



TOWN MEETING — (l) Dan Carson visits with John Faber; (above) Norman Dorsch listens to Ralph Ostmeyer.

Herald staff photo by Linda Schneider

Politicians hold meeting in Bird City

By Linda Schneider
dublins@hotmail.com

On Saturday, the Heritage Café in Bird City hosted a town meeting with guest speakers, Kansas Senator Ralph Ostmeyer Representative John Faber. Speaking mainly on the issue of coal versus atomic as an energy source, they also answered a variety of questions from Bird City residents.

Rep. Faber opened by asking the group who was in favor of coal as an alternative energy supply, two or three hands went up. Then he asked who had concerns about the use of coal, five or six hands went up.

In short, the cost of coal is more expensive than atomic, and there is potential of being able to sell the electricity to other communities, even outside the state.

On the concern of unhealthy emissions, Rep. Faber said that precautions are being implemented from the beginning of the construction. With modern technology, using Denver as an example of high smog that has been reduced by using better and better technology, building coal-based power plants are very efficient and cost effective.

Sen. Ostmeyer continued the conversation by saying that there have been some negative ideas about coal as energy, but that people should listen to both sides before making a decision.

“Could there be tax incentives for using solar/wind as energy alternatives?” asked Rick Reeser.

“There is for solar, but not wind at this time,” said Rep. Faber. “The

best way to receive any incentive is to partner with the utilities companies.”

The hiring and education of illegal immigrants was a hot topic for the group.

“This is a great country, but it has been a burden on the taxpayers to educate them,” said Sen. Ostmeyer. “And we are not out to close any business down.”

“We are trying to right a wrong, but on the Federal level, this important issue is not being addressed, especially by the presidential candidates.”

Sen. Ostmeyer said, “Each state needs to come up with a solution.”

“You say the right things, but nothing happens,” said Mike McCarty, dairy manager.

Sen. Ostmeyer and Rep. Faber

answered questions on Bill 604, requiring farmers to have the same road regulations as commercial trucks.

“Farmers are not the problem; we are fighting to keep the negative talk out. Kansas has the safest farm drivers in the country,” said Sen. Ostmeyer.

Planned Parenthood, nursing bed tax and home schooling were also discussed.

“It is tough to get a two-thirds vote to pass a bill,” said Rep. Faber.

The meeting ended with both Sen. Ostmeyer and Rep. Faber personally talking with the attendees.

For more information about Kansas, go to www.kansas.gov/kanview/

Benefits are available for producers

Angie Berens, executive director for the Cheyenne County Farm Service Agency reminds eligible ranchers and other livestock producers that they can apply to receive benefits under the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

The ad hoc disaster programs provide benefits to farmers and ranchers who suffered losses caused by natural disasters in recent years.

“Between 2005 and early 2007, agricultural producers across the

country experienced financial difficulties as the result of devastating drought, blizzards, tornadoes and other natural disasters,” Mrs. Berens, said. “I am pleased to announce that the agency is delivering these benefits to America’s farmers and ranchers at a time when many need it the most.”

Livestock Compensation provides benefits to livestock producers for feed losses occurring between Jan. 1, 2005, and Dec. 31, 2007, due to a natural disaster including producers who suffered

losses result from drought or the blizzards that started in 2006 and continued into January 2007.

Livestock Indemnity compensates livestock producers for livestock deaths between Jan. 1, 2005, and Dec. 31, 2007, that resulted from natural disasters, including losses due to blizzards that started in 2006 and continued into January 2007.

Mrs. Berens emphasized, “Producers incurring loss in more than one of the 2005, 2006 or 2007 qualifying years may be paid in only one year for which they want

to apply for benefits.”

In an effort to expedite the application process and provide efficient, quality customer service, Mrs. Berens recommends that producers call the county office to schedule an appointment for disaster program assistance.

For detailed application and eligibility information, please contact the Cheyenne County office at (785) 332-2183. Interested producers can also access fact sheets on the agency’s Web site www.fsa.usda.gov; click on Disaster Assistance Programs.

Easter Bunny coming to town on March 22

The Easter Bunny will be hopping to the St. Francis Grade School at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 22.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will give children from 1-year-old to 8-years-old to fill their basket full of candy and eggs. The plastic eggs will have the prize named inside and, when the child presents their egg to one of the official Chamber members, they will get a prize.

“There are age divisions and

lots of candy. All the kids will be able to get plenty,” said Gloria Bracelin, Chamber secretary.

The Easter Bunny will be at the gym to visit with children.

“Parents are reminded to bring their camera so they can get a picture with their child and the bunny,” Mrs. Bracelin said.

The Easter Egg Hunt is sponsored by the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce as well as Milliken Law Office, Ross Manufacturing and Ken Bracelin Farm.

Student attends state spelling bee

By Karen Krien

Derek Queen, a sixth grader at the St. Francis Elementary, represented Cheyenne County at the Kansas State Spelling Bee on Saturday.

The Great Bend Tribune reported that there were 69 of “Kansas’ best spellers from all corners of the state” participating.

After four hours of verbal sparring, Pamela Self, an eighth grader from Fort Scott, was the winner, correctly spelling the word “Frankincense.”

Derek said the experience was fun and enjoyed seeing what it was like to compete in the state spelling bee. He misspelled “macaroni” adding an extra “n.” He said he knew better.

The contestants represented 404 schools from fourth through eighth grade. This marks the first year for the Scripps National Spelling Bee qualifying event to take place in Great Bend. When the Topeka Capital-Journal dropped most of Kansas from its spell down last year, it left a lot of very bright Kansas youngsters wondering what they were going to do. The Topeka event had long been considered the state championship, but the Capitol-Journal decided to scale back what it offered.

Understanding the importance of



Queen

education and the inspiring a future generation of world-wise readers, the Tribune jumped at the chance to bring a statewide bee to town.

“This was a gratifying experience for the community and it was a gratifying experience for me personally,” Tribune Publisher Mary Hoisington said. This makes Great Bend’s bee one of only three national-qualifying contests in the state. The others are Topeka and the City of Olathe, which covers only Olathe. With the exception of these two and three southwest counties which go to Amarillo, Texas, the rest of the state’s spelling wiz kids were eligible to come here.

Derek is the son of Marlin and Kim Queen, St. Francis.

Club Clip

St. Francis Federated Music Club

On the evening of Feb. 12, 17 members and seven guests gathered at the home of Jean Ann Confer for Music Club. A short business meeting was conducted by Marsha Magley, president.

For the poetry moment, Helene Landenberger read “The Arrow and the Song” by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

The program then followed, with Jean Ann at the piano and Julie Wolters singing five musical selections made famous by Julie Andrews. After each of the songs, Jean Ann gave background his-

tory and special features of Julie Andrews’ illustrious career. The program was truly enjoyed by all, and members appreciated the performers.

An abundant selection of ice cream, fruit and chocolate delights was served by the hostesses, Kim Zweygardt, Raedell Winston and Ruth Milliken before the members departed for home.

The next meeting will be at the home of Betty Orth for a “Hawaiian Escape” and Bonnie Cram will have the poetry moment.

NOT FOR SALE



Classic 1917 model, one of a kind, high mileage, some original parts worn or missing, timing needs adjustment, warranty expired, in good working condition, very reliable and so loved by family

NO OFFER GOOD ENOUGH

Happy 91st Birthday on March 18 from the family

LAST DAY for Personal Property Assessment will be March 15, 2008

Taxable items include: golf carts, boats, trailers, dirt bikes, snowmobiles & non-ag 4-wheelers.

Real estate improvements or structural changes to buildings must also be reported to the Cheyenne County Appraiser’s Office • 785-332-8830.

When the going gets tough, only the tough keep going. Fortunately the AGCO Hesston 3315 disc mower-conditioner is in that category.



Low Profile Cutterbed: slices through tangled crops by getting close to the ground without scalping the ground

Shear Protection: is built into each cutterbar to minimize damage in the event an obstruction is encountered in the field.

Wide Conditioner Rolls: allow a large volume of crop to go through the head and allow the crop mat to be thin for more consistent conditioning.



YFS YOST FARM SUPPLY

785-332-3351 ~ E. HWY. 36 ~ ST. FRANCIS, KS

Come & Go
Bridal Shower for
Jennifer Henderson
Saturday, March 15 • 1-2:30 p.m.
St. Francis Catholic Church

OFFERED BY HOMESTEAD REALTY
429 East 2nd – Goodland, KS
429 E. 2nd Street: 4 bedroom tri-level with large kitchen, family room and partial basement. Great neighborhood. Priced at only \$39,900. Lender Owned.
For more information contact Cynthia Butts at Homestead Realty, 785-821-1811 or visit www.cynthiabutts.net

PRICE PROTECTION?

When is the last time you signed a commodity contract and your price was adjusted upwards as the market price increased?

SunOpta Sunflower has 2008 Confection Sunflower contracts that will do just that. You are assured that **you’re signed contract will be at our highest price for Confection Sunflowers** without the worry of when to contract.

As always, SunOpta Sunflower offers the “Act of God” clause on all contracts. With high priced commodities, it’s nice to know you’re covered if disaster should strike.

Call Mike Bretz or Larry Keller, today, to find out how you can get in on these Price Protected contracts!

SunOpta Sunflower
785-899-5607 or 800-742-9259
Goodland, Kansas

Knopp
AUCTION & REALTY
LAND AUCTION
1,240 ACRES
Cheyenne County, Kansas Land
Thursday, March 20th, 2008 • 10:30 A.M. Mountain Time
at the Dundy County Court House in Benkelman, Nebraska
Selling the East 1/2 & the North 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of section 22; The west 1/2 and the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 & the Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 23; The West 1/2 of Section 26; The East 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 27; All in Township 1 South, Range 38, West of the 6th P.M. Cheyenne County LAND SELLS AS ONE UNIT.
Owners: **Thomas B. Herring & Marilyn Herring**

Positions Open
CNAs

- **Benefits Available**
- **Local Training Available**
- **Good Pay**
- **Advancement Opportunities**

Call Michele R. or Janet at 785-332-2531

Good Samaritan Society
820 South Denison, St. Francis, Ks. 67756 • 785-332-2531
St. Francis Good Samaritan Village is an EEO/AAP — M/F/V/D employer