



Hospital restricts visitors

As flu activity is spreading across the United States, Cheyenne County is no exception. The Cheyenne County Hospital has implemented the flu restriction policy as of Wednesday, Jan. 22. Those restrictions include: 1) until the risk of transmission diminishes within the hospital system, only immediate family or caregivers above the age of 18 will be allowed to visit. 2) Absolutely no immediate family or caregiver visitors who have influenza-like illnesses, including fever or cough, will be allowed to see patients in the hospital.

If you have any questions regarding a particular hospital restriction, you should call the hospital prior to arriving at 758-332-2104. If you are one of the caregivers or immediate family members above age 18 with no flu-like symptoms visiting the hospital, please check in at the nurses station prior to entering the patients room.

The temporary restrictive measures have been put into

place to protect patients and their loved ones. The measures that the hospital takes are to prevent the spread of disease within the facility. The restrictions will remain in place until the number of reported cases of advanced flu symptoms decreases within the hospital and clinic's facilities.

With the influenza cases within the county, it is not too late to get a flu shot. Here are some other steps to take to help prevent the influenza virus:

- Good hand washing at all times.
- Cover your cough with your arm not your hands.
- Cover your sneezes with your arm instead of your hands.
- Stand back at least 6 feet from those coughing and sneezing.
- Drink plenty of water on a daily basis.
- Eat a well-balanced diet.
- Get plenty of rest.

For more information on the influenza virus or to get a flu shot please call the Cheyenne County Health Department at 785-332-2381.



LEA KELLER and Taylore Keller are concentrating as they decorate their cake at the Rec Commission's class held Sunday at the high school.

Herald photo by Penny Gienger

Judge agrees to move jury trial date to July 14

By Amanda Miller
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The District Court of Cheyenne County heard motions from the defense and prosecution in the Windell case on Jan. 16. Once all sides were heard, the judge decided to change the trial date.

Windell pled not guilty to the charge of premeditated murder in the first degree

in the death of Brad Figgins. Figgins, 45, was found in the basement of his home the evening of April 3, 2013, with injuries to his head. He was taken by ambulance to the hospital, and later pronounced dead. The penalty for that charge is 25 years to life in jail.

District Court Judge Scott Showalter presided over the court date. Present were

the defendant Leanna Windell with her defense attorney Charles Peckham. Also present for the prosecution was Assistant Attorney General Nicole Romine.

The defense asked for a transcript of the December hearing to clarify on written record the reasons for the court's decisions on the various motions. The request came because the journal entries

from that date refer to the record, rather than specifying reasons for decisions. Judge Showalter asked the court reporter to prepare a transcript of court on motions H through M for the defendant.

In light of new evidence, the defense also requested a continuance. Evidence that was found is currently being tested by the state, and the defense experts will

need time to examine it. The defense argued that there will not be time available prior to the current trial date of April 21.

After the court again advised the defendant of her rights to a speedy trial, Judge Showalter granted the defendant's motion. The jury trial has now been moved to July 14.

Pastor makes spiritual journey

By Amanda Miller
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A local pastor was recently given the opportunity to travel to Israel. Not only was his journey a spiritual one, but the purpose of the trip was to learn about the ongoing geopolitical issues and the constant security issues in the area. He could then come back with testimony of the experience to both his local congregation and to elected officials.

David Butler, pastor of the St. Francis Community Church, was called by his former worship pastor Scott Phillips (Midwest Regional Christian Outreach Director/American Israel Public Affairs Committee) and asked if he would like to participate in the multifaceted trip to Israel. AIPAC teamed up with the American Israel Education Fund to bring and educate leaders from the United States.

On the trip, Pastor Butler was able to learn about the ongoing conflict between Israel and all of its hostile neighbors such as Palestine, Lebanon and Syria. The trip provided education on the geopolitical aspect of the area, as well as the spiritual side of Israel.

He had the opportunity to sit down with several key leaders within the Israeli government



PASTOR DAVID BUTLER's photo was taken at the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem.

and military. Pastor Butler and the other participants in the group all met with former United Nations Ambassador, and current president of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, Dore Gold. He also met with Oded Ben-Hur, senior diplomatic adviser to the Knesset, who is considered a senior foreign ministry official. The Knesset is the legislative branch of the Israeli government, comparable to Congress. His group consisted of different

spiritual and political leaders from around the country. Josh Duggar, of the '19 Kids and Counting' Duggar family, attended the trip as the new lobbyist for the conservative group Family Research Council. Eric Branstad, son of Iowa Governor Terry Branstad, was also one of the participants with Pastor Butler. Lobbyists, political influences and spiritual leaders were also among the group. The pastor was taken to several

sights of interest while in Israel. He saw the Sea of Galilee, The Dead Sea, The Garden Tomb, Masada, the Syrian border, West Bank, and the Gaza Strip. He said they also took him to "hotbed" locations, where the safety of the group was a major concern. In fact, on their way to the Gaza, Israel had to utilize its famous "Iron Dome" technology, because Palestinians within the Gaza heard about American Israel Public Affairs Committee. See PASTOR on Page 9

Congressman to visit on Friday

Congressman Tim Huelskamp will be at the Cheyenne County Courthouse, St. Francis, from 8 to 9 a.m. on Friday.

Everyone in the surrounding area is urged to attend the town hall meeting for an update on what is going on in Washington.

Sweetheart couple contest coming up

By Amanda Miller
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There is a Swedish proverb that says, "A life without love is like a year without summer." Valentine's Day is about celebrating love and the people that bring that warmth and brightness into your life.

This Valentine's Day, help a special couple you know, that has been celebrating their love for each other over the years, by nominating them to win the Cheyenne County Sweetheart Couples Contest.

The Saint Francis Herald is recognizing two sweetheart couples this year. Look for ballots in next week's issue of The Herald.

The two deserving couples will be honored with bouquets furnished by The Classic Rose and The Flower Shop. Last year's winners were Charles and Dixie Curry and Dale and Alma Neitzel.

The Currys had been married 62 years. Their advice to young couples was to talk things over and tell each other that they love

each other every day.

The Neitzel celebrated their 68th anniversary just three days before Valentine's Day. The Neitzel's advice for young couples is to remember that no one is perfect, be willing to listen and forgive one another.

The contest is easy. There are no essays to write, no mushy notes and it does not cost anything. For a couple to enter the contest, they simply have to be nominated by someone placing their names on a ballot.

The contest rules are: 1) The couple must be married 50 or more years; 2) must live in Cheyenne County; and 3) previous winners are not eligible.

Ballots will be collected at any of the following participating businesses: Donna's Gift Palace, The Flower Shop, The Classic Rose, Sainy Liquor Store, Owens True Value, Stuart's Thrift Store, United Methodist Thrift Store and The Saint Francis Herald.

Start thinking about which Sweetheart Couple you would like to nominate in this year's contest!