



TOURING THE LAB — Cheylin seniors were among several classes that explored the lab and X-ray facilities at the hospital.

Times staff photo by Karen Krien

Students explore the hospital lab and X-ray facilities

By Karen Krien

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Lab Week found the Cheyenne County Hospital staff introducing students from Cheylin and St. Francis to the lab and X-ray facilities. Kary Meyers and Ryan Murray, both lab technicians, talked about the different areas.

"The students were told about the lab capabilities, the education required for a lab technician and showed around the radiology and lab departments," Mrs. Meyers said.

People around the world learned of the dangers of extensive drug-resistant tuberculosis when Atlanta attorney Andrew Speaker exposed hundreds of airline passengers to the virulent bacterium on a U.S. flight bound for Europe. What didn't gain international media attention was the drug-resistant tuberculosis outbreak averted weeks later thanks to the

quick response of laboratory professionals in Massachusetts, when a young woman's tuberculosis transformed to multi-drug resistant tuberculosis.

Although the woman was scheduled to travel on a transcontinental flight within 24 hours, a fast-thinking lab team convinced her to delay her travel and provided the information needed to readjust her medications. The young woman recovered and potential health crises were averted — because of laboratory professionals.

The Cheyenne County Hospital lab, and its technicians, is one of the better labs in the area. Some examples of this technology found in the lab include automated hematology, chemistry, special chemistry (including a variety of drugs assays), coagulation, blood banking and even microbiology. The hospital uses a gel system for blood banking to improve patient safety

over older methods. An automated blood culture system enables detection microorganisms up to 23 hours earlier than a manual method. This gives the patient and physician a real advantage in identification and treatment of potentially life-threatening infections.

The hospital lab does about 95 percent of the testing ordered in the community onsite, with a very small percentage going to reference labs.

The lab has five technicians, Mrs. Meyers, Mr. Murray, Catherine Uy, Liezel Lusanez, and Mary Ruth Burkett. Darrell Reed is the lab/X-ray manager. Les Lacy, hospital administrator, said Mr. Reed has been attending school to prepare him for an ultrasound certification exam.

When he becomes certified, Mr. Lacy said, Mr. Reed will be the only fully certified ultrasound tech within a 180-mile radius.

Annual car and bike show is scheduled for May 10

By Karen Krien

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The Cheyenne County Cruisers' eighth annual Saturday In The Park car and bike show will be held on Saturday, May 10, in Sawhill Park, St. Francis.

"We want to emphasize that the show is for both vehicles and bikes," said Randy Smedstad, club member.

Already, the entries are coming in. Scott Schultz, coordinator, said he was afraid the numbers would be down because of gas prices but it appears there will be about the same or more cars attending this year's show.

Several fun events are also planned for this year's show.

Friday, May 9, from 8:30 to 10 p.m. in the band shell, Elvis will be performing. Endre Samu, Limon, Colo., is an Elvis "tribute artist."

Last year, Elvis was reported to be a "hit" by those who attended. This year, the club members are hoping more people will come out and enjoy the singer.

Elvis will also perform from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday at the car show. The public is welcome to attend the show. All proceeds collected during both performances will go toward the renovation of the band shell in Sawhill Park.

Kent Kechter, coordinator, said the show is not a money-making event. Money collected goes into community projects including giving high school seniors scholarships. Last year, the money

raised from the Elvis concert was donated to the Bird City tornado victims.

Engine rebuild

The club is sponsoring an engine rebuild. The morning of the show, high school girls and guys can sign up to build an engine under the guidance of Bryan Herrich. Mr. Herrich teaches automotive mechanics at North Platte Community College.

Four names will be drawn and those four will put the engine together. The club will then give the engine away during the awards at 4 p.m.

"Everyone is encouraged to stop by and watch the students work."

Pin-striping artist

Mik Young, a professional pin-striping artist, will be doing pin striping on cars and motorcycles.

Mr. Young said he has been pin-striping every working day since 1954 and is able to create designs and motif where every design he does is what the customer wants — no two designs are alike.

He pin stripes about 400 cars a month including everything from street rods to super stars.

For more information about Mr. Young, contact Scott Schultz, coordinator of the show.

"We encourage the public to come to the park and enjoy the show," Mr. Schultz said. "There will be beautiful vehicles to look at and enjoy."

"Don't forget to pick up a ballot and vote for your favorite vehicle which will be given a special

award at the conclusion of the show.

Quilts, cooler given away

During the awards, three quilts, made by Deborah Farland, Dorothy Smestad and Mary Nicklos, will be given away. Also to be given away is a Coca Cola refrigerated cooler. Raffle tickets are available from any car club member and will also be available the day of the show. The winner does not have to be present at the show to win the cooler.

"Join us for a day of fun in the park," Mr. Schultz said.

Fun Facts

- The ancient Egyptians slept on pillows made of stone.
- The wood stork, also known as the wood ibis, is the only true stork native to the United States.
- The first holes-in-one scored by both a father and son in the same game of golf were shot by Charles H. Calhoun Sr. and Jr. on August 24, 1932.
- Prior to Cornelius Vanderbilt's donation of \$1 million in 1873 Vanderbilt University was known as Central University.
- In 1853, William R.D. King became the first vice president to take the oath of office in a foreign country. He was sworn in in Cuba.

Wedding Registry

Kristle Neuhalfen and Tyler Raile Wedding May 10, 2008

Schultz's Ltd.
114 W. Washington St. Francis 785-332-2833

Food program is concerned about the high prices of gas

Prairie Land Food (PLF) ministry in St. Francis received a big boost on distribution day Saturday when the following 4-H'ers assisted at the First Baptist Church: Celine Isely, Savannah Isely, Bradey Hanson of Go-Getters 4-H; Bailey Merklin of Lawn Ridge 4-H; Emily Elfers of Plum Creek 4-H and McKenzie Taylor.

The food ministry offers food packs at discount prices. With the high price of gasoline the program now has added importance. Local organizer, Lee Nichols, reports that if semi trucks were full the prices will probably not increase and if more local orders were received consistently each month the truck would come directly into St. Francis. At present, volunteers go to Goodland to pick up the products.

Five to six meat items, four or more fresh vegetables and a dessert are in the basic package requiring two hours of volunteer service and a nominal fee. Two to three specials are offered each

month, which can be purchased in addition to the basic pack and require one additional volunteer hour.

Volunteer hours is anything done out of the kindness of the heart for which no payment is received. It can be as simple as participating in a prayer chain, church activities, being a room mother at school, helping at the library, helping with Prairie Land distribution, sharing your garden, sitting for a cup of coffee with an elderly neighbor, spending time with someone having a rough time. Making someone's day a little brighter qualifies for the program.

The reasonably-priced food is not dependent on income since it is not a government-sponsored program. Love offerings (for others) is income-tax deductible since the program is a 501c3 organization. With the present economy a 'love gift' may be welcome by someone in the county. No volunteer hours are required for love offerings. Although not income based, food

vouchers are also accepted.

Flyers announcing the sign-up deadline and distribution are placed at several locations in town and orders may also be placed on line to Linda Hagan, clkhagen@ruraltel.net, or by calling Ms. Hagan at 1-800-298-1989.

The regular food pack for May includes shrimp alfredo, family pack chicken drums, ground beef patties, riblets in barbeque sauce, turkey cutlets and jumbo beef hot dogs. Vegetable products are not announced until near distribution to assure freshness. Specials in May include two 2 1/2 pound bags of fully cooked jumbo chicken wings; 10 5-ounce bacon wrapped turkey fillets and 8 pounds of baby back ribs in slabs.

Sign up deadline for May is Monday, May 18, and distribution is Saturday, May 31.

Other sign up locations are welcome and may be accomplished by calling Lee Nichols, 785-332-3581.



APRIL BIRTHDAY celebrated at the senior center were Bobbi Poorman, Martin Burton and Linda Schneider.

Times photo by Edna Roessner

College ensemble to perform Sunday

The Handbell Ensemble from Bethany College will be in concert at 3 p.m. on Sunday at the Quinter High School auditorium. Admission for the Western Plains Arts Association presentation is by season pass or at the door.

The concert will feature the handbell ensemble as well as duets and quartets, and will include a combination of secular and sacred music. Of particular note will be Rhythmic Rip, a piece in which the players use their bells, cases and mallets in unique and exciting ways.

Handbells have gathered increasing respect and apprecia-

tion in the last decade, moving from the church choir lift into the symphony house. They provide a unique listening experience, and an opportunity to observe the fascinating coordination the ringers exhibit. The beautiful resonant sound produced by brass bells is inspirational, and appeals to audiences of all ages and musical tastes.

This will be the final event of the season for Western Plains.

This program is made possible in part by the Kansas Arts Commission, a state agency and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

Park Benches, Picnic Tables & Trash Receptacles



Another great opportunity to donate to the VanDoren Park Project in memory of, or in tribute to someone!

Stop by the Bird City Century II Development Foundation office at 107 W Bressler

to pick your location in the park!

TEL 785-734-2556

EMAIL cathy@birdcity.com



Eighth Annual SATURDAY in the PARK CAR SHOW!

Sat., May 10~9 a.m.-5 p.m. CT
St. Francis Sawhill Park
Chamber will be serving lunch in the Band Shell 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

➔ Elvis will be entertaining in the band shell Sat. morning : 10 - 11:30 a.m
➔ Kids Pedal Pull for ages 4 thru 12 yrs. - behind the band shell
Registration @ 12:30 p.m. •• Pull @ 1 p.m.
Winners are qualified to pull at the Kansas State Fair

People Movers to take you around the park
Senior Center Pancake Breakfast - 7 a.m.
Sponsored by: Cheyenne County Cruiser's & St. Francis Chamber of Commerce

For more info: Scott Schultz, 785-332-3960; Kent Kechter, 785-332-2629; Chamber, 785-332-2961

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