

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick
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While everyone is geared up for an exciting Christmas holiday, it is also the perfect time of year to reflect on an American hero. Personally, I believe it's always time to remember the men and women who have allowed us the freedom to worship and celebrate as we wish.

For baseball fans, most know of the great Cleveland Indian's pitcher Bob Feller. Over 18 seasons he threw three no-hitters and 12 one-hitters with a career ERA of 3.25.

What most might not know is that Feller was one of many who volunteered to leave pro sports to fight in World War II.

Feller was considered the best pitcher in the majors when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. Two days later he walked into a Navy recruiting office to enlist.

Although he could have spent his naval career teaching physical training and competing on Navy baseball teams, Feller wanted to be in the action. He transferred to Naval Gunnery School, graduated and was placed on the USS Alabama.

A South Dakota class battle ship, the Alabama first saw action in the

north Atlantic before being sent to the Pacific Theater. The ship took part in almost every major naval engagement there.

Feller commanded an anti-aircraft crew during amphibious assaults on New Guinea, Guam, Kwajalein and Peleliu. His men played an important roll defending the Alabama against kamikaze attacks during the campaigns of the Philippines and Okinawa.

He was discharged in the summer of 1945 with the rank of chief petty officer and received all three of the military's campaign medals as well as eight bronze battle stars.

After retiring from baseball, Feller was asked if he ever regretted the decision to serve rather than add to his baseball numbers.

"I have no regrets," Feller said. "The only win I wanted was to win World War II. This country is what it is today because of our victory in that war."

What beautiful words from a true American patriot.

Bob Feller died on Wednesday, Dec. 15, at the age of 92.

Enjoy your Christmas and thank a vet since you can worship freely. It's quite a gift.



MAX KELTZ, center, headed up the Cheylin Athletics Hog Roast dinner at the Cheylin Elementary cafeteria last Thursday. Helping serve were Austin Cobb, Heath Churchwell and Ty Carmichael. The roast was well attended. The lucky ticket winner of the shotgun was Alysia Carpenter.
Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

Obituaries

Bernadine Louise (Hale) Samson

June 3, 1944 - Dec. 5, 2010

Bernadine Louise (Hale) Samson, the fourth child of Chester and Myrtle (Parnell) Hale, was born June 3, 1944, on the home place near Hepler, Kan. She died on Dec. 5, 2010, in Colby.

Bernadine grew up in Crawford County graduating from Girard High School in 1962. She furthered her education at Kansas State University, graduating Cum Laude in 1966 and earning her master's of science degree in 1968.

Bernadine moved to northwest Kansas in the fall of 1967 to teach physics, chemistry and earth science at Atwood High School. In August 1974, she started teaching at the McDonald school district, filling the seventh through 12th science position.

In the fall of 1975, Bernadine was reassigned to teach sixth through eighth grade science, as the McDonald and Bird City school districts had merged to form the Cheylin district.

She was reassigned in the fall of 1981 to teach computer, math (including calculus), and physics in the high school. Bernadine took the high school science position at Colby in the fall of 2000, where she taught until she retired in May 2007.

Bernadine enjoyed teaching, inspiring students to do their best so they too could fulfill their dreams. Bernadine's love of teaching won her many awards. Certificate of Recognition for promoting scientific literacy in teaching, by the American Medical Association and the Kansas Medical Society; and Physics Teacher of the Year,

by the Arkansas/Oklahoma/Kansas section of the American Association of Physics Teachers to name a couple.

Bernadine met the love of her life, Richard B. Samson in the spring of 1968. They married on Aug. 7 of that year. One son was born to this union, Jamie R.

Bernadine was an active member of Kansas National Education Association and Kansas National Education Association-Retirement Program, working for the betterment of education. She served on the Kansas National Education Association board of directors for six years. She was active and past president of the Cottonwood UniServ district. Bernadine was the president of Delta Kappa Gamma - Zeta Chapter, treasurer for Ludell Township, enjoyed being a member of the Old Depot. She especially enjoyed knitting baby afghans and sewing.

Bernadine is survived by her loving husband, Richard of the home; son, Jamie Samson and Sara of Lindsborg. She is also survived by sisters, Sharon (James) Vap of Colby, and Shirley (Bill) West of Hanford, Calif.; brothers, Donovan (Kathy) Hale of Girard, Connelly (Pat) Hale of Haxton, Colo., and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Dec. 9 at the First Christian Church in Atwood. Interment was at the Ludell Cemetery.

Memorials may be addressed in her name to the Bernadine Samson Education Foundation and left at Williams Funeral Home in Atwood.

Floyd "Bud" Leland Frisbie

May 7, 1922 - Dec. 13, 2010

Floyd (Bud) Frisbie was born May 7, 1922, in Atwood, Kan., to David and Lura Frisbie. He was the youngest of six children. He grew up on the family farm north of McDonald, attended North Star Rural School and McDonald Rural High School.

After graduation, he attended Kansas State University where he met and fell in love with Helen Pierpoint. They were married June 14, just 11 days before he reported for active duty in World War II. After a year in the states and 16 months in the South Pacific working as a signal corps cryptographer, he returned to Kansas State University and earned his bachelor of art degree in agronomy a year and half later.

They moved back to the farm and raised their four children, Kurt, Richard, Marsha and Barbara. During this time, he was a member of the McDonald School Board, Soil Conservation Board, Kansas Farm Bureau Program of Work Committee and worked with other community activities. He was a 50-year member of the McDonald American Legion.

After the kids were married or in college at Kansas State University, Bud and Helen bought a home in Sun City, Ariz., and spent 31 winters down there. In Sun City, they enjoyed many activities especially duplicate bridge. He also did much volunteer work...drove a Red Cross

bus, was an usher at church and was a hospice volunteer for 20 years.

When they decided they needed to live closer to their family, they returned to their home in Bird City which they bought when they retired from the farm.

Bud's family was always uppermost in his life and he was very proud of his children's accomplishments and careers. He considered the churches and schools vital to the community and supported and attended their activities as long as he was able. He was a very outgoing "people-person" and enjoyed spending time with his friends and family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his siblings and a son-in-law, Herman Antholz.

Missing him greatly will be his wife, his four children and three spouses; 11 grandchildren and seven spouses; 15 great-grandchildren and many friends.

Funeral services were held Thursday, Dec. 16, at the Federated Church in McDonald with Pastor Mark Adams officiating.

Interment was in Grace Cemetery with military honors by Fort Riley Honor Guard.

Memorials may be made to the McDonald Federated Church, Cheylin Endowment Fund or McDonald American Legion.

Arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.

Bulletin Board

Post Office hours

The Bird City Post Office will be open Friday, Dec. 24, but will shorten retail lobby hours and will close at noon. Regular mail delivery for Dec. 24 will be unaffected by the change.

Post Office will be closed on Christmas Day, Saturday, Dec. 25. Bird City Post Office will be open normal hours and regular mail delivery will resume on Monday, Dec. 27.

No Potluck

The Bird City Senior Center will not host a potluck in December.

Herald/Times/Advocate updates

The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times office will be closed on Friday, Dec. 24 and Friday, Dec. 31.

The deadline for the Country Advocate which will be inserted in the Dec. 30th issue of The Herald and Times is on Thursday, Dec. 23.

Chamber scrip

People receiving St. Francis Chamber scrip need know that the scrip can be spent in any business in Cheyenne County. However, the scrip cannot be redeemed for cash, cannot receive change nor can it be deposited. The scrip can also be used to pay taxes or light bills.

Chamber suggested that the scrip money be used by March 2011.

Businesses can deposit the check in the bank.

Salvation Army online

Salvation Army is currently running their Kettle campaign. Donations can be made to the Cheyenne County Salvation Army unit by going to onlinekettle.com (Select unit: First name:

Cheyenne Co Last: Kansas) or they can be mailed to: TSA, PO Box 462, St Francis, KS 67756, or dropped off at the Cheyenne County Treasurer's office.

Fair board to meet

The Cheyenne County Fair Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 6.

Hospital Board

The Cheyenne County Hospital Board will meet at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 30, in the clinic basement meeting room in St. Francis.

Bird City 125th DVD

A memorable DVD of Bird City's 125th Celebration and Main Street in Bird City in 2010 is available to order with over 600 pictures. Call Candy Glasco at 785-734-2797 or e-mail leg@eaglecom.net

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.

The Bird City Times

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The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times

Will be CLOSED

**Friday, Dec. 24
& Friday, Dec. 31**

**Advocate Deadline for Dec. 29
will be noon, Thursday, Dec. 23**



The staff at the St. Francis Herald and Bird City Times wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

American Profile

Celebrating Hometown Life

See American Profile magazine in this week's issue of

The Bird City Times

(available in local area only)

Brought to you by
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For more information contact:
Casey at 785-332-3162**

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m.

1 hr. 40 min.

Tangled

Dec. 25 & 26 *Action/Adventure, Family, Musical, Animation and Adaptation*
Closed on Dec. 24

PG for brief mild violence.

CHEYENNE THEATER

Children 12 & Under: \$3

St. Francis, KS
785-332-2747

All Others: \$5

Fifth Street Apartments in Bird City, Kansas, have 2-bedroom duplex apartments for rent. We are offering free cable television for one year to new tenants. Applicants must income qualify for this property. For more information and an application you may contact N.W. Kansas Housing, Inc. at 785-421-2151 or pick up an application at Century II in Bird City.



Access



CHEYENNE COUNTY HOSPITAL

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

The Cheyenne County Hospital, Clinic and Health Department would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

