

Ignatius "Ig" W. Flax

July 19, 1922 - Dec. 30, 2009

Ignatius "Ig" W. Flax, age 87, of Ellis, Kan., died Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2009, at the Hays Good Samaritan Center. He was born on July 19, 1922, in Ransom to Gotfred and Catherine (Weber) Flax.

He married Martina Unrein on Jan. 7, 1947, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in LaCrosse. She preceded him in death on Nov. 6, 2002.

Ig was a farmer and stockman. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, serving from 1942 to 1946.

His memberships include St. Mary's Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, Ransom Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Anno Sanger American Legion Post 209 in Franklin, Neb.

He is survived by two sons, Leon Flax (Maureen) of Dodge City and Leroy Flax (Janice) of WaKeeney; eight daughters, Martina Thomas (Seth) of Naponee, Neb., Shirley Peintner-Strickert (Paul) of Scott City, Cecelia Werth (Neil) of Hays, Catherine Weber (Donald) of Franklin, Mary Jane Knapp and Elaine Riedell of WaKeeney, Gladys Owens (Pat) of St. Francis and Corona Hoch (Eric) of Medicine Lodge; three brothers, Lawrence Flax (Betty) of Dodge City, Fr. Myron Flax of Colorado Springs and Leonard Flax (Irene) of Wright; two sisters, Helen Schuler of Ness City and Sr. Mary Ann Flax of Lexington, Neb.; 35 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, three step great-grandchildren and two step great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Martina, his parents; a daughter, Mildred Werth; three brothers, Paul as an infant, Eugene and Herman Flax, a sister, Rosie Flax and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Jan. 4 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Ellis. Burial was in the St. Mary's Cemetery with military honors by the Ellis Veterans of Foreign Wars. A parish vigil service was held on Sunday, Jan. 3, followed by a Knights of Columbus Rosary.

Memorial contributions are suggested to St. Mary's School or St. Mary's Church. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.keithleyfuneralchapels.com or keithley@ruraltel.net

Dad

Your chores are done
Your life is lived.
Rest your hands and heart
Lay your head in God's Hands
For you are Home

The field work is done,
The cattle are fed.
The chickens are roosting
Lay your head in God's hands
For you are Home

Together once more
Mom and Dad
Holding each others hands again
Lay your head in God's hands
For you are Home

Love you Dad

Margaret J. Quigley

July 26, 1932 - Dec. 28, 2009

Margaret Josephine (Manhart) Quigley, 77, died Monday, Dec. 28, 2009. She was born July 26, 1932, in Omaha, Neb.

At an early age, Margaret moved with her family to Marysville, Kan., where her father ran a shoe-repair shop. Later, the family moved to Orleans, Neb.

Margaret graduated from high school at Orleans and attended one year of college at Kearney, Neb. She taught school for two years before marrying Kenneth (Ken) Quigley in Orleans on Dec. 26, 1955.

Margaret was a homemaker and Ken was employed by the Burlington Northern railroad while they raised two children. She especially enjoyed baking cookies and preparing desserts, and entertaining visitors in her home. In 1966, the family moved to St. Francis, where Margaret lived at the time of her death.

Margaret was preceded in death by her parents, Thomas and Margaret Manhart and brothers, Thomas and Joseph Manhart, along with several sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law.

Survivors include husband,

Lawrence "Larry" A. Blanchard

Nov. 18, 1935 - Dec. 13, 2009

Lawrence "Larry" A. Blanchard, 74, of Salida, Colo., died Dec. 13, 2009, at his home.

He was born Nov. 18, 1935, in Leadville, Colo., to Thomas and Ulva (Rout) Blanchard.

Mr. Blanchard married Sharon Walter on July 15, 1959, in St. Francis, Kan.

He enjoyed hunting and fly-fishing and was a member of Salida Community Christian Church.

A 50-year member of the Masons, Mr. Blanchard was a member of Salida Masonic Lodge No. 57 AF and AM where he was past master in 1994 and treasurer from 1997 to 2009; Al Kaly Shrine of Pueblo; Mon-Ark Shrine Club of Salida; and the Southern Colorado Consistory Scottish Rite Bodies of Colorado Springs.

Mr. Blanchard was a member of the York Rite Bodies of Salida which include No. 17 Royal Arch Masons, Salida Council No. 20 Cryptic Masons and Salida Commandary No. 17 Knights Templar

Ken of St. Francis, son, Richard (and wife Deanna) of Frisco, Texas, daughter Theresa Brown (and husband Allen) of Folsom, Calif., brothers, Eugene Manhart of Greeley, Colo., and John Manhart of Mesa, Colo., sisters, Mary Wichman of Kearney, Neb., and Kathryn Moritz of Aurora, Neb.; and grandchildren Nick Brown of Santa Barbara, Calif., Megan Brown of Berkeley, Calif., and Connor and Briana Quigley of Frisco.

Funeral services were held Dec. 30, at the St. Francis Catholic Church with Reverend Roger Meitl officiating.

Pall bearers were Robert Bortner, Allen Brown, Michael Moritz, Charles Quigley, Perry Quigley and Robert Smith.

Music was provided by Myra Douthit and Joan Gienger. Connor and Briana Quigley were altar servers and Nick and Megan Brown were lectors for the services.

Interment was in the St. Francis Cemetery.

Arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home.

and served as recorder for all three.

He was department commander for the Northwest Department from 1985 to 1988, a national officer. During his time in the York Rite, he received various honorary recognitions within the organization.

Mr. Blanchard was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include his wife; daughters, Lorrie (Kevin) Tietze of Castle Pines, Colo., and Diann Lang of Downey, Calif.; brother, Thomas (Rita) Blanchard of Delaware; sister, Donna (Floyd) Bement of Fort Collins, Colo.; grandchildren, Meghan, Brian and Kyle Tietze of Castle Pines, Spenser Lang currently serving in Afghanistan and Stefani Lang of Downey, Calif.;

Cremation was chosen and a memorial service will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Jan. 24 at the Masonic Lodge.



DOES ANYONE KNOW MORE ABOUT IT? Monday, the siding was taken off the shop of TJ's Improvement, owned by Travis Milne, on College Street and in plain, bold letters was 'Tower Laundry.' Several people were asked if they remember the laundry or anything about the business but they were unable to reveal any information. Time also ran out and *The Herald* editor still had no information. The staff would appreciate those having knowledge about the business to please contact them at 785-332-3162 or karen.k@nwkans.com.

Hospital statistics are published

At the December Cheyenne County Hospital Board meeting, Jane Young, board member, asked if more statistics could be printed in *The Herald* and *Times* each month. Les Lacy, hospital administrator, and Shawna Blanka, executive secretary, compiled the numbers and the graph.

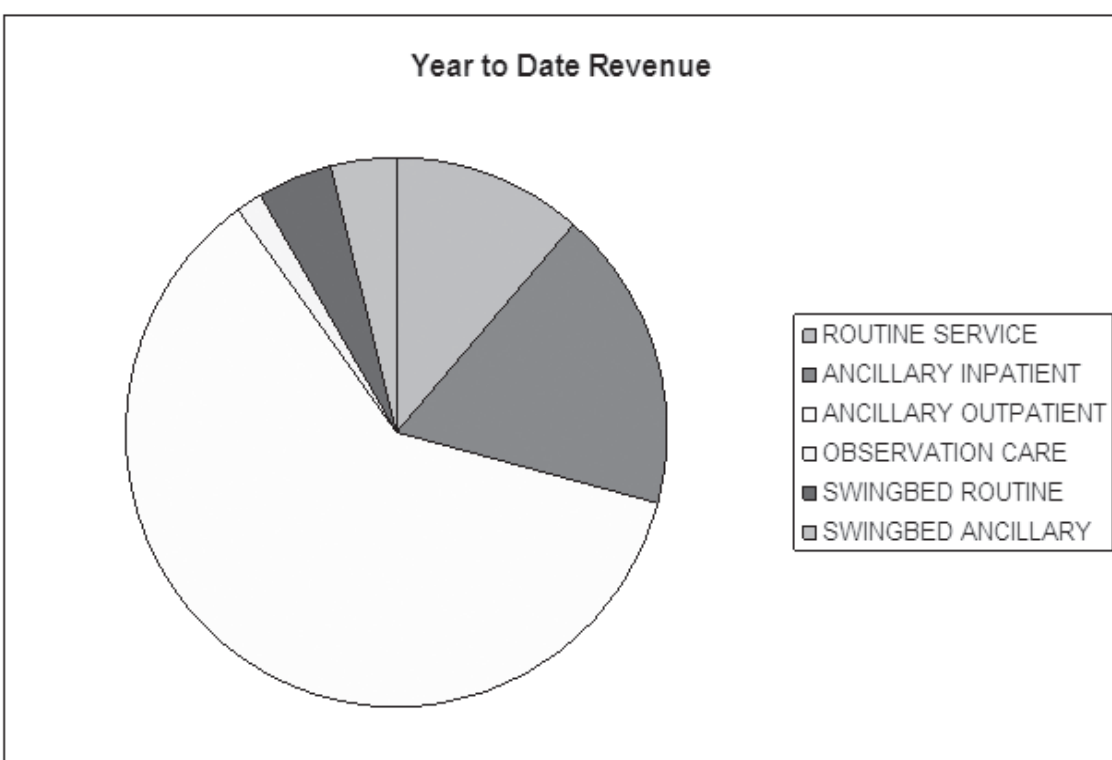
The total number of patient days (days patients occupied a bed) at the hospital for as of year to date in November is 1,530 or an average of 4.57 patients per day. The average number of patients per day for 2005 was 3.39.

The total number of lab tests this year as of November is 20,719. This is an average of 1,884 tests per month.

The total outpatient services (services provided to people who walk in for outpatient care such as lab, X-ray, specialty clinics, physical therapy, injections, etc.) Outpatient specialty clinics had 674 visits year to date including visits by Dr. Curtis, Dr. Rainwater, Dr. Johnson, Dr. Reeves, Dr. Uye-mura, Dr. Rubinowitz, Dr. Saba, and Dr. Frankum.

The hospital has seen 469 emergency cases as of November this year. Mr. Lacy points out that the emergency room is the biggest single reason the hospital is staffed at the level it is.

Routine services is hospitalized patients in beds. Swingbed Routine is people who are in hospital



beds that meet "Skilled Swingbed Criteria." Ancillary care includes various lab, diagnostic imaging (like X-ray, CT, Mammograms, etc.), physical therapy, ER, surgery and other services that are beyond the scope of the room rate. The largest component of the hospital's revenue comes from outpatient services.

Mr. Lacy reported that the hospital continues to face many ongoing challenges related to Medi-

care, Medicaid and commercial insurance reimbursement as well as a growing burden of charity care due to economic conditions.

As a cost of doing business with Medicare, Medicaid, and other commercial insurance companies, the hospital faces year to date contractual adjustments totaling \$511,148. Of this, just over one third is charity care (\$171,539). In addition, the hospital has booked \$104,117 for bad debt expense.

Administrator Lacy said these are some of the reasons the hospital continues to need tax support. He also stated that over the past decade approximately 5 percent of the hospital's cash cost of operations came from tax dollars.

There should be more data later this month. If there are figures that others would like to know, call *The Herald* at 785-332-3162. Some figures may not be available but others may.

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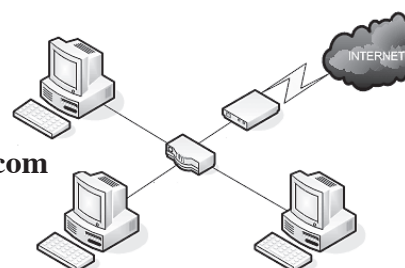
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