

## Election scheduled on Tuesday

By Karen Krien  
karen.k@nwksas.com

Voters will head for the polls on Tuesday to vote for city council and school board candidates as well as for members on the Sunflower Extension Council, District 6 board.

There are races for positions on the Cheylin School Board as well as the St. Francis City Council. There are only four seats open on the Cheylin Board but five people, Anita Pochop, incumbent; Jane Brubaker, Kelly Leach, Kendra Hespe and Brian Miller, have filed.

On the St. Francis Council, there are only three seats open with incumbents, Carla Lampe, Paula Keller and Bruce Swihart running again. However, Randy Wieck and Bud Erskin have tossed their hats into the ring.

The Extension Board which only needs two positions filled, has three people, Tammy Grice, Shawn Blanka and Danielle Holzwarth running.

On the St. Francis Board of Education, the positions of Kelly Gienger, Ed Marin and Derrick Tice are up for election. Incumbents, Mr. Marin and Mr. Tice, have filed. The position held by Kelly Gienger for the last eight years is still open as no one filed for the position. A write-in vote may determine who will fill the position, said Terry Miller, election officer. If there are no names on the ballot, the board of education will appoint someone.

In Bird City, the mayor, Troy Burr, is up for election as well as council members, Wade Carmichael and Hal Sager. Hal Sager has stepped up to run for mayor. Wade Carmichael, incumbent, and Ned Smith are running for city council

### Polling places

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday. In St. Francis, voters will cast their ballot at the Peace Lutheran Church. In Bird City, the polling place is the Immanuel Methodist Church.



LAST WEEK'S SNOW was a beautiful in the country. Despite the wind, there were piles of snow on almost everything including trees and electrical lines.

## Snow storm brings needed moisture

By Norma Martinez  
bc.times@nwksas.com

March has been an unusual month for the weather. The first week brought snow and wind. Not enough to make the winter wheat farmers happy, but it settled the dust a little. The first day of spring brought the deer out to lie in the brush and absorb the sun. Pheasants were seen along the roads, and the turkeys were beginning to return along with the birds.

Friday was a sunny day. Farmers were out spraying the fields in preparation for spring planting. Three beginning golfers were anxious to practice their strokes at the Bird City Golf Course. They said it was a little windy but they had good games.

During the night the predicted rain mixed with snow turned into blizzard conditions dumping 7 to 8 inches of snow in the fields and temperatures drop from 4- to 7-degrees.

It snowed all day Saturday and the wind cleared the snow in spots. The birds were fluttering back and forth from the trees and landing on the cleared areas where cold water was standing. Some of them even took time to bathe in the puddles and flutter in the blowing wind to the trees seeking a clear spot to land. They chirped away and looked like a young child playing in the snow for the first time.

Sunday church services were canceled on the 10th and 24th because of the blizzard conditions that closed U.S. 36



SNOWBIRDS flocked back and forth in the trees and snow chirping and playing as children would in their first time in snow.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez.

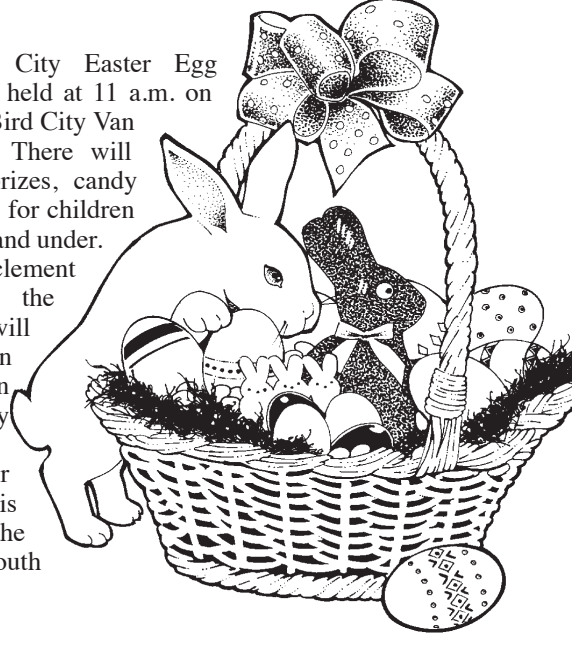
Monday's temperatures were out on the country roads it managed to stay in the fields. began with 4 degrees, and as the sun came out ended up to be in clearing the snow, and after it melted brought muddy roads. Once it melts, the dry land fields should have received more moisture than they did last year. The road graders It was a wet snow and most of

## Easter Bunny hops to Bird City park

The Bird City Easter Egg Hunt will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday in Bird City Van Doren Park. There will be games, prizes, candy and drawings for children fourth grade and under.

In case of inclement weather, the activities will be held in the Cheylin Elementary gym.

The Easter Egg Hunt is hosted by the Methodist Youth Council.



## Silver Haired Legislator talks to Bird City seniors

The break in the winter storm brought 32 seniors out to attend the monthly potluck at the Bird City Senior Center.

One of the issues affecting seniors is rural transportation. Many seniors need rides to and from medical services, and often have no one to transport them. House Bill 2131 would have given priority to this, but unfortunately, the bill died in committee June 2012. However, the Silver Haired Legislature continues to promote rural transportation.

Another issue is House Concurrent Resolution 5009 which would authorize the legislature to "regulate, license and tax the operation or conduct of raffles by nonprofit organizations." Many senior centers rely on raffles, drawings and other fund raisers to allow centers to continue operating. Another proposal - though not approved - in the state legislature is to cancel the tax deductions for both mortgage interest and real estate taxes.

The Silver Haired Legislature proposed a resolution to the state legislature that would impose "a payment in lieu of taxes on certain qualifying crude oil pipelines" going through Kansas. This has not been approved. "The older we are the more likely we are to miss legislation,"

said Carol Redding, Silver Haired Legislature representative for the county. She further stated that it is important to remain active and to contact legislative representatives to get accurate information on senior citizen issues.

Ms. Redding described several scams that could victimize seniors - or anyone else. She stressed to "never, never, never" give personal information such as Social Security numbers or banking numbers to anyone not personally known. One scam is a phone call asking for information in order to send you a medical card for the new American Care Act. This is not needed - do not respond. Two more scams involve small electronic readers that can pick up credit card or cell phone information without our ever knowing that has happened; these readers can also pick up signals from remote car keys. If you use your remote key to unlock your car and put packages into your car, the scammer can get your remote information and get into your car after you leave. You should always unlock and lock your doors manually or move your car if you go back into a nearby building.

For more information on Silver Haired Legislation, contact Carol Redding (332-3531 or 332-6197), or Bonnie Burr (734-2784).



MARLENE YOUNG, Vernetta Haack, and Hulda Dorsch, are welcoming Bonnie Burr back before the Senior Potluck.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez.