

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

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Last Sunday morning, while hanging the "Stars and Bars" for Memorial Day weekend, I got to listen to the Cheyenne County Symphony Orchestra.

The beginning of the summer has its own music. This piece could have been called "The Morning Bird's Song."

To the north of town a flock of Rio Grande Turkeys were gobbling. Their sounds were like the string's section, carrying the main theme.

Off west were some migratory water fowl, most likely Canadian Geese. These blasted wide open honks, similar to the horns in the brass section.

Added to this came a constant rhythm of a Flicker or wood

pecker just to the east of me. Its woody beat kept the other musicians in tempo, just like a percussionist.

To fill in any holes, a mass of smaller song birds and morning chirpers were present. This harmony became the wood winds for the group.

Nature's music has a perfection that man can only hope to imitate. I imagine that sounds like this singing, prairie orchestra must be the sort of thing that inspired Beethoven to compose his Pastoral Symphony, #9.

Speaking of Beethoven's 9th, for a real treat take a recording of it to a high place in the country when one of our summer storms rolls in. The combination of power and beauty complement both.

Letters From Linda

By Linda Schneider

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Have you ever had this thought? "What do teachers and the military have in common?"

In these past few weeks, I have had the pleasure — no privilege — to attend a high school graduation, two grade school promotions and a Memorial Day ceremony at the Bird City Cemetery to raise flags for our fallen veterans.

How could anyone walk away from any of those events without feeling pride and gratitude for those who answer the calling upon their lives to sacrifice their lives, some even to the point of blood?

What! Are you still protesting the war? Are you remembering the school detention you still feel was unjust?

I have just one question to ask to that — "Where would this country be without our teachers and our soldiers?" Really, where?

I will start with the obvious; I would not be able to write this column without my teachers, and I

would not be able to write what I want in this column without this country's soldiers.

The Constitution of the United States could not have been written by uneducated people, and our freedom to pursue the happiness in its writing is protected by the military. However, our love of "freedom" has some of us believing the cost of True Freedom is not worth it and grumble.

Teachers, soldiers and their families answer the highest calling of our nation, that of servitude, and they are underpaid and under appreciated. Yet, they continue to teach and protect our nation, its leaders and the future for our children.

"Freedom Is Not Free." It costs dearly and I would like to leave you with this thought: "There are people who do not measure the quality of life by what they are willing to live for, but what they are willing to die for." God Bless America!

Summer reading program gets going

The Bird City Public Library welcomes students ages preschool through fourth grade to take part in this year's Summer Reading Program, "Catch the Reading Bug". To kick-off this year's program that starts 5:30 p.m., Thursday, June 5, come to the Bird City Park for Chad Beaches: "The Bug Juice Jamboree!" Everyone in the community is welcome to come and enjoy a night of family entertainment followed by refreshments! Bird City Century II is sponsoring the kick-off in the park along with the Bird City Public Library.

This years Summer Reading

Program at the library will begin on Friday, June 13 from 10 to 11:30 and will be every Friday through the month of June. A Summer Reading finale will be held on July 4 from 10 to 11:30 with fun activities in the Bird City Park to finish out the program. Sydney Busse will be the storyteller at the library this year and there will be great stories to share, fun crafts, exciting activities, and snacks!

Come join the Backyard Safari. For more information you may contact the Bird City Public Library.



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Wild-Wild West Fest

The "Wild-Wild West Fest" dinner, sponsored by the 2008-09 Cheylin Dance and Cheer teams is planned from 7 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, June 6, at the high school gym in Bird City! The fund raiser helps purchase supplies and defray camp costs for next season. Call Tammi Carmichael at 734-2494 or Amy Hendricks at 734-2207.

Cheylin C-Team baseball schedule

C-team is ready to play ball! All games will start at 7 p.m., central time, unless otherwise agreed on by the coaches (or persons in charge of scheduling fields). All Cheylin home games will be played at the McDonald baseball field.

Game schedule includes: Friday, Atwood at Cheylin. Monday, June 2, is a bye. Friday, June 6, Cheylin at Wauneta. Monday, June 9, Cheylin at St. Francis. Friday June 13, Benkelman at Cheylin. Monday, June 16, rain makeup games. Coaches are Dan Carson, Tony Salcido and Linda Schneider. Wauneta will be hosting the tournament. Watch for information about times and dates.

Retirement reception

A come-and-go retirement reception honoring Al Hatch is being held Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Hanston State Bank. You are welcome to attend.

Cancer Relay for Life Information

Survivors Night for the Relay

for Life will be at 5:30 p.m., tonight, (Thursday), at the Equity meeting room. Refreshments will be served and survivors can pick up their T-shirts at that time.

All survivors please come and get ready to do the Survivor's Lap at the Relay, which will be held at Sawhill Park at 7:00 p.m. Friday night, June 6. Contact Susie Walz at 785-332-3486 for any questions.

Barn workshop

The free Kansas Barn Alliance workshop, "Old Barn-New Ideas" will be held at the Stan Carman farm on Saturday. Two surprise guests will be there to greet visitors. Activities begin at 10 a.m. The 4-H photographers will be recognized for their part in documenting area barns. Robert Metzger, timber frame specialist, will speak at the morning session. The Cheyenne County Historical Society will serve lunch at noon. The afternoon "Idea Session" begins at 1. To register, call 785 332 3569.

Clown comes to the Village

The Gulpepper and Merriweather Circus is coming to St. Francis on Friday, June 13. A preview will be held with a clown arriving in St. Francis at the Good Samaritan Village at 9:30 a.m. There is no charge and all children are welcome to come to the Village. The clown will be found in the lounge.

Chief Roman Nose Rendezvous
The Lloyd Flick Memorial

Shoot will be held at the Beecher Island Battleground June 7-8. Awards will be given in all events. Black Powder or Pyrodex and Round Ball only. Iron sites with no scopes. Primitive attire preferred but not required. Free primitive camping are available on the site. For additional information contact: Bill Carpenter 970-354-7468.

Quilt given at Relay for Life

This year, a quilt will be given away at the Cheyenne County Relay For Life walk which has been moved from August to Friday, June 6, at Sawhill Park, St. Francis.

In an effort to help raise money to fight cancer, The Common Thread Quilt Guild, has made a quilt with any proceeds made going to the Relay walk.

The quilt is on display at the United Methodist Thrift Store. People are urged to come check out the quilt and see how they might become its owner. It will be given away at the June Relay.

Relay for Life

The Relay for Life will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, June 6 at Sawhill Park. Team members will walk until 7 a.m. Saturday, June 7, to raise the funds pledged for research for a cure for cancer. If interested in forming a team, call Gloria Bracelin, 785-332-2757, or Betty Petersen, 785-332-8990.

Veterans Affairs

Jody Tubbs, of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs, will

be in St. Francis at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, June 5 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.

Recovery Today/Narcotics Anonymous

Recovery Today group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. on Sunday nights at the United Methodist Educational Building. Call (785) 332-6542 or 8607 for more information.

Sainty Serenity Seekers/Alcoholics Anonymous

Sainty Serenity Seekers open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous is held at 7:30 p.m. each Thursday evening at the United Methodist Education Building at 104 W. Webster, St. Francis. Call (785) 332-6542 for more information

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 or if you are in need of assistance, please call the toll-free number 1-800-794-4624.

Correction

The Herald has been informed that Gavin Smull received a \$1,000 Alice Gillispie scholarship instead of the \$500 Walter and Lucille Stephenson Memorial Scholarship printed in the May 22 issue of the newspaper.

Obituaries

Francis Stephens

Jan. 10, 1911 - May 22, 2008

Lifelong Sherman County, Kan., resident, Frances Stephens, 97, died Thursday, May 22, 2008, at Wheat Ridge Acres in Goodland, with her family by her side.

Frances was born Jan. 10, 1911, to Arthur and Vinnie (Fortmeyer) Kemp on a farm northwest of Goodland. The family moved north of Ruleton, when she was 3-years-old.

Frances attended Pleasant Hill school through the eighth grade, and then completed two years of high school in Goodland. Frances accepted the Lord as her Savior when she was 14-years-old.

On Nov. 22, 1932, she was married to Rufus Stephens. Francis enjoyed time spent with her family, especially her grand- and great-grandchildren.

Preceding Francis in death were her parents; her husband, Rufus; her daughter, Betty Locklear; one grandson; one great-granddaughter; two sisters and three brothers.

Family members left to remember her are her children, Twila Bishop and her husband, Bill of McPherson; Dale Stephens and wife, Iva Lee of

Goodland; Irma Silkman and her husband, Leon of Burlington, Colo.; and Maxine Klein and her husband, Bob of San Antonio, Texas. She is also survived by 10 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren, a sister-in-law, Jeanette Nedved of Plainville, a host of nieces, nephews and many special friends.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, May 28, at Koons Funeral Chapel in Goodland. Burial followed in the Goodland Cemetery.

Memorials may be designated to Hospice Services of Sherman County and may be sent to Koons Funeral Home, 211 N. Main, Goodland, KS, 67735-1555.

Agnes May (Cole) Rowand

June 3, 1918 - April 26, 2008

Agnes May (Cole) Rowand, age 89, of Lakewood, Colo., died April 26, 2008, at the Bear Creek Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Morrison, Colo.

She was born on June 3, 1918, to Electa (Blakely) Cole and Arch Cole in Atlantic, Iowa.

In 1924, the family moved to McDonald, Kan., where she attended school, excelling in all sports, and graduated from

McDonald Rural High School in 1935. She enrolled in a post-graduate teachers training course given by the State of Kansas at the St. Francis High School. There she met Ernest Rowand and they were married on Sept. 2, 1936. They both held county teaching jobs around St. Francis until 1941, when they relocated to Golden, Colo.

In 1949, the family moved back to St. Francis until 1955. The family moved back to Lakewood, Colo., where she lived until her death.

Agnes was a devoted wife and a wonderful mother. She was very proud of her family.

She was given the gift of artistic ability and spent a great deal of time during her life doing and sharing art and craft projects with others. She entered several of her projects in contests, winning a number of awards. She was very athletic, pitching for the ladies softball team in western Kansas and in later years, bowling become her passion.

Agnes is survived by her daughter, Evelyn Butler and husband, Neil of Lakewood;

son, Ron Rowand and wife, Bonnie of Berthoud, Colo., and daughter, Karen Scally and husband, Ed of Martinez, Calif.; her grandchildren, Mark Rotchstein and wife, Diane of Central City, Colo.; Melanee Penland of Las Vegas, Nev., and Corrin Goudzwaard and husband, Lance of Littleton, Colo.; her step-grandchildren Dean Butler and wife, Kathy of Morrison, Colo.; Keith Sladky of Ogallala, Neb.; and Jim Sladky and wife, Dawn of Oxford, Neb.; her great-grandchildren, Jacob, Andrew and Shelby Rotchstein; Kyra and Kalli Goudzwaard; her step-great-grandchildren, Kimberly and Stephanie Butler; Preston, Travis, Amanda, Nathaniel and Taylor Sladky and Jeffrey and Jennifer Sladky.

She is survived by her sister, Lois Heard of Santa Clara, Calif.; brothers, Carl Cole and wife, Barbara of Kansas City, Mo.; John Cole and wife, Margie of Arvada, Colo., and Bruce Cole and wife, Barbara of Kansas City, Mo.

Services were held on May 3 in Lakewood. Interment was at the Golden Cemetery, Golden.

WANTED



FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE
Denies she's 50!!!

Catch the Reading Bug!
Help kick-off the summer reading program at the **Bug Juice Jamboree** Thursday, June 5, 5:30 p.m. at the Bird City Park
Family entertainment featuring Chad Beaches
Refreshments will be served

SHOWTIME: 8:00 p.m. 1 hr. 38 min.
What Happens in Vegas
May 30, 31 & June 1 Comedy
Cameron Diaz, Ashton Kutcher, Rob Corrdry, Lake Bell, Dennis Farina
Rating: PG-13 for some sexual and crude content, and language, including a drug reference.
CHEYENNE THEATER St. Francis, KS 785-332-2747
Children 12 & Under: \$3 All Others: \$5

CHEYENNE COUNTY HOSPITAL 210 W. 1st • St. Francis, KS 785-332-2104
Relay for Life baskets will be on display as follows:
Cheyenne County Hospital May 28th - 29th
United Methodist Thrift Store May 30th - 31st
Hometown Market in Bird City June 2nd - 3rd
All bids are to be turned in by noon June 4th.



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