

# Beef Council reinforces message that beef is safe to eat

The Kansas Beef Council is aggressively spreading the message that United States beef is safe to eat. Facts on the situation involving the single case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (mad cow disease) in Washington state have been distributed by Kansas Beef Council to the media, supermarket operators and restaurant owners. The key message for consumers is that the United States system for surveillance and testing worked, allowing the public to continue eating beef with confidence.

"Due to the strength of the United States system and its ability to prevent the spread of (the disease), this is an animal disease story, not a food safety problem," said Kansas Beef Council chairman Tom Toll, a beef producer from Lindsborg. "Consumers should continue to eat beef with complete confidence."

Within 15 hours of the United States Department of Agriculture's announcement about the single case of the disease the Kansas Beef Council, the Kansas Livestock Association, Kansas Animal Health

Department and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association conducted scores of interviews designed to reassure American consumers. This public relations effort will continue as the United States Department of Agriculture investigates the origin of the cow and any feed consumed by the animal.

Included in conversations with the media were explanations of the system in place to prevent any potential spread of bovine spongiform encephalopathy. A comprehensive, multi-year risk analysis conducted by Harvard University indicated the United States is well-equipped to prevent the spread of the disease. The United States banned imports of cattle and bovine products from countries with mad cow disease beginning in 1989. A surveillance program for the disease was initiated in 1990, making the United States the first country in the world without the disease to test cattle for the disease. The surveillance system targets all cattle with any sign

of neurological disorder, as well as those over 30 months of age and animals that are non-ambulatory. The third firewall in the system is a 1997 Food and Drug Administration ban on feeding ruminant-derived meat and bone meal supplements to cattle. This is the component that will prevent any potential spread of the disease to other animals. Mad cow disease does not spread from animal to animal — only through feed sources.

"Central nervous system tissue from the lone infected animal did not go into the food supply," said Kansas Animal Health Commissioner George Teagarden in a reassuring message for consumers. "Current science indicates the (disease) agent is not found in whole muscle meat, such as steaks and roasts, only in central nervous tissue (brain and spinal cord), which is not commonly consumed in the United States."

Additional information on the cow in Washington and the safety of United States beef can be found on [www.bseinfo.org](http://www.bseinfo.org).



**TOM STEVENS purchased three tickets at an Isis Shriner's event. When the ticket was drawn, it was his and he took home a Landpride 4400SF Treker valued at over \$9,000. Mr. Stevens (back displayed) showed the Treker to (l to r) Hurb Graves, Shakotah Blanka and Ron Loudon. The head Shriner Dick Barton reported the Cheyenne Shrine Club, which Mr. Stevens is a member, is the most active club in the state.** Photo courtesy of Shawna Blanka

## St. Francis News

Those spending the evening at the Bob and Dorothy Hankins house for a Christmas eve celebration were Angela Hankins, Kathleen Stanley, Martha Stothard of St. Francis, David Hankins of Goodland, and Leroy Dungan of Salina. An enjoyable eve was had by all.

Christmas dinner guest of Bob and Dorothy Hankins were Angela, Kathleen, Martha of St. Francis, David of Goodland. Ed and Betty Morris of Goodland. Marie Dungan, Elizabeth, Amaya and Malek Dungan of Salina. A Good Day was enjoyed by all.

Overnight house guests of Kathleen Stanley were Elizabeth Dungan and her daughter, Amaya.

Jessie Smith spent Christmas week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Smith of Greeley, Colo. Christmas dinner was served at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Frank, Platteville, Colo. Also attending were Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bender and family and Paul Smith, all of Parker. The afternoon was spent opening presents, taking pictures and visiting. A good time was had by all.

Mrs. Smith also visited her daughter Janice McClelland and Ray Lalicker, both of Goodland.

Holiday guests of Billy and Karen Krien were Troy and Jan Krien, Jessie and Jamie of Eagle, Neb., Kelly Allen, Bridgette and Kyle of Clay Center, Todd Krien of Celeste, Texas, Tyler Krien of Salina, Marilyn Krien of Aurora, Colo., Christie Holzwarth, and Bill and Leone Krien, all of St. Francis.

La Vera Berringer visitors from Dec. 19-23 were Jim and Elaine Wiseman from Freemont Neb., Alice Raile, Hastings, Neb.,

On Saturday Dec 20 and 21 Allen and Karen Wright, Kingman, arrived. Sunday Larry and Brenda Berringer, Sharon Springs joined them. All together they celebrated Christmas.

Sunday afternoon brief callers were Matt Berringer, Kansas City.

Monday La Vera's guests at the windmill for breakfast were Victor and Darlene Zwegyardt, Jim, Elaine and Alice Raile was a short visitor with Larry and Terry Zwegyardt on Saturday morning.

Saturday a pre Christmas carry in dinner was enjoyed at the home of Ethel Dunn by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Miller, of Flagler, Colo.,

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Karr, and baby Zac from Beaverton, Ore., and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Dunn, and daughters Jamie, and Jandy of St. Francis.

Christmas Eve supper guests at the Leon Merklin home were Dennis, Mary and Heather Merklin, Bradley Merklin, Pat Rose and Mike and Cindy Mitchell, Kimberly, Andrew and Justin of Wilber, Neb., They attended the communion service at the church and then returned and unwrapped Christmas gifts. Joining the group on Christmas day were Eldon and Dorothy Palmer of Goodland, Kelly and Diane Kent of Denver; Mike, Ginger and Dustin Chadwick of Goodland and David Rose and Dana Raile.

Holiday visitors of Helene Landenberger on Friday were Byron and Janet Elliott of Greeley, Colo., Lavern Young of Bird City, Elma Lee Erickson of Herndon, and Don and Em Threlkel of Atwood.

On Saturday, a gathering and holiday dinner was enjoyed in the country southwest of Bird City at the original Magley homestead. The occasion was hosted by the current descendent resident, Lavern Young, and was assisted by his sister, Janet and husband Bryon Elliott. Lavern's pastor and seven family members from Goodland, The Coons, were guests as was Helene Landenberger of St. Francis. After the bountiful meal, including several traditional family dishes, the group traveled to St. Francis and went caroling at the Good Samaritan Village, the adjacent apartments and at the Jo Ford residence.

## Book Review

### Let's Roll

By Lisa Beamer  
Go behind the scenes with United Flight 93. Hero Todd Beamer and his wife, Lisa, who were prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice...

After 9-11, a Vietnam veteran sent Lisa Beamer the Purple Heart he earned in battle. A World War II veteran did the same. The U.S. Congress gave her a prolonged standing ovation. She's been a guest on television shows such as *Good Morning America*, *Dateline* and *20/20*, as well as the feature in the *New York Post* and *Newsweek*.

And Todd Beamer? According to an editorial in the *Dallas Morning News*, he's one of the three most admired individuals in

America today.

Why all this interest in a quiet couple from New Jersey?

Todd and Lisa Beamer have become symbols of national and personal strength in the face of crisis - Todd for the brave actions that cost his life, and Lisa for her gracious and courageous response. Although many have heard bits and pieces about the Beamers' lives, their story runs much deeper than a catchy phrase. *Let's Roll!* is their story - a message of character, courage, and faith in the face of horrifying tragedy. But it's also your story...one that will give you unparalleled hope for your own future in today's troubled world. And the encouragement to live real life...right now.

# Former graduate to be Miss Kansas

Meaghan Jamison, a 2002 St. Francis Graduate was recently named "Miss Kansas" in the National American Miss, 19-21 year old, competition. In July, Meaghan competed in the Teen division in Overland Park and place fourth runner up overall. Meaghan also won the Spokesmodel competition with her "American G.I." speech, as well as placing first runner up with her "Kansas" speech. Other awards included, second runner up in Sports-wear modeling, third runner up in Photogenic, most recommendation winner, First runner up for best resume', First runner up for Academic Achievement, and was a recipient of a "Spirit of America" Trophy.

old "Miss" division. Meaghan applied for the title in late September and was notified in mid October that she had been chosen as the winner. Because there is not an actual state pageant in the older division, the winners are chosen based on a weighted scale including, Resume 25 percent- Essay, 25 percent- Phone Interview, 35 percent and Photogenic, 15 percent.

Over Thanksgiving week, Meaghan competed as "Miss Kansas" at the National Pageant held in Disneyland. Meaghan was the overall winner in Academic Achievement, first runner up for best resume, third runner up in Photogenic, fourth runner up for Most Promising Model, second runner up for Best Scrapbook and was the winner of the Best T-Shirt depicting her home state. Although Meaghan and her parents no longer reside in Kansas, Meaghan still



Jamison

feels that Kansas and St. Francis are "Home" and is proud to represent Kansas for 2003-2004. Meaghan is a pre-law honor student at Evangel University in Springfield, Mo., and is the daughter of Ross and Jami Jamison of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio., She is the granddaughter of Jim and Sharon McCann of Bird City and Patricia Jamison of Russell.

# Bereaved people are reminded to make resolutions they can keep

When people are bereaved they need to make resolutions that they can really keep. According to Hospice Services bereaved people are not at an energy level to lose five pounds by Jan., 15 or clean the whole house by a certain time, or any of those kinds of really disciplined activities. Following are some resolutions that others have written about that helped them in their time of grief and that can help with their grieving and be possible to keep:

- That I will grieve as much and for as long as I feel like grieving and that I will not let others put a time table on my grief.
- That I will grieve in whatever way I feel like grieving, and I will ignore those who try to tell me what I should or should not be feeling and

how I should or should not be behaving.

- That I will talk about my loved one as often as I want to, and that I will not let others turn me off just because they can't deal with their own feelings.
- That I will try to take one day at a time, and when that is too difficult, one hour or one minute at a time.
- That I will enjoy good days. I will not let myself feel guilty when I feel happy.
- That I will take care of myself by eating well, sleeping when I can and exercising so that I can cope with my grief.
- That I will know that I am not losing my mind and that I will remind myself that loss of memory, feelings of disorientation, lack of energy and a sense of vulnerability

are all a normal part of the grief process.

- That I will remember others are grieving too, and I will try to be considerate of their feelings.
- That in the memory of my loved one, I will do something to help others. This helps me feel better as well.
- That even though my loved one is dead, I will opt for life, knowing that is what they would want me to do.

**First National Bank will be closing at 1:00pm On Wednesday, December 31. Happy New Year**

First National Bank [www.fnbn.com](http://www.fnbn.com)

Bird City, Colby, Goodland, Kirk, Oberlin, Quinter, Sharon Springs, St. Francis

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Daily Lunch Specials from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.  
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**BELGIUM WAFFLES Wed. Night • 5-8 p.m.**

**Mon.** - Chicken Fried Steak, mashed potatoes, country gravy, corn, salad & Texas toast.  
**Tues.** - Mini Ham Loaves, rice, green beans, salad & roll.  
**Wed.** - Served 11 a.m.-2 p.m. - Roast Beef Dinner, mashed potatoes, roast beef gravy, vegetable, salad & roll. Served 5-8 p.m. - Belguim Waffles.  
**Thur.** - Chicken Fettaccine Alfredo, mixed veggies, salad & Texas toast.  
**Fri.** - Salmon Patties, buttered potatoes, creamed peas, salad & roll.  
**Sat.** - Cook's Choice.

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**Official notice of annual meeting**

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of St. Francis Mercantile Equity Exchange will be held at the **High School Cafeteria in St. Francis, Kansas, January 8, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. CST.** Reports will be presented by the Board of Directors and management along with a review of the financial statements of our auditors. Members will elect one director to serve on the board and we will conduct any other business that may legally come before the members.

Dinner will be served beginning at 6:00 p.m. CST. The business session will follow at about 7:00. Drawings for door prizes will follow the meeting.

Please make reservations by calling the office in St. Francis or Haigler, or by returning the reservation form from the newsletter by January 6, 2004. All patrons are urged to attend.

St. Francis Mercantile Equity Exchange  
s/Ted Zielke, Secretary