

School board reschedules homecoming

Several items on the agenda for the September 9th Cheylin School Board meeting were voted on and approved. The homecoming coronation and pep rally has been re-scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 2. There was a conflict with the original date of Oct. 3. The junior high volleyball and football members and parents will be out of town on that date. This will allow all students and parents an opportunity to attend the pep rally.

Fund raiser for Wellness Center

The Wellness Center is in need of landscaping and funds for future upkeep of the new facility. It was determined by the board they would hold a fund raiser on Nov. 22 at 5:30 p.m. at the American Legion hall. Jane Brubaker and Anita Pochop were appointed to organize and coordinate the meal and plan a program. The rest of the board will provide assistance.

Enrollment goal met

Superintendent Shelly Angelos gave an updated report on students enrolled in Cheylin Schools. Presently there are 64 students in grades kindergarten through sixth and 61 students in grades seven through 12 bringing the total to 125 students. This is nine more than the anticipated enrollment during the Aug. 12 board meeting.

Board approves preschool grant, assistant teacher

Bird City Century II Development Foundation presented a grant in the amount of \$13,000 to fund the preschool program for the school year. This amount includes \$3,900 to hire a teacher assistant. Joanne Dalton was approved by the board to fill this position.

Donation

Nick and Heidi Ketzner donated a check in the amount of \$500 to the school. Mr. Ketzner received this check for coaching baseball and he

and Heidi wished to donate it to the school.

Window project

Brian Miller, on the Building Committee, reported that Colby Glass is reviewing blueprints for replacing the windows in the high school building and will have an estimate for the committee on Sept. 18. This estimate will include pulling out the old panels and windows and replacing them with aluminum windows and some panels fitted to the original brick frames. The committee plans on having a project recommendation to present to the board during the October board meeting.

In other business

Gary Brubaker was in attendance on behalf of Century II seeking permission for the school to supply a spot to display 50 years of Bird City alumni photos and memorabilia from 1923-1975. (See Alumni photos article)

Board policy review

Kansas Association of School Boards has provided policy changes and-or updates regarding board policy on a variety of topics. The Board Policy Committee will review the recommendations on Sept. 18, to determine the current board's wishes on adopting these changes.

Superintendent evaluation tool

The board is looking at combining the old evaluation tool with the new e4E tool to use for the superintendent evaluation. Board member Kelly Leach has taken the two documents for review and will likely provide the board with her recommendation. The district began using the e4E tool for teacher evaluations this year.

Editor's note: Items for this report were taken from the unapproved notes taken at the Sept. 9 board meeting.



LAST SUNDAY the fields were muddy and full of puddles, after Tuesday and Thursdays welcome rain. Below, a rain gauge showed over 3 inches of rain.

Area receives rain!!

Last Tuesday evening Cheyenne County took an abrupt break in the high temperatures causing very dry conditions and dusty roads. The temperature was lower and it seemed like a perfect evening, when all of a sudden storm clouds formed and it poured down rain leaving an inch-and-a-half rain in the storm gauge on Rd. 34 K. On Thursday

rain clouds formed and brought a steady rain most of the day and throughout the evening leaving another, three-an-a-half inches of rain. Farmers were happy for the moisture for their corn, milo and other crops as they were losing it and having to swath and bale it for feed for the cows.

Sunday and Monday brought just mild showers and tempera-

tures of 60 degrees and the farmers now want warmer weather and dryer fields so they can drill their winter wheat.

By Tuesday the sun came out and the temperatures were in the 80's, the roads were dry and the fields were drying fast. Soon trucks will be hauling corn and tractors will be back to drilling winter wheat.



Drives bring in money to schools

Rain and overcast skies didn't dampen the enthusiasm or the success of Yost Ford's Drive 4 UR School event, held Friday at the Cheylin high school. Brent Rueb, sales manager for Yost Ford, reported that 165 test drives were completed between 8:00 am and 6:00 pm. With every qualified test drive, Ford will donate \$20.00 to the Cheylin schools.

Mr. Rueb was by the door all day to meet and greet everyone, and direct them to the registration tables, manned by members of the Cheylin Booster Club. The new Ford cars and pickups were lined up on the west side of the high school, ready to be driven.

"Most of the guys went for the trucks, like the F-250" Mr. Rueb said. "One neat feature, many of the women commented on, was the retractable boards on



TY CARMICHAEL is instructing Roy Shrader on rating his test drive for the Drive 4UR School test drive. Jane Brubaker, Mary Anne Orten and Jacob Brubaker are in the background.

the F-150, which make getting in and out much easier. The vehicle with the most test drives was the Edge."

"I'm very pleased with the turnout, and the fantastic help we re-

ceived from the booster club" he said. "We had drivers from Bird City, St. Francis, McDonald, Atwood, Goodland and Oberlin."

Ford puts on these events nationwide, and it is a win, win, win for

everybody. Ford gets the publicity, and the schools get the money.

"It's been a great day for Cheylin schools and Yost Ford. Thanks to all participants, and to the booster club for their help."

School memorabilia permanent storage sought

By Norma Martinez

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When McDonald and Bird City schools combined into the current Cheylin School systems, Bird City Rural High School had several artifacts of historical value to preserve. These artifacts consisted of over 55 years of alumni pictures, trophies and memorabilia of students and teachers that were a part of Bird City Rural High School. At that time, John and Hollis Depron said some of the history had already been destroyed.

When Bird City Rural High School was closed, these items were put into boxes and stored in

the furnace room of the basement of the school.

John and Hollis were custodians at Cheylin when they found them and took it upon themselves to salvage what was left of this memorabilia. These items were then located in the northwest corner room in the basement of Cheylin High School.

In 2011 Cheylin decided to use this room for a special education classroom, and the Fire Marshall said the items had to be removed. Kent Voorhies, as a representative of the Rescue and Restoration Committee, attended a board meeting in hopes of finding a

suitable place to relocate and preserve the history of Bird City Rural High School. More people came forward with more memorabilia to be added to this collection. But no suitable area was found.

Century II saw the importance in preserving this history, and tried to help them find a suitable location to preserve these 55 years of old history. They were unable to come up with a solution at that time.

Gary Brubaker appeared at the Sept. 9th Board meeting representing Century II. Century II is willing to furnish the school with a display, similar to what the

Cheylin Alumni have, if the school could provide a space for the case.

Now that the Wellness Center has replaced the weight room, the Board gave the committee permission to store these pictures in the weight room in the basement of the elementary building until a permanent spot can be located. Discussion was made during this meeting of the possibility of moving some lockers out of the bottom floor of the high school for space to display up to 50 years of Bird City Alumni photos and memorabilia from 1923-1975. They are still leaving this open for more discussion at a later date.



KARA RODRIQUEZ joins Cheylin as the Title I teacher.

Title I instructor returns to county

By Norma Martinez

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Kara Rodriguez is very familiar to Cheyenne County, as three years ago, she spent time in St. Francis when she did her student teaching at St. Francis Elementary School. At that time, she and her husband Tony Rodriguez fell in love with the county and said they would love to return to the area.

When the Title I position in Cheylin opened up, they decided this was a perfect opportunity for them to return to a county where they felt they would be able to make a difference in others lives as well as their own. Tony is establishing that goal as he serves as the undersheriff in the Cheyenne County Sheriff's department.

Mrs. Rodriguez was born in Teaneck, N.J., and graduated from West Morris Central High School in Chester, N.J.. She went on to attend Central Michigan University where she received her bachelors degree in elementary

education with minors in reading in the elementary grades and history. While attending college she worked in the recreation field, running a summer camp for underprivileged youth for Catholic Charities of Genesee and Shiawassee counties in Flint, Mich.

Prior to moving to Bird City she lived in Shoshoni, Wyo., and worked as a kindergarten teacher at St. Margaret's Catholic School in Riverton, Wyo.

Her goal for serving in the capacity of a Title I teacher at Cheylin is to provide students who are having difficulty with reading or math with the skills they need to feel confident with those subjects, and make a difference in these children's lives.

Mrs. Rodriguez said she is very excited about working with students in Cheylin and getting better acquainted with them and their parents along with meeting the residents of Bird City and McDonald.