



Thirty people attend town hall meeting

By Karen Krien
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About 30 people came out Saturday afternoon to talk to two legislators at the town hall meeting held at Main Street Java, St. Francis.

Senator Ralph Ostmeyer and Representative Ward Cassidy talked about the state's lack of money and the cuts the governor is proposing.

Mr. Ostmeyer was the first to speak. Among some of the things he talked about was the selling of beer and liquor in grocery stores. He said he thinks that all businesses need to be protected and will vote no on the matter. However, he doesn't think there will be a decision made this year.

Governor Brownback, he said, knows how to save money. However, there are going to be some decisions that make people unhappy.

For instance, there are many who support the arts but it is one of those programs that will be cut. When veterans, the handicap and elderly have been cut financially, he said, how can we continue to fund the arts?

The state has had a problem with spending for 10 years. The state is broke, he said.

There are going to be cuts in the schools. Some school superintendents say when the contingency funds are gone, the school is done. That's not what we want out here. We need the schools open with teachers and students.

Lack of population is a problem in the district. Because of the lack of people, Mr. Ostmeyer will be



SENATOR RALPH OSTMEYER, left, talks to Dale Patton, commissioner, at the town meeting on Saturday.

Herald staff photos by Karen Krien

picking up two more counties. Mr. Cassidy, he said, may pick up another county to the east.

This is Mr. Cassidy's first year as a representative and he shared how it has been a learning experi-

ence but one he hasn't regretted. He reported that he loves Northwest Kansas and it's people. It has been a pleasure to serve them, he said.

"I love hearing from the peo-

ple," he said.

He had promised that he would answer every e-mail he received from constituents and he has - over 2,000 e-mails. If I don't

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GLAD TO SEE GRANDPA - Representative Ward Cassidy has been spending a lot of time in Topeka. His grandsons, KC and Adam Krien, were glad to see him at the town hall meeting on Saturday.

Newspaper receives award

The Saint Francis Herald won a first-place award from the Kansas Press Association in the state group's annual news and advertising contest.



McCormick

Publisher Karen Krien was notified last week that the paper had won in the small non-daily category for a photo layout showing how the community pulled together to aid the elderly when the Good Samaritan Village burned last year. The photos, by Casey McCormick, were run in the Oct. 21 edition of the paper.

Other Northwest Newspapers to win awards were:

- The Norton Telegram, first place feature photo. A picture of a girl riding a sheep taken during the Norton County Fair by Publisher Dana Paxton.

- first place story series for five stories run in September on servicemen from the area killed in the Vietnam war. The stories came out just before the Moving Wall arrived in Norton.

- The Goodland Star-News - first place for editorial writing by editor Tom Betz and second place in editorial writing by former Norton and Colby publisher Tom Dreiling, who works part-time since his retirement.

- The Oberlin Herald - a third place for best news story by Publisher Steve Haynes on a wreck on U.S. 83 which injured an Oberlin woman.

- a third place for a political ad on Republican candidates running in the 2010 election created by Leslie Nolette and sold by Tim Davis.

- Colby Free Press - third place for column writing for copy editor Marian Ballard.

- a third place for a photo of a fatal wreck on U.S. 83 by Cynthia Haynes. A young man working in Colby was returning home to Oberlin when he lost control of his car and crashed.

The Free Press also received a second place award for a special section, produced by the combined staffs of the company newspapers. The special dealt with the population decline in northwestern Kansas. Since the Free Press is the only daily in the group, the Kansas Press Association rules required the entry to be through that paper.

Daylight saving time begins

The sun is coming up earlier and the days are a little longer. Daylight Saving Time will arrive on Sunday, a week before the first day of spring on March 20.

With the change, the evenings will be lighter longer. Those itching to get out in the yard and garden after work will now have an extra hour. It will also give the golfers a little more time to hit those

balls around Riverside Recreation.

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2 a.m. Sunday, although most people spring their clocks forward Saturday night before they head to bed. If not, they might miss church on Sunday.

While Daylight Saving Time used to come later in March, even in April, last year was the second time under federal

law that it began the second weekend in March.

While there will still be some cold weather and even a snow storm or two, the time change means that the weather on the way to being nicer - a little warmer - just a couple of months until school is out, the swimming pool is open and harvest will be just around the corner.

Therapist working in Sainty

By Karen Krien
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A licensed specialist clinical social work therapist is now working in St. Francis.

Kris Rice will be working out of the Capstone Counseling facility at 112 E. Spencer from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays. After-hours appointments are discretionary, she said.

Mrs. Rice will be working with clients who are suffering from depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, root cause of substance of abuse, parenting, monitor court ordered supervised visits, work with the courts for court ordered parenting classes.

"I have always been a people person, taking care of others," she said.

Now that daughters are in school and she and her husband have settled into their home, she said she wants to return to work and help provide the neighboring communities and this community with any mental health care.



KRIS RICE, therapist, works at her desk at Capstone Counseling.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

In her practice, she will be providing mental health therapy for adolescents, teens, adults, family groups, grief therapy and couple therapy along with "Parenting With Love and Logic," court-ordered supervised visits, and court-

ordered parenting classes. She plans to obtain Grief Recovery Certification Training this year, as well as Lifespan Integration Therapy training.

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Flower shop relocates

By Karen Krien
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Krien Pharmacy, St. Francis, recently expanded their business to include a floral shop. The business, formerly Prairie Rose, now named "The Flower Shop," will be operated by Jenni Cravens.

"I love working with flowers," said Mrs. Cravens.

When she was 16 years old, her first job was in a floral shop making bows and deliveries. Her mother also owned a flower shop.

For four years, she worked in a Hallmark store that also had a flower and coffee shop.

The most valuable training she received, she said, was after she moved to Greenville, Ohio. For two years, she worked for a woman who had taught floral design, and learned all the ins and outs of working with and arranging flowers.

The Flower Shop is open for business, already stocking fresh flowers and plants as well as creating both silk and fresh-flower bouquets.

We will be a full-service floral shop with flowers and plants for any occasion, Mrs. Cravens said. Our flowers are cut one day and delivered the next, guaranteeing fresh flowers. Fresh indoor plants can also be ordered.

There is a special office set up for consultations for wedding, funerals and other special events. The back room is spacious with tables for working and the walls are lined with



JENNI CRAVENS puts a rose bouquet into the cooler. The Flower Shop, formerly Prairie Rose, has moved to Krien Pharmacy.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

shelves filled with supplies.

Mrs. Cravens said they offer Telefloral flower service and will deliver in town as well as to Bird City, Benkelman and

McDonald for a small fee.

Prom and Easter are coming, Mrs. Cravens said. Stop by and see what we have to offer. Our phone number is 785-332-3400.