



Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick
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Blessings can come in mysterious packages. Last weekend we visited family in Denver. As the group sat around a table we reflected on how much has changed in my life in five years. For it was on April 1, 2007 that a near fatal case of pancreatitis set in. What started with what seemed an upset stomach soon saw me travel from the local clinic to our county hospital then a flight-for-life to a front range facilities intensive care unit. By the grace of God it was not my time to go further. My wife, mother, brothers,

sister and their other halves took turns making sure I had company at all times. Then there were the visitors from home, who, in either physical form or notes and cards, made their presence known. Many were sending prayers on my behalf, I would later learn. Life has taken many wonderful turns since that time. Not a day goes by that I don't look at myself and the world about me differently. But the support I had has been a constant. Why it took a close encounter to the other side, I'll never know. But what an amazing gift it has been. Thanks for being there with me.

Get well cards appreciated
Get well cards of care and concern may be sent to Lavern Young, in care of Janet Young-Elliott, Box 200644, Evans, CO 80620.

Retirement
After 41 years Rita officer is retiring. Help her celebrate April 1, from 2-4 p.m. at the Federated Church of McDonald.

Home circle club
Carol Peters will be the hostess for the April meeting of the Home Circle Club. It will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, April 19, at the manor.

Forage plot tour
The Cheyenne County forage plot tour will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday at Crooked Creek Angus. The plot is located just over 1 mile south of U.S. 36 and K-27 intersection, on the east side of the road. The speaker is Keith Harmony, K-State forage specialist from Hays. He will be discussing wheat triticale, barley, rye, and turnips.

Civil war presentation
Christi Antholz welcomes everyone to come to her "Red Carpet" presentation to meet a few Civil War stars as they walk the Red Carpet in the Cheylin cafeteria on Thursday at 3:30 p.m. As a class project, each of her students were required to research and dress to portray their favorite Civil War Star.

Soles4Souls
Stephanie Busse is asking people to put their old but good shoes in collection boxes at Hometown Market, Cheylin Elementary and High schools and the Bird City Library. The shoes will be donated to Soles4Souls, which distributes them to 127 countries including the United States. The shoe drive will end April 12.

Church meeting
Come to an appreciation of the Fullness of Faith in the Catholic tradition. Join them for a series of faith-enriching audio sessions this Lent. St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 625 River St., Sunday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. April 1- Benedict XVI: Light of the World" a conversation with Peter Weewald.

Leadership and beginning farmer workshop
A FFA leadership and beginning farmer farm transition workshop will be held at the Rawlins County High School, Atwood, on Thursday, April 5. The FFA Backers will serve lunch from noon to 12:40 and the program will follow. For more information, call 785-626-8066.

Catholic Church schedule
Schedule of services for Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in St. Francis: Palm Sunday (8:30 a.m. April 1); Holy Thursday (8 p.m. April 5); Good Friday (7:30 p.m. April 6); Easter Sunday (10:30 a.m. April 8). Schedule of services for Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Bird City: Palm Sunday (10:30 a.m. April 1); Holy Thursday (6:30 p.m. April 5); Good Friday (2:30 p.m. April 6); Easter Vigil (9:30 p.m. Saturday April 7).

Museum news
Wednesday, April 18, is spring cleaning time at the Cheyenne County Museum. Bring cleaning supplies and join the fun from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Spend the day or just a few hours. We are preparing for the museum opening in May and Alumni Reunion weekend in June. Everyone is welcome!

Grief Support Group
The Grief Support Group will begin meeting again on Monday, March 26, and continue to meet every second and fourth Monday at 2 p.m. or 7 p.m. (choose a time). Meeting place is the Immanuel United Methodist Church, 116 E. Fourth, Bird City. For more information, call 785-734-2739.

Tornado Safety drills
The Cheyenne County Communications Center will conduct monthly siren testing starting the second Wednesday in April at 9 a.m. The testing will continue through the end of September.

Bird City Alumni
The Bird City Alumni is planning the annual banquet for this year. It will be held on May 26 at the Cheylin High School. Any and all help will be appreciated. Contact the Bird City Library, 785-734-2203 or Dave Hickert 785-734-2522.

Wildlife banquet
The Cheyenne County Wildlife Banquet and membership meeting will be held on Friday, March 30, at the 4-H building in St. Francis. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Items of business on the agenda are: Elect new board members; treasurer's annual report; and review and amend bylaws.

Emergency number
The new phone number for Cheyenne County Communications Center (Dispatch) for non-emergency calls: 785-332-8822, Dial 9-1-1 for an emergency.

Recycling
The Bird City City Council is requesting that all recycling rules be followed especially breaking down cardboard boxes before they are thrown in the bin.

Free popcorn
The Cheyenne Theater Committee is asking, that the first weekend of the month, those attending the movie bring a canned food donation for the Food Pantry and they will receive a free sack of popcorn.

Tag deadline
All residents with last names beginning with "B" 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.

Meeting date change
The Cheyenne County Hospital Board will meet at 3 p.m. on March 29 instead of March 22. The meeting is held in the basement of the Cheyenne County Clinic in St. Francis.

Narcotics Anonymous
Narcotics Anonymous meetings are held at 104 W Webster/Methodist Education Building on 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.

Bulletin Board

Cougar Activities

By Jacob Brubaker
As I look around our Cheylin School, I'm reminded how this is a particularly stressful time. It doesn't matter what activities, classes or clubs you're in. This is crunch time. This is the time of year that work gets done. It's when all the year's work pays off. Like tax season for an accountant or harvest for a farmer, it's busy all day and all night, but I suppose that's just life. So let's analyze what life might be like for our students. First, and for most, there's classes. With state tests approaching there's always pressure to do well. However, the pressure is on even more so for Cheylin students. AYP is always expected and for some students, exemplary is expected as the norm. With a variety of tests in science, mathematical skills, English,

grammar, and history, the race to gather knowledge is on. This creates stress for teachers, students, and even some worried parents. Band and choir students are facing the grind as well. Cheylin constantly boasts one of the best bands in the league. As regional and state competition approach, everyone is under pressure to pass music pieces, learn their solos and practice with accompanists. This takes a lot of school time and much personal time as well. Other activities include a schedule of FFA and FCCLA events. This can take time out of schedules as well. The ever important sports practice also takes considerable time. So for all those who think teenagers have stress free lives, you're dead wrong. The first track and golf meets will start next week.

School Menu

School Menu April 2 - April 5
Monday
Breakfast: English muffin, sausage link, yogurt.
Lunch: Beef stroganoff, butter noodles, biscuits.
Tuesday
Breakfast: Blueberry scones, yogurt.
Lunch: Pigs'n a blanket, vegetable.
Wednesday
Sophomore class lunch.
Breakfast: Pancakes.
Lunch: Grilled cheese sandwich, tomato soup, smiley fries, dirt pudding, bananas and strawberries.
Thursday
Breakfast: Breakfast bites.
Lunch: Chicken quesadillas,

rice, rolls.
Breakfast is daily served with toast, cereal, fruit juice and milk.
Lunch is daily served with salad bar, fruit and milk.

Helpful Hints

- Use empty toilet paper roll to store appliance cords. It keeps them neat and you can write on the roll what appliance it belongs to.
- For icy door steps in freezing temperatures: get warm water and put Dawn dish-washing liquid in it. Pour it all over the steps. The mix won't re-freeze.

McDonald News

By Sandy Binning

Gilbert and Jan Antholz attended a surprise party for Freida Black's 94th birthday in Smith Center, Friday. It was held at the home of Greg and Noel Hubbard, Landon and Cammy. Wayne and Peggy Sager were Wednesday overnight guests of Jim and Lois Morelock. Fred and Lavina Waters traveled to Hays Saturday to visit Hulda

Dorsch and Owen Wingfield in the hospital. James Atchison and Tom Ball of Dallas, Texas were Thursday supper guests of Karlyne Atchison. They were on their way to Denver. Eleanor Swihart enjoyed Sunday dinner with Gilbert and Jan Antholz.

South of McDonald

By Sandy Binning

Debbie Banister returned to Topeka Wednesday after spending her Spring Break with her parents, George and Kathy Banister. George and Kathy Banister helped with the fish fry Friday afternoon and evening at St. Josephs in Bird City. John Binning and Mary

Copeland spent Wednesday till Sunday at the Binning Ranch helping with the calving. Joe and Charlene Kramer and Diane and Kailey Shay spent Thursday in Denver. Leon and Nancy Brunton were Sunday overnight and Monday guests of Joe and Charlene Kramer.

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Health Fair 2012
Join us for the Cheyenne County Spring Health Fair
April 16 - 20
Blood Lab Draws: Monday, April 16th, Tuesday, April 17th, Wednesday, April 18th
7 a.m. to 10 a.m. each day in St. Francis at the Cheyenne County Health Department (no appointment needed for lab draws)
Blood Lab Draws: Tuesday, April 17th and Wednesday, April 18th
7 a.m. to 10 a.m. each day in Bird City at the clinic (no appointment needed for lab draws)
Lab Fee: \$45.00 due at time of service!
Men and Women Exams also available
April 18 - 20th - must make an appointment.
785-332-2682 St. Francis clinic
785-734-2200 Bird City clinic

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