



Bulletin Board

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick
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It's always interesting when you share a common experience with one of your kids.

Lexi, our 15-year-old, will soon have her driver's license.

I'm confident she'll be a good driver. She's got enough common sense to be aware of what's happening around her.

I'm taken back to when my twin brother and I were learning to drive.

Since there were two of us, our folks would take us in separate cars. We would go to one of the few places in Denver where there were open streets without many cars: Crown Hill Cemetery.

About the only traffic there was

my sibling coming from the other direction.

When it came time for our practical driving with an instructor, my brother and I went together. The experience is vivid today as there were two sections to the excursion. One was driving on some mountain roads and the other was downtown Denver.

Both were nerve racking for a novice driver, but the city driving was the most frightening. Cars were flying by on each side as we managed the heavy traffic. We even had to parallel park!

The training to drive was important, but there is no substitute for experience. I know with time, Lexi will do well behind the wheel.

Letters from Linda

By Linda Schneider
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"A chain is as strong as its weakest link." Hold that thought.

In less than a month, our nation has seen some awesome changes and some disturbing revelations. What I mean by disturbing revelations is how there has always been double standards in the financial world.

In just one week, Congress votes in the 75th United States Treasury Secretary, Timothy Geithner, and 93-year-old Marvin Schur froze to death in his home in Bay City, Mich. after his utilities were shut off.

Why would I think those two news items have anything in common? Treasury Secretary Geithner owed over \$10,000 in Medicare taxes and Mr. Schur owed a \$1,000 utility bill. I cannot help but believe these two people are connected in another way that is not so apparent at first glance.

At the age of 93, I believe that Mr. Schur was on a fixed income. I mean that makes sense doesn't it? In addition, I don't know about your monthly bill, but our family

of four can easily hit \$400 in one winter/summer month; and please don't get me started on the rates! So, a \$1,000 delinquent bill is not that outrageous, now is it?

Moreover, the news article did not report this was an ongoing problem with Mr. Schur, and with a fixed income of probably less than a \$1,000 a month Mr. Schur could not pay his bill. Now I am just guessing here.

Now Mr. Geithner owes \$10,000 plus in back Medicare taxes and the facts show that he could have paid but did not.

Okay, okay, okay, his fellow supporters say, "It was a one-time mistake and he did pay it back," yeah, eventually, and "Timothy Geithner has a lot of financial knowledge that should not be wasted." To be brutally frank, prisons are full of financial geniuses, but they are called thieves, con artists, embezzlers, tax frauds, etc.

If I could have President Obama's ear for just 15 seconds, I would say to him, "A chain is as strong as its weakest link."

Birthday
February birthdays will be celebrated at the Senior Center on Monday at 3 p.m.

Community Club
Bird City Community Club will meet at 6:30 on Monday at the Bird City Diner.

Cougar sports
Cheylin junior high basketball teams will play against Golden Plains at 4 p.m., today (Thursday) at McDonald. High school basketball teams will be up against Weskan at 4 p.m., Friday at McDonald. High school junior varsity team will play against Goodland 7 p.m. Monday, in Goodland. High school basketball against Hitchcock County at 4 p.m., Tuesday, at Trenton.

Feb. 15 in the church hall from 5 to 6:30 p.m. A social time of playing games for all ages will follow along with a silent auction. Ad elsewhere.

Tax help in Bird City/ St. Francis/McDonald
For those 60 and older needing tax help in filing forms in Cheyenne and Rawlins counties, help is available beginning Feb. 3: in Bird City on Tuesday mornings, St. Francis on Tuesday afternoons (1-4) and McDonald on Wednesday mornings. Call Johnene Cheney at (785) 538-2526 for appointment or more information.

Cheyenne County Wildlife Banquet
The Cheyenne County Wildlife banquet will be held on March 27. The location will be the 4-H Building in St. Francis.

Days may be made between now and Feb. 27 at First National Bank, Bankwest, United Methodist Thrift Store, Main St. Coffee and Owens True Value. For more information call Gloria Bracelin at 332-2757 or Betty Petersen at 332-8990.

Free tax preparation
Free tax preparation for young and old, Wednesdays at the St. Francis Public Library from 2 to 5 p.m. and Thursdays at the St. Francis Senior Center again from 2 to 5 p.m. Bring last year's tax return, and your property tax statement which you received last November. Or for an appointment call Rowland Roelfs, (785) 332-3490

Program planned
On Sunday, Feb. 8, Cabaret Theatre from Omaha, Neb., will entertain with vocal harmonies at 3 p.m. at the St. Francis Community High School auditorium. They will be performing at the school on Monday.

Veterans Affairs
Jody Tubs, 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. People 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

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

Corrections
• The name of the historic construction specialist in the city council article Jan. 29, should have been Lin Schamber and his company is called Schamber Construction.

State Testing Award Night
Certificates of Outstanding Academic Achievement for 2007-2008, will be handed out during a ceremony between the girls and boys varsity basketball game on Friday.

Scholar's Bowl
High school Scholar's Bowl today (Thursday) time to be announced.

Cheylin concert
Western Kansas Liberty League Instrumental Clinic at 10 a.m., Monday at Sharon Springs, concert at 6 p.m.

Story Time
Due to school schedule, there is no Story Time at the library this week.

Board of Education
The Board of Education will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday.

City Council
The Bird City City Council is having a goal setting meeting at 5 p.m. on Monday at the Century II board room.

Valentine soup supper
St. Joseph Church in Bird City is hosting a Valentine Soup supper social and auction on Sunday,

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

Historical Society board meeting
The board of the Cheyenne County Historical Society will meet at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 10, in the museum.

Alzheimer's/Dementia support group
The Alzheimer's/Dementia support group will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday at the St. Francis Public Library. For information, call 332-2860.

AARP meeting
AARP will be meeting at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 12, at the St. Francis Senior Center. Pat Confer will be speaking about driving a school bus. Hostess, Gladys Cullum and host, Bud Houtman, are in charge of refreshments. All are welcome to come to the meeting.

Daffodil Days
Daffodils are the official flower of the American Cancer Society. Orders for daffodil's for Daffodil

Lilly Catherine Sabatka, infant daughter of Kasey and Jennifer Sabatka, was baptized on Saturday evening during Mass at St. John Catholic Church. Father Daniel Scheetz administered the Sacrament. Jonathon and Rachel Mallett were Godparents.

Close family members attending the baptism were Lilly's siblings, Grace, Tyler and John, also Addie Mallett and Taylor Wilson; grandparents, Kenny and Pauline Micek and R.J. and Susie Sabatka; great-grandmothers, Agnes Sabatka and Vera Kacirek. After Mass a reception and supper for family and friends was held at St. John hall.

Family attends baptism

Love Tree program helps with expenses

By Karen Krien
karen.k@nwkans.com

Each year in November, around 200 letters are sent out reminding people of the St. Francis Good Samaritan Village's annual fund raiser — The Love Tree. The fund raiser ends with a potluck supper.

This year, the supper was held on Dec. 11 and all people wanting to attend were welcome. It was a festive occasion where the Love Tree donors were recognized and Santa made an appearance to distribute gifts to all the residents.

The Love Tree was established several years ago and Carol Redding, resource development coordinator, said the Village, through the Love Tree, will be collecting donations in the future.

In 2008, the Tree brought in \$2,943 and included \$500 from the Northwest Kansas Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and The Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Thrivent's contribution was based on do-

nations already received for the Love Tree.

"Elmer and Dorothy Kellner worked diligently with the community and organization to help the Village receive these matching funds," Ms. Redding said.

The goal of the Love Tree funds was to replace windows which have lost weather seals and are no longer energy efficient. These windows, she said, are also often foggy with moisture between the panes.

Ms. Redding said funds can be donated any time during the year to help with equipment and services for residents and staff as well as building improvement projects, memorials or, for any purpose the donor desires.

Another way to donate, she said is through a Good Samaritan Society annuity. In May, a meeting will be held to help people with their investments. Look for more information.

Sheriff Report

At the February council meeting, Sheriff Craig Van Allen reported for the month of January, the Cheyenne County Sheriff's office deputies preformed over 175 hours of patrol and casework in the city of Bird City.

Deputies responded to one vandalism, one, disturbing the peace, and one domestic investigation.

Twenty-one traffic tickets were given out, 13 traffic warnings and one parking complaint. Deputies took part in two civil stand by and one child endangerment.

Deputies also responded to a fire department assistance and one motorist assistance.

Moreover, the raise in hours was in an effort to increase safety on U.S. highway 36 as it passed through the city limits.

Deputy Cody Beeson reported an increase in traffic tickets were given out to drivers who drove in excess of 15 to 20 miles over the 40-mile speed limit at the Bird Ave. stop sign.

"When you have people running the Bird Ave. stop sign onto the highway and in the next few minutes, a driver going in excess of 20 miles per hour over the speed limit past that stop sign, you have a real danger of an accident occurring," said Deputy Beeson.

Attention Bird City and Cheylin Alumni...

Visit www.BirdCity.com to:

- Ø Update your current address so you can receive our quarterly newsletters and future alumni information.
- Ø Stay connected with many of the local happenings.
- Ø See current projects being worked on and completed projects done throughout the community.

Keep checking back as new information is updated periodically!

BIRD CITY CENTURY II Development Foundation
785-734-2556
WWW.BIRDCITY.COM
"FOR GOOD. FOR EVER."

School Menu

The freshmen's menu is being served on Wednesday

Monday, Feb. 9
Breakfast: donuts, cinnamon rolls
Lunch: quesadillas, rice

Tuesday, Feb. 10
Breakfast: waffle sticks
Lunch: chili, rolls

Wednesday, Feb. 11
Breakfast: bagels
Lunch: Salisbury steak, mashed

potatoes, cheesy green beans, strawberries and bananas, chocolate chip cookies

Thursday, Feb. 12
Breakfast: cheesy scrambled eggs
Lunch: deli ham sandwiches, baked beans

Every breakfast is served with toast, cereal, juice and milk

Every lunch is served with salad bar, fruit and milk

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m. 2 hr. 3 min.

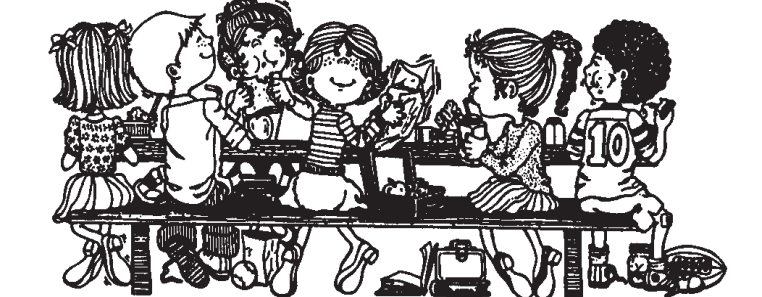
Marley & Me
Feb. 6, 7 & 8
Owen Wilson, Jennifer Aniston, Alan Arkin, Eric Dane, Haley Bennett
Comedy, Drama, Adaptation and Biopic
PG for thematic material, some suggestive content and language.

CHEYENNE THEATER St. Francis, KS
785-332-2747
Children 12 & Under: \$3 All Others: \$5

Retirement Open House
for Lindon Montgomery
Thursday, Feb. 12
10 a.m. - Noon
Peoples State Bank, McDonald
Come in and wish him a happy retirement!

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

Please bring your insurance cards with you for services provided at the Cheyenne County Hospital and Cheyenne County Clinic. We need to scan these into our computer systems to have on file.



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