

Bird City Times Thursday, January 29,2009 Volume 84, Number 05 Bird City, Kansas 67731

6 Pages

65 Cents



The annual Kansas Day cele- and the Swingin' Seniors. bration will be held today (Thurs-City. Registration begins at 10:30 er. a.m. and a potluck meal follows at noon.

There will be displays and entertainment including the students the GI-Bill. Currently he holds

day) at the Legion hall in Bird historian, will be the guest speak-

United States Army from 1960 to 1966, and attended college on schools, the St. Francis Singers the Marais des Cygnes Massa- Historic Site. He is a frequent lec-

Arnold W. Schofield, Kansas Creek Battlefield State Historic Sites in Linn County.

Before joining the Kansas State Dr. Schofield served in the Historical Society, Dr. Schofield in Civil War Battlefield Preservaretired from 43 years of federal service that included 25 years as the historian and cultural resource Mine Creek Battlefield Founfrom St. Francis and Cheylin the position of superintendent of specialist at Fort Scott National dation that was established in

speaker on Westward Expansion, Kansas History and the Civil War.

He has been actively involved tion for more than 30 years and is one of the founders of the 1999. To date the foundation has

cre State Historic Site and Mine turer at universities and a public raised more than \$1,000,000 and torical Society that same day. purchased 306 acres of battlefield land. The objective of this foundation is to assist the state of Kansas Day activities, Dr. Schofield will

in the preservation, protection and interpretation of the Mine Creek Battlefield.

He will also make presentations at local schools and at Ye Olde Coun- lace. Everyone interested is urged to try Church, St. Francis, for the His- attend this presentation.

Thursday evening

For those who might miss Kansas be at Ye Olde Country Church, St. Francis, that evening at 7. He will speak to the Historical Society about the Kidder Massacre and Fort Wal-



Most positions for April 7 election filled

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkansas.com The deadline for filing for seats on Bird City or St. Francis city councils, the Bird City mayor and Cheylin or St. Francis school boards was noon on Tuesday.

officer, reported filings were still coming in Tuesday morning.

To run for a seat on the city council, the candidate must live within the city limits.

Sunflower Extension

Incumbent Cindy Burr and Tammy Grice filed for a seat on the Sunflower Extension Board. Two seats were up for election. Ms. Grice will fill the seat left by Penny Gienger.

City council/mayor

There were a number of positions open in both cities on both the school and city boards. In both cities, the council can have any number of candidates running but only the seats which are up for election will be filled by the candidates with the most votes in the April 7 election.

St. Francis – There are three city council seats up for election. Those St. Francis members

whose terms are up are: Rodney Bracelin, Natalie Knodel and Carla Lampe. Filing by the deadline were Mrs. Lampe, Paula Keller, candidate has filed for an office, Justin Gardner Dan Hoard, Bruce Swihart, Jennifer Dankenbring-Padgett and Mike Hanson. Bird City – There are two seats on the city council plus the position of mayor up for election. The council positions are currently being served by Deb Smith and Wade Carmichael. Troy Burr is the mayor of Bird City.

Filing on Tuesday were Wade Carmichael for council. Troy Burr filed for mayor. That leaves one seat on the council to be filled by the council at a later date.

Board of education

St. Francis — There three seats Terry Miller, county election up for election on the St. Francis Board of Education. Positions and the people currently serving are: District 3, position 6, Pete Raile; District 1, position 4, Bruce Feikert; and District 2, position 5, Kelly Gienger.

Filing were Mr. Gienger for District 2, position 5; Mike Antholz, Bob Holzwarth and Ed Marin for District 3, position 6; and Derrick Tice for District 1, position 4.

Cheylin — The Cheylin Board of Education has four seats up for election including District 1, position 1, George Louderbaugh; District 2, position 6, Doyle Bock; District 1, position 3, Don Orten; and Member At Large, Belinda Serrano.

Filing were Belinda Serrano, Kerby Krien and Jan Busse, District 2, position 6; Jim Cahoj and George Louderbaugh, District 1, position 1; Anita Pochop, District 1, position 3; and Hal Antholz, member at large.

No withdrawing names

It should be noted, that after a he cannot withdraw his name af ter the last date provided by law for filing for such candidacy.



Winners of the Knights of Co- day, Feb. 1 in Colby. lumbus free-throw competition prepared to move on to the district Quinter. competition to be held at 1 p.m Sun-

The winners at Colby will move held in St. Francis on Jan. 18, are on to the regional competition in

qualifying for district include: Sydney Sundstrom, girls age 10; Derek Vandike, boys age 10; Kyla Bandel, girls age 11; Devon Janicke, boys Cheyenne County participants age 11; Brianna Cooks, girls age

Times staff photo by Betty Winston

12; Cade Bracelin, boys age 12; Walker Janicke, boys age 13; Keegan Sherlock, boys age 14. There were no competitors in the girls age 13 and 14.

Election date

There is no need for a primary election as there are no more than three candidates running for a particular seat. The general election will be held on Tuesday, April 7.

Board hears about inspection

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkansas.com The state fire marshal had inspected the hospital on Thursday, the same day that the Cheyenne County Hospital Board met. The marshal's comments made up part of the meeting.

The kitchen is in need of some wiring improvements to comply with code deficiencies.

Although this was a different fire marshal inspector, he still noted the need to make improvements in the kitchen area. Some of the wiring needs to be done now, rather than wait for the comprehensive project to meet these codes, Les Lacy, hospital administrator, said.

He and the board discussed different options and, in the end, decided to do a little more planning before proceeding with a major project. He said that Bill Wilger, maintenance, will soon have the building in back of the hospital remodeled and have his area moved into it. That would give Mr. Lacy a better idea of the room available and other options that might work.

The new fire marshal had another matter which he felt needed attention and that was the east entrance/ exit. He said the ceiling height was too low. Redoing this doorway has been on the long-range planning list but, the board had delayed it because there were other issues they felt were more important.

Mr. Lacy pointed out that one option was to demolish the concrete cap over the lower step and put a metal cover on at the appropriate height. This could likely be done fairly inexpensively.

Airport closed

Mr. Lacy said Ron Louden, member of the county Airport Authority Board, had told him that, in October, there are plans for the airport to be closed for rebuilding the runway. The renovation will take about five weeks and during that time, different arrangements will be made to fly out patients for further treatment.

The board talked about bringing in helicopters. Mr. Lacy said helicopters used to land in the grass to the west of the hospital but there is supposed to be 300 feet from the nearest residence.

Helicopters still land at the airport and the ambulance meets the crew there. Patients can also be transported to the Goodland airport to meet a medical flight.

Mr. Lacy pointed out that they have had some notice so they will be able to work out whatever arrangements would be needed.

Morale issue

The matter of the morale issue with the hospital staff which was brought up in the interview for the hospital board position. Mr. Lacy agreed that at times, there may be a problem but he didn't see it as a severe problem. The board was encouraged to talk to the administrator if they hear of problems.

Numbers up

Mr. Lacy said the number of visits at the Cheyenne County Clinic in St. Francis is holding stable with 503 reported in December. In Bird City, there were 83 visits in December

He pointed out that the number of ancillarie surgeries was increasing. There was a total of 82 in 2008 which was over the 2007 total by 26. Endoscopies had a total of 103

which was over last year by two. The big surprise to Mr. Lacy's budget was the number of babies born last year. He had budgeted for eight births but, instead, there were 24 babies born in the hospital.

Primary Care Clinic Grant

New grant applications are out for the Primary Care Clinic Grant. The current grant was originally for \$75,000 and is being cut to \$70,900 by the Governor. This grant helps with the cost of un- and under-insured patients and provides funds for Case Management Services. Mr. Lacy will be writing this grant.

The future of CT

A communication from the American College of Radiology outlined the changes that will be necessary in certifications and equipment to continue to do some types of CT images in the future. At some point the hospital will need to upgrade the CT machine to be able to continue to provide this service in the community. It was noted that there are some types of images that are not done locally due to the limitations of the equipment.

Funding

Funding the depreciation fund was discussed. Mr. Lacy said that, historically, the hospital has needed funds in January but, not this January. He said that he would like to suggest that, for this month only, depreciation not be funded. Traci Neitzel, board member, said that she would agree to the arrangement this month but she wanted to make sure that this wasn't continuing. We don't want to get out of the habit of funding it, she said.



AFTER A WEEK OF TEMPERATURES in the high 60s, Pedro Gutierrez has fun throwing snowballs at his brother, Yordi Gutierrez and Ivan Kemp (upper right.) Temperatures are expected to rise again this weekend.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

Senior citizens get tax help

older in the Cheyenne and Rawlins counties, there is free help with preparation and filing Federal tax forms, State of Kansas and Food Sales Tax Refunds, and the Kansas Homestead Refund.

The McDonald Area Develop-

Inc. of McDonald in partnership with the Internal Revenue Service will be available at the following Senior Citizen Centers host locations again this tax season: Bird Francis, Tuesdays 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., information.

For those who are 60 years and ment Endowment Foundation, McDonald, Wednesdays 9 a.m. to noon; Atwood: Thursdays 9 a.m. to noon; Herndon, Thursdays 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Appointments are appreciated and walk-ins are welcomed. Call Johnene Cheney at (785) City, Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to noon; St. 538-2526 for appointment or more

۲