

Prediction made for next snow storm

With all the Christmas excitement over and only the anticipation of what the New Year 2011 is going to bring I took a stroll around town looking for news and photos for the last paper of the year 2010. Everything was pretty dead not even a mouse was stirring, so I decided to try and drum up some fun.

Last year Bird City had a very white Christmas with the exception of the brown snow from the dirt blown in from the freshly harvested fields. Many of the residents who had planned to spend it out of town with their family ended up going for the New Year holiday instead.

This year the weather is just the opposite. We are too dry and need the snow or moisture. The farmers need the moisture for their winter wheat to survive; it can just stay in New York where

they have already been badly hit.

The weather man is predicting moisture for this Thursday, but not a lot. My estimation is we will get a big one the week of the seventeenth. I am praying it will be wrong as Ray and I are planning on flying out of Denver International Airport for a two-night stay at Las Vegas. Our 51-year-old son Dale is competing in the Spec Mix Bricklayer 500 National Brick Masons Brick Laying Competition at the Convention Center on Jan 19.

For some fun I'd like to open this guessing to you readers. What is your prediction on the time for a good snow storm to hit Bird City Kansas? Email, mail or leave your guesses in the basket at the store for next weeks paper.

—By Norma Martinez

McDonald News

By Vera Kacirek
Friday evening, Dec. 31: Federated Church's New Year's Eve party; Monday, Jan. 3: McDonald Senior Citizens potluck and meeting; Wednesday, Jan. 5: McDonald Area Development meeting; Wednesday, Jan. 12: McDonald Garden Club meeting at 1:30.

Christmas dinner guests of Joan Tongish were Mike and Diane Tongish, Doug Tongish, Preston and Jamie Mattheyer and Mikayla and Katelyn of WaKeeney.

Thursday visitors of Ray and Marlene Johnson were Carrie Magnani and Jerry and Betty Knapp and Travis Knapp.

Raydene, Edie and Laura Johnson of Cimarron were Friday visitors of Ray and Marlene Johnson.

Ray and Marlene Johnson were Christmas Eve guests of Brian and Connie Sabatka and family and they spent Christmas Day in McCook as guests of Dixie and Ted Bethell.

Christmas dinner guests of Agnes Sabatka were Craig and Danny Sabatka, R.J. and Susie Sabatka and Laddie and Vera Kacirek.

Brenda and Travis Knapp arrived home on Thursday to spend the Christmas weekend with Jerry and Betty Knapp. Additional Christmas dinner guests were Stan and Becky Purvis and children of Goodland.

Last week Jerry and Betty Knapp went to Denver to attend the 80th birthday party for Alfred Reasoner. They were Sunday overnight guests of Doris and Lowell Martin, Strasburg, and spent Monday with Judy McKelvey in Denver.

On Wednesday, Dec. 22, Jerry and Betty Knapp helped Kamie Purvis celebrate her fourth birthday.

Ratha Lea Loker had Christmas dinner with Lynn and Rita Officer. She also had Monday dinner, Dec. 27, with the Officers.

Kasey and Jennifer Sabatka and children spent Christmas Day with Kenny and Pauline Micek.

Debbie Johnson, San Antonio, Texas, was a last Tuesday visitor of Karlyne Atchison and Amelia Banister.

Kevin and Amy Torrey, Rutherfordson, N.C., arrived Wednesday to spend the holidays with Amelia Banister, Karlyne Atchison and other relatives.

Christmas guests of Karlyne Atchison and Amelia Banister were James Atchison, Kevin and Amy Torrey, Donnie Banister, Wade, Ty and Teryn Carmichael, Kent and Joan Banister, Jim and Cheryl Banister and George, Kathy, David and Debbie Banister.

On Monday, James Atchison, Karlyne Atchison and Amelia Banister were visitors Marie Holzwarth in St. Francis.

Christmas guests of Tom and Lois Morelock were Raydene, Edie and Laura Johnson, Cimarron, Gary, Lisa, Jon and Jordann Johnson, Hoxie, Tom and Kristi Morelock, Kansas City, Mo., and Scott Johnson and friend of Craig, Colo.

Wayne and Peggy Sager, Jon and Kyler, Salina, came Sunday to spend the holiday with the Morelocks.

Christmas Eve guests of Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson were Greg and Cheryl Wilkinson, Shawn Wilkinson, Rayn Wilkinson, Aric and Jamie Harris and family of Auburn, Neb., and Rod and Lisa Johnson.

Christmas Day after Mass, Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson went to Leonard and Berdean Wilkinson to celebrate Mary Wilkinson's birthday.

Aric and Jamie Harris and family, Auburn, Neb., were guests of Greg and Cheryl Wilkinson from Friday to Sunday.

Additional Sunday visitors of Greg and Cheryl Wilkinson were Ryan Wilkinson, Kansas City, Shawn Wilkinson, J.J. and Lori Denny, Colby, Kenny and Phyllis Wilkinson and Pat Skolout.

Bulletin Board

Representative-elect speaks

Ward Cassidy, representative-elect, will meet with constituents from 5 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 30, at the Bird City Public Library. Citizens are encouraged to take this opportunity to talk with Mr. Cassidy and send him to Topeka prepared to deal with the concerns of his district. People should take time to exchange views on the issues important to northwest Kansans.

Retirement open house

A come-and-go reception retirement open house is being held for Vera Keller and Harvey Zwegardt today (Thursday) from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Cheyenne County Farm Service Agency office.

Open house

Neitzel Insurance Service is holding an open house from 1-5 p.m. New Year's Eve, Friday, Dec. 31.

Herald/Times/Advocate updates

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

The deadline for the *Country Advocate* which will be inserted in the Jan. 6 issue of *The Herald* and *Times* is at noon on Thursday, Dec. 29.

Kansans for Life

The Cheyenne County Kansans for Life will meet Monday at Peace Lutheran Church in St. Francis beginning at 7:30 p.m. All in the communities are urged to join in prayer, learning and fellowship as members work together to provide "Life for All."

Hospital Board

The Cheyenne County Hospital Board will meet at 3 p.m. today (Thursday).

County Commissioners

The Cheyenne County Commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. on Friday.

Veterans Affairs

Jody Tubbs of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs, will be in St. Francis at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 6, at the county clerk's office. People may also contact the Veteran's Affairs office in Colby any Monday, Wednesday or Friday at (785) 462-3572.

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.

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 lcg@eaglecom.net

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.

Letters to the Editor

I think the Community Club and Santa Day Committee need to be recognized as sponsors of the Dec. 18 Santa Day.

Santa Day would not have been possible with out all the hard work from all the people involved with planning, putting together and gathering the gifts that make Santa Day a success. The end of the year seems to be a good time to recognize them for all the good work they have done all year.

These two separate organizations both the Community Club and Santa Day Committee put many months of work into this project. Bird City has had a Santa Day since the mid teens of 1900. It was first organized by local business men and farmers until it was then taken over by the Lions Club in 1928. They operated it until they

disbanded and reorganized as the Community Club in the late 1930s.

The Santa Day Committee raises the money for the candy sacks, purchase the prizes and conducts the fun give away.

Together both organizations set up tables and chairs, decorate the Legion Hall and sack candy. On Santa Day the Community Club provides the soup, hot dogs, dessert and drinks for the donation meal.

Santa Day is the Community Club's major fund raiser. During the year they fund the Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween party and Spook Parade. Bird City's membership in the US 36 organization is sponsored by them. Members of their organization are gate keepers during the Thresher Show, and plant flowers in the flower containers downtown. During the 125th year celebration they beautified downtown, constructed a float and managed the parade. During the past years, they have redone the shelter house, new bathrooms at the park and swimming pool. They have done grants and purchased books for the library, donated to the EMT education, contributed to senior center utilities, donated to the Legion for new tables and sponsored the Christmas lighting contest.

Thank you committee members for all the hard work and time. Bird City would not be the Community it is without your help.

Stan Dorsch
Bird City

Bird City News

Bethany Stoney the granddaughter of Edna and Paul Roesener and daughter of Larry and Cathy Atkins graduated with honors from Newman University, Wichita, Kan. Bethany earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and membership in Pi Lambda Theta.

Paul and Edna Roesener had guests for lunch on Dec. 14. They were: Larry and Cathy Atkins of Hot Springs, S.D.. They arrived on Sun. eve and left for Great Bend, Kan. after lunch to spend a pre-Christmas with all their children and families at the home of Keith and Bethany Stoney and family. Roy and Karen Shrader came and joined them for lunch.

Grant Shrader joined grandma and grandpa Rosener, and Larry and Cathy Atkins for supper on Monday. Grant had another surgery at Hays last Thurs. for tears to the Meniscus. He had previous surgery on May 12, for a torn Anterior Cruciate Ligament, Medial Collateral Ligament, and small tear to the Meniscus.

Other visitors of Paul and Edna Roesener's is their granddaughter Colleen Shrader from Tempa, Az. She is attending Arizona State University where she is busy with her entrepreneurship studies and home for the Holidays..

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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

Business Directory

To list your business, call 785-332-3162.

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Children 12 & Under: \$3 All Others: \$5

Equipment Operator Specialist

Are you looking for a rewarding career that offers full-time, year round work? The Kansas Department of Transportation is looking for dependable, team players to join the St. Francis sub-area crew. Current advertisement is for an Equipment Operator Specialist which requires two years experience in highway and bridge construction and/or maintenance and one year of lead worker experience. Position is located in St. Francis, KS and requires 30 minute response in emergency situations. Position requires a valid driver's license. On-the-job training is provided to obtain a CDL within sixty days. An annual \$150 Personal Protection Equipment allowance is available. Insurance benefits including health, prescription, dental and vision are provided at a minimal cost. Other benefits include vacation and sick leave. The selected candidate is required to take and pass a pre-employment drug test and a pre-employment physical test. Starting pay is \$14.30/hour. **KDOT works to foster diversity and looks forward to applications from all qualified applicants.** Applications and Personal Data forms may be completed on-line at job.ks.gov. Submit on-line forms to **Transportation, Headquarters**. Paper forms are available at any KDOT office and may be sent to Kansas Department of Transportation, Bureau of Personnel Services; Eisenhower State Office Building - 1st Floor East; 700 SW Harrison St; Topeka, KS 66603-3754. Indicate **Requisition #167750** on the application form by the closing date of **January 3, 2011**. This ad is paid for by the *Kansas Dept. of Transportation*.

CHEYENNE COUNTY HOSPITAL 210 W. 1st • St. Francis, KS
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You can't always be there for an aging parent, or loved one who lives alone. But you can help increase their confidence to live independently - with Philips Lifeline through Cheyenne County Hospital.

Lifeline is a simple, wireless device worn as a pendant or wristband that allows the wearer to summon help with the push of a button from anywhere in their home or yard, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The button connects to a trained Lifeline response associate, who quickly accesses the profile and calls responders for help.

There are 3 different units now, the new one is a cordless phone or if you have plenty of phones there is just the unit and the third option is a regular phone unit. The cost for a Lifeline is a one-time installation fee of \$50 and the monthly cost is \$30 and for the new cordless phone it is \$35.

For more information or to get one installed call Shawna at Cheyenne County Hospital 785-332-2104.

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