

# Cougar Tales

**Bruce Bolen**  
*Superintendent of Cheylin Schools*

As of this writing, the talk of the education community is about state funding. Things are not looking good for Kansas districts, but I want to guarantee our patrons that we will do our very best to educate the students at Cheylin Schools. We have a great staff and they are working hard to prepare our students for the future.

Our Site Council is a very important organization for our school. We depend on the input of our Site Council members and their representation of our community.

This year we have added six students to our membership as they are the most important reason that we do what we do at Cheylin Schools. If you have ideas for improvement or thoughts on how to improve student achievement, please contact a member and let them know.

Our focus this year is for this group to provide input and direction and we need your help. I would like to introduce the members of this group. They are: Cort Antholz, Jeri Antholz, Bruce Bolen, Kayla Bursch, Tammi Carmichael, Naomi Reeh, Chris Walden, Roberto Ponce, Kenan Reeh, Max

Hengen, Dan Carson, Ed Carson, Lettie Estrada, Rose Gordon, Stacey Hazuka, Dennis Hengen, Dave Hubbard, Sylvia Hubbard, Carol Partch, Roseanna Underwood, Bobbie Walden and Jane Young.

Two weeks ago, we finished Terra Nova testing in the junior high and high school. The elementary finished the week before. The test results are used as part of our triangulation of data that determines how we do toward Adequate Yearly Progress. (AYP) Other indicators that are part of the formula are: attendance, graduation rates for high school, local indicators, and Kansas Assessment scores in reading and math. Kansas Assessment tests will begin in March and conclude in April.

Our Lady Cougar volleyball ladies had a good season this year. They improved tremendously throughout the season, and we are proud of their efforts. Although we did not make it past regionals, we are looking forward to their continued improvement for next year. We want to recognize Naomi Reeh and Ana Ponce for their talents and leadership this year along with coaches, Cristi Antholz and Kendal Cahoj.

Our newly formed cross country team was very successful this year.

Naomi Reeh, Stephanie Busse and Vance Churchwell attended state in Wamego with Naomi placing second, Stephanie placing 14th, and Vance placing 51st. Our cross country program was coached this year by Jolene Reeh.

As our football team finishes their season, we recognize our seniors Lance Leonard, Max Hengen and Hudson Louderbaugh. They contributed much to our team and we will miss them next year. Our football coaches were Max Keltz, Dennis Hengen and Jeremy Stefan.

The big event of the year for our music department is coming up Thursday and Saturday of this week. The students, under the directions of Rose Hengen will be performing the play "South Pacific." Please make plans to attend this great performance.

We would like to recognize our junior high volleyball ladies under the direction of Tammi Carmichael and Greg Jones, and our football boys under the direction of Nick Keztner and Kyle Schields. They had some great games this season and we know they worked hard.

I recently concluded a workshop on Balanced Leadership, sponsored by McREL and our Kansas Association of School Boards. During this time we studied the most important factors that have an influence on student learning. They are:

- **School**
  - Guaranteed and viable curriculum.
  - Challenging goals and effective feedback.
- **Parent and community involvement.**
- **Safe and orderly environment.**
- **Collegiality and professionalism.**
- **Classroom**
  - Instructional strategies.
  - Classroom management.
  - Classroom curriculum design.
- **Student**
  - Home environment.
  - Learned intelligence/background knowledge.
  - Motivation.

Of all of these the single most important factors are the items associated with the students portion.

Also, if your student is having trouble with homework, there is a live homework hotline available for free. The two sites available are <http://www.homeworkkansas.org>, and <http://kportal.learningstation.com>. This is live internet help for those who need additional resources. You can log on and find their hours of operation. Until next time.

## CheyCo Developing

By Chuck Kribs, director  
 Cheyenne County Development Corporation (CCD) is organizing a program in which local farm families, living on farms, would host "city folks."

If you like to meet people, want to make extra money and want to show people where their food comes from, let us know! As soon as we have enough interest, we will be contacting you to attend a meeting to determine how this program can be implemented.

Give us a call, or stop by the office, 107 W. Washington, St. Francis, and we will keep you informed. Diane and Chuck Kribs, 785-332-3508.



DEB GRACE, speech/language therapist, works with children as well as assisting parents to reinforce what is learned during speech session at home.

# Cheylin provides program to assist challenged students

By Linda Schneider  
 dublins@hotmail.com

Since 1981, Cheylin School has provided a program to assist students from pre-school and older with challenges with learning disabilities and hearing impairment.

Deb Grace, Speech/Language Therapist, MS, received her degree at Kansas State and is employed by Cheylin through the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center out of Oakley.

Although most of her work is with pre-schoolers through early elementary, her work can include adults who have had a stroke and toddlers with speech recovery.

Mrs. Grace works part-time at Cheylin and full-time in St. Francis and more recently, Weskan. Along with Mary Moore the speech/language para educator who works full-time at Cheylin, they work with children as well as assisting parents to reinforce what is learned during speech session at home.

Mrs. Moore earned her Bachelors Science in Elementary Education at University Northern Colorado and taught pre-school through kindergarten at Cheylin beginning in 1979. She also taught in St. Francis.

When Cheylin began the speech/language program, Mrs. Grace needed someone to be on staff full-time and she was part of the decision to approach Mrs. Moore with the position.

"Mary had the qualifications and would be at Cheylin every-

day and could reinforce what the children had learned," said Mrs. Grace.

Screening for potential learning challenges or physical disabilities begin before the children start school during the community screening the schools sponsor. However, teachers can and do refer students from classroom observations. Parents must be notified and permission granted before any child can participate in the program.

The program targets five areas of learning challenges that can prevent a child from succeeding academically. The area most common they come across is the articulation and enunciating sounds correctly, particularly in children ages 3 years through first grade. When taught at an early age, children learn quickly how to speak clearly.

Other common speech and language problem areas that are addressed are audio comprehension/verbal expression, understanding what is heard, read and written, and speaking fluidly and smoothly, this can include stuttering.

There are two areas that are not as common, voice, such as speaking hoarsely or through the nasal passages. Sometimes these conditions can be corrected with surgery and sometimes it is just a matter of practicing articulation and enunciating. The least common area is neurological and physical, such as autism.

The program is designed to give the children the one-on-one attention they need to identify and give the child the tools to feel better about themselves and the confidence to speak up and be successful.

"The speech and language work is a consistently changing field, with improvements made every year," said Mrs. Moore.

Mrs. Grace believes in her job, she must be a good detective. First, she locates the learning challenge, then solves it with the tools she has.

Mrs. Grace adds, "I have never regretted a moment in the 33 years I have done this, and every child that Mary and I have worked with have learned something to help them succeed."

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Government food regulatory agencies have failed to require genetically modified (genetically engineered) foods be labeled for consumers.

For a general list of food types and product brands containing genetically modified foods, go to [www.seedsofdeception.com](http://www.seedsofdeception.com).

Douglas Hempler  
 Bird City

# Donors are needed

While autumn brings the promise of cooler days, and longer nights, the American Red Cross reminds area residents that regardless of the season, blood is always needed. Locally, donations can be made at the St. Francis Community Blood Drive from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 19, at Peace Lutheran Church, 202 N. College.

Blood must be on hospital shelves ready for an accident or trauma victim. It's also needed for patients at area hospitals with scheduled surgeries - from heart surgery to joint replacements, organ transplants or premature babies - cancer treatments and much more. The need for blood and

platelets is on-going.

### How to donate blood:

Call 1-800-448-3543 or visit [bloodisneeded.org](http://bloodisneeded.org) to make an appointment. All blood types are needed to ensure the Red Cross maintains an adequate blood supply.

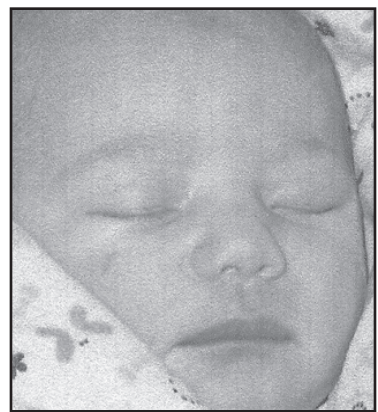
A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Donors must be in general good health, weigh at least 110 pounds and be at least 17 years old (16 in Kansas with completed Parental Consent Form). New height and weight restrictions apply to donors younger than 19. Visit [bloodisneeded.org](http://bloodisneeded.org) to learn more.

## Introducing

Ava Nicole Smith

Ava Nicole Smith was born Sept. 27, 2009, at 11:59 a.m. She weighed 7 pounds. Parents are Laura and Jason Smith of Minneapolis.

Grandparents are Melissa and John Zeller of Manhattan and Scott Smith of Bird City.



Smith

## South of McDonald

By Sandy Binning

George Banister attended the funeral of Jim Wilkens in Atwood Monday morning.

Joe, Charlene and Dennis Kramer attended the St. Francis Community Church Fall Festival Saturday evening with Ryan and Diane Shay and children.

Sandy and Jazzmin Binning called on Bethel Goltl Tuesday morning.

Bethel Goltl attended the Women Of The Church Fall Cluster Meeting at Oberlin Faith Lutheran Church Saturday.

Lynn and Rita Officer were Friday until Sunday guests of Rita's mother, Betty Dewey of Seward. Rita's brothers were there also from Kansas City and Hutchinson.

Kathy Banister attended a math conference in Hays and the all-day annual meeting for the Jill's Helping Hands at Lenora.

Joe and Charlene Kramer attended the funeral of Jackie Schmidt in Goodland.

Bethel Goltl attended Emma Hopp's funeral service and helped serve the funeral dinner afterward.

Bethel Goltl attended the area Reformation Services at St. John Lutheran Church Sunday and the annual meeting and luncheon afterward.

## Non-surgical treatment of hemorrhoids.

John D. Ferris, MD  
 will be at:  
 291 15th Street  
 Burlington, CO

Wednesday, Nov. 25  
 &  
 Saturday, Nov. 28

For information  
 or appointment, call  
 1-800-593-0009



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# Good Job Cougars!



2009-10 FOOTBALL TEAM — Back row (1 to r): Assistant Coach Dennis Hengen, Assistant Coach Jeremy Stefan, Heath Antholz, Chris Walden, Craig Busse, Adrian Garcia, Caleb Keltz, Hudson Louderbaugh, Max Hengen, Lance Leonard, Coach Max Keltz; Middle row: Jared Cahoj, Mitchel Jensen, Dalton Magnani, Ethan Young, Jeremiah White, Wil Orten, Sean Smith, Joshua Keltz; Front row: Jesus Ramirez, Ruben Razo, Austin Cobb, Austin Manners, Heath Churchwell, Adam Orten, Kenan Reeh, Grant Srader.

## We are proud to be your fans

- Bird City Times
- Bressler-Young Aviation
- Doug & Karen Flemming
- First National Bank - Bird City
- Frontier Ag
- Hendricks Farms
- Leach Insurance Agency
- Hometown Market
- Hot Brush
- Joan Banister Agency
- Casey & Lezlie McCormick
- McDonald Grocery

- Peoples State Bank
- Portraits By Darci Schields
- Prairie Land Electric
- Brad & Linda Schneider
- Smith Farms
- Tri- State Antique Engine & Thresher Assoc.
- Walden Farms - Eldon & Laura
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- Wright Insurance Agency
- Radean & Velda Wright