



Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick
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Coming back to work this week was a heavy dose of reality. The holiday season was like clinging to a runaway sleigh. As soon as we left the top of the mounting hill of months we slammed into Halloween, took a slight turn and nailed Thanksgiving and before being able to readjust our grips, Wham!, there went Christmas and New Year's.

Get ready to disembark – the next stop is 2012!

So with the dust seeming to settle around us, here we inched into a fresh new January. The sad thing is that this temporary break won't last. Yep, next thing you know it will be spring break for the families. This of course is followed by graduation. Then it will be summer time and the county fair.

Guess we have to trade in that sleigh for something with wheels. Because here.... we go.... again!

Obituaries

Spencer Kimball Riddle

July 12, 1988- Dec. 11, 2011

Spencer Kimball Riddle, family member, friend and husband, died on Dec. 11, 2011, after an awe-inspiring, 23 year battle with cystic fibrosis. He fought a valiant fight with great patience and good cheer.

Spencer was born in Bountiful, Utah, on July 12, 1988, and spent his youth there, where he attended Bountiful High School. He had a keen mind and was an avid reader with an enthusiasm for a myriad of subjects. He loved logging onto Starbright World every day and volunteering his time mentoring young minds and inspiring hundreds of chronic and terminally ill teens. He was passionate about helping others. One of his fondest dreams was to work as a psychologist or teacher, working to shape and mold the lives of young kids.

Someone said God takes his favorites home early. His family agreed.

Spencer was a favorite of all with whom he came in contact. He touched every life which crossed his path. His engaging smile revealed his king-sized forgiving heart. His faith, his kindness, his sensitivity to others, his selflessness, and his patience in suffering touched even the hearts of strangers and

are an inspiration to all of us. Spencer is survived by the love of his life, his wife, Nikki (Johnson) Riddle, formerly of Bird City, Kan., and by his mother, Pamela Pickett Riddle, of Bountiful. Spencer's father, Mark A. Riddle, preceded Spencer in death by six months. Spencer is also survived by 10 siblings, Joseph Riddle (Laura), Brigham Riddle (Blair), Heber Riddle, John Riddle, David Riddle, Cassandra Sanford (Jacob), Isaac Riddle, George Riddle, Michael Riddle, and Merry Riddle. Additionally, Spencer is survived by his grandparents, Chauncey and Bertha (Allred) Riddle of Provo, Utah.

In lieu of flowers, please send memorials to the Spencer K. Riddle Account at Zion's bank, 150 S Fort Lane, Layton, UT 84041 or to Nikki Riddle, P.O. Box 412, Bird City, KS, to be used to pay it forward and to help others fighting their battles against cystic fibrosis.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Dec. 17, in Bountiful. A celebration of Spencer's life was held on Friday, Dec. 16, after interment by releasing 24 red and purple balloons. "Breathe easy, sweet Spencer!!"

Neva Ruth Loomis

Feb. 16, 1923 - Dec. 31, 2011

Longtime Goodland resident Neva Ruth Loomis, 88, died Saturday, Dec. 31, 2011, at Good Samaritan Society Sherman County in Goodland.

She was born Feb. 16, 1923, in Hayes County, Neb., the daughter of Ethel Dee (Barrett) and William Leslie Mintling. She graduated from high school in Hayes Center, Neb.

On Feb. 7, 1943, she and Edwin Warren Loomis were married. Following Edwin's honorable discharge from the Air Force in 1945, the couple returned to Hayes Center to make their home. With Edwin's work with Co-op, they moved to Bird City in 1955, and then in 1968, to Quinter. They also lived in Houston, Texas, for two years and Sabetha, Kan. for three years. In 1975, Edwin's work brought them to Goodland to make their home.

Preceding her in death were her husband Edwin Loomis, who

died Oct. 16, 1983; two brothers Merle Mintling and Riley Mintling; and two sisters Eldeen Shores and LaVeta Vollmer.

Surviving family includes her son Roger Loomis and his wife Lynelle of Las Vegas, Nev.; her daughter Linda Rogers and her husband Rick of St. Francis; two grandchildren Shawn Rogers of New York, N.Y.; Dallas Friedli and her husband Larry of Hope, Kan.; three great-grandchildren Sydney Friedli, Amelia Friedli, and Hadley Friedli; two brothers Richard Mintling of Kearney, Neb.; Dean Mintling of Boulder, Colo.; and sister Twila Burkett of McCook, Neb.

The funeral will be private and will be followed by burial in the Goodland Cemetery.

Memorials may be designated to Genesis or Good Samaritan Society Sherman County, and may be mailed to Koons Funeral Home, 211 N. Main, Goodland, KS 67735.



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Bulletin Board

Community club
The Bird City Community Club will meet at 7 p.m. on Jan. 9 at the Senior Center. It will be a fun night with cards. Bring finger foods.

Get well cards
Mary Dorsch had hip surgery, and it went well. Cards and calls can be sent to; Room 6017, Select Specialty Hospital, 929 N. St Francis Wichita, KS. 67214, 316-291-4617.

Home circle club
Avis Hazuka will be the hostess for the January meeting of the Home Circle Club. It will be held at the Manor on Thursday the 19 at 2 p.m.

Emergency number
The new phone number for Cheyenne County Communications Center (Dispatch) for non-emergency calls: 785-332-8822, Dial 9-1-1 for an emergency.

Get well cards
Get well cards and letters will reach Roberta Linin at: Shelly Beese, 6203 West 146th Street, Overland Park, KS 66223.

Recycling
The Bird City City Council is requesting that all recycling rules

be followed especially breaking down cardboard boxes before they are thrown in the bin.

Veterans' Affairs
Jody Tubbs, of the Kansas commission on Veterans' Affairs, will be in St. Francis at 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at the County Clerk's office to assist veterans and their dependents with VA claims work on Thursday, Jan. 5. If you are unable to contact Ms. Tubbs in St. Francis, you may contact the office in Colby any Monday, Wednesday or Friday at (785) 462-3572.

Library books
While doing your cleaning, check under your bed for any overdue library books. The Bird City Public Library is not charging any fines for 6 months in an attempt to recover items. So please help out by returning items from months or years back. If we are not open please leave items in the outside return.

Books needed
The Cheylin elementary parent group is planning a book exchange along with the I-Carly spaghetti supper this spring. They are asking for donations of preschool,

elementary or junior high level books. Bring to the elementary office or Title I room. The evening of the supper, students will have the opportunity to choose one book to keep.

Free popcorn
The Cheyenne Theater Committee is asking, that the first weekend of the month, those attending the movie bring a canned food donation for the Food Pantry and they will receive a free sack of popcorn.

Tag deadline
All residents with last names beginning with W, X, Y, Z 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.

Driver's license needs to be presented or entered on form at time of renewal.

Blue star banners
Do you have a son or daughter, grandson or granddaughter serving in active duty military service? The Goodland Elks Lodge 1528 would like to present you with a "blue star banner" for your window to show your pride! Please call the secretary at (785) 890-6251 to visit with her about this.

Cheyenne County ambassadors
If you are proud of your community and your county and want to tell folks about it, stop by the Cheyenne County Development office at 107 W. Washington in St. Francis and pick up an "Ambassadors" package. Take one along on a trip or to an event. Let everyone know what a great place we live in!

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.

Commissioners accept resignation

The Cheyenne County Commissioners met for the last meeting of the year with little business on the agenda.

A letter of resignation from Karen Flemming, deputy appraiser, was read and accepted. Later, Bruce Webb, appraiser, and Mrs. Flemming attended the meeting. Mr. Webb asked if he could hire Mrs. Flemming on a part-time basis. He assured the commissioners he would not go over budget.

Mr. Webb asked the commissioners if they would consider increasing the county mileage reimbursement to coincide with the federal mileage allowance. The county's mileage allowance is \$.40 per mile. The federal allowance is \$.50 per mile. The commissioners agreed to raise the mileage rate.

Mr. Webb asked for 10 minutes executive session to discuss personnel. No decision was made upon coming out.

Road and bridge department report
Dave Flemming, county road and bridge department supervisor, went over his work schedule and monthly budget. He had the Penco Engineering agreement which allows the firm local public authority to do the engineering inspection on Armknecht corner project. The Armknecht corner is located in southwest Cheyenne County and, in the past several years, there was a fatal accident reported at the corner.

Bids for a "super structure" replacement on the bridge east of the Alvin Holzwarth farm were reviewed. The bridge is located west of St. Francis. Husker Steel's bid for \$39,870 was accepted and signed.

Mr. Flemming asked for 10 minutes of executive session to discuss personnel. No decision was made upon coming out of the session.

In other business
• Ryan Murray was appointed

the county's "Exercise Program Manager."

The commissioners decided to not transfer equipment reserve funds other than those that had already been transferred.

• Jerold DeBoer, Penco Engineering, thanked the commissioners for their support throughout the year.

Next meeting
The next meeting of the commissioners has been set for 8 a.m. on Monday in the commissioners' room in the courthouse. As of Wednesday, few items of business were on the agenda.

Editor's note: The above article was taken from the unapproved minutes of the Dec. 30 Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting.

Basketball contest set

The annual Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest will be held Sunday, Jan. 15, in the St. Francis high school gym. All boys and girls, ages 10 through 14, as of Jan. 1, are eligible to participate in their own age and gender group.

Those interested in participating may get an application from either the grade school or high school office or may contact Mike Antholz at 332-3482. It will need to be filled out and signed by both the participant and their parent, then brought to the competition along with a copy of their birth certificate.

The doors will open at approximately 1 p.m. with the competition to start at 2 p.m. The winners will move on to the District contest in Atwood on Saturday, Feb. 4. Anyone who goes to school in either Cheylin or St. Francis may participate.

In case of inclement weather, the contest will be moved to Sunday, Jan. 22.

To make this a successful competition, Mr. Antholz said, we need to have participants in each of the age groups. You may also sign up at the competition as long as you bring a copy of your birth certificate.

So, Mr. Antholz said, bring your kids, age 10 through 14, out and let's all have some fun!

School Menu

Jan. 9 – Jan. 12

Monday
Breakfast: blueberry scones.
Lunch: hamburger macaroni and cheese, vegetable.

Tuesday
Breakfast: boiled egg, yogurt.
Lunch: chicken strips, mashed potatoes with gravy, bread.

Wednesday
Breakfast: bagels.
Lunch: spaghetti with meat sauce, vegetable.

Thursday
Breakfast: sausage gravy, biscuits.
Lunch: barbecue rib on a bun, curly fries, dessert.
Breakfast is daily served with toast, cereal, juice and milk.
Lunch is daily served with salad bar, fruit and milk.

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m. Sunday Matinee 2 p.m. 1 hr. 23 min.

Chipmunks: Chipwrecked
Jan. 6, 7 & 8
Animation, Adaptation, Kids/Family, Comedy and Sequel
G

David Cross, Jenny Slate, Matthew Gray Gubler, Anna Farris, Christina Applegate

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Children 12 & Under: \$4 All Others: \$6
3D Movies: Children 12 & Under \$5 All Others: \$7

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Diabetes Support Group

Wednesday, Jan. 18
1:30 p.m.
in the Clinic Basement Conference Room.

Kirsten Angell the new Dietician for CCH will be the guest speaker

For more information, please contact the County Health at 785-332-2381

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