

# Cheyenne County students experience nursing first hand

By Karen Krien  
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Three Cheyenne County high school students traveled to Hays on Wednesday and Thursday to attend the Nightingale Experience, a nursing education program hosted by Fort Hays State University and Hays Medical Center.

Elizabeth Gienger and Jami Pevler, both juniors at St. Francis Community High School; and Naomi Reeh, a sophomore at Cheylin High School, Bird City, participated in the experience. The event, which is geared toward sophomores and juniors, included 24 girls and one boy.

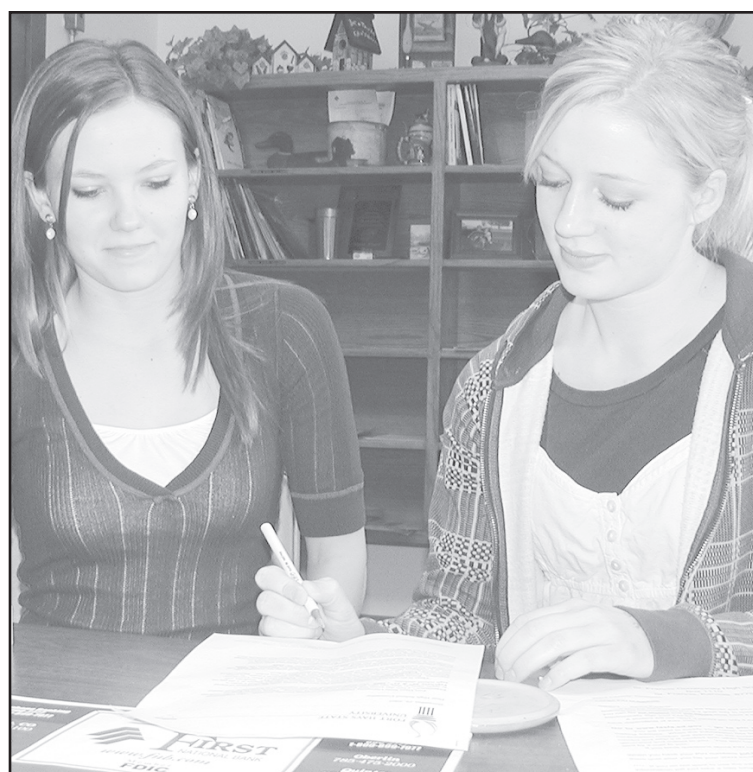
The girls said they had planned to go into nursing but, after the experience, they were even more sure that this was what they wanted to do.

"It made me want to go into nursing even more," Elizabeth said.

Jami has been exposed to nursing for years as her mother is a registered nurse. Elizabeth has a cousin who is in the nursing program and they had talked about it. Naomi said her father had cancer and her mother had taken care of him. While he was sick, she had helped and this had triggered her desire to go into the nursing field.

The university began the program around 10 years ago in an effort to persuade young people to go into nursing to help combat the shortage of nurses in Kansas and throughout the United States.

The first day the girls were on campus, there was orientation and they innovated the air passage and gave IVs on a "dum-



ST. FRANCIS STUDENTS, Jami Pevler and Elizabeth Gienger, share interest in a nursing career. Together, they traveled to Hays to attend the Nightingale Experience.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

my" patient; they listened to heart and lungs and saw a video of a live birth.

The students spent the night in the dorms but were up early (6:30 a.m.) for a day of experience in Hays Medical Center.

The girls remarked how excited they were and how nice the hospital was. They followed nurses working in different areas. They watched surgery where they were cleaning the plaque out of arteries. Both Naomi and Elizabeth were able to observe

in the intensive care unit. Elizabeth thought this was one area where she really didn't want to work because there wasn't much going on. Naomi said there were two people in the unit when she observed and one was in critical condition, waiting to be flown to another hospital. Jami was to follow the nurse in rehabilitation but said she saw little. Naomi was also able to observe in the obstetrics department, noting that there was only one baby and she was about ready to leave the hospital.

In all, there were 10 different areas where the students were able to observe but the students were divided and only able to observe in a few different areas. They said they would like to go back again.

Elizabeth has applied to work at the Cheyenne County Hospital this summer. Jami said she doesn't plan to work at the hospital but, when she graduates, go directly into nursing school. Naomi is considering volunteering at the Good Samaritan Village and possibly earning a certified nurse aide certificate.

They would like to follow up on their experience in Hays and see if they might be able to observe in the county hospital and clinic.

The girls still have another year before they graduate — plenty of time to decide where they are going to continue their education in nursing.

the state.

Sen. Ostmeyer is in his first 4-year term in the Kansas Senate. He is vice chair of the Senate Natural Resources Committee and is on the Senate Committee on Agriculture; Education; and Federal and State Affairs. He is also a member of the Senate-House Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and Regulations.

The 40th Senate District includes the counties of Cheyenne, Decatur, Gove, Graham, Greeley, Lane, Logan, Ness, Norton, Rawlins, Rooks, Scott, Sheridan, Sherman, Thomas, Trego, Wallace and Wichita.

Sen. Ostmeyer is a farmer/rancher. He and his wife, Kay, live in Grinnell.

## Papers have been filed for re-election

State Senator Ralph Ostmeyer, R-Grinnell, has officially filed papers with the Kansas Secretary of State's Office for reelection to the 40th District Senate Seat.

"Today I've taken the first steps toward reelection," Mr. Ostmeyer said. "It's an honor to serve in the State Senate, and I'm humbled by the support I receive from the people in my District. I hope they will see fit to send me back to represent them on issues important to them, to our district and to the state as a whole."

One of Sen. Ostmeyer's main interests is Kansas energy potential. He supports the responsible use of Kansas' natural resources while working to develop alternative fuels and a comprehensive energy plan for

commerce."

Congressman Moran worked with the Commission and state legislators to develop a rule that is compliant with federal law while limiting the impact on Kansas agriculture. The congressman is a member of the House Agriculture Committee and the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

## Masks are humorous

The Masked Marvel will be at the Atwood High School auditorium at 3 p.m. on Sunday. This is a Western Plains Arts Association program and admission will be by season ticket or at the door.

Visual artist Michael Cooper performs a family show including mime and humor using a unique variety of masks. Mr. Cooper's mission is to inspire ongoing creativity in his audience, not simply to provide momentary passive entertainment.

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



HIDDEN MOTIVES, HIDDEN PASSAGES and a hidden persona — The nuns try to stay one-step ahead of the serial killer. 'Murder Can Be Habit Forming' is a comedy produced by On Stage Inc. It will be held at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on March 15 in the St. Francis Community High School auditorium.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

# New policy for hauling grain within the borders of Kansas

Farmers will be happy to know that when hauling grain within the borders of Kansas, they will not be considered interstate commerce unless there is clear evidence the shipper intends for the grain to leave the state.

Congressman Jerry Moran said the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) has released a new policy regarding its interpretation of interstate commerce. Last week, he met with the Commission to discuss regulations that affect farmers hauling grain to local elevators. The Commission then released its interpretation that commodity shipments within the borders of Kansas will not be considered interstate commerce. This change means that many farmers and ranchers who deliver agricultural commodities to local grain elevators and sale barns will not be subject to federal regulations.

"I am pleased the Commission acted quickly to change its interpretation of this regulation," Congressman Moran said. "Had this change not been made, it would have placed burdensome

regulations on most of our Kansas farmers and ranchers."

The Commission was proposing to consider the transportation of grain from a Kansas farm to a local elevator as interstate commerce since the grain may ultimately be sold to an out-of-state buyer. Officials informed the congressman that putting forth the rule was for compliance with federal rules, rather than safety concerns.

In the Commission's docket dated Feb. 19, it states: "Upon a review of the available facts and circumstances surrounding a farm to market commodity shipment, if there is no clear evidence that the farmer-shipper's intent as respects the movement of the items in commerce is one of interstate transport, that intent shall not be inferred. For the purpose of this policy, intrastate carrier is defined as a carrier who operates solely in intrastate commerce and does not transport placardable quantities of hazardous materials. If the operation is solely within the state of Kansas and the commerce engaged in is solely within the state of Kansas, the shipment is considered intrastate

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High School Computer Lab (old home ec. room)  
or contact Kay Shay at 785-332-3342  
or kayshay@sbcglobal.net



**Kimberly Voeller**  
Grade: Junior  
Parents:  
**Gene & Patty Voeller**

**Student of the Month**

Kimberly, a junior at St. Francis Community High School, is the February Student of the Month.

Kimberly is involved in advanced music, band and vocal in school. Her community activities are dancing ballet and tap at Dance Expressions with Margaret Poling, Plum Creek 4-H as treasurer and 4-H Council representative.

After graduating from high school, Kimberly plans to go to college at Fort Hays State University and on to Wichita to become a medical technician. There she may get an ultrasound degree. After that she hopes to go back to college and become a family doctor. Ten years from now Kimberly can see herself with two children, working at a hospital and possibly living in St. Francis.

Kimberly favorite saying is: "With God, all things are possible."

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