

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

The holidays are such a magical times. We gather with family and friends around brightly lit trees while Old Man Winter blows his best outside.

But what about all the preparation for the special moments of happiness? It can come at a cost.

I'll never forget Lezlie and my first Christmas together. It was marked by our first fight.

It was time to decorate the tree and, being "the man," I took charge. Lezlie had a very nice artificial tree that went up easy enough. So far, so good.

Then I opened the box that contained the Christmas lights from the year before.

Growing up, my folks had trained me to carefully gather the lights into small bundles that could be rolled up in newspaper. The rolls would be stacked in a box, ready to be unwrapped and reused the next year.

Our box looked a lot like a nest of snakes. As I began to untangle the strands Lezlie watched as my complexion turned red and sweat beaded on my brow. She sort of shrugged it off and went to the kitchen.

At this point, being "the man," and a dumb Irishman at that, I began to use words that are never appropriate to use, especially so close the Christmas.

With a good amount of fighting with the strands, by myself, I finally managed to have a tree that was ready for ornaments and tinsel. I went to the kitchen and asked Lezlie "How does the tree look?"

Without looking up from the plate she was washing in the sink, she applauded my efforts with a sarcastic "Look's great!"

I can't say that that was our first and last fight, but they really don't happen too often. However, I do recognize that the holiday's come with a certain amount of stress. Maybe I should double up on my Lexapro?

Candlelight Remembrance Program

Cheyenne County Compassionate Friends Candlelight Remembrance Program will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 11, at Peace Lutheran Church.

Death notice

Word has been received that Barb Lawrence died in Elko, Nev. She and her husband Gary Lawrence lived in St. Francis in the late 1980s and early 1990s where he was the pastor of the Assembly of God Church. Pastor Lawrence's address is 706 Hayland Dr., Spring Creek, NV 89815.

Country Christmas

Country Christmas, sponsored by Center Church Association, will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Friday at the Bird City Senior Center. Check classified ad for additional details.

Hospital Board

The next meeting of the hospital board has been set for on Thursday, Nov. 30, in the basement of the clinic in St. Francis.

Cheyenne County Commissioners

The Cheyenne County Commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. today (Thursday) in the commissioners' room in the courthouse in St. Francis.

Country Christmas Songfest

The Country Christmas Songfest will be held at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 16, at the Salem Lutheran Church. Check ad for activities planned for the day.

Western Plains Arts Association

The following Western Plains Arts Association presentations will be taking place between now and the end of 2006: Dec. 14: The Diamonds will present a holiday show entitled *Silver Bells & Diamonds* at 7:30

p.m. at the Colby High School auditorium.

World Aids Day Observance and Prayer

Friday, Dec. 1, is World AIDS Day, a 24 hour period when we are asked to consider the impact of AIDS in our world, to consider and show compassion for those who are living with HIV/AIDS, to remember in prayer those who have lost loved ones to this disease, and to pray for a cure that will stop this pandemic.

On Dec. 1, the sanctuary of the United Methodist Church, 512 S. Scott, will be open for all those who want to come and pray, for those who want to light a candle of remembrance (provided at the church), for those who want to seek God's guidance in how best to minister to those in need. There will be no formal service, rather time and opportunity for silent prayer and reflection.

AIDS is no longer something that happens to "them" or to people who live "over there." It is part of our national landscape, part of our nation's ongoing struggle. Pray that God will touch our hearts and give us strength to minister to all those who suffer.

St. Francis Library Art Gallery

The St. Francis Public Library will be baptismal outfits in the Library Art Gallery during the month of November.

Bicycles still being collected

The Lions Club is still collecting bicycles to take to the Norton Correctional facility to be repaired. The bicycles made be taken to the Saint Francis Herald office for later pickup. Please bring to front door of Herald.

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.

Cheyenne County Wildlife

The Cheyenne County Wildlife club house will be open starting Nov. 29 from 10 to 12 am and 4:30-6:30 pm throughout deer season to

check the deer for Chronic wasting disease. There is no cost to the hunter.

Veterans' Affairs Representative

Jody Tubbs of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs will be in St. Francis on Thursday, Dec. 7 at 9:30 a.m. at the County Clerk's office to assist veterans and their dependents with VA claims work.

She will be in St. Francis the first and third Thursday in December.

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

Cheyenne County Kansans for Life

The Cheyenne County Kansans for Life will meet Monday, Dec. 4, at the Church of Christ in St. Francis at 7:30 p.m. All are invited to join in praying, learning, and fellowshiping as we work together to provide "Life for All".

Kids Wrestling

Kids wrestling will start Dec 5 at 6:15 to 7:00 p.m. for Kindergarten through third grade. The fourth through sixth grade will start at 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the high school wrestling room.

Couple plan April wedding

Dale Strutt of Mead, Colo., and Stephanie Scheck of Russell, announce the engagement of their daughter Sarah Grace to Tyler Franklin Magee of Carbondale.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Russell High School. She is the school nurse at Jardine Middle School in Topeka and is currently pursuing a higher education in health care.

The groom-to-be is a graduate of Santa Fe Trail High School and Washburn University. He currently works for Vanguard Precast in Topeka.

Sarah is the granddaughter of Joe and Ada Strutt of Stockton, Lola Boyd of Omaha, and the late Blaine



Magee-Strutt

Winder of Waldo.

Tyler is the son of Steve and Joyce Magee, grandson to Madonna Magee of Topeka, and the late Katherine Burbank of Baldwin City.

Together they share a son Conner Blaine Magee.

They will be united in marriage at the St. Johns Evangelical Lutheran Church on April 28 in Topeka.

St. Francis Music Club
presents
"Yuletide Festival"
and
Candy Store
Sun., Dec. 3 • 2 p.m.
St. Francis High School Auditorium

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA 40 CFR 763) requires Cheylin USD 103 to inspect its buildings for asbestos, and to develop a management plan for those asbestos-containing materials that were located within its buildings. These management plans are available for review during normal business hours at the District's Administrative Offices. These management plans have been implemented to meet requirements set forth in the regulation.

BASKETBALL SKILLS CAMPS
Grades: Kindergarten thru 5th
Sponsored by the Cheylin Recreation Commission at the Basketball Gym in McDonald, KS
Cost \$3 per person/ free with JRHOOP pass
Walk-in and register @ the door
For more information: 785-538-2370
☐ Fri., Dec. 8 • 2-4 p.m. - Offense/Passing Camp
☐ Sat., Dec. 9 • 8-10 a.m. - Defense/Rebounding Camp
☐ Sat., Dec. 16 • Noon-2 p.m. - Dribbling/Ball Handling Camp

I would like to thank the voters, who have confidence in me, to represent you in District 1.

I would like to thank my wife, Kim, and the rest of my family for the encouragement.

Thanks to my daughter-in-law, Tabettha, for the neat pamphlets.

Ernie Ketzner
District 1 Commissioner

Pol. adv. pd. for by Ernie Ketzner

VEHICLES FOR GIVING TO A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Lifetime Gift: Be involved with your philanthropy by establishing a fund today.
Bequests: Leave a legacy by making a long-lasting gift through your will.
Charitable Remainder Trusts: Receive income from a trust and designate the remainder to create a Foundation fund.
Charitable Lead Trusts: Create a trust that stipulates a dollar amount to go to charity over a specified period of time.
Retirement Fund Assets: Gift the assets from your retirement fund to start a philanthropic fund and receive a charitable deduction.
Life Insurance: Policies can be changed designating the Foundation as the owner and beneficiary of the policy.

BIRD CITY CENTURY II
Development Foundation
"A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE BIRD CITY COMMUNITY."

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m. 2 hours, 12 min.

Dec. 1, 2 & 3 **Flags of Our Fathers**
Drama, Adaptation and War

Starring: Ryan Phillippe, Adam Beach, Jesse Bradford, Jamie Bell, Ben Walker
Rating: R for sequences of graphic war violence and carnage, and for language.

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

REPUBLICAN VALLEY VET CLINIC
Would like to welcome you to a Retirement Party for
SHIRLEY AMACK
Sunday, Dec. 10 ~ 2-4 p.m.
St. Francis Senior Center

"Putting Your Hands on the Future"
NWKTC has what you are looking for:

- Auto Body Repair
- Automotive Technology
- Business Technology
- Carpentry
- Communications Technology
- Communications Network Technology
- Computer Graphics Technology
- Cosmetology
- Diesel Technology
- Electrical Technology
- Electronics & Computer Technology
- Engineering Technology
- HVAC/R
- Medical Assistant
- Respiratory Therapy *Fall 2007
- Telecommunications Net. Analyst *Fall 2007
- Welding

NORTHWEST
Kansas Technical College
Goodland, KS
For more information, call today at (785)890-3641 or (800)316-4127. Check out our web site at: www.nwktc.edu

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

Physician & Professional Service Directory
DECEMBER

- Dec. 6: Dr. Frankum - Surgeon**
- Dec. 8: Dr. Uyemura - Ophthalmologist**
- Dec. 14: Dr. Warren - Surgeon**
- Dec. 20: Dr. Frankum - Surgeon**
- Dec. 20: Dr. Reeves - Podiatrist**

CT's Available Everyday
Ultrasounds Each Wednesday

---TEAR AND SAVE---

Don't forget to check out the Cheyenne County Hospital's website. It provides many sources for health information and programming. Visit www.cheyennecountyhospital.com to see how useful this is for our patients, their families, and those who may want to know what kinds of services or facilities we have.

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Corrections

The Saint Francis Herald will correct or clarify any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at 332-3162 to report errors. We believe that news stories should be fair and factual, and appreciate your calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

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Celebrating Hometown Life
See American Profile magazine in this week's issue of

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For more information contact: Casey at 785-332-3162