



9INE FOOT SQUIRREL gets ready for the benefit. Pictured left to right is Austin Patton, Jason Caldart and Joe Caldart.

Walk/run benefit planned to raise money for disease

The Kansas Walk, Run and Rock for a Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Cure is set for Saturday, April 27, at the fairgrounds in St. Francis. This is the first benefit to help raise money for the cure. Joe Caldart, organizer, said even though there is a lot of work and planning still to do, he is excited and can hardly wait for the day of the benefit.

The day will start with an 8.9K and 2K run that will begin at Wheeler and end at the fairgrounds. The walk will be held at the high school track.

At noon, the vendors will be selling food and other items at the fairgrounds. Some of the vendors include the 4-H'ers, the Shriners Candy Wagon, the Methodist Church funnel cakes, the Christian Church ice cream shoppe, as well as many other booths selling specific items such as jewelry, coffees, clothing, nuts and candies, bureaux and sports drinks.

We are looking for more vendors, Mr. Caldart said. Anyone interested or wanting more information on booths can call him at 785-772-7060.

Entertainment
At 1 p.m., the entertainment starts and will continue into the evening. There are eight bands coming from Kansas, Nebraska, Indiana and California lined up including Shantey Loiter, A Life Led Lucid, Fresh Picked Parsley, 9ine Foot Squirrel, Buffalo Head, Phil Crawford, My Starving Lion and Keel Raven.

There is a variety of music lined up and will entertain everyone, Joe said.

In between the music, there will be speakers telling people about living with Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy or, as they call it, RSD-CRPS. Speakers range in age from the young to the older people who have suffered for years.

Local bands

Two of the bands performing are local bands: 9ine Foot Squirrel and Phil Crawford.

Phil Crawford

Singer, songwriter, poet Phil Crawford will be one of the performers at the benefit on April 27. Phil has performed for 75 years, starting at the age of 4. I made my debut on the stage, playing a little colored boy in a skit with my parents, he said. With that, I was hooked and have been on stage in one form or another ever since.

His first big moment as an entertainer came in 1951 when attending a dance at Oscars in Sargent, Neb., he met and played two numbers with Lawrence Welk. For the next six years I played with a number of groups in Western Nebraska, South Dakota, Wyoming and Colorado.

In 1996 I was introduced to Cowboy Poetry and Music Gatherings. The first being Nebraska Cowboy Poetry Gathering and Old West Days, in Valentine, Neb. One of the largest in the Central United States. It was here in 1998 that I was put on the stage with,



PHIL CRAWFORD plays his guitar.

What is RSD

Complex Regional Pain Syndrome, also called Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome, is chronic neuro-inflammatory disease characterized by intense and persistent pain which can become very debilitating. New studies suggest there may be up to 50,000 new cases annually in the United States. There is, however, progress being made in understanding this little-

known and poorly understood syndrome.

The syndrome occurs when part of the nervous system and the immune system malfunction as they respond to tissue damage from trauma such as an injury or a medical procedure. The nerves misfire, sending constant pain signals to the brain.

the number one lady cowboy poet in the United States, Yvonne Hohenbeck of South Dakota.

Since then, he has played and sang his way all over the Western United States and part of Canada.

I have performed at a number of the large cowboy poetry and music gatherings, he said, with most of the top cowboy poets and writers from the United States and Canada.

"I don't list any because I ride my own horse not their shirt tails," he said.

He has hosted and performed in several sessions at the Montana State Poetry Gathering in Lewistown, Mont., The Arizona Cowboy Music Symposium, Tucson, Ariz., and The Lost and Lava Poetry Gathering in Shoshone, Idaho. He has also performed and hosted regularly at The Nebraska Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Valentine for the last 15 years.

At one Arizona Cowboy Symposium in Tucson, he was in a group of five who backed the last surviving member of the original Sons of The Pioneers, in about a 30-minute concert.

The biggest thing to being a successful performer, he said, is joy. You have to enjoy what you are doing and convey that to your audience. The bridge to them is a smile and a happy face. You will convey to them, what they see as well as hear.

9ine Foot Squirrel
9ine Foot Squirrel is comprised of Joe Caldart and his two sons, Austin and Jason.

Joe started playing music in the early 90s singing for Conflict of Interest, (Baltimore) Deadbolt, (Philly), bass and vocals for

Council sells city-owned area south of St. Francis

By Karen Krien

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The St. Francis City Council sold 19 acres of the city-owned area south of St. Francis when they met on Monday, March 11.

Brock and Danielle McAtee, St. Francis, had approached the city council at a prior meeting concerning the land. He had originally thought there was 10 to 11 acres of land but after looking at it, he and J.R. Landenberger, city supervisor, had found there was 19 acres of land but the back nine acres were practically unusable as they was mostly rock.

Mr. McAtee said he planned to build a shop as he had sold his construction shop in St. Francis. He was aware that there was no city water or sewer on the land.

The county attorney, Mike Day, said there would need to be a permit from the county for building in that location because of the airport restrictions. Mr. McAtee will need to pay the title insurance, there will need to be a legal description and a deed. Mr. Day said, in the legal description, there would need to be the wording that Mr. McAtee will build on the property in the next three years.

Mr. McAtee proposed to purchase the front 10 acres for \$1,100 an acre and \$5,000 for the back nine acres for a total of \$16,000 plus the other legal fees. The council accepted his offer.

Tree bids

Roger Jensen, president of the council, opened the one and only bid for replacing four of the trees on Main Street. The bid was from Troy Porter for \$4,240 which included the cost for four 15-foot burr oak trees, tree planting and staking. They are guaranteed for 14 months.

Mr. Porter also had included a bid for for \$6,360 which included the cost for six 15-foot locus trees, tree circles and planting for Sawhill Park near the band shell. They are guaranteed for 14 months.

The council accepted the bids. They discussed that the Lions Club had agreed to pay for one tree in the park. Carla Lampe, council woman, suggested that some of the Garnett Miller Memorial could be used to help pay for the park trees.

In other business

In other business:
• The council had been told that there could be a liability problem in distributing Community Foundation funds. They were unsure what was

the city's liability problem. They agreed that those wishing to receive grant funds would need to come to a meeting and the council would vote as to who would receive them. The council will give the funds as long as there is no liability to the city.

• A mobile home park license was approved for Eldon Zimbelman.

• A tree-trimming license was approved for Baldwin Tree Service, Wray.

• Superintendent Landenberger said Ron Krien's construction crew would start putting up the gutters and snow guards on the Emergency Building.

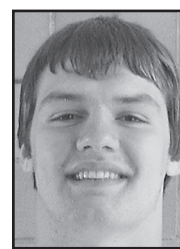
• Mrs. Lampe briefly talked about the LED (light emitting diodes) sign for the highway, noting that funds are still needed.

• Mrs. Lampe said she had heard some comments on the emergency snow route parking.

• Bruce Swihart, councilman, said the Pool Committee had only seven lifeguard applicants - more were needed.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the council will be at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 25, in city hall on Main Street.



Gienger



Whitmore



Churchwell



Keltz



Cobb



Smith

Students receive scholarships

Zach Gienger and Sarah Whitmore of St. Francis Community High School and Heath Churchwell, Joshua Keltz, Austin Cobb and Jessica Smith of Cheylin High School are among the 260 high school seniors from northwest Kansas who received scholarships from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation.

Ten students from northwest

Kansas received Hansen Leader of Tomorrow scholarships, 50 students were Hansen Scholar winners, 100 students were Hansen Student winners, 20 community or technical college transfer scholarship were given and 100 students received a Career and Technical Education scholarship.

Gienger and Whitmore were Han-

sen Student winners. These awards are for \$3,000 and may be renewed for one additional year provided the student has maintained a satisfactory academic record.

Churchwell, Keltz, Cobb and Smith were winners of Career and Technical Education scholarships. These scholarships were for \$2,000 each.

Highway association to celebrate

The U.S. 36 Highway Association is celebrating 100 years today, March 21. There are more than 500 members belonging along the 13 northern tier counties.

Today, roads, highways and freeways are developed and maintained through state and federal funding. But, that was not so in 1913. Road boosters, auto clubs, businessmen and entrepreneurs with visions lead the charge.

On March 21, 1913, representatives from the 13 counties met in Belleville to form the Rock Island Highway Association because the highway would run parallel to the Rock Island Railroad. For years, representatives dedicated hard work, raised cash and made long journeys to attend meetings, often sacrificing family time and personal earnings.

On Sept. 21, 1913, a group of men including the Kansas governor, left St. Joseph, Mo., in a two-car convoy; their destination, Denver. Their mission was to map the route across Kansas. Many towns held ceremonies and welcoming parties greeted the governor and these pioneering men. Four days later, hub caps crusted in mud, they arrived in Denver.

While the first 40 years were focused on road direction and good conditions across Kansas, in the past 60 years, the U.S. 36 Association has continued dialogues with the Kansas Department of Transporta-

tion, voiced the use of the highway which benefits commerce, and published literature that provides readers with historical and tourist information.

Adding a boost of "tourism" across Kansas, the Border-to-Border Garage and Antique Sales

event, known as "Treasure Hunt" was launched in September 2006. The event attracts national and international attention. Towns from St. Francis to Elwood, and 26 towns in between, have participated. This year's event will be held Sept. 20-22.

Book Review

Home Front

By Kristin Hannah

All marriages have a breaking point. All families have wounds. All wars have a cost....

Like many couples, Michael and Jolene Zarkades have to face the pressures of everyday life - children, careers, bills, chores - even as their 12-year marriage is falling apart. Then an unexpected deployment sends Jolene deep into harm's way and leaves defense attorney Michael at home, unaccustomed to being a single parent to their two girls. As a mother, it agonizes Jolene to leave her family, but as a soldier,

she has always understood the true meaning of duty.

In her letters home, she paints a rose-colored version of her life on the front lines, shielding her family from the truth. But war will change Jolene in ways that none of them could have foreseen.

When tragedy strikes, Michael must face his darkest fear and fight a battle of his own - for everything that matters to his family.

This is a story of love, loss, heroism, honor and ultimately, hope.

Thank You

The generosity and care of this community and many friends and family has been so appreciated as we have been grieving the loss of Roger. We thank everyone for their care, cards, words, meals, prayers, etc during this difficult time. We especially thank Ryan and Bob et al who helped care for the cattle. Words cannot express our gratitude nor our appreciation for everyone's support. He was an incredible man and we will all miss him dearly. Sincerely, The Roger Douthit Family

Thank you

Many thanks go out to the passers-by who found me, EMS, sheriff's office, and staffs at the clinic and hospital for the care I've received at and since my accident. Also thanks for the cards, visits and inquiries of my condition. I appreciate the school for covering for me in my absence, especially Matt for doing what had to be done on a daily basis. My most sincere gratitude to the community of faith for the prayers offered on my behalf. I know that it sometimes becomes cliché to say, but St. Francis truly is a great place to live. God bless you all. Bruce Swihart

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