

# Obituaries

## Dr. Kennard Blaine Kramer

July 10, 1926 - April 23, 2007  
Dr. Kennard Kramer was born July 10, 1926, to Alvin and Vera (Byers) Kramer on a farm one and one half miles north of Bird City, Kan. He had five brothers and one sister. He died in Oklahoma City on Monday, April



Kramer

23, 2007.

Kennard grew up in the Bird City area graduating from the Bird City High School in 1945. World War II was still going on, so Kennard joined the Merchant Marines as a Seaman. He served on the S.S. Wesleyan Victory. He was discharged on March 26, 1946.

Kennard managed a service station in Bird City, and also operated the dozer tractor at the landfill until he was inducted into the Army at Kansas City, Mo., on Sept. 27, 1950. He served in several Engineer Battalions and spent over 14

months overseas in the European area. He was discharged from the Army Reserve Service in 1956.

Kennard studied Chiropractic Medicine in Oklahoma City. He established his practice in Boise City, Okla., where he doctored for many years.

On Aug. 13, 1960, Kennard and Mary (Gasper) Norfleet were married. Mary had two children and Kennard and Mary had one daughter.

In 1992, Dr. Kennard retired. He sold his practice, and he and Mary moved to Yukon, Okla., where

Kennard did his gardening and woodworking.

Kennard belonged to several organizations: the Disabled American Veterans Association, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion and the Oddfellows.

Preceding him in death were his parents and two brothers, Bernard in 1992 and Donald in 2006.

Surviving him are his wife, Mary; son, Charles Norfleet and wife, Deborah of Yukon; daughter, Linda and husband, John Zachary of Houston, Texas; daughter, Dorinda and husband, Joe Berry of Yukon; sister, Marlys and husband, Howard Poulignot of St. Francis; brother, Jimmie Kramer and wife, Marjorie of Fort Morgan, Colo.; brother, Ronald Kramer and wife, Sharon of Kearney, Neb.; sister-in-law, Twila Kramer of St. Francis; 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Friday, April 27, at the Yanda and Son Funeral Chapel with Reverend John Miller officiating. Interment was in the Resurrection Memorial Cemetery with Military rites.

## Connie Mac Holliman

Jan. 28, 1934 - Feb. 25, 2007

Connie Mac Holliman, 73, Brentwood, Tenn., sister of Sharon (Edwin) Deeds of Goodland, died Sunday, Feb. 25, 2007, at Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville, Tenn., from injuries suffered in a car accident.

She was born Jan. 28, 1934, just outside of St. Francis, Kan., the daughter of Andrew and Flossie Byerly. She graduated from St. Francis Community High School in 1952, and was helping plan her 55th reunion in July.

On Aug. 17, 1952, she married Willis Ned Holliman at the Methodist Church in St. Francis. He served in the Air Force, then after his discharge, they settled in Longmont, Colo. They lived there until the mid 1990s, when they moved to a mountain home near Lyons, Colo.

In Longmont, she was a real estate agent and a beauty consultant for BeautyControl. She worked in the gift shop at Hidden Valley Ranch, a dude ranch near Lyons, until they moved to Brentwood, a suburb of Nashville, in August to be near her son Rod.

Other survivors include her husband; two sons, Bob (Penny) Holliman of Longmont, and Rod (Peggy) Holliman of Brentwood; a daughter, Denise (Roger) Stearns of Uxbridge, Mass.; and seven grandchildren.

Services were held Saturday, March 3, at the Brentwood United Methodist Church. Her remains later will be buried in the Nashville National Cemetery.

Arrangements were handled by Brentwood-Roesch-Patton Funeral Home in Brentwood.

## Bob Holliman

June 12, 1954 - March 8, 2007

Bob Holliman, Longmont, Colo., nephew of Sharon (Edwin) Deeds of Goodland, Kan., died Thursday, March 8, 2007, at the University of Colorado Hospital in Denver.

He was born June 12, 1954, in Aurora, the son of Willis and Connie (Byerly) Holliman. He moved to Longmont in 1967 from the Denver area. He graduated from Longmont High School in 1973 and attended Colorado State University, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1978. He then earned his Master's degree at Regis University.

On Oct. 19, 1973, he married Penny Meyer in Longmont. He worked for Storage Tek, a network computing storage provider, for 16 years and was most recently employed at Seagate, a hard drive manufacturer.

He was a member and Past Master of the Masonic Lodge in

Longmont, a leader of Rinn Valley Livestock 4-H Club, Friends of National Rifle Association and the Berthoud Shooting Club.

Mr. Holliman enjoyed all shooting sports, particularly black powder. He had a passion for teaching kids the safe and ethical use of firearms and thoroughly enjoyed his trap shooting time.

He was an avid hunter and always enjoyed a quiet afternoon of fishing at the lake. He took pleasure in a wide variety of activities, from fencing to scuba diving in the Caribbean. He was pursuing his advanced scuba certification in preparation for the next family dive trip.

He loved the many family vacations and always enjoyed a good barn party. He took great pride in the design and implementation of countless home projects. His greatest pride and joy were his children and their accomplishments.

Preceding him death was his mother on Feb. 25, 2007.

Survivors include his wife; a son, Chad (Shonda) Holliman of Firestone, Colo.; a daughter, Heather Holliman and her husband, Bill Pope of Wellington, Colo.; his father, "Ned" Holliman of Brentwood, Tenn.; a brother, Rod (Peggy) Holliman of Brentwood; a sister, Denise (Roger) Stearns of Uxbridge, Mass.; a sister-in-law, Sharon (George) Weiss of Longmont; and his father-in-law, Wally Meyer of Longmont.

Memorial services were Tuesday, March 13, at the Longmont First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Allyson Ellis officiating.

Fraternal rites were performed by the Longmont Masonic Lodge. Cremation and arrangements were handled by the Ahlberg Funeral Chapel and Crematory.

Memorials may be made to the Bob Holliman Memorial Fund for Youth Shooting Sports in care of the funeral home, 326 Terry Street, Longmont, Colo. 80501. Leave condolences at [www.ahlbergfuneralchapel.com](http://www.ahlbergfuneralchapel.com).

## Robert James Wiley

March 4, 1923 - April

Robert James Wiley was born on March 4, 1923, to Harry Payne Wiley and Melinda Harper Browning-Wiley on the family homestead east of Hale, Colo. Bob was the last born of six children: Ernest, Everett, Walter, Kenneth and Maxine Brase-Wiley.

Bob was baptized at a young age and then became a member of the Methodist Church. He attended grade school at Browning and then attended the Arnel High School, graduating with the class of 1940.

While in high school and in the Army, Bob enjoyed playing football. He was inducted into the Army on June 2, 1945, at Fort Logan, Colo. Bob chose to enlist in the United States Army to serve his country.

After a year of courtship and while Bob was home on furlough, he and Joyce Rae Carmichael

married on Oct. 2, 1945. Two weeks later, Bob was notified he would be shipped to the war in Italy. In January of 1946, he landed in Naples, Italy, and returned to the United States in February 1947. Decorations received were The Victory Medal, Meritorious Unit Award, and the Army of Occupations Metals, Germany. At his discharge, he was promoted to the rank of Tech 4.

When Bob was separated from the service, he and Joyce returned to the family homestead that they purchased in 1962. While living on the farm, two daughters were born; Marsha Rae and Cathy Jo. In the late 1960s, the farm was leased to Ray Max Wiley, and Bob continued full-time employment as a Park Ranger/Supervisor with the State of Colorado Parks Department at Bonny Dam. In 1974, the farm was sold, and Bob and Joyce moved to their new home in St. Francis, Kan. Bob retired from the Parks Department in 1985. At that point, he worked at the Goodell Greenhouse and for Pat Crabtree, both in St. Francis. After his retirement, he and Joyce went on many trips. One of his life dreams was to visit the North Pole which they both saw while on their trip to Alaska.

During his many years, he enjoyed fishing, landscaping and raising watermelons, cantaloupe, potatoes, pumpkins and other garden produce, which he, in turn, loved to share with family and friends. In October of 2006, he and Joyce celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary with their children and Joyce's siblings.

Bob was preceded in death by his wife, Joyce Rae; parents, Harry and Melinda; brothers, Ernest, Everett, Kenneth and Walter; sister, Maxine Wiley-Brase.

Survivors include his oldest daughter, Marsha Rae Wiley-Zion and her husband, Rick of Fort Collins, Colo.; youngest daughter, Cathy Jo Wiley Bandel and her husband, Charlie of Goodland; four granddaughters, Sheena Lynne Zion of Idalia, Colo.; Nicole Bandel-Burkett and her husband of Kansas City; Brook Zion of Denver, Colo., and Brandi Bandel-Penick and her husband of Tulsa, Okla.; great granddaughters, Makayla and Mackenzie Burkett of Kansas City and Kaitlyn, Cassandra and Kristen Penick of Tulsa. Bob is also survived by many in-laws from the Carmichael side of the family.

Funeral services were held on May 1 at the United Methodist Church with Reverend Morita Truman and Reverend Chad Dejong officiating.

Casket bearers were Sheena Zion, Nicole Burkett, Brandi Penick, Brook Zion, Michael Burkett, David Penick, Robyn Raile and Lori Ann West.

Interment was in the St. Francis Cemetery, St. Francis, with Military Honors by Fort Riley.

Arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.

# Community is working together

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

To paraphrase Mark Twain, "Word of Cheyenne County Development Corporation's demise has been greatly exaggerated!" It seems that everywhere I turn, from the word on the street and in the coffee shops, reading reports of other organization's meetings in the Herald or the letters to the editor, question's are being asked about the role of the Development Corporation in Cheyenne County.

In particular, I read Elmer Kellner's letter to the editor last week stating that the "community should work together" during this window of opportunity, mentioning the community meeting (actually county-wide) organized by the CIA (Cheyenne Initiative Association).

I agree and that has been the desire of the Development Corporation long before I became a board member. Because of what I am hearing and common misunderstandings about the role of the Development Corporation in promoting Cheyenne County I'd like to try to clarify some things that I am hearing. I write this letter not only as the current president of the Development Board, but as a citizen who loves Cheyenne County.

First of all, the Development Corporation is a non-profit entity that was formed to promote economic development in our county. And it seems we're a little like Howard Cosell - you either love the Development Corporation and think we are doing what we are charged with doing or you dislike the Development corporation and wonder what in the world we are doing because there is no change noted!

Everyone has opinions about economic development and what should be done to maintain our wonderful county and the lifestyle we love. For some, the idea of a corporation coming here to build a plant, providing jobs and resources that might rescue us from our dwindling population and our young men and women from moving away would seem the way to go. Others worry about how that very same manufacturing plant might affect the life we know and love and would prefer to see a concentration on tourism or improving our infrastructure. Still others see things like wind energy as a means of bringing development here and using a resource we already have! And others see the businesses we have that are struggling to remain viable or remember businesses that we used to have and wonder what can be done for them. Suffice it to say that for every person in Cheyenne County, there are that many ideas of how to bring about the changes needed.

I attended the community meeting held at the Dusty Farmer several years ago when our land was so dry it looked as if the grass would spontaneously combust. Businesses were closing. Farmer's were selling out their herds of cattle. Faces were long and hearts were heavy. I remember the passion of the people there looking for answers.

Many good things came out of that meeting. People stepped up to look for solutions and begin working together instead of just feeling better for having the meeting and talking things out. From that came the Leadership training based on servant leadership. Out of that group has grown the Ini-

tiative Association and joining the Ogalalla Commons.

And through it all, the Development Corporation has been involved in many ways to promote economic development in Cheyenne County.

Our goal is to promote our county. Our goal is for the betterment of the lifestyle found here. our goal is to promote economic development however possible.

Many entities in Cheyenne County have that same goal. Our city councils deal with economic development goals. Our county commissioners deal with economic development goals. Our Chamber of Commerce and the tourism board deals with economic development goals. The school, the hospital, every business and family farm, as well as other county entities are concerned with economic development, though they might not think of it in those terms. And finally, the Initiative Association was formed to deal with economic development/county improvement goals based on a proven formula and working together across county lines as outlined by the Ogalallah Commons. Former Development Corporation Coordinator, Carol Redding had attended many of the meetings held in various counties over several years concerning Home Town Competitiveness/Ogalallah Commons and family, it was an idea whose time had come and Tom Keller and others were able to get the ball rolling. The Development Corporation immediately voted to support this in any way possible including being on board to help with start-up funding.

Mr. Kellner says we all need to work together. I would say we already are! Is there overlap? Certainly. Can any of those entities give up their piece of the puzzle and expect all the goals to improve Cheyenne County to be met? No.

Recently, Glenn Meredith taught a Marriage and Family Conference at the high school. He spoke about some people believing that to have a good marriage, the husband and wife needed to become "the same." He used his outstretched hands, one on top of the other, to illustrate the point. He said, "If they are exactly the same, one of them is not necessary." Then he took his outstretched hands with fingers interlocked and said that coming together from different viewpoints was valuable because you had twice the insight, idea's, talents, etc.

I would apply this to all of the groups who are concerned and willing to work toward the betterment of Cheyenne County. The Initiative Association has gathered together people from all walks of life and all positions of leadership who have as a common goal the betterment of Cheyenne County. Two board members of the Development Corporation, Kari Gilliland and Dan Carson also sit on the Initiative Association board. The Coordinator of the Development Corporation, David Butler, has been invited to be a part of the Initiative Association. Three weeks ago the Development Corporation board members and David Butler, coordinator of the Corporation sat down for lunch at the Development offices

with the mayor of St. Francis, Scott Schultz, the mayor of Bird City, Troy Burr, Cathy Domsch, the coordinator of the Bird City Foundation and Tom Keller, the president of the Initiative Association to discuss how to better work together.

The Development Corporation is funded by the people of Cheyenne County. Our budget comes from monies from the budgets of the cities in Cheyenne County and from Cheyenne County itself. Our budget pays for a part-time coordinator, overhead including utilities, internet, phone and office supplies, as well as all the things we do to promote Cheyenne County. But because so much of economic development involves private information it sometimes appears that nothing is going on, much like the duck that glides on the water. Unless you look closely, you don't see the webbed feet paddling like crazy!

Many businesses don't want it to be widely known when they are investigating economic development opportunities to start up or relocate a business. But there are phone calls made, e-mails exchanged, negotiations that take place, grants written or investigated and then the business can still decide to relocate somewhere else! And none of that can make the news! It is frustrating for all of us, but the reality of economic development. The competition for economic development is fierce, but because we believe in Cheyenne County the Development Corporation will continue to work to bring business to Cheyenne County as well as working with existing businesses to remain viable. That is our focus and our charge from the tax payers of Cheyenne County.

The Development Corporation is not the tourism board, but we realize that tourism is a piece of the puzzle of economics development and people who come here for an event like the Car Show or the Thresher Show might decide to move here, so we will continue to work with the Tourism coordinator and the Chamber of Commerce to promote Cheyenne County. We are not the City Council or the County Commissioners, but we will continue to work with those entities to promote Cheyenne County, and, we will continue to work with the Initiative Association as they begin the process of working through the information gained at the county-side meeting and moving forward to improve Cheyenne County for all of us.

These are exciting times. People are coming together toward a common goal. And we need all the enthusiasm and leadership we have to position Cheyenne County for a greater and more vibrant future. Let's not second guess or divide and conquer, but let's continue the work that has begun by all those who promote Cheyenne County.

I believe that Cheyenne County is one of the best kept secrets of Kansas! Let's get the word out and work together for change for the good of all!

Kim Zwegardt

St. Francis

President, Cheyenne County Development Corporation

## Cost-Share Funds Available

The Cheyenne Co. Conservation District will be accepting cost-share applications for conservation practices, **May 1 - May 24** at the Conservation Office in St. Francis.

Conservation practices include: Terraces, Terrace Rebuilds, Diversions, Livestock Tanks, Wells and Pipelines, Pasture Cross Fencing, Field Windbreaks, Rangeland Seeding, Spring Developments, Failing Septic System Replacement, Abandoned Well Plugging. Cost-share assistance rates are 50-70%. All applications will be reviewed and ranked by the Conservation District Board of Supervisors and funded according to priorities recommended by the Kansas Water Plan. Deadline to complete work is December 31, 2007.


Funding for the cost-share programs are provided through appropriations from the Kansas Water Plan and administered by the State Conservation Commission.

If you are interested, please contact our office on West Highway 36 in St. Francis or call 785-332-2341.

## EQUIPMENT OPERATOR TRAINEE

Starting pay is \$10.44 per hour. Are you looking for a rewarding career that offers full time, year round work? The Kansas Department of Transportation is now hiring an Equipment Operator Trainee in St. Francis, KS. Position involves bridge and road maintenance/asphalt production, equipment operation and maintenance and snow removal. On-the-job training is provided to obtain a CDL within sixty days. Following completion of a minimum six month training period, you will be eligible for a ten percent salary increase. An annual \$250.00 Personal Protection Equipment allowance is available. Health insurance including dental and disability insurance is provided. Other benefits include snow plow and stand-by pay, vacation and sick leave. This position is subject to pre-employment drug testing and requires a valid unrestricted driver's license. Position requires a 30 minute response time in emergency situations. **Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.** Please fill out and send KS Employment Summary (ES) by **05/13/07** to the Kansas Dept. of Transportation, P.O. Box 350, Norton, KS 67654. Employee Data Form and Employee Summary may be obtained from [www.jobs.ks.gov](http://www.jobs.ks.gov) for any KDOT Office. **Indicate Advertisement No. 156035 on the application form. If you have any questions call 785-626-3258.** Paid for by the Kansas Dept. of Transportation.

**The SFCHS Junior Class**  
would like to thank  
**Mike Callicrate**  
**Ranch Foods Direct**



**for donating the meat for After Prom.**  
**We would also like to thank the parents and community for your donations and hard work for the Promenade and After Prom.**

**Seventh Annual SATURDAY in the PARK CAR SHOW!**  
**Sat., May 12-9 a.m.-5 p.m. CT**  
**St. Francis Sawhill Park**  
Chamber will be serving lunch in the Band Shell 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**LOTS OF ACTIVITIES**

- Elvis will be entertaining in the Band shell Sat. morning ~ 8:30-10 a.m.
- Poker Walk - PEO sponsored "Trunk Sale" & "Quilt Show" at Sainy Stitches (downtown)
- Community Health Care Partners Fair - Sponsored by the County Health Dept.
- Kids Pedal Pull for ages 4 thru 12 yrs. - behind the Bandshell Registration @ 12:30 p.m. •• Pull @ 1 p.m. Winners are qualified to pull at the Kansas State Fair

**People Movers to take you downtown and around the park**  
**Load up the family, lawn chairs and blankets and enjoy a day in the Park in St. Francis, Kansas!**  
**Sponsored by: Cheyenne County Cruiser's & St. Francis Chamber of Commerce**