

Casey’s Comments

By Casey McCormick
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A group in Massachusetts, the Brookline Political Action for Peace, is pushing for the Pledge of Allegiance to be removed from their schools. Their argument is that the pledge has no educational value, is a loyalty oath reminiscent of McCarthyism and is at odds with America’s most important traditions.

I don’t have a clue what any of their position has to do with recognizing the country where we live or with the price of tea in China, for that matter. It doesn’t make sense.

As far as having educational value, here’s a quick history lesson.

Francis Bellamy (1855-1931) wrote the pledge for the 400th anniversary of Columbus’ discovery of the New World. It was

first published in The Youth’s Companion, a Boston publication, on Sept. 8, 1892.

In 1923 the “flag” was added.

In the 1950s, President Dwight Eisenhower encouraged Congress to include “under God.” Perhaps this did have something to do with McCarthyism, as plenty of people were concerned about the godless Communists then.

But I think Ike’s motivation was more basic than that.

He said, “In this way we are reflecting the transcendence of religious faith in America’s heritage and future; in this way we shall constantly strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country’s most powerful resource in peace and war.”

So what could be wrong with that?

Wellness center main topic at board meeting

By Norma Martinez
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Plans for the Wellness Center were one of the main topics of discussion during the Sept. 12 Cheylin School Board meeting.

Rod Klepper, Bird City Wellness Center Committee member, determined a definite need for a wellness center for Cheylin as during the 2010-2011 school year the county health nurse reported 30 percent of the students were identified as being overweight; 19 students were obese, 26 overweight, 103 were a healthy weight, and four were underweight.

The Wellness Center will be constructed through volunteers who are willing to provide their time and effort to provide a hands-on learning experience to the Cheylin carpentry and construction classes, and provide community service in a learning environment that will benefit the community for years. All students who complete their classes will be listed on a plaque attached to the building for future generations to see.

Site wise he feels there is no comparison; this site would be highly visible.

The original size is way too small and he is suggesting on this lot there would be plenty of room for constructing a 40 by 80-foot building. This would allow room for a 10 by 14-foot utility room, 10 by 16-foot bath, 10 by 14-foot play area, 27 5-foot wide stations and a 40 by 60-foot open area in the center of the building for group workouts.

He is estimating the cost of building this Wellness Center to be \$95,000. These funds will be sponsored by the Cheylin School District, Century II Community Foundation, and Cheylin Recreation Commission. Other levels of donors will be recognized in levels of gold, silver and bronze.

School Menu

School Menu
Oct. 3 – Oct. 6

Monday
Breakfast: pancakes
Lunch: Mexican casserole, roll

Tuesday
Breakfast: bagels
Lunch: ham and cheese squares, chocolate cake

Wednesday
Breakfast: sausage, scramble eggs
Lunch: chili, cinnamon roll

Thursday
Breakfast: omelet
Lunch: hamburger on bun, peppered fries
Breakfast is served daily with toast, cereal, juice and milk.
Lunch is served daily with salad bar, fruit and milk



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Bulletin Board

75th birthday
Barbara Beougher will be celebrating her 75th birthday on Saturday, Oct. 1. To help her celebrate, her family is asking that people send cards to Barbara Beougher, Presbyterian Manor, 924 8th St., Room 315, Clay Center, KS 67432.

Hospital Guild
Cheyenne County Hospital Guild will meet at 2 p.m. on Monday at the St. Francis Senior Center. Jeff Paulsen, administrator at the Good Samaritan Village, will give an update on the facility since the October fire. Hostesses are Dolores Wiley and Helen Burnham.

Commissioners
The Cheyenne County Commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. on Friday in the commissioners’ room in the courthouse.

Fair board
The Cheyenne County Fair Board will meet at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 6, in the commissioners’ room in the courthouse.

Veterans’ affairs
Jody Tubbs, of the Kansas Commission on veterans’ affairs, will be in St. Francis at 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the County Clerk’s office

Tag deadline
All residents with last names beginning with P, Q and R 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.

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

Obituary

Raymond Lyle Johnson
April. 18, 1927 - Sept. 13, 2011

Raymond Lyle Johnson was the first of four children born to Dorsey T. and Ida Ruth (Joseph) Johnson on April 18, 1927, in McDonald, Kan. The first years of his life were spent on a farm south of McDonald. He attended three country schools and later graduated from McDonald Rural High School with the class of 1945.

After graduation, he was inducted into the United States Army and served in the Corps of Engineers, stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and Fort Belvoir, Va. Following an honorable discharge, he returned to the farm home of his parents, eager to get back on the tractor and work in the fields.

On March 20, 1948, he was married to Marlene Vandegriffe of Owensville, Mo. To this union a son David Ray, two daughters, Dixie Annette and Connie Jean, were born, bringing much joy and happiness.

In 1949, they purchased what would become their lifelong home in McDonald, where Ray was employed by several different businesses through the years, including two grocery stores, McDonald Hardware, McDonald Texaco and worked as a substitute mail carrier as well. He was later employed by USD 319 as custodian and bus driver for more than 20 years.

Ray enjoyed children and, for many years, the college boys would come home, look Ray up and go to the grade school gym to shoot a few hoops with him.

After 1971, he worked for Rawlins County Highway Department for two years. He enjoyed working with wood and also worked for Rawlins County Construction

to assist veterans and their dependents with VA claims work on Thursday, Oct. 6. If you are unable to contact Ms. Tubbs in St. Francis, you may contact the office in Colby any Monday, Wednesday, or Friday at (785) 462-3572.

Ray was a loving husband, father and grandfather who cherished his family and was happiest when they were together. He had a quick wit and wonderful sense of humor and was always able to make people laugh.

As a “people person,” he never met a stranger and loved talking with everyone he met. Ray trusted Jesus as his Savior many years ago when a good friend shared the salvation message. He was baptized, was a member of the McDonald Federated Church and served on the board as an elder and as treasurer.

Community was very important to him and he was always ready to lend a helping hand, no matter what the task. He served as mayor of McDonald 18 years, city council 6 years, president of McDonald Area Development for many years and was a 61 year member of the McDonald American Legion Post 229.

He focused on helping others and volunteering for activities such as calling bingo at Senior Citizens and Santa Claus Day, helping put up community Christmas lights and decorations, hosting the annual Easter Egg hunt in the Johnson yard, mowing countless lots in McDonald, painting and making repairs at

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m. 2 hr. 17 min.

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Health Fair 2011
Join us for the Cheyenne County Health Fair

Oct. 10 - 14, 2011
Blood Lab Draws: Oct. 10, 11 & 12
from 7 to 10 a.m. in **St. Francis** at the **Cheyenne County Health Department** (no appointment needed for lab draws)
Blood Lab Draws: Oct. 11 & 12
7 to 10 a.m. at the **Bird City Clinic** (no appointment needed for lab draws)
Lab Fee: \$45.00 due at time of service!
No food or drinks after midnight except water & your prescription medication!

St. Francis —
MEN’S AND WOMEN’S EXAM: Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 12; All day on Thursday, Oct. 13, and All day on Friday, Oct. 14
In St. Francis - Call clinic for appointment 785-332-2682

Bird City —
Wednesday, Oct. 12, 9 a.m. - noon; Thursday, Oct. 13, 9 a.m. - noon and Friday, Oct. 14, 9 a.m. - noon.
In Bird City - Call clinic for appointment 785-734-2200

Exam Fee: \$25 due at time of service!
For more information contact: Mila Badnel, RN County Health Nurse 785-332-2381. Sponsored by Cheyenne County Hospital, Clinic & Health Department

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