



THE CATTLE search for food in during the snow storm that hit the area on Tuesday.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

Second week in a row, snow storm hits area

By Karen Krien

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For the second week in a row, Tuesday was snowy, cold, windy and miserable. And, for the second week in a row, schools in Cheyenne

County were closed on Tuesday.

Late Monday night, the wind blew with gusts 38 to 40 miles per hour. The snow started a little later but, by the time people were going to work, the snow had piled up on

vehicles and there were drifts.

The National Weather Service in Goodland predicted up to 6-inches of snow but it was hard to determine with the high wind. Kathy Woodcox, St.

Francis weather observer, at 8 a.m. Tuesday morning, reported over 3 inches of snow with .24-inch moisture. She noted that on Monday, the high was 42 degrees but the temperature dropped to -1

degree by the next morning.

The National Weather Service reported a high of 3-degrees and a wind chill of -15 to -20.

By Wednesday, the sun was shining but it was still cold and

the wind continued to blow with below-zero wind chills reported.

The outlook for the weekend will seem like summer as temperatures are forecasted to be in the 50s and lows in the middle 20s.

Cheyenne County spelling bee held

By Norma Martinez

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The Cheylin High School gym was buzzing with bees on Wednesday, Feb. 2 – not honey bees but spelling bees from Cheylin and St Francis schools. Thirty fourth through eighth grade students participated in the Cheyenne County Spelling Bee.

The judges, Kari Gilliland, St Francis, and Elaine Marcuson, Cheylin, lined the students up according to the number drawn. Janice Churchwell, Cheylin, served as reader and announcer.

Mrs. Churchwell explained the rules and called each contestant to the microphone where she gave them the word they were to spell. First by pronouncing the word, then using it in a sentence to assure the students were using the correct spelling, then pronouncing the word the second time. Each student was allowed ample time to think on the correct spelling.

After spelling it, Mrs. Churchwell told them if they were correct or incorrect. If incorrect she pointed out the error and then instructed the student to return to their seat, or go to the bleachers behind them.

Several rounds later the spelling bee participants were down to five. All five of these contestants misspelled their words. Jude Faulkender and

Austin Patton from St Francis were recalled for the final round. Austin had won the spelling bee for the last two years.

Jude was the winner and champion of the spelling bee. His final word spelled correctly was "hexagonal."

The last two Cheylin students to go out were Allie Frisbie and Jaime Davison. Allie misspelled the word "monstrosity" while Jaime misspelled "millennium."

Jude is now eligible to participate in the Great Bend Tribune Sunflower Spelling Bee in Great Bend on March 12. The winner of this round can go to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C.

Cheylin participants were: fourth graders - Granite Bock, Merlin Ray, Jacob Serrano; fifth graders - Jordan Janicke, Alex Hazuka, Rachel Keltz; sixth graders - Haleigh Rucker, Bergan Bock, Kevin Estrada; seventh graders - Devon Janicke, Pedro Guitierrez, Ivan Kemp; eighth graders - Anamarie Crespin, Allie Frisbie, Jaime Davison.

St Francis participants were: fourth graders - Kyla Hicks, Lauren Johnson, Tayton Weeter; fifth graders - Devin Patton, Luke Lampe, McKinley Bartels; sixth graders - Joel Hill, Ryan Grover, Sophie White; seventh graders - Sydney Sundstrom, Jude Faulkender, Austin Patton; eighth graders - Aby Fernandez, Val Wurm and McKayla Taylor.



JAIME DAVISON was one of the final five students in after several rounds in the Cheyenne County Spelling Bee held on Wednesday.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

Commissioners updated on plans for nursing home

By Karen Krien

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The county commissioners, at the Monday meeting, were updated on plans for the Good Samaritan Village restoration.

Kevin Berens, chairman of the Village Advisory Board and member of the long-term care task force, felt that there needed to be some communication between the Good Samaritan Society and the county commissioners.

"I want to make sure everyone knows what is going on," Mr. Berens said.

He reported that he had talked to Randy Fitzgerald, Kansas-Texas operation director for the Society, and Jeff Paulsen, Village administrator, who said plans were on schedule. There should be 22 beds available by March 1. The facility is being renovated with fresh paint, new flooring.

It will be nice, more comfortable and upgraded," Mr. Berens said. By May 1, there will be 32 beds.

Mr. Fitzgerald plans to meet with the commissioners at the Feb. 28 meeting. Mr. Berens urged the commissioners to think about questions they would like answered. What do the people of Cheyenne County want concerning the nursing home? If these questions can be submitted to Mr. Fitzgerald or the Society before that time, there is a better chance there will be answers.

We have health care in Cheyenne County, he said. We need to address the future needs of our communities and health care is a significant part. Not all the residents and not all the staff will be back starting March 1 but the ones that are will help boost the community.

Dale Patton, commissioner, said, as a member of the long-term task force, he will have a list of questions made.

Andy Beikman, commissioner, wondered if 22 beds will be enough for the facility to break even financially. There were 48 residents before the fire. The goal is to have 32 beds – is the Society going to quit at that number?

Mr. Berens said, at this point,

there has been no decisions from Good Samaritan Society. That is where the communication between the county and the Society will come into play, he said.

If the county owns the facility, he asked, will there be any money to generate for the future? If the Society is expecting to turn it over to the county, what will the operating agreement be?

Some citizens feel, Mr. Beikman said, that if there is a lease, the money might be all sent out and not stay at the Village. Yes, we have 50 people employed but we will need operating capital and improvements... will it be there?

Ideally, said Kari Gilliland, county attorney, people need to think about assisted living – is Good Samaritan Society interested in pursuing this? No decisions have been made after phase two, Mr. Berens said.

To be successful, Mr. Patton said, all areas of care are needed. Cheyenne County will have the areas, from home health, to apartments, to long-term nursing home care, except for assisted living.

I would like to see some transparency between Good Samaritan and the people of Cheyenne County, Mr. Patton said. They may need to take partnership but what will the process be?

Mrs. Gilliland asked if the insurance money will be fully invested into the home? If there is money left over, can the society reinvest it? Was the Society underinsured?

It was pointed out that when the Oct. 19 fire happened, the community was in a panic with no facility. Good Samaritan Society was working at getting the facility open as quickly as possible.

Mr. Patton said he had talked to the site engineer who is planning on having taller trusses, giving more room in the attic. The internal walls will need to be reinforced to support the new roof design.

Mr. Berens said there will be press releases in the newspapers. The first one is scheduled for this week's *Herald* and *Times*.

Collectors bring out depression glass

Valentines' Day is a special day that glassware collectors bring out their delicate colored translucent depression glass. This glassware was distributed free, or at low cost, in the United States around the time of the great depression. The Quaker Oats Company and other food manufacturers and distributors, put a piece of glassware in boxes of food, as an incentive to purchase. Movie theaters and businesses would hand out a piece simply for coming in the door.

Most of this glassware was made in the central and mid-west United States, where access to raw materials and power made manufacturing inexpensive in the first half of the 20th century. More than 20 manufacturers made more than 100 patterns, and entire sets were made in some patterns. Common colors are clear (crystal), pink, pale blue, green and amber. Less common colors include yellow (canary) ultra marine, jadeite (opaque pale green), despite

(opaque pale blue), cobalt blue, red (ruby and royal ruby), black, amethyst, monax, and white (milk glass).

Although of marginal quality, Depression glass is becoming more scarce on the open market. Scarce pieces may sell for several hundred dollars. Some manufacturers continued to make popular patterns after World War II, or introduced similar patterns, which are also collectible. Popular and expensive patterns and pieces have been reproduced

and reproductions are still being made.

In observance of Valentines' Day, the Bird City library has a display of Valentines from the 1920's owned by Richard and Darlene Brubaker, and a display of pink depression glass from Darlene's collection. Sometime in the late 1960's she started collecting it with a purchase from a garage sale, and just kept adding pieces. A good deal of it was purchased from Mrs. Herl in Goodland.

Receive free trees to plant when weather turns warm

Here's an ideal way to get into the mood for spring planting: Join the Arbor Day Foundation and receive 10 free trees to plant when the weather turns warm.

Every person from Kansas who joins the Arbor Day Foundation in February 2011 will receive 10 free

Colorado blue spruce trees.

"Planting Colorado blue spruce trees will add beauty to your landscape in Kansas with their blue-green hue and distinctive shape," said John Rosenow, chief executive and founder of the Arbor Day Foundation. "These trees will also

add to the proud heritage of Kansas' 118 Tree City USA communities. For more than 30 years, Tree City USA has supported community forestry across Kansas, and planting these beautiful trees will add to this important tree-planting tradition."

The 10 free Colorado blue spruce

trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting, between March 1 and May 31, with enclosed planting instructions. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to

grow, or they will be replaced free of charge.

Arbor Day Foundation members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's colorful bimonthly publication, *Arbor Day*, and *The Tree Book* with information about tree planting and care.

To become a member of the Foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to Ten Free Colorado Blue Spruce Trees, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by Feb. 28, or go to www.arborday.org/February.