Member drive underway; new videos, books, DVDs arrive

JoAnne Sunderman

•Library Link

Well, here it comes. You knew that there would be someone who would hit you up for something before the new year and this new month were over, didn't you?

That's the way it always is, I guess, and so I will take center stage and announce that I am here to do just that.

Here's the deal... the library is supported by an outstanding group of people called Friends of the Library who do a tremendous thing for our community year after year.

January is their "Membership Drive Month" and (here come the plea) they hope you will join them this year and make 2003 the best year by far that Pioneer Memorial Library has ever had.

The yearly membership dues are quite reasonable: $10 for a family to join; $5 for an individual membership; $25 for a business or organization; and $50 to be classified as a "Benefactor" member. (of course if you want to donate even more than $50, that would be perfectly acceptable too!)

Your membership dues will help the library in so many ways. For instance, each year the Friends give money in support of the children's story times, summer reading activities, and special programs. They also help buy best selling books, audio tapes and CDs, videos and DVDs for you to check-out and enjoy. It is the Friends that sponsor all of our "Booked for Lunch @ the Library" monthly book reviews plus that light lunch that we invite you to attend.

In addition, they help keep our public-use computers updated by replacing older machines and updating software. The Friends also sponsor the "Day in the Life of Thomas County" local photo contests which have produced some wonderful pictures that decorate our walls - all at no cost to the participants.

So you see, joining the Friends of the Library makes your donation one that directly benefits our entire community and is one for all ages to enjoy. You should be receiving a letter with a return envelope in the mail asking for your Friends membership, but if you are not on our mailing list, please just stop by and ask anyone on the staff to provide you with one. Everyone needs friends - even a library. Please join today.

And while you are thinking about the library and all the things it provides these days, how about checking out a few of these items?

We have some great videos and DVDs you might enjoy such as *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* (both VHS and DVD), *I Am Sam, Behind Enemy Lines, What Women Want, Lord of the Rings, The Heist, Vanished, John Q, A Walk to Remember, Moulin Rouge,* and many others. We also have a DVD player for rent should you want to try one out. It rents for $5 for 3 days. Just ask at the front desk.

Of course we always have new books to offer such as *The Last Promise* by the ever-popular Richard Paul Evans (*The Christmas Box*, etc.).

Here is a story about facing the greatest decision of all - choosing between the love for your child and a romantic love. Set in Tuscany, the heroine Ellen, a talented artist, and her husband Maurizio, head of a large family agricultural enterprise, seem to have it all.

But the fairy tale life quickly soured when Maurizio begins to spend most of his time traveling and philandering, leaving Ellen to care for their severely asthmatic son.

Her extreme loneliness seems to disappear when she meets another art lover and tour guide who brings the sunshine back into her life. all too soon she is forced to make a choice between her love for this new man in her life and her love and devotion to her son. Keep a hanky handy when reading this one.

Another choice might be the latest by James Patterson called *Four Blind Mice*.

It features Alex Cross on the brink of retirement from the Washington Police Force and his best friend John Sampson who comes to him with an urgent request.

A man named Ellis Cooper has just been convicted by a military court for the murders of three women and Sampson believes he is innocent. So Cross and Cooper travel to North Carolina to investigate, and get embroiled in some pretty fancy stonewalling by the military.

E-mails from an anonymous person who calls himself Foot Solder supply clues and information, but Cross isn't sure he can trust the informer.

Four Blind Mice is another exciting thriller by Patterson with some intriguing new developments for Alex Cross. We have it on tape cassette and CD as well.

Please be sure to consider joining the Friends of the Library this month. And stop by soon. We are located at 375 W. 4th St. and are open 7 days a week as follows: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; and Sunday 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. For information contact the library at 462-4470. We look forward to serving you.

Heartland Christian School would like to thank the community for their overwhelming support of our 1st Annual Benefit BBQ and Open House.

We would like to extend a special thank you to the following businesses and individuals:

Area-wide Churches
Sacred Heart Church
First National Bank
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Colby Community Building
Ralph Schmidt
Larry Cox
The Heartland Christian School staff, teachers and board members
The Heartland Christian School families

We are praising the Lord for the more than 500 people who attended.

HEARTLAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

1995 W. 4th
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Protesters hopeful on Roe v. Wade

WASHINGTON (AP) — Kansans marching in the nation's capital Wednesday were hopeful about their chances of chipping away at the 30-year-old Roe v. Wade ruling that legalized abortion.

Busloads of anti-abortion demonstrators from across Kansas made the annual protest trek. The difference this year is that Republicans control Congress and the White House, and among their top priorities is passing a ban on late-term abortions.

"Hopefully, we'll accomplish something," said 18-year-old Daniela Lujano, a senior at Wichita's Bishop Carroll Catholic High School.

Fifteen-year-old Miriam Ayres said she has protested at the clinic run by George Tiller, one of few physicians nationwide who performs late-term abortions.

"Maybe one person, me, being there can make somebody change their mind about having an abortion," said Ayres, a freshman at Bishop Carroll.

First National Bank would like to thank the businesses that participated in the 2002 Community Dress Down Days. A total of $1,784 was raised to benefit the following projects and organizations:

Orange & Black Classic Speaker
Friends of Pioneer Memorial Library
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Colby Swim Club
Prairie Heritage Daze Children's Activities
Kiwanis Fireworks Display
SHARE
Thomas County Amusement Association
Thomas County GENESIS
HOSPICE
Salvation Army
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Businesses participating in 2002 Dress Down Days included:

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Gerstner-Cersovsky Insurance Agency
Gordon Company
Drs. Morrison & Wahlmeier
Northwest Title, Inc.
Prairie Senior Living Complex
Thomas County Courthouse

Anyone interested in participating in the monthly Dress Down Day should contact First National Bank at 462-2000.

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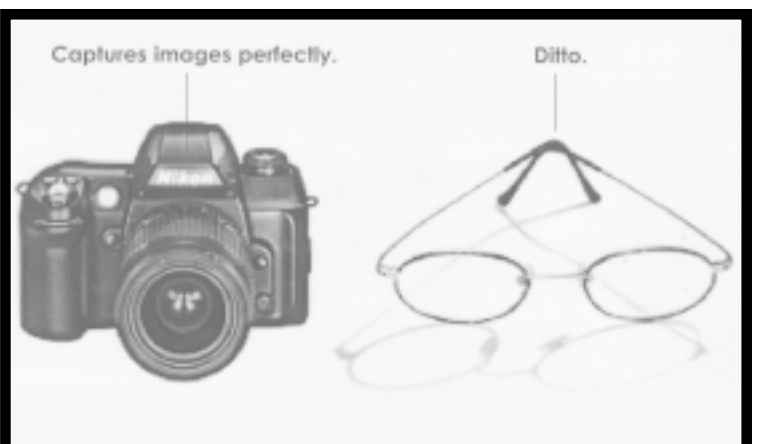

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Dear Friends

It is not new news to our community that controversy has played a significantly challenging role at CMCI in recent months. Communicating about this controversy is delicate and frustrating for us, but we must continue to try. Administrative and legal proceedings are continuing. The peer review portion of these proceedings is cloaked with confidentiality in accordance with the law. The legal action filed in Thomas County District Court is now pending before the Kansas Court of Appeals. Those proceedings are public. Ultimately the rumors will stop.

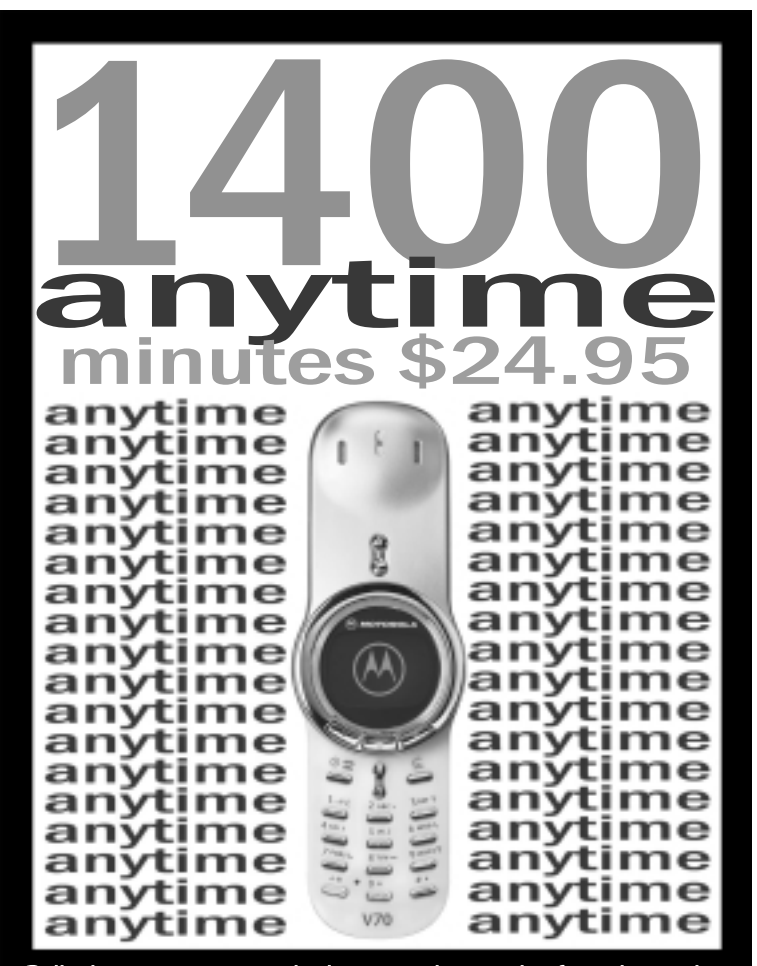
CMCI is providing as much honesty and openness in its communication as it can and still follow the law.

CMCI's impact on and commitment to our friends and neighbors remains stronger today than it ever has. We continue in our pursuit of the finest medical facilities staffed by the finest medical professionals. Northwest Kansas deserves no less. CMCI will confirm that we can lead during difficult times and challenges. We are proud to grab hold of the unique opportunities that are on their way in this new millennium. These opportunities will map for us the direction rural health care is taking, and raise us to a high level of leadership for our region. CMCI will continue to take challenges head on as this is what healthy people and organizations do. This is what leaders do.

We encourage anyone who has questions to contact the hospital at (785) 462-7511 and speak with our administrative offices.

Sincerely,

The Citizens Medical Center, Inc. Board of Trustees: Vern Schwanke, Bob Standage, Terry Cousins, Sheila Frahm, Curt Stephens, and Terry Wendell



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