



Driver's licenses are renewed at the Cheyenne County Treasurer's office. Deb Lindsten took the eye test while Melissa Tabor, right, deputy treasurer, entered the information for the new driver's license. – Photo by Karen Krien/St. Francis Herald

That was just the beginning of a domino effect the fire and temporary closing had on the county. Most of the staff had no job unless they traveled to neighboring towns, the hospital and pharmacy lost business because the residents were gone and the town's grocery

and other businesses also felt the effects. In August, voters again went to the polls and agreed to help, approving up to 6 mills to keep the nursing home running. This expense will not show up in the 2012 budget but will be there in 2013.

All these things have contributed or will contribute to increases in the county tax load, officials say, but voters have said they want the hospital, airport, nursing home and dispatch services. County taxes also help pay for roads and bridges, employee health insurance,

the county health office, the historical society ... the list goes on and on. If people want services, said Commissioner Patton, they have to pay for them. And, paying for them means taxes will continue to go up.

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