



Academic year begins at Cheylin

Students, staff are back to school activities

By DeAnza Church

The halls of Cheylin schools are filled with the hustle and bustle of student activity as students and faculty began the 2005-2006 school year on Wednesday.

Cheylin schools participate in a four-day school week. However, there will be classes this Friday. Kindergartners will be attending half days until Aug. 30.

Football boys and volleyball girls are working hard to prepare themselves for the season. The soap scrimmage is planned for 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 26. Bring a bar of soap or shampoo as admission and enjoy the games.

The boys are looking forward to an outstanding season as are the girl's volleyball team.

The first volleyball game will be played at 8 p.m. at Healy on Saturday, Aug. 27. The Lady Cougars are fired up and ready to go. The first high school football game will start at 7:30 p.m. at Hitchcock County.

At 7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 25, families of students in grades kindergarten to eighth grade are invited to ABC parent/child game night in the cafeteria. Everyone is encouraged to bring their favorite board game and spend some quality time with the student.



CHEYLIN COUGARS—Members of the Cheylin Cougars football team pick out their gear after Sunday night's meeting. The team is looking forward to an outstanding season.

Times staff photo by DeAnza Church



READY TO GO—(Left) Kathy Weber, second grade teacher at Cheylin, prepares her classroom for the new school year. (Above) Dave Zumbahlen, superintendent, works on his computer.

Times staff photos by DeAnza Church



JANA DIERS is busy learning the many tasks associated with taking over as city clerk.

Times staff photo by DeAnza Church

Bird City welcomes new clerk

By DeAnza Church

Bird City resident, Jana Diers has accepted the position of Bird City Clerk.

For the last two years, Mrs. Diers has been commuting to Goodland, working at the Goodland clinic. She is relieved to find employment closer to home.

"My kids are excited that I can see them play sports," she said. "I

can even stop in and watch them practice sometimes."

Mrs. Diers' first day as city clerk was Monday, Aug. 15.

Stacy Hazuka, who temporarily filled the position, is helping Mrs. Diers become familiar with the different aspects of the job such as generating water bills.

Special training is required for the computer programs used by

city hall. A trainer for the software company spent one day showing Mrs. Diers how the software operates.

"She's going to do great," Mrs. Hazuka said.

The city hall hours will be 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, for the convenience of the residents.

Annual walk for cancer event starts on Saturday in Sainty

Sawhill Park, St. Francis, will be the site for the sixth annual Relay for Life walk on Saturday. Former and current cancer patients, their families, businesses, civic organizations and the public are encouraged to take part in the American Cancer Society's signature event to raise money for the fight against cancer.

The events will begin at 7 p.m. on Saturday and continue throughout the evening, ending at 7 a.m. Sunday morning.

A very special dove release has been planned for this year to set the stage for the 2006 Relay (weather permitting). The dove release is scheduled for 6:45 p.m. "The public is encouraged to bring a lawn chair and join the events surrounding the Relay," said Deb Lindsten, Relay chair person. (Check the list of events with this article.)

Beginning at 7, the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce will be cooking hamburgers and hot dogs and serving chips. The Shrine Candy Wagon will be available to sell bottled water, pop and popcorn. The Shriners plan to be open all night for the convenience of the walkers. The Lions Club will be serving breakfast at 6 a.m. Proceeds and donations of all organizations will be presented to the American Cancer Society.

There are many sponsors for this event. The generosity of these sponsors make funds available to the American Cancer Society for necessary research, education, advocacy and service.

"Take time to say 'thank you' to the sponsors listed on the back of T-shirts worn by committee mem-

bers, survivors and team members," Mrs. Lindsten said.

Following the opening laps, there will be a program held in the band shell at the park. The public is welcome to come enjoy the local entertainment. A fun part of the evening is the campsites that are set up by the Relay teams.

"Have you seen any errant pink flamingos?" Mrs. Lindsten asks. "This is only one of the many fun money-making projects which teams have been working on this summer."

Walkers will be on the track from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. as they walk toward the dawn of a new breakthrough in cancer research. Activities have been planned by the Relay teams to encourage participation throughout the evening. Party Time Mobile DJ of Benkelman will be providing music throughout the evening.

The highlight of the evening will be the impressive luminaria ceremony which will start at 9 p.m. A list of honorees and memorials for each luminaria will be read by Gary Cooper. The luminarias will be lit along the sidewalks and around the band shell by local cancer survivors. Luminarias will remain burning throughout the remainder of the Relay in remembrance of those who have lost their battle to cancer and remind everyone of hope, honoring survivor.

New to this year's Relay will be a Memorial Lap. This lap will follow the luminaria ceremony. It will be a candle light lap and all in attendance are encouraged to participate.

"It is a lap in remembrance of

those loved ones who have lost their battle to cancer," Mrs. Lindsten said. "Complete silence is respectfully requested during this lap."

As the Relay participants continue to walk the track, the Locks of Love will be accepting hair donations back in the band shell. Denise Andrist, owner of Girlfriends and Guys, Too, will be cutting the hair. For more information about making a hair donation, please contact Ericka Wieck at 785-332-3553.

The start-finish line is located between the city park and Sawhill Park on Denison Street. This year's festivities will be graced by a balloon arch at the start-finish line. Teams and participants needing information should go to the Shrine Pavilion in the city park. Kathy Weber, Survivor Chair person, reminds all survivors that it is not too late to get a survivor shirt and walk in the Survivor Lap. Call her at 785-332-3201 for more information.

For more information about donating to the American Cancer Society through a luminaria in honor of a survivor or as a memorial for a loved one, please contact Sherry Schultz, 785-332-2860. For more information about the Relay for Life, call Mrs. Lindsten, 785-332-2022 or 785-332-8800.

"There are new and fun activities planned for the Relay on Saturday. We will be remembering those who have lost their battle to cancer and celebrating the lives of those who survive and give us hope. It promises to be a wonderful community evening — hope to see you there," Mrs. Lindsten concluded.