



Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

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This time of year you never know when you might be surprised with a holiday gift. One came my way at the recent Yuletide Festival held at the St. Francis High School last Sunday.

Working for the newspaper, the staff tries to cover just about everything that happens in the area. Sometimes the assignments work in harmony with an event we would go to anyway.

This was the case as our daughter, Lexi, was performing with some of the older girls of Teresa Porter's Dance Ranch.

So, mixing business with pleasure, I snuck backstage before the program and snapped a few pictures for the paper. As the show was beginning, I settled into my seat in the second row waiting to take pictures of the show.

I hadn't time to see the printed

program sheet before it started and it was too dark in the auditorium to cheat. So I didn't know what to expect.

This added to my surprise when a group of young dancers performed "Christmas in Killarney."

The second grade girls wore kelly green and white dresses with a large shamrock on their capes. Their nibble feet were adorned with black, patent leather, tap shoes and they waved tambourines with bright ribbons.

The song is sort of a wild, Irish jig and tells of all of the folks being together back home in Ireland.

"It's nice, you know,
to kiss your beau
While cuddling under
the mistletoe
And Santa Claus you know,
of course
Is one of the boys from home!"

How unexpected it was to get "a wee bit o' Ireland" so far away in Kansas!

Letters from Linda

By Linda Schneider

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This past weekend I had the opportunity to watch some great basketball. I want to tell you what an exciting game it was!

The action was quick, the dribbling was fast, tricky basketball scores, and great defense. I know you might be thinking I am talking about high school basketball, but you are wrong. It was the JRHOOPS game.

I can truly tell you that I saw more heart and purpose in those kids than I have seen in the NBA playoffs. I got so excited when one of the youngest kids received the basketball and started to dribble down the court with it. They really knew their stuff!

I think it is a great thing when the

community gets behind their kids. When parents and students volunteer to guide these young minds and bodies to greatness. Yes, that is what I said, "greatness." You just never know who will be the first draft pick or who will be an astronaut in 15 years.

Involvement, encouragement, time spent with a young person are sure-fired ways of helping them realize they have something to offer, something valid.

Yes, those JRHOOPS players really put on a great game, and it is because of the volunteers who give of their time that these kids had a great time. It only takes a few moments of watching a game to know that this club is great for the kids. And remember, you just never know...

Chatting with Cathy

By Cathy Domsch

To err is human..we all make mistakes, but sometimes it can be very frustrating for those of us that strive for perfection. I have come to realize that not everything can be perfect and I have pretty much accepted that (I used to be a perfectionist, but rearing a child has changed that significantly!). My house isn't always quite as clean as I'd like it to be, my desk is piled high with files that I need to have completed by the end of the year (or better yet, next week), and information is not always passed on in its correct form.

The Dec. 3 issue of the *High Plains Journal* featured Mike McCarty and the team effort that it took to see Bird City Dairy a reality. The article was very well written and is great exposure for Bird City, in my opinion. It is amazing though, how one little word can change the whole thing.

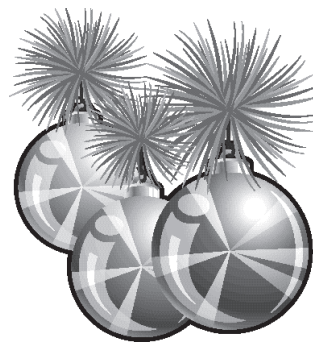
On the second page under the section "Federal loan help", it states that Century II provided a grant to assist with the dairy's financing package. The one little word that changes everything is "grant."

Century II did not provide a grant to the dairy, they provided a loan. This loan will be paid back to Century II, by the dairy, with interest.

I guess this just goes to show we can't always rely on what we read or hear to be true and factual. Another reason to go directly to the source and ask.

PS: The public meeting on housing in Bird City is this coming Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 10 a.m. Those interested in learning more about the moderate income rental housing project through the city of Bird City, or the feasibility of an assisted living home in Bird City, should plan to attend! Coffee and rolls will be served.

Wishing you a Happy Holidays!



Santa Day schedule

Here comes Santa! On Dec. 15, Santa Claus will be arriving in Bird City to help bring in the Christmas season. The Community Club will start serving lunch at 11 a.m. The Santa Day program will begin at 12:30 p.m. No child will leave empty handed.

Senior Center monthly birthday party

The Bird City Senior Center will hold the monthly birthday party at 3 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 10.

Christmas program/communion

St. John Lutheran Church in Bird City will be having a children's Christmas program and candlelight service with communion on Christmas Eve starting at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Community Club meeting

Community Club meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 10 at the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Benefit bake sale

A benefit bake sale will take place from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday in front of the United Methodist Thrift Store hosted by members of the Northwest Kansas Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Proceeds will go to the Good Samaritan Village "Love Tree" project.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, a fraternal benefit society, will provide supplemental funds for this benefit on a two-to-one basis.

Country Christmas

A Country Christmas sponsored by Center Church Association will be held at 6 p.m. Friday at the Bird City Senior Center. Soup and crackers will be provided. Bring finger foods, relishes or desserts to complement the meal.

Kids Wrestling practice

The St. Francis Wrestling Club

will have little kids wrestling practices on Mondays from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. for grades kindergarten through third and from 7:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. for grades fourth through sixth. The practices take place at the high school upstairs in the new wrestling room. December practices will be held on Dec. 10 and Dec. 17. January practices begin on Jan. 7.

Open house and dance

The St. Francis Equity will be holding a Christmas dance, open to the public, from 9 p.m. to midnight on Saturday. The dance will be held at Riverside Recreation and Roy Elfers will provide the music.

The Equity will be having an open house on Tuesday, Dec. 11, from 3 to 5 p.m. Santa will be there and parents are encouraged to bring their child in for a free photo with Santa.

Alzheimer's Support Group
The Alzheimer's Support Group will not meet in December.

AARP

AARP will be celebrating Christmas with a potluck meeting at the noon on Dec. 12 at the Cheyenne Manor. Meat, rolls and drink will be provided. There will be musical entertainment.

ABC Preschool Auction

The ABC Preschool Auction will take place on Dec. 7. Additional information may be found in classified ad.

On Stage news

On Stage Inc. will be presenting the melodrama "Murder Can Be Habit Forming" on March 15 and 16. All adults and ethnicities are encouraged to audition on Jan. 6. Those wanting to audition can pick up audition material at the St. Francis Public Library. For more information, contact Elaine Kite, Neala Carmichael or Colleen Gardner.

Kansas Day observance

Organizations and clubs are invited to set up displays for the Jan.

29 observance of Kansas Day at the Bird City Legion Hall. The theme is "Rowdy Kansas Day Territory." Please call 785-332-3569 to register your group's display.

Cheyenne County Historical Society program change

Please note that the program schedule has been changed for December. There will be no Christmas program at Ye Olde Country Church. Instead, the meeting will be held at the Museum on Dec. 11 at 5:30 p.m. Members are encouraged to attend the Christmas Songfest at Salem Lutheran Church on Dec. 22.

Salvation Army Fund campaign

The Cheyenne County Salvation Army unit will have manned kettles in both St. Francis and Bird City. If you miss these opportunities and would like to make a donation you can mail it to PO Box 462, St. Francis, KS 67756 or drop off at the county treasurer's office in the Courthouse. If you would like to ring the bell for any of the locations, contact Dolores at 332-3471 or Rod at 734-2492 or 734-2483.

Cheyenne County Museum

The Cheyenne County Museum will be closing for the winter Dec. 1. They will be open the weekends of Dec. 8-9 and 15-16. Saturday's hours will be 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. and Sunday's will be from 1-4 p.m.

They are closing to help save on utilities in the winter months, but will hold some work days and will be open for anyone by appointments. The months will be December through March. To make an appointment call 785/332-2040 or 785/332-3569.

Chronic Wasting Disease

The Cheyenne County Wildlife members will once again be collecting chronic wasting disease samples from deer.

They will be testing deer until the season ends in December. Call Mr. O'Leary at 785-332-6601 and he will meet the hunter at the clubhouse south of St. Francis. Mr. O'Leary said if the hunter will leave their phone number, he will call them back with the results of the test.

Time to winterize!!

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CHEYENNE THEATER St. Francis, KS 785-332-2747
Children 12 & Under: \$3 All Others: \$5

ABC Preschool Auction
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7 p.m.

St. Francis High School Cafeteria
Chili and Hot Dog Feed
will begin at 5:30 p.m.

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It's Christmas.....
And time for the 2nd annual Christmas Ball sponsored by the Cheyenne County Hospital. The public is invited to join us for the dance at Riverside.

Saturday Dec. 15
8:30 p.m.
Hope to see you there and thank you for your support of the Cheyenne County Hospital and Clinic

Haigler Country Cafe

Haigler, Neb.

Hours: Monday 6:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Wed. - Sat. 6:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Sunday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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Sun. • 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

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Housing Meeting with City Council & BCCII
If you are interested in future housing options for our senior citizens, or if you are interested in moderate income rental housing, please plan to attend!

Tuesday, December 11th
10:00 a.m.

at the American Legion Hall.
Rolls & coffee will be served.

Santa Day
Saturday, December 15
11 a.m. Lunch provided by Bird City Community Club
12:30 p.m. Drawing for prizes begins!
American Legion Hall, Bird City

BIRD CITY CENTURY II
Development Foundation
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