

The legislature finally received the Governor's school finance plan last week. It is a 147 page document that has many moving parts. The proposed teacher evaluation plan (all teacher evaluations would be posted on-line) has actually received more attention than the financial part of the plan. I am sure it will be debated and written about many times before it is resolved. Right now, I feel, there is very little legislative support for the new finance plan.

The Governor has proposed \$17 million in cuts to the Children's Initiative Fund. This program is funded by tobacco settlement money, and there will still be \$40 million this year in receipts. It really doesn't make sense to cut such programs as Smart Start, Early Childhood Block Grant, and Parents as Teachers. A major goal of the Brownback Administration is to improve 4th grade reading readiness, and we cannot short-change the programs that lay the

groundwork to that goal. If we do, I feel strongly it will impact our reading scores. Research shows that for every dollar invested in quality childhood programming, the state would save at least \$7 down the road.

Kansas, like all of us, could use more money. I requested, in Appropriations, that the Department of Wildlife and Parks provide a list of all the state-owned land. I found out that some of the land was left to the state in estates that specifically stated that the land could not be sold. There are also other agreements that have been made that would make the selling impossible. There are, however, still thousands of acres that could be sold. I proposed an access agreement for the state-owned lands sold that would allow sportsmen access. Also, there would be a requirement that a percentage of acres and fence rows would continue to be farmed in order to help maintain the wildlife on those

acres. I would think it would be easier for the Department to check on the property sold than to maintain it themselves. Hopefully, we can pursue this to acquire needed state funds.

I have signed on three House Bills that are very easy for me to support. The first is Casey's law, which would require legal guardians and parents to notify law enforcement when their child is missing. The second is a review of mandatory reporting laws for sexual abuse, to make sure we are providing protection on college campuses in our state. Both of these were driven by the national news on these topics. Finally, an Arts Commission Check Off, on the state's income tax return form, would be included and would allow income taxpayers the opportunity to support the Arts.

I am strongly supporting House Bill 2406, which would prohibit interference or harassment of any member of the military or imme-

diately family at a funeral service. I am supportive of the 1st amendment and freedom of speech, but protesting military funerals crosses the line. The bill is still in committee, and we are strongly encouraging them to get the bill passed out.

The House of Representatives redistricting plan has been set out. If the plan stands the 120th district would add Graham County.

## Honor Roll

New and renewed Times subscriptions: James and Cheryl Moore, Levant; Claude Gleason, Bird City; Lori Rietcheck, Goodland; Velma Kruse, Bird City; Patty Gerver, Bird City; David Nelson, Bird City; George Banister, McDonald; Shirley Kahle, Hoxie; Kevin Partch, Kearney, Neb.; Tom Bailey, Bird City.

## Public Notices

### Petition filed in court for the Thomas estate

Published in The Saint Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, Thursdays, February 1, February 8, and February 15, 2012. (05, 06, 07)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
CHEYENNE COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of:  
VICKY J. THOMAS, deceased.

Case No. 12-PR-2

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

The State of Kansas To All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that on January 24, 2012, a petition was filed in this court by Brent G. Thomas, an heir and beneficiary of the estate of Vicky J. Thomas, deceased, requesting that the foreign will of Vicky J. Thomas, deceased, be admitted to probate and record; that a determination be made that no administration of the estate is necessary; that the will be construed; and that the property described in the petition be assigned in accordance with the terms of the will.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before 9:30 a.m. on February 27, 2012, in the District Court of Cheyenne County, Kansas, 212 East Washington Street, St. Francis, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.

Brent G. Thomas, Petitioner

Bernard T. Giefer, S.Ct. No.15042  
Giefer Law LLC  
207 North Main Street  
WaKeeney, Kansas 67672  
Telephone: 785-743-5707  
Facsimile: 785-743-2002  
Attorney for Petitioner Brent G. Thomas

### Public auction to be held at courthouse

Published in The Saint Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, Thursdays, February 9, February 16, February 23, 2012. (06, 07, 08)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
CHEYENNE COUNTY, KANSAS  
CIVIL DEPARTMENT

Bankwest of Kansas

Case No. 11CV7

Plaintiff,

Court Number:

vs.

Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60

The Unknown Heirs of Luther Forney, deceased, et al.

Defendants.

#### Notice Of Sale

Under and by virtue of an Order of Sale issued to me by the Clerk of the District Court of Cheyenne County, Kansas, the undersigned Sheriff of Cheyenne County, Kansas, will offer for sale at public auction and sell to the highest bidder for cash in hand, at the Front Door of the Courthouse at St. Francis, Cheyenne County, Kansas, on March 1, 2012, at 10:00 AM, the following real estate:

**Lots Forty-Five (45) and Forty-Six (46), Block One (1) PARK HILL ADDITION to the town, now City of St. Francis, Cheyenne County, Kansas, according to the recorded plat thereof, commonly known as 540 E. Second Street, St. Francis, KS 67756 (the "Property")**

to satisfy the judgment in the above-entitled case. The sale is to be made without appraisal and subject to the redemption period as provided by law, and further subject to the approval of the Court. For more information, visit [www.Southlaw.com](http://www.Southlaw.com)

Craig Van Allen, Sheriff  
Cheyenne County, Kansas

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SOPHOMORE TY CARMICHAEL tries to steal the ball from his opponent in the game against Golden Plains.

Times photo by Darci Shields

## Cougars take second place at tournament

Cheylin was invited to participate in a junior varsity basketball tournament last week hosted by Colby. Teams participating included Colby, Goodland, Oakley and Cheylin. Cheylin junior varsity played Goodland junior varsity on Monday, Jan. 30 and defeated them 46-35. With the win, Cheylin then played Oakley on Thursday, Feb. 2. Cheylin was defeated but took second place in the tournament.

"It's valuable experience for the younger players who don't see as much playing time which will help them in the future," said Cheylin's Athletic Director, Kale Shields. "Cheylin was short four of their normal junior varsity players on Thursday against Oakley, which included two of their starters, but it was great for our kids to get experience playing teams of a higher classification."

## Cougars beat Bulldogs

By Nathan Fiala  
[nfiala@nwkans.com](mailto:nfiala@nwkans.com)  
The Cougars traveled to Golden Plains on Tuesday, Jan. 31, and played the Bulldogs. Cheylin secured the lead in the first half 31-14. Despite the Bulldogs outscoring the Cougars by five points, the difference was too great to overcome and Cheylin won 56-41.  
Stats for the Cougars were Kenan Reeh with 13 points and

two rebound, Adam Orten with 12 points, Jeremiah White, nine points and one rebound, Ethan Young, eight points and 11 rebounds, Ty Carmichael, four points and two rebounds, Walker Janicke, four points and four rebounds, Heath Churchwell, three points, Joshua Keltz, three points and five rebounds, and Ruben Razo, two rebounds.

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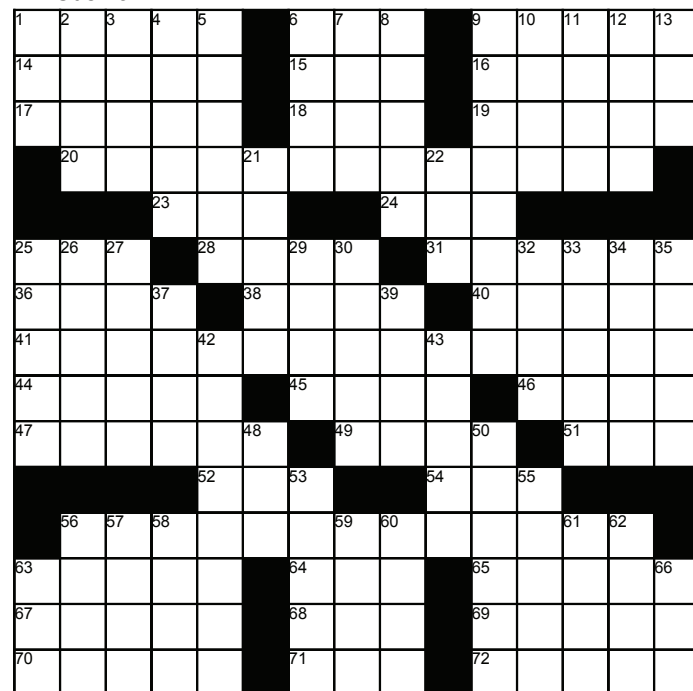
#### ACROSS

1. Whimpers
6. "Survivor" network
9. "Well done!"
14. "... and thereby hangs \_\_\_"
15. "Ball \_\_\_"
16. Staff anew
17. Soda shop freebie
18. Social connections
19. Cordial flavor
20. PIN
23. Have \_\_\_ at (try)
24. Tie up the phone
25. Tippler's road offense, briefly
28. Lustful god
31. Indicate a turn
36. Cube creator Rubik
38. Cavern comeback
40. Slug's trail
41. PIN
44. "Once upon \_\_\_"
45. Culinary directive
46. Confined, with "up"
47. Take umbrage at
49. Baseball great Slaughter
51. Cambodian's neighbor
52. Symbol of might
54. "Bill \_\_\_ The Science Guy"
56. PIN
63. Sal of "Exodus"
64. "Dubya," as a collegian
65. Part of HUD
67. Scorpion attack
68. Keep out
69. Socialite Mesta
70. Oil magnate J. Paul
71. Where slop is served
72. Got to second base, in a way?

#### DOWN

1. Barker and Kettle

#### Pin Cushion



American Profile Hometown Content

2/5/2012

2. Singer James or Jones
3. Bit of Halloween makeup
4. Woolly Andean
5. When treated, it becomes sludge
6. "Blondie" creator Young
7. Ruination
8. Pantywaist
9. Having a salty taste
10. Janet of the Clinton cabinet
11. In the thick of
12. Bud holder
13. 1300 hours
21. Kitchen utensil
22. KLM rival
25. \_\_\_ flask (inspiration for the Thermos)
26. Put on paper
27. Roy or Niger of CORE
29. Newspaperman Adolph
30. "On the Beach" novelist Nevil
32. Hardly four-star fare
33. Bruce of Sherlock Holmes films
34. Appliance brand
35. Slowly, on a score
37. "All \_\_\_" (popular '30s tune)
39. Actor Ken or Lena
42. Winemaker's science
43. Sweden's monetary unit
48. \_\_\_ kwon do
50. IHOP condiments
53. TV beatnik Maynard G. \_\_\_
55. Plumed wader
56. Take the bait
57. "Put a lid \_\_\_"
58. Took a turn
59. Mattress support
60. Knee-high to a grasshopper
61. River of most NBAers
62. Like most NBAers
63. Chow mein additive
66. Society page word

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