas license and will begin seeing patients in St. Francis on Aug. 30. There are 11 patients scheduled to see her that day. Dr. Johnson plans to be at the hospital only one day a month.

Michelle Luther, RN, has been hired to work in nursing. She has obstetrics and intensive care experience.

Mrs. Blanka will be handling the Lifeline project. Other staff training as installers will be Bill Wilger, Crystal Ludowese, Ryan Murray and Mary Ruth Burkett. See related article in this issue.

Administrator Lacy said the kitchen staff is working on preparing information to help make the architect's time in St. Francis more productive when it comes to planning the kitchen construction. He said there may be some floor plans for the board to look at during the September meeting.

## Labor/delivery room

Mrs. Blanka said the bids for work in the labor and delivery room will be opened at 1:30 p.m. on Sept. 20. She also noted that the hospital does not have a nursery but, in keeping with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment regulations, a multiple use room has been designated for newborn care as needed.

## CONSTRUCTION & ROOFING

# Crow

785-342-1485  
Derek Crow - Insured

Free Estimates

We had been in Anthony, KS for 19 years and have just moved to the Bird City, St. Francis, Goodland area.  
Looking forward to serving you!

Roofing • Siding • Windows • Room Additions • New Construction • Remodeling

## THANK YOU!

We couldn't have done it without you!

**PARTICIPANTS** □ **SURVIVORS** □ **SPONSORS**

City of St. Francis and Employees

Chamber of Commerce

Cheyenne Shrine Club

Lion's Club

Dusty Farmer Restaurant

St. Francis Equity

Girlfriends & Guys Too

Western Auction & Real Estate

Greg & Susie Walz

Eddy Schultz

Dale & Deb Patton

Sam Miller

Set Up & Take Down Crew

Luminaria Crew

Goodell Greenhouse

Good Samaritan Village

Card-O-Rama

Music by Dan

The Saint Francis Herald

St. Francis Fire Department

Pizza Hut

Girl Scouts

Gavin Smull

Pastor Jeff Landers

Fred Magley

St. Francis Library

Eagle Communications

Massage Therapy & Body Works

Survivors

Cheyenne Lumber

Jensen Construction

Lampe Hardware

TJ's Home Improvement

Tim Schmid

Teams

Jennifer Van Eaton

Chris Soehner

Jeneva Northrup

Cheyenne Co. Hospital & Clinic

First National Bank

Grace Flying Service

T R Services, Inc. - Tom & Betty Roelfs

Shay Realty

Bankwest of Kansas

Becky's Bierocks

Ken Bracelin Cattle

Dr. Melvin Dunn, DDS

Frewen Insurance Agency

Hilltop General Store

Hometown Market, Bird City

The RM Jaqua Abstract Co.

Kite & Day

Parkhill Restaurant & Lounge

Raile charlois

Schultz's Ltd

St. Francis Super

Troy's Transformations

United Methodist Thrift Store

Weber Barber Shop

Western State Bank

Wheeler Equity

Wieck Computer Services

Windmill Restaurant

Yost Farm Supply - Ford & Mercury

Erica's Photography

Grace Flying Service

Rosewood Resources, Inc.

Knodel Funeral Home

L & W Andrist Insurance, LLC

Thanks to anyone we may have accidentally forgotten  
Thank you for your support of the American Cancer Society and  
The 2007 Relay for Life Committee