

# Letters to the Editor

## Doctor praises nursing home

To the editor:

I wanted to take a moment to express my appreciation for the hard work and dedication I find in the staff at Good Samaritan Village. I have had the opportunity to be affiliated with multiple nursing homes across the state during my medical training. I personally believe that Good Samaritan Village offers the very best in nursing home care in the country. I know that this does not just happen by chance and I see it as a direct result of all the staff and their commitment to the residents there.

Since my arrival here in St. Francis, I have been continually impressed by the programs that are offered for the residents. This has included allowing them to raise chickens, having a prom, and having the many outside

field trip activities that staff takes the residents on. I see it in the remodeling of the home to try to provide a more warm and welcoming environment. I see it in the continual efforts of the dietary staff in the recent move to a salad bar and more choice for the residents.

I have always been impressed by the rapport between the staff and the residents. I feel the staff has a genuine concern and caring for the residents and that comes across in all of their interactions. This concern cuts across all departments from house-keeping to nursing aid to nursing to the business office staff and the supervisory staff.

I think the grounds and the interior of the home are maintained in excellent condition. It always seems to be

bright, cheerful and clean and that certainly provides for a warm environment.

The nursing care is of the highest quality and quality improvement is apparent at every level. I think Mr. Rainbolt has done an outstanding job of putting together a very good team of caring professionals in every department.

It has been an extreme pleasure for me to work with everyone at Good Samaritan Village. I just could not ask for a nicer or better facility to be associated with. I want to congratulate the staff on their high quality of work. Certainly it is a place they can be very proud of and I want to thank them for their dedication. Their good work is showing.

Mary Beth Miller, M.D.  
St. Francis

## Corporal writes home

Letter to the Editor:

Sorry it has taken me so long to write. I have been so busy that I can't hardly keep up with my letters to my family.

Thanks for the letter and the photos (satellite photos of Baghdad after the first assault and the World Trade Center during the terrorist attack) were pretty cool! I also liked the article, in which I knew nothing about the letter (from Corporal Smith's commander to his father) until I read the article.

Things here haven't been the greatest! Several of my friends have been wounded and one of my best friends died during a mortar attack the other day.

Despite all of that, I see changes here everyday in Iraqi communities that are for the better, and everyday we find weapons caches and detain insurgents. Despite the hardships I still feel there is a great purpose for us here, not only for the Iraqis, but for my own Americans at home. They (no offense) only see and react to the one-

sided media, who only portray the bad and ugly, and seldom, the good that we are doing.

Anyway, enough about that! I am doing good overall and I appreciate your, and everyone's support, prayers and letters! I can't wait to get home and eat a thick steak and have a beer!

Take care and I'll see you after Christmas sometime when I come home.

Your friend, Jason D. Smith  
Corporal of Marines  
United States Marine Corps

## Operation SOS commends Cheyenne County

Letter to the Editor:

I would like to recognize the efforts made on behalf of the Operation SOS project "Holidays for Heroes" on Oct. 23, national Make a Difference Day.

The people of Cheyenne County were instrumental in helping us meet our goal of sending 500 boxes overseas to our men and women serving in the Armed Forces. From monetary donations, to collecting items to be sent, the wonderful people in your area showed their support of our troops.

Hulda Dorsch, Bird city, spear-

headed the project in your area. Through her tireless efforts for this project, we collected enough items and received enough donations to make it possible to continue sending packages for the next several months.

As the boxes begin to arrive overseas, you can be sure they will be appreciated by the soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines serving our country. As they share the "goodies" contained in their boxes, we will have touched the lives of more than the original 500 recipients.

Please keep our military in your

hearts and prayers. Operation SOS continues to take names of military personnel serving overseas to add to our mailing list.

Melanie Elliott  
Operation SOS  
Kensington



DOROTHY AND ELMER KELLNER, left, along with Donna Northrup and Debbie Harper will be decorating the Memorial Christmas Tree at the hospital.

Times staff photo by Karen Krien

# Memorial tree established to help Hospice Services

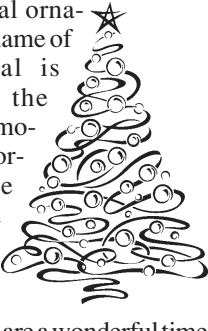
Is there an angel in your life? Is there someone whom you would like to honor or remember in a special way? Now is your chance. Hospice Services, Inc., will be decorating a tree for the holidays at the Cheyenne County Hospital in St.

Francis. In this season of giving and caring, they invite you to help decorate their Memorial Christmas Tree.

Here's how it works. Stop by the hospital and give a tax-deductible donation to Hospice Services. With your donation to the annual cam-

paign, a special ornament with the name of the individual is placed on the Christmas Memorial Tree. The ornament will be displayed through out this holiday season.

The holidays are a wonderful time of year. The sounds, smells and activities of the season all say "love", "family" and friends." By giving to the Hospice Services Memorial Christmas tree you honor the cherished memories of loved ones. It is also a tradition of helping others in Cheyenne County to receive much needed care and comfort during a final illness. By giving to Hospice Services, Inc. you allow someone to share their gift of life with family and friends to the very end.



## Club Clip

### McDonald Lions

The McDonald Lions may be small in their number of members but are large in the amount of community projects.

They always help to put up the Christmas lights. In December they will be packing fruit plates for shut-ins and senior citizens, and will also provide bags of candy for Santa to give out.

also they have pledged \$1,000 for

new doors and to help with a new roof for the McDonald Legion. Later they will be accepting applications for Cheylin students for a scholarship.

All of these community projects are funded by money taken in at the Lions Club Ham and Bean dinner on Nov. 13 and the Pancake Day on Dec. 18. Many people help by supporting these fund raisers.

Published in The Saintry Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, and the Bird City Times, Bird City, Kansas, Thursdays, Nov. 11, Nov. 18 and Nov. 25. (46-48)

### 2004 TAX LEVIES FOR CHEYENNE COUNTY, KANSAS USED TO FUND THE 2005 BUDGETS

Prepared by Cheyenne County Clerk  
Taxable Valuation of Cheyenne County is \$38,575,739  
(Levies shown are taxes per \$1,000.00 valuation)

Comparison of 2003 and 2004 levies and valuations:					
	2003		2004		Difference
	Valuation	Levy	Valuation	Levy	
State	\$35,951,970	1.500	\$38,575,739	1.500	
County	\$35,951,970		\$38,575,739		
General		25.060		19.680	-5.380
Road & Bridge		12.669		11.408	-1.261
Bridge Building		0.062		2.143	2.081
Noxious Weed		0.349		0.591	0.242
Hospital		6.347		5.511	-0.836
Bond & Interest		7.457		7.221	-0.236
<b>Total</b>		<b>51.944</b>		<b>46.554</b>	<b>-5.390</b>

2003 Valuations (Dollars)				2004 Valuation			
	Valuation	Levy		Valuation	Levy		Difference
Bird City	2,310,262	29.571		2,315,742	29.696		0.125
St. Francis	6,377,206	28.821		6,492,296	28.508		-0.313
USD 103	17,921,548	33.322		18,015,571	34.850		1.528
USD 297	24,435,602	34.152		26,978,281	34.297		0.145
Cemetery Dist 1	12,118,743	0.815		12,183,841	0.811		-0.004
Cemetery Dist 2	23,833,227	0.998		26,391,898	0.885		-0.113
Rural Fire 1	26,277,394	1.484		28,771,214	1.393		-0.091
Rural Fire 3	987,108	1.592		996,487	1.526		-0.066
NWKS Library	27,264,502	0.965		29,767,701	0.930		-0.035

Levies of Taxing Units			
State Levies	K.S.A.	Levy	City of Bird City K.S.A. Levy
KS Ed. Bldg.	76-6b01	1.000	General 79-1953 27.633
State Institutions	76-6b04	0.500	Library 79-5032 2.063
<b>Total</b>		<b>1.500</b>	<b>Total 29.696</b>

County Levies			
	K.S.A.	Levy	City of St. Francis K.S.A. Levy
General	79-1946	19.680	General 79-5032 24.714
Road & Bridge	68-5,101	11.408	Library 79-5032 3.794
Bridge Building	68-1135	2.143	<b>Total 28.508</b>
Noxious Weed	2-1318	0.591	
Bond & Interest	19-15,116	5.511	
Hospital	12-183	7.221	
<b>Total</b>		<b>46.554</b>	

USD 103			
	K.S.A.	Levy	USD 297 K.S.A. Levy
Supp. General	72-6435	9.350	Supp. General 72-6435 9.297
General	72-6431	20.000	General 72-6431 20.000
Recreation	12-1927	1.500	Recreation 12-1927 1.000
Capital Outlay	72-8801	4.000	Capital Outlay 72-8801 4.000
<b>Total</b>		<b>34.850</b>	<b>Total 34.297</b>

Cemetery			
	K.S.A.	Levy	NWKS Library K.S.A. Levy
Cemetery District 1	80-932	0.811	General 12-1230 0.900
Cemetery District 2	80-932	0.885	Employee Benefits 12-16,102 0.030
<b>Total</b>		<b>0.930</b>	<b>Total 0.930</b>

Rural Fire			
	K.S.A.	Levy	
CN County RF 1	19-3610	1.393	

001 City of Bird City			
	Valuation	Levy	Total
State	\$2,315,742		
Rural Fire 1		1.500	
County	46.554		
City	29.696		
USD 103	34.850		
Cemetery 1	0.811		
<b>Total</b>			<b>111.911</b>

017 Calhoun Township			
	Valuation	Levy	Total
State	\$336,819		
County	46.554		
USD 103	34.850		
Cemetery 1	0.811		
Rural Fire 1	1.393		
Library	0.930		
<b>Total</b>			<b>86.038</b>

033 Wano Township			
	Valuation	Levy	Total
State	\$214,437		
County	46.554		
USD 103	34.850		
Cemetery 1	0.811		
Rural Fire 1	1.393		
Library	0.930		
<b>Total</b>			<b>86.038</b>

049 Orlando Township			
	Valuation	Levy	Total
State	\$253,097		
County	46.554		
USD 297	34.297		
Cemetery 1	0.811		
Rural Fire 1	1.393		
Library	0.930		
<b>Total</b>			<b>85.485</b>

USD 103 Valuation			
	General Fund	Other Funds	
Cheyenne County	\$10,804,607	\$11,597,458	
Rawlins County	6,044,136	6,418,113	
<b>Total USD 103</b>	<b>\$16,848,743</b>	<b>\$18,015,571</b>	

002 City of St. Francis			
	Valuation	Levy	Total
State	\$6,492,296		
County	46.554		
City	28.508		
USD 297	34.297		
Cemetery 2	0.885		
<b>Total</b>			<b>111.744</b>

018 Calhoun Township			
	Valuation	Levy	Total
State	\$773,025		
County	46.554		
USD 297	34.297		
Cemetery 2	0.885		
Rural Fire 1	1.393		
Library	0.930		
<b>Total</b>			<b>85.559</b>

034 Wano Township			
	Valuation	Levy	Total
State	\$191,745		
County	46.554		
USD 297	34.297		
Cemetery 1	0.811		
Rural Fire 1	1.393		
Library	0.930		
<b>Total</b>			<b>85.485</b>

050 Orlando Township			
	Valuation	Levy	Total
State	\$193,241		
County	46.554		
USD 103	34.850		
Cemetery 1	0.811		
Rural Fire 1	1.393		
Library	0.930		
<b>Total</b>			<b>86.038</b>

USD 297 Valuation			
	General Fund	Other Funds	
Cheyenne County	\$10,804,607	\$11,597,458	
Rawlins County	6,044,136	6,418,113	
<b>Total USD 297</b>	<b>\$24,737,850</b>	<b>\$26,978,281</b>	

008 Bird City Township			
	Valuation	Levy	Total
State	\$7,540,732		
County	46.554		
USD 103	34.850		
Cemetery 1	0.811		
Rural Fire 1	1.393		
Library	0.930		
<b>Total</b>			<b>86.038</b>

019 Calhoun Township			
	Valuation	Levy	Total
State	\$141,541		
County	46.554		
USD 297	34.297		
Cemetery 1	0.811		
Rural Fire 1	1.393		
Library	0.930		
<b>Total</b>			<b>85.485</b>

036 Wano Township			
	Valuation	Levy	Total
State	\$141,811,846		
County	46.554		
USD 297	34.297		
Cemetery 2	0.885		
Rural Fire 1	1.393		
Library	0.930		
<b>Total</b>			<b>85.559</b>

056 Benkelman Township			
	Valuation	Levy	Total
State	\$1,494,156		
County	46.554		
USD 297	34.297		
Cemetery 2	0.885		
Rural Fire 1	1.393		
Library	0.930		
<b>Total</b>			<b>85.559</b>

062 Jaqua Township			
	Valuation	Levy	Total
State	\$843,630		
County	46.554		
USD 297	34.297		
Cemetery 2	0.885		
Rural Fire 1	1.393		
Library	0.930		
<b>Total</b>			<b>85.559</b>