



## Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

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According to the Bridal Association of America there were 2,326,485 weddings held in the United States last year. At an average estimated cost of \$30,860 each the total spent was \$71,795,327,100.



For as the saying goes, "You can't buy love."

What this couple shares in far beyond the beautifully wrapped packages and the finery that accompanied the ceremony. What they have was spoken of when the bride and groom used their own words to make their vows.

The most amazing gift that Mr. and Mrs. Hilt will share for many years to come are the feelings they hold for one another deep within their hearts.

And for that, no price could ever be attached.

## Hospice services schedules meetings

Hospice Services has scheduled "Hope for the Holidays" meetings around the area.

As the holidays approach, many people will gather with family and friends. More often than not, these gatherings will include reminiscences about loved ones, re-telling of funny family stories, and the sharing of traditions honored year after year. This emphasis on remembrance, so welcomed during joyful times, can be quite difficult for those coping with loss.

For family, friends and neighbors who are facing grief after the death of a loved one, the holidays may instead be a time filled with pain and sadness. And even for those for whom grief is not as fresh, the holidays may serve as an annual reminder of the loss...not only of that person, but of tradition and celebration.

"Hope for the Holidays" meetings include: Thursday, Oct. 21, 3 p.m. mountain time at the Goodland Public Library and Monday, Nov. 15, 2 p.m. at the Redeemer Lutheran Church in Atwood. The meetings are open to the public. Come join Hospice Services for a nourishing program to prepare for the upcoming holidays, giving and receiving support, finding meaning and rediscovering hope.

Many people may not be aware of the support hospice and palliative care professionals offer to members of the community who are struggling with grief during the holiday season. If you or someone you know may be struggling with issues related to loss, encourage them to contact Maralyn Cooper, Bereavement Coordinator, (785-543-2900 or 800-315-5122) for support.

## Now is the time to winterize water meters

The cool mornings are here to remind us winter is just around the corner. It's also a reminder that it's time for everyone to winterize their water meters. The City Council has determined it is the homeowners responsibility to insulate. If you don't insulate your meter barrels and your meter freezes, the home owner/business owner is responsible for

all repair and replacement costs. This insulating can be done by placing blankets, towels, etc. around the meters.

If you are a senior resident, handicapped, or unable to do this yourself, please call the townhall and they will arrange for someone to help; you with this.

## School Menu

Menu subject to change  
**Monday, Oct. 18**  
Breakfast: Tornado.  
Lunch: Cheesy potato soup with peanut butter and jelly sandwich.  
**Tuesday, Oct. 19**  
Breakfast: Sausage gravy and biscuit.  
Lunch: Crispito with chili, roll.

**Wednesday, Oct. 20**  
Breakfast: Yogurt.  
Lunch: Corn dogs, nachos with cheese.  
**Thursday, Oct 21**  
Breakfast: Scrambled eggs with sausage.  
Lunch: French dip sandwich, dessert.

## The Bird City Times

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## Bulletin Board

### American Legion 90th birthday

The American Legion Auxiliary is celebrating their 90th birthday with dinner and entertainment on Saturday, Oct. 23, at 6:30 at the Legion Hall in Bird City. Tickets can be purchased from Mary Dorsch, (785) 734-2713 or Wanda Dowdy at (785) 734-2383. Tickets must be purchased by Friday, Oct. 15. Members welcome you to attend and enjoy a delicious meal and great entertainment. Classified last week.

### Home Circle Club

President Carolyn Rosenfelt will be hosting lunch at the Bird City Diner on Thursday, Oct. 21. Members will meet there at 1 p.m. for lunch and then go to the Manor for the regular business meeting.

### 80th celebrated

Inez Bargo celebrated her 80th birthday on Oct. 7. A party was held in her honor on Sunday at the Church of Christ. Cards can be sent to her at 321 S. Denison, St. Francis, KS 67756.

### Blood donors

The Red Cross is looking for blood donors from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 20, at the American Legion hall in Bird City.

### Bakery moves

For the winter months, Mana Bakery has moved from Uptown Market to Zero's. They are there from 10 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays.

### Self defense inservice

A self-defense inservice will be held from 3 to 4 p.m. and 4 to 5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 25 in the St. Francis Clinic conference room.

This will review basic self defense techniques an individual

can use in situations they don't feel comfortable in, whether at work, home or elsewhere. The teacher is a former sheriff's deputy and our sheriff's department will be assisting with the course. Those interested in attending, should contact Candi, 332-2104.

### Cemetery Board District 2

Cemetery Board District 2 will meet on Monday, Oct. 18, in the Commissioner's room of the courthouse.

### Doric Chapter 404

Doric Chapter 404 O.E.S. will meet Oct. 14 at 7:30 at the Lodge Hall.

### Knights of Columbus

During October the Knights of Columbus will be accepting donations for two projects that are very important to them. The first one is for Respect Life Month where the donations will be given to the Mary Elizabeth Home for Unwed Mothers in Hays.

The second project is their annual Tootsie Roll drive. They will be going around during the week of Oct. 11. This money is split with 20 percent going to help the Special Olympics basketball game in Hays and the other 80 percent will be split evenly between the St. Francis and Cheylin School districts to be used for special education programs. Give donations to any member of the Knights or you can send them to Mike Antholz at P.O. Box 851, St. Francis.

### Haigler Fall Tumbleweed Festival

The Haigler Fall Tumbleweed Festival will be held on Saturday, Oct. 23. At that time, the refurbished School District 67 South, now the Haigler

Cornerstone Museum, will be open.

### Debate televised

A debate featuring Ward Cassidy, (R) St. Francis, and Robert (Bob) Streauey, (D) Norcatour, will be featured on Smokey Hills Television (cable Channel 3) at 9 p.m. tonight (Thursday, Oct. 14). It will be rerun at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 17. They are running for representative of the 120 District. www.smokeyhillstv.org/index.php/component/content/article/220.

### Portraits from the Golden Age of Jazz

The Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum is pleased to present Portraits From the Golden Age of Jazz: Photographs by William Gottlieb, a fascinating exhibition of approximately 75 photographs on display Nov. 12 through Dec. 12.

### WPAA

The Wichita Children's Theatre Professional Touring Company will present The Three Billy Goats Gruff at St. Francis schools on Wednesday, Oct. 20 at 9:30 a.m.

The Mid America Arts Alliance and Western Plains Arts Association will present international touring artist Michael Fitzsimmons, who will give a performance entitled Drums of the World on Sunday at 3 p.m. at the St. Francis Community High School.

### Veterans Affairs

Jody Tubbs, of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs, will be in St. Francis at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 21, at the county clerk's office. People may also contact the Veteran's Affairs office in Colby any Monday, Wednesday or Friday at (785) 462-3572.

### Wray Health Fair

Blood draw dates at the Wray Health Fair are through Oct. 21 from 6 to 9:30 a.m. May take normal medications prior to test. Fast for 12 hours (but drink plenty of water). The Fair date is Oct. 27 at the WRAC from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Number to call for blood draw appointment is (970) 332-4811. Call (970) 332-2245 for further information.

### AARP

AARP will have their October meeting today (Thursday), at 2 p.m. in the east room at the St. Francis Senior Center. ErvaGene DeAragon will be the hostess. All AARP members are welcome.

### County Commissioners

The Cheyenne County Commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. Friday in the commissioner's room at the courthouse.

### Peace of Mind AA

Peace of Mind AA will meet at the St. Francis Public Library at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays. Contact Kris D. at (785) 332-4410 or (785) 772-5090.

### Narcotics Anonymous

Narcotics Anonymous meetings are held at 104 W Webster/Methodist Education Building on Sunday nights at 8 p.m. and Thursday nights at 7:30 p.m. Contact (785) 342-0028.

### Northwest Kansas Family Shelter

Northwest Kansas Family Shelter provides 24-hour-7day-a-week service 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.

## Obituaries

### Mildred Pyle Ward

May 24, 1916 - Sept. 27, 2010

Mildred Pyle was born in a sod house in Cheyenne County, Kan., on May 24, 1916, to George and Mary Kohler Pyle.

Mildred's mother died when she was only 9-years-old. After her mothers death she lived with her sister Velta, as her sister found work in Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado to support them. After her sister married, she then made her home with the Johnson family. After graduating from the eighth grade at Tucker School east of Bird City, she entered the Bird City High School, graduating with the class of 1936.

In the fall of 1937, Mildred moved to Glendale, Calif.

On Aug. 9, 1940, she was united in marriage to George Ward. To this union two sons was born, Leon and Larry. After the sons were grown Mildred joined her husband in the family business, Ward Realty. Mildred and George enjoyed traveling. They belonged to a

travel club and saw many parts of the world as well as the United States.

George died in 1989. Mildred continued living in their home for several years before moving into Leisure World, which she enjoyed very much. The last several years she lived in an assisted living in Murrieta, Calif., near her son, Leon.

Mildred died at the age of 94 in a nursing home in Sun City, Calif. Those preceding her in death besides her loving husband; include two sisters, Velta Johnson and Eva Murray, five brothers, Leroy, Robert, Norris, Olen and Floyd. Her only surviving sibling, Dale Lighthill died a week after Mildred.

Those surviving her are her children, Leon and Kathy Ward of Menifee, Calif., Larry and Karie Ward of Glendale, Calif., four grandsons and seven great-grandchildren.

### Melvin Ray Watkins

Dec. 2, 1943 - July 8, 2010.

Melvin Ray Watkins was born Dec. 2, 1943, in Goodland, Kan., to his parents, Ray Ellsworth Watkins and Mary Elsie Craft Watkins. His youth was spent on the family's farm southwest of Bird City. He attended Glendale Country School, grades one through eight, after which he attended and graduated from Bird City Rural High School in 1962. He attended the Pilgrim Holiness Church in St. Francis.

Melvin met Betty Ray Anderson in 1964, and they were married Jan. 5, 1965.

Allen Ray Watkins arrived April 18, 1975, to complete their family. Adopting a child from Vietnam took two years to finalize the adoption. He was their pride and joy.

After suffering several months with cancer, Melvin died on July 8, 2010, at Collier Hospice in

Wheat Ridge, Colo. A memorial service was held on July 16, 2010, at Aspen Mortuary, Arvada, Colo. A reception for friends and family was held at Great Occasions Event Center, Arvada. Inurnment took place at Golden Cemetery, Golden, Colo.

Melvin is survived by his wife, Betty; son, Allen; sister, Dorothy (Bob) Beckner of Goodland; nephew, Wayne (Joy) Beckner, Wichita; niece, Debra (Rob) Lawson, Heather and Charlie, Norton; nephew, Rodney Beckner, Brianna, Matt and Tiffany, Lincoln, Neb.

Both of his parents preceded Melvin in death.

Condolences and memorials may be made to the family preference - the Melvin Watkins Memorial and it will reach Betty Watkins at 6925 Braun Ct., Arvada, CO 80004.

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m.

1 hr. 32 min.

### Easy A

Oct. 15, 16 & 17

PG 13 for mature thematic elements involving teen sexuality, language and some drug material.

Emma Stone, Penn Badgley, Amanda Bynes, Dan Byrd, Thomas Haden Church

Comedy

CHEYENNE THEATER

St. Francis, KS  
785-332-2747

Children 12 & Under: \$3

All Others: \$5

## CHEYENNE COUNTY HOSPITAL

210 W. 1st • St. Francis, KS  
785-332-2104

## Self Defense Inservice

Oct. 25, 3-4 p.m. or 4-5p.m.

## Clinic Conference Room

This will review basic self defense techniques you can use in situations you don't feel comfortable in, whether at work, home, or elsewhere. The teacher is a former Sheriff's deputy and our Sheriff's department will be assisting with the course. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Candi, 332-2104

## Check your renewal dates

— Current Rates —

**The Saint Francis Herald**

Area - \$38 KS - \$42  
Out-of-State - \$48

**Bird City Times**

Area - \$33 KS - \$36  
Out-of-State - \$40

## American Profile

Celebrating Hometown Life

See American Profile magazine in this week's issue of

## The Bird City Times

(available in local area only)

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