



Casey's Comments

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This Thursday will mark another Saint Patrick's Day. It might not be such a big deal here in northwest Kansas, but other places will see revelers fill themselves with green beer and act silly as a result. I doubt if the old saint would be too impressed with that behavior. His memory deserves a bit more respect. Saint Patrick was actually from Scotland. Born in 385 AD, he was kidnapped by a raiding party and taken to the island of Ireland when he was 14. Sold into slavery he learned the language and customs of the Druid and pagan land. At the age of 20 he escaped by

making his way to the coast and finding a group of sailors who transported him back to Scotland. He had experienced a spiritual awakening while in Ireland and followed his faith to join the Catholic priesthood and was ordained as a bishop. Through a dream he felt that he must return to Ireland and bring Christianity to its people. And that he did. Saint Patrick may not have driven the snakes from Ireland, but he sure gave the boot to some Godless folk. Just a little food for thought as you observe this Saint Patrick's Day.

Obituaries

Alicia Marie Burkhalter Rippe

April 11-1981 - March 12, 2011

Alicia Marie Burkhalter Rippe was born on April 11, 1981, at Dundy County Hospital in Benkelman, Neb., to Kevin and Jeanette (Downing) Burkhalter. She had two younger siblings, Jenna and Beau. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bird City, Kan. Alicia graduated from Cheylin High School in 1999. She earned her bachelor's degrees in psychology and sociology from Fort Hays State University in 2003. During this time, Alicia spent a year studying abroad in the Netherlands. She graduated with a master's of science degree in community counseling in 2007. Alicia married Timothy John Rippe on Aug. 2, 2003, at St. John Catholic Church in Beardsley. To this union was born a son named Wyatt Tyler on Sept. 3, 2008. They made their home on a farm in rural Ludell. She treasured time with Tim and Wyatt on the farm raising Corgi dogs and working with cattle, goats, chickens and any other animal she could talk Tim into buying for her. The family attended St. Mary Catholic Church in Herndon and Alicia belonged to the Christian Mother's Altar Society. Her joy was helping everyone.

She worked as a certified nurse aide through college and later as a Rawlins County dispatcher. In 2007, Alicia began her career as a licensed mental health practitioner. She and Lindsay McConville formed a partnership to open a successful private practice called Ambience Counseling Center in McCook, Neb. She was a member of the National Board of Certified Counselors. Alicia enjoyed spending time with family and friends. She loved traveling and was always ready for that next fun experience. Everyone was affected by her good attitude and infectious laugh. In May 2010, Alicia was diagnosed with adrenal cancer. She researched and met with some of the world's best doctors, but the cancer was too aggressive to overcome. Alicia died peacefully in her husband's arms at her home on Saturday, March 12, 2011, at the age of 29. Survivors include her husband, Tim Rippe, of rural Ludell; son, Wyatt Rippe, of the home; parents, Kevin and Jeanette Burkhalter, of Bird City; brother, Beau Burkhalter, of Manhattan; sister, Jenna Dare and husband, Jonathan, and nephews, Jordan and Colin Dare, all of Henderson, Colo.; grandmother, Mary Schwerdt, of Benkelman; in-laws, Richard and Theresa Rippe, of rural Ludell; two brothers-in-law, Kevin Rippe and wife, Megan, and nieces, Lilly, Michaela, Allison, and Kimberly, all of rural Ludell, and Rodney Rippe and fiancé, Katelyn Clark, of Hays; sister-in-law, Brenda Schilde and husband, Aaron, and niece, Addison, all of Minneola; in addition to other family and many friends. Alicia was preceded in death by four grandparents, Arthur "Dude" Burkhalter, Irene Burkhalter, Kermit Downing, and Don Schwerdt; aunt, Cheryl Wilkens; uncle, Greg Downing; and cousin, Ryan Sloan. A vigil service was held on March 15 at St. Mary Catholic Church of Herndon with a Mass of the Resurrection held on March 16 at St. Mary Catholic Church with Rev. Nick Parker officiating. Casket bearers were John Riener, Lee McConville, Brandon Dirks, Adam Ketterl, Dustin Hughes, Justin Marintzer and Coley Hackney. Burial was in the St. Mary Cemetery, Herndon. Memorials may be made to the Alicia Rippe Memorial Fund or the Wyatt Rippe Education Fund.

George E. Bandomir

Dec. 15, 1920 - March 10, 2011

George Bandomir was born on Dec. 15, 1920, in Wauwatosa, Wis., to Albert Fredrick Bandomir and Ida Emily Paugz Bandomir. George was the 10th child born of 11 children. He is survived by one sister, Eleanor; many nieces and nephews and numerous friends. George died at the Cheyenne County Hospital in St. Francis, Kan., on March 10, 2011, at the age of 90. George was a machinist while

living in Wisconsin. He attended church at the Lutheran Church, Wisconsin Synod, and taught Sunday school. He enjoyed teaching the children and thought about becoming an evangelist, but chose not as he didn't think he could eat the food in other countries. George attended several churches, the Methodist Church, Federated Church and the Wesleyan Community Church, while living in Bird City. He decided to travel out of Wisconsin and he said he ran out of money when he arrived in the Bird City area. He worked for Lewis and Audrey Sowers for several years and then moved to town and purchased the home that he lived in until his death. George was an avid reader and felt that he traveled the world by reading books. It was amazing what he knew about other countries. George had memorized many Bible verses and enjoyed sharing them with his friends. Some of his favorites were Psalm 23 and Psalm 51. FuneralserviceswereheldMarch 14 at the Wesleyan Community Church in Bird City with Pastor Dan Carson officiating. Pallbearers were Keith Dorsch, Ed Carson, Dan Sowers, Larry Shults, Lavern Young and Garold Lee. Burial was in Grace Cemetery, McDonald.

School Menu

<p>March 21-24 Monday Breakfast: Muffins. Lunch: Quesadillas and rice. Tuesday Breakfast: Breakfast bites. Lunch: Junior class menu: Ham and cheese squares, cheesy green beans, strawberries and bananas, ice cream.</p>	<p>Wednesday Breakfast: Apple wrap. Lunch: Fourth grade menu; Sloppy Joes chips, corn, strawberries and bananas, bomb pops. Thursday Breakfast: Baked French toast. Lunch: Hot dog or chili dog and fries.</p>
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Norton Livestock

Norton, KS

Sales every Thursday - 1 p.m.

Consigned for March 24
40 black heifers with calves



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785-567-8113 - cell
Cattle hauling is available.
Call Steve Freeland, St. Francis, field rep.
785-772-7072

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Bulletin Board

94th birthday

Irene Kehlbeck will be celebrating her 94th birthday on March 16 and would enjoy hearing from friends. You can send birthday wishes in her name to: Fairview Estates, 1630 Sewell Ave, Apt D-10, Colby, KS 67701

Block Fest rescheduled

The learning math and science through Block Play was canceled due to weather and has been rescheduled to Thursday, March 31 at the St. Francis grade school gym. The first session is at 4 p.m. and the second session at 6 p.m. It is for children ages 12 months

through first grade and parents must be present.

Archery Fun Day

Archery Fun Day has been set from 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturday at the Cheyenne County Gun Club. For more information, contact Josh Moberly, 970-630-1196.

4-H model meeting

The 4-H model meeting contest has been rescheduled for Friday.

Musical Easter production

Heartland Christian School, in Colby is hosting a Community Musical Easter Production. "Three Days" will be held at 7 p.m. April 14 and 15 4p.m. and 4 p.m. on April 16. This musical vividly captures the passion of the 72 hours our Lord spent from the cross to His resurrection. Admission is free. A free-will offering will be taken.

Relay for Life

The time has come to begin thinking about organizing teams for the Cheyenne County American Cancer Society Relay for Life which is planned for June 11 at Sawhill Park in St. Francis. Teams will gather at Sawhill Park overnight to join the fight against cancer from 6 p.m. Saturday, June 11, until 6: a.m. Sunday, June 12.

Palm Sunday cantata

The Peace Lutheran worship choir would like to invite any community choir members to join them in presenting the Palm Sunday cantata "Who do you say I am." Anyone interested in participating should contact

Cinda Dankenbring at 332-2884. Rehearsal will start soon.

Starting Smart

A "Starting Smart" program from 6 to 9 p.m. April 4 in the clinic basement in St. Francis. Topics include:

- How early experiences affect brain development.
- Emotional development and the infant brain.
- SIDS, Shaken Baby Syndrome, and the Happiest Baby program.

- The importance of Quality in Infant-Toddler Child Care.

The program is free and participants will be given a chance to win a new baby swing. It is put on by Smart Start of Northwest Kansas and the Cheyenne County Hospital.

Incident Command Classes

Just a reminder that the Incident Command Classes (ICS) 300 class will be in Colby April 5 and 6, and Incident Command Classes 400 will be in Goodland May 3 and 4. For those that still need Incident Command Classes to be National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant, Ryan Murray, emergency manager, would encourage them to take advantage of these opportunities close to home. He has also been informed that in order to receive anymore grant money or equipment from Homeland Security, they must be National Incident Management System compliant.

Sign up for classes at <https://ks.train.org> and click the correct location under the registration tab.

Wildlife banquet

The Cheyenne County Wildlife banquet will be held April 1, at the Bird City Legion hall. Doors will open at 6:30. Dinner is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. with the auction at 8:15. Tickets are available from any board members or at Bumper to Bumper or Owens True Value.

Free tax help

Free tax help is available for middle- and low-income people at the St. Francis Library on Wednesdays, 2 to 5 p.m.; and at the St. Francis senior center on Thursdays from 2 to 5 p.m. For more information or make an appointment, call Rowland Roelfs at 785-332-3490.

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.

Family Shelter

Northwest Kansas Family Shelter provides 24-hour 7-day-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.

Club Clip

McDonald Garden Club

Eight members of the McDonald Garden Club and two guests, Eleanor Swihart and Betty Lewis, enjoyed a potluck dinner on Wednesday, March 9. The club has three new members, Linda Carroll, Mary Holle and Connie Rooney. Connie and Mary were present for the meeting. LaVina Waters and Betty Knapp were hostess and co-hostess. Joan Tongish called the business

meeting to order and all answered roll call with "What I use for an outdoor container." The reports were given and accepted. The Cheylin fourth grade students made Smokey Bear posters and they have been mailed to the state poster chairman.

It was decided to send flowers to Amelia Banister in the Cheyenne County Hospital. It was announced that the state meeting will be April 22 to April 24 in Marion.

The lesson was a video about "Container Gardening." It was very interesting and members all learned from it.

The April meeting will be the Arbor Day program. The Cheylin fourth grade students will give the

program. Members will meet at the Highway 36 Park where they will plant a thornless locust for the Arbor Day planting and then go to the senior citizen building for the meeting.

Betty Knapp had a very original idea for the arrangement which was titled "Hats Off." She knows that March is a windy month, so she arranged the ivy plants in a straw hat with a miniature windmill for a focal point.

Each member is asked to bring cookies to be used for lunch for the fourth grade students.

If anyone is interested in the Arbor Day planting, they are welcome to attend at 1:30 at the Roadside Park.

Sheriff's News

Bird City Sheriff's Report for February 2011

Deputies performed over 142 hours of patrol and case work in the city of Bird City. Deputies responded to calls to service by residents of Bird City, as well as performed patrol. The Sheriff's office checked doors of businesses.

Activity Report: February first thru twenty-eighth, 2011

1 Dog complaint, 1 warning for dog at large, 1 welfare check, 1 reckless driving complaint, 8 traffic contracts - 2 citations, 1 motorist assist, 2 citizens assist, 2 suspicious activity investigations, 1 internet scam investigation, and 2 trespassing warnings that were issued to two young children who had entered the swimming pool and was sliding on the ice. They were advised as to the seriousness of trespassing, as well as the concerns as to being injured on unsupervised property.

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m.

1 hr. 51 min.

Just Go With It

March 18, 19 & 20

Adam Sandler, Jennifer Aniston, Nicole Kidman, Nick Swardson, Brooklyn Decker

PG-13 for frequent crude and sexual content, partial nudity, brief drug references and language.
Comedy and Romance

CHEYENNE THEATER

Children 12 & Under: \$4

St. Francis, KS
785-332-2747

All Others: \$6

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Mark Your Calendars NOW!

Cheyenne County health fair
April 11-15, 2011

Blood lab draws:
April 11, 12, 13 – St. Francis
April 12, 13 – Bird City

April 13, 14, 15 – well women & men exams

Education exhibit booth fair –
April 14th

for more information; contact
Mila Bandel, RN County health @ 785-332-2381
Stacy Kaup - Clinic Manager @ 785-332-2682