

Cougar Tales

By Bruce Bolen
Superintendent of Cheylin Schools

We at Cheylin Schools hope that all of you had an enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday. This is my favorite holiday of the year filled with family, friends, and good food. We are happy to see everyone back and look forward to a busy December before Christmas break. Please mark Dec. 18 on your calendar for our pre-kindergarten through 12th grade winter music concert.

Some upcoming notable events are the senior citizens dinner on Wednesday, Dec. 5, at Bird City and the first high school basketball competition for our students on Friday, Nov. 30, at Wheatland. Come support our teams as we begin this long season of competition.

We have three new coaches this year for our teams with Mr. Keltz taking over the high school girls head coaching duties. In the junior high, Mr. Schields is the new boys head coach with Spencer Reeves as his assistant and Ashley Raile is our new girls head coach. Please come out to support all our teams this season as it does make a difference to our players and coaches.

With declining revenue from our legislature, we have made the decision to start charging full prices for our athletic events, which will include our junior high games. Admission prices will \$4 for all adults with no discounts for Cheylin patrons, and \$2 for students. Prices for our junior high games will be \$2 for all adults and \$1 for students. We apologize in advance if this causes any hardships on our fans, but with officials costing from \$300 to \$500 per night, we need to find a way to recover some of the cost associated with hosting games. Thank you in advance for understanding this difficult decision made by our board of education.

Board districts

Many of you may have noticed the resolution in the paper last week about changing the voting and election methods to elect board of education members. In the past, members were elected with three members from two designated districts and one at large candidate. With the changing population in our district we feel it is beneficial that we change

our procedure to elect candidates at-large which means that as many people that want to run for the open positions can, and the top three or four candidates who receive the most votes will be elected.

A YES vote on the resolution will mean we change to the new procedure and a NO vote will leave the election the way it is now. We have four positions coming up in the next election and your board of education thought the change would be best for the district. The special election will be held on Dec. 11th.

Internet

Another financial hit for our district has been the decision by the Kansas Legislature to no longer fund the KanEd network. This network provided internet service to schools, libraries, and hospitals, many free of charge. With this change we are looking at spending and additional \$500 per month for internet services for our district.

With this unexpected expense, we have decided this would be a good use for our Cheylin Schools Foundation money that was donated to our district. Internet service affects every student and

every staff member at our school and is important to the education of our students.

Next year we will be able to get e-rate funding at 75 percent for this expense but with the late decision handed down to us, it was too late to get funding for this year.

Retirement

I have also made a difficult decision that at the end of this year, I will retire from Cheylin Schools. This is a great place to work but I have been in education for 34 years and it is time for me to make a change. We have good students, and a dedicated and caring staff, but the new state mandates and the challenging financial future for schools, tells me it is time to turn the reins over to someone else.

I want to thank the Cheylin community for four wonderful years here and know that you will continue on with academic greatness. Four years ago, your welcome made Emily and me feel like we were almost coming home again. Thank you for all you have done for us and I hope to finish the year working towards excellence.

Until next time.

Yuletide Festival to be held on Sunday

Get into the Christmas spirit by attending the Yuletide Festival on Sunday at the St. Francis Community High School auditorium. The music and dancing will begin at 2 p.m. Prior to the start of the festival, the Candy Store in the lobby will be stocked with candy, cookies and other items to help with your holiday baking and candy making.

The St. Francis Federated Mu-

sic Club is sponsoring the festival. Many community talents will be presented including students from The Dance Ranch and numerous other artists, young and old.

Traditionally, this event helps to ring in the Christmas season in St. Francis. A freewill offering is taken and is used for the benefit of scholarships and other youth activities in the community.

Everyone is welcome.



RESIDENT OF THE MONTH — Mux Johnson tells Cathy Loop some of his favorite childhood memories.
Times staff photo by Scott Knebel

Village resident honored during monthly spotlight

By Scott E. Knebel

The Good Samaritan Village resident of the month spotlighted Mux Johnson. Mr. Johnson was born Harold Melvin Johnson to Harold and Velta Johnson on Jan. 7, 1932, west of McDonald. Mr. Johnson grew up on the Big Timber north of Bird City, with his brother Merle Johnson and sisters Dorothy Johnson Chipperfield and Deloris Johnson Spike.

He worked on the family farm, milking cows and had various farm chores. One of his many favorite childhood memories was going to the movies on Saturday

night in Benkelman. He went to grade school at Pleasant Valley, where his favorite teacher was Oleta Kite, he then graduated from Bird City high school in 1949.

Mr. Johnson met the love of his life while in high school and married Raoma Purvis at the Methodist church in Bird City on July 19, 1952. He and Raoma had three children, Ray Johnson who lives in Bird City, Allan Johnson of Goodland and Christina who died.

Mr. Johnson admitted that he didn't have any hobbies as he just never found the time. He

said he was busy raising a family, farming and driving semi truck for Consolidated Freight. He also was part owner in Johnson Brothers Trucking and the Johnson Brothers Filling station with his brother Merle.

Mr. Johnson did find some time to enjoy the Cheyenne County CB club and his handle was "Short Snort" and his wife Raoma's handle was "Petunia."

You need to work hard to make it in this world said Mr. Johnson. Mr. Johnson has been a resident of Good Samaritan Village since March of 2012.

McDonald News By Vera Kacirek

A wonderful Thanksgiving dinner was held on Nov. 19 at the Federated Church in McDonald. Many attended and a bountiful meal had been prepared with turkey and ham and all the fixings with plenty of pie for dessert. Much fellowship and visiting was done by all.

Nov. 16, guests of Gilbert and Janice Antholz to help work cattle were Dan and Dave Hubbard, Roy Koons, Hudson Louderbaugh, Craig, Hal and Cort Antholz, and Blanche Koons.

Marie Holzwarth and Lanmie DeGood of St. Francis were Sunday afternoon guests of Karlyne Atchison.

James Atchison of Arlington, Texas, arrived Sunday evening at Karlyne Atchison's home and will be visiting for a few days.

Jerry and Betty Knapp enjoyed watching their granddaughter, Katie Purvis of Goodland play seventh grade basketball Thursday.

Kenneth and Phyllis Wilkinson called on and enjoyed lunch with Vera Kacirek in Oberlin on Tuesday, Nov. 20.

Owen and Phyllis Wingfield were Wednesday through Saturday guests of Debbie Wingfield in Denver.

Kenneth and Phyllis Wilkinson were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Josh and Sami Johnson. Many friends and family attended.

Joshua Adams of Seattle, Wash., was a Monday through Sunday guest of his parents, Mark and Marilyn Adams. Timothy Adams, and John and Amber Adams, all of Kansas City, were Thursday through Sunday guests of their parents.

Thanksgiving dinner and afternoon guests of Rick and Kathy Frisbie were Fred and Lavina Waters, Ray and Becky Nelson of Rifle, Colo., Audrey Daniel-ski and son Steve of Denver, and Helen Frisbie.

Marlene Johnson was a Thanksgiving dinner guest of Agnes Sabatka and family.

Debbie Banister of Topeka, and Jamie Banister of Maryland were Wednesday evening callers

on Karlyne Atchison.

Karlyne Atchison and James Atchison enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner with Amelia Banister at the Good Samaritan Home in Atwood.

Karlyne and James Atchison were Saturday supper guests of Kent and Joan Banister. They celebrated James birthday.

James Atchison left for Arlington on Sunday.

Thanksgiving dinner guests of Eleanor Swihart were Bruce and Shirley Swihart, Seth and Addie and a friend, all of St. Francis, Steve and Julia Foster and son David, Allison Swihart of Kansas City, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Huber and children of Kansas City, Jessica Ogran of Kansas City, and Stephanie, Melissa, and Cristina Swihart of Westminster, Colo.

Thanksgiving dinner guests of Joan Tongish were Betty Lewis, Clinton Hopkins and Doug Tongish.

Joan Tongish and Clinton Hopkins traveled to Lenora Saturday to attend the 63rd wedding celebration of Kenny and Janette Chisham.

Helpful Hints

White vinegar has many uses including:

- Clean a dishwasher. Once a month, with the machine empty, run a cup of vinegar through an entire cycle to reduce soap build-up on the inner mechanisms and glassware.

- Remove stubborn price tags or stickers. Paint them with several coats of vinegar, let the liquid soak in for five minutes, then wipe away the residue.

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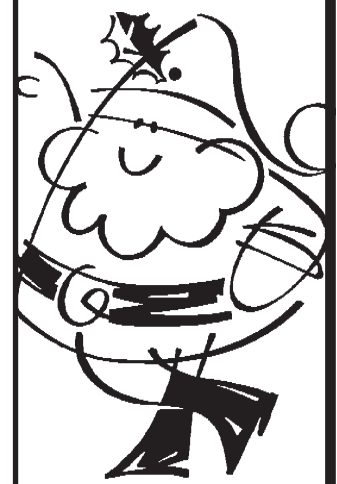
Herald And Times Happenings:

Christmas seen through the eyes of a child is priceless

This year, as in the year's past, the Special Christmas section will be published before the holidays. The section will feature letters from Santa, answers of questions asked of school children, memories and recipes.

The *Saint Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times* staffs welcome participation from children to adults. All items must be received by Dec. 5 in order to get them into the special section.

Send letters, special memories, articles and recipes to **The Herald at P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 or fax 785-332-3001, or drop them off or e-mail to sfherald@nwkansas.com** titling the subject as "Christmas for the Paper."



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FIRST BABY CONTEST

With the oncome of the New Year comes the new arrival of that bundle of joy!
 Coming in January a bundle of businesses ready to congratulate the new baby and the parents!

To participate in a Special Section contact Tim at:

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 P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 • 785-332-3162

— and —
Bird City Times
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Business Directory

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