

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

Jane Wyatt died last Friday in her sleep at her home in Bel-Air, Calif. She was 96. Mrs. Wyatt was best known for playing Margaret Anderson, the mother on "Father Knows Best."

As a kid, I loved watching the TV show "Father Knows Best." Looking back the lives of the actors, Robert Young and Jane Wyatt, who played the parents and their three children, Betty, Bud and Kathy, seemed too good to be true.

The show aired from 1954 to 1960 and continued for years as reruns. A *Los Angeles Times* article, about Mrs. Wyatt, described the show, "As the warm and charming Jim and Margaret Anderson, Young and Wyatt presided over their idealistically wholesome family at 607 South Maple Street in the typical Midwestern community of Springfield."

Viewers came into the Anderson home and got to know the family. The teenage daughter, Betty, was always called "Princess" and the pestering little sister, Kathy, became known as "Kitten." Bud didn't seem to need a nickname.

The family worked through many familiar situations.

"Our shows were written to be entertaining, but the writers had

something to say," Mrs. Wyatt told the Associated Press in 1989. "Every script always solved a little problem that was universal. It appealed to everyone."

It is hard to imagine Hollywood embracing a program like that today. When the show debuted in 1954 a critic for the *New York Times* praised Young and Wyatt for restoring "parental prestige on TV."

During her 1989 interview Mrs. Wyatt thought of the show this way. "I think the world is hankering for a family," Mrs. Wyatt said. "People may want to be free, but they still want a nuclear family."

Not only did Mrs. Wyatt play a devoted wife on the small screen but she did it in real life as well. She married Edgar Ward in 1935 and the couple remained together until his death in 2000. 65 years has got to be a record in Hollywood.

Mrs. Wyatt also disagreed with latter-day critics who complain that Margaret Anderson was always subordinate to her husband.

"She was the power behind the throne," Mrs. Wyatt said. "She helped her husband out. Mother always knew best, too."

I'd like to think that even today, the "world is hankering for a family" still. Thanks for the memories Mrs. Wyatt.

For the Record

Real Estate

January 2006

John G. Kite and Vickie Thomas, co-executors of the Estate of Margie Underwood; to Gerald W. Kaus the NE1/4 of Sec. 17-4S-37W; to Bird City Century II Development Foundation, Inc., the SW1/4 of Sec. 28-3S-37W and part of the NW 1/4 of Sec. 28-3S-37W; to Stephen Sowers, the N1/2SW1/4 of Sec. 17-4S-37W all in Cheyenne County.

March 2006

Bankwest of Kansas to Julie Kim Phan, the N100 ft. of Lots 1, 2 and 3 in Block 12 in Bird City.

Lois E. Brassfield to Torre Conway, a tract of land at the SE Corner of Lot 4 in Block 42 in St. Francis.

Norris A. Anderson, et ux, to Anderson Ranch, LLC, the W1/2SW1/4 of Sec. 19, the N1/2 and the S1/2 of Sec. 30 and the NW1/4 of Sec. 31 all in Township 5S Range 41W and the E1/2SE1/4 of Sec. 24, the NE1/4 and the SE1/4 of Sec. 25, the N1/2 of Sec. 36 all in Township 5S Range 42 in Cheyenne County.

Rachel E. Dodd to Marvin L. Meints, et ux, Lots 24 and 25 of Block 49 in St. Francis.

Marvin Merle Stasser, et all, to Rachel E. Dodd, Lot 15 and Lot 16 on Block 63 in St. Francis.

Laura Evelyn Reeser, et al, to Torre Conway, a tract of land at the SE Corner of Lot 4 in Block 42 in St. Francis.

James M. Milliken and Martin Burton, Co-Executors of the Estate of Rosemary Griffin, deceased to Bird City Century II Development Foundation, Inc., the NE1/4 of Sec. 14-4S-38W; the N75 ft. of Lots 1, 2 and 3 in Block 16 all in Bird City; the NE1/4 of Sec. 34-3S-37W in Cheyenne County.

Robert L. Jones, et ux, to Noel W. Ketzner, et ux, a tract of land located in the NE1/4 of Sec. 36-3S-38W in Cheyenne County.

Georgan Cossel, et vir, to Roger D. Douthit, et ux, the SW1/4 of Sec. 24-1S-40W in Cheyenne County.

Rodney K. Johnson, et ux, to Tanya MacLaurin, the SE1/4 of Sec. 4-4S-37W in Cheyenne County.

Gerald H. Lillich to Ken Eland, Qualified Intermediary for ZWZ LLC, the SW1/4 of Sec. 17-4S-38W in Cheyenne County.

Keith F. Lillich, et ux, to Ken Eland, Qualified Intermediary for ZWZ LLC, the NW1/4 of Sec. 20-4S-38W in Cheyenne County.

April 2006

John Morton, et ux, to Rodney W. Laing, et ux, the NE1/4 of Sec. 22-3S-41W in Cheyenne County.

Craft fair is Oct. 28

The annual Holiday Craft Fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28, at the American Legion Hall in Bird City. Lunch will be served.

Booth space is still available. For more information, contact Barb Smith, 785-734-2421.

Cheylin Spook Parade

Cheylin Student Government will be sponsoring the Cheylin Spook Parade for pre-school-6th grade on Tuesday Oct. 31. Plans are to parade downtown at 2:30 p.m. weather permitting. If it is too cold or rainy, the parade will be in the high school gym. Any pre-school children, parents, businesses, or individuals that would like to participate or bring goodies for the kids, please be there 15 minutes early so you can get lined up.

Community Soup Cook-off/Spook Parade

Community Soup Cook-Off and Spook Parade will begin at 5:30 Tuesday, Oct. 31, at the Bird City American Legion. Look for ad in this issue of the *Times*.

Reformation Weekend

Reformation Weekend will be held at the First Baptist Church Oct. 27-29. Dr. Roy Hargrave of Ormand Beach, Fla., will be speaking. The conference is free and child care will be provided. For more in-

formation and conference schedule, please call 332-3921.

Tag deadline

All residents with last names beginning with S should purchase their car, pickup, motorcycle and motorized bike tags and pay their vehicle personal property tax by the end of the month to avoid paying a penalty.

Historical Association meeting

The annual meeting of the Hi-Plains Historical Association will meet at 1:30 p.m. on Nov. 5 at the Colonial Steakhouse in Oakley. A Dutch-treat lunch precedes the annual meeting. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Cardio-pulmonary resuscitation class

The Red Cross will conduct a cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) class on Nov. 10 and 11 on the Northwest Kansas Vocational Technical College campus, Goodland. The class will start at 9:45 a.m. on Nov. 10. For more information, contact the Red Cross office at 785-890-2011 and leave a message.

Commissioners

The Cheyenne County Commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 31, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse in St. Francis.

Fair Board

The Cheyenne County Fair Board will hold its regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m. (note time change) Nov. 2, at the commissioner's room at the courthouse.

Hospital Guild

Honor Roll

New and renewed Times subscriptions: Virginia Crawford, Mankato; Clay Carmichael, Galeton, Colo.; Sherry Carmichael, Bird City; Ron Haack, Lutz, Fla.; Ruth Winkelman, McDonald; Alila Carpenter, Bird City; J.D. Eggers, Bird City; Michael McGilvray, Bird City; Sharon Pacheco, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Rob and Dorothy Applegate, Lincoln, Neb.; Keith and Cinda Dankenbring, St. Francis; Meta Dankenbring, Bird City; Denis Denning, Wichita; Rob Jensen, Bird City; Edna Larson, Garden City; Dave and Karah Maloley, APO, AC; Don Orten, Bird City; Dana Orten, Crescent, Iowa; Daryl Strouts, Manhattan; Rod Johnson, McDonald; Don Bruder, Bird City; Doyle Bock, Bird City; Betty Bock, Bird City; James Goza, Shenandoah, Iowa; Gene Mears, McDonald; Ron Roberts, Bird City

Notice of Annual Stockholders Meeting of Wheeler Cooperative Merc. Equity Union

To be held in the High School Cafeteria in St. Francis, Kansas Fri., Oct. 27, 2006. Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. with meal following.

THE AGENDA:
Reading of annual report.
Election of one director.
All other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.

R.S.V.P. 785-332-2281 Steve Busse, Secretary

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Casey at 785-332-3162

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Cheyenne County Hospital Guild meets at 2 p.m. on the first Monday of the month (Nov. 6). The program for the November meeting will be presented by Tenille Lee, Head of Nursing at the Cheyenne County Hospital. Hostesses are Alice Lampe and Eileen Nolan.

Wheeler Cooperative Merc. Equity Union meeting

The annual stockholders meeting of Wheeler Cooperative Merc. Equity Union will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 27, in the high school cafeteria. Check ad for agenda, and number for RSVP. Meal will follow meeting.

Cheyenne County Development Corporation annual meeting

Western Plains Arts Association

The following Western Plains Arts Association presentations will be taking place between now and the end of 2006: Thursday, Nov. 2: Ballet Folklorico will do a visual fiesta of culture featuring regional dances of old Mexico at Oakley; Sunday, Nov. 12: Turpin Tyme Ragsters will share their music of the Ragtime era at 3 p.m. at the St. Francis High School auditorium; Thursday, Dec. 14: The Diamonds will present a holiday show entitled *Silver Bells & Diamonds* at 7:30 p.m. at the Colby High School auditorium.

Bicycles still being collected

The Lions Club is still collecting bicycles to take to the Norton Correctional facility to be repair. The bicycles made be taken to the Saint Francis Herald office for later pickup.

Recovery Today/Narcotics Anonymous

Recovery Today group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. on Sunday nights at the United Methodist Educational Building. Call (785) 332-6542 or 8607 for more information.

Sainty Serenity Seekers/Alcoholics Anonymous

Sainty Serenity Seekers open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous is held at 7:30 p.m. each Thursday evening at the United Methodist Education Building at 104 W. Webster, St. Francis. Call (785) 332-6542 for more information

Northwest Kansas Family Shelter

Northwest Kansas Family Shelter provides 24-hour-7 day-a-week services 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 if you are in need of assistance, please call the toll-free number 1-800-794-4624.

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m. 1 hour, 31 min.

Oct. 27, 28 & 29
The Grudge 2
Suspense/Horror & Sequel
Rated: **PG-13** for mature thematic material, disturbing images/terror/violence, and some sensuality.

Cheyenne Theater St. Francis, KS
785-332-2747
Children 11 & under: \$2 12-18 yr.: \$3 Senior Citizens: \$3 Adults: \$4

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK ...
It's not what you take when you leave this world behind you, It's what you leave behind you when you go —
This I truly believe.
Ernie Ketzner Cheyenne County Commissioner District 1
Pol. adv. pd. for by Ernie Ketzner

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

The Cheyenne County Hospital would like to recognize
KODY KRIEN
for Pharmacy Week.
Thanks for all your hard work, Kody.

The Cheyenne County Hospital would like to recognize
BILL WILGER
and
DAVE PENTON
in honor of Maintenance Week.
Thanks for all your hard work!

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