



PATRICK'S PEOPLE
< VANETA MATHIS

She remembers living without electricity or running water, but now spends part of each day at the computer. | PAGE 6A



WEATHER
OVERCAST AND WARM

Partly cloudy, highs in the upper 80s. Light and variable winds becoming south around in the afternoon. | COMPLETE LOCAL AND REGIONAL FORECAST, PAGE 2A

Cherokee County attorney indicted

Goodrich accused of extortion, fraud, intimidating a witness

BY BRIAN POMMIER
 THE MORNING SUN

WICHITA — Cherokee County Attorney Michael L. Goodrich was indicted Wednesday by a federal grand jury.

Goodrich, 47 of Baxter Springs, is accused of two counts of extortion, one count of wire fraud and another count of intimidating a witness. Co-defendant Timothy J. Schooley, 29 and also of Baxter Springs, is charged with one count of extortion.

"The indictment alleges that Mr. Goodrich received money and favors not due to him from the owner and employees of Sensations Gentlemen's Club in Galena, Kan.," U.S. Attorney Eric Melgren

said in a statement. "Mr. Goodrich is also charged with attempting to prevent Assistant County Attorney Garth Adams from giving a truthful statement to agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation."

According to the indictment, Goodrich:

- unlawfully obtained money and favors from the owner of Sensation's Gentlemen's Club, Hai Ching Ying, as well as the manager, Tom Dekeyser. The crimes are alleged to have occurred from Jan. 1, 2005 to Sept. 2007.
- received money and property from the club in exchange for favorable legal treatment for Ying and Dekeyser, as well as for the employees of the club.
- dismissed a traffic ticket for Dekeyser without charging fines or court costs after Dekeyser called Goodrich on March 29, 2007.

- attempted to intimidate Assistant Cherokee County Attorney Garth Adams in an effort to alter a truthful statement that Adams was planning to give FBI agents.

Also, Schooley is accused of approaching Jason Carsley — an assistant manager at Sensations — to ask for money to be used for the waitresses and dancers at the club. Carsley — after getting permission from either Ying or Dekeyser — gave club money to Goodrich.

If convicted, Goodrich could face a maximum of 20 years in federal prison on each count of extortion, a maximum of 20 years for wire fraud and up to 10 years for intimidating a witness. He also faces up to \$750,000 in fines.

Schooley faces up to 20 years in federal prison and up to \$250,000 in fines.

QUICK READ

LOCAL

Local Dairy Queen seized by KDOR

BY BRIAN POMMIER
 THE MORNING SUN

After the Kansas Department of Revenue and Pittsburg Police Officers executed tax warrants on the Dairy Queen at 1314 S. Broadway on Wednesday, patrons will have to get their hot eats and cool treats elsewhere.

The Department of Revenue seized the business assets of the business, owned by Ralph and Mary Bartley for nonpayment of state sales and withholding taxes.

"We're working to get it taken care of so we can get back open," Ralph Bartley said. "This was a big surprise."

The seizure occurred at about 9:30 a.m., and Bartley said he believed that the store had just opened.

All known bank accounts, on-site cash, business inventory and personal property assets belonging to the owners was seized and the business was sealed closed. Seized assets will be sold at public auction to pay toward delinquent taxes.

According to the KDOR, the standard practice is to continually encourage delinquent taxpayers to voluntarily enter into a repayment agreement. When multiple collection attempts fail, the department employs civil action such as a bank levy, a till tap or ultimately seizure of assets.

ON THE 'NET

We Spotted

Have you been spotted? Visit our Web site to view Morning Sun photos not seen in print. | spotted.morningsun.net

DEATHS

- Frank K. Gartner, Pittsburg
- Catherine B. Ludlum, Erie
- Carl Edwin Pistole, Pittsburg

OBITUARIES, PAGE 8A

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A PIRATE'S LIFE AT NORTHEAST



Junior Jeremy Sullins, 16, left, looks for help to English teacher Brian Smith Wednesday on Pirate Day at Northeast High School in Arma. Students and faculty have dressed up for various themed days — including pirates and super heroes — as part of ongoing homecoming week activities in the school. Wednesday was also International Talk Like A Pirate Day.

ANDREW D. BROSIG/THE MORNING SUN

Phone program lets voters sound off

BY KEVIN FLAHERTY
 THE MORNING SUN

If you get a call from Pat's Party Line, that doesn't mean it's time to turn up the music and let your hair down.

Instead, Pat's Party Line supplies U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kansas, a way to get in touch with his constituents. It's called a tele-town hall — the equivalent to a town hall meeting over the phone.

"We've been very pleased with the comments and the good feedback we've received," Roberts said. "A long time ago, when I worked for Keith Sebelius (former Kansas Senator and father-in-law of Gov. Kathleen Sebelius) ... we would take listening tours where we would travel 5,000 miles in three weeks. We will still do that, but this is a way for me to keep up to date on comments and concerns of my constituents even while I'm here in the nation's capital."

Roberts said he held his third Pat's Party Line session Tuesday.

The way the Party Line works is that Roberts's staff will select a district to participate. The machine then selects random numbers from that district and dials them. When the person picks up, they are given the option to sit in on a tele-town hall meeting with Roberts. If they want to ask a question, all they have to do is press the pound sign and wait for their chance to ask a live question.

"It's a good time to talk for me," Roberts said. "And they don't have to go anywhere to take part. They can take it at home, or they can opt out. It's their choice. This is a different kind of constituency."

Roberts said the questions

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Sharp's celebrates 55 years in auto body business

BY BRIAN POMMIER
 THE MORNING SUN

In 1952, cars were massive, metal monsters that actually seemed to grin — or grimace — with their large chromed grills. The conventional wisdom was that the more metal around a driver, the safer that person would be.

In 2007, however, our cars are much different. Crumple zones are designed to intentionally deform to minimize the shock to people in the car. Many of the panels are made of plastic or fiberglass.

And over the span of the last 55 years, one Pittsburg business has tried to keep up with the changes.

Sharp's Auto Body Clinic celebrated its 55th anniversary on Wednesday, throwing a birthday bash with sausages, hot dogs, a radio remote and a lot of memories.

"I'm real proud of my dad," said Mary Dell Sharp, Bill Sharp's daughter. "Dad had cancer of the lung, and that's when he sold the shop. Honestly, that about killed him. He didn't want to let it go. But, he knew Mike (Sand) and he said 'Mike Sand can run my shop.'"

Sharp's father, Bill, started the business in 1952 and ran it until he found out he had lung cancer. That's when he called Sand, who had worked for Sharp but was running his own body shop in Parsons.

"We started Labor Day 1975. The first day, I paid everyone for not showing up," Sand said. "It was an inauspicious start. It's been fun. Bill contracted cancer, and I didn't know how bad he was. He only lasted another 20 years after that. He asked me if I'd like to buy it. I



From left, Sharp's Auto Body current owners Richard and Beth Smith, previous owners Mike and Linda Sand and daughter of original owner Mary Dell Sharp pose for a portrait Wednesday morning at their business, which is celebrating 55 years in Pittsburg. SEAN STEFFEN/THE MORNING SUN

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