

General election set for April 2

The general election will be held on Tuesday, April 2. There are positions on the Cheylin Board of Education as well as the Bird City Council that will be up for election.

This election will find only one district which is "Member at Large" as the voters made that decision at the last election. The terms of four board members, Hal Antholz, Janice Busse, George Louderbaugh and Anita Pochop are open. If there are more than two filing for one position, there

would need to be a primary.

There are three positions up for election on the Bird City Council. The terms of Wade Carmichael, Hal Sager, as well as the position of Mayor will be expiring. Mayor Troy Burr has announced he will not be seeking re-election for another term.

The filing deadline for the election is noon on Tuesday, Jan. 22. Interested parties should file with the Cheyenne County Election Officer, Terry Miller, at the courthouse in St. Francis.

Historical group to meet on Friday

The Bird City Historical Association will meet at 2 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 11, at the office, weather permitting. If in doubt, please call 785-734-2750.

The program will be directed toward the project, "Stewards of the Land." All members are asked to bring copies of any collection of farm families. These collections do not need to be complete, as they

can be added to at any time.

All visitors are welcome especially those wishing to help or have questions about the project. Members meet at 2 p.m. on the second Friday of each month at the Old Security State Bank - which has been renamed the Bacon/Robertson/Griffin Historical Building.



TOM BAILEY is getting an estimate from Hot Brush to have, Bird City Area on Aging added to the Senior Center Sign.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez



FIRST BABY OF 2013, Krissiana DeJong, arrived on Jan. 3. She is pictured with her parents, Chad and Lisa DeJong, Goodland.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

First baby of the year arrives

On Thursday, Jan. 3, the first baby of the year was born at the Cheyenne County Hospital. Delivering the baby was Dr. Rebecca Allard.

Krissiana Grace DeJong was born at 7:47 p.m. She weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces and was 18.5-inches long. Her parents are Chad and Lisa DeJong, Goodland. She has one sister, Katie, and two brothers, Kaleb and Korban, to welcome her home.

Grandparents are Red and Doris Kanau, Colorado Springs, Colo., and Todd and Anita DeJong, Fruita, Colo.

"We love Dr. Allard," said Mr. DeJong, who said their last baby was also born at the hospital and delivered by Dr. Allard.

Krissiana and her parents will receive prizes from St. Francis merchants as well as gifts from the hospital including: Owens True Value, a gift; The Flower Shop, gift basket; First National Bank, a gift; Krien Pharmacy, room humidifier; Western State

Bank, a gift; Saintry Liquor, bottle of champagne; United Methodist Thrift Store, \$20 gift card; and a year subscription to *The Saint Francis Herald* or *Bird City Times*.

The hospital gave progressive outfits with "Cheyenne County First Baby of 2013" embroidered by Deb George. The outfits are sizes 3 months, 6 months and 9 months. Krissiana will also receive a case of disposable diapers and a box of wipes.

First baby of 2012

In 2012, the first baby of the year waited until March before arriving. Anderegg Lee Waite Jr. was born on Wednesday, March 7, to Betty Harrison and Anderegg Waite of St. Francis. He weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces and was 20-inches long. Dr. Allard also delivered Anderegg.

Anderegg was the first boy born after six girls were introduced as the first babies of the year prior to his birth. His birth was followed by Little Miss Krissiana.

Flu season starts early with several students out of school

As most people have heard through the media, the United States is five weeks ahead of confirmed cases of the influenza illness. The state of Kansas, as of the last week in December had 28 confirmed cases of influenza A/H3 and influenza B virus.

Influenza is a contagious respiratory illness caused by viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs, said Mila Bandel, RN,

county health nurse. It can cause mild to severe illness and even death.

On Tuesday, the St. Francis schools reported 18 students out with the flu. Cheylin Schools had only four students out.

Signs and symptoms of influenza include:

- Fever and chills.
- Cough.
- Sore throat.

- Runny or stuffy nose.
- Muscle or body aches.
- Headaches.
- Fatigue.

Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

It's important to note that not everyone with flu will have a fever, Mrs. Bandel said.

Flu is spread by mainly respiratory droplets made when

people with flu cough, sneeze or talk.

You may expose a person one day before you even know you are sick and up to seven days after becoming sick, Mrs. Bandel said. However, children and people with weakened immune systems can shed viruses for longer.

The single best way to prevent the flu is to get a flu vaccine each season, Mrs. Bandel advised.

Good personal hygiene and lots of hand washing with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer is a good preventative measure. Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or use your arm not your hand to cough and sneeze into and stay away from other sick people.

If you have questions about whether you should get a flu vaccine, or have flu like symptoms consult your health care provider,

Mrs. Bandel said.

Please keep your sick children home from school, day care or large crowded events in the community such as church, or sporting events. Adults need to stay home from work as well when sick.

For more information on the influenza virus you may call the Cheyenne County Health Department at 332-2381.

Top stories of 2012 compare to those in the 1962 papers

The Dec. 27 Bird City Times contained an article on the top five events for 2012 where *The Herald* and *Times* staffs came up with five topics they thought were the most important through the year.

In looking back through the volumes of past newspapers Norma Martinez, co-editor of the *Bird City Times* ran across an article in the Dec. 27, 1962, paper containing a similar article titled, "Top Stories of 1962." This article contained several articles with a comparison to 2012's events.

There was a big difference, Mrs. Martinez said, in the fact that this year's events were all happy events, and 1962 was a year combined with tragedy and blessing for the people of Bird City and surrounding area. The 1962 newspaper was published on the exact date, but 50 years prior. It was interesting to find several of the items listed are still taking place today, or similar items connected to or in comparison to this year's events.

For 2012, the five topics the staff thought was most important through the year were: the drought and how it affected the wheat and fall harvests, the continuing saga of the Good Samaritan Village ownership, the completion of the Cheyenne County Airport runway, the completion of the Robinson-Griffin-Memorial building, along with the nearing completion of the Legion Hall in Bird City, and opening of the new Prairie Land Electric Co-op east of St. Francis. These events have all added to the growth and economy of Bird City and the local areas.

The year of 1962 began with record breaking temperatures in the 60s and the next week temps suddenly plunged to a record

15-below zero readings. During the rest of the month heat records were broken almost daily with temperatures in the 60s and 70s, and June brought one of the wettest Junes on record.

Comparing the weather with 2012, this summer brought record-breaking high temperatures during the summer months. In 2012 the area only received about 12 inches of moisture. However, it snowed on Christmas Day - it hadn't snowed on Christmas Day since 2007. The heat brought on an early wheat harvest, but the drought affected the corn and soybean harvests.

In February 1962, there was a great deal of excitement when a helicopter landed in Bird City that was used in the World's Fair. In March the new post office was opened, and Congressman Bob Dole was present for the dedication service in May.

The summer recreation program for the youth was introduced and proved to be successful. This program is still successfully going on during the summers a half-century later.

The completion of a producing oil well was completed in June causing optimism among local people. Several oil wells are pumping away today, with prospects of maybe adding more.

The biggest milestone event of the century was the completion of the telephone building and the introduction of dial telephones. Bird City was advanced by the year of 2012 when phone services had expanded for cell phones and cable towers were erected for internet service.

November 1962 election had several close county races and brought out a record number of

voters. The 2012 election brought two ties that had to be determined with a coin toss. As an added requirement in 2012 all voters had to show identification.

In November 1962 the Type I polio vaccine was distributed to the county and administered by drops on the tongue. Type II and III were issued during 1963. Today polio is a rare disease of concern, and health care workers are more concerned with everyone getting shots for the flu and pneumonia.

July and August of 1962 brought three tragedies that impacted the community, and are still talked about today. First tragedy was the jet airplane crash by the Bird City golf course killing two airmen and scattered debris on several nearby farms. In 2012 the Community Club is currently in the process of raising funds to re-do the small memorial marker at the spot where the bodies landed. The present markers are hidden by the grass and located where it is hard to see.

One week after this tragedy the town was saddened and shocked when Fritz Kehlback and his son Larry were found dead south of Bird City.

In August, an accident north of Bird City took the lives of Emmor Applegate and three others.

With all these events behind us, it is time to direct our thoughts and involvement in seeing what events will take place during the 2013. We are off to a good start, Mrs. Martinez said, but still way under the moisture farmers need to maintain good crops this year. All the other events lay ahead of us.

May you all have a prosperous and healthy New Year!