



**SHARING HIS PAST, Resident of the Month, Robert Keller, talks about memories. Joining him were his wife, Dixie, right, and activities director, Cathy Loop, at the Good Samaritan Village.**

*Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*

## Resident given recognition

By *Karen Krien*

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On the Thursday before the fire at the Good Samaritan Village, Robert Keller was the October Resident of the Month. Family and friends along with the residents and staff were there to enjoy the time which included an interview, power point presentation of Mr. Keller showing pictures of him throughout his life and refreshments followed.

Mr. Keller was born on June 17, 1922, on the family farm north of St. Francis. He was one of eight children born to John and Matilda Keller.

Robert said he grew up doing lots of chores including what he thought were the "dirty work." The dirty work was generally cleaning out sheds and chicken houses.

He and his siblings attended the Hackberry School. He went on to graduate from St. Francis High School in 1940 and then went for a time to K-State University in Manhattan. He said he had started studying veterinarian medicine but didn't finish it.

At country school, he had a variety of teachers but his favorite was probably Merna Mills. His favorite subject was arithmetic and the least favorite was English.

While in high school, he was on the wrestling team and took third at state.

He met Dixie Waters at a dance



**Robert Keller**

and, in 1947, he married her at her parents home. They lived on the farm, later moving to St. Francis. They had two children, Ann and John. Today, they have four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He served his country in the Army and was discharged six months later because of a bad knee.

Growing up on the farm may have led to what he liked doing best - raising Hereford cattle.

He liked raising cattle as well as horses.

He and Dixie liked to travel after they retired. They also had a home in Arizona where they spent the winters. Where they lived, there was a grapefruit tree that they enjoyed picking and eating the fruit.

When asked what his hobbies were, he replied, "raising Herefords." And, his advice to younger people was to - "raise Herefords."

## Organization celebrates years of ladies' patriotism

Approximately 85 members and officials of the American Legion Auxiliary and guests met Saturday to celebrate the American Legion Auxiliary's 90th. A meal and program was enjoyed by those attending.

A great time visiting was enjoyed as well as the beautifully decorated hall and tables - which was done by Carol Marsh, Carol Peters and Val Coleman.

Among those present were special guests, the Kansas American Legion Auxiliary president, Trish Ward, and her husband, Steve, who is the commander for the Detachment of Kansas, Sons of the American Legion. They traveled to Bird City from Louisburg to be at the celebration.

President Ward gave an enthusiastic greeting, telling that members need to let other people know what Auxiliary is, and to get the word out that new members are needed to join us as we serve our soldiers who are fighting and those who have fought for freedom and then educate and work with the young people and our community.

The American Legion Auxiliary began in 1919, with dedicated women across the country devoted to America's veterans, young people and communities. The women in the American Legion Auxiliary make a difference in the lives of many Americans. They educate children, organize community events, and help our nation's veterans through legislative actions and volunteerism.

The Auxiliary is the world's largest women's patriotic service organizations with nearly 1 million members in 10,100 communities. Auxiliary members are a unique group of women, joined in the fellowship of volunteerism, patriotism and dedication to veterans, the young people and the communities.

Co-chairman Hulda Dorsch spoke a few minutes about the ladies we have in the Bird City Auxiliary and then turned it over to Joy Anderegg who announced the different ladies who would receive special awards for their many years of service. As she called the names, each lady stood up and Wanda Dowdy took them their award.

Co-chairman Rose Gordon then

told about some of the things that the group does, including our hospital gift program, where gifts are sent to the different hospitals, so that these veterans can shop for Christmas presents for their family and loved ones.

They also head the Cheyenne County Support Our Troops (SOS) project providing Christmas for the troops in war zones. Last year a van load of gifts were sent and over \$2,000 to help with shipping and other needed items.

The Auxiliary also contributes to Santa Day, gives \$150 toward the Lynette DaProne Scholarship, helps with the blood mobile and obtains the Bingo license and conducts games twice a month from October through March, which helps the Auxiliary to have money for some of our programs. In the spring, the members tell the "Poppy Story" to the third graders at school and sell poppies on Memorial Day weekend.

Mrs. Gordon also shared about the American Legion Riders, who are a motorcycle group, that rides to raise support for our soldiers and veterans - especially the



wounded vets.

A delightful Musical Extravaganza hosted by Neala Carmichael was enjoyed. The group is from St. Francis with a lot of talent. There was singing, music, dancing and instrumental solos - trumpet and piano.

For the closing of the musical part of the program, the audience was asked to join in the singing of "God Bless America."

As Mrs. Dorsch took over the microphone again, she recognized all the American Legion members, all the people who had served in the military, fighting for our freedoms and all the American Legion Auxiliary members that were present. It was a memorable evening for everyone.

## Club Clip

### Pleasant Hill 4-H Club

The monthly meeting of the Pleasant Hill 4-H Club was held at the courthouse on Oct. 6 at 7 p.m. Reagan Beims and Emileigh Dinkel led the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4-H Pledge to start the meeting. Roll call was taken by club. Members signed up for the project talks and demonstrations to be completed throughout the coming 4-H year. Club leader, Leslie Beims welcomed the visitors and new club members.

The committee reports were given. The Bierock Committee reported that the club will make the bierocks on Oct. 22 and 23 at the high school cafeteria. This is the club's only money-making project for the year. All club members were encouraged to make their sales calls and turn them into club leader, Tye Faulkender, by Oct. 15.

The Halloween Committee will be planning the party for Oct. 31 and will send out postcards of the details but will plan to start at 5:30 p.m. since it is a school night.

In the council report by leader,

Tye Faulkender, it was announced that the 4-H Achievement Banquet will be Nov. 7. He also reported that the 4-H Council food booth will reduce the hours of operation during the fair next year. A Food Stand Committee will be appointed and work directly with the food-stand coordinator next year also. There was also some discussion at the council meeting to purchase all 4-H members T-shirts.

The club still needs to find a place to hold the monthly meetings, a few suggestions were made but no final decision was made. Leader, Leslie Beims, asked the club to think about what kind of project they wanted to do as a club. A suggestion was made by parent, Mila Bandel, to consider Health as the club's project for the year.

Everyone was reminded that record books are due into the extension office by Friday, Oct. 8.

After a group picture and refreshments, the October monthly meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be Nov. 3.

Travis Rogers, reporter

## Cheyenne County Republican Committee

urges you to read the 2010 Kansas Republican platform

**As the Republican GOP of Kansas, we support:\*\***

1. **Embracing our Heritage** in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, and the Bill of Rights
2. **Respect for the Constitution**
3. **Respect for Individual Freedoms**
4. **Upholding the Constitutional Right to Keep and Bear Arms**
5. **Promoting a Culture of Life** by valuing the life of the elderly and sick, the life of the young, and the life of the unborn
6. **Our Military**
7. **Immigration** by protecting the sovereignty of our country and securing our borders
8. **Healthcare** in gaining efficiency by focusing on the patient
9. **Growing the Economy** by opportunity and entrepreneurship
10. **Building the Knowledge of Students** --expanding academic knowledge from a core education
11. **Building Safer Communities**
12. **Preserving Traditional Marriage**
13. **Preserving the Heartland** by maintaining the rich heritage of our state in the wise use of all its natural resources

\*\*Learn more about the Kansas GOP Platform at:

[http://www.ksgop.org/site/c.4dIDILQjGaISE/b.6196809/k.91C0/Kansas\\_Platform.htm](http://www.ksgop.org/site/c.4dIDILQjGaISE/b.6196809/k.91C0/Kansas_Platform.htm)  
Computers are available at your local library.

✓ **Sample ballots are available at the County Clerk's Office**  
✓ **You may make application now for an absentee ballot**

✓ **You may vote now until Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> at the County Clerk's Office**  
✓ **Vote Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> at your polling place (Peace Lutheran Church or Bird City American Legion)**

Cast an **informed vote** for . . .

**Jerry Moran**  
**Tim Huelskamp**  
**Sam Brownback**  
**Jeff Colyer**  
**Kris Kobach**  
**Derek Schmidt**  
**Ron Estes**  
**Sandy Praeger**  
**Ward Cassidy**  
**Sally Cauble**

**U.S. Senate**  
**U.S. Representative 101<sup>st</sup> District**  
**Governor**  
**Lt. Governor**  
**Secretary of State**  
**Attorney General**  
**State Treasurer**  
**Commissioner of Insurance**  
**120<sup>th</sup> State District Representative**  
**5<sup>th</sup> District Board of Education**

Pol. Adv. Pd by Cheyenne County Republican Committee, P. Keller, Treas.

## THANK YOU!!!

Words cannot adequately express our gratitude for the outpouring of help and support given to the residents and staff of the Good Samaritan Village following the October 19th fire. Because of your quick and professional response, our 48 residents were carefully evacuated, kept comfortable and nourished, and safely moved to other care facilities in just a matter of hours.

While there are too many people to mention here individually, we do appreciate each and every act of kindness. We especially want to recognize the following for their efforts to safely transport and comfort our residents following the fire and for their support of the Village staff during the past week:

*St. Francis Village Nurses, CNAs, and Support Staff*

*St. Francis Volunteer Fire Department*

*Bird City Volunteer Fire Department*

*McDonald Volunteer Fire Department*

*Atwood Volunteer Fire Department*

*Cheyenne County Communications-911*

*Cheyenne County Emergency Medical Technicians*

*Dr. Miller & Dr. Allard; Tyler Raile & Crystal Raile, PA's*

*Cheyenne County Hospital Staff*

*Cheyenne County Clinic Staff*

*Good Samaritan Home Health Staff*

*St. Francis Police Department*

*Cheyenne County Sheriff's Department*

*St. Francis City Crew*

*St. Francis School Administrators & Teachers*

*St. Francis High School Students*

*St. Francis High School Football Team*

*Area Pastors & Ministerial Alliance*

*Residents' Family Member and Friends*

*Area Good Samaritan Nursing Homes*

*(Atwood, Goodland, Sharon Springs & Oberlin)*

*Hillcrest Nursing Home, Wray, Colo.*

*United Methodist Church Thrift Store-Clothing for residents*

*Keller & Bracelin Families-Wed. lunch for Village Staff*

*Ministerial Alliance & Pastors Butler & Landers -Thurs. lunch for Staff*

*St. Francis Super Foods-Donation of goods*

*Hospital & Senior Center-For taking over Village Meals on Wheels*

*Becky's Bierocks-Storage of frozen foods*

*Hometown Market, Bird City - Storage of frozen foods*

*St. Francis Herald-Donation of services*

*LeRoy's Printing of Colby-Donation of services*



**May God bless you all!**  
**Good Samaritan Society**  
**& St. Francis Village**