



BEFORE THE KANSAS DAY program began, attendees were treated to a potluck lunch. The different dishes were provided by Bird City and St. Francis residents.



PICTURED ABOVE are Charles Wesley and Cynthia Annie (Maxon) Trickett, the Bird City's Kansas Day Founding Presidents, 1930. Pictured right is guest speaker Dr. Leo Oliva.

Times staff photos by Linda Schneider



Kansas Day attracts young and old alike

*By Linda Schneider
dublins@hotmail.com*

On Tuesday, Cheyenne County's 79th annual Kansas Day Celebration was presented by the Kansas Day Officers and hosted in the Bird City American Legion Hall, one of the few towns that still celebrate Kansas Day.

The Kansas Day attendance was good and the attendees were treated to a potluck lunch. The luncheon was opened by prayer given by Rev. Ken Hart.

The program began with the 2008 Kansas Day Presidents, Stan and Janet Carman, graciously welcoming the audience. The audience stood for the pledge of allegiance and the national anthem.

The entertainment began with the St. Francis third graders singing and line dancing. The Cheylin fourth graders gave a presentation on the different names given to the state over the years, some of the names like the "grasshopper state" were descriptive of the destruction that happened in Kansas in 1874, only to have the largest corn harvest in the state's history in 1875.

The guest speaker, Dr. Leo Oliva, entertained the audience with the historical background of how Kansas became a free state.

Dr. Oliva presentation was on "Rowdy Kansas Territory." He presented several colorful Kansas citizens who played major roles in getting a free Kansas state. Slavery expansion, terrorism, voter fraud, Civil War and murder were just a few of the topics.

One of the characters Dr. Oliva spoke about was Julia Archibald Holmes. She was one of the forerunners in women's equality. Mrs. Holmes brought the "bloomers" to Kansas, much to the dismay of the local male population.

Called the "reformed dress," the bloomer was actually a dress that went only to the knees, unlike the traditional dress of the time that went all the way to the ankles. Underneath was a trouser-type bloomer. She felt this gave her more freedom to do the things she enjoyed out on the range with the cattle.

Kansas was one of the first states in the Union to allow women to vote in local elections, all due to the tireless efforts of Mrs. Holmes to prove equality between women and



KANSAS DAY GREETER, Daphne Roberts, extends a warm welcome to everyone who attended the celebration.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

men. She was the first woman to climb Pike's Peak when it was still part of Kansas territory on Aug. 5, 1858. For more information about Kansas, go to www.territorialkansasonline.org.

The program continued with Janet Carman, president, presenting special recognitions to Kansas residents. The eldest Kansas born man went to Tobe Zweygardt of St. Francis, born in 1916. Mr. Zweygardt also received recognition for be the eldest Cheyenne County born man.

The eldest Kansas born woman went to Myra Miller of McDonald, born 1910. The eldest woman born in Cheyenne County

went to Margaret (Indorf) Shay of St. Francis, born 1915.

The eldest foreign-born man living in Kansas went to Paul Lorenz of Bird City, born in Latvia, Northern Europe, 1920. The eldest foreign-born woman living in Kansas went to Galina Lorenz, Mr. Lorenz's wife, born in Toropetz, Russia, 1948.

The youngest boy to attend the Kansas Day event went to Joseph Augusta of Bird City, born in 2002. In addition, the youngest girl to attend went to Charly Ann Grigg of Pueblo, Colo., 2 1/2 years old.

The program ended with Rev. Dan Carson of Wesleyan Church, Bird City, giving a memorial to Kansans that have died in 2007. Closing with the benediction.

Student receives honor

*By Linda Schneider
dublins@hotmail.com*

On Sunday, Colby Community College hosted the 11th annual Northwest Kansas All-Star volleyball match. This year, Cheylin School was represented by Colleen Shrader.

Colleen joined the Cheylin volleyball team in sixth grade and she is the volleyball captain for this year's team.

To be able to participate in the All-Star match, she was first nominated to the All-League list by her Alicia Beeson, her coach. Coaches from the same regional league have a meeting and submit their nominations from the All-League list. They then have the opportunity to speak on behalf of his or hers nomination(s). The All-Star team is open to seniors only.

The coaches then cast their vote for the player(s) they want to see play in the All-Star match. The ballots are counted and the results made known.

All-Stars who have represented Cheylin in the past are; Sara Moore, '03; Amanda Poore, '02; Sarah Hubbard, '01; Anne Hickert, Crystal Mears, and Brandi Moore, '99; Jessica Johnson, '98; Leisha Henderson, '97; Kelly Antholz, Rachel Sabatka and DeAndrea Wright, '96. Cheylin has had two coaches, Dale Henderson, '96 and Kevin Dixon, '99, who participated in past matches.



ALL-STAR PLAYER, Colleen Shrader is in position to hit the volleyball back over to her opponents. Accompanying her to the match were her parents, Roy and Karen Sharder

Colleen was voted All-Star Honorable Mention. She was not immediately eligible to play in the match. However, shortly before the Sunday game, she received a phone call informing her a player had dropped out of the game and she would be playing after all.

She arrived at 7 a.m. on Sunday, spending the day to become acquainted with new teammates and to become reacquainted with some old friends. The teams were then split into 'Black' and 'White'.

The program opened with an award ceremony. The match was best three out of five games. While her team did not win the match,

Colleen played an outstanding game and was a great team player.

"It was a great time to see some old friends, make new ones and play volleyball," said Colleen.

Labette Community College in Parsons, Kan. has offered her a volleyball scholarship. She has not decided where she would be attending college, but she has decided that she will be majoring in business.

Colleen aspires to be self-employed and has a few innovative ideas for businesses. In addition, after she receives her education she has plans to return to Bird City and start her own company.

Board will seek tax credits

*By Karen Krien
karenk@nwkansas.com*

For the last year, the Cheyenne County Hospital Board and administrator have been looking at two projects: remodeling the hospital kitchen and dining area; and turning two hospital rooms into a labor/delivery room.

Bids were let and estimates made but, when it came down to starting the project, the board realized that both projects were going to cost more than they had anticipated. At the December meeting, the board asked Les Lacy, hospital administrator, to get ready to apply for a Community Development Block Grant and a Kansas Department of Commerce Community Service Program (Income Tax Credit).

The Kansas Income Tax Credit application is due May 2, but award notices will not be made until early July. Mr. Lacy said that they will need letters of support from people in both the St. Francis and Bird City communities to send in with the grant application. Mr. Lacy also explained that this is a competitive process with no guarantee that the hospital will get tax credits.

The application will state that there is a need for an obstetrics service in the area and there is no ideally suited location in the hospital for the service. While the latest bid was over \$200,000, Mr. Lacy recommended limiting the size of the tax credit proposal to \$180,000 to make it more competitive. He pointed out that, as of the January

meeting, there are 11 deliveries scheduled by September and this is a project that needs to be completed as soon as possible.

The kitchen project is estimated to cost at least \$150,000. Mr. Lacy had contacted the Amy Griffey, representative for the Community Development Block Grant, but was still waiting for more information.

New board member

Terry Miller, county clerk, swore in Jane Young, Bird City, who will be taking the position on the board vacated by Swede Calnon.

The election of officers was held. Jerry Toler, who has been ill, was re-elected as president. The board agreed that Mr. Toler had been focused and dedicated to the position and they were comfortable with him continuing. Joy Anderegg, who acted as chairman in Mr. Toler's absence, was re-elected as secretary; and Traci Neitzel, treasurer.

Administrator's report

The administrator said Trisha Harkness, the hospital's computer network administrator, will be working with Kody Krien, pharmacist at Krien Pharmacy, St. Francis, to check orders as required by federal regulations, using the computer system. Mr. Lacy said Mr. Krien currently comes on site as necessary and has done an excellent job of working with the medical staff.

The administrator circulated two brochures showing: 1) an automated medicine controller which will offer storage of medicines and accurate dosages; 2) a computer on wheels which will bring the computer terminal to the patient's bedside. He said the hospital will need these types of equipment at some point in

the future.

The clinic basement meeting room will be getting a separate heating and cooling system. The temperature is controlled upstairs in the clinic and the basement is generally very cool throughout the year. The board accepted the bid of Roger Neitzel Heating and Cooling, St. Francis, of \$1,970 for installation and equipment. The money will be taken out of the Funded Depreciation.

Great Plains Health Alliance report

Jackie John, area representative for Great Plains Health Alliance, the company which leases the hospital, said the Department of Agriculture approved Great Plains' for a loan/grant application of \$9,948,400. Great Plains and its affiliates will use the money to finance future technology requirements such as building a foundation for a medical home by bridging the gap between patients, providers, payors, employers and government.

Mrs. John said hospitals, including the Cheyenne County Hospital, through electronic medical records, have the ability to develop an electronic record within the hospital but no ability to be able to standardize and share the information with others.

In addition, hospitals are required to individually finance all upgrades in equipment and software.

The hospital received a perfect score in a provider "Site Evaluation" done by the locum tenens company, Docs Who Care. This was the only perfect score out of the 11 hospitals evaluated. Docs Who Care is the company that provides physicians for relief coverage when Dr. Miller and Dr. Allard need to be off.