



BRENT WHITTINGTON Bird City part-time worker, and **Brad Schneider**, supervisor, cover up the hole from the second waterline break in 2013.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez.

Treasures in the attic are bound to us by heart strings

Don't deny it now. We all have them – those treasures from the attic that are bound to us by our heart strings. The items may not have been seen for many years, yet we know they are not far.

Most are not expensive pieces of art. Many are yellowed with the passage of time. Some have broken stitches from use before their retirement.

One realizes, said Marsha Magley, one of the coordinators of the 2013 Kansas Day celebration in Bird City, after well into adulthood, that most of everything we have accumulated during our adult years pales in comparison to the treasures from the attic.

For instance, she said, old letters which passed between family members, 70 to 80 years ago, and antique documents are special, just because of the penmanship. Some of it shows education and wisdom. Some of it reflects a backwoods existence, with signatures often signed by an "X."

Consider the old family journal from Missouri dated 1825, or the Homestead Patent dated 1886, Cheyenne County, Kan. Also, there are the iron pots and a tea kettle, Mrs. Magley said, my paternal grandmother cooked in at the homestead when the family lived in the loft of their new concrete barn, 1909-1916. The branding iron they valued so highly, came down in lineal descent to us.

"We, who are privileged to be stewards of nostalgic memories and objects, are rich," she said.

"There is a box containing old brittle hand-sewn quilt blocks made by a maternal great-grandmother as Civil War battles raged near her home in southwest Missouri. They are precious to us.

"My imagination ignites and I can feel a little of the sadness she must have felt in losing her own father and two brothers to the southern cause while other relatives were fighting and dying for the north."

It turns out, Mrs. Magley said, that the old photo of that debonair ship's captain is a great-great-grandfather on Lake Erie. The old oval picture frame is

holding the likeness of our paternal great-grandparents.

These items are not worth much – probably nothing at an auction, she said. They are not of value to anyone but my family and myself.

Mind you, she said, we could live without them, but it is much nicer knowing they are near at hand, to help remind us of who we are and where we came from.

Among the treasures in her attic, Mrs. Magley said, there are World War II rationing books,

old money orders and checks from a long defunct church.

"I can take old gasoline credit card receipts and probably trace every vacation our family ever took when my sister, brother and I were growing up," she said.

It is impossible to bring very many of our treasures from the attic to the 84th annual Kansas Day in Bird City on Jan. 29. But it is possible to get there with a few. I am planning to and I hope many of you will too. Help us celebrate the 152nd anniversary of Kansas statehood in style.

Local dairy solely supplies yogurt plant

McCarty Family Farms with one dairy in Bird City was recently featured in "Dairy Today."

"You could call Clay McCarty a benevolent dairy case stalker," wrote Jim Dickrell, Dairy Today editor. "Every time he walks into a grocery store, large or small, he heads directly to the dairy case and makes a beeline for the stacks of yogurt cups. He isn't looking for odd flavors or new varieties – nor is he a yogurt junkie.

"Rather, he's picking up the Dannon yogurt cups and packs, scanning each for the plant locator code. His quarry: PLT 48."

That's the code for yogurt produced in Dannon's Fort Worth, Texas, facility. All of the milk that is used to produce that yogurt comes from McCarty Family Farms' 7,200 cows in northwest Kansas.

Yep, all of it. In Europe, Dannon's parent company, Danone, has long championed its arrangement with dairy farms.

"One of their core corporate values is to have a direct relationship with their dairy farmers," McCarty says. "They call it 'cow to cup.' They value their dairymen as true business partners."

So since April 2012, the McCarty's – parents Tom and Judy and sons Mike, Clay, David and Ken – have been the sole supplier of milk for the Texas plant.

Three tankers of condensed milk solids leave Rexford each day and make their way 650 miles south to Texas.

The unique arrangement, among many other innovations, has garnered the McCarty's the recognition of being named the 2013 Innovative Dairy Farmer of the Year. The award, now in its 15th year, is sponsored annually by the International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA) and Dairy Today magazine.

The family will be honored at Dairy Forum 2013, sponsored by International Dairy Foods Association in Orlando, Fla., later this month.

McCarty Family Farms received two nominations for the award. The first came from Dale Rodman, Kansas Secretary of Agriculture; the second from The Dannon Company, Inc., itself.

"Tom and Judy McCarty took a risk and moved from rural Pennsylvania to the plains of Kansas in 1999 to give their four sons the opportunity to fulfill their goals to be dairy farmers," Rodman says.

"Thirteen years later, McCarty Family Farms has become an innovative leader in the Kansas dairy industry and a key component in three western Kansas communities, creating steady jobs that are a boost to rural economies," he says.

4-1-1 By Helen Dobbs, Director

Happy New Year and may 2013 be filled with great accomplishments!

For those newcomers to our community who established residency in Cheyenne County on or after July 1, 2011, and lived outside Kansas for five or more years immediately prior to establishing residency in Cheyenne County you may qualify for a Kansas income tax waiver for up to five years. For more information visit TaxFree.kansas.gov, call 785-296-6815, or email taxfree@kansascommerce.com

Bird City Dairy honored

"An exciting honor has been bestowed upon one of our Cheyenne County businesses. The Innovative Dairy Farmer of the Year award is co-sponsored annually by the International Dairy Foods Association and Dairy Today magazine. McCarty Farms, Bird City and Rexford, will be honored at the Dairy Forum in Orlando, Fla., this month as the 2013 Innovative Dairy Farmer of the Year. Congratulations to the McCarty Family Farms team and their employees."

Free HazMat workshop

Doing business in a small town

can mean attending training and continuing education. Employers can take advantage of a unique opportunity to receive training on Hazardous Materials transportation directly from the United States Department of Transportation on Jan. 30 in Great Bend. Representatives from the Department of Transportation will be hosting a free HazMat workshop on Wednesday, Jan. 30, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Barton Community College, covering new regulations on transporting and handling hazardous materials.

This valuable training opportunity is ideal for employees of auto body shops, pool supply companies, hospitals, welding shops, oil well service companies, beverage companies, farming co-ops, propane companies, paint supply stores, department stores, and any other business that handles hazardous materials. The free workshop will take place in Room F30 of the Fine Arts Building at Barton Community College, beginning at 8 a.m. For additional information or to register, contact Stuart Streck at stuart.streck@dot.gov.

Businesses needed

The Clean Line Energy Partners and their "Grain Belt Express" Transmission Line project are

looking for potentially interested businesses seeking to supply/support this project. The portion of the project that will occur in Western Kansas, runs from the Dodge City area to just west of Great Bend and onto Concordia.

Note: The exact route of the line has yet to be determined, but this will be a \$2 billion project overall and could be a great opportunity for suppliers in Western Kansas!!! The company is currently building a database of interested businesses, so Western Kansas companies can submit their business information on the website.

As they are looking for local suppliers (and by local, I mean in Kansas) for: Engineering, Equipment Rentals, Trucking and Hauling Services Equipment fueling, Environmental Services, Access/dirt work, Site grading/dirt work, Maintenance of traffic, Foundations, Towers and other structures, Concrete, Metal fabrication, and other local services including: Laydown, staging area's, lodging, warehousing, restaurants and office space.

All information can be found at the project website: www.grainbeltexpresscleanline.com/site/page/materials or check out: www.Facebook.com/GrainBeltExpressCleanLine

Public invited to reading

The public is invited to the Old Country Church, St. Francis, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 3, for readings by Kim Zweygardt of either selections from her book or some essays she has written. Gerald Wright of Bird City will read a memoir he has written about testifying as a witness for a trial held in Washington, D.C. The trial was over three people who were burned alive.

In addition, some members of the Rough Writers, a local group of writers, will read from some of their original writings.

This "Rough Writers Read..." is the fourth of a series of quarterly readings at the old church, located near the Cheyenne County Museum on U.S. 36, sponsored by the Cheyenne County Historical Society. Donations help cover the expenses of using the church.

The Rough Writers have been gathering monthly during the school year since September 2007. Their primary purpose is to encourage each other "to write and to keep on writing." Some also assist with monthly writing workshops at the Good Samaritan Village. A year ago, they published the book, "Memories & Musings," of the residents of the Good Samaritan Village, available through the Cheyenne County Historical Society.

The Rough Writers plan to continue hosting more "Rough Writers Read..." on a quarterly basis. Call Lucille Rossbach (332-8903) if you are interested in doing a reading or joining the Rough Writers.

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2009 Nissan Altima, loaded	\$16,800 \$15,800
2010 Ford F-150 Crew Lariat, 60,700	Priced to sell
2010 Buick LaCrosse	\$24,495
2011 Ford F-250 SD Crew, 26,574 Miles	\$48,000
2011 Chevy Impala LT, 34K	\$21,000 \$19,500
2012 Ford Edge Limited AWD, Leather	\$30,660

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This section will feature St. Francis and Cheylin Jr. High and High School Basketball players, Wrestlers and Cheerleaders!



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WORKING WOMEN'S SECTION

THIS SECTION IS PACKED WITH ADS FEATURING WOMEN.

For more details, contact **Tim Burr** at the **Saint Francis Herald** at 785-332-3162 **Bird City Times**

The Saint Francis Herald