

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

scmccormick@nwkansas.com
Last week we said "Good Bye" to a friend, Gordon Orth.

As sometimes happens around these parts, he was the victim of a farm accident. The good from that is Gordon left doing one of the things he loved.

He was one of those types who had many loves that gave his life great energy and drew many toward him. I was one.

After I came home a couple years ago from a serious hospital stay, Gordon and his wife, Betty, were some of the first folks to reach out to me.

Gordon and I had something in common, having both wrestled

with our demons caused by alcohol. During a phone call he gave me some good advice that helped tremendously during those early and confusing days of sobriety.

His 22-years clean were an inspiration, along with his kind words. I'm early on my path, but the footprints of those who went before sure do help.

I know that mine is just one of many stories of compassion from this humble man of the plains.

"Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and vanisheth away." (King James Bible, James 4:14)

Letters From Linda

Father's Day is Sunday and like many family situations today, I did not have a father in my life.

For many decades, I harbored unresolved emotions about this. Furthermore, I know that people around our country have felt the sting of what I would call the "decline of dadhood."

While in prison, I took many classes and one of my instructors made a startling comment about fathers and male prison inmates. He said a greeting card company donated Mother's Day cards for the male inmates and nearly every inmate lined up to get one. It was very successful.

The company then offered the same thing for Father's Day. The instructor told the class not one male inmate showed up for a Father's Day card. He continued to say in his career time as a prison counselor, the number of good relationships male prison inmates had with their fathers he could count on one hand, literally.

Something I have read that really tells a story was the research done on juvenile male elephants in the wild that were stampeding and killing villagers. Researchers learned that because of the extent of elephant poaching in some areas, especially male bulls, the juveniles received no discipline and became "juvenile delinquents." True story.

I would like to know what happened to dad being the center of the family? I am not saying times were perfect when they were and I know mothers contribute mightily to the family unit; however, dads are on the decline.

This should not be so. We need them and not just dads, but also all men who are heroes to the kids in their community, teachers, coaches, pastors, the men who work with kids, and even doing just guy things. Kids need you, we need you.

Happy Father's Day to all you heroes.

Chatting with Cathy

By Sydney Busse

The boss is gone, he he! Cathy is out of the office this week, so she is letting me write her column. She said I could write about whatever I want, so watch out.

As any of my friends would tell you, I am the ditziest smart person they know. I always seem to ask the most (non)intelligent questions. Since I am naturally rather scatterbrained, I thought I could use that to write the article for the week. Welcome to *Random Thoughts with Sydney Busse*.

If you don't already know, I will be attending Baylor University in Waco, Texas this fall. I have not yet determined what my major will be, but plan to be successful at whatever I choose.

I absolutely LOVE trivial facts (like some of the ones I've included). That is part of the reason why my Scholars' Bowl team went to state this year, because we all do.

It is generally not a good idea to wear brown and black together, or navy and black for that matter—unless you're wearing snazzy FFA official dress. As with all rules, this is flexible, but make sure the shades complement each

other. (Guys, ask a female!)

- The word "nerd" was first coined by Dr. Seuss in "If I Ran the Zoo." (My friends make fun of me all the time for being a nerd.)

- I know, now, that you can't bend a cracker, no matter how hard you try.

- Dried pineapple is God's gift to dried fruit.

- In August, my family and I are taking a trip to Australia. Ever since I was little, my mom told me that for my 18th birthday, we would go to Sydney, Australia. I was never sure if she was serious, but I turned 18 in May, and we are really going!

- In the early days of the telephone, operators would pick up a call and use the phrase, "Well, are you there?" It wasn't until 1895 that someone suggested answering the phone with the phrase "Number, please?"

- The word "lethologica" describes the state of not being able to remember the word you want. (This happens to me all the time.)

I hope you have learned something from this article, even though it was like me: a little haphazard. Tune in for next week's edition of Chatting with Cathy; Darci is writing it!

The Bird City Times

(USPS 056-720)

Serving the communities of Bird City and McDonald

Casey McCormick, Editor
Linda Schneider, Associate Editor
Karen Krien - Publisher
Shawn C. McCormick - Adv. Mgr.
Periodicals postage paid at Bird City, Kansas 67731-0220
Phone (785) 734-7031
Fax (785) 332-3001
Or Phone (785) 332-3162
E-Mail bc.times@nwkansas.com
Published every Thursday
\$33 per year in Cheyenne and surrounding counties; other in-state \$36 and all out-of-state subscriptions, \$40 (strictly in advance).

Postmaster: Send address correction to P.O. Box 220 Bird City, Kansas 67731-0220

Official City Newspaper
Published Weekly By
Nor'West Newspapers,
Incorporated
Bird City, KS 67731



C-team tournament

The Cheylin C-team will have its baseball tournament starting on Friday through Saturday. Benkelman will be hosting this year's tourney with starting time 7 p.m. on Friday. Fan support is appreciated

Senior potluck

The Senior Center will be having its monthly potluck on Monday at noon. Bring your favorite dish and enjoy a great lunch and good conversation.

Horse Show rescheduled

Cheyenne County Spring Horse Show has been rescheduled to this Sunday at 10 a.m. at the Cheyenne County Fairgrounds. For questions please call Julie Brunk at 785-332-3156

Dive Into Reading

Come and join in the fun at the Bird City Library. Everything starts at 10 a.m. through 11:30 a.m. on Friday. Have a good time with reading, crafts and fun activities.

Office closed

The *Saint Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times* offices will be closed on Friday, July 3 in observance of the Fourth of July.

Dangers of Secondhand Smoke

A discussion meeting on the dangers of secondhand smoke, and the creation of an educational toolkit will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 25, at the Peace Lutheran Church, 202 North College, St. Francis. Meal will be provided.

The meeting is to improve the health of St. Francis residents and other Kansans.

Hospital Board

The Cheyenne County Hospital Board will meet at 3 p.m. on Thursday, May 25

Fair Board

In July the Fair Board will not be meeting until Thursday, July 16

Tag deadline

All residents with last names beginning with H and I 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.

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.

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.

CheyCoDevelopments

By Chuck Kribs

It has been a busy and rewarding month for Diane and I, here at the Cheyenne County Development Corporation.

In Bird City, with the help of Hal Sager, we completed an inventory of vacant and unoccupied homes and commercial properties, about 40 homes and several commercial properties. Vacant, does not necessarily mean available, but the large number does indicate that we have a nucleus of homes from which to work.

Bird City has applied for a grant which would provide some funding for demolition and renovation of some selected properties. We will be working with interested citizens in Bird City to further expand available housing options.

In Bird City as well, we completed a survey of businesses to get their opinions and suggestions. Without getting into all the details, they expressed optimism and an interest in participating in creating new businesses.

We created a draft business incentive plan for Bird City which is in the hands of the city council for

review, and hopefully, approval.

In St. Francis, we were pleased to see several new businesses start up, and the announcement of a new venture in the south part of the county which will create 15-25 new jobs.

A great group of volunteers turned out to do an "asset inventory" of vacant homes and commercial sites. A survey of business owners is in process, courtesy of the same group. Results are coming in fast, and we will share with everyone the highlights as soon as we have them compiled.

Diane and I visited several communities which have started service functions and businesses using community-based investment corporations and volunteer programs, successfully. We will bring several projects to the city of St. Francis EcoDevo Committee shortly.

We will be creating a "show and tell" package about Cheyenne County in the next few weeks and intend to take it "on the road" in July to groups on the front range to encourage both retirement and business investment here.

SHOWTIME: 8 p.m.

1 hr. 45 min.

Night at the Museum 2

June 19, 20 & 21

Action/Adventure, Comedy, Kids/
Family and Sequel

Ben Stiller, Amy Adams, Owen Wilson,
Hank Azaria, Robin Williams

PG for mild action and brief language.

CHEYENNE THEATER

St. Francis, KS
785-332-2747

Children 12 & Under: \$3

All Others: \$5

For a Great Deal
on a
Hustler Mower



contact Norman Morrow

970-630-4618

For lot and farm mowing

contact Dave Morrow

785-332-3445

HUSTLER

CHEYENNE COUNTY
HOSPITAL

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

Dr. Gustaffon will be replacing
Dr. Warren and will be available
to see patients at the Cheyenne
County Hospital in the near future.
Dr. Curtis will also be seeing
patients on a regular basis.



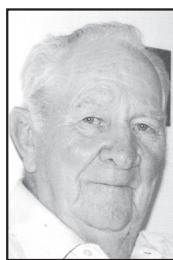
If you would like more information,
please contact Amelia at 785-332-2104

Obituaries

William Charles Boyson

Dec. 26, 1915 – May 19, 2009

William Charles Boyson died on May 19, 2009, at the age of 93 in Atwood, Kan.



Boyson

Bill was born the day after Christmas Dec. 26, 1915, on a farm north of Bird City to Nis Nelson Boyson and Catherine (nee: Comstock) Boyson. Nis Boyson was a homesteader who emigrated from Denmark in the late 1800's.

Nis Boyson brought the first steam threshing outfit to western Kansas at that time.

Bill was the first born of four children, living in a sod house for a brief period of time. Bill moved his family to Washington state, where he met and married Naomi "Dolly" Nash on Dec. 11, 1941.

Bill worked briefly in the timber industry for his father-in-law's logging outfit. Among his other duties, he was a high climber who topped the big fir trees.

Bill moved to Los Angeles, Calif., at the beginning of World War II where his twin sons, Ronald and Donald, were born while he went to Consolidated Aircraft College during the day and worked nights at the Dr. Pepper Bottling Company.

Happy 50th, Mom!

Proverbs 31:28-30

We love you!



Cost-Share Funds Available

The Cheyenne County Conservation District will be accepting cost-share applications for conservation practices, June 8 - June 30, 2009 at the Conservation Office in St. Francis.

Conservation practices include: Terraces, Terrace Rebuilds, Diversions, Livestock Tanks, Wells and Pipelines, Cross-Fencing, Pumping Plant for Water Supply, Rangeland Seeding, Spring Developments, Windbreaks, (i.e. Trees, Fabric Weed Barrier, Drip Irrigation Systems), and Failing Septic System Replacement.

All applications will be reviewed and ranked by the Conservation District Board of Supervisors and funded according to priorities recommended by the Kansas Water Plan. Cost-share assistance rates are 50%-70%. Deadline to complete work is December 31, 2009.

Funding for the cost-share programs is provided by the State Conservation Commission through appropriations from the Kansas Water Plan and administered by the Cheyenne County Conservation District.

If you are interested, please contact our office located in the USDA Service Center on West Highway 36 in St. Francis or call 785-332-2341, ext. 101.

American Profile

Celebrating Hometown Life

See American Profile magazine in this week's issue of

The Bird City Times

(available in local area only)

Brought to you by
The Times

"Your sponsorship
could be right here.
For more information contact:
Casey at 785-332-3162

Check your
renewal dates

— Current Rates —

The Saint
Francis Herald

Area - \$38 KS - \$42
Out-of-State - \$48

Bird City Times

Area - \$33 KS - \$36
Out-of-State - \$40