

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick
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 There are countless tales of the selfless and courageous acts performed by the citizen soldiers of the "Greatest Generation" and this column could be used each week only for that. Along that line, the story of William Overstreet, Jr. must be shared.
 Born in 1921 in Virginia, Bill Overstreet was just another young man who rushed to serve after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. What set Bill apart though was his gift to fly. This would lead him to become a much decorated combat pilot over the airs of Europe.
 His most famous act became the thing of legends.
 In the Spring of 1944, his 357th Fighter Group was escorting bombers which came under attack by planes over German occupied Paris. Separating from

the group, Bill's P-51c Mustang tangled with a Messerschmitt Bf 109G.
 Bill had named his fighter the "Berlin Express", and it was in hot pursuit of the enemy. The German thought he could lose the other by flying over the anti-aircraft guns of the city. But the American continued to follow, even as the two planes flew below the arches of the Eiffel Tower.
 After the ME 109 went down, Bill flew at high speed, just feet above the river and made it safely back to England. That one action was said to have boosted the moral of the resistance fighters on the ground, and in 2009, Bill was awarded the French Legion of Honor in recognition.
 Bill Overstreet passed away recently, at the age of 92, but he sure left a great legacy for all who value freedom.

Bulletin Board

January birthday party
 The January birthday party will be on Monday, Jan. 13 at 3 p.m. at the Bird City Senior Center.
Home Circle Club
 Phyllis Wright will be hostess for the January Home Circle Club meeting. It will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 16, at the Methodist Church. 02
Bird City strategic planning meeting
 The third Strategic Planning meeting will be held at the American Legion hall at 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 9. Review updates to the goals will be set, and plans will be made for what happens next! Come and join in on the planning stages. 02
Board of education meeting
 This month's Cheylin Board of Education meeting will be held at 1 p.m. on Monday. They will have lunch in the cafeteria at 12:15.
Free wild game feed
 Saturday, January 11, a group of guys who like to hunt will be sponsoring a free wild game feed. It will be held at Riverside Recreation, starting at 7:00 pm, until the food is gone. This is a family night, and you are encouraged to bring out your

young hunters and have them try out the variety of game prepared. See ad elsewhere in this issue for more information. 02
Community club pot luck
 Community Club Annual Pot Luck and fun game night will be held Jan. 27, 6 p.m. at the Senior Center. Everyone is invited, so bring some friends, enjoy the great food and fellowship. prior to the meeting. 02
Free library tapes
 The library Board pulled many VHS tapes off the shelves. They are great movies. If you are still fortunate to have a VHS player, come early and pick your favorites. They are FREE. 01.
Cheylin school security
 All visitors must enter the west entrances for the elementary and high school buildings after 8:30 a.m. All other doors are locked for security purposes. Please report to the office upon entering building. There is visitor parking available in front of the high school west entrance and on the north side of the elementary building. Thanks for your cooperation.
Junior Hoops
 Cheylin Recreation Commission 2014 Junior Hoops Basketball clinics and league play start

Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 18 and 19, Jan. 25 and 26 & Feb. 1 and 2. Call Tina Sager @ 785-734-7141 for more information and/or to sign-up.
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 gives confidential support in a safe place of mutual help and comfort to all who have experienced the loss of a loved one.
Emergency number
 The phone number for Cheyenne County Communications Center (Dispatch) for non-emer-

gency 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 in need of assistance, please call the toll-free number 1-800-794-4624.



ALLIE FRISBIE makes a layup under the basket. Preparing to rebound are junior high head coach Ashley Raile, Kelsey Miller and high school coach Mindy Crow.

Times photo by Darci Shields

Traffic fatalities down

In the past year there were fewer deaths on Kansas roads than in any other year since the Kansas Department of Transportation began keeping records. In 2013, according to preliminary, unofficial reports there were 344 fatalities, compared to 405 in 2012.
 "One fatality is one too many and we are going to work hard to have this number decrease in 2014," said Kansas Secretary of Transportation Mike King. "In Kansas, we strongly emphasize safety in the engineering of our highways and that's an important component to keeping travelers safe."
 The previous low was 385 fatalities in 2008- the high was in 1969 when 780 people died. The department started keeping records in 1947.
 "Strategic investment in infrastructure, improvement in our seat belt rate, committed law enforcement and emergency responders, good laws and safer vehicles have all played into this dramatic reduction in fatalities," said Steven Buckley, Transportation Safety Engineer. "While the department is committed to improving our roadway system, we still must rely on drivers to do their part by eliminating distractions, never driving drunk and wearing a seat belt, every trip, every time."
 "We are encouraged by this record-setting year, but that is no consolation for the family and friends of the 344 persons lost in traffic crashes," Buckley said. "The challenge to engineers, law enforcement, emergency responders, advocates, and especially drivers for 2014 is to continue the downward trend."
 In Cheyenne County, there were no traffic fatalities in 2013.

McDonald News By Sandy Binning

Leonard Vyzourek proudly served as McDonald's co-grand marshal at the 125th celebration in May, which was an honor fittingly bestowed upon him. Most parades found him marching with the color guard displaying his dignity and grandeur. The home place east of McDonald exemplified his persona with well kept buildings. Leonard enjoyed dancing and encouraged family members to achieve musical goals. This community native's presence will be missed.
 Hal and Becky Antholz hosted a 4th birthday party for their granddaughter, Hallee Antholz, Saturday evening. Guests were Gilbert and Janice Antholz, Mindy and Quenton Crow, Craig and Jeri Antholz, Jonathan Alexander, Ken Beougher, Don and Patty Kueck, Cort and Megan Antholz, Lane and Hallee, Carol Mears, CJ Antholz, and Bud and Meridee Mears.
 Sunday afternoon guests of Gilbert and Janice Antholz were Hal

and Becky Antholz and CJ. Eleanor and Alison Swihart returned home Dec. 31 after taking a trip to Willsbrook Woods, Ireland to visit Matt and Karen Huber and children.
 Many McDonald residents gathered at the Federated Church New Years Eve. They enjoyed pizza, a movie, games, and great fellowship!
 Stan and Dana Palmer, Alisa, John, Lindsey, and Bethany, of Offerle, Kansas and David Temme of Angola, Indiana arrived New Years Day at the home of Kenneth and Phyllis Wilkinson. Later that afternoon Greg and Cheryl Wilkinson, Rod and Lisa Johnson, Josh and Sammie Johnson, and Shawn Wilkinson joined them for visiting and supper.
 Thursday brunch guests of Kenneth and Phyllis Wilkinson were Berdean Wilkinson, and Barbara Wagoner of Hays to visit with the relatives. Ryan Wilkinson also stopped by.

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m. 1 hrs. 59 min.

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues PG

Jan. 10-12 With the 70s behind him, San Diego's top rated newsmen, Ron Burgundy, returns to take New York's first 24-hour news channel by storm.

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

Children 12 & Under: \$4 All Others: \$6
3D Movies: Children 12 & Under \$6 All Others: \$8

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

Mark Your Calendars:

FLU VACCINE CLINIC

Thursday, Jan. 16
and
Thursday, Jan. 23
7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Cheyenne County Health Department

No appointment necessary – open over noon hour

Elevator Available

785-332-2381 – County Health Dept.

It is not too late to get your influenza vaccine for this flu season!

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Bird City News

Fourteen years ago, everyone worldwide was concerned about turning the clocks into a new century in the computer age. The clocks changed to the year 2000 with no glitches. The year 2012 ended with the first white Christmas since 2007.
 Christmas in 2013 was cold and windy. On Christmas, the regular folks left in town got together for dinner and had a good time playing cards, dominos and visiting at the senior center. Snow did not appear until this last weekend. The temperatures were cold enough that it just lay on the ground, but the streets were clear.
 New Year's Eve weather brought folks out to celebrate the end of the year.
 It was cold and sometimes windy, but nice enough that

residents were able to enjoy spending time with their families and friends.
 Celebrating began early in the day for some folks. Fred and Diane Stasser invited Tony and Kara Rodriguez and the Ray Martinez's for an early lunch, and spent time getting acquainted while playing Rummy. Mr. Rodriguez entertained everyone with the piano and Fred on the guitar and banjo.



"From the Horse's Mouth"

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American Profile
 Celebrating Hometown Life
 See American Profile magazine in this week's issue of

Bird City Times
 (available in local area only)

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