

## Casey's Comments

**Casey McCormick**

sc McCormick@nwkansas.com  
What a difference a year makes! I have a new birthday these days. My twin brother and I share the date on which we were born. But now I have another day to celebrate.

It was a year ago when Lezlie and I knew something wasn't quite right. What we first thought was the stomach flu turned out to be pancreatitis.

That began a journey which took me from the capable staff at the Cheyenne County Hospital to Sky Ridge Hospital in Colorado.

From there I found myself at Parker Valley Hope for about a month.

Eventually I was back in Kansas and facing a different lifestyle. The

life that I had lived had a lot to do with alcohol. If I had a bad day, I drank. If I had a good day, I drank. With my outlook, everyday was a reason to celebrate, or to hide, with a bottle.

When I got sick, the doctors made it clear to me that if I continued to drink, then I would soon die.

Believe it or not, it still wasn't an easy decision to make. However, here I am a year later living a much better life than before.

So my new birthday is on April 1, no fooling! God willing they will continue to arrive and I will be able to spend many years with Lezlie, our children and families and all of our friends who read these words.

## Letters From Linda

**By Linda Schneider**  
dublins@hotmail.com

I am going to let you in on a little secret of mine-I am an introvert. Some of you may find that hard to believe since I am the editor of *Bird City Times*, but if it was not for the fact that I have to meet people to write the stories that go into the newspaper, I would probably stay in the house and read.

When our family moved to Kansas, I did not have friends that I had known for years to leave behind. I never seen the same person twice at any grocery store and on a few occasions I had the same check-out person. But, other than coworkers, I did not have many people call me on the phone and ask me how my day was going.

Since moving to Bird City, I have met and talked to so many people I feel like I have lived here for years!

Some people like Donna Johnson, call me out of the clear blue sky just to ask me how am I doing!

People are waving to me all the time, talking to me on the street and in the grocery store, and just being plain friendly. I can not help but remember what Dolly Boyson said to me when I was writing a story about her husband. "This is no-man's land, but you will never find more friendlier people anywhere."

Recently, we have added to our family a dog. Her name is Sassy and she is so friendly and a fast learner. When our grandsons, Ivan and Joseph, are playing with her it is out of a Norman Rockwell portrait.

I am settling in and getting comfortable, finally. Yep, the Schneider's are becoming an "All-American" family, living the life that I had only read about in books. Silly.

## Chatting with Cathy

**By Cathy Domsch**  
"Did You Know?"

Did you know that the largest mass of wealth in history will transfer from one generation to another in the next 50 years? Community Foundations such as the Bird City Century II Development Foundation are ready to be a conduit for keeping a portion of this wealth in our community. Why should we worry about keeping a portion of the wealth here?

As older generations pass away, their savings, investments and spending power pass on to their children, who might not live in our community. This transfer of wealth

creates an immediate loss for our banks and businesses. This trickle-down effect of money leaving the area also means that we lose people and community organizations that add to our small town living.

The Bird City Century II Development Foundation can help reverse this trend. Anyone connected to the community can set up a fund during their lifetime or direct a gift after their death to leave a permanent gift to their hometown.

I will be attending a conference this month to review the data for the Transfer of Wealth in Kansas and I look forward to sharing this information with you!

## School Menu

This week the fifth graders have picked their favorite food for lunch on Wednesday.

**Monday, 4/7**

Breakfast: sausage and cheese scones, toast, assorted cereal, juice and milk

Lunch: hamburger gravy and mashed potatoes, vegetables, salad bar, fruit and milk

**Tuesday, 4/8**

Breakfast: muffins and boiled eggs, toast, assorted cereal, juice and milk

Lunch: burritos or crispiitos with

chile, dessert, salad bar, fruit and milk

**Wednesday, 4/9**

Breakfast: egg and cheese biscuit, toast, assorted cereal, juice and milk

Lunch: fish, macaroni and cheese, rolls, strawberry shortcake, salad bar, fruit and milk

**Thursday, 4/10**

Breakfast: pancakes, toast, assorted cereal, juice and milk

Lunch: rib barbeque sandwich, french fries, salad bar, fruit and milk

## The Bird City Times

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### Corrections

The March senior birthday cutline incorrectly spelled Meta Danenbring.

Last week's picture of Jayden Cahoj and Superintendent Dave Zumbahlen was taken by Taylor Leibbrandt.

### Library Board of Trustees

Bird City Public Library is looking for people who are interested in being a member of the Board of Trustees and/or forming a "Friends of the Library" group. Contact the library at (785) 734-2203.

### New Board of Education members

The Cheylin Board of Education has two new members, Doyle Boch and Belinda Serrano. They replace Rod Young and Jan Busse, who both had recently resigned from the board.

### Family movie night

There will be a family movie night featuring "The Buttercream Gang" at 5 p.m. on Sunday, April 6, at the Immanuel United Methodist Church in Bird City. There is free admission, and everyone is welcome. Plans are to try and have a family movie night once a month or every other month to promote family fun.

### American Legion Auxiliary

American Legion Auxiliary will have workday at 10 a.m. on Friday, April 4. At 11:30, workers will be treated to a lunch at the Heritage Café, followed by the business meeting, program and a light dessert.

### Library Storytime

Bird City Library will be having Storytime at 10 a.m. on Friday. The books will be *Good Morning, Granny Rose* Warren Ludwig; *Elah Sarah Gets Dressed* Margaret Chodos-Irvine; *When Marcus Moore Moved In* Rebecca Bond. Crafts and snacks will follow. Junior Readers welcomed.

### Death notice

Dean Skinner died March 23, 2008, in Dallas. Mr. Skinner was born on April 3, 1927. He was a retired funeral director. Survivors include two sons, Craig Skinner and Charles Skinner, two daughters, Kristin Skinner and Kimberlyn Vick; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Visitation was on March 27. There was no service.

### Historical Society

Cheyenne County Historical Society meets Tuesday, April 8, at 5 p.m. at the Museum.

### Cheyenne County Hospital Guild

The Cheyenne County Hospital Guild will meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, April 7, at the Senior Center in St. Francis. Dr. Rebecca Allard will present the program.

### Commodities to be distributed

Government surplus commodities will be distributed from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Thursday, April 10, at

the St. Francis Equity community room. You may pick up in person or send a signed permission note with another individual. Cheyenne County address is required.

Please bring a strong sack or box for your items.

Commodities available include breakfast cereal, beef stew, noodles, peaches, pears, peas and peanut butter.

The following guidelines went into effect on July 1. Guidelines are as follows (maximum monthly income): household of one - \$1,107; household of two - \$1,484; household of three - \$1,861; household of four - \$2,238; each additional family member \$377.

Volunteers are needed to distribute commodities in the Bird City area. Call (785) 332-5610 for additional information or to volunteer.

### Kansans for Life

The Cheyenne County Kansans for Life will meet at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bird City on Monday, April 7, with a potluck dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m. special guests will be David Grittrich of Kansans for Life from Wichita and Victor and Eva Pochop of Atwood. all in the community are welcome to join in prayer, learning and fellowship to work together to provide "Life for All."

### Cheyenne County Fair Board

The Cheyenne County Fair Board will meet at 8 p.m. tonight (Thursday).

### Health Fair scheduled

The St. Francis Parent Teacher Association (PTA), Cheyenne County Hospital and Clinic will host a health fair from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 10 at the

St. Francis Grade School gym. Lab work results will be available at the health fair.

### Veterans Affairs

Jody Tubbs, of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs, will be in St. Francis at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, April 3, 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.

### Northwest Kansas Family Shelter

Northwest Kansas Family Shelter provides 24-hour-7 day-a-week services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Weekly support groups are available for women and children within the northwest Kansas area. For information, call 1-800-794-4624.

## Obituary

### Wayne Martin Johnsen

Feb. 7, 1931 - March 27, 2008

Wayne Martin Johnsen, age 77, Bird City, Kan., died March 27, 2008, at the Cheyenne County Hospital in St. Francis. Wayne was born Feb. 7, 1931, the son of, George Jergen Johnsen and Viola Leone (Hawkinson) Johnsen at a farm northeast of Wilcox, Kearney County, Neb. He grew up on farms around Wilcox.

He had seven brothers, Lawrence, Lamoine, Lloyd, Dale, Glenn, Arlan and Gary. Wayne was baptized on Feb. 7, 1932, and was a lifetime member of the Methodist Church.

Wayne graduated from Wilcox High School in 1948. At the age of 20, he was inducted into the U.S. Army on Aug. 15, 1951, at Omaha, Neb., and served two years during the Korean War.

On Feb. 17, 1952, Wayne married Virginia Rogene Stoltenberg. Wayne shipped out of Seattle, Wash., just two weeks later for Korea in March, 1952. He spent time at the Punch Bowl and Heart Break Ridge areas operating telephone and radio for the rifle company and was promoted to Corporal while he was in Korea.

Wayne returned home on Feb. 14, 1953. He served a short time at Fort Carson, Colo., then was assigned military police (MP) duty at Fort Sheridan, Ill. Wayne was released from active duty in May, 1953, and spent the remainder of eight years on inactive duty. He was honorably discharged in August 1959. Wayne has been a member of the American Legion for nearly 35 years.

He returned to Wilcox where he farmed then managed the Coop elevator at Ragan.

Wayne and Rogene had three children, Pamela, David and Dan-

iel. In 1967, the family moved to Bird City, where Wayne worked for Coop for many years. He later worked for and retired in 1993 from the Cheyenne County Road Department.

Wayne was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers, Lawrence, Lloyd and Glenn.

He is survived by his wife, Rogene; daughter, Pam and husband, Tom of Monument, Colo., and their three daughters, Krysta, Bryana and Tasha; son, Dave and his wife, Monica of Imperial, Neb., and their three children, Ben and wife, Sheila and great-grandson, Will, daughter, Tara and husband, Matt, and daughter, Amanda; and son, Dan and wife, Janet and daughter, Teri of Wiley, Colo.; and brothers, Lamoine of Wilcox, Dale and wife, Gussie of Wilcox, Arlan and wife, Elaine of Colorado Springs and Gary and wife, Elizabeth of Stapleton, Neb.; sister-in-law, Juanita and husband, Bernie; sister-in-law,

Verle; brother-in-law, Rex and wife, Kenda and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

Funeral services were held at the Bird City United Methodist church on Monday, March 31, with Pastor Becky Davison officiating.

Honorary pallbearers were granddaughters, Tara Deyle, Amanda Johnsen, Sheila Johnsen, Will Johnsen, Krysta Burns, Bryana Burns, Tasha Burns, Teri Johnsen.

Casket bearers were Brian Johnsen, Ben Johnsen, Matt Deyle, Scott Johnsen, Duane Johnsen, Dan Miller.

Interment was in the Bird City Cemetery, Bird City.

Military graveside service by Fort Riley Honor Guard.

Arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home.

Memorial gifts can be made on Wayne's behalf to the Cheyenne County Hospital for their superior care or other donation of your choice.

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m.

1 hr. 28 min.

### Horton Hears A Who!

April 4, 5 & 6

Jim Carrey, Steve Carell, Dan Fogler, Carol Burnett, Seth Rogen

Kids/Family, Animation & Adaptation

Rating: G

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## Cheyenne County Hospital, Clinic and Health Department Health Fair.

### Lab Draws

April 7-9, 7 to 10 a.m. in County Health Department  
April 8, 7-10 a.m. at the Bird City Clinic

The lab work includes:

- Complete Profile \$40 includes the following lab tests:
    - CMP (complete metabolic profile) that will test your sugar, electrolytes, kidney and liver function
    - Lipid Panel that will check your cholesterol
    - TSH that checks your thyroid
    - CBC (complete blood count) that checks for anemia and possible infections
  - PSA (prostate specific antigen) that checks the prostate, \$20
- Pap and prostrate exams April 8-10 in St. Francis Clinic  
Pap and prostrate exams April 9-10 in Bird City Clinic

Appointment required for pap and prostrate exams. Please call the St. Francis Clinic at 785-332-2682 to schedule. Cost is \$25.

## Student Graduates

Alicia Burkhalter Rippe of Bird City is one of the 63 students who completed requirements for master's and education specialist's degrees during the fall 2007 semester at Fort Hays State University,

according to Dr. Tim Crowley, interim dean of the Graduate School at the college.

Burkhalter-Rippe earned a master's degree in counseling.

## Positions Open

### CNAs

- Benefits Available
- Local Training Available
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- Advancement Opportunities

Call Michele R. or Janet at 785-332-2531



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