

Director corrects misunderstanding

By Karen Krien
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The director of the county development corporation was present at the Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting on Thursday.

Chuck Kribs, director of the Cheyenne County Development Corporation, said the article about the commissioners' Oct. 15 meeting which was printed in *The Herald and Times* was incorrect. He said there was no motel chain specifically looking at Cheyenne County. Terry Miller, county clerk, said if the newspaper article was wrong, then his minutes were wrong as they were about the same as the article.

Mr. Kribs said that it was basically the headline but, after looking at the article which used the term "may" he decided it was probably OK.

There was also some confusion, he said, about the county versus the city. There are three towns, Bird City, Wheeler and St. Francis, located in the county and all might be eligible for a motel. He had said the article had upset motel owners as well as raising community expectations. The questionnaire he had received wanted information such as demographics and restaurants.

Since Cathy Domsch, executive director of Century II, Bird City, had been at the Oct. 15 meeting concerning the possibility of locating a motel in Bird City, Ernie Ketzner, commissioner, asked Mr. Kribs if he and Mrs. Domsch had talked about the motel issue? He said they had talked but, in the end, Mrs. Domsch had elected not to participate with the Development Corporation.

My goal, Mr. Kribs said, is to bring business to the county. In the past, the Corporation has taken a lot of heat about focusing only on St. Francis, so, he said, we have been meticulous not to show favoritism over one city.

Kari Gilliland, a member of the Corporation board, recognized Chuck and Diane Kribs for being with the Development Corporation and being available to pursue leads on businesses and other opportunities.

Just because there are inquiries, Mr. Kribs said, there is nothing definite.

Future
The state of the economy in Kansas is in trouble and next

year will be worse, Mr. Kribs said. Funding for schools and infrastructures, just to name a few, are going to be cut.

"We need to find a way to help ourselves," he said.

First of all, though, he said, we need to make sure that tax dollars allotted to projects stay in the state. He said he had talked to the department of commerce about introducing a bill in the legislature which will require contractors to spend tax dollars within the state and a certain amount spent within the county where the project is located.

One of the things accomplished through the Development Corporation was a study where businesses filled out surveys. Mr. Kribs said that the survey showed that county businessmen are optimistic that things will get better. The county, he said, doesn't have a large labor base but there needs to be ways to keep people here. There were people who said they would be interested in investing money in a good business opportunity.

A housing survey had been made. It is complete in Bird City and Mr. Kribs said there are 48 empty homes in the town which is 12 more than two years ago. The surveys are still coming in from St. Francis residents.

The directors would like to start pitching a re-population interest along the front range, telling people about the availability of good homes at reasonable prices.

The organization is one of the founding members of the Alliance for Rural Entrepreneurs, a tri-state entity. It is also involved with the Northwest Kansas Travel Council and the Northwest Kansas Area Transit Association.

The directors have served as liaisons and resource for individuals needing assistance from Pioneer County Development Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission and Kansas Department of Commerce, Small Business Administration.

They have talked to prospective or existing businesses with funding support agencies, contacted wind generation developers, researched funding opportunities for remodeling the kitchen for the St. Francis Senior Center, worked on a wetlands creation/waste water project for a proposed slaughterhouse; and are looking into the hunting co-op and family host program, which is an agri-tourism project.

The list of contacts and accomplishments is long. The Kribs welcome people to stop by their office on Washington Street, St. Francis. They are open four days a week and look forward to talking to people about ideas and plans.



CHEYLIN STUDENTS rehearse for the upcoming play 'South Pacific'. The first performance will be held tonight (Thursday) at 7:30 and a Dinner Theater on Saturday.



CRAFT SHOW COMES TO TOWN — Leah Rambat and Nancy Semler look over the crafts on the display table.

Times staff photos by Linda Schneider

Club Clip

Cheyenne County Hospital Guild

Twelve members of the Cheyenne County Hospital Guild met at the office of Dr. Tim Poling. Dr. Poling and his crew gave a very interesting talk and demonstration on the newer equipment that is used in his office.

From there the group reconvened at the Senior Center for their business meeting. Each officer and program chairman gave their reports.

The short meeting was adjourned and Eileen Nolan and Sherry Schultz provided refreshments. Betty Loudon assisted in serving.

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Demo Team



Honor Roll

New and renewed Times subscriptions: Louis Oestman, Cottonwood, Ariz.; Joe Hoffert, Winona, Minn.



Good Job at State!



Congratulations Naomi Reeh on a 2nd place finish! Also to Stephanie Busse, Vance Churchwell for participating at state.

Cross Country — Top (left to right): Stephanie Busse, Coach Jolene Reeh, Naomi Reeh; (front l to r): Adrian Garcia, Heath Churchwell, Vance Churchwell.

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Junior Christopher Walden Craig Busse	Kenan Reeh Adam Orten	Seventh grade Jacob Brubaker Anna Frisbie
Sophomore Wilhem Orten	Eighth grade Ty Carmichael	MaryAnne Orten Jaime Davison

Honorable Mention

Senior Hudson Louderbaugh Naomi Reeh Ana Ponce Lance Leonard Vance Churchwell	Steven Pham Whitney Churchwell Samantha Lampe Mitchel Jensen Sophomore Roberto Ponce	Nakita Schneider Josh Keltz Heath Churchwell Austin Cobb Eighth grade Edward Frisbie Connor Hazuka Elizabeth Pochop	Alece Rosales Luis Solis Blaine Burns Casey Vandike Seventh grade Shawn Pochop Anamarie Crespin
Junior Caleb Keltz	Freshman Jessie Smith		

Keep up the good work

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