



Resident grateful for local hospital and services

To the editor:
Let's talk about the average citizen of Cheyenne County and what they can get from having a hospital locally. Let's just call this average citizen, Terry Rueb.

If this patient needs cataract surgery as he gets older, he might be happy to find out he can have that right here. If he develops GI complaints and needs to be scoped, he can do that right here. If he does fall and break a hip, yes, he would be transferred to fix that break, but he might be glad to know that most of his hospitalization would be right back here for all his rehab. If he were to get any number of other problems including pneumonia, Congestive Heart Failure, stroke, and the list goes on and on, he would probably be glad to know in most

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cases all that is cared for right here. In fact, most patients never need to be transferred anywhere else. If he does need to be transferred, it would be for the specialty care of specialists that just don't locate in rural areas.

And it isn't just small hospitals that have to transfer patients. If you go to Hays and need a nephrologist, dialysis, neurosurgeon, etc., you will be transferred to Wichita or Kansas City.

When I was sick after my last chemo, I was able to get my care right here, so my kids and husband could come see me, and I felt completely at home. When I developed a more specialized problem, I did get transferred to Denver. I didn't want to go, but I was glad to get to the interventional

radiologist that I couldn't get out here. By the way, Hays would have had to ship me for that problem as well.

What we have here is what small towns across the country are struggling to save for their own communities.... local access for most of their healthcare needs. All of us who have had to use the facilities here are deeply appreciative of the community support that keep it right here.

For those of you who don't see its value, my hope and prayer is that you never need the services, as you may have to eat your words.

A grateful citizen of Cheyenne County.

Mary Beth Miller
St. Francis

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HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY...



Things they never tell moms before they are moms

Reader needs to respond to past letters

To the editor:
I feel it necessary to respond to the last two week's letters to the editor about the businesses in St. Francis and the way things are left to the discretion of the police or city attorney to do what they want.

First of all, there was an incident that happened in March that my youngest son got into trouble but no one else did. Our new chief of police told my wife and I that it was his discretion to give our son a breathalyzer test at 6:30 a.m. on a Saturday morning. Yet when we questioned him about the three juveniles that he said he knew were drunk, he chose not to write them a ticket or give them breathalyzer

tests. Does that mean it is his discretion to discriminate? He also did not write a ticket to the owner of the house where he said he and another officer went and discovered there had been underage drinking by many persons.

It is our family's past experience in dealing with the city attorney or the police department, that if the party would have been in our house, I feel I would have been arrested, had to hire an attorney and would have been in court for years. Just because our family still has a lawsuit against the city and past police department, I feel the city attorney has a grudge against our family. He filed charges

against me last summer, while I was sitting in my car talking to a neighbor, I was beaten bloody by the ex-sheriff of Cheyenne County, I was the victim of assault and battery, yet the city attorney charged me with that crime and forced me to go to a jury trial to prove my innocence. The trial resulted in a hung jury. And the city attorney is filing the same charges on me again, costing the city taxpayers more money to go to a new trial.

I know the judge is also against me and I feel I can't get a fair trial here. What is wrong with the city council to keep paying him city money to fulfill his need to keep harassing me and carry out his personal grudges against me. He has been the city attorney for many years and I for one would like to know how much money he makes off the city.

Which brings me to the incident that happened with one of our fine upstanding city councilmen, who is also a businessman. Were there any charges brought against the councilman for disorderly conduct or assault and battery? Wouldn't you think that is discrimination.

People call it what they want until it happens to them. And in this town it will never happen to certain people. It has always been who you are. It's pretty bad when people say you are guilty and you have to prove your innocence.

This town will continue to die unless people start waking up to the under-the-table dealings and executive sessions in the city council.

I feel fortunate that I have customers in this town and in surrounding towns because I certainly can't compete with the mayor and city council.

I hope the paper will print this letter.

David L. Wright
St. Francis

Hospital complimented

To the editor:
How fortunate we, the people in Cheyenne County, are to have a doctor of the caliber as Dr. Miller. The hospital is one of whom the people of Cheyenne County should be proud. It just keeps getting better and better. I recently was discharged from the hospital, only to have to return in two days. On that day, there was something new added to my room. They had installed a toilet paper hanger in the bathroom. Les Lacy is an ex-

cellent manager and the staff at this hospital are five-star plus. They are friendly, helpful and concerned and always have time for the patients.

We really thank the hospital staff for making my stay in the hospital as pleasant as possible.

A quote from President Lincoln sums this up pretty well. "If you look for the bad in people, you will surely find it."

Marvin L. Dowdy
Bird City

People who published vet book commended

To the editor:
I just received my copy of the book *Cheyenne County Veterans, 1900-2004*.

Who ever inspired this book to be proposed, written, and published is to be commended. I found the service accounts of the many veterans noted to be a presentation of the history of a people who did and now inhabit a small remote county in the United States. It is a defining account of a people first noted in the previous fine book *History of Cheyenne County Kansas*.

I find that as I read this book, the people documented are people I have known; at least the family names if not the person himself/herself. With my relative age, I can connect to these veterans, some older and some younger than me.

My own family history dates to 1885-1887 in Cheyenne County.

If you have a native connection to Cheyenne County, Kansas, buy this book if you have not already done so. It is and will be a valuable heirloom to your family history.

Elmer L. Richers
Golden, Colo.

GOD SAYS
A good name is better than
precious ointment; and the day of
death than the day of one's birth.
Ecclesiastes 7:1

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Several anesthetists faces 'unmasked'

To the editor:
I thoroughly enjoyed the insert on Rural Health Care in last week's paper. My compliments for the many well-written articles about the challenges rural hospitals face in the current economy and the many services they are providing to stay viable.

I was especially interested because I have or have had clinical privileges at every hospital written about in your insert. I am a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), one of 30,000 in the United States and one of several who provide anesthesia services in our area.

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist are advanced practice nurses (APRNs) who specialize in anesthesia. We were the first specialists in anesthesia, beginning 120 years ago, but we have been called "the face behind the mask" and "the best kept secret in health care." And even in our rural area where we know our neighbors, I guess we still are! I was dismayed as I read about all the services and professionals listed by the hospitals that not one mentioned anesthesia!

Several hospitals mentioned Obstetrics. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists in the area provide pain relief for labor and delivery and are "on call" in case an emergency C-Section must be done. Other hospitals mentioned the specialists that are coming to our rural hospitals and what a wonderful advantage that is for us. For those specialists that come and do painful

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procedures or perform surgery, how could that have been arranged if anesthesia was not readily available to them? Emergency services were mentioned by several hospitals and I salute the often unsung heroes who take their time to be trained and serve to provide emergency care. However, often when the ambulance arrives at the hospital, one of the providers who is waiting there is a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist called in case there is a need for our particular skills. Sixty percent of the 30,000 Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist in America work in rural health care in exactly the situations I've mentioned. They are an integral part of our rural hospitals staying viable. Since the insert didn't mention them, I will:

All names listed below are Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist:
Leon Nielson, Goodland and Colby

Rick Abbot, WaKeeney, but also Oakley and Norton

Brad Wertz, Quinter as well as others including Citizens Medical Center in Colby

Gary Kliever, Fort Morgan Colo., who also goes to Burlington Colo., and St. Francis;

Gary Bartel, Oberlin and myself, for Cheyenne County Hospital, Rawlins County Health Center, Dundy County Hospital and Kit Carson County Hospital with privileges at five others.

Between all of us, patients in our rural area have expert anesthesia care available for obstetrics, surgery, trauma, and pain management. Maybe now, your readers will recognize "the face behind the mask" and hopefully the "best kept secret in healthcare" isn't so secret anymore!

Kim Zweygardt, CRNA
Moonlight Anesthesia PA
St. Francis

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Lawrence Fisher, Arvada, Colo.; Sylvia Heller, Tulsa, Okla.; L. Smull, Salina; Janet Carman, Dallas, Texas; Haddon Stermer, Lyons, Colo.; Derooy Holzwarth, Salina; Sheila Walz, Goodland; Reverend David Rossbach, St. Francis; Roger Jensen, St. Francis; Jane Oliver,

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Dallas Friedli, Herington; Gilbert Ochsner, St. Francis.

Worship Warms the Heart

<p>First Christian Church 332-2956 • 118 E. Webster John Bartlett Pastor Emeritus Sunday School 9:20 a.m. Church Service 10:30 a.m. Wed. night Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>	<p>United Methodist Church Church Office 332-2292, Church 332-2254, 512 S. Scott Pastor Marvin Zimbelman Pastor Jack Abendschan Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.</p>
<p>Seventh-Day Adventist Church 332-2888 • 3rd & Adams Pastor Jim Martin Sabbath School 9:30 Morning Worship 10:45</p>	<p>First Baptist Church 2nd & Scott • 332-3921 J.W. Glidewell, Pastor Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m., Wednesday prayer service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. AWANA Club 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.</p>
<p>Wesleyan Church Hwy 36 • 734-2727 Pastor Scott Baker Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>	<p>St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church 625 S. River • 332-2680 Fr. Beryl Gibson Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m. Weekday Mass 8 a.m. Confessions Sat. 4-4:30</p>
<p>Church of Christ 332-2380, Pars. 332-3424 502 W. Spencer Norman Morrow - Minister Bible Class 9 a.m. Morning Worship 10 a.m. Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Living Water Fellowship Ministry Pastors: Terry & Tiffany Glasco Downtown Bird City 785-734-2363 Sunday: Fellowship 9:30 a.m. Worship & Word 10 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Wednesday: Prayer Meeting 7:30 p.m. Last Sunday evening of Month: Healing Service 7:30 p.m.</p>
<p>Grace Assembly of God 332-2925, Pars. 332-2899 208 E. 2nd Rev. Rob Meyer Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 Sunday Eve. Service 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Clough Valley Baptist Church 12 m. west, 6 m. north of SF 332-2506 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. CT Worship 10:00 a.m. CT</p>
<p>Salem Lutheran Church 332-3002 Pastor Chris Farmer Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.</p>	<p>St. Francis Community Church 332-3150 • 216 W. Washington Pastor: Richard Garcia Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>
<p>Peace Lutheran Church 202 N. College 332-2928 Pars. 332-2308 Pastor David Rossbach Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>St. Francis Equity</p>
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