

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

I am amazed at how arrogant mankind can be. We use a small portion of our brain's capacity to direct what technology we have and think we're the tough kid on the block.

But the powers that do control this planet have a way of pulling us back to reality and humbling us.

For instance, an earthquake under the surface of the Indian Ocean produced devastation on an unprecedented scale last week.

The elements in our area of the Earth can produce tornadoes, blinding dust storms, blizzards and flood. At the same time we watch fields that are suffering from several years of drought.

We live in both a beautiful area but also it can be a dangerous place. And yet we believe we are the ones in control. How far have we come from the dawn of man-kind? Maybe not as far as we think.

New stamp goes on sale today



January 2005

The United States Postal Service is ringing in the new year with a souvenir stamp sheet which celebrates the Chinese lunar calendar. The stamps will go on sale, nationwide, on January 6.

The stamps were designed by Clarence Lee of Honolulu, Hawaii, and portray intricate paper-cut designs of the 12 animals associated with the Chinese lunar calendar.

The characters used for this souvenir sheet identify the year of the Dog, Rat, Tiger and so on.

The calligraphic characters used for this souvenir sheet were drawn by Lau Bun, also of Honolulu. The characters on the left side of the sheet have the Chinese translation of "Happy New Year." The same message is written across the top of the sheet in English.

Bird City News

Thursday, Dec. 30, Paul and Edna Roesener met Keith and Bethany Stoney, and girls, at Hoxie to pickup their great granddaughter, Oriana Stasser, who had been visiting her cousins, Tierra and Kaitlyn Stoney of Great Bend. Oriana then stayed with Paul and Edna until Saturday, before returning to McCook, Neb., where her mother, Michelle Stasser, met them. Michelle and Oriana then returned home to North Platte, Neb.

Edna Roesener treated her grandchildren, Grant and Colleen Shrader, and great granddaughter, Oriana Stasser, to lunch at the

Blue Bird Junction cafe in Bird City on Friday.

Lezlie Hilt, St. Francis, and Casey and Joey McCormick, Bird City, spent a belated Christmas with the McCormick and Seno clan in Arvada, Colo., over the New Year's weekend. They spent New Year's Eve at Michael McCormick and Debbie Osborne's home in Lakewood where Casey proposed to Lezlie. She said "yes." On New Year's Day the couple announced their engagement to Casey's family at their Christmas gathering. They said "yes" also.

Club Clip

McDonald Seniors

Phyllis Wingfield welcomed 33 senior citizens and one health nurse who had braved the below-freezing temperatures to attend the Jan. 3 Senior Citizen meeting.

Owen Wingfield read a humorous reading and led the prayer; birthdays and anniversaries were acknowledged. At the tables each place setting had a tiny champagne glass filled with mints and a little mouse made from two chocolate kisses. After the meal, games were played with Ed Meyers winning the blackout game.

At the business meeting, it was announced that the family of Hazel

Hartman had made a donation in memory of their mother who had always enjoyed the Senior Citizen organization.

The light at the front of the building does not work. An electrician will have to be found to fix the light. It was decided to talk to Johnene Cheney to see what she wants done with the quilt the family donated.

The next meeting will be Feb. 7. Committees are Poem and Prayer, Vivian Curry; Games, Vance Lewis, Prizes, Joan Tongish and Kitchen Help, Joan Tongish, Betty Lewis and Iris McIntosh.



Quarterly Financial Report ENDING SEPTEMBER, 2004

	9/30/2004 BALANCE	EXPENDITURES	RECEIPTS	12/31/2004 BALANCE
General	\$339,571.66	\$350,690.92	\$191,257.42	\$180,138.16
Road & Bridge	\$323,815.39	\$159,137.56	\$60,546.35	\$225,224.18
Noxious Weed	\$30,921.64	\$6,481.83	\$4,685.19	\$29,125.00
Noxious Weed Special	\$11,091.70	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,091.70
Rural Fire	\$27,121.96	\$6,121.26	\$6,459.63	\$14,541.07
Hospital	\$22,817.27	\$32,526.74	\$77,932.32	\$68,222.85
Special Fire Equipment	\$47,350.78	\$0.00	\$11,000.00	\$58,350.78
Treasurer's Special	\$10,952.63	\$1,152.83	\$5,924.80	\$15,724.60
Attorney Fund	\$3,606.15	\$23.50	\$22.00	\$3,604.65
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	\$817,249.18	\$556,134.64	\$344,908.45	\$606,022.99

A detailed statement of expenditures is available for public inspection at the county clerk's office. Copies of such statement shall be available upon request. K.S.A. 19-228

Terry Miller
Cheyenne County Clerk

Bulletin Board

Community Club to meet

Bird City Community Club will meet at 7 p.m., Monday, Jan. 10 at the Senior Center. This will be the Holiday meeting, everyone is welcome.

AARP

AARP will have their first meeting of 2005 at 2 p.m. on Jan. 13, at the St. Francis Senior Center.

The program will be Skip and Betty Petersen speaking on "Sale Barn and Auction Business." Roll call is "My New Year's Goal." Host and hostess will be Bud Houtman and Gladys Cullum. All are welcome.

St. Francis Sale Barn annual meeting

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the St. Francis Sale Barn, Inc., will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 22 at Western Auction Real Estate Office. See ad for details.

Cheyenne County Commissioners

The Cheyenne County Com-

missioners will be meeting at 8 a.m. on Monday morning at the courthouse. At about 9 a.m., newly elected county officials will be sworn in.

Fair Board

The Cheyenne County Fair Board will meet at 7 p.m. tonight (Thursday).

Help to pay heating bills

Priority Oil and Gas is offering help to those residents living in Cheyenne County who are having trouble paying their heat bills. Applications are due by Jan. 31 and are available at the sheriff's and county treasurer's offices and the city office in St. Francis. They can also be picked up at the city hall in Bird City. Or call Peace Lutheran Church, 785-332-2928; or Priority Oil at 303-296-3435 or e-mail priorityog@aol.com.

Alzheimer's Support Group

Alzheimer's Support Group will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday at the St. Francis Public Library.

Historical Society annual meeting

The Cheyenne County Historical Society's annual meeting will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Cheyenne County Museum in St. Francis. This will be election of officers.

Quilters Group

Quilters Group will meet at 7 p.m. Jan. 11, at the Country Pantry.

Car Seat Checkup Event

A free car seat checkup event will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12 at Yost Ford. See related story.

Help the PTA

The St. Francis Elementary School PTA members are again collecting Box Tops for Education and this year they are also collecting St. Francis Super's grocery receipts. Please bring or send them to the elementary school.

Alcoholic Anonymous/Al-Anon

Alcoholic Anonymous and Al-Anon open meeting, held at 8:30

p.m. on Thursday at the Methodist Educational Building, upstairs. Contact 332-2078.

Northwest Kansas Family Shelter

Northwest Kansas Family Shelter provides 24-hour-7 day-a-week services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Weekly support groups are available for women and children within the northwest Kansas area. For information or if you are in need of assistance, please call the toll-free number 1-800-794-4624.

Check your name label

Have you checked the name label on your paper? This label also shows the expiration date of your subscription. Note that if your subscription runs out completely it will take two weeks after you resubscribe before it will once again be delivered to your mailbox. In order to not have a break in your service, renew by the expiration date.

Obituaries

Norman Lavell Mears

Feb. 12, 1928 - Dec. 30, 2004

Norman Lavell Mears was born on Feb. 12, 1928, in their rural Cheyenne County home to Alfred A. and Winnie M. (Lavell) Mears. He died in Aurora, Colo., on Dec. 27, 2004, at the age of 76 years, 10 months and 15 days.

Norman attended the rural Walnut Grove School through the eighth grade and later received his General Education Development while in the military. Two of his cousins and classmates were Inez (David) Stamm and Richard Payne, they shared many heartwarming and fun stories of that time of their lives. He worked locally for many people doing all sorts of jobs and learned many useful skills. He went on the harvest drive two different summers. He then bought land in Colorado and lived and worked there for a few years before he was drafted into the military.

He served in the military in Germany as a driver. He was a crack shot and took many honors after he was allowed to shoot left handed. Norman had many stories of his time in the military which all of his family will remember with fond memories. He had several friends from his service days whom he stayed close with all his life.

On Dec. 30, 1956, he was joined in marriage with Iva Lee Mears, his daughter Joyce and husband Kenneth Cahoj of Fair Play, Mo., their son Laramie and wife Melissa Cahoj of Brookline, Mo. and his son Bailey Cahoj; his son Glenn (Bud) Mears and future wife Meridee of Strasburg, Colo.; his daughter Janet and her husband Rocky Martin of Champion, Neb., their children Rebecca Martin, Faylena, Emma and Julia Martin of Champion, Neb., and Elizabeth and husband Steve Estrada and daughter Meghan of Colorado Springs; his brother Gene and wife Carol Mears of McDonald; many nieces and nephews along with many wonderful friends.

The funeral service was held Dec. 31 at Knodel Funeral Home in St. Francis with Pastor Dennis Jones officiating. Honorary Pallbearers were Kent Banister, Gilbert Antholz, Lew McGrath, Gene Leitner, Fran Hatch, Theron Culwell, Lou Reese, Jerry Shaw and Wayne Smith. Casket bearers were Joe Rainford, Butch Ewing, Gary Deyle, Bob Jones, Mike Knapp and Mark Roesener. Interment was Grace Cemetery, McDonald with military rites by Fort Riley.

Helene Roehler. The family moved to a farm near Bird City, Kan., in 1913. Helene received her education in the Bird City School System. She reaffirmed her faith in Jesus Christ through her confirmation on April 9, 1922, at St. John Lutheran Church, Bird City, by Reverend Louis Sittler. Her confirmation verse was John 17:3, "And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent." (NKJV)

Helene graduated from Bird City High School in 1926. With her normal training and college summer school classes at Hays, she taught in one-room rural schools, grades first through eighth, for five years. She was at Star School (1926-27); Pleasant Valley (1927-29); and Pleasant Grove (1929-31), all in the Bird City area.

On Oct. 8, 1931, Helene was united in marriage to Arthur Antholz. They settled on a farm north of McDonald. To this union two daughters, Lila and Lucile were born. In 1949, the family moved to Greeley, Colo., where her husband farmed in the Nunn area. In 1961, they moved to a country home north of Lucerne, Colo. Helene was active in choirs of Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Greeley and Faith Lutheran Church in Eaton where they were active members. She also served in women's organizations on the local, conference and district levels, and served as the president of the Women of the Central District of the American Lutheran Church. She was a Sunday school teacher and Bible study leader for many years in her church home and com-

Helene Wilhelmina Antholz
Aug. 17, 1908 - Dec. 26, 2004
Helene Wilhelmina (Ommen) Antholz was born Aug. 17, 1908, to Henry and Anna (Kehlbeck) Ommen, southeast of Syracuse (Delaware Precinct), Neb. She was baptized on Sept. 6, 1908, by Reverend O. Klockner of Syracuse. Her sponsors were Minnie Rambat and

Children 11 & under: \$2 12-18 yr.: \$3 Senior Citizens: \$3 Adults: \$4

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SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m. 1 hour 38 min.

January 7, 8 & 9

The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie

Starring: Tom Kenny, Rodger Bumpass, Alec Baldwin, Bill Fagerbakke, Carolyn Lawrence

Rated: PG for some mild crude humor.

Cheyenne Theater St. Francis, KS
785-332-2747

CHEYENNE COUNTY HOSPITAL

210 W. 1st • St. Francis, KS
785-332-2104

What is Holding Your Children In?

FREE Car Seat Checkup Event! Infant to Eight years old

Wed., Jan. 12
2-6 p.m.
Yost Ford-Mercury
St. Francis

There will be no cost for this service and no citations will be issued. This is an educational event aimed at protecting our children while riding in vehicles. Child Passenger Safety Technicians will assist and educate parents and caregivers with the correct installation of their children's car seats.

Vince and Larry will be on hand to entertain the children and hand out goodies!

This checkup event is sponsored by the Kansas Highway Patrol, K-DOT Safety Belt Education Office, Kansas Safe Kids and The Cheyenne County Health Department. For questions please contact Rita Keeker at 785-332-2381 or Tech. Trooper Tod Hileman at 785-625-3518.

Check your renewal dates

— Current Rates —

The Saint Francis Herald

Area - \$28 KS - \$32
Out-of-State - \$35

Bird City Times

KS - \$25
Out-of-State - \$28

American Profile

Celebrating Hometown Life

See American Profile magazine in this week's issue of

The Bird City Times

(available in local area only)

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- St. Francis
- Sharon Springs