

# Cheyenne County

## St. Francis journalists win 19 awards, three state sweepstakes titles

BY KAREN KNAUER  
HIGH PLAINS NEWS

St. Francis High School journalism students brought home 19 awards from the 2026 KSPA State Journalism Contest, where about 250 entries from across Kansas competed in 28 categories.

Students in Mrs. Dankenbring's journalism class also helped the school win Class 1A sweepstakes titles in design, multimedia and writing.

Students placing first through sixth will receive certificates, while those placing first through third will receive medals in addition to their certificates.

Madison Siegfried said she enjoyed working on the yearbook theme entry with her friend, Audrina Fernandez. Their prompt asked them to imagine they were members of the yearbook staff at Sunflower High School and design a cover for the yearbook. They chose the theme, "It's Your Turn."

In the yearbook copywriting contest, Madison had to write a story for the same fictional yearbook. The prompt involved a school receiving funds to purchase a new mascot



St. Francis High School journalism students earned 19 awards at the 2026 KSPA State Journalism Contest. Pictured are, from left, back row: SammiJo Wieggers, Bella Bandel, Rachel Knauer, Andrew Andrist, Mason Rieger, Nina Martin and Dailey Rose; middle row: adviser Mrs. Dankenbring, Camille Luncsford, Brecken Tiegs, Alek Ramirez, Cheyenne LaBarge, Paola Ramirez and Maci Workman; front row: Madison Siegfried, Presley Myers, Marcy Moberly, Breck Lohr, Kaylee Doyle and Audrina Fernandez. Not pictured: Brayden Helton. Photo by Kaptured by Krissy

costume to replace an old one that was worn down and deteriorating.

KSPA provided students with information to use in their entries, including student interviews, basketball game details and the name of a custom mascot store.

The details helped students add depth and accuracy to their work. Participants had 65 minutes to complete the task under supervision.

Rachel Knauer submitted an editorial cartoon. The prompt asked students to



Francis entries earning recognition included fifth place in yearbook theme and graphics by Audrina Fernandez and Madison Siegfried; sixth place in sports media photography by Presley Myers; and first- and second-place editorial cartoons by Rachel Knauer and Nina Martin. Submitted photo

create an editorial cartoon to accompany a Sunflower High School

### ATTENTION

The St. Francis V.F.W. Post 1528 will be having a Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 25. The program will start at 10 a.m. at the St. Francis Cemetery and is open to everyone. Please come and honor our veterans.

-Bill Dungan

## National Hospital Week: May 10-16, 2026 "Healing Happens Here"

There are over 5,000 community hospitals in the United States. There are 122 community hospitals in Kansas and 82 of them are Critical Access Hospitals.

The care they provide for patients is critical and often extends beyond the four walls of the hospital. Community hospitals provide 24/7/365 access to needed medical care, support unmet community health needs, create jobs and support the local economy.

**Cheyenne County HOSPITAL**

210 W. 1st  
St. Francis, KS

785-332-2104

### SF Senior Menu May 19-22

May 19  
Tuesday - Lasagna, Italian blend vegetables, garlic bread and peach cobbler

May 21  
Thursday - Sausage gravy, potatoes O'Brien, mixed vegetables, biscuit and pineapple

May 22  
Friday - Chicken strips, mashed potatoes & gravy, catalina blend vegetables, bread and peaches

Please call 785-332-2945 by noon the day prior to reserve your meal.

## Bird City / Cheylin Alumni Banquet

**Saturday, May 23, 2026**  
Bird City American Legion  
Doors open at 5 p.m.  
Banquet to begin at 6 p.m.  
Tickets are \$30.00

Mail payment to:  
Bird City Century II  
PO Box 174, Bird City, KS 67731  
checks payable to Bird City Alumni  
(785) 332-4916

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