

An old-fashioned box supper Feb. 13

Now that the Bird City 125-year birthday celebration had its official kick-off at the Kansas Day Celebration, it is time to have some Bird City fun!

Look in the *Bird City Times* to keep updated on calendar of times and dates of special programs, like the "Old Fashioned Boxed Supper" that is coming on Saturday, Feb.

13. The place will be the Bird City American Legion hall.

Everyone will have a great time bringing a favorite meal in a "box" of their own creation that will be auctioned off to the highest bidder. Then the buyers get the chance to eat their prize with the person who made the meal. Come enjoy an evening of just some good ol' fashion fun! (see ad)

Foundation shows some deterioration at the courthouse

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkansas.com

There could be foundation trouble on the east side of the courthouse.

The commissioners, at the Friday meeting, listened as Shelley Christensen, maintenance, told them about pulling out the bookcases in the extension office and finding deteriorating plaster and mold. The commissioners asked clerk, Terry Miller, to contact Eric Johnson, the architect who worked on the courthouse front steps or Don McMican, the engineer currently working with Anderson County. Anderson County has the same problem and is currently under construction.

The courthouse is considered a historical site and anything that needs changing in anyway needs to be approved by the Kansas State Historical Society.

Ms. Christensen said she had cleaned the mold but it had come back. She had talked to Dana Belshe, agricultural agent with the Sunflower District Extension District, who had told her that the ground is sloping back to the building instead of away. There are also bushes planted near the building and they need to be planted at least two feet from the wall.

When a building has a portion that is underground, that portion needs to have a waterproofing sealer. It is possible that, when the courthouse was built, no sealer was applied.

There is also one other area that could be causing problems. It was suggested that the drain

on the top of the roof could be blocking the flow of water.

Mr. Miller suggested that the original courthouse plans be looked at.

The commissioners agreed that the water problem needed to be corrected as soon as possible. Because the courthouse is designated as a historical site, it is possible to get a grant to help with the expenses.

Courthouse doors

Ms. Christensen and Mr. Miller talked about the locks on the top side doors and the west doors of the courthouse.

Before the steps were replaced, the top side doors were rarely used, so they were left locked. Currently, the doors have to be unlocked with a screw driver.

Now that the steps are replaced, many people use the side doors so they are unlocked each day. Mr. Miller thought that installing locks that were opened with keys would be easier to open and safer.

The pivot hinges on the west doors are old and weak. When the wind blows, it catches the doors, making them almost impossible to lock.

The cost runs between \$220 and \$240 for all four hinges. To get locks and keys for the front doors will cost \$286. The commissioners said to go ahead with the repairs.

The commissioners also approved for Ms. Christensen to purchase the needed equipment for stripping the wax off the floors. She will get two bids and bring them back at the next meeting.

Be careful of SPAMS claiming to be from IRS

There seems to be "SPAMS" appearing all the time. And, like the old saying goes, if it seems too good to be true, it probably isn't legitimate.

One of the latest SPAMS is supposedly for an Internal Revenue Service refund. The subject matter on the e-mail is "IRS REFUND Notification - Please Read This."

Dolores Jenik, county treasurer, had received information from Larry Kettlewell, chief information security officer, Kansas state government, saying to not open or respond to the e-mail.

The e-mail contains the following link: <http://www.tax.state-xx.us/refunds/form>; where XX can be any two letter U.S. state abbreviation. The site is using fast flux techniques to keep the destination hidden and prevent blocking.

The site appears to be exploiting various client side vulnerabilities using the "Just Exploit" kit to push malware into client systems.

The message reads: "Internal Revenue Service United States Department of the

Musical show planned in Colby Feb. 8

The Branson show, #1 Hits of the 60's is coming to Colby for your enjoyment on Monday, Feb. 8, 7:30p.m., in the Colby High School Auditorium. The Western Plains Arts Association and the Mid-America Arts Alliance are happy to bring this presentation/

Admission is by Western Plains Arts Association season ticket or at the door. This presentation is supported by Mid-America Arts Alliance.



CHEYLIN SCHOLAR'S BOWL varsity and junior varsity teams both place second in their pool at the Brewster meet held Jan. 25. Above varsity team mates, Craig Busse (l), Wil Orten, Danny Frisbie, Steven Pham and Mitchel Jensen listen for the question. Right, junior varsity team, Clint Burns (l), Adam Orten, and Caleb Keltz relax before the meet begins.

Times staff photos by Linda Schneider



Students are Freedom League champs

The Cheylin Scholar's Bowl seventh and eighth grade teams traveled to Grinnell on Jan 27 for the Freedom League Tournament. There they competed against the 10 other teams that make up the league. It was a long afternoon as the eighth graders had 10 rounds and the seventh graders had nine rounds.

Seventh grade

The seventh graders came out this year's Freedom League champions with a final count of eight wins and one loss. The runner-up team had a score of 7-2.

Each team member received a gold medal and the first place plaque was presented to the team.

Team captain Jacob Brubaker was the high point scorer with

320 points. Shawn Pochop had 180 points, Mary Anne Orten had 40, Jaime Davison had 40, and Allie Frisbie had 40. The Cheylin team had a total of 620 points to their opponents 225 points.

Eighth grade

The eighth graders had a good day also and came home after placing second. Their record was 9-1, with the only loss to the Grinnell team, who also ended the day with a 9-1 record.

Since Grinnell had beaten Cheylin in round play, they were declared the champions. Each team member received a silver medal and the runner-up plaque was presented to the team.

Team captain Walker Janicke was the high point scorer with 270 points. Justin Culwell had 240 points, Susannah Jones had 100, Ty Carmichael 60, and Shayla Hubbard 40. The Cheylin team had a total of 705 points to their opponents 320 points.

"I am very proud of the accomplishments of both the seventh and eighth grade Scholar's Bowl teams at the league tournament in Grinnell," stated Coach Kale Shields. "The eighth grade finished in eighth place a year ago at the league tournament in Tribune, and to end up in a tie for first place a year later is an incredible improvement."

Coach Shields added that for the seventh grade to win the league tournament in their first year is amazing, and they will have a chance to make it back-to-back next year!

"I feel that the success of the Cheylin junior high scholars bowl teams can be attributed to both the communities in which they live, and the fine teachers at Cheylin who have given these fine young adults the abilities to be successful," said Coach Shields.

Airport Authority president reports

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkansas.com

The Cheyenne County Airport is in good working order after the renovation which was completed at the end of November. The cement gives the runway a good surface. It was also widened to 75 feet and the runway lights were installed.

Dave Yost, president of the Airport Authority, and Richard Grace, co-manager of the airport, met with the commissioners on Friday to update them on the timeline of the next steps in lengthening the runway to 5,200 feet. The cost for this project is estimated at \$1.7 million with the local 5-percent matching funds being \$85,000.

Mr. Yost said the design and aeronautical survey needs to be done by December. The completion of the project is planned for 2011.

Mr. Yost went over what the project will cost and how much money will be accumulated in the fund for the runway by the completion date. He said the engineer had figured the extension runway costs about

25 percent higher so there is a cushion. He is sure there will be enough money available but will be constantly monitoring the money making sure there is enough and will keep the commissioners informed

They discussed delaying the project if necessary but Commissioner Dale Patton said once a project is delayed, the costs go up. Commissioner Andy Beikman noted that the project has progressed this far and he would like to see it stay on track.

Mr. Yost said there is a grant available for buying equipment for snow removal for the airport runway. The grant, he said, will pay for 95 percent of the equipment with the county paying for only 5 percent.

The commissioners agreed that it would be nice to take advantage of the grant. Mr. Grace said there was room at the airport to house the equipment. Mr. Yost was asked to write up the bid specs and get them back to the commissioners so they can get several bids. They will discuss the purchase at a later meeting.

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2009 ARRA - CFP Modernizations at Scattered Sites

Bid Date: February 25, 2010
 Bid Time: 11:00 AM
 Bid Place: Bird City Housing Authority
 209 N. Rich Ave.
 Bird City, KS 67731

Pre-Bid Meeting
 Date: February 15, 2010
 Time: 10:00 AM
 Place: Bird City Housing Authority
 209 N. Rich Ave.
 Bird City, KS 67731

The Bird City Housing Authority will receive sealed bids until the date and time stated above for the Sitework modernization project referenced above. The work includes walks, ramps, porches, patios and parking improvements related to providing Barrier Free accessibility to their Accessible apartments and the office/community Building. Bids are to include all necessary labor, materials and equipment.

For all construction and equipment contracts over \$25,000, the bidder shall be required to submit with the bid a negotiable bid guarantee not less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid. The bid guarantee shall be a certified check, bank draft, U.S. Government Bond at par value or a bid bond secured by a surety company. The surety company must be authorized to do business in the State where the project is located and must be acceptable to the Government.

For any information concerning any part of the proposed work, contact Richard Zingre' at Zingre' and Associates, P.A., 1019 Scott Ave., Fort Scott, KS 66701, (620) 644-8595. Beginning this date, bid packages may be reviewed at the Housing Authority, or obtained at the office of Zingre' and Associates, for a non-refundable purchase of \$35.00 (make checks out to Zingre & Associates, P.A.) **The plans are also available by email for free.**

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and waive irregularity in bidding. The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bid.

The Bird City HA is an EOE.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days.

Business Directory

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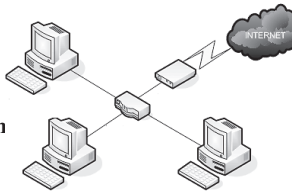
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