

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

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Once again, another Cheyenne County Fair is in the books. As always it was an explosion of activity and a feast for the senses! I've been reading lately about the Roman Empire in Will Durant's series which tackled the subject of civilization's history. The Romans knew how to put on a show as well.

For fun, and to keep the masses entertained, they went so far as to stage sea battles. Julius Caesar hosted the first by building a lake outside of Rome and sending ships and sailors to recreate past battles. Later emperors would actually

have these sham sea fights held in the Colosseum, which would be flooded to accommodate the ships.

Thousands of men would participate in these epic displays. Unfortunately, they were slaves, captured soldiers or criminals whose value of life did not mean a whole lot to the average Roman. Although the victors might get an opportunity to gain freedom, they still had to survive the show.

As for the losers, either way they pretty much went down with the ship.

I don't feel so bad for the drivers who did not win in last weekend's demo derby. At least they get to race in another contest.

Obituary

Keith Dorsch

Jan. 3, 1924 - July 26, 2011

Keith Lemoyne Dorsch was born on the family farm northeast of Bird City, Kan., on Jan. 3, 1924, to Viola, nee Wolfe, and Alfred Dorsch. He was the second of four children. His siblings were LaVerne, Joann, and Stanley.

At age 3 1/2 he lost the sight in his left eye due to an accident at home. He started at Brick School, a rural school 1/2 mile from home, and finished at Bird City Grade School. He graduated from Bird City Rural High School in 1941. After graduation, he worked on the family farm since his father was in poor health.

He tried to enlist in the Air Force during World War II, but because of his blind eye was rejected several times. But he persisted, and was finally accepted and stationed in Texas for training. However, due to the declining health of his father, he was asked to return home to farm.

Keith was baptized by Rev. G. C. Munyon at the rural Evergreen United Brethren Church in 1926. He was confirmed in St. John's Lutheran Church and was active in Luther League for several years. Keith also served on the church council for many years. Later in life he was an active participant in Promise Keepers; attending their large conferences and being involved in a local Saturday morning prayer group for the past 10 years.

While attending the International Luther League Convention in Pullman, Wash., in 1949, he met and fell in love with Hulda Fabrizio. They were married at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wakeeney, Kan., on Aug. 27, 1950, and established their first home northeast of Bird City. God blessed their home with four sons: Jim, Tom, Bob and Ed. During the tough winter of 1956-57, he moved his family to Denver where he did carpentry work. In 1962, the family

moved to the farm and home where they have lived ever since.

Keith's loves were family and farming. For many years he did carpentry work and was employed by the Bird City Equity until his retirement in 1989. He rarely missed any activities in which his boys were involved, and especially enjoyed the sporting events. He did the play-by-play for the high school football games for 16 years. Keith served as a scoutmaster for several years and was extremely proud to be the father of four Eagle Scouts. He and Hulda were members of the same couples' pinocle club for more than 50 years. Earlier this spring he celebrated his 70th high school reunion in Bird City with several of his classmates. Keith never met a stranger, and his friendliness and generosity made him known and loved by many people.

Keith suffered a heart attack on July 26, 2011, and was air-lifted to Hays, Kan., where he later died at the age of 87. He was preceded in death by his parents, a sister LaVerne Munyon, a son, Edward, and a granddaughter, Alicia.

He leaves to mourn his passing his wife of almost 61 years, Hulda, a sister, Joann Busse of Goodland, Kan., a brother, Stanley of Bird City; his sons and their wives: Jim and Lorri of Louisburg, Kan., Tom and Marcy of Whitewater, Kan., and Bob and Clare of Mesa, Ariz.; and nine grandchildren: Cassie (husband Matt), Jared, Melissa, Andrew, Lindsay, Erika, Joe, Sam, and Lucas; and a host of relatives and friends.

Services were conducted at the Bird City American Legion hall by Pastor Mark Adams and Pastor Dan Carson on Aug. 1. Interment was in the Bird City Cemetery. Pall bearers were Bradley Waters, Don Wright, Hal Antholz, Ken Beougher, Jerry Knapp and Ed Carson. Special music was provided by Hal and Becky Antholz.

School Menu

Wed. Aug. 17
Breakfast - Pancake on a stick, cereal, toast & milk
Lunch - Chicken Fajitas, rice, salad bar, fruit & milk
Thurs. Aug. 18
Breakfast - Oatmeal, fruit, cereal toast, juice, & milk

Lunch - Beef strips, Au Gratin potatoes, roll, salad bar, fruit & milk
Fri. Aug. 19
Breakfast - Ham, biscuit, cereal, toast, juice, and milk
Lunch - Hamburger, baked beans, salad bar, fruit, and milk

Deadlines !! Deadlines

We know how all of us hate deadlines — But in order for us to do our best and try to keep you happy, please note below The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times deadlines.

Articles and Ad are due Monday at 5 p.m. for that week's paper

The Saint Francis Herald
Bird City Times



Bulletin Board

Head Start

Cheyenne County Head Start is still accepting applications for the 2011-2012 school years. New location, new number (785) 332-8131.

County commissioners

The Cheyenne County Commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. Monday in the commissioner's room at the courthouse.

Home Circle Club

The August potluck luncheon for the Home Circle Club will be at noon on Thursday, Aug. 18. It will be held at the Manor with Lucille Wright hosting.

Cards appreciated

Belinda Boyson has been hospitalized and would appreciate hearing from friends and relatives. Cards can be addressed to her at St. Anthony Hospital, Room 105, 11600 W. 2nd Place. Lakewood, Colo., 80228

Blood drive

Community Blood Drive will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 24, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the American Legion hall.

Accident update

Rita Bader, who was injured in an accident going home from the Tri-State Engine and Thresher Show on July 30 has been moved to Ainsworth Care Home

in Ainsworth, Neb. Cards can be sent to her at her home, 327 N. Cherry, Valentine, NE, 69201 or to the Ainsworth Care Home. Her daughter, Rhonda Klaszus, was also injured in the accident. She has moved to her parents home in Valentine and cards can be sent to her at the Valentine address.

Bird City Historical meeting

The Bird City Historical Association meeting will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday at the Bird City Senior Center.

After the business meeting, a discussion will be held on the completed booklets on the History of Banking Institutions in Bird City from 1885-2002.

The program will be on heirloom keepsakes.

The project will be the blocks and lots.

Members are asked to share the story of their special family heirloom keepsakes.

Ice cream social; quarterly meeting

The quarterly meeting of the Cheyenne County Historical Society will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday at the old country church west of the museum on U.S. 36. "The Way It Was" is the program theme. Everyone is urged to come enjoy an old-fashioned ice

cream social and an evening of reminiscing. Bring old photos and memories of St. Francis and Bird City to share.

Tag deadline

All residents with last names beginning with M, N and O should purchase their car, pickup, motorcycle and motorized bike tags and pay their vehicle personal property tax by the end of the month to avoid paying a penalty.

Driver's License needs to be presented or entered on form at time of renewal.

No-till, cover crops workshop

There will be an "Exploring No-Till and Cover Crops" workshop on Aug. 31 in the Wray area. The workshop will run from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The morning session will be in the field and the afternoon session will be inside. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. There is no registration fee. Details will be given later in August or call the Yuma County Conservation District at 970-332-3173 ext. 3.

Hunter education

Hunter education classes will take place Sept. 10. It will be an internet assisted course. Call Francis O'Leary at 785-772-7382 or Tim Stimbart at 785-772-5033 for more information.

Cheyenne County ambassadors

If you are proud of your community and your county and want to tell folks about it, stop by the Cheyenne County Development office at 107 W. Washington in St. Francis and pick up an "Ambassadors" package. Take one along on a trip or to an event. Let everyone know what a great place we live in!

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-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.

Correction

In the article about the new Methodist Church pastor in last week's Times, it should be noted that the church has 134 registered members, not 34.

Board member honored at fair

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkans.com

St. Francis man, John Finley, was recognized for his years of helping at the fair at the Wednesday night team roping. He was presented a huge belt buckle which he immediately replaced his old buckle with.

He is a fair board member and has helped with the Cheyenne County Fair almost since it began. He even remembers the fair being behind the courthouse.

Mr. Finley has spent almost his entire life in Cheyenne County. He was the son of John and Dorothy Finley.

As a youngster, he was a member of a 4-H club which no longer exists. Each year he took a steer and dairy heifers to the fair. He liked working with livestock but especially liked horses.

When he went to college at Kansas State University in Manhattan, he received a degree in animal science but his main interest was horses and rodeo. He was a charter member of the K-State Rodeo Club and participated in the calf roping event in the first Inter-Collegiate Rodeo Association Rodeo which was held in the Cow Palace in San Francisco.

Mr. Finley said he was 7- or 8-years-old when he attended the first fair. The exhibit area was behind the courthouse in

St. Francis and temporary pens were put up.

In the late 30s or early 40s, the fairgrounds were established at the present site.

From Jenkins Hall, the livestock barn was added to the west and hog barns to the north. In those days, he was volunteering his time and labor to build the fairgrounds.

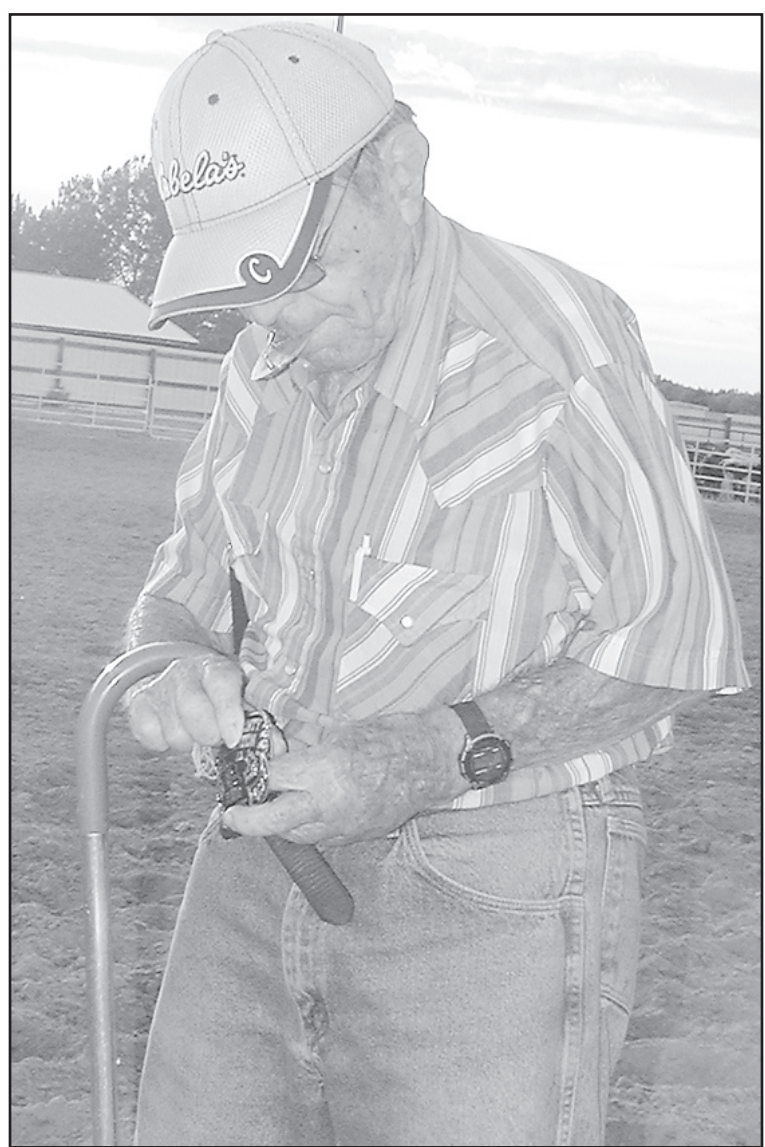
He helped build the first rodeo arena and would like to see more rodeo events at the fair. However, as a member of the fair board, he knows that it doesn't bring in the grandstand crowds as the derby and Tuff Truck entertainment.

He married Bernadine Bunjes and when their children came along, they became active in 4-H and continued to support the fair.

"We always supported 4-H and thought that it and the fair were invaluable," he said.

As the years have passed, Mr. Finley is always ready to lend a hand. If something needs done at the fairgrounds, John is there. He checks the buildings during the year, reads the meters at the fair building after it is rented. He helps with the premium sale, cleanup and set up - wherever he is needed.

"I enjoy doing those kind of things and if you need anything done just let me know," he said



JOHN FINLEY puts on his new belt bucket after it was given to him at the fair on Wednesday night.

Times staff photo by Karen Krien

SHOWTIME: 8 p.m.

1 hr. 44 min.

Zookeeper

Aug. 12, 13 & 14

Comedy and Kids/Family

Kevin James, Rosario Dawson, Leslie Bibb, PG for some rude and suggestive
Ken Jeong, Donnie Wahlberg, Joe Rogan humor, and language.

CHEYENNE THEATER

St. Francis, KS
785-332-2747

Children 12 & Under: \$4

All Others: \$6

3D Movies: Children 12 & Under \$5

All Others: \$7

CHEYENNE COUNTY HOSPITAL

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

For sale



Ice Machine

Sealed bids only accepted.

Bidding ends on August 19th at noon

Turn in bids to hospital.

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