

Holiday contest begins

By Karen Krien

There will be some people who will have a better Christmas season when their number is called during the grand prize Christmas On Us giveaway slated for Dec. 16. Businesses participating and making this drawing possible are featured in this week's *Saint Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times*.

A ticket will be given for each \$10 purchased in participating businesses. However, it is not necessary to make a purchase to claim a ticket. Those coming to *The Saint Francis Herald* office may each receive one ticket per week.

Starting next week, people could be instant winners of \$50 scrip if they have the ticket which matches one of the numbers found in the Christmas On Us pages of advertisements. Each week, for three weeks, there will be numbers listed and any \$50 prizes not claimed will be given away in the grand drawing.

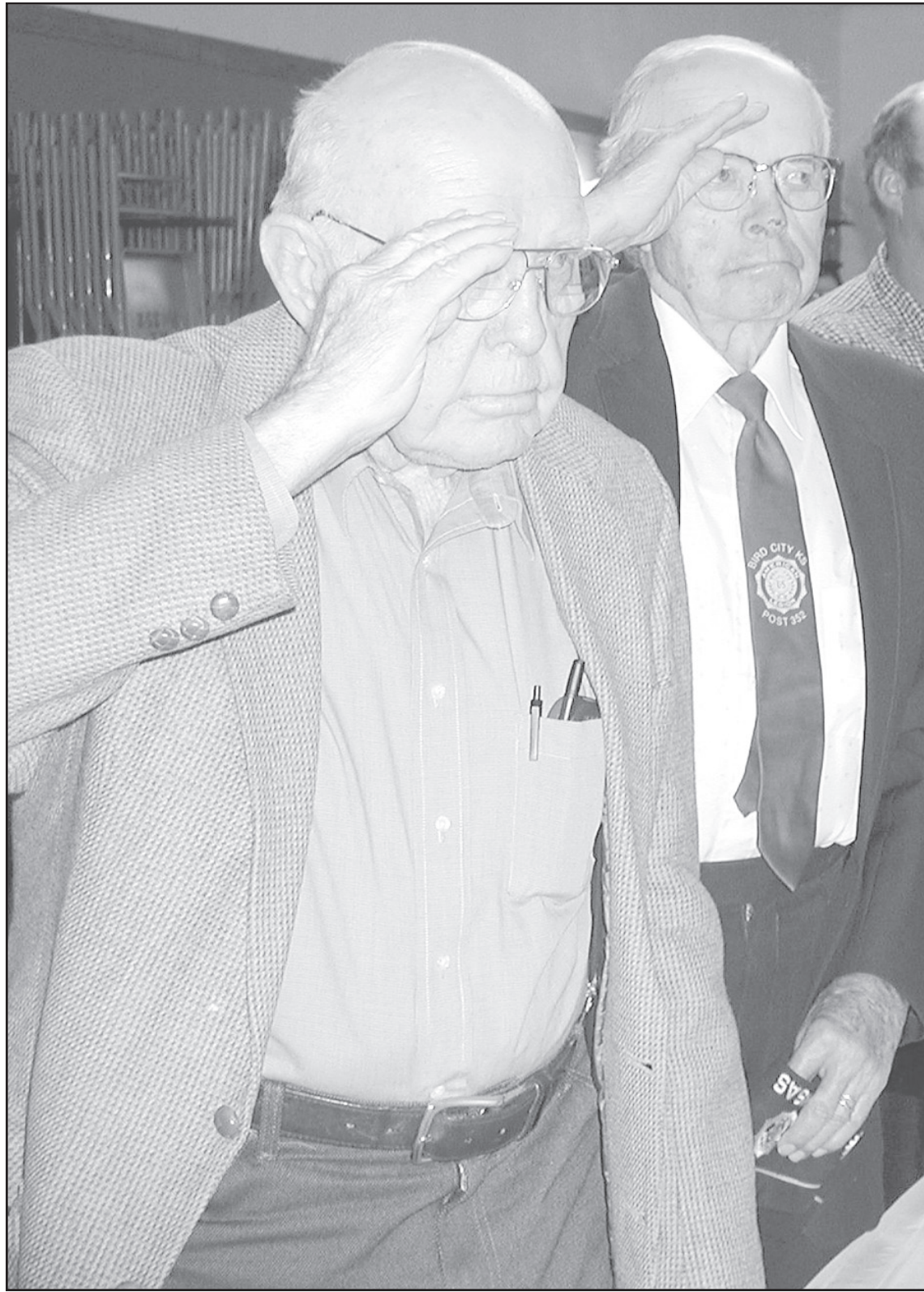
Be sure and save those tickets because they may be worth even more at the grand drawing. The person holding the first place ticket will find themselves with an extra \$1,000 in scrip. The second place winner will have \$100 in scrip.

Each week, participating merchants will be advertising sales and specials in the ads on the Christmas On Us pages so while people are looking for matching numbers, be sure to take a good look at the specials.

Those finding matching numbers will need to bring them into *The Herald* office to claim their \$50 in scrip and it is necessary to bring in tickets on or before Monday because if the scrip is not given away by Monday evening, that scrip money will be carried over to the next week when another number drawn to be placed in a Christmas On Us ad. A total of \$400 in scrip will be given away during the holiday season and can be spent in one of the following participating businesses:

- Bier's Hometown Store
- Burr Liquor
- Cheyenne Bowl and Dairy King
- Dusty Farmer
- Goodell Greenhouse and Floral
- Krien Pharmacy
- K-Store
- Owens True Value
- Parkhill Restaurant
- St. Francis Super's
- Schultz's
- St. Francis Equity
- Saint Francis Herald

The contest will end at noon on Dec. 16 and the grand prize drawing will be held that evening.



MARTIN (front) AND CLARENCE BUSSE salute the American flag during the Veteran's Day celebration in Bird City. The brothers were both honored as 60-year legion members.

Times staff photos by Casey McCormick

Soldiers are honored for their service to their country

The Bird City American Legion Hall was filled on Veteran's Day as former soldiers, family members and area citizens gathered to honor local veterans.

On the evening of Thursday, Nov. 11, guests enjoyed a full supper served by members of the 4-H Getters Club. The American Legion Post Commander, Charles Coleman,

was the master of ceremonies.

For entertainment Cheylin music director, Rose Hengen, had members of her cast of *Bye, Bye Birdie* perform several numbers from the show. Also, Kaedra Dixon sang *The Star Spangled Banner*.

The speakers for the evening were American Legion Auxiliary President, Hulda Dorsch, Editor of the

Bird City Times, Casey McCormick, and Bob Strevey, former candidate for state representative.

The evening concluded with the recognition of two 60-year members, Clarence and Martin Busse. They were each given a pin, clock and certificate which were presented by Commander Coleman.

Drug dog will have a new home

By Karen Krien

What to do with the county's drug dog was one of the matters discussed at the Monday Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting. After talking to the present sheriff and the newly elected sheriff, the commissioners decided to keep the dog.

Sheriff Eddie Dankenbring said the dog has been with a trainer in Colby and is costing the county \$120 a week.

Newly elected sheriff Troy Gardner said he had talked to the trainer and learned that Bronson was an extremely smart dog. He offered to teach someone how to handle and train the dog for \$625. This is how much the county already owes the trainer for housing the dog, which makes the training free of charge.

Mr. Gardner recommended Tom Raile, who is with the St. Francis City law enforcement but is also deputized by the sheriff, to take over the care and training of the drug dog.

After a brief discussion of liability, the commissioners agreed to have Officer Raile take over the training and care of the drug dog.

New ambulance purchase discussed

Larry Gabel, Emergency Medical Service director, and Larry Kness, representative for Rocky Mountain Emergency Vehicle, talked about the purchase of a new ambulance. Mr. Kness said an ambulance would cost around \$109,000 and that the county would qualify for government discounts as well as Ford Fleet discounts. It might take up to 120 days for a new ambulance to arrive in the county. There will be enough

money in the Ambulance Equipment Reserve Fund after the first of the year when an additional \$30,000 will be added to the amount already in the fund.

At the last special meeting of the commissioners on Nov. 5, the Bird City Emergency Medical Technicians and Director Gabel had discussed putting dual tires on the present Bird City ambulance because the technicians thought there was too much weight on the ambulance. Director Gabel had presented an estimate cost of between \$4,000 and \$5,000 to have the dual tires put on.

Those at the last Emergency Medical Technician meeting which included 20 to 22 technicians unanimously agreed to not put on the dual tires and put that money into a new ambulance. The old ambulance is a 1999 model. The new ambulance will be able to carry a heavier load and will have better fuel mileage and easier maintenance.

Road and bridge report

Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, mentioned that diesel fuel is expensive. He went on to say that the culverts on the North River Road will cost \$2,740 each and the project will take two culverts.

The Bi-annual bridge inspection would be coming up soon and he had contacted Penco to do the inspection at \$45 per bridge.

Commissioner Tim Raile had been contacted by several county residents concerning roads including a curve near the Joe Neilan place which Mark Mills thought was too

See DRUG DOG on Page 2

Thanksgiving service planned

The annual Community Thanksgiving Service will be held Tuesday, November 23 at 6:30 p.m. at Immanuel United Methodist Church. The Reverend Dennis Jones will be sharing the message. Reverend Jones is the pastor at the

Wesleyan Church. The Thanksgiving Service is a fund-raiser to support outreach activities of the Bird City Ministerial Alliance. People from all area churches and the community are welcome to attend.

Local teenagers help to replenish county food bank

By Casey McCormick

The Cheyenne County Food Pantry is in high gear with Thanksgiving quickly approaching. Needed donations recently arrived from Bird City as the Teens For Christ again held their Porch Light Pick Up last week.

Methodist pastor Doug Mason brought a van loaded with non-perishable items to the Cheyenne County Courthouse for pantry director Reva Pownell.

"We're planning on about 55 to 60 baskets county wide," Mrs. Pownell said.

This may not sound like a large number of people in need, until it is compared to a countywide population of about 3,000.

Volunteers will be on hand Nov. 18 and 19 to help package the baskets. This year Larry and Marlene Kramer of Bird City will donate their time.

The baskets will then be delivered on the weekend of Nov. 20 and 21.

But the Food Pantry will have very little time to relax as more donations will be pouring in to provide Christmas food baskets.

Mrs. Pownell also received money donations which are used to purchase certain items that she knows the Food Pantry is running low on. She buys the items locally

at St. Francis Super's, P & L Meat Market, or the Hometown Market in Bird City.

The Teens For Christ had asked Bird City residents who wanted to donate items to turn their porch lights on the evening of Nov. 10.

"About 20 kids broke into groups of four and they went out with an adult driver," Pastor Mason said. "The donations were good despite bad weather."

The idea of turning on the porch light helped the teenagers from not having to go to every door for donations. The items given filled up about a dozen boxes and two shopping carts full of food.

Eventhough the county wide food pantry can use all the help that they can find, this time of year, no request had been made to the Teens For Christ. The group came up with the idea of collecting nonperishable items from Bird City households to donate to the food bank in St. Francis.



PASTOR DOUG MASON (right) delivers packaged food to Reva Pownell, the director of the Cheyenne County Food Pantry. Sheriff Eddie Dankenbring was on hand to help the worthy cause.

Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

Salvation Army to collect

The Salvation Army kettle bells will be ringing at the St. Francis Community High School before the Windsong Chorus program begins at 4 p.m. on Sunday.

The Salvation Army kettles are set up to collect donations to help people in need including those in Cheyenne County. Residents are asked to give as much as they are able.

The Chamber's Christmas Light Parade will be the center of attention on Friday, Nov. 26, on St. Francis' Main Street. The Salvation Army kettle will be located with Santa at the old city office building before the parade begins at 6 p.m. and will be there during Santa's stay.

The next appearance of the kettle will be at the Dance Ranch Music Club performance on Sunday, Dec. 5.

The final day for the Salvation Army Kettle in St. Francis is set for the Dec. 16 drawing for Chamber scrip money as well as the Christmas On Us scrip drawing. The activities will start at 5:30 p.m. with drawings, the announcement of coloring contest winners and end with free chili on Main Street and Santa Claus at the old city office.

Donation envelopes

There will be donation envelopes inserted in both *The Saint Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times* Nov. 25 issue.

See SALVATION on Page 3



Drug Dog

Continued from Page 1

flat and needed to be "banked" or sloped. Mr. Mills also mentioned the ruts in the road by the Ben Leibbrandt farm. The supervisor said the road had been elevated and work will be done to that area this fall.

Stan Krien had asked about gravel for his drive. Commissioner Raile had advised him to talk to the supervisor.

While Supervisor Flemming was visiting with the commissioners, the Road Closing Hearing was held with no one protesting. He also asked for executive session to discuss personnel. When they came out of the closed session, it was announced that Cody Beeson had asked to be hired as part-time instead of full-time.

Supervisor Flemming said he had sold a mower for \$1,050 and a scraper for \$7,500 at the sale held by Western Auction.

Coordinator asks for \$9,800
Carol Redding, Cheyenne County Development Corporation coordinator, asked for the same amount of money, \$9,800, given to the Corporation last year. The commissioners told her that they had already budgeted that amount.

She said she has been pursuing several different options in bringing business to Cheyenne County including an organic dairy and had gone so far as to contact Kansas State University offering the county as a demo site for such a dairy. She has been gathering information on "wind farming" and has talked to a utility company in Florida to see if there was interest in buying the harnessed energy.

Other duties include writing a column for *The Saint Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times* and working with the New Generation Fund coordinator in Bird City. She has also attended several workshops and will be attending another next week.

She and the commissioners talked about giving benefits to entice businesses, companies and industries to come to the county. It was noted that several counties who have given the benefits to businesses have found that the business leaves after the benefits run out.

She said that she loves promoting Cheyenne County and welcomes ideas to help better the county.

In other business
In other business:
• Tim Carson, representative with

Salvation

Continued from Page 1

"Please watch for them and those not able to come to the activities can place a donation in the envelope and drop it in the mail," said Dolores Jenik, Salvation Army chairman.

There will also be extra envelopes placed at various locations throughout the two communities.

"If you miss them and still want to give, donations can be sent to Salvation Army, PO Box 462, St. Francis, KS 67756, or can be brought to me at the county treasurer's office in the courthouse."

Corporate Plan Management, explained the county's health insurance. The commissioners discussed several options including higher deductions to help lower the cost to the county and to the employees who pay a portion of the insurance. The commissioners will make a decision at the Nov. 30 meeting.

• St. Francis Fire Chief, George Harper told the commissioners that the department had received a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 10/90 grant for bunker gear. The county's share will be \$650 and the city's share is the same amount. The department also received a 50/50 Kansas State Forestry grant to replace the respirator masks. (The present masks do not give the needed protection for structure fires.) The cost to the city and county will be around \$667 each.

• Sheriff deputy officers, Carol Gambelin and Jeff Moser, had asked to purchase their handguns. On the recommendation of the newly-elected sheriff, the commissioners agreed that they would sell the guns if they were purchased at the cost of replacements.

• Sheriff Dankenbring and the

commissioners went into executive session to discuss legal matters with no decision being made.

• The commissioners signed the request for payment of Community Development Building Grant funds for the county clinic remodeling in the basement of the clinic in St. Francis. The amount was for \$13,356.

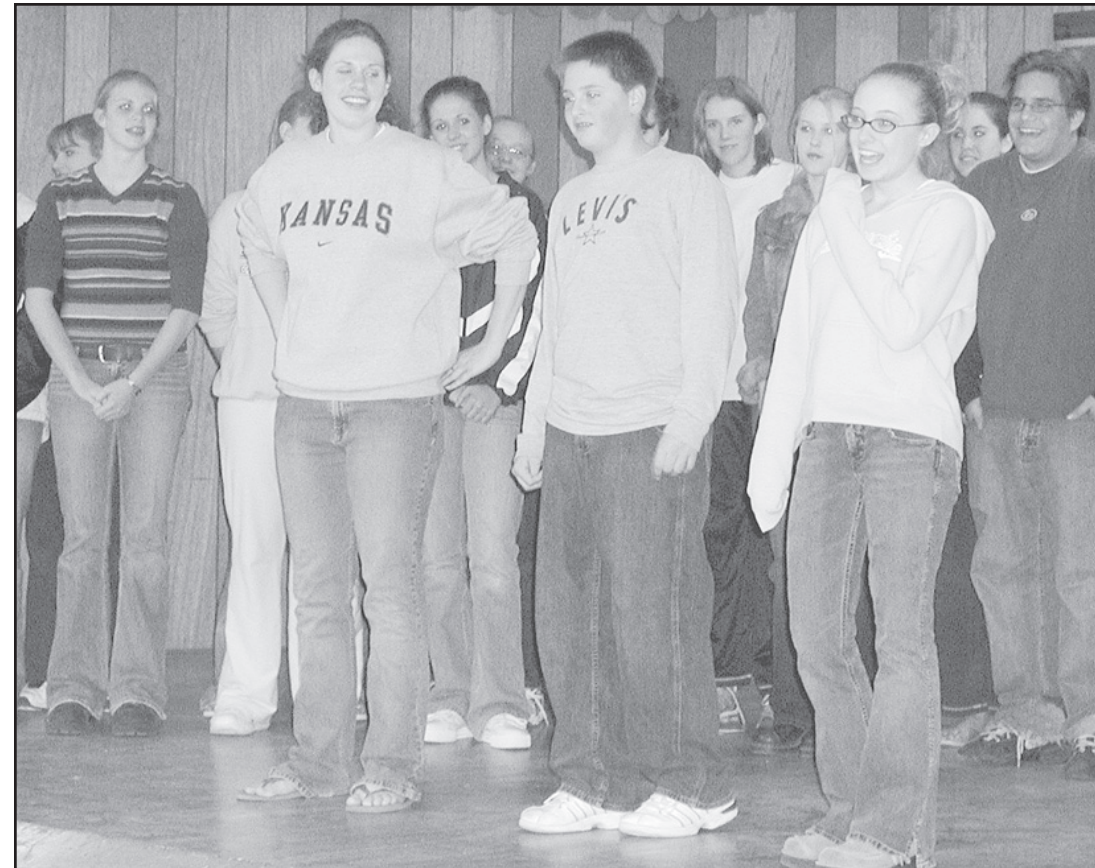
• The commissioners signed two resolutions: Road Closing and Minimum Maintenance Designations, resolutions 04-08 and 04-09.

• They also signed the automatic renewal contract with Nex-Tech for computer support. The cost is \$10,415, a 4-percent increase from last year. Clerk Miller said he had checked the cost with another company which was more than Nex-Tech.

• The Kansas Legislative Policy Group dues for 2005 of \$715 were approved. The 2004 dues were \$547.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the commissioners will be held at 8 a.m. on Nov. 30 in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.



BECCA MASON (front left), TAYLOR Leibbrandt and Kori Underwood perform a number from the play, *Bye, Bye Birdie* for the crowd at the Veteran's Day celebration.

Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

There is something special about the weekend when pheasant season opens and the out-of-town hunters show up.

The weather was appropriately cool, even had some snow Saturday night. The numbers of birds was not the greatest. Most of the fellows didn't need to worry about going over their limit.

But what they lacked on kills seemed to be made up for with good companionship, satisfying meals at local restaurants, and evenings in front of television screens watching college or pro football.

It amazes me the distances these guys travel for some of the best bird hunting anywhere. I ran into Tom Sawyer's nephew and great-nephew who came from Bailey and

Littleton, Colo., respectively. Roger and Mark Sawyer were hunting with Columbine High School chums of Mark's.

There was Kent Chapman, of Emporia, and his son, who were with a bunch of friends from the Kansas City area.

I even met a hunter from New Jersey. He was sporting a New York Yankee cap, but I still treated him with our traditional, northwest Kansas hospitality. Although he was a little disappointed with the amount of birds he saw, he thought the local terrain was the best he had ever seen for upland game.

With luck and more moisture the numbers will increase and we will be able to entertain the hunters again next year.

Man charged in assault case

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

Charges have been filed in District Court against Douglas Michael Whitaker, 34, of Utah, who was shot by a law enforcement officer after allegedly stabbing a Goodland man last Monday.

The complaint against Whitaker includes attempted second-degree murder, aggravated battery and aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer.

The stabbing happened after a disagreement over a woman allegedly led Whitaker to attack Rustin Leiker, 21, stabbing him in the neck and arm.

Kyle Smith with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation said Whitaker

then fled.

Leiker was taken to St. Anthony's Central Hospital in Denver, where he is still listed in serious condition.

Smith said Whitaker was found on a roof at 706 W. 8th in Goodland, where officers attempted to talk him down.

Preliminary reports say Whitaker threatened Mike Hopper, a Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks game warden, with a knife. Hopper drew his weapon and fired. The bullet hit Whitaker in the arm and continued into his left rib. Authorities said after he was shot and came down from the roof, Whitaker continued to struggle, and it took several officers to subdue him.

Smith said he was not allowed to

release any more information about the shooting Monday.

Whitaker was taken to the same Denver hospital, where he remained until Friday. He was released into the custody of the Denver County Sheriff's office, and is awaiting extradition back to Goodland.

Hopper is on paid administrative leave until the investigation by the KBI is complete.



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HAPPY THANKSGIVING

In the spirit of the first Thanksgiving, as we pause to count our many blessings—the earth's wondrous gifts, the great blessing of friends and family, good health—may we also pray that peace prevails for all mankind. Happy Thanksgiving from all of us.

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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 Valuation	2003 Levy	2004 Levy
State	\$35,951,970	1.500	
County	\$35,951,970		
General		25.060	
Road & Bridge		12.669	
Bridge Building		0.062	
Noxious Weed		6.349	
Hospital		0.347	
Bond & Interest		7.457	
Total		51.944	

2003 Valuations (Dollars)		2004 Valuation		Difference	
	Levy		Levy		
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	
KS Ed. Bldg.	76-6b01	1.000	
State Institutions	76-6b04	0.500	
Total		1.500	

City of Bird City K.S.A.			
General	K.S.A.	Levy	
General	79-1953	27.633	
Library	79-5032	2.063	
Total		29.696	

City of St. Francis K.S.A.			
General	K.S.A.	Levy	
General	79-5032	24.714	
Library	79-5032	3.794	
Total		28.508	

USD 297 K.S.A.			
Supp. General	K.S.A.	Levy	
Supp. General	72-6435	9.297	
General	72-6431	20.000	
Recreation	12-1927	1.000	
Capital Outlay	72-8801	4.000	
Total		34.297	

NWKS Library K.S.A.			
General	K.S.A.	Levy	
General	12-1230	0.900	
Employee Benefits	12-16,102	0.030	
Total		0.930	

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

USD 297 Valuation		
	General Fund	Other Funds
Cheyenne County	\$24,737,850	\$26,978,281

State of Kansas County of Cheyenne, SS:		
State	County	Levy
Terry Miller	Cheyenne County	Clerk

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