

Casey's Comments

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Once again we are coming to the close of a political season. When this paper comes out the dust will be settling, the banners will be collected for future elections and we will know who will be representing us in the power centers of the states and nation. It is an honor to live in the most open democracy that has ever existed in the annals of history. So often we take for granted just how special our nation and its opportunities are. Sure it isn't perfect. Yes, there are injustices committed. But, as Winston Churchill put it, "It has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all the others that have been tried."

Why don't more people vote? I don't know. It seems like too important a thing to be taken for granted. Maybe if the right were taken away for a time people would see how unique it is. I've heard the argument that "My vote doesn't count." Obviously plenty of other's do. But there is one major flaw to the system that I could live without: the huge amount of money spent on mud slinging television commercials. Rather than sway the audience they only bring disgust with their constant redundancy. But that's just my opinion. Thanks to those who came before us and built such a great nation.

Meeting planned for Friday, Nov. 12

There will be a meeting of the Bird City Historical Association at 2 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 12, at the Bird City Senior Center. The meeting is set to welcome everyone of any age with an interest in sharing or learning about developing exciting historical links between generations of the past and present. The only requirement for membership is an historical interest. Those coming are encouraged to bring an old photo with them to learn about the story it has to tell. The purpose and function of the Bird City Historical Association is to share information on how to archivally preserve, collect, research and document historical material relative to the early settlement of Bird City, its businesses, ranches and early families, with consideration of the historical interest of the individual members of the association. The Association is an independent historical organization that has no direct ties to any other historical organization and is funded by donation. The legal name is The Bird City Historical Association and this has been filed with the state of Kansas as a not for profit group. However, the Bird City Historical Association will

cooperate with other historical organizations that have the same goals as follows:
1. Creating a new awareness of the importance of family stories of the events in the lives of the "grass roots" people who came to these plains, stayed and built the very foundation of life as it exists today. An example of an historical event might be locating his or her sod home on the prairie during a blizzard. These stories are the true meaning of history and can either be written or they can be record for the individual.
2. Sharing information at meetings on the archival preservation of materials such as: documents, certificates, family records, old photos, newspaper articles, maps or other historical items.
3. Sharing research information on locating resources for family records or homestead patents, early businesses, churches, schools or other historical categories.
4. Developing publications from one or more historical categories is a long term goal.,,
For more information, please contact Dorthy Mast at 785-734-2750, or Wanda Dowdy at 785-734-2383.

School Menu

Monday
Breakfast: Breakfast quesadillas.
Lunch: Tomato soup and grilled cheese sandwiches.
Tuesday
Breakfast: Banana wrap.
Lunch: Lasagna and bread.
Wednesday
Breakfast: Bagel.
Lunch: Chicken fried steak, au gratin potatoes and roll.
Thursday
Breakfast: Boiled egg, sausage link.
Lunch: Meatballs, buttered noodles and bread.
Friday
Breakfast: Egg cheese biscuit.
Lunch: Rib-b-q on bun, dessert.



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What is going to become of the village?

By Karen Krien
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It has been two weeks since fire took out the middle section of the Good Samaritan Village nursing home. There were 64 employees and some are still out of work but in a letter written by Randy Fitzgerald, Good Samaritan Society Director of Operations, the staff will be paid through Nov. 13, two weeks longer than expected. The Village staff has been encouraged to help care for the St. Francis residents who were relocated to sister centers. All employees working at other Good Samaritan Society Centers will be considered shared-employees, with mileage paid. Employee

health insurance will go through November. On Thursday, Tom Peniston, Human Resource and Risk Management Representative with the Society, met with the staff and commended them on their successful evacuation and relocation of residents. He said the Society felt they had experienced a miracle in St. Francis. Since the fire, people are working to maintain what is left of the Village. Walls are being constructed to seal off the contaminated corridor and the boilers are now working so the east and west sides of the facility can be dried out. An insurance inventory person has been on the scene. The

Society is now in what they call the "Assessment Process." Mr. Fitzgerald said it was a complicated and time-consuming process. It involves a number of people including local, state and federal fire officials. Sandy Sandoval, one of the fire investigators who was on the scene on Thursday, reported that the "pizza party," where all parties will come together has been set for Nov. 8. At that time, more information may be known. The Society's next step will be called "Mission Recovery." There are 30 to 40 people at the national campus in Sioux Falls, S.D., working on the Village issues. The Good Samaritan Society is having a "Society-wide appeal fund drive" to raise money

to help the St. Francis Good Samaritan Village. "I realize there are many questions among staff members and the St. Francis community about what happens next," Mr. Fitzgerald said. "Dealing with a tragedy of any kind is fraught with concerns, and we all want things to return to normal as quickly as possible. "Rest assured, the Society's commitment to the residents and staff at the St. Francis Village is as strong as ever." Mr. Fitzgerald will meet with residents at a public forum on at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evening at the St. Francis high school auditorium. Everyone is urged to attend.

Bulletin Board

Cheylin play/musical rescheduled

The fall play/musical dinner theatre originally scheduled for Nov. 4 and 6, has been rescheduled for Saturday Nov. 13. The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. with the play starting at 7:30 p.m. Another performance could possibly happen on Friday evening the 12, depending on the status of the Cheylin High School football team. For more questions, call the high school office at 734-2341.

Community Club

The Community Club will meet at the Senior Center at 7 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 8.

Monthly birthday party

The Senior Citizens monthly birthday party will be held at 3 p.m. on Monday.

Safety notice

Cheyenne County Wildlife will need to close the pistol and rifle range until further notice. Pipeline construction behind the burn is underway. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Funeral notice

Funeral services for Harold L. Connett will be at 1:30 p.m. Friday at Knodel Funeral Home. Interment will be in the Bird City Hospital. Memorials may

be made to the Cheyenne County Hospital.

Thanksgiving dinner

The St. Francis Catholic Church is holding the second annual Thanksgiving dinner from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Sunday. Check ad to see where tickets are available or how to have a home delivery.

Alzheimer's/Dementia Support Group

The Alzheimer's/Dementia Support Group will no longer be meeting.

Courthouse closed Nov. 11

The Cheyenne County Courthouse will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 11, in observance of Veterans Day.

4-H Achievement Banquet

The Cheyenne County 4-H'ers will hold their 4-H Achievement Banquet starting at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday at the fairgrounds building in St. Francis.

Holiday Community Chorus

Rehearsals begin at 1:30 Sunday for the Holiday Community Chorus. Registration is set for 1 p.m. Further details are available in the story in this issue.

County Commissioners

The Cheyenne County Commissioners will meet at 8

a.m. Monday, Nov. 15, in the commissioner's room at the courthouse.

Fair board

The next regular meeting is set for 8 p.m. on tonight (Thursday) in the commissioner's room in the courthouse.

Public forum set

A public forum to discuss the Good Samaritan Village fire and the plans for the future will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday in the St. Francis high school auditorium. A representative from the Good Samaritan Society will be on hand to answer questions.

Support Our Soldiers

Remember time is short for the Support Our Soldiers (SOS) ingathering so shop for bargains now. Boxes will be placed at various businesses for your convenience. American Legion Auxiliary and Lawn Ridge 4-H.

Pesticide collection

A pesticide and herbicide collection will be held at the Cheyenne County Landfill until Nov. 5. On Nov. 6, Justin Lohr, noxious weed supervisor, will take the chemicals to Atwood. The collection is being conducted by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and there is no charge for bringing the chemicals in.

High Plains Historical Association

High Plains Historical Association will hold it's annual meeting at the Colonial Steak House in Oakley on Sunday, 2 p.m. It is a Dutch-treat lunch followed by a program presented by Michael Baughn, president of the Smokey Hills Trail Association.

Peace of Mind AA

Peace of Mind AA will meet at the St. Francis Public Library at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays. Contact Kris D. at (785) 332-4410 or (785) 772-5090.

Narcotics Anonymous

Narcotics Anonymous meetings are held at 104 W Webster/Methodist Education Building on Sunday nights at 8 p.m. and Thursday nights at 7:30 p.m. Contact (785) 342-0028.

Northwest Kansas Family Shelter

Northwest Kansas Family Shelter provides 24-hour-7day-a-week service 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.

Correction

A carousel costs \$650,000 to \$700,000, not \$65,000 to \$70,000 as stated in last week's article about the Cheyenne County Amusement Authority needing money to repair the carousel at the fairgrounds. Watch for more information on the repairs.

Bird City News

Bob Brubaker, Keith and Hulda Dorsch went to Hoxie, Wednesday, and joined Dale and Colleen Niehaus of Breckenridge, Mo., for lunch. The men are classmates. They joined the Foote families, grandsons of the Niehauses, who have a feedlot in the area and also opened a new restaurant on main street, which is very nicely redecorated and has good food. After a long lunch hour they went to view the lovely Scott Foote residence.

Letter to the Editor

Letter to the Editor:

In thinking about the 125th Bird City Day Celebration, I am filled with sadness that we were not able to attend. But I'm heartened by our memories of Bird City celebrations we attended in the past.

I recently ran across an old booklet from the 75th year Diamond Jubilee in 1960. I have a picture taken of Junior that year showing him with a beard and remembered that all of the local men grew one that year for the celebration. I have a picture from the 50th Jubilee in 1935 of me and my sister ErvaGene standing with our parents, Ervin and Hazel Alden, beside a steam engine train

on the railroad tracks by the Bird City grain elevators.

We also have pictures from the 100th celebration when we made a Cress Family float on a flatbed trailer with three sections: "Remember the Past," "Live For Today" and "Dream for Tomorrow".

Junior's grandparents homesteaded in Cheyenne County in 1904 and Bird City has always been home to us. I wish we could have been there to take pictures at the 125th Bird City Day Celebration and spend time with all of the wonderful Bird City residents.

Jerry Cress
Eckert, Colo.

Calling all Singers

in Northwest Kansas

HOLIDAY COMMUNITY CHORUS

Directed by Neala Carmichael

Rehearsals begin Sunday, Nov. 7
Peace Lutheran Church in St. Francis
Registration 1 p.m. Rehearsal 1:30 - 3 p.m.
—One of the best gifts you can give—

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SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m. 1 hr. 56 min.
Secretariat
Nov. 5, 6 & 7 PG for brief mild language.
Diane Lane, John Malkovich, Dylan Walsh, Dylan Baker, Margo Martindale Drama, Biopic and Sports
CHEYENNE THEATER St. Francis, KS 785-332-2747
Children 12 & Under: \$3 All Others: \$5

CHEYENNE COUNTY HOSPITAL

210 W. 1st • St. Francis, KS
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