

# Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

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Cancer is that dirty six letter word. Sad thing is, there aren't too many people around who have not had a loved one touched by the nasty stuff.  
My best pal from high school is fighting it for the second time around. Wayne Falsetto beat throat cancer several years ago. Unfortunately, his old foe has showed up for another round. But I know my old Italian buddy will put up the best fight imaginable.  
Wayne lives in Petaluma, California these days with his sweet wife, Carol. They just became "empty nesters", with their daughter Leah attending Cal State Davis where her older brother, Michael,

just graduated from. The guy has a lot to live for, as do all of us.  
I don't know which I hate more, the disease, or not being able to do much to help out my friend.  
If laughter is good medicine, then our phone call last weekend should help. We reminisced about fun times at Wheat Ridge High, college days, and travels together.  
After that, the most aid I can send is a word to the Man upstairs. I know I have plenty of great friends here in my adoptive home of Cheyenne County. If you could remember Wayne, along with others who need help in your prayers, it would sure be appreciated. Thanks for your help on this one.

# Legislative News *Ward Cassidy 120th State Rep*

I really appreciate those of you that contacted me about my vote on the Religious Freedom Act. My specific question was: does this bill discriminate against anyone, in any way? I was assured that all this bill did was to focus on a very narrow set of circumstances where an individual could not be sanctioned, because of strongly held religious beliefs, to provide marriage services for a same-sex wedding. I do not condone discrimination. After seeing how the bill was going to possibly be interpreted I wrote a letter of rebuttal and gave it to the Speaker the next day. I made a mistake and apologize for it. Again, thank you to those who asked before posting on facebook.

The past two weeks, I have been working on state budgets. It is wonderful to have a two-year budget in place, as we have more time to study and delve into areas that are being inefficient. My biggest concern has been the rise in tuition costs for our Board of Regents colleges.

I have 17 agency budgets to hear in committee. We then make adjustments, pass them out of committee, and present the budgets to the full appropriations committee. K-12 Education and the Board of Regents are the two biggest budgets. The Board of Healing Arts,

the State Library, the Historical Society, the School for the Deaf and Blind, and the Board of Science regulatory board all have to present their core functions and how they are measuring their effectiveness.

The six major college Presidents all present to our committee what their universities are promoting. Then my committee has the chance to question any budget line items the universities work with. I have been on this committee for four years and the past two as chairman. I am definitely learning, but it is almost overwhelming at times. I don't get home in February, as the weekends are tied up working with legislative aides to be prepared for the following week.

The past two years, most agencies have really worked at finding inefficiencies and cost savings yet still maintain service to those needed. There are 99 agencies that go through this process. I now understand why we have an All Funds state budget in the \$14B range. What a fine line it is to provide services with taxpayer dollars.

I will schedule my own town hall meetings in April as I cannot attend with Senator Ostmeyer on March 1.

## Northwest Kansas CERT

An informational meeting concerning Northwest Kansas CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) will be held Saturday, March 1, at the Emergency Services Building, located on Highway 36, in St. Francis. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. Come and see a short presentation on CERT, meet other interested community members, and get your questions answered. 09

## Bankwest Hosts Question & Answer session

Bankwest is hosting a Question & Answer session on "Using futures and options to market grains and livestock" on March 6 in the basement at Bankwest in St. Francis. Coffee and donuts will be served beginning at 9:30 a.m. with Steve Ziegelmeyer from ZEZ Commodities on hand at 10. There is no charge. All interested people are invited to attend. Contact Mike or Tye at 785-332-3333 with questions. 09

## Board of Education meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Cheylin USD 103 Board of Education will be held on March 10, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. 09

## Public Invited to Book Signing

The public is invited to a Book Signing by Marie Holzwarth on Sunday, March 9, at 2:00 p.m. Her poems and memoirs of a lifetime have recently been published in My Scribbles. The afternoon will start with readings from her book at the Old Country Church on Highway 36 in St. Francis. Then Marie will sign books at the Cheyenne County Museum. The Rough Writers are hosting, and will serve refreshments. The Cheyenne County Historical Society is sponsoring the event, and freewill donations go for upkeep of the church. 09

## Thresher show annual meeting

Saturday, March 1, at 10 a.m., there will be the annual meeting of the Tri-State Antique Engine and Threshers Association at the Bird City Senior Center. At noon there will be ham, beans and corn bread lunch. This year's show dates are July 31 and Aug. 1-2. 09

## Veterans' Affairs

Jody Tubbs of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs will

be in St. Francis from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the county clerk's office to assist veterans and their dependents with Veteran Administration claims work on Thursday, March 6. If you are unable to contact Ms. Tubbs in St. Francis, you may contact the office in Colby any Monday, Wednesday or Friday. That phone number is 785-462-3572. 09

## Hospital Guild

The Cheyenne County Hospital Guild will be meeting Monday, March 3 at 2 p.m. in the Senior Citizen's Center. Dr. Shara Johnson will be doing a program on the Cheyenne County Hospital Physical Therapy Department. Hostesses will be Lee Russ and Arlene Walz. 08

## Banquet tickets

Cheyenne County Wildlife banquet tickets are available at Owens True Value, Frontier Arms, Bumper to Bumper, Republican Valley Auto, or any board member. The banquet is March 29 at the Legion hall in Bird City. This years drawing will be for an AR10 and a Winchester 243. 07

## Lions Club

St. Francis Lions Club collects used eyeglasses, sunglasses, hearing aids and cell phones for refurbishing and use by those in need in 3rd world countries. Collection boxes are available at Bird City Senior Center, and in St. Francis: County Health Clinic, Senior Center, Dr. Tim Poling, Krien Pharmacy, Thrift Store, St. Francis Supers, and the Court House. For assistance call 785-332-3119, 332-2950, 332-2024, or contact any Lions Club member. 08

## Cheylin school security

All visitors must enter the west entrances for the elementary and high school buildings after 8:30 a.m. All other doors are locked for security purposes. Please report to the office upon entering building. There is visitor parking available in front of the high school west entrance and on the north side of the elementary building.

## Early childhood screening

The Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center staff will have a free early childhood screening on Monday, March 17, at the United Methodist Church in Bird

City. Parents of infants, toddlers and preschoolers are encouraged to take advantage of this developmental screening. Contact Deanna Nelsen at Cheylin Elementary School at 785-734-2351, ext. 200, to set up an appointment. 08

## Grief Support Group

The Grief Support Group will continue to meet every second and fourth Mondays at 2 p.m. Meeting place is the Immanuel United Methodist Church, 116 E. Fourth, Bird City. For more information, call 785-734-2739.

The group gives confidential support in a safe place of mutual help and comfort to all who have experienced the loss of a loved one.

## Emergency number

The phone number for Chey-

enne County Communications Center (Dispatch) for non-emergency calls: 785-332-8822, Dial 9-1-1 for an emergency.

## Narcotics Anonymous

Narcotics Anonymous meetings are held at 104 W Webster/Methodist Education Building on Thursday nights at 7:30 p.m. Contact 785-342-0028.

## Northwest Kansas Family Shelter

Northwest Kansas Family Shelter provides 24-hour 7 day-a-week service to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Weekly support groups are available for women and children within the northwest Kansas area. For information or in need of assistance, please call the toll-free number 1-800-794-4624.

# McDonald News *By Kathy Banister*

The community was happy when more moisture arrived as white flakes this past week. Most everyone received about three and a half inches of very wet snow which was very welcome indeed early Thursday morning. School children were happy to hear of two hour delays at school as well. Early Sunday came a little more snow accompanied with some high winds that caused drifting and blowing in some places, but most of it quickly dissipated by the next day.

Lavina Waters traveled to Limon to stay with her sister, Louise, so that her niece, Vickie Binning could accompany Jerry and Sandy Binning for a ten day tour

off the coast of South America. Traveling to Salina on Tuesday to watch her grandson play basketball was Lois Morelock. She was a house guest of her daughter and family, Peggy and Wayne Sager. Lois returned home Sunday.

Betty McGaffick moved to McDonald a decade ago with her children and together they set about improving a house in the North East part of town. The smaller community was attractive to her life style. Even though Betty was visually impaired, she was an inspiring conversationalist. Betty died Feb. 18 surrounded by her family. Our condolences are extended to Renee, Todd, and her siblings.

# Honor Roll

New and renewed Times subscriptions: Kim Underwood, Bird City; Robert Dorsch, Mesa, Ariz.; Bradley Waters, Bird City; Farm Credit of Western Kansas, Colby; Dean Smith, Bird City; Todd and Tracy Neitzel, St. Francis; Rick Hardwick, Garden City.

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m.

1 hr. 58 min.

## The Monuments Men

PG-13

Feb. 28-March 2

Starring: George Clooney, Matt Damon and Bill Murray

An action drama focusing on an unlikely World War II platoon, tasked by FDR with going into Germany to rescue artistic masterpieces from Nazi thieves and returning them to their rightful owners. How could these guys—all more familiar with Michelangelo than the M-1-hope to succeed?

## CHEYENNE THEATER

St. Francis, KS 785-332-2747

Children 12 & Under: \$4

All Others: \$6

3D Movies: Children 12 & Under \$6

All Others: \$8

# CHEYENNE COUNTY HOSPITAL

210 W. 1st • St. Francis, KS 785-332-2104

## Cheyenne County Spring Health Fair

### Blood Lab Draws:

St. Francis - March 24, 25 & 26

6:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Cheyenne County Health Department, St. Francis

Bird City - March 27 & 28

6:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Bird City Clinic (no appointment needed for lab draws)

Lab Fee: \$45.00 due at time of service!

Please TAKE your prescription medication & drink plenty of Water prior to the lab draw! - No other foods or drinks after midnight the night before lab draws.

Men & Women Exams: April 14-18- all day in St. Francis

St. Francis - Call clinic for appointment 332-2682

Men & Women Exams: April 14-18, 2014 in Bird City 9:00 a.m. - noon

Bird City - Call clinic for appointment 734-2306

Exam Fee: \$25.00 due at time of service!

For more information Contact: Mila Bandel, RN, County Health Nurse 785-332-2381. Sponsored by Cheyenne County Hospital, Clinic & Health Department

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# American Profile

Celebrating Hometown Life

See American Profile magazine in this week's issue of

## Bird City Times

(available in local area only)

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For more information contact: **Tim Burr** at 785-332-3162

"Best Buds"

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