



MARKING IMPORTANT SITES in Cheyenne County was one of the contributions of Fred Magley.

# County historian made contributions

**By Karen Krien**  
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Fred Magley, Cheyenne County resident, died Wednesday, April 7, in St. Francis at the age of 77. He was taken to the Wheeler Cemetery by a horse-drawn Bane wagon on Wednesday. The wagon had belonged to his dad, Arnold, and Fred had restored it last fall.

Fred was one of those unique individuals that most people knew by name or maybe knew him as drove down the road in his old Ford pickup with the window down so, with a big smile, he could wave at everyone.

He was always giving but never expected anything in return, said his wife, Marsha.

He was known in many ways and at many places, whether it be at the Lodge hall where he was a member of Odd Fellows and Shriners, or at church, on a trail ride, or at the Memorial Day service south of Wheeler.

His faith never wavered, Marsha said. He had a special relationship with his Lord.

He could recite humorous poetry with a down-to-earth draw that captured his audience's attention. His old cowboy poems were probably the favorite but he had special poems about his country and the flag.

He served in the U.S. Army where he was a member of the Veterinary Corps. He was discharged from active service as a corporal in 1955 but then continued in the Army Reserves.

He was always around for the Cheyenne County Fair and helped build the first grandstand. In 1999, he was the fair parade marshal. Before and after that, he had an entry in almost every fair parade.

At the age of 14, he was president of the Jayhawkers 4-H Club and was a member of the Cheyenne County 4-H Extension Council. In those four years, he helped his dad in his bullwhip acts at the fair and assisted Frank Gilbraith in trick riding and roping exhibitions.

He will probably be most remembered for marking Cheyenne County with large farm implement disks. Studying the history of the county and talking to people about

the county, he learned the locations of schools, businesses, post offices, cemeteries and churches not to mention the many creeks, streams and other historical sites and landmarks.

Each disk has the name of the place and the date it was founded or operated. After the disk was made, Fred and sometimes a helper or two, would go out and hang the disk. There are over 400 disks dotting the countryside.

He loved history, horses and old vehicles. In 1985, he and Marsha organized and promoted "Project mailbag," a 675 mile-commemorative mailbag run from Leavenworth to Denver, honoring the 125th Pike's Peak Stagedline and Express route through Kansas Territory. This past year, he was once again involved, this time, recognizing the 150th anniversary of the route.

He was a member of the Cheyenne County Historical Society and the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show, just to name a few of the organizations he was affiliated with.

Following graduating from Bird City High School, he went on to attend K-State University (or college as it was known in 1950). He was involved in the Block and Bridle Club, Chapperreros Rodeo Club, Pershing Rifles Drill Exhibition Unit and Promenaders Square Dance Club. He was also an announcer for the college radio station.

One of the highlights of his life was having the lead role of Klaus Klang in "Dust on the Sunflowers." There were a total of nine performances in the area with the final performance being the annual spring meeting of the Kansas State Historical Society on June 22, 1985.

He spent most of his life farming southwest of Bird City along with working various jobs including being a law officer, serving as a municipal judge in Bird City and working for the county road and bridge department.

He has four children, Wayne, Lee, Paul and Marilyn. Look for a complete obituary in a later issue of *The Saint Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times*.

# Pool Committee proposes 2010 budget

**By Linda Schneider**  
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When the Bird City City Council took over operations and maintenance of the public swimming pool in 2009, they formed a pool committee to report to the council on items such as budget, repairs, supplies and staff.

The Pool Committee members appointed were Rod Klepper, Jane Young and councilman, Wade Carmichael.

The Committee presented a proposed 2010 operations budget during the city council's April meeting. Also present was Ann Burr, pool manager.

Beginning with last year's payroll, Councilman Carmichael said it was \$12,500, and this year they expect payroll will be \$14,000. Utilities were \$5,953.

He then went on to discuss facility improvements that needed to be repaired, replaced, or newly constructed. One of the most important items to replace this year is the water line row of tile across the top wall of the pool that had been removed.

He explained that Brad Schneider, city superintendent, told him that the row of tile served a purpose, and it is important to have those tiles there to prevent erosion to the pool wall and around the pool skimmers.

Councilman Carmichael said that another important item that needed to be considered would be putting tiles on the top of the pool stairs, both projects estimated cost of \$2,826. However, he said the tiling of the pool steps was not as important as the water line tile re-

placement and could wait. In the restrooms, the sinks, toilets, and fixtures were guessed to be some of the original equipment and should be replaced sometime in the future and estimated cost was \$2,500.

Other items discussed were replacing privacy curtains in the women's bathroom; clean, repaint with acrylic, and seal pool house floors; add shade around pool area; replace skimmer, and repair the pool ladders that were loose.

Phyllis Carson, city treasurer, was on hand to discuss funds that were available and what had been budgeted during the budget meeting last summer. She said that the budget for 2010 swim season was set at \$30,000.

Mr. Klepper mentioned that in the past, repairs and maintenance

on the pool was minimal, this was to just get the pool opened. He said because of that, it is time to put money into equipment and pool repair. The next question he wanted to know was how much money the council would allow for the repairs and maintenance.

Mrs. Carson said last year's expenses and purchases came to \$25,400. Also the costs of the family seasonal pass would increase to \$125, and the single pass to \$75, and private parties \$75.

It was agreed that repairs should begin and each year a new project would be completed. This year the repairs that will take place are the water line row of tile, repair the ladders, and paint the pool house floors with a budget of \$5,000.

## McDonald News By Vera Kacirek

Kevin Foster and family of Fort Myers, Fla., were Friday overnight guests of his grandmother, Eleanor Swihart.

Josh Johnson was a Saturday night supper guest of Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson.

R. J. and Susie Sabatka spent the weekend in Manhattan to help Rachel and Jon Mallett do some work in the basement of their new home. Chanda and Garrett Dowling and Oakley were also visitors. Karlyne Atchison and Amelia

Banister were Friday visitors of Marie Holzwarth in St. Francis.

On March 27, Jay and Rose Gordon went to Denver to bring their grandson, Alexjandro to McDonald to spend spring break. He enjoyed helping fill the Easter eggs for the hunt, and also enjoyed the hunt. On Saturday they attended the free movie in Atwood.

Easter dinner guests of Bill and Lois Schaff were Jay and Rose Gordon and Alejandro, Brandy and Mike Luna, from Denver,

Dean and April Miesner and boys, Westleigh and Jamie.

Travis Knapp was an Easter guest of his parents, Jerry and Betty Knapp from Friday to Sunday. Stan and Becky Purvis and family and Brenda Knapp were also Easter dinner guests.

Jerry and Betty Knapp were Friday evening guests of Keith and Hulda Dorsch.

Last Monday, Becky Purvis and children were visitors of Betty Knapp to do some sewing.

Jerry and Betty Knapp attended the talent show in Goodland on Saturday evening in which their granddaughter, Katie was a participant.

Liz, Jeremy and Megan Johnson of Moundridge were Friday overnight and Saturday morning visitors of Ray and Marlene Johnson.

Easter dinner guests of Joan Tongish were Jamie and Preston Mattheyer, Mikayla and Katlyn of WaKeeney, Clinton Hopkins, Nika Tongish and Doug Tongish.

Guests of Connie and Brian Sabatka for Easter dinner were Ray and Marlene Johnson, Chris and Dana Howard and family, Dalton and Danae Magnani. Ted and Dixie Bethell of McCook were afternoon visitors.

Easter dinner guests of Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson were Rod

and Lisa Johnson, Josh Johnson and Sammie Ufford and Bob and Helen Johnson.

Guests of R.J. and Susie Sabatka for Easter dinner were Agnes Sabatka, Laddie and Vera Kacirek, Vaughn and Autumn Sabatka, Kasey and Jennifer Sabatka and family and Craig and Danni Sabatka.

Eleanor Swihart was an Easter Day guest for brunch and Shirley Swihart of St. Francis. She enjoyed that most of the grandchildren were home for the holiday.

Karlyne Atchison and Amelia Banister were among the Easter dinner guests of Kent and Joan Banister.

Dave, Nancy and Alan Palozzi of Lakewood, Colo., spent from Friday to Easter Sunday with Myra Miller and Iris McIntosh.

Gail and Kay Miller spent the Easter weekend in Wichita with their daughter, Lori Driskill. They were guests from Friday to Sunday.

J.J. and Lori Denny and family of Colby and Arie and Jamie Harris and family of Auburn, Neb., were weekend guests of Greg and Cheryl Wilkinson. Greg and Cheryl Wilkinson, Shawn Wilkinson, the Denny's and Harris's all had Easter dinner with the Skolout family at St. John's Hall.

## Club Clip

### Red Hat Mamas

The Red Hat Mamas of Bird City/McDonald all decked out in red and purple with a sprinkle of green, dined at Two Lee's in McDonald on March 16. The tables were beautiful with St. Patrick's Day decorations. Phyllis Wingfield, the club's humorous reading chairwoman, entertained with three stories. Queen, Margaret Voorhies, started the business meeting with a couple of smile-worthy stories.

Business issues were the possibility of one person securing a membership in the Atwood Country Club for possible lunches there in the future, which was tabled after discussion. Florence Antholz announced that she had tickets available for the Tumblewood Chorus which will be performing at the Colby Community College on March 27. Lastly, the float for the upcoming Bird City celebration in June was discussed.

The field trip was to Herndon for a tour of Walt Hafner's Time Restored Antique Clock Repair Studio. As the ladies entered, a feeling of nostalgia took over. When the house was purchased in the early 1990s, archived history was discovered in the attic. The first owner of the house, Mr. Roberts, published the newspaper in Herndon. Those proof copies of the original newspaper are now found in the Atwood Museum.

The beginning of Walt's new career started with a Bicker grandfather clock which was a birthday present from his wife in the early 1970s. Aside from repairing clocks, the collection includes unique mantle models with various chimes, a Japanese

cuckoo clock with chimes in Japanese, the wall clock from the Burlington depot, an alarm clock and several other grandfather models.

The library was amazing with the many varieties of kerosene lamps. Many ornate brackets held the lamps on the wall. The Red Hat Mamas appreciated Mr. and Mrs. Hafner for allowing them to reminisce.

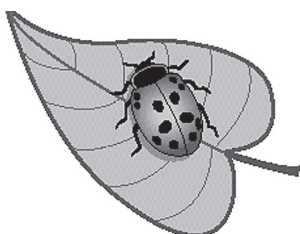
Red hatters attending were Florence Antholz, Sandra Antholz, Bonnie Burr, Linda Carroll, Bethel Golt, Vernetta Haack, Betty Lewis, Iris McIntosh, Carol Mears, Edna Roesener, Joan Tongish, Margaret Voorhies, LaVina Waters and Phyllis Wingfield.

The April 20 adventure will be a trip to Colby for a concert at Heartland Christian School.

When it's time to look for insurance, I'll be there!



**Gary Leach**  
Leach Insurance Agency  
209 W. Washington,  
St. Francis  
785-332-2898



# AUCTION

THURSDAY, MAY 6 10:30 AM CT

634± ACRES RAWLINS CO., KS  
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Columbian Hall - Atwood, KS  
(From Hwy. 36, go north on 4th St.)  
Dan & Pam Thomas, Sellers

Tract 1 - 149± ac. - NE/4 & SW/4 Sec. 13, 3-36 (lying N. of the RR Tracts; 149± ac. dryland) 3 1/2 mi. E & 1/2 mi. N of McDonald - Inter. of Rds. 7 & Q  
Tract 2 - 165± ac. - NE/4 Sec. 26, 3-36 (124± ac. cropland; 41± ac. grassland) 2 mi. E & 1 mi. S of McDonald - S at wind turbine  
Tract 3 - 320± ac. - N/2 Sec.11, 1-33 (209± ac. crop; 111± ac. grass & creek bottom) From Atwood: 11 mi. N on Hwy 25, 2 mi. E on Rd. CC, 1 mi. N on Rd. 22 & 1 mi. E on Rd. DD - Inter. of DD & 23

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## Bird City Times Associate Editor

Looking for an energetic person, living in the Bird City area. The applicant must have some computer, writing and some photography skills, get along well with customers, be able to cover meetings, school activities and other happenings within the communities of Bird City and McDonald.

To apply or for more information, contact Casey McCormick or Karen Krien at the St. Francis Herald, 785-332-3162 or stop by the office at 310 W. Washington, St. Francis.

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