

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

mccormickcasey@rocketmail.com
As the white blanket of snow covers our landscape of the plains and the wind howls, my mind is in Florida and Arizona.

If you ever get a chance to visit those states this time of year not only will you find pleasant weather, but you can catch a spring training baseball game.

In the early 1980s, while going to college, I had an apartment in Mesa, AZ. Right behind our parking lot was Hohokam Park, the winter home of the Chicago Cubs. The best I could do is find a baseball once in awhile when I jogged around the stadium. Cubby tickets were hard to come by because of all the "snow birds"

from the upper mid-west.

Luckily we also had the Giants, Athletics, Mariners, Indians and a couple other clubs putting their rosters together and getting the veterans back in shape.

The great thing about those games is the access to the players. It was easy to stand along an outfield fence or in a concourse and get the guys to stop and say "hi."

I'll never forget the time I ran into Harry Caray at one of the Chicago road games. He was pretty much the same as he was on WGN broadcasts.

So while old man winter throws what he can at us, I'm dreaming of pitchers sending balls to their battery mates.

McDonald News

By Kathy Banister

The community and surrounding areas received some much needed moisture in the guise of snow that blanketed towns and the countryside alike causing snow days for schools. One good thing with the snow was that the expectations of wind and blowing snow never materialized for which everyone was thankful. We know those that are calving at this time do appreciate the snow but dislike the coldness that accompanies such wintry weather.

House guests of Karlyne Atchison from Tuesday through Thursday were her son James Atchison, daughter Paula Atchison, and her grandson Dillion, all of Dallas, Texas. They were here to attend the funeral of their grandmother, Amelia Banister, on Wednesday at the McDonald Federated Church.

Gilbert and Janice Antholz helped their son, Hal Antholz, celebrate another birthday Saturday evening at the home of Hal and Becky Antholz. Others who joined in the birthday celebration were Craig, Jeri, and Tiffany An-

tholz; Bud and Meridee Mears, brother Cort Antholz and wife Meghann and daughter Hallee; and Hal's wife Becky, along with Cristi and CJ Antholz.

Karlyne Atchison and her children James, Paula, and Art Atchison and granddaughters Erika and Emily all of Dallas, attended the basketball games in Atwood Tuesday evening to watch her great-nephew, Ty Carmichael, play on the Cheylin Cougars varsity team.

Many members of the community attended the funeral services for long-time resident, Amelia Banister, 102, that were held on Wednesday at the McDonald Federated Church.

Art Atchison, Erika and Emily; Paula Atchison and Dillion; and James Atchison traveled to Denver Thursday afternoon to catch flights back to Dallas on Friday after spending time with their mother, Karlyne Atchison, and attending their grandmother Amelia Banister's celebration of life Wednesday morning.

School Menu

Monday

Breakfast: Quick blueberry bubble bread, sausage links, mandarin oranges, toast, milk

Lunch: Beef stroganoff with noodles, seasoned peas, biscuits, oriental salad, garden spinach salad, pears, mandarin oranges and milk

Tuesday

Breakfast: Biscuit breakfast sandwich, applesauce, cereal and milk

Lunch: Chicken fajitas, brown rice, green beans, taco bar, bro-

coli salad, romaine and tomato salad, citrus applesauce, tropical fruit and milk

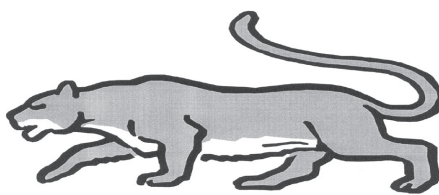
Wednesday

Breakfast: Egg taco with salsa, yogurt, pineapple chunks, toast and milk

Lunch: Frito chili pie with corn chips, corn, rice krispy bar, taco bar, mixed lettuce salad, peaches, fruit cocktail and milk

Thursday

No school - Spring break



Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped us celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary by coming to the party and sending cards and flowers. Also thanks to our children, Alan and Janet, Laurie and Paul, who organized the event along with the help of our nieces, Becky, Karla and Vera. A special thanks to Jim and Pam, and Thelma for their help and to everyone else who helped. We live in a wonderful community! Stan and Neva Wahrman

2nd Beginnings Thrift Store

Winter Sack Sale - All Clothes & Shoes

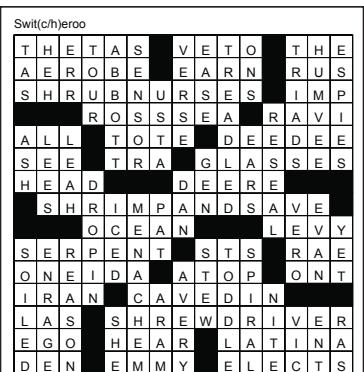
White Trash bag \$5

Wed., Feb. 27, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Fri., Mar. 1, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sat., Mar. 2, 9 a.m. - noon

309 S. Bird Ave. • Bird City



American Profile

Celebrating Hometown Life

See American Profile magazine in this week's issue of

Bird City Times

(available in local area only)

Brought to you by The Times

"Your sponsorship could be right here."

For more information contact: **Tim Burr** at 785-332-3162

Bulletin Board

96th birthday

Meta Dankenbring will celebrate her 96th birthday on Wednesday, March 6. Her family is asking that cards be sent to her at P.O. Box 295, Bird City, KS 67731.

80th birthday

The family of LaVon Underwood is hosting a card shower for her 80th birthday on March 5. Cards can reach her at P.O. Box 128, Bird City, KS 67731.

Death notice

Esther Schlichenmayer, 91, formerly of Wray and recently St. Francis, died Saturday, Feb. 23, at the Cheyenne County Hospital. Graveside services will be held at 10:30 mountain standard time, on March 16 at the Immanuel Lutheran Church, north of Bethune. Memorial contributions maybe made to the Calvary Lutheran Quilting Ladies of Wray.

Thresher show meeting

The Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show annual meeting is set for 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 2, at the Bird City Senior Center. Note, the change of meeting place.

Teens for Christ dinner

Teens for Christ are holding an after church dinner for Mission trip to Haiti, March 3, at St. John's Lutheran Church 11:30

a.m. - 1:30 p.m.. Free Will offering

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. Tickets are available at a local businesses. Look for the sign in the window. There will be no tickets sold at the door. Check with a Wildlife member for more information.

Commissioners

The Cheyenne County Commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 28, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

Veteran's affairs

Jody Tubbs from Kansas Veterans' Affairs will be in St. Francis Thursday, March 7th from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the County Clerks office to assist veterans and their dependents with VA claims work. Contact at 785-462-3572.

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.

Correction

Fort Hays State University reported the wrong degree for John Binning. John graduated with a bachelor's degree in justice studies, not information networking and telecommunications.

City council discusses employment issues

By Norma Martinez

Bc.times@nwkansas.net

Mayor Troy Burr called the Feb. 4 city council meeting to order. The city is still in need of a city maintenance worker and discussion was held on rerunning another ad that might attract more qualified interest.

An applicant was to come for a second interview but in the meantime accepted another position elsewhere. This brought the discussion on the wage scale being unattractive to prospective applicants. Mayor Burr asked if the wage scale should be reexamined.

Councilman Sager agreed that the current wage scale didn't appear to be very attractive. Councilman Wright suggested starting salaries need to be placed in accordance to the employee's experience. The council members, he said, needed to determine if they wanted to hire someone who is skilled at manual labor, or someone who possesses other skills to help take over some of the duties of the city superintendent if needed. Mayor Burr was in favor of advertising in other towns in an effort to attract more experienced applicants.

After a discussion as to a wage increase, council members passed the motion to increase the Maintenance Supervisor's wage to \$17 per hour, and the clerk's wage to \$12 per hour. It was also moved to offer DeAnza Ambrosier, clerk, a \$200 bonus for completing her clerk training

this summer.

Sheriff report

Cheyenne County Sheriff Cody Beeson reported in the past two months a rise in case arrests of "minors in possession of alcohol" has been seen in Bird City.

"This has been very, very, rare for Bird City," Sheriff Beeson said, "We don't know what caused that change but it's there, and we are trying to keep it under control." He also reported that he has received some calls in regards to disposing outdated pharmaceuticals. The sheriff's department holds regular scheduled pharmaceutical collection drives, but they will accept and dispose of expired drugs, at any time. There is a box at the sheriff's department for walk in disposal, or if you give the sheriff's office a call they will pick them up for you.

Utility billing adjustments

During the month of December the current billing, in error reflected the usage of two months water usage causing a difficulty in billing the customers and avoid over billing them in January. The clerk's billing software offered two options when meters aren't read. After consulting with Mayor Burr, she chose the option to charge all accounts the minimum, for zero usage, for the month of December. She now feels that next time; if this problem arises again, she will consider the other option of estimating bills based on each

account's usage history.

Pool committee resignation

Rod Klepper turned in his resignation from the Pool Committee. "Being on this committee has been a great thing for me," he said, "but I feel it is time I pass it on to someone else."

He still plans on finishing his current project of installing the sun shade at the pool but does not know when the shades will be in. He suggested Amy Hendricks fill the position.

Mayor Burr was asking the council if pool committee members should live in the city limits, and also had concerns with Mrs. Hendricks serving on the Recreation Committee and Pool Committee at the same time. Councilman Carmichael agreed to meet with the other pool committee members to discuss this open position before next month's meeting.

Fiber Optic line

Mayor Burr and City Superintendent Brad Schneider met

with Rick Harvey from Ideatec Systems Inc., to discuss their request to install a Fiber Optic Line in Bird City. Mr. Schneider said they will be boring under any city water lines and across the roads so they don't leave a trench. They are looking for this to happen around the end of the month. He was not sure as to how deep they will be going, but will check into it.

Unloading the bus

During the Kansas Day celebration buses unloading elderly passenger found it difficult to load and unload passengers with angle parking at the Legion Hall. One of the drivers called the city clerk asking about a designated location for buses to safely load and unload. It was determined that vans could pull in behind the Legion Hall and gain access to the Legion Hall through the doors on the west side of the building, but the vehicles or bus would not be allowed to park there.

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.

The Bird City Times

(USPS 056-720)

Serving the communities of Bird City and McDonald

Karen Krien, Editor
Norma Martinez, Co-Editor
Karen Krien - Publisher
Tim Burr - Advertising Manager
Periodicals postage paid at Bird City, Kansas 67731-0220
Phone (785) 734-7031
Fax (785) 332-3001
Or Phone (785) 332-3162
E-Mail *bc.times@nwkansas.com*
Published every Thursday
\$33 per year in Cheyenne and surrounding counties; other in-state \$36 and all out-of-state subscriptions, \$40 (strictly in advance).

Postmaster: Send address correction to P.O. Box 220 Bird City, Kansas 67731-0220

Official City Newspaper
Published Weekly By
Nor'West Newspapers, Incorporated
Bird City, KS 67731

