



## Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

scmcormick@nwkans.com  
It's funny how life changes and the different roles you play. For instance, it's a little weird finding presents for kids.

These days kids want stuff that sells at some Computer Land place or locked behind Plexiglas doors at the nearest, super department store. It requires some sales clerk in his late adolescence to tell you how "cool" a gadget is and how your kid will think you're "totally rad" for buying it.

The problem with this is that I don't understand how this junk works or if it will be fun. Am I wrong or was life less complicated when I was a boy?

In my day the Sear's catalog showed up at the house a few weeks before Christmas. My favorite page had the green and yellow plastic army men on it.

Each year it seemed there were more men; 200, 300 to 500 fighting figures! And the boxed sets came with tanks, airplanes, trucks, Jeeps and amphibious landing craft. There were also cannons and sandbags, plus plastic trees and rocks.

I would get a red crayon and circle the plastic army set every

year. Other toys on the pages were Lincoln Logs, Rock 'em Sock 'em Robots, Matchbox cars, G.I. Joes, Erector Sets, Lionel Train sets and lots of toys made by Wham-o.

The best part was, most of the toys we played with didn't need to be plugged into a wall. Therefore we could take what we wanted and play outside!

A sand pile became a giant battle field. The patio was a race track. The grass was an untamed jungle. A snow drift transformed into a castle. Our only limitation was how far our imaginations could go and remembering where all the green and yellow army men were buried.

I enjoy most of the aspects of my role as a parent. But I'm afraid I just wasn't trained for today's toys.

Merry Christmas to you and yours!



## Letters From Linda

By Linda Schneider

dublins@hotmail.com  
Whew, this has been one busy week! Getting ready to go out-of-town is tiring enough, but doing it during the holidays is like having a double whammy.

But I have to admit, has not been the usual "hectic-ness" I have experienced in the past.

I went to my first "Santa Day" here in Bird City held on Saturday, what a fun time that was! It was a timely break in an otherwise busy schedule. I was able to sit and have someone else fix lunch for my family and me for a change.

I met some new folks and got a chance to talk to some friends I have recently made. Money was given away, great prizes were handed out, and then there was Santa Claus.

It is great to be around kids when Santa Claus comes to town. Something happens in the air, there is an excitement when he shows up. And it was no different on Santa Day.

When Christmas comes around, grownups get the chance to let down their "hair" and be like a child. We get to be excited over tinsel and lights, we get to over eat, we get to sleep in, and if it is not one of those, it some other indulgence we would never allow ourselves the rest of the year.

But let's get real; it's all about the gifts isn't it? You like to give or you like to receive, I personally like to receive. I am not shy about it either; just ask my husband, Brad.

Yep, that is what Christmas is all about, Him giving and us receiving His perfect "Gift."

## Correction

In the Dec. 6 issue of the Bird City Times, there are some corrections to the Council Meeting report.

Change Daryl Smith to Daryl Miller. Change Frank Serrano to Ray Magnani in regard to the for-

mation of a committee to research information concerning a new city superintendent.

Disregard and to help with Craig's training. This can go on indefinitely.

**Cheyenne County Courthouse and Landfill**  
will be closed on **Mon., Dec. 24, Tues., Dec. 25**  
at noon on **Mon., Dec. 31**  
and all day **Tues., Jan. 1**

## The Bird City Times

(USPS 056-720)

Serving the communities of Bird City and McDonald

Casey McCormick, Editor  
Linda Schneider, Associate Editor  
Karen Krien - Publisher  
Shawn C. McCormick - Adv. Mgr.  
Periodicals postage paid at Bird City, Kansas 67731-0220  
Phone (785) 538-2289  
Fax (785) 332-3001  
Or Phone (785) 332-3162  
E-Mail bctimes@nwkans.com  
Published every Thursday  
\$30 per year in Cheyenne and surrounding counties; other in-state and all out-of-state subscriptions, \$34 (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  
Bird City, KS 67731



### Senior citizens potluck

The Bird City senior citizens center will not have a potluck in December.

### Death notice

Irene Mary Sophie (Golt) Kehlbeck died Monday, Dec. 17, at the Good Samaritan Village in St. Francis. She was born Feb. 6, 1912.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, at St. John Lutheran church in Bird City with burial in the Bird City Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the church or of your choice.

### Death notice

Joan (Lorimer) Ahmed died Dec. 12 at the St. Francis Hospital in Topeka. No services will be held, a dinner to celebrate her life is being planned. Memorial contributions and condolences may be sent to her daughter, Zaiba Ahmed in care of Melinda Basnett, P.O. Box 16, McDonald, KS 67745.

### Holiday hours

The Saint Francis Herald office will be closed on Monday, Dec. 24 and Tuesday, Dec. 25 for the Christmas holiday and Monday, Dec. 31 and Tuesday, Jan. 1 for the New Year's holiday.

Ads, copy and picture deadline for the Dec. 27 issue of the Herald and Times is noon on Friday, Dec. 21, and the deadline for the Jan. 3 issue is noon on Friday, Dec. 28.

### Christmas in the Country

Christmas in the Country will be held at the Salem Lutheran Church on Saturday, Dec. 22. Check ad for the correct time.

### Open house

Donna and Norvin Northrup will be hosting their annual Christmas Open House from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 23. They welcome friends and neighbors to join them in celebrating the Christmas season.

### ABC Preschool

The ABC Preschool will be serving chili and holding a bake sale on Monday. Check ad for time, menu and prices.

### ABC Preschool Auction

The ABC Preschool Auction has been rescheduled for today (Thursday).

### Cheyenne County Hospital Board

The Cheyenne County Hospital Board will meet at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 27, in the basement of the clinic in St. Francis.

### Windsong Chorus

Chapter U, P.E.O. is sponsoring the Windsong Chorus on Jan. 27 at the high school in St. Francis at 3:30 p.m. CST. Check ad for details.

### Hospital board candidates

The Cheyenne County Commissioners are looking for people to serve on the Hospital Board. Check article and ad for addition information and phone number to call.

### Kids Wrestling practice

## McDonald News By Vera Kacirek

### Church

The Federated Church will hold their Christmas Eve Worship Service on Christmas Eve at 6:30 p.m.

### Lions Club

On Dec. 20, the McDonald Lions will bag the candy to be used for Santa's visit on Saturday, Dec. 22. They will serve their pancake and sausage dinner on Saturday before Santa's visit. Bingo will follow about 2 p.m. Also remember to cast your vote at the Post Office for the home lighting and decorating contest.

Addie Swihart brought Eleanor Swihart home on Sunday. Eleanor had attended the funeral of her sister,

June Waldvogel, in Belleville, Ill.

On Sunday evening Jerry and Betty Knapp attended the Christmas program at the Goodland Bible Church. Two of their grandchildren were in the program.

Thursday dinner guests of Karlyne Atchison and Amelia Banister were Kevin and Ami Torrey of Rutherton, N. C., Kent and Joan Banister and Jim Banister.

Greg and Cheryl Wilkinson and J.J. Denny and Lakin of Colby all attended the birthday party of Jacob Harris in McCook on Sunday. Jacob, who is the son of Jamie and Aric Harris, was celebrating his third birthday.

## The Santa Day Committee would like to say Thank You to:

Retiring member: Ken Krien

Sponsors from Bird City, St. Francis and surrounding areas.

Also, a big THANK YOU to the Community Club for preparing the lunch.



Happy Holidays and best wishes in the New Year

See [www.birdcity.com](http://www.birdcity.com) for the latest Cheylin sports information and Bird City News including:

- \* community & business development opportunities
- \* business information
- \* Bird City Century II scholarship information
- \* Bird City Century II grantmaking & funding opportunities
- \* the latest community events

## BIRD CITY CENTURY II Development Foundation

785-734-2556

"A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE BIRD CITY COMMUNITY."

## Bulletin Board

The next St. Francis Wrestling Club's little kids wrestling practices will be on Jan. 7.

### 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 Territory." Please call 785-332-3569 to register your group's display.

### Veterans Affairs

Jody Tubbs, of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs, will be in St. Francis at 9:30 a.m. today (Thursday) at the county clerk's office. You may also contact the Veteran's Affairs office in Colby any Monday, Wednesday, or Friday at 785-462-3572.

## Chatting With Cathy

By Cathy Domsch

Thank you to all of you that attended the Housing Informational Meeting on Tuesday! Your questions and comments were great and we appreciate you taking the time to join us. If you were not able to join us, please give me a call or stop by to visit about the Northwest Kansas Housing Project and the Assisted Living Project. If you are interested in serving on the Assisted Living

Task Force, please let me know!

We are always striving to keep the website, [www.birdcity.com](http://www.birdcity.com), up-to-date with Bird City News, Foundation News and Cheylin Sports Information. If you have something 'newsy' to share, please let us know and we'll get it on the website too!

Happy Holidays to you and yours!

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m.

1 hr. 48 min.

Dec. 21, 22 & 23

Enchanted

Starring: Amy Adams, James Marsden, Indina Menzel, Susan Serandon, Patrick Dempsey

Action/Adventure, Comedy  
Rating: PG for some scary images and mild innuendo

Movie Tickets Make Great Stocking Stuffers

CHEYENNE THEATER

St. Francis, KS  
785-332-2747

Children 12 & Under: \$3

All Others: \$5

The Cheyenne County Board of Commissioners will be interviewing prospective Chey. Co. Hospital Board candidates.

Those interested in serving on the Hospital Board need to apply at the clerk's office, 785-332-8800, before noon on Dec. 28

## WAREHOUSE SHIPPER

Valmont Irrigation, the world leader in mechanized irrigation equipment, has an immediate opening at our McCook Distribution Center.

This position will pack/load shipments and operate with continuous quality improvement and cost reduction efforts. Selected individual will develop and maintain a working climate with high standards of ethical discipline and morale, as well as workplace safety and building a team environment.

Applicants must have HS diploma/GED, forklift certification or ability to become certified, valid driver's license, basic math skills and ability to become proficient with Valmont's software. Must possess good interpersonal and communication skills, solid organizational skills and be detail-oriented. Also requires the ability to work with all levels of the company while maintaining a positive, customer-oriented attitude. Must be able to lift up to 50 lbs. and climb, stoop or stand for extended periods of time.

Valmont Irrigation offers a very competitive starting rate, full range of benefits and good potential for advancement. For job details, contact Tracey Mai, Distribution Manager, at: 308-345-4116 or 1-866-222-5803. Applications will be accepted at the Workforce Development Office located at: 220 W 1st St, McCook, NE 69001.

valmont

IRRIGATION

AA EOE M/F/D/V

CHEYENNE COUNTY HOSPITAL

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

## Lifeline is available

Lifeline gives older adults and those with chronic medical conditions the security and confidence to continue to live independently at the one place they feel most comfortable, in their own home.

- \* Lifeline unit installations which includes a personal help button and service calls will be done by the hospital.
- \* A Lifeline unit can be installed the day you call, Monday - Friday.
- \* Billing will be done by Cheyenne County Hospital Lifeline.
- \* Payments will be made to the Cheyenne County hospital, PO Box 547
- \* New installations or for questions contact Shawna at the Cheyenne County Hospital at 785-332-2104

## American Profile

Celebrating Hometown Life

See American Profile magazine in this week's issue of

## The Bird City Times

(available in local area only)

Brought to you by  
The Times

"Your sponsorship could be right here.  
For more information contact:  
Casey at 785-332-3162

### Bird City Times

Renew your Times subscription or subscribe today!

#### RATES

Kansas - \$30  
Out-of-State - \$34  
College:  
Kansas - \$27  
Out-of-State - \$30

Just cut out this coupon and mail it to:

The Bird City Times  
Rich Ave.-Apt. 10  
Bird City, Kansas 67731

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_