



FIRST BABY OF 2004 - A little girl, McKenna Marie, joined the Brett and Cynthia Poling family on Wednesday, Jan. 21. Three older brothers (from the left) Foster, Tiernan and Tyson, complete the family.
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

First baby of the year arrives

By Karen Krien
The first baby born to parents living in Cheyenne County arrived on Jan. 21 to Brett and Cynthia Poling, St. Francis. McKenna Marie was born at the Wray Community Hospital at 9:14 a.m. She weighed 8

pounds, 1 ounce and was 21-inches long. She was welcomed home by three brothers, Foster who is 8 years old, Tiernan, 3 and Tyson 1 1/2. McKenna and her parents will receive a number of gifts from St. Francis businesses including: a full

car wash from the St. Francis Equity; a baby blanket and stuffed animal from Steven's Kansas Territorial, a \$50 savings bond from Bankwest, \$50 savings bond from First National Bank, \$15 gift certificate for baby food or formula and new-born diapers from Sainy Super Foods, \$15 gift certificate from KM Clothier, and a year's subscription to *The Saint Francis Herald* or *Bird City Times*.

McKenna's grandparents are: Tim and Margaret Poling, Raedell Winston, all of St. Francis; Mike Bahnmaier, Wichita; Randy and Coleen Prehm, Streetman, Texas; Yale and Diane Schutt, Clarion, Iowa. Great-grandparents are John and Jeanie Prehm and Eldred and Bev Schutt, all of Clairon.

Last year's first baby of the year was Joseph Melton who was born on Jan. 13 to Jim and Tanya Melton, Wheeler. He weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and was 18 3/4-inches long.

Committee plans alumni activities

The Bird City alumni officers met on Jan. 21 to make preparations for the upcoming alumni banquet. The date of May 29 was decided on and the location will be the American Legion Hall.

At the meeting the officers discussed the theme, program, publicity, caterers as well as other items which will make the 2004 Alumni

Banquet a success.

The next meeting of the organization will be on Feb. 6. In the mean time any ideas or suggestions can be given to John Hendricks, Barbara Beougher, Steve Carpenter, Ned and Donna Johnson or Sherrie Krien at any time. Mrs. Krien is serving in place of her mother, Olga Applegate.

Postal Service advises caution

By Casey McCormick

Feb. 2-7 marks the fifth annual National Consumer Protection Week. This event is sponsored by the United States Postal Service Office of the Consumer Advocate and the Postal Inspection Service and brings attention to fraudulent scams which operate using the United States Postal Service.

"If you have questions or concerns, or if you receive suspect mail, please contact us," said Bird City Postmaster Sonja Weeden. Also any suspicious mail should be returned to the post office.

The theme of this year's event is "Get Rich Quick...Don't Count on It!" The United States Postal Service has identified five scams which are intended to separate postal customers from their hard-earned savings. They are:

- Free prize schemes.
- Foreign lotteries.

- Multi-level marketing.
 - Investment fraud schemes.
 - Work-at-home schemes.
- Each of these scams has the appeal of seeming "too good to be true," and they are.

The United States Postal Service has a device which helps eliminate illegal practices like these; the Mail Fraud Statute. This is one of the oldest and most effective weapon against mail fraud. Postal workers have been using the Mail Fraud Statute since its passage in 1872.

Postal inspectors work with a variety of businesses in the private sector to identify illegal scams and protect consumers who receive mail.

But what can consumers do to protect themselves? Consumers should be skeptical of any offer that sounds "too good to be true." The following questions can help individuals to evaluate questionable

offers:

- Do you have to pay to receive your "prize" of enter a sweepstakes?
 - Do you have to give any personal or financial information?
 - Are you a "guaranteed" winner, or told "no risk is involved"?
 - Are you pressured into responding or investing right away?
 - Are you asked for advanced payment or cash only?
- If the answer is "yes" to any of these questions, the consumer should be wary. Ask that all statements about the product or service be provided in writing. Check all offers with consumer protection agencies located nearest to the company.

"The public should be aware," said Postmaster Weeden. There is no easy way to wealth and the consumer's good judgment is the last line of defense against a con artist.

School Menu

Feb. 2- Feb. 5

Monday: breakfast: sausage link, biscuit, cereal, toast, juice, milk; lunch: ham and cheese stromboli, salad bar, vegetable, fruit, dessert, milk

Tuesday: breakfast: pizza, cereal, toast, juice, milk; lunch: chicken in gravy, mashed potatoes, salad bar, rolls, fruit, milk

Wednesday: breakfast: ham casserole, toast, juice, milk; lunch: (Junior class menu) spaghetti with meat sauce, bread sticks, salad bar, fruit, dirt pudding, milk

Thursday: breakfast: breakfast burrito, cereal, toast, juice, milk; lunch: hamburger on a bun, tatter tots, salad bar, fruit, dessert, milk

The Cheylin cooks are featuring a different class and their favorite menu for one day of the week. This week is the Junior classes turn on Wednesday.



South of McDonald By Vera Kacirek

Monday, Feb. 2: McDonald Senior Citizens potluck; Wednesday, Feb. 4, McDonald Area Development meeting; Wednesday, Feb. 11, McDonald Garden Club Valentine luncheon at the McDonald Senior Center building.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Biles of Owensville, Mo., were Wednesday evening and overnight guests of Ray and Marlene Johnson. Brian and Connie Sabatka were also supper guests.

Lila Howard was a Friday afternoon caller of Ray and Marlene Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Cline and family were Saturday afternoon visitors of Ray and Marlene Johnson.

Vance and Betty Lewis spent several days last week visiting

Lenora Spicka at the Good Samaritan Home in Atwood.

Adrienne Swihart was a Friday overnight guest of her grandmother, Eleanor Swihart.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Stevens of McCook were Sunday afternoon visitors of Ratha Lea Loker.

Visitors of Tunney and Leila Loker on Sunday Jan. 18 were J.B. Loker, Brad and Tammy Loker, Gary Loker and Lila Howard and Les Loker.

Monday, Jan. 19, Tunney and Leila Loker drove to Hays where Tunney had hip surgery on Tuesday. Visitors of Tunney were Pastor Roberts and Daphne, J.B. Loker, Brad and Les Loker and Gary Loker. On Saturday Gary Loker brought Tunney home. She is recuperating and received therapy each day in Atwood.

South of McDonald

By Sandy Binning

Lee and Pam Vyzourek attended the Atwood High School wrestling matches in Atwood Thursday and Friday evening.

Pam Vyzourek and Cole and Tori Sramek attended Taylor Carol's 12th birthday party Saturday evening in Atwood.

George and Kathy Banister attended the Cheylin Junior High basketball games Monday evening. Debbie was a participant.

George and Kathy Banister and family attended the Cheylin High School girls basketball game in

McDonald Tuesday.

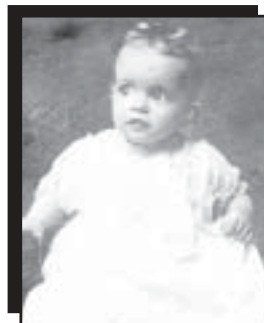
George and Kathy Banister and family attended the Cheylin High School basketball games Friday night. It was the Queen of Courts.

Bethel Goltl called on Oscar and Elaine Johnson Saturday afternoon. She wished Elaine a happy birthday.

Josh Johnson accompanied the Cheylin FFA to Denver Saturday and Sunday to attend the National Western Stock Show and Fat City.



Open House Honoring Maude Elliott's 90th Birthday



Sun., Feb. 1 • 1:30-4 p.m.
Bird City Senior Center

Greetings may reach her at: PO Box 103; Bird City, KS 67731
~ No Gifts Please ~

4.5

Queen Of Courts Royalty



QUEEN OF COURTS CEREMONY: back row - Tyler Knapp, Brittany Kehlbeck, Cole Williams, Sara Moore, Jay Poore (king), Stephanie Hubbard (queen), Amanda Banister, Kelly Ray Simmonds and Hayley Young; front row - Jacob Brubaker, Brittney Horinek, Dominick Cisneros, May Anne Orten, Miranda Michaelis, McKayla Taylor, Cheyenne Heuitt, Tanner Gilliland and Nikki Callies.

Brought to you by these sponsors

- Bird City Bird Seed
- Bird City Housing Authority
- Bird City Times
- Blue Bird Cafe
- Bressler-Young Aviation
- Martin & Arlene Busse
- Cheylin NEA
- Country Trader Gun & Pawn Shop
- Downtown Repair
- First National Bank - Bird City

- Frontier Equity Exchange
- John & Sharon Hendricks
- Leach Insurance Agency
- Mark & Cathy Loop
- Hometown Market
- Hot Brush
- Joan Banister Agency
- Royce & Darci Kehlbeck
- Krien Farm Supply
- Krien Pharmacy
- Bill & Vada Leach

- McDonald Grocery
- Don & Canda Orten
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- Walden Farms
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- Radean & Velda Wright



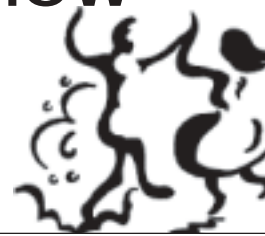
Rebekah Lodge is sponsoring a

VARIETY SHOW

Sun., Feb. 15 • 2 p.m.

Cheyenne County Theater

Proceeds to go for the Scholarship Fund



SUPER SPECIAL STOCK-UP SALE

Buy 2 Large Single Topping Pizza's plus 2 - 2 liter bottles of Pepsi **\$19.99**

12 pk. Bud Light **\$8.49**

Lays or Doritos **2 for \$4.00**

Reg. priced \$2.99 to \$3.29 sizes

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Ogallala Aquifer Symposium

Monday, February 23, 2004

Wray High School Auditorium - Wray, CO
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Water Conservation - Saving Water Today for Tomorrow

Topics:

- ◆ Water Supply Update
- ◆ Republican River Litigation
- ◆ Water Legislation Update
- ◆ Water Conservation Programs
- ◆ Water Savings - Ag Producer Panel

Register with Golden Plains Cooperative Extension by February 2nd at \$15/person or \$25/two (Late fee of \$10 following this date)

Phone 970-345-2287 or Fax 970-345-2288
E-mail - washingt@coop.ext.colostate.edu

Event Sponsors:

Arickaree Ground Water Mgmt. District, Bank of Colorado of Yuma, Colorado Division of Water Resources, Colorado Natural Resource Conservation, E-Z Irrigation, First National Bank of Kirk, First Pioneer National Bank of Holyoke and Wray, Haxtun Conservation District, Interstate Irrigation Inc., Premier Farm Credit, Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association, Inc., Wray State Bank, Yuma County Conservation District, and Y-W Electric Association, Inc.

