



No bomb found at Walmart

Monday morning a little before 8 a.m. dispatchers received a call that a bomb threat had been called into the Goodland Walmart store, 2160 Commerce Rd., from an unknown caller.

Goodland Police responded to the call and the store was ordered evacuated. Others responding included Sherman County Sheriff's Office, Kansas Highway Patrol, Goodland City Fire Department, Goodland EMS and Sherman

County Emergency Management.

The fire department blocked the entrance as other law enforcement searched the store. Law enforcement officers determined the call was not a viable threat, and no bomb was found.

Walmart was declared safe to reopen for regular business about 8:45 a.m.

The store as well as emergency services has been placed on heightened alert.

Senator's meeting set for Thursday

U.S. Senator Jerry Moran will be in St. Francis to visit with Cheyenne County residents at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday. He will be speaking in the St. Francis high school auditorium.

Sen. Moran visit is part of his statewide listening tour. Recently sworn in as a U.S. Senator representing Kansas on Capitol Hill, he is continuing his tradition of traveling back to Kansas at every opportunity to visit hundreds of communities throughout the state. The senator will travel to each of

Kansas' 105 counties to talk with area residents about their hopes and concerns. The issues Sen. Moran focuses on and the work he does in Washington, D.C., is largely based on the conversations he has with Kansans during these town hall meetings.

Farm Bureau annual meeting

Prior to Senator Moran's public meeting, the Cheyenne County Farm Bureau will hold its annual meeting with dinner starting at 6 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.



ANGIE BERENS, director, signs some papers as part of her ending duties at the Farm Service Agency office.

Director takes early retirement

By Karen Krien

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After 28 years in Farm Service Agency, Angie Berens, Cheyenne County executive director, is retiring.

Mrs. Berens began her career in the agency in 1985 while living in Kingman. She came to Cheyenne County in March 1996.

These days, there is concern over the government's budget so early retirement was offered as a way of saving money. Employees needed to have worked 25 years or more, regardless of age, and she qualified.

I had to make some quick decisions, she said. But the main reason I took the retirement was being able to spend more time with Joshua and Matthew, her sons.

Through the years, she has seen changes in Farm Service but, mostly, everything is more auto-

mated with the computers. However, she said, it really hasn't reduced the paper work.

The staff still helps farmers and ranchers signing into the farm program as well as certifying acreages and dealing with disaster programs.

She said she doesn't see the government closing the Cheyenne County Farm Service office. The office has a good work load, compared to some of the other offices in the state, she said.

After retirement, she will be busy. Besides spending time with her sons, she plans to help her husband, Kevin, who has started his own law business as well as taking internet classes to earn a business degree.

Then, when she has time, she wants to spend more time riding her horses and doing some barrel racing.



LOVING EVERY MINUTE was Sara Allard as her babysitter, Taryn Richards kept her safe. Sara is the daughter of Kent and Rebecca Allard.

Herald staff photos by Karen Krien

Swim fun ends

The last day for swimmers at the St. Francis pool is Friday, Aug. 26.

Bruce Swihart, Pool Committeeman, reported at the Aug. 8 St. Francis City Council meeting that the pool and staff had a good summer. There were only a few times that it was closed for various reasons and he had heard only good reports on the guards.

Many of the lifeguards are back at school - some in college and others involved in high school sports. Because of fewer guards, there will be an abbreviated schedule at the pool.

Most of the guards indicated they would be back next year.

The guards, he said, were hard workers and were a great bunch to work with. The only complaint was they were interested in having more working hours.



I'M FLYING - This is what it looked like as Tristyn Krien jumped time after time into the pool with her babysitters, Jenna and Jessica Confer making sure she was OK. Tristyn is the daughter of Tyler and Melissa Krien

Chemical sprays killing grasses

By Karen Krien

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Spraying county ditches with a chemical that kills all vegetation is becoming a problem in the county.

Justin Lohr, noxious weed supervisor, presented a letter to the commissioners which will be sent to farmers and ranchers.

If we don't get this matter under control, Mr. Lohr said, it will get worse.

The county crew prefers to have a good native grass stand such as brome grass which helps choke out noxious weeds

and other undesirable plants including cheat and joint grass.

In the spring, farmers and commercial operators are spraying Glyphosate which is Round-up and, in the fall, they are spraying Atrazine.

It is killing all our native grasses that takes years to establish, Mr. Lohr said.

Also, he said, after this spray operation, it seems that there is more Kochia and other unwanted broad leafs growing later in the summer.

When the ditches are sterilized, not only does it kill the

See GRASS on Page 7

County receives \$2,000 for vehicle

By Karen Krien

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An anonymous donation for \$2,000 has been received to be used toward the new Hummer and the expenses to get it equipped.

The commissioners, at the Monday morning meeting, reported that the Hummer had been used to put out a fire north of Bird City. The fire was on in the Big Timber area and the Hummer was used to transport firemen in and out of the area.

The Hummer is an Army surplus vehicle and only counties that qualify are eligible to get one. It was free with the exception of

the cost for the government's paperwork which is 5 percent of the cost of the vehicle. In the county's case, it was \$1,700. The shipping cost \$1,000. The tag cost \$25. There was also a cost for liability insurance.

Sheriff Craig VanAllen, who had applied for the vehicle, said that to get the vehicle equipped with lights, radio, batteries and siren will cost another \$2,100 but, with that equipment, it will meet all regulations.

The Hummer is kept at the St. Francis Emergency Building and will be used for emergencies.