

# Roswell Daily Record

## Pearce opens Roswell office

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Congressman Steve Pearce, R-N.M, re-opened the doors to his old Roswell office, Saturday afternoon. About 40 supporters were there to welcome back the lawmaker, who served as the state's 2nd District's representative from 2002 to 2008. Pearce told the crowd that he was humbled to be back in office after a twoyear hiatus that followed an unsuccessful bid for the U.S. Senate.

"It's humbling to go to D.C. and see that Capitol," Pearce said. "Somebody said, 'Do the goosebumps go away?' And I said, 'If the goosebumps ever go away, you don't need to be serving anymore when it becomes that complacent'." The congressman then reiterated his message about the importance of job creation to reinvigorate the economy— something he had told a joint session of the Legislature in Santa Fe earlier this week.

"I believe our government has played a role in doing away with jobs, killing our jobs, regulating and taxing them out of the country," he said, eliciting cheers from the crowd. "Don't necessarily know if they did it on purpose, don't really care about that. Let's just reverse the trend." Earlier in the day, Pearce attended a town hall meeting in Cloudcroft, where he also spoke about job creation.

He also toured the house that is being built for disabled veteran Ernie Burgos on West Alameda Street, a project spearheaded by the Southeast New Mexico Vietnam Veterans of America No. 968. Retired Col. Ron McKay, of the VVA, said Pearce first became involved with the project six to eight months ago and previously gave a private donation to help rebuild the house which was infected with mold.

Pearce's district director, Tim Keithly, says he looks forward to serving the constituents of Roswell and wants the new office to be as informal as possible. "We want to be accessible to the constituents," Keithly said.

"They're why we are here, to serve them." The Roswell office, located at 1717 W. Second St., Suite 100, is one of six throughout the district. The others are situated in Las Cruces, Hobbs, Alamogordo, Los Lunas and Socorro. The office will have one full-time staffer, Chairwoman of the Republican Party of Chaves County Alice Eppers, and one part-time staffer, local school teacher Will Kavin. Chief of Staff Todd Willens said they would like to staff the office with two more full-time staff members in the near future.

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