

## **Nursing home donation goal upped to \$225,000**

Written by Wauneta Breeze

Thursday, 09 February 2012 19:18 - Last Updated Thursday, 09 February 2012 19:20

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**By Tina Kitt**

### **The Wauneta Breeze**

Wauneta's initial fundraising goal of \$150,000 is well within sight leading community volunteers to up the targeted goal for donations to help save the local nursing home.

Thanks to the outpouring of support from local residents and those with ties to Wauneta, contributions of all sizes have flowed in, totalling \$145,118 as of Tuesday morning.

Donations have ranged in size from a few dollars to as large as \$10,000, with many contributors taking Dr. Doug Nicholson up on his challenge to match the \$1,000 he donated to the nursing home, unofficially launching the fundraising effort during a public information meeting held last month.

With the milestone within reach, volunteers are raising their goal. In hailing the fundraising accomplishment the following was posted on the Save The Wauneta Nursing Home web site, [www.SaveWaunetaNursingHome.com](http://www.SaveWaunetaNursingHome.com).

"Thanks to your generous support we are nearing our initial goal. Because of your generosity, we have dared to hope that we might be able to raise additional funds — funds that could be used to reduce debt, meet unforeseen project costs, or pay for future capital improvements. Consequently, we are raising our goal to \$225,000 and asking for the continuing support of the community, surrounding area businesses and extended Wauneta family. Many thanks to those who have already donated."

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The Village of Wauneta is currently in the process of raising money to purchase the Heritage of Wauneta nursing home from Vetter Health Services and to pay for mandated upgrades to the facility.

The financial support provided by community donations will be added to the \$650,000 of other monies available for this project, note organizers. If the project does not go forward, all donations will be returned to their donors. Donations have been structured so they may be tax deductible.

Those spearheading the fundraising efforts encourage donors to consult with their attorney or tax consultant to make sure their financial circumstances will allow them to take advantage of the tax deduction.

Organizers hope to have all funding in place by the end of February in order to allow time for the Village of Wauneta to move forward in pursuing ownership of the nursing home ahead of VHS's planned date to cease operations here on June 30.