

Red Cross looking for blood donors

As the days of summer get shorter and the temperature changes, the American Red Cross is reaching out to find new donors for its life-saving team. Their contribution of a unit of blood at a Red Cross blood center or area blood drive can potentially extend the days and perhaps years of hospital patients in need.

Donations can be made at the blood drive from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday at the American Legion at 111 W. Bressler, Bird City. Charles Coleman and the volunteers would like to ask that appointments be made so the donation process runs smooth and respects the time of the donor. The drive includes donors from St. Francis as well as Bird City.

Those in need of blood include accident or trauma victims as well as a daily list of scheduled

surgeries at area hospitals – from heart surgery to joint replacements, organ transplants or premature babies – cancer treatments and much more.

Individuals at least 17 years of age (16 in Kansas with completed Parental Consent form), who weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and are in general good health, may be eligible to donate blood. There is no upper-age limit on donors.

Individuals unable to donate blood can still make a contribution by organizing Red Cross blood drives or assisting as a volunteer in local drives. For more information or to schedule an appointment, donors should call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543) or visit bloodisneeded.org. The Red Cross reminds those coming to donate to bring a photo ID.



SUNFLOWER GIRLS State attendees Ana Ponce and Naomi Reeh give auxiliary members reports on what they did during the program.

State attendees give reports at meeting

By Linda Schneider
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During the American Legion Auxiliary meeting held last Friday, the members sat down to a breakfast and heard the reports from the Sunflower Girls State attendees Ana Ponce and Naomi Reeh.

Ana presented a slideshow and reported to the members what she had done during the program. There were pictures of daily activities and of other girls she had become friends with. In addition, Naomi showed some of the projects they had to complete

such as notebooks, campaign posters and even performed cheers they had to sing during the program.

Girls State gave them the opportunity to hear from veterans and government staff. They learned about the political process because both Ana and Naomi campaigned and won county offices, Ana for treasurer and Naomi for county commission.

In addition to visiting city offices, the city courthouse and jail, everyone sat in on a real court trial. Later, they had their own mock trial about animal cruelty

and made a judgment.

Ana and Naomi were split up and stayed on separate floors where each represented a county with two cities, and each room had two occupants. Moreover, each county had its own mascot; Ana's county was Salina and had the meadowlark and Naomi's county was Osage and had the buffalo.

"It gave us a good idea of what college is going to be like," Naomi said.

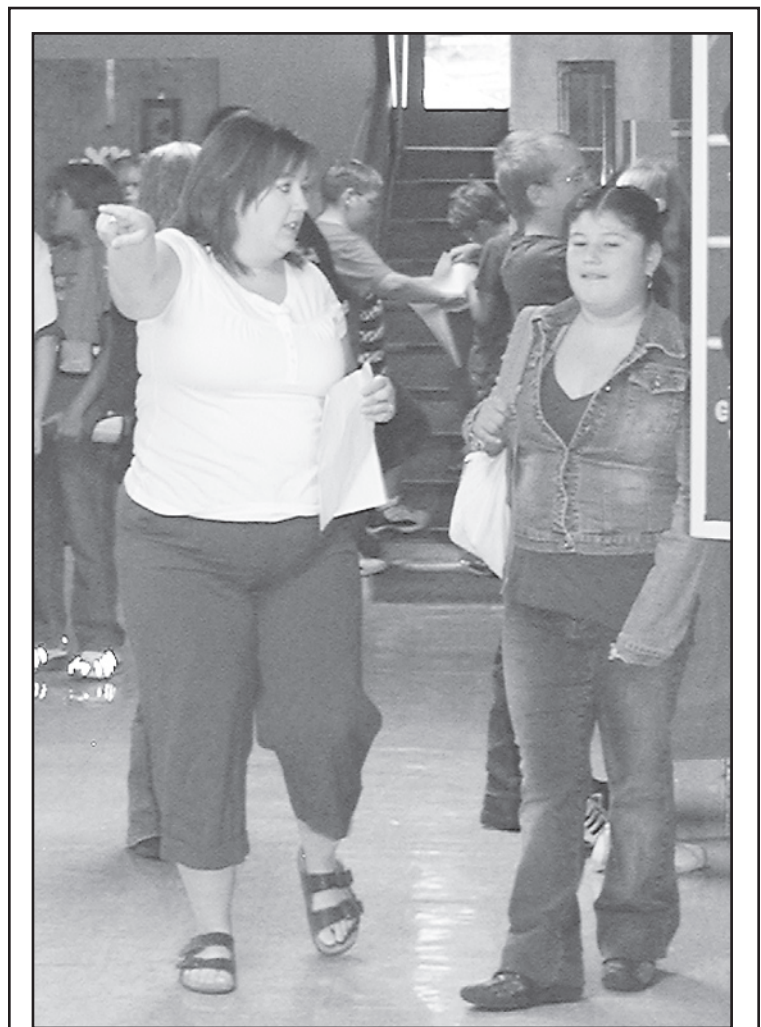
It was a fun time campaigning for their offices, they said, and after the elections of the state government officials, everyone

attended an inaugural party wearing their best dresses.

Following their presentation, Ana and Naomi answered questions about their trip. The one question asked by Mary Dorsch was if they did a lot of walking. Both said yes, even walking on a bridge over a highway.

"We flashed our campaign posters to get the drivers to honk," said Ana.

Both agreed it was a great experience and they learned by the hands-on of doing and participating in the election process.



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL — Loretta Rucker shows new student Maria Rameriz where she needs to go.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

Producers reminded of timely enrollment

Producers need to be reminded of the importance of timely electing and enrolling in the new Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program or the traditional Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP), according to Jack Salava, acting state executive director of the Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency in Kansas. He feels it is critical for producers to begin the enrollment process as soon as possible. The deadline to enroll in these programs for 2009 is Aug. 14.

"The Average Crop Revenue Election program is an innovative alternative to the traditional farm safety net. With this new program also comes a complex signup process. It is important producers contact their local office to set up appointments well before the Aug. 14 deadline," he said.

Late-filed applications for these two programs will not be accepted. A CCC-509ACRE for election and CCC-509 for enrollment not having all requisite signatures of producers on a farm by the election/enrollment deadline of Aug. 14 will not be considered submitted for the purpose of

election/enrollment and will not be acted on or approved. If producers do not elect Average Crop Revenue Election, they have the option of completing the CCC-509 contract for enrollment into the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program program by Aug. 14. Both programs require all signatures be obtained by the deadline.

"In all cases, it is the responsibility of the operator and owners of a farm to obtain and submit all necessary signatures necessary on the enrollment forms by the Aug. 14 deadline," Mr. Salava said.

To elect Average Crop Revenue Election for a farm, producers must complete Form CCC-509ACRE, which irrevocably elects Average Crop Revenue Election for the farm through crop year 2012. Form CCC-509, the contract to participate in this program, must then be completed each year the producer intends to participate and receive benefits.

For more information about the Average Crop Revenue Election program please visit your local Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

The McDonald Town and Country Garden Club held their annual summer Garden Tour on Wednesday, Aug. 12. The Tour Committee had decided to stay in McDonald and visit some of the city's beautiful yards.

The tour began in the yard of Bill and Lois Schaff, where everyone admired all of Bill's woodcraft items on display in his yard. Their yard had lots of pretty flowers and a nice vegetable garden Bill says is going to be his last one.

Next members walked through Brian and Connie Sabatka's yard which is always beautiful and well-cared for. Connie said that she had cut down, but we couldn't see anything missing. We all admired her beautiful grasses, which she said is not a perennial.

Al Holub's vegetable garden showed evidence of lots of good eating yet to come. Potatoes have been dug, tomato vines loaded, cucumbers were there for the picking.

Susan McKain was not home, but several members walked around her yard admiring each specimen-so many pretty trees and vines. A drive around the yard of Norman and Tessa Davis displayed all the work and thought they had put into their yard.

At Fred and LaVina Waters' yard everyone admired all her pretty flowers and noted how she had used her raised beds. Kay and Gail Miller have lots and lots of trees, and she was carrying another one to plant. Their lawn and pool were beautiful and she has several new planting of flowers.

Driving down the alley behind

Dave and Sylvia Hubbard's yard we could only imagine all the produce her garden will provide for their table.

With the beautiful summer and all the rain, it looked the best McDonald has ever seen. It is not necessary to drive out of town to see all that McDonald gardeners are doing. They are definitely carrying out the theme of our national president, "Love It, Beautify It, Preserve It."

At the conclusion of the tour nine members and two guests enjoyed coffee, cake and muffins served by Joan Tongish, Betty Knapp, and Marlene Johnson. Guests were Laddie Kacirek and Bud Frisbie.

Betty Knapp opened the business meeting with a prayer. Minutes and treasurer's report were accepted as read. Fifty daffodil bulbs were ordered to plant to carry out the theme of

plans of the national president, "Golden Days." Visions of Beauty were ordered.

The Fall District meeting will

be held in Smith D. Center on Sept. 12. Members need to let Joan know if they plan to attend. Meeting adjourned.

McDonald Area Development

McDonald Area Development met on Wednesday, Aug. 5, with six members present. Reports were given on the Ice Cream Social. The crowd was smaller than usual, but it was a good and appreciative crowd. Remarks were that Jay Gordon did a great job as a master of ceremonies; the talent was good and just the right length of time for the program. Dan and Margie Hubbard served the soft ice cream; there were a lot of cakes and ice cream toppings. Sylvia Walker won the drawing for the plant stand.

Lois Morelock reported that she has four vendors signed up

for the Highway 36 garage sale. She is putting an ad in the paper to try to acquire more vendors. There will be a garage sale at the storage units belonging to Lois Schaff.

Bill Schaff will take flyers to the school on Sept. 1 about the scarecrow contest which will be held Oct. 5 to 13.

The Hallowe'en Soup Supper will be discussed and planned at the September meeting.



Club Clips

McDonald Town and Country Garden Club

Cheylin Recreation Commission is wanting to hire an activity director. The job would include organizing, scheduling and implementing year round recreation programs. For more information, please call Belinda Serrano at 785-734-2754. Please send letter of application and resume to Cheylin Recreation Commission, PO Box 187, Bird City, Ks. 67731. Applications need to be received by September 1, 2009.

Hunter Safety Certification Classes

Tuesday, Aug. 25, Thursday, Aug. 27, Friday, Aug. 28

7 - 9 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 29 — 9 a.m. - ??

Cheyenne County Wildlife, Inc. Gun Club, St. Francis

For information contact Tim Stimbert, 785-332-3023 or Francis O'Leary, 785-332-3089

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