



# Bulletin Board

## Casey's Comments

**By Casey McCormick**  
*scmccormick@nwkansas.com*  
 My 83 year-old step-father is a real fighter. Sometimes in life that's what you have to be. As we move through our time on Earth the struggles we endure can cause a real dilemma. For those of us who are Christians, we are taught to "turn the other cheek" and "love one another." However, I believe that God grants us the power to defend ourselves from bad things. Anyway, back to my step-dad. His name is Richard Seno and he is currently recuperating at a Denver hospital. Last week doctors took a cancerous tumor, about the size of a golf ball, and a third of his pancreas out. For Richard, the battle of surgery is over, but the war for recovery is just beginning. He will have to toil hard to regain his strength and return to a normal life. Here comes the fighter part. This man grew up in the tough and gritty Italian neighborhoods of Chicago. This was during the Great Depression no less. In World War II he joined the Army and served in Europe, fighting the Nazi menace. As an adult he was a teacher and, eventually, a principal in Denver Public Schools. To the teachers and parents out there, you know what "hazardous duty" that can be. So now Richard has to beat his cancer by being a fighter. I'm not a betting man, but if I were, my money would be on the determined Italian kid from Chicago.

beach weather. But, if I have my druthers, I would druther have a snowy Christmas any day. Anyway what I really want to say is that Dec. 25, is the designated date of the birth of Jesus the Christ. For the Christian, He is the symbol of Light in a dark world and I have found it quite interesting that Christmas should be the beginning of more daylight and less darkness. But for some, this has no meaning whatsoever except that days are getting longer and Christmas is just another holiday for over-extending your credit card. Well, so be it, because it comes down to what you choose to celebrate; and I have celebrated both ways in my life. However, I choose now to be my best in the Light of Jesus. And even if you haven't accepted Him yet, you are still celebrating His birth. Oh yeah, and when Jan. 1 rolls around, you will be living in 2009 A.D. (anno Domini) or translated, 2009 In the Year of Our Lord. Let's see our courts mess with that one!

## Letters From Linda

**By Linda Schneider**  
*dublins@hotmail.com*  
 You may have noticed the days are getting longer, or not. Well they are, because Dec. 21 at 7:04 a.m. Eastern Standard Time marked the winter solstice; the shortest day and the longest night of the year. So, even though it has been only a few days, the days are getting longer in second increments. It will be a few more months before there will really mark a difference in the sunrises and sunsets. But, it is this time of the year when we have Christmas. Do you realize that while the northern hemisphere is having its shortest day, the southern hemisphere is having its longest day, and Christmas is celebrated on the same day in both hemispheres? That means that while I am looking out my front window and seeing wind blowing trees and snow in 21-degrees weather, wind chill 9 degrees, Buenos Aires, Argentina, is basking in

erly is just beginning. He will have to toil hard to regain his strength and return to a normal life. Here comes the fighter part. This man grew up in the tough and gritty Italian neighborhoods of Chicago. This was during the Great Depression no less. In World War II he joined the Army and served in Europe, fighting the Nazi menace. As an adult he was a teacher and, eventually, a principal in Denver Public Schools. To the teachers and parents out there, you know what "hazardous duty" that can be. So now Richard has to beat his cancer by being a fighter. I'm not a betting man, but if I were, my money would be on the determined Italian kid from Chicago.

## South of McDonald

**By Sandy Binning**  
 Joe and Charlene Kramer attended Sunday services and the Christmas program at the St. Francis Community Church Sunday morning. Charlene Kramer attended the funeral of Sheridan Magnani Saturday morning in Benkelman. David Banister is home for Christmas break. Kathy Banister took Brewster students to Triplains Monday for a Scholar Bowl. George, Kathy and Debbie Ban-

ister attended Santa Day in McDonald Saturday. Debbie and Kathy Banister went Christmas caroling Sunday evening with the Catholic Youth Organization group in Bird City. Alex Thomas is home from college for a few days. Weekend guests of Lindon and Diane Montgomery were Mark, Catina, Jayden, Lindi, and Jenna Montgomery of Denver, Colo. Bethel Goltl attended the Christmas program Sunday evening at the Federated Church in McDonald.

**Christmas Eve service**  
 A 7:30 p.m. a Christmas Eve barn service led by Pastor Rossbach will be held at Steve Busse's farm located one-half mile south of road I and road 27 on Dec. 24. Bring warm clothing and flashlights. Straw bales will be provided for seating or bring chairs. Fellowship will follow the service with hot chocolate and hot cider. Bring finger foods or dessert.

**Grandparents night**  
 All Cheylin grandparents will be recognized during the boys varsity basketball game on Jan. 9, against Dighton at McDonald during halftime. All grandparents will receive free popcorn compliments of the Cheylin Booster Club.

**Open House planned**  
 Neitzel Insurance will be holding an open house from 1 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 31.

**Herald/Times holiday schedule**  
 Christmas holiday: The Herald and Times offices will close at noon on Wednesday, Dec. 24, and be closed all day on Thursday, Dec. 25, and Friday, Dec. 26. The newspaper will be coming out one day early going to the post offices on Tuesday, Dec. 23, and on the routes Wednesday, Dec. 24.

New Year's holiday: The Herald and Times offices will close at noon on Wednesday, Dec. 31, and all day on Thursday, Jan. 1, and Friday, Jan. 2. Deadline for news, pictures and ads is the normal 5 p.m. on Monday, (Dec. 28). The papers will go to the post offices on the normal schedule of Wednesday afternoon.

**90th birthday**  
 Mabel Carstens will be celebrating her 90th birthday on Dec. 31. Her children and grandchildren welcome you to join them in celebration with a card shower. Birthday greetings may

reach her at P.O. Box 545, Bird city, KS 67731.

**Recovery Today/Narcotics Anonymous**  
 Recovery Today group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. on Sunday nights at the United Methodist Educational Building. Call (785) 332-6542 or 8607 for more information.

**Narcotics/Alcohol Anonymous**



Jameson Haack

## Introducing

Jameson Roger Haack was born at 7:48 a.m. on December 1, 2008, at Mercy Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa. He weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20-inches long. He has a sister, Elizabeth, 3, to welcome him home. Parents are Justin and Tenley Haack of Grimes, Iowa.

Grandparents are Ken and Mona Hankins of Atwood and Roger and Sharon Haack of Lawrence. Maternal great-grandparents are Elaine Dill of Sterling, the late Frank Dill and the late Elwyn and Edith Hankins. Paternal great-grandparents are Vernetta Haack of Bird City and the late Norman Haack and Bob and Laura Lee Jones, Bella Vista, Ark.

For anyone looking for support in recovery, Bird City is now having weekly meetings. Meetings will be held at 7:30 p.m. through 8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays with Narcotics Anonymous and Fridays with Alcohol Anonymous at the Senior Center.

**Sainty Serenity Seekers/Alcoholics Anonymous**  
 Sainty Serenity Seekers open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous is held at 7:30 p.m. each Thursday evening at the United Methodist Education Building at 104 W. Webster, St. Francis. Call (785) 332-6542 for more information

**Northwest Kansas Family Shelter**  
 Northwest Kansas Family Shelter provides 24-hour-7 day-a-week services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Weekly support groups are available for women and children within the northwest Kansas area. For information or in need of assistance, please call the toll-free number 1-800-794-4624.

**Correction**-in last week's paper, it was Cheyenne Hewitt in the front page picture and in the picture of a student giving Kay Miller poinsettas on page 3, not Ellie Pochop.

## McDonald News By Vera Kacirek

On Sunday evening, members of the Federated Church enjoyed the Sunday school program directed by Sylvia Hubbard. After the program, all enjoyed the fellowship with friends and there were treats for all.

Rod, Lisa and Josh Johnson and Sammie Ufford were Tuesday evening supper guests of Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson. Fred and LaVina Waters were

Saturday visitors of Laddie Kacirek at the Atwood hospital, and Lynn and Rita Officer were Sunday visitors.

R.J. and Susie Sabatka spent from Friday to Tuesday in Kansas City visiting relatives and friends.

Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson were among the members of St. John Church who enjoyed the children's Christmas program on Sunday evening.

## South of McDonald

**By Sandy Binning**  
 Lynn Officer attended the Heartland Christian School Basketball Tournament Saturday to watch

Ariel Regier play. Sandy and Donna Binning and girls called on Bethel Goltl Monday morning.

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m. 1 hr. 20 min.

### Four Christmases

Dec. 26, 27 & 28

Vince Vaughn, Reese Witherspoon, Noah Munch, Haley Hallak, Robert Duvall

Comedy, Kids/Family, Romance and Holiday

PG-13 for some sexual language and humor.

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 BUREAU OF WASTE MANAGEMENT

**Attention Business Owners**

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## Northwest Kansas Business Directory

www.NWKansasOnline.com

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Go to [www.NWKansasOnline.com](http://www.NWKansasOnline.com) search for your business if your business isn't listed, call... John Dehn 785-462-1149

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## Are You Uninsured?

Is your insurance a high-deductible major medical only policy? Do you have a hard time paying your medical bills? Cheyenne County Hospital and Clinic would like to help. We have received a Primary Care Clinic grant from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to help our uninsured population. Please call the St. Francis Clinic at 785-332-2682 or 888-278-0234 to talk with one of our case managers. We will help you see if you may qualify for public health insurance, Charity Care and other public assistance. At Cheyenne County Hospital, our mission is "Improving health through access to quality care." We feel that this should include focus on quality care for all patients, no just our insured population. Please call or stop by to talk with one of our case managers. We look forward to serving all citizens of Cheyenne County and the surrounding areas.

**Bride and Groom**

**Connie Miller & Patrick Rooney**

Were married on Nov. 27, 2008. They invite you to help them celebrate their marriage at a come-and-go reception on Dec. 31 beginning at 4 p.m. at Heritage Corner Cafe, 104 Bressler, Bird City.

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**For more information contact: Casey at 785-332-3162**