By Casey McCormick

scmccormick@nwkansas.com The holiday season kicks off

this Saturday with Halloween. There is something about the holidays that brings a nostalgic feeling to most of us. Memories of either ourselves or our kids pop up and connect us with the past. At least that's my take on it.

Speaking of Halloween, most Sunday evenings Lezlie and I make a call to Denver to check in on my mother. She had a funny story.

Last weekend she, a daughterin-law and two granddaughters side of town to Lo-Do (lower ver Zombies.

downtown.) There is a new restaurant that the four wanted to try.

When they got off the train, they were met by hundreds of Zombies. Everything from adults to young kids in strollers were parading around the area as members of the 'undead.'

Mom said it made for an interesting evening, especially dinner as a few were sitting at the table next to them.

It was all part of an event called The Denver Zombie Crawl. I imagine it got folks geared up for the real thing this week.

Have a happy and safe Hallowtook the light rail from the south een. And watch out for those Den-

Letters from Linda

By Linda Schneider dublinls@hotmail.com

I sometimes wonder if anyone still believes the United States is the greatest nation, and people, of the

I read a lot and I like reading because if I have mistaken or made an error in understanding, I can go back and read it again. This is true for every document, including the United States Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

I recently read a comment concerning the president's statement of America not being a Christian nation. The opinion of the writer was that America was a secular nation because the above mentioned documents are legal and written, the writer added there is a large Christian population, but because the documents are written and legal, America is secular. Point taken.

I also believe anything legally written is secular; however, every legal document, in my opinion, also has a conscience or spirit in which

In our county, both the Constitution and Declaration of Independence represents the best of all things to all people at all times; but if that is true, why are our prisons full and depression prevails?

With words like, "We hold these truths self-evident..." What truths? These truths, "...all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator...Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." This is a legal, written document, but it is just a piece of paper. There is no life to those words without the spirit in which it was written, and the spirit of the writers is what makes the Constitution and Declaration of Independence more than just a piece

If anyone has ever visited a foreign country like India, Israel, or just name a Middle Eastern nation, the country's laws are based on their religions. Israel is not a Christian nation; it is Jewish with Jewish laws. Turkey is Muslim with Muslim laws.

So my conclusion is this, if President Obama says America is secular based on the written and legal documents, he can. However, it is the spirit of the nation that drives the people to greatness, because paper just doesn't seem to be doing the trick. If it did, why are so many Americans angry right now when anyone can legally have a good life, with all liberties and pursuit happiness? The Spirit of America is dy-

The Heritage Quest

By Dorthy L. Mast

The early settlers of Bird City and the surrounding areas were a mixture of cattlemen, homesteaders, traders, merchants, doctors, lawyers, millers, newspapermen, real estate agents, liverymen, blacksmiths and others, to secure a place in this new

They came in covered wagons, no trees except near streams or live springs. As the town grew, the building materials were hauled by wagons from Collinsville (later Benkelman) or Rawlins County.

The Historical Committee for the Bird City 125-year celebration is looking for living descendants of the owners of early businesses or homesteaders from 1880 through 1920.

"Come out of hiding and help us celebrate the accomplishments of those early settlers during Bird City's 125-years in 2010."

The following is a list of the earli-

Casey McCormick, Editor

Linda Schneider, Associate Editor

Karen Krien - Publisher

Shawn C. McCormick - Adv. Mgr.

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-Current Rates - -

Brothers Mercantile Store, Mrs. Slover's Boarding Shack, Mitchell's and Mikesell's Drug Store, Bird City Hotel-John Elliott, Dennis Cave's office, Murray Building-John Murray, Pendarvis Livery-E.R. Pendarvis, Thomas Cave-Physician, Lanning and Antrim Bank, and Palace Billiard Hall-unknown owner.

A beginning list of early homeby horseback or walked. They built steaders follows: Homestead (160 homes of sod because there were acres) located in section as follows: Bird City Township, James Adams-3; Robert Adams-3; William Atkinson-29; Edgar Baldwin-14; Marietta Beal-6; Harriett Berry-34; Olin Berry-34; Edward Bohannan-9; Lincoln Bowans-9; Henry W. Bowans-12.

Sources: Cheyenne County Courthouse records and Homestead Patent books.

Send information or contact Dorthy Mast, P.O. Box 8, Bird City, KS, 67731, phone number 785-734-2750, or Wanda Dowdy, P.O. Box 146, Bird City, KS, 67731, phone est businesses in Bird City: Kerndt number 785-734-2383.

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Bulletin Board

Death notice

James H. "Chopper" Wilkens, age 69 of Atwood, Kan., died on Oct. 23, 2009, at his home in At-

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Oct. 26 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Atwood with Reverend Lawrence Ejlofor as celebrant. Interment was in the Mount Calvary Cemetery in Atwood. A memorial has been established in his name to be designated at a later date.

Cheylin Elementary will be holding the trunk or treat in front of the elementary gym at 3 p.m. today (Thursday). In case of inclement weather the parade will be held in the same gym.

Attention Ghosts and

Come to the Halloween Soup Supper in McDonald at 5 p.m. on Saturday. Be there to break the pinata.

Pep rally

Don't forget, prior to the spook parade, the Cheylin Pep Squad will be having a pep rally in the

a 12" x 12" finished quilt block made of 100 percent cotton for the 125th anniversary quilt, meet at 7 p.m. today (Thursday) at the Senior Center. Bring materials and sewing notions of all kinds are appreciated. Come prepared

Storytime will be at 10 a.m. on

gin at 10 a.m. on Saturday in the American Legion Hall. Lunch will be available for shoppers' convenience. Bring the kids



Birthday

is requesting cards for his 90th birthday Nov. 10. Cards can sent to P.O. Box 247, St. Francis, KS

and visit Kid's Korner for some great fun.

Cheylin musical

On Nov. 5, the Cheylin choir will be presenting "South Pacific" in the Cheylin high school gym at 7:30 p.m., the production only. Dinner and show will be on Saturday, Nov. 7, with the dinner at 6 p.m. Contact Rose Hengen at 785-734-2314 for tickets for both shows.

Cheylin football

Today (Thursday), Cheylin high school football team will have a home game against Golden Plains. Kick off at 7 p.m.

Cheylin Cross Country

Cheylin's first-year cross country team has three runners qualifying for state competition, Vance Churchwell, Naomi Reeh and Stephanie Busse. They will be traveling to Wamego on Saturday.

Cheylin junior high Scholar's Bowl

Monday, junior high Scholar's Bowl will travel to Rexford.

Thanksgiving dinner

The St. Francis Catholic Church Thanksgiving dinner will be held from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 1, in the St. Francis Community High School cafeteria. Check ad for menu.

> People needed to deliver meals on wheels

People are needed to deliver meals on wheels two days a week at the Good Samaritan Village. For more information, contact Deb Gohl, dietary manager, 785-332-2531.

> **Reformation Weekend** Conference

First Baptist Church in St. Francis will be hosting a Reformation Weekend Conference Friday through Sunday. This year's theme is "The Five Solas of the Reformation." Dr. Fred Malone, pastor of First Baptist Church in Clinton, La., will be preaching from God's Word in each of the five sessions. Session times are: Friday 7 p.m., Saturday 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 7 p.m., and Sunday 10:30 a.m. Registration is free and child care is provided. For more information call 785-332-3921 or 785-332-2959 or go to fbcstfrancis.org.

Singers needed

Fifty to 60 singers are needed for a mass choir singing the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's "Messiah". All are welcome from St. Francis and surrounding towns. Neala Carmichael will direct. There will be six rehearsals. The first practice is Sunday, Nov. 8 at 1:30 p.m., at Peace Lutheran Church in St. Francis. There will be two performances in December, one on Saturday evening, Dec. 19, at Salem Lutheran Church in rural St. Francis, and the other on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 20, at Peace Lutheran Church. Call Neala Carmichael 785-332-8996 or Louanne Isernhagen, 785-332-3634.

Haigler Tumbleweed Festival

The Haigler Tumbleweed Festival is taking place on Saturday (Halloween). There will be

Employment Opportunity at the **Cheyenne County Clinic – Bird City**

There is an immediate opening for a part-time Receptionist at the Bird City Clinic. Responsibilities will include:

Checking in and greeting patients

Entering appointment date and time into

computerized scheduler

Channeling calls and messages Compiling patient information for distribution

Successful applicant will be professional, personable, computer literate, and energetic.

Please Contact:

Human Resources, 210 West First, St. Francis, KS (785)332-2104 ext. 116

www.cheyennecountyhospital.com

Celebrating Hometown Life

See American Profile magazine in this week's issue of

The Bird City Times "Your sponsorship

(available in local area only)

Brought to you by The Times

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

decorations and a country-west-

ern dance in the evening. **Annual Craft fair**

The 14 annual Craft Fair is planned for Saturday, Nov. 7, in the St. Francis Grade School.

Fair Board

The Cheyenne County Fair Board will meet Thursday, Nov. 5, at the courthouse.

Cheyenne County Hospital Guild

The Cheyenne County Hospital Guild will meet at 2 p.m. on Monday at the office of Dr. Tim Poling in St. Francis. He will be presenting a program on "Updates In Dentistry.'

Hostesses later at the Senior Center are Eileen Nolan and Sherry Schultz.

Veterans Affairs

Jody Tubbs, of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs, will be in St. Francis at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 5 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.

Kansans for Life

The Cheyenne County Kansans for Life will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Monday at the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in St. Francis. Members of the community are welcome to join the group in prayer, fellowship and learning as they work together to provide "Life for All." **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.

Upcoming Western Plains Arts Association program

Voyager, a fresh and original voice in World Music will perform at 3 p.m. central time on Sunday in Sharon Springs. Flood of 1935

The National Weather Service

is planning a special program to commemorate the 1935 flood. May 30, 2010, will be the

75th anniversary of the Republican River flood which moved through Colorado, Kansas and

garage sales, food, tumbleweed Nebraska, leaving a path of destruction as it went.

Rick Reeser, St. Francis, is looking for people who survived the flood or relatives and friends who knew these people. He will be compiling information for the weather service.

In the future, the weather service website will have a new link to the history of the dramatic story of the flood.

Other contacts are Joy Hayden, 785-899-6412, email, joy.hayden@noaa.gov, or contact Karen Krien at The Herald

> 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 daya-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-



School Menu

Monday, Nov. 2 Breakfast: french toast

Lunch: burritos, broccoli with rice and cheese Tuesday, Nov. 3

Breakfast: sausage patty

Lunch: chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes with gravy, roll Wednesday, Nov. 4

Breakfast: yogurt, boiled egg Lunch: potato soup, peanut butter and jelly sandwich Thursday, Nov. 5 Breakfast: scrambled eggs with

Lunch: sloppy joe sandwich, vegetable, dessert

Breakfast is served daily with toast, cereal, juice and milk

Lunch is served daily with salad bar, fruit and milk

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m.

1 hr. 41 min.

Halloween 2

Oct. 30, 31 & Nov. 1

Science Fiction/Fantasy, Suspense/ Horror, Sequel and Teen R for strong brutal bloody violence throughou

Nov. 18

Nov. 12

Nov. 11

Nov. 10

10/27/09 7:25:13 PM

Tyler Mane, Brad Dourif, Chris Hardwick, terror, disturbing graphic images, language Mark Christopher-Lawrence, Jeffrey Daniel Phillips

Children 12 & Under: \$3 All Others: \$5

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

November Calendar Nov. 4, 18

Dr. Frankum Dr. Reeves Dr. Rubinowitz

Nov. 3,11 Dr. Saba Nov. 20

Dr. Curtis Dexascan

Mammogram

Ultra sound and CTs offered daily

MMMMM

For more information or to schedule an appointment call 785-332-2104

BC2-44 .indd 1

KS - \$42

KS - \$36

Trunk or treat

Goblins

high school gym at 2:30 p.m. 125th Anniversary quilt Anyone interested in making

Storytime

Bird City Craft Fair The Holiday Craft Fair will be-

celebrated

The family of Harold Connett