



Reader shares view of meeting

To the Editor:
On Thursday, June 2, a meeting of the St. Francis Ministerial Association was requested by Jeff Paulsen to communicate some important happenings at the Good Samaritan Village. Due to a poor turnout of ministers as well as the importance of the information, I want to speak out.

No one is asking me to write this letter and if I say anything that is not correct, it is unintentional.

Good news must be shared. We were given an architect's drawing of the planned basic remodeling of the facility. It will leave only the north wall standing when the construction begins and will add three rooms on the west end of the connecting corridor and two rooms on the east end.

This will do several things. It will open up the facility so the kitchen people will no longer have to cart all the meals around the 'back door', using the south entrance. It will free up several rooms in the west wing for residents. It will allow the residents to again have more space for their

—Letters to the Editor—

activities. All of this is what we thought would happen eventually.

However, this plan has been made by the Good Samaritan Society and will be paid for by the insurance money received from the fire. While the entries are still trying to determine the cause of the fire which allows companies to bicker about the exact amounts of liability, enough money has been received to allow for this to all happen at the expense of the Society.

Otherwise, they, the Good Samaritan people, are not trying to give a burned out facility and make us figure out how to make it operational on our own funds. They are going to construct this plan which will allow us to have a good facility able to help about 35 people, and will be a facility which at that point can operate without much taxpayer help.

Yes, when we receive this facility for \$1, we will have to have some contingency operating funds and many of us want to see it even-

tually become capable of more assisted living help. That will not be a great burden on anyone.

The plans have been drawn, a contractor has been committed, and we wait for the State of Kansas to simply sign off on plans that have been drawn to meet every requirement. As the state does this, which should happen at any time, construction will begin immediately.

The third week in June has been the target date. When we see those blue tarps removed and see dust flying, we can all be proud of the commitment of the Good Samaritan people have to leave the people of Cheyenne County a very good, working nursing home.

For many of them and especially for Jeff Paulsen, this is a ministry of helping people in need.

I want to always be part of this ministry and I hope you will want to do the same.

Norman Morrow
St. Francis



Community plays important part

Letter to the Editor:
What a privilege to live in Cheyenne County!

When Stan and I returned to St. Francis after living in Dallas for 36 years, we had no idea what an important part the people of this community would play in our lives.

First there was the welcome back home, followed by encouragement as we settled in. Later during Stan's illness your support surrounded us: home nursing care,

— Letter to the Editor —

gardening, mowing and towing, loaned four-wheel drive vehicles, "taxi" service, meals, banana bread, more food, guest houses, rooms, beds, calls, visits, cards, memorials, hugs, tears.

The Cheyenne County medical team, including Dr. Miller, Dr. Allard, Tyler and Kristle Raile and the hospital and clinic staffs, deserves recognition for their profes-

sional care and personal concern.

Our family is humbled by the acts of kindness that have been showered upon us. Our children expressed thankfulness that Stan and I had moved back to family, friends and a community that joined hands to support us in our time of need.

Janet Carman and children

Governor's veto affects Kansas

Governor Brownback's Veto of the Arts affects rural Kansas

With a stroke of his pen, Gov. Brownback vetoed funding for the Kansas Arts Commission. How does that affect the people of Northwest Kansas you ask? If you've ever attended a Western Plains Arts Association show in one of our nine corner counties of Northwest Kansas, it was probably funded in some way through the Kansas Arts Commission. This state funded arts group was the funnel for federal money from the National Endowment for the Arts; regional money from Mid America Arts Alliance, and Kansas tax funding for the Kansas Touring Program.

So immediately, the Western Plains Arts Association lost \$9,000

in Kansas Touring Program funds. The Mid America Arts Alliance funding is in question, so that left our organization in a panic as we start our membership drive for the 2011-2012 year. What do we do?

The Board decided it was in the best interest of the entire organization to have fewer, larger shows in central locations, rather than so many programs. The Board regrets, that for this year at least, the outlying communities will probably not be able to host a show...either because of demanding technical requirements by the larger shows, or poor attendance in the past.

Governor Brownback's vision is that the Arts will be privately funded. Whether that is possible

or practical remains to be seen. We do hope that our citizens of Northwest Kansas will "step up to the plate" and support the Arts as never before. Please support Western Plains Arts Association (WPAA) with a sponsorship this year if you possibly can. Individual memberships are great, but it takes the higher levels of support to bring quality programs to Northwest Kansas. Contact your local Western Plains Arts Association representative before July 10 if you can help out at the sponsor level or above. Thanks so much for all your past and future support!

Looking forward to a great 2011-2012 season!

Leona Dickman,
Secretary, WPAA

Reader disagrees with front page

Editor:
I will start by saying that a Rest Home is definitely needed in St. Francis, but when the Front page is used to promote the County owning it, as a free news story and the only method for other options free is to reply to the Editor, it is a little disheartening.

First of all the mill levy given is for this present time, and I was told this is the year to do a new re-calculation on farm ground to generate more revenue. Don't know—this is what I was told at the courthouse, therefore if this is voted in, by tax time it could be quite different! There is no time limit on this increase, so it can go on forever? At a city council meeting I attended, I suggested that maybe a financial group could be set up and sell shares to acquire and lease the home out. Mr. Keller told me if I would come up with 10 (ten) people with ONE to ONE and One-Half Million Dollars each, he would talk to them! Now this is the only time I have heard a dollar amount! WOW! Of course it could be a lot larger group of people or business's.

As a past businessman I really find it inconceivable that a company as large as Good Sam was not carrying enough insurance to take care of their property as well as for

loss of revenue in case of some catastrophe. Am sure the contractor is also carrying some liability in this matter. More checking seems to be called for! If this is such a good deal for us taxpayers why would Good Sam want to give it up? Maybe there are new regulations coming down the pike from the Government that they would like us to pay for! Maybe if we looked at constitutional law where it prohibits government entities from engaging in private enterprise, we could change our minds! But of course the present president seems to like to privatize, car companies, banks, mortgage companies. He would love for us to help him redistribute the wealth and give cradle to grave service in Cheyenne County! Tax money at 1-percent sales and 2.5 mills already goes to the hospital,

(I think I read this in the paper some time ago) we acquire the rest home, we could become his poster child, of course we would, (as a county) have to buy out Mr. and Mrs. Knodel to complete the deal.

Let us back away for a bit, there is not a big rush to get this done! One person or the county should never, never ever negotiate a \$15 million deal out of FEAR! If we take a breath or two and look closer, we may find this could become a BIG BLACK HOLE sucking down our tax money-- down the road a piece!

For now my vote will be NO! "God bless America." I guess that may sound a little "hollow" the way a lot of people are trying to tear down our constitution!

Larry B Wilson
St. Francis

GOD SAYS
He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.
Proverbs 13:20

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Out here, in the northern corner of Kansas, cowboys are a regular sight. Cattle ranching has been a big part of the tradition and it looks like it will remain "Beef Country" for awhile.

But you don't have to live a couple hours drive from famous Dodge City to have been a fan of James Arness.

From 1955 to 1975 the giant-of-a-man (at 6 foot 7 inches) played Marshall Matt Dillon on the television series "Gunsmoke." Mr. Arness left the stage of life recently at the age of 88.

The lead role of the western drama was originally offered to Mr. Arness's good friend John Wayne. Although the "Duke" handed the part to his pal, he did introduce the first episode to the public.

Some other interesting facts about the actor is that he got his big break in the Sci-Fi movie "The Thing" (1951). His size made him a natural to play the oversized monster from outer space. Also he was the older brother of television and film performer Peter Graves.

What many may not realize is that Mr. Arness contributed as a member of the generation that went to bat when our country most needed them.

His desire was to be a Navy combat pilot in World War II. But a combination of poor eye sight and large stature directed him to the Army. As an Infantryman he stormed the beach in Italy during the invasion at Anzio. A severe leg wound earned him the Purple Heart.

Again, his large size played a

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick
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part as he was the first soldier in his landing craft to exit so the water's depth could be determined. It came to his waist.

"I was honored to have served in the Army for my country," Mr. Arness recounted, "(being in combat) makes you realize how very precious life is."

And what a life it was!

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Weekday Mass 8:30 a.m.
Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

United Methodist Church
Church Office 332-2292,
Church 332-2254,
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Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

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Morning Worship 10:45

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Pastor Chris Farmer
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Worship 10:30
Prayer Meeting, Wed 7:30 p.m.

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Church Service 10:15 a.m.

First Baptist Church
2nd & Scott • 332-3921
J.W. Glidewell, Pastor
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Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m.,
Wed. AWANA Club 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

St. Francis Community Church
332-3150
204 N. Quincy Street
www.sfccfamily.com
Pastor: David Butler
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Potluck & Communion - Every 2nd Sunday
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

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Pastor Glenn Isernhagen, Interim 332-2928
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