

Many tax changes and new forms

Tax season is here again. Rowland Roelfs, AARP tax preparer, said there are many changes and new forms not only with the Internal Revenue Service but also with Kansas. As reported in last week's Herald, all Intangible Tax Forms must now be filed through the county clerk.

As some of you may have already found out, Mr. Roelfs said, due to financial cut backs, the Kansas Department of Revenue's free Kansas forms will not be available at most of the places you usually get them, including libraries. Their goal is to have all Kansas returns e-filed.

The word Mr. Roelfs has received from the Kansas Department of Revenue is that due to a limited number of staff, it will be July before they begin to open paper-filed returns and they are not anticipating to begin processing refunds from those paper returns until October.

E-filed refunds are anticipated to be processed much as in the past as all of their focus will be on processing E-filed returns.

"I understand that if you filed a paper Kansas return for 2008, you may receive some paperwork to assist in filing a paper return in 2009," Mr. Roelfs said. Photo copies of forms will not be accepted as their scanners will only read the color coded original forms.

For more information, visit the Kansas Department of Revenue web site, go to e-file or go to a professional preparer. There are many paid professionals available in the community and our AARP/TCE Volunteers sites will also be available to assist the elderly and low income with tax preparation.

Mr. Roelfs reminds people to not miss out on their Kansas Food Sales Tax or Homestead refunds by not filing a return.

Those who pay property tax on their home, have bought a home, purchased some energy efficient items, or purchased a new vehicle may qualify for some of the new Federal Credits.

Some people that have had money refunded in the past may not receive as much as in years past and may even owe money for 2009 due to some of the Stimulus Programs that were put in place by Congress in 2009.

AARP/TCE does not prepare farm or business returns but if a person feels that they might qualify for the free services for the low income and elderly or if they have other questions about the new credits, they can contact Mr. Roelfs at the St. Francis library Wednesdays, 2 to 5 p.m., or at the St. Francis Senior Center on Thursdays 2 to 5 p.m., or call 785-332-3490 for appointment.



MARK SCHEOPNER, paraprofessional for Boy Scouts, stops by The Saint Francis Herald.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

New leader takes over area council

By Karen Krien
karen.k@mwkansas.com
Mark Scheopner, Goodland, has taken over the job of Buffalo Bill paraprofessional for the Boy Scouts Coronado Area Council.

He is in charge of six counties: Cheyenne, Rawlins, Sherman, Thomas, Wallace and Logan. His goal, he said, is making the Buffalo Bill a strong district.

An Eagle Scout, Mr. Scheopner said he realized that scouting has many things and activities to compete against.

One of the first activities of the year is the Klondike Derby which

will be held in Atwood Feb. 12 through 14.

Mr. Scheopner was born and raised in Atchison. However, he had grandparents, Clarence and Clara Scheopner, who lived in Goodland. He spent a lot of time with them while he was growing up.

Mr. Scheopner started with the the Boy Scout Coronado Area Council on Aug. 1. He welcomes questions from those interested in becoming a scout or starting a scout pack. He can be reached at 785-821-2489 or e-mail mark.scheopner@scouting.org.

Eighth grade student wins essay contest

A St. Francis Community High School eighth grader is one of three winners of the Goodland Elks Lodge Americanism Essay Contest.

Erik Hart submitted his essay in October and the results of the contest were recently announced.

I am very proud of Erik! said his English teacher, Lisa Gibson.

"This is a great honor for him as an eighth grader and shows students that writing is an important tool that can be used in their lives," she said.

At the school awards assembly in the spring, Erik will be presented a \$25 savings bond.

"The American Dream, What Is It?"
By Erik Hart

So what is an American's dream? It may be becoming famous. It might be to become a millionaire. It might be to play professional sports. It might even be to become president someday. No matter the different dreams we have, every single one is unique. It defines you as a person. However we need to realize that dreaming these dreams would not be possible without freedom.

Freedom: it's what defines us as a democracy and not a monar-

chy. Freedom is what can make our dreams a reality. With freedom we can dream about making a difference in people's lives. Freedom means we have rights as individuals and also rights as a country. Freedom holds our nation together. We need to have freedom continue on in our country.

I think the American dream is to have our nation prosper. As individuals, everyone wants to make a difference in their own lives, in the lives of other people, and also to make a difference for our whole country. Every American also realizes the need for freedom and liberty.

In conclusion, every American has their own dreams and their own views, but everyone wants the same outcome...to have our nation prosper through freedom. So what is your American dream?

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CMC, 100 E. College Dr.
462-7511
Fri., Feb. 26
CSMC at 9 a.m.

Tea Time

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Student News

University of Oklahoma

Holly Keller of St. Francis was among students from 47 states and the District of Columbia listed on the University of Oklahoma Norman campus honor roll for the fall 2009 semester. Students on the

honor roll are enrolled full time in at least 12 credit hours.

Keller was named on the President's honor roll, as she earned a 4.0 grade-point average.

Assistant Wrestling Coach for 2010-2011

NWKTC is seeking an individual as an assistant wrestling coach for 2010-2011 college wrestling season. Responsibilities include assisting with practices, meets & tournaments (local and away), and fundraising events for athletics. Coaching experience preferred. Background check required. Open until filled.

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NWKTC
Dr. Guy E. Mills, President
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E.O.E.



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Bird City woman corrects mistake

Last week, Dee Dorsch, Bird City, pointed out that there was a fact concerning the St. Francis Band Shell story that was incorrect. In the information written in the Cheyenne History Book and also in a written account by Virginia Sawhill Galloway, daughter of the man who had planned and supervised the building of the attractions in the park, it was stated that WPA (Works Progress Administration) had supplied the money for the labor.

As Mrs. Dorsch pointed out, this program was created in 1936 — after the park and band shell were built.

Looking back in the 1934 *Saint Francis Herald*, Jan. 11 issue, an article was printed that the work for the park project, along with eight other projects, were being built with Civil Works Administration (CWA) funds. The Civil Works Administration was established by the New Deal during the Depression to create jobs for millions of unemployed. President Franklin D. Roosevelt unveiled the plans on Nov. 8, 1933. It ended on March 31, 1934, after cost-

ing \$200 million a month. So much was spent on this administration because it hired 4 million people.

Some of the other projects in St. Francis which were paid for with Civil Works Administration funds were the rebuilding of the light plant, four road projects and the yard and athletic field at the school.

As time passes, said Karen Krien, publisher, maybe initials such as WPA and CWA are confused. They were within only a few years of each other and, in a time when jobs were needed, both provided the money for the jobs created.

The Herald, in the 1934 article, ended, "From the fact that a quota for our county had been working out by government officials and did not call for as many men as registered for employment, it did not give all a job that had hoped to secure one. However, the fact that so many men were put on this type of work left a few jobs for others in other work so that the employment situation is in much better shape than it has been for a long time."

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