

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick
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Awahile back I thought the zenith of living in the sunflower state had been reached. For a transplant like myself having a car/deer incident seemed to get me to the official plain of belonging.

But I was mistaken for it took a day of visiting our state capitol building in Topeka for me to be able to proudly exclaim, "Yes, I am a Kansan!"

As a guest of Kansas Farm Bureau I joined a small group who had access to committee meetings and hearings as well as watching proceedings from the visitor galleries. In addition we met with legislatures and lobbyists. It helped me to understand how this state's government operates.

The capitol is an impressive symbol of this great land. The architecture, by Edward Townsend Mix, is French Renaissance with

Corinthian composite detail. That means it has a very classical style.

The project emerged in 1862 on land donated by one of the founders of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway; Cyrus K. Holliday. Building on the East wing began in 1866 while the West wing started in 1879. The central building that would support the enormous dome had its beginning in 1886.

It took 37 years for the capitol to be declared officially complete on March 24, 1903.

Atop the dome stands the arrow shooting figure of a Kaw warrior called Ad Astra. Fittingly Ad's name came from the state motto, "Ad astra per aspera." Which is, "to the stars through difficulties."

Kansas has had difficult periods, but the majesty of the capitol building speaks for the strength that has come from those times.

Bulletin Board

Senior Center
The Senior Center monthly potluck will be at noon on Monday Feb. 25.

Wildlife banquet
The Cheyenne County Wildlife banquet will be held Saturday, April 6, at the Bird City Legion hall. Doors will open at 6 p.m. The price of the ticket includes membership dues. There will be no tickets sold at the door. Check with a Wildlife member for more information.

Home Circle Club
Cheryl Lee will be the hostess for the Feb. 21 meeting of the Home Circle Club. It will be held at 2 p.m. at the Manor. Don't forget to wear your Valentine's Day red and hearts ladies.

Information needed
To better serve the cattlemen of Cheyenne County, the sheriff's office is requesting landowners and stockmen provide locations, brands, descriptions and a contact

phone number pertaining to livestock in pastures, grazed stock residue and CRP within the county. The officers will compile the contact numbers and locations, giving a copy to the county communications dispatch office to be used when stray livestock are found on the roads. The contact numbers are for officers' use only and will not be provided to the general public. Call the sheriff's office at 785-332-8880.

Yearbooks needed
The Bird City Public Library is trying to complete its set of Cheylin High School yearbooks. If you have any of the following editions and would like to donate them to the library, the years needed are 1977, 1986, 1988, 1992, 1993, 2002, 2003, 2011, 2012.

Yearbook photos
The Cougar yearbook staff at Cheylin welcomes the public to

share any photos taken at school or community events that might be usable in the yearbook this school year...a limited staff will make covering all events difficult. Sports, clubs and organizations, assemblies, banquets, class activities including pre-kindergarten through 12th grade.

Grief Support Group
The Grief Support Group will continue to meet every second and fourth Mondays at 2 p.m. Meeting place is the Immanuel United Methodist Church, 116 E. Fourth, Bird City. For more information, call 785-734-2739.

The group is a confidential support to all who have experienced the loss of a loved one in a safe place of mutual help and comfort.

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.

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.

School Menu

School Menu
Feb. 25 - Feb. 28

Monday

Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, tropical fruit, cereal and milk.

Lunch: Vegetable beef soup, cottage cheese, cornbread, mixed lettuce salad, tropical fruit, pineapple chunks and milk.

Tuesday

Breakfast: Pumpkin chocolate chip square, yogurt, orange wedges, cereal and milk.

Lunch: Taco burger, refried beans, corn chips, black bean and corn salsa, garden spinach salad, pears, mandarin oranges and milk.

Wednesday

Third grade lunch

Breakfast: Waffles with syrup, sausage links, apple wedge, toast and milk.

Lunch: Chicken nuggets, French fries, kiwi, dirt pudding, pistachio salad, romaine and tomato salad, red applesauce, peaches and milk.

Thursday

Breakfast: Pancake on stick with syrup, tri-tater, fruit juice, toast and milk.

Lunch: Chicken pattie, mashed potatoes, green beans, wheat roll with jelly, broccoli salad, garden spinach salad, peaches, fruit cocktail and milk.

Letter to the Editor

Letter to the Editor:

First off, I want to point out that I am writing this letter on behalf of myself, not on behalf of Bird City Century II.

I grew up in Bird City and graduated from Cheylin in 1992. I moved back to Bird City in 2008, and have been working for Bird City Century II Development Foundation ever since. In the 4+ years that I've been back, I am proud to say that I have been a part of the changes and improvements that have been made around our community.

It amazes me how the money that was left for the betterment of Bird City through the generosity of Edgar Robertson and Rosemary Griffin has caused anger and 'jealousy' among a couple members of our community, and with that, they choose to belittle the Foundation and turn anything associated with the Foundation's doing, into a negative image. The Foundation was already in existence prior to that bequest, and it was left in the 'hands' of the Foundation to spend it on the betterment of Bird City, which it has done.

Look around our community and see what it is today thanks to the inheritance that was left. Our small community is thriving... and it is full of potential! There are communities all around that are envious of the progress we have made and opportunities yet to come. Drive through a lot of these small communities and make a comparison of what they look like, and what situation we could be in if it weren't for the Foundation's initiative of taking care of our community!

An anonymous letter (which shoots its credibility out the window right there) was recently written and distributed last week that targeted Ned Smith, currently on the Bird City Century II Board,

who is also running for City Council. I don't understand how one can say "it's a conflict of interest"!? Is City Council not supposed to be for the betterment of Bird City also?? Both entities are supposed to represent Bird City in a positive fashion, make the community a place that people are proud of and put the focus on sustaining the community for generations to come! We aren't here to run the City of Bird City, that's their job. We are here to represent Bird City as a community, to help preserve its history, and to promote the benefits of what the community has to offer!

Bird City Century II Development Foundation represents the legacies of Edgar Robertson and Rosemary Griffin, along with the other donors who have left money, whether for the Cheylin Schools Foundation or to the Foundation's "grant" fund, and with the representation comes the responsibility of tying our name to the projects funded as such. This allows people to see the

success that comes from people's contributions and bequests, and the impact that donors have!

With the large Robertson and Griffin bequests, it has definitely been a learning experience for everyone involved from the very beginning. Trials, errors and successes have all been experienced in the past decade, and as the saying goes "you can't please everyone." But from my experiences with the Foundation, I have seen great strides and I am very pleased with the projects that the Foundation has helped fund, and I am anxious to see the continued progress 20 years from now!!

Bird City is a great little community! I'm proud to be Cheylin Alumni...and I am fortunate to have my kids grow up here and get an excellent education! We plan to be here for years to come, so the future of this school and our community are both very important to me!!!

Darci Schields
Bird City



Tri-State Engine & Thresher Show ANNUAL MEETING
Saturday, March 2
10 a.m.
Show Grounds Shop
This Year's Show Dates:
July 25-27

Neitzel Insurance Service OPEN HOUSE
At our Bird City Office in the RGB Building
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9 a.m.- Noon
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Chris Mcafoos (308) 883-0316 after 12pm.
Linda Fegler (308) 340-7860 after 5pm.

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Mama
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Horror/Thriller
Jessica Chastain, Nicolaj Coster-Waldau, Megan Charpentier
PG-13

CHEYENNE THEATER St. Francis, KS 785-332-2747

Children 12 & Under: \$4 All Others: \$6
3D Movies: Children 12 & Under \$5 All Others: \$7

CHEYENNE COUNTY HOSPITAL 210 W. 1st • St. Francis, KS 785-332-2104

Now available at the Cheyenne County Clinic is a secure Patient Portal. With this portal, you can:

Request appointments;
Review your medical history
Request medication refills
Ask questions on-line
To sign up, please contact the front desk at 785-332-2682.

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Weather Report

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