

## Notice published to control noxious weeds

Published in The Saint Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, and the Bird City Times, Bird City, Kansas, Thursdays, March 3 and March 10, 2011. (9-10)

### GENERAL NOTICE TO CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS

The Kansas Noxious Weed Law K.S.A. 2-1314 et seq requires all persons who own or supervise land in Kansas to control and eradicate all weeds declared noxious by legislative action. The weeds declared noxious are: field bindweed, musk thistle, johnson grass, bur ragweed, Canada thistle, sericea lespedeza, leafy spurge, hoary cress, quack grass, Russian knapweed, kudzu and pignut. Bull Thistle is a County Option Noxious Weed declared noxious by the Board of County Commissioners of Cheyenne County. Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Kansas Noxious Weed Law to every person who owns or supervises land in Cheyenne County that noxious weeds growing or found on such land shall be controlled and eradicated. Control is defined as preventing the production of viable seed and the vegetative spread of the plant.

Failure to observe this notice may result in the County:

1. Serving a legal notice requiring control of the noxious weeds within a minimum of five days. Failure to control the noxious weeds within the time period allowed may result in the county treating the noxious weeds at the landowners expense and placing a lien on the property if the bill is not paid within 30 days or,
2. Filing criminal charges for non compliance. Conviction for non compliance may result in a fine of \$100 per day of non-compliance with a maximum fine of \$1500.

The public is also hereby notified that it is a violation of the Kansas Noxious Weed Law to barter, sell or give away infested nursery stock or livestock feed unless the feed is fed on the farm where grown or sold to a commercial processor that will destroy the viability of the noxious weed seed. Custom harvesting machines must be labeled with a label provided by the Kansas Dept. of Agriculture and must be free of all weed seed and litter when entering the State and when leaving a field infested with noxious weeds. Additional information may be obtained from the Cheyenne County Noxious Weed Department or by contacting the Kansas Dept. of Agriculture, 109 S.W. 9th, Topeka, KS 66612.

## Ordinance increases insurance requirement

Published in The Saint Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, Thursday, March 10, 2011. (10)

### ORDINANCE NO. 574

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 213 OF ARTICLE 2 OF CHAPTER 4 OF THE 2003 CODE OF THE CITY OF ST. FRANCIS, KANSAS, INCREASING THE AMOUNT OF LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE REQUIRED TO BE CARRIED BY A BUILDER OR BUILDING CONTRACTOR.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ST. FRANCIS, KANSAS, that Section 4-213 of the 2003 Code of the City of St. Francis, Kansas, shall be amended to read as follows:

4-213. INSURANCE. A builder or building contractor must procure and maintain a liability insurance policy in the amount of \$250,000 for the death or injury of any one person and \$500,000 for the death or injury of any number of persons in any one accident and \$300,000 for property damage in any one accident. Such policies of insurance shall be issued by some insurance company authorized to do business in the State of Kansas. A builder or building contractor may qualify as to the insurance requirements by filing a certificate with the city clerk executed by the resident agent of such company stating that the required policy of insurance has been issued by such company for the purpose required by this article and that such insurer will not cancel the policy except upon giving 30 days notice in writing to the city; and that the certificate shall be filed for an annual period beginning January 1 and ending December 31 of such year.

This Section 4-213, as amended, shall take effect and be enforced from and after its publication in the official city newspaper, The St. Francis Herald. PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR THIS 28th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2011.

/s/ SCOTT SCHULTZ, Mayor  
City of St. Francis, Kansas

Attest:

/s/ MARY P. LAMPE  
City Clerk

## Petition filed in court in the Connett estate

Published in The Saint Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, Thursdays, March 10, March 17 and March 24, 2011. (10-12)

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CHEYENNE COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of

Case No. 11-PR-05

HAROLD L. CONNETT, a/k/a  
LEE CONNETT, Deceased.

(Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on March 3, 2011, a petition was filed in this Court by Carol Connett, an heir, devisee and legatee, and executor named in the "Last Will and Testament of Harold L. Connett a/k/a Lee Connett," deceased, dated July 26, 1996, praying the will filed with the Court be admitted to probate and record; petitioner be appointed as executor, without bond; and petitioner be granted Letters Testamentary.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before April 5, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. in the District Court, St. Francis, Cheyenne County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the latter of four months from the date of first publication of notice under K.S.A. 59-2236 and amendments thereto, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Carol Connett, Petitioner

JAMES M. MILLIKEN, CHARTERED  
James M. Milliken, #7001  
101 W WASHINGTON  
ST. FRANCIS, KS 67756  
(785) 332-2101  
Attorneys for Petitioner

Check your  
renewal  
dates ...

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2215 06-21-01 W 72P 52S  
JOHN DOE  
3444 Walker St.  
City, State, Zip

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

Don't  
Miss  
Single  
Issue!



## Board projects additional losses

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkansas.com

At the March 24 meeting, the Cheyenne County Hospital Board again discussed the fact that the facility was projected to lose an additional \$500,000 per year since the Good Samaritan Village fire on Oct. 19. Because the nursing home will be back in limited operation soon, the ongoing loss will be lower, but still significant.

Les Lacy, hospital administrator, said the hospital is a Critical Access Hospital, which is a program designed to improve rural health care access and reduce hospital closures. Critical Access Hospitals provide essential services to a community and are reimbursed by Medicare on a "reasonable cost basis" for services provided to Medicare patients.

The hospital operates its clinics as Rural Health Clinics, which are similarly reimbursed by Medicare on a "reasonable cost basis" for services provided to Medicare patients. However, as the balance tips toward younger patients and more un- and under-insured, this reimbursement mechanism may not fully meet the needs of the community. Mr. Lacy has been studying the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) model for over 2 years and has secured grant funding to do a financial analysis of the model.

Had the Cheyenne County Clinics been operated as a Federally Qualified Health Center, the clinic would have reduced losses by \$200,000. A federal grant of \$650,000 would then create a turn around for the clinic of \$850,000. Mr. Lacy cautioned the board that this is only part of the picture be-

cause we still need to look at how this impacts the hospital. In addition Lacy indicates that there are governance issues that may make this type of conversion difficult. He points out that State Line Health Network was an Federally Qualified Health Center but was not able to survive here. He also points out that he has been unable to find a frontier county or a county below 6,000 population that has both an Federally Qualified Health Center and a Critical Access Hospital.

While these Federally Qualified Health Centers receive better reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid, in addition to other benefits, Lacy still had concerns about the program and will have more information at a later meeting. Mr. Lacy also mentioned a potential for a demonstration project to improve our services and reimbursement.

Dr. Mary Beth Miller, Dr. Rebecca Allard, Krystal Raile, physician assistant, and Kent Allard were present at the meeting as Mr. Lacy talked about how the hospital and clinic were going to make it through the next year with fewer patients. The Village fire found the 47 residents placed in other facilities in neighboring towns, and they are being treated by the doctors and hospitals in those towns.

Mr. Lacy pointed out that the staff wages had been frozen as of the first of the year. He also reported that the hospital had been able to meet its' cash needs since the last board meeting, adding at least two months onto our time line, he said.

He said that he did not want to drop services at the hospital. We need to figure out a way to work

this out. The upcoming Kansas Rural Health Works Community Engagement Process that will occur in the next few months will help the community to make decisions about what they need and want to pay for.

Jackie John, area director for Great Plains Health Alliance, the company which leases the hospital, said it was important to put together the services the people in the communities want and need.

The Village, Mr. Lacy said, is to have 31 residents by May. While this will help, it is still short of the 47 beds before the fire. The county will be asked to support the nursing home. The hospital board will be asking for the full 12 mills approved by the residents in 1996.

Adding assisted living at the Village would be a good advantage both to the nursing home, the hospital and the people of the community.

The discussion turned to informing the board about the future of the medical staff. There are two candidates who are interested in coming to Cheyenne County. Dr. Allard and Dr. Miller said both candidates are at the top of their class and could have their pick of communities to practice in. However, they want to come to Cheyenne County. One has 3.5 years left of practice and the other, 4.5 years. In the next 20 years, there will be a shortage of primary care providers.

It was noted those hospitals that are having trouble are the ones without a stable medical staff.

The doctors said they thought

providing obstetric care and delivery was necessary in attracting a young, growing medical community. Dr. Miller had called the Quinter hospital which is thriving. She was told that the personality of the providers is important in building practices.

If we cut even one service, said Erika Zimelman, board member, it links with other services and we will end up losing patients.

Kari Gilliland, board member, reminded those present that the hospital has made it through other financial crisis before. We need to keep on a positive course. People need to understand the challenge and how it will be paid for. The county understood the 12 mills are necessary.

People need to be willing to pay more taxes, said Jane Young, board member.

### Equipment purchase

The board approved the lease purchase of a new CT scan. The cost of the equipment is \$326,000 and most of it will be paid for with the \$300K in Kansas State Tax Credits. The CT will be installed during the week of March 21.

Mr. Lacy said the equipment will fit in the present CT scan department and it will not be necessary to put in additional floor supports.

### Executive session

Mrs. Gilliland called for 20 minutes executive session to discuss personnel. No decisions were made during or following executive session.

### Next meeting

The next meeting of the hospital board has been set for 3 p.m. on Thursday, March 24, in the clinic basement in St. Francis.

## Legislative News By Ward Cassidy, 120th State Representative

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkansas.com

About 30 people came out Saturday afternoon to talk to two legislators at the town hall meeting held at Main Street Java, St. Francis.

Senator Ralph Ostmeier and Representative Ward Cassidy talked about the state's lack of money and the cuts the governor is proposing.

Mr. Ostmeier was the first to speak. Among some of the things he talked about was the selling of beer and liquor in grocery stores. He said he thinks that all businesses need to be protected and will vote no on the matter. However, he doesn't think there will be a decision made this year.

Governor Brownback, he said, knows how to save money. However, there are going to be some decisions that make people unhappy.

For instance, there are many who support the arts but it is one of those programs that will be cut. When veterans, the handicap and elderly have been cut financially, he said, how can we continue to fund the arts?

The state has had a problem with spending for 10 years. The state is broke, he said.

There are going to be cuts in the schools. Some school superintendents say when the contingency funds are gone, the school is done. That's not what we want out here. We need the schools open with teachers and students.

Lack of population is a problem in the district. Because of the lack of people, Mr. Ostmeier will be picking up two more counties. Mr. Cassidy, he said, may pick up another county to the east.

This is Mr. Cassidy's first year as a representative and he shared how it has been a learning experience but one he hasn't regretted. He reported that he loves Northwest Kansas and it's people. It has been a pleasure to serve them, he said.

"I love hearing from the people," he said.

He had promised that he would answer every e-mail he received from constituents and he has - over 2,000 e-mails. If I don't know the answer, he said, I have the resources that I can find the answer.

"My premise," he said, "is that we can't spend any more money than is being brought in."

With all the budget cuts already proposed and those going on and the loss of the stimulus money, he said, government is still going to grow 6 percent this year and that's bad news. The budget needs to be brought back down so there can be some posi-

tive growth.

He was concerned about the fact that the state received money from the federal government. If the state can't meet the maintenance of effort which is \$26 million, the the state can lose that money. Once they have lost the money, they can't get it back. The state of Kansas doesn't have \$26 million, he said.

Mr. Cassidy is expecting more cuts in education this year. A counselor and former teacher/principal, he finds the cuts discouraging but, even more discouraging, he expects the cuts to continue for three more years.

However, there is some good news. Kansas has been awarded the Boeing contract and there are positive indications concerning the Holcomb Power Plant. EPA, he said, needs to back off! He

would like to see Environmental Protection Agency defunded.

Having these businesses mean billions of dollars will be coming into the state.

Mr. Cassidy talked about fire marshals. As a principal, he found that their demands on the St. Francis schools and those across the state is unreasonable. The state is cutting schools \$300,000 but the expense for fire marshal issues such as new doors in the buildings is \$400,000.

Mr. Cassidy, after studying the matter, talked to Governor Brownback, expressing his anger and frustration. He was advised to write a bill so he did. Since then, the nursing home administrators have contacted him, also wanting his support for them.

He believes that he can make a positive impact in Topeka. He has

made the front page of the Topeka newspaper and plans to make Northwest Kansas known on the hill.

Mr. Cassidy said his website is scheduled to be up and running at www.wardcassidy.com. He's also been writing columns for the local newspapers.

Several people asked questions. Immigration issues seemed to bring out a lot of discussion. Mr. Cassidy believes in E-Verify but it hasn't passed because it will cost millions of dollars if it is attacked. On the other side of the coin, he said, illegal immigration is costing local hospitals millions.

He encourages everyone to go to his new website, www.wardcassidy.com. Anyone having questions should e-mail him at Ward.Cassidy@house.ks.gov.

## South of McDonald By Sandy Binning

Tom and Kelly Dewey and children were Saturday evening and supper guests of Dietrich and Jennifer Kastens and children in Atwood.

Charlene Kramer called on Roseland Bundy Thursday afternoon.

Lynn and Rita Officer attended a retirement party for John Al-lacher in Atwood Friday night.

George and Kathy Banister visited with Amelia Banister, who is a patient in the Cheyenne County Hospital, Thursday and Sunday afternoon.

George and Kathy Banister attended substate basketball at Palco Saturday night to watch the Cheylin girls play.

George Banister attended the Cheylin - Rawlins County basketball games in Atwood Tuesday.

George and Kathy Banister attended the Sharon Springs-Cheylin basketball games in McDonald Friday night.

Kathy Banister attended Joe Kramer's 70th birthday party in McDonald Saturday afternoon.

Linda Dewey was a weekend guest of her parents, Ote and Ellen Dewey.

Kelly Dewey and children were Thursday overnight guests of Linda Dewey in Hays. They were weekend guests of Marvin and Kristina Springer, Braxton and Lanxton in Manhattan.

Kelly Dewey and children attended the Tuesday evening benefit supper and basketball games in Atwood.

Leon and Nancy Brunton and Ron Harper of Ozawkie were weekend guests of Joe and Charlene Kramer to attend Joe's birth-

day party Saturday. Additional Saturday supper guests of Joe and Charlene were Dennis and Elda Kramer and girls, Ryan and Diane Shay and children of St. Francis, Bill and Susan Kramer of Osk-

loosa, Jamie and Julie Durand and Amy and Sara Kramer all of Ozawkie, Travis and Colleen Gattshall and Linnea of St. Francis and John Neill and Jane Leche of Denver.

## Breastfeeding grants awarded in Kansas

The Kansas Public Health Association, Inc. reported that Breastfeeding Grants have been awarded to 18 public health departments in Kansas, through the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund of Hutchinson. Cheyenne County was among those receiving grants and will receive an average of \$10,000 to imple-

ment their initiatives.

The purpose of the grants is to support improvements in breastfeeding duration and increase breastfeeding initiation rates in their communities. One of the most highly effective preventive measures a mother can take to protect the health of her infant and herself is to breastfeed.

## Medical provider to answer questions

Dr. Mary Beth Miller will be the guest speaker at the Diabetes Support Group meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16. Dr. Miller would like to engage diabetic participants and their family members into discussion about if everyone knew about diabetes, how medical providers can interact more effectively with the diabetic patient.

Dr. Miller will listen to patients and their family's questions and/or concerns with diabetes and how she and other medical providers can work with patients to encourage patients to be compliant with their diabetes.

This program would be an ideal time for family members of diabetics to learn about diabetes and express their thoughts of what is being done and what can be done in the local Cheyenne County Clinic for diabetes patients.

The meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16, in the basement of the Cheyenne County Clinic.

This program is open to the public and free of charge. For more information, contact Mila Bandel, RN County Health Nurse at 785-332-2381.