



Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick
scmcormick@nwkansas.com
Hats off to the United States Navy!

For the men and women of the naval branch, adventure on the high seas is nothing new. Whether it is tracking down raiders from the Barbary Coast, using aircraft carriers to launch air strikes or shipping Marines to where the fight is, they don't back down.

Last Sunday, Navy SEALs aboard the destroyer U.S.S. Bainbridge, brought a close to the kidnapping of a civilian captain by modern-day pirates.

Captain Richard Phillips was being held by four Somali gunmen on a life-boat in the Indian Ocean. The pirates took him prisoner after they were unable to commandeer

the United States-flagged cargo ship: Maersk Alabama.

The SEALs had been airlifted and dropped into the waters of the Indian Ocean before they boarded the Navy war ship. As negotiations stalled and the pirates kept Captain Phillips under the barrel of an AK-47, Navy snipers dispatched three of the gunmen. This took some shooting as the SEALs were on the fantail of the destroyer and the pirates were still on the life-boat, both on choppy seas. The fourth Somali was taken prisoner.

It is unfortunate that we live in a world where military power is all that the world's antagonists will respect. But it is comforting to know that the U.S. Navy is alive and well, patrolling the waters of that world.

Letters from Linda

By Linda Schneider
dublins@hotmail.com

As a Christian, Easter is the most difficult time for me and I will tell you why — I cannot grasp the resurrection of Jesus.

I will say right out of the gate, I believe in spirits. Since I was a child, I felt there were things "out

there." Even as an adult, I had my eyes checked to see if I had an anomaly, only to be told I needed to see another type of doctor.

Moreover, I know I am not alone in this belief simply because some of the most popular television programs deal with the supernatural. Even if you teeter on the edge of non-belief, I bet you will occasionally peek in on those programs just out of curiosity. Believing in a "spirit" Jesus is not hard; it is about the other stuff.

The resurrection is a New Testament Christian event that explains what happened to Jesus and what happens to everyone at the judgment. Please, get out of your religious box for a moment — to resurrect means to stand up (from death.) Nowhere in any philosophies, teachings, or history has a human being stood up from death, walked around and ate breakfast — if there has been, please let me know.

Do you see why I am having trouble with this?

So, if Jesus is not a spirit or ghost, just what does the resurrection mean? It means Jesus stood up (from death) and is alive in a transformed body of flesh and bone. Sounds crazy doesn't it?

However, there is so much more to this event than I can possibly write in this short space. But the real issue is what do I do with this information that defies rational reasoning? I have one of two options: I can live my life believing there is a God who does things like this, die and find out there is no God, or I can live my life like there is no God, die and find out there is a God who does things like this. It is a 50 — 50 chance, I don't like those odds and I choose the first option.

School Menu

- Monday, April 10**
Breakfast: pizza
Lunch: fish and French fries
- Tuesday, April 11**
Breakfast: pockets
Lunch: pork fritters, au gratin potatoes, roll
- Wednesday, April 22**
Breakfast: banana wrap
Lunch: hamburger macaroni and cheese, roll
- Thursday, April 23**
Breakfast: pancakes
Lunch: corn dogs, cake
Breakfast is served with toast, cereal, juice and milk
Lunch is served with salad bar, fruit and milk

Honor Roll

New and renewed Times subscriptions: Dwayne Gipe, Omaha, Neb.; Otis Dewey, McDonald; Junior Dewey, Brewster; Lily Ruth Edmundson, Bird City; Brenda Mosqueda, Tulare, Calif.; George Fishel, Layton, Utah; David Zumhahlen, Bassett, Neb.; Kevin Partch, Kearney, Neb.; Stanley lamb, St. Francis; Bird City Century II, Bird City; Dale Peters, Westminster, Colo.; The Norton Telegram, Norton; Donita Claussen, South Haven; Kim Underwood, Bird City; Doretta McCormick, Golden, Colo.

Bulletin Board

Cheylin events

On Tuesday, the junior high track team will have a meet in St. Francis. It is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m.

The Cheylin FFA will travel to Hays on Monday for the FFA Livestock Judging, Agronomy/Horticulture.

High school golf team will tee off in Grinnell at 1 p.m.

Story time

Due to school schedule, there will be no Story time this week.

McDonald Area Development

There will be an open house at the McDonald Post Office 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Wednesday, April 23, honoring Jan Curtin for 21 years of great service.

Potato Bar and silent auction

There is a potato bar and silent auction from noon to 2 p.m. on Sunday at the United Methodist Church, Bird City. See classified ad.

Cemetery District 2

Cemetery District 2 will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Monday in the commissioner's room at the courthouse.

Hospital Board

The Cheyenne County Hospital Board will meet at 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 30, in the clinic basement meeting room in St. Francis.

Tag deadline

All residents with last names beginning with C and D should purchase their car, pickup, motorcycle and motorized bike tags and pay their vehicle personal property tax by the end of the month to avoid paying a penalty.

Kahuna Beach Party

Kahuna Beach Party, a nostalgic show of the Beach Boys music, is being presented by the Western Plains Arts Association at 3 p.m. on Sunday at the Oakley High School auditorium.

AARP Drivers Safety Program
Volunteer instructor, Don Keihl, will present the AARP Driver Safety Program from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday at the St. Francis Senior Center. The class size is limited to 30 participants. Call 785-332-3584 or Don at 785-890-6638 to register. The instructor will use a combination of group discussion and video clips for the 8-hour class. The program has helped million of drivers remain safe on today's roads.

Sisters In Serenity Women's AA
A Sisters In Serenity women's Alcoholics Anonymous group meets at 5 p.m. on Sundays at 585 N. Franklin, City Hall, northwest basement door in Colby. There is a play room for younger children and a quiet space for older children on-site. For more information call (785) 672-3406 or (785) 538-2526.

These meetings are limited to female alcoholics to provide an opportunity for members to share with one another on problems related to drinking patterns and attempts to achieve stable sobriety. They also permit detailed discussion of various elements in the recovery program.

Museum's days/hours

The Museum of Cheyenne County is now open on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons from 2 to 5 p.m., and on most Sunday

afternoons from 2 to 5 p.m.

Open house

Ready for an afternoon out? The Museum of Cheyenne County will be hosting an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 26. There will be fellowship, popcorn from the old theater popper and other surprises. Come for a great afternoon.

Diamond Jubilee

People are asked to keep in mind the Sawhill Park and Band Shell Diamond Jubilee set for May 31 in the park. People are needed to help with entertainment and games. Call Dorothy at 332-2339 or Janet, 332-3569 for more information or to volunteer.

Veterans Affairs

Jody Tubbs, 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

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

Scholarship available

The Cheyenne County Historical Society will award a \$500 scholarship to one graduating senior in order to encourage his or her further education and interest in local history.

Applicants must meet four criteria: be a Cheyenne County resident; have a cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.0 at high school graduation; plan to attend a college, university, or vocation-technical school; and submit an application and essay in a large, brown envelope by May 1st to Ward Cassidy at St. Francis Community High School or Anita Burton at Cheylin High School. Application forms are available from Mr. Cassidy or Mrs. Burton.

St. Francis students should be aware that the common application form they usually complete for local scholarships will not be used by the historical society's Scholarship Committee because they chose to use a form that would be equitable for both St. Francis and Bird City students.

An essay of 250-300 words should address why it is important to know the history of Cheyenne County. The applicant should not put his or her name on the essay itself because the judges wish to be impartial.

The scholarship recipient will be awarded \$250 on Aug. 15 and \$250 on Jan. 15, as long as he or she maintains at least a 2.0 grade-point average and remains in good standing at the school attended. This money can be used to help buy some texts or pay some tuition or room and board.

This is the third year the Cheyenne County Historical Society is offering this scholarship. The first year the amount was \$250, and Brittany Lucas was the recipient. Last year the society voted to raise the amount to \$500, and Jenice Hartman was the recipient.

Direct any questions to Lea Keller, Janet Carmen, or Lucille Rossbach.

Chatting with Cathy

By Cathy Domsch

Wow — we have had an amazing response to the website development workshop. We have added an afternoon session, so if you have not had a chance to give us a call, do so right now to reserve your spot! (Remember, it's Wednesday, April 29.)

Last week I talked a bit about the Pizza Farmer — if you have not had a chance to check out his website, you might want to (www.thepizzafarm.com) and also check out Vala's Pumpkin Patch at www.valaspumpkinpatch.com and let me know what you think. Personally, I think that we have a lot to offer in this area. We do not have the population or capacity to be as large as Vala's, but we certainly have the potential to increase traffic (and income) to our community and our farms.

Here are a few ideas to get you thinking about the possibilities: pumpkin patch, crop maze,

pumpkin sling shot, hay stack pyramid, fish feeding ponds, pumpkin cannon, tricycle track, pig races, goat walk, mechanical steer roping, petting zoo/animal farm, pony rides, antique farm equipment rides & displays, narrow gauge railroad, zip line, jumping pillow, observation tower, pizza farm, peddle car race track, chuckwagon barbecue and dinner shows, campsites, bike rally, charity walks, live music, the list is endless...let me know what ideas you might have! To sum it up: Agritourism = Pride in our communities = Economic Development.

Next week I plan to offer some marketing tips that we discussed at the conference. Please give me a call (785-734-2556), email mail to: www.centuryii@bcks.net or stop by the office, 107 West Bressler, if you have any agritourism, community or economic development suggestions!

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m.

2 hr. 1 min.

Knowing

April 17, 18 & 19

Lara Robinson, Nicolas Cage, Rose Byrne, Chandler Canterbury, Ben Mendelsohn
PG-13 for disaster sequences, disturbing images and brief strong language.

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Wanted:

ATV Youth Riders
April 18, 2009

Cheyenne County Fairgrounds
Start Time 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. CST

Lunch will be provided
Bring your ATV, helmet and safety gear if you have them. If not please join us and take part in this program.
Safety education program by Roger Zwegardt
Pre-register by April 15th to the Cheyenne County Extension Office 785-332-3171
Program is FREE!!

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Thank you to everyone who supported me in the school board election. Every vote was appreciated.

Belinda Serrano

Get your business online by attending a Website Building Workshop Wednesday, April 29

2 sessions 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. or 1 - 3 p.m.
107 West Bressler, Bird City, Kansas
Cost \$15
(fee waived for Bird City businesses)

Limited space, advanced registration required
Register online at: <http://ksbdc.eccenterdirect.com/>
or
contact Darci Shields or Cathy Domsch 785-734-2556
email: info@birdcity.com

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