

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

Flag Day is sort of a forgotten holiday. It seemed that June 14 crept up on many, including myself.

Lezlie and I returned from our honeymoon at 10 a.m. that Tuesday and went straight to the office to put the *Times* and *Herald* together with the rest of the staff. Later in the day my new mother-in-law, Margaret Bucholtz, did bring the kids by work so we could see and touch them for a moment.

Back to Flag Day. Karen Krien asked me to take a few pictures of the Boy Scouts raising the flag at the Historical Society's gathering at the museum in St. Francis. I didn't mind since it meant leaving the office for a few minutes.

But, to my surprise, the event turned into something much more important than a quick "photo op."

A group of veterans who have

lost limbs in the war with Iraq happened to stop at the Dairy King across the street as the Flag Day service had begun. These men are riding bicycles across the country to raise funds and awareness for the Wounded Warrior Project. They joined the crowd and it became clear why we were honoring the symbol of our nation.

As these brave young men, who not long ago had been transformed by war, sat among us to sing songs like *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* and *God Bless America*, a great sense of pride and respect grew in the chest of all present.

What could have been an ordinary gathering became a moment of reflection which I, for one, will never forget. Sometimes timing is everything, and these courageous individuals came to Cheyenne County at the perfect time.

Bird City Library news

The summer reading program at the Bird City Library is being held from 1 to 2 p.m. every Monday afternoon with Brittany Kehbeck.

The new state librarian, Christie Brandau, will be at the library at 2:45 p.m., Monday, June 29. If you have any questions call (785) 734-2203.

Hospital Board

The Cheyenne County Hospital Board will meet at 3 p.m. today (Thursday).

Cheyenne County Commissioners

The Cheyenne County Commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. on Thursday, June 30, in the commissioners' room at the courthouse.

Cheyenne County Relay For Life

Teams are wanted for the American Cancer Society's sixth annual Cheyenne County Relay For Life which will take place Aug. 20 and 21 at Sawhill Park.

If you are either interested in having a team, or being on a team, con-

tact Cindy Burr at (785) 734-2443 or Deb Lindsten at (785) 332-2022.

Redeveloping Kansas workshop

A "Redeveloping Kansas: Brownfields Tools and Funding" will be held July 20 in Great Bend. Contact Cheyenne County Development Corporation at 332-3508 for additional information.

Artist Roundtable

Membership to a six-county (Cheyenne, Logan, Rawlins, Sherman, Thomas and Wallace) Artist Roundtable is forming to develop their love of art into a business, enhance their existing businesses, share and expand marketing ideas. The Artist Roundtable will benefit local artists, plus artists in this region and the state. Deadline is July 1. Call the Cheyenne County Development Corporation at 332-3508 for additional information.

Animal Shelters "Puttin for Pets"

Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter's Third Annual "Puttin for

Pets" golf tournament will be held Saturday, July 16. For additional information or to register contact Sugar Hills Golf Club at (785) 899-2785 or Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter at (785) 899-6464.

Alcoholic Anonymous /AI-Anon

Alcoholic Anonymous and AI-Anon open meeting, held at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday at the Methodist Educational Building, upstairs. Contact 332-3590.

Northwest Kansas Family Shelter

Northwest Kansas Family Shelter provides 24-hour-7 day-a-week services to victims of domestic vio-

lence 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.

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Flag Day attracts disabled veterans

About 100 people attended the Flag Day observance held at the Cheyenne County Museum on Tuesday, June 14.

"The meeting was a great success and even more meaningful when the veterans joined us," said Margaret Bucholtz, president of the Cheyenne County Historical Society.

About the time the meeting was to begin, the Soldier Ride 2005 came down U.S. 36.

Louanne Isernhagen, program chairman, led the singing of a medley of patriotic songs with Marsha Magley accompanying with on a key board.

While the songs were being sung, Reggie Cornelia, one of the members of the Soldier Ride 2005, came across the highway and asked President Bucholtz if he could bring his men and join in the celebration. There were 14 veterans who had been wounded while serving their country, riding bicycles across America. As the servicemen approached, they were greeting by a standing and applauding crowd.

Mr. Cornelia told Mrs. Bucholtz, "You don't know what it meant to

these boys to pull into a small town and see the flag being honored.

"The boys are trying to put their lives back together and they are riding across America relaying the message of hope, courage and determination. They are away from their families, tired and lonely and when they saw this they were very happy."

Before the servicemen arrived at the museum, Milton Lampe gave a presentation on flag etiquette. He explained when people were to stand, salute or place their hand over their heart when a flag is being used.

Rev. Glenn Isernhagen, St. Francis, gave the invocation, and then Boy Scout Troop 120 posted the colors under the supervision of Scout master Jerry Whitmore. The crowd said the Pledge of Allegiance and sang the *Star Spangled Banner*.

Helene Landenberger gave one of her original poems titled "The Flag, Honor It."

Rev. Marvin Zimbelman gave the benediction and table grace. Everyone stayed for the barbecue that was prepared by Chuck Kribs, Bird City. The salads and desserts had been provided by the guests and members.



CAPTAIN LONNIE MOORE shakes hand with Lynn and Candy Glasco at the Flag Day ceremony held in St. Francis. Captain Moore and other veterans are biking across America to bring awareness to soldiers with life-altering injuries.

Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

Cheylin swim team hits midpoint of the season

On Saturday, June 1, the Cheylin swim team traveled to Atwood to compete in their third swim meet of the year. The meet marked the midpoint of the swim season.

Coaches Hayley Young and Kori Underwood were pleased with the progress the team has been making. The experienced swimmers keep placing better each meet and the beginning swimmers are showing a lot of improvement in their technique.

"The Atwood pool is significantly longer than regulation, so the times didn't really show improvement from last week, but we were pleased with the effort shown by the kids," said Coach Young.

There are two regular season meets left, then the post-season begins with the qualifying meet.

The results of the Atwood meet are as follows:

Age 8 and under Girls:

Mary Anne Orten- sixth, short freestyle; third, backstroke

McKayla Taylor- third, short freestyle; first backstroke

McKenzie Taylor- second, short freestyle; second, backstroke

Mary Anne Orten, McKenzie Taylor, McKayla Taylor and Elsa Burr- second, free relay

Age nine and 10 girls: Stephanie Busse- first, long freestyle; first, backstroke; third, individual medley

Forrest Burr- sixth, breast stroke; fifth, butterfly; second, long freestyle

Age nine and 10 boys: Grant Shrader- second, backstroke; fourth, short freestyle; fourth, long freestyle

Heath Churchwell- second, breast stroke; first, individual medley

Ty Carmichael- fourth, backstroke; fifth, short freestyle; first, breast stroke

Adam Orten- fifth, backstroke

Ty Carmichael, Adam Orten,

Heath Churchwell and Caleb Frink- first, free relay

Age 11 and 12 girls: Jacquelyn Ketzner- fifth, backstroke; sixth, breast stroke

Whitney Churchwell- second, breast stroke; second, backstroke; third, individual medley

Teryn Carmichael- third, backstroke; fifth, individual medley; fourth, breast stroke

Stephanie Burr, Jacquelyn Ketzner, Forrest Burr and Jesse Smith- fourth, medley relay

Age 11 and 12 boys: Ethan Young- third, breast stroke; second, long freestyle; third, short freestyle

Craig Busse- second, butterfly; second, individual medley; first, long freestyle; Jeremiah White- fifth, short freestyle; third, backstroke; Ethan

Young, Craig Busse, Jeremiah White and Grant Shrader- second, freestyle; second, medley relay

Age 13 and 14 girls:

Nikki Johnson- fourth, breast stroke; second, backstroke; Teryn Carmichael, Whitney Churchwell, Nikki Johnson and Shayna Johnson- fourth, medley relay

Age 15 to 18 girls:

Colleen Shrader- second, individual medley; first, butterfly; fifth, short freestyle

Hayley Young- first, backstroke

Kori Underwood- third, backstroke; Hayley Young, Kori Underwood, Colleen Shrader and Kelsey Miller- third, free relay; third, medley relay

30 and over:

Jan Busse- fourth, backstroke

By Karen Krien

Earlier in the week, Connie Morris, Kansas State Board of Education member from St. Francis, was featured for her stand against the theory of evolution being taught in Kansas schools. However, on Friday, she was featured again in the *Salina Journal* for her spending of taxpayers' money while representing Kansas at a national school board conference held in Orlando, Fla.

Mrs. Morris' trip to Orlando cost \$2,900. Her costs included staying in a luxury resort hotel for \$339 a night; \$150 on food including a \$50 meal; \$147 cab fare plus the airfare and mileage to the Denver airport.

The *Journal* said Mrs. Morris said the block of rooms reserved for the conference had sold out when she phoned in her reservation, even though she called several months in advance. She wanted a hotel within walking distance so she stayed where the conference was being held, the Foutainbleau Hilton Resort.

Mrs. Morris defended her trip by saying other board members travel and, as board members, "that's what we do."

Mrs. Morris, when called on Tuesday, said the Florida conference was approved unanimously by the board prior to her attendance.

"I attended every session and the knowledge gained there is important in my role on the state board," she said.

The topic was school choice but the conference was focusing on learning how Kansas could have magnet schools with an emphasis on agri science. For instance, one of the schools she toured in Florida has an emphasis on tourism and the implications there are valuable for western Kansas and the economy.



Morris

"For instance, it could prepare students to go straight from high school into viable work or their career choice," she said. "Many western Kansas students don't want to go to college but their employment or business opportunities are limited in Western Kansas."

"I would like to see our high schools focus more on preparing students to stay in our hometowns instead of sending them off to college where, many times, they find themselves unsuccessful."

Other board members

The *Journal* stated that out-of-state travel for board members is infrequent and that seven of the 10 board members had made no out-of-state traveling during the past year. Again, Mrs. Morris said the trip was approved by the board.

The *Journal* said Mrs. Morris claimed the board's second-most expensive trip in the past year. She traveled to Arlington, Va., for the National Youth Services Conference. While records show that she ate mostly fast foods and stayed at a Quality Hotel for \$127 a night, her total expenses for five nights including airfare was \$1,441.

Over the last year, Ken Willard, who is on the group's board of directors had traveled to four meetings/conferences connected to the National Association of State Boards of Education. The four trips totaled \$2,150. It was also noted that the organization often paid for his airfare or lodging.

Bill Wagon, board member, also attended some meetings. One trip to Alexandria, Va., to a National Association of State Boards of Education meeting totaled \$692. Another trip to Salem, Mass., cost \$502.



SHOWTIME: 8:00 p.m. 2 hours 26 min.

June 24, 25 & 26

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

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The Bird City Times

(USPS 056-720)

Serving the communities of Bird City and McDonald

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DeAnza Church, Associate Editor
Karen Krien - Publisher
Shawn C. McCormick - Adv. Mgr.

Periodicals postage paid at Bird City, Kansas 67731-0220
Phone (785) 734-2659
Fax (785) 734-2659
Or Phone (785) 332-3162
E-Mail bctimes@nwkans.com
Published every Thursday \$27 per year in Cheyenne and surrounding counties; other in-state and all out-of-state subscriptions, \$30 (strictly in advance).

Postmaster: Send address correction to P.O. Box 220 Bird City, Kansas 67731-0220

Official City Newspaper
Published Weekly By Nor'West Newspapers, Incorporated
121 W. First St.
Bird City, KS 67731

KANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Corrections

The *Saint Francis Herald* will correct or clarify any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at 332-3162 to report errors. We believe that news stories should be fair and factual, and appreciate your calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

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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Don't forget to check out the Cheyenne County Hospital's website. It provides many sources for health information and programming. Visit **www.cheyennecountyhospital.com** to see how useful this is for our patients, their families, and those who may want to know what kinds of services or facilities we have.

The website includes the following information:

- ★ Fast Health Information
- ★ Hospital Remodeling Update
- ★ Current Physician Listing
- ★ Connect with the Doctors via email
- ★ Monthly Outpatient Schedule/Event Calendar
- ★ Hospital news and updates
- ★ Hospital history and mission statement
- ★ Job opportunities
- ★ Physician referral
- ★ Services available

Cheyenne County Hospital