

Cheylin goes to regional music festival

Cheylin attended the regional music festival in Oberlin on Saturday, March 29, at the Decatur Community High School. If the student received a I rating, the student or students will participate in the state music festival in Wichita later this month.

Following are the results:
Vocal - Yazmin Yanez and Shayla Hubbard received I ratings. Casey Vandike, Itzel Cabos, Tommy Frisbie, Mary Ann Orten, Diana Garcia, Reece Leonard, Ellie Pochop, Elsa Burr, Allie Frisbie, Kevin Estrada, Kelsey Miller, and

Devon Janicke received II. The girls' ensemble and mixed ensemble both received II.

In instruments - Allie Frisbie on clarinet, Bergan Bock and Mary Ann Orten on flute, and Ivan Kemp on tuba received I ratings. Jorge Gonzalez, Ellie Pochop, Kelsey Miller, Danae Magnani, Matyas Cimbulka, Ivan Kemp, Diana Garcia Walker Janicke, Elizabeth Keltz, Reece Leonard, Tommy Frisbie, Devon Janicke, Eliza Gomez and the Brass ensemble received II ratings on their various instruments. Derek Vandike received a III.



THE MIXED ENSEMBLE performed at regional music festival on Saturday. Among those pictured in the ensemble (back row 1 to r) Mat Cimbulka, Jacob Brubaker, Walker Janicke, Connor Hazuka, Shawn Pochop, Bergan Bock; front row: Derek Vandike, Ivan Kemp, Reece Leonard, Devon Janicke, Casey Vandike. They are accompanied by Janice Churchwell. Times photo by Jane Brubaker.

Photo courtesy of Darci Shields

Entrepreneurship fair educates Cheylin students

By Norma Martinez
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Bird City Century II Development Foundation hosted Cheylin's Fifth Annual Entrepreneurship Fair on March 27, in the High School Gymnasium.

This year the E-Fair brought 15 participants with 14 projects.

Judges for this year's event were Cliff Leach, Steve Busse and Megan Horinek. The participants were judged on their business plan, product knowledge, marketing plans, product and financial projections, commitment to rural economy, attractiveness of their booth, and overall impression of the contestant's product during a verbal presentation.

The top three winners were awarded \$500, \$300, and \$200, to be used towards starting their business, or otherwise preferably put into their college savings. Winners were: (First Place) Reece Leonard, Leonard Hogs; (Second Place) Rachel Keltz, Smokin' Gun Horse Training; and (Third Place) Alexandra Hazuka, Pawsitive Dog Training.

Ethan Moore, J&E Dirtworks, and Jordan Janicke, Janicke Guided Hunts, were awarded the Bird City E-Community awards of \$100 each, Rusty Porubsky and Elizabeth Keltz, Cougar Pellets, received The Bank of Bird City Entrepreneurial Award for \$50 and Rachel Keltz, Smokin' Gun Horse Training, received The

Peoples State Bank of McDonald Entrepreneurial Award of \$50.

Other students that participated in this year's E-Fair were: Ernesto Rascon, Snowy Lawn; Erik Perez, E.L.S (Erik Lawn Service); Robert Glass, Robs Lawn Care; Angel Sanchez, APS; Gracie Glass, Gracies Baked Goods; Manuel Castillo, Manuelito's Mexicana; Tasha Ritchey, Tasha's Dance Studio; and Janet Granados, Janet's Bakery.

Resource partners who came to observe and offer their support for this event were: Network Kansas, Wichita; Kansas Small Business Development Center, Bird City Outreach office; Kansas Department of Commerce, Colby; Thomas County Economic Development; Sherman County Economic Development; and teachers from Colby Schools.

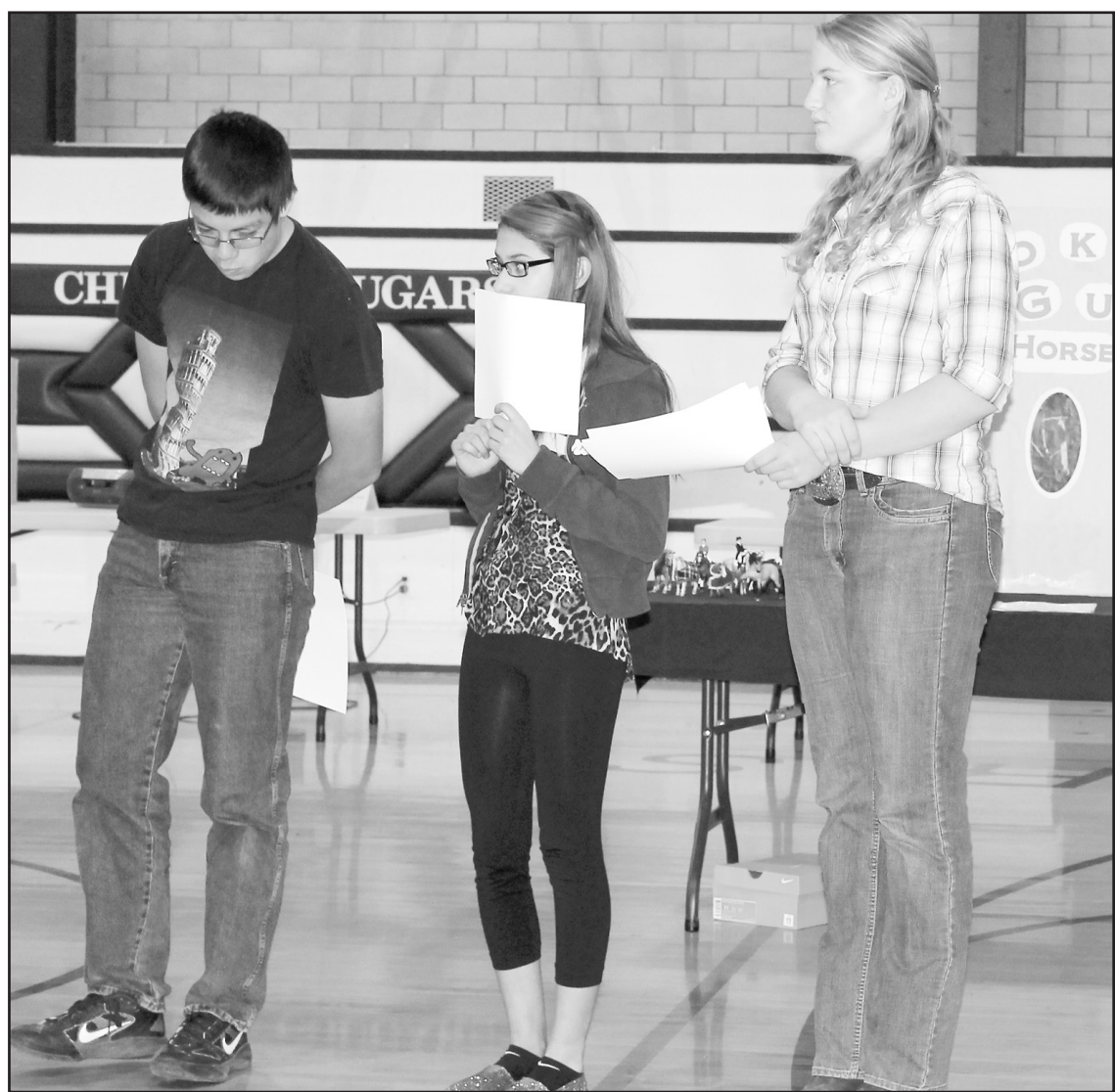
Local resident and entrepreneur Nick Ketzner, High Noon Feeds, was the keynote speaker. He talked about how, after graduation, he had to find work and didn't want to work away from home, so he decided to start a feed company. Four years later, he married, and he and his wife, Heidi, started his present business. They started out small, and as they developed enough contacts, they purchased a small elevator and filled it with a purchased grain mix which they sold to their customers. After a lot of shoveling and hard work, Mr. Ketzner said they were able to ex-

pand and put in a mill where they prepare their own feed. He and his wife were the only employees to begin with, but eventually, as the demand for their feed grew, they were able to employ his two brother-in-laws full-time, and even high school students during the summer.

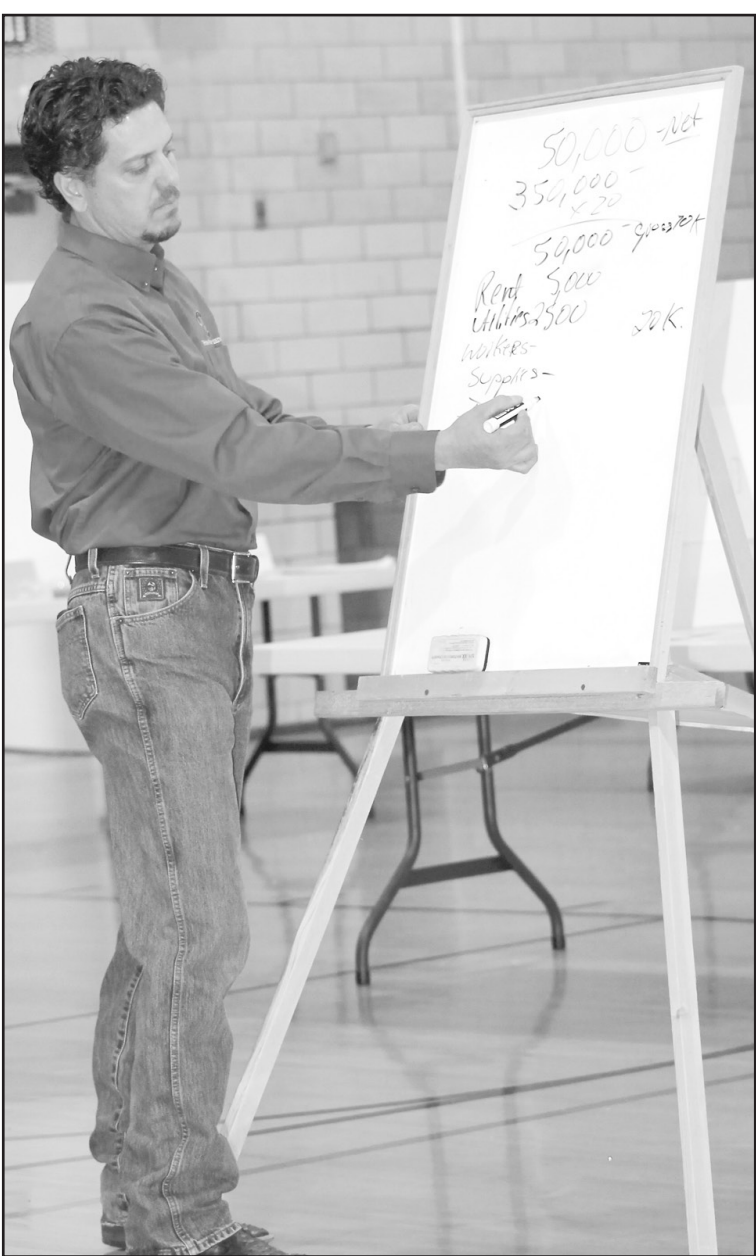
The most important thing in building a business is hard work, Mr. Ketzner told the group of junior high and high school students. Another important thing is collecting your money. You need to get paid and you can't do that without requiring a signed contract.

As a little scenario, Mr. Ketzner asked the students to stand up then asked them to sit down once he came to the amount they would like to gross a year after they finish school. The majority of them sat down at \$50,000, but Jayden Boyson (6th grader) stayed standing and said he wanted to gross 1 million. With figures, Mr. Ketzner wrote on a board as to what needs to be paid out for rent, utilities, workers, health insurance and taxes, he then demonstrated what it would take in sales a year to make \$50,000.

His final question was asking the students to name the different means of advertisement for building high revenue. Their answers were all good, but his answer was: Happy customers!



ANGEL SANCHEZ, Janet Granados and Rachel Keltz participated in the fifth annual Entrepreneurship Fair. Times staff photo by Norma Martinez.



NICK KETZNER gives a speech at the fair on entrepreneurship. Times staff photo by Norma Martinez.

Spring arrives with windy weather

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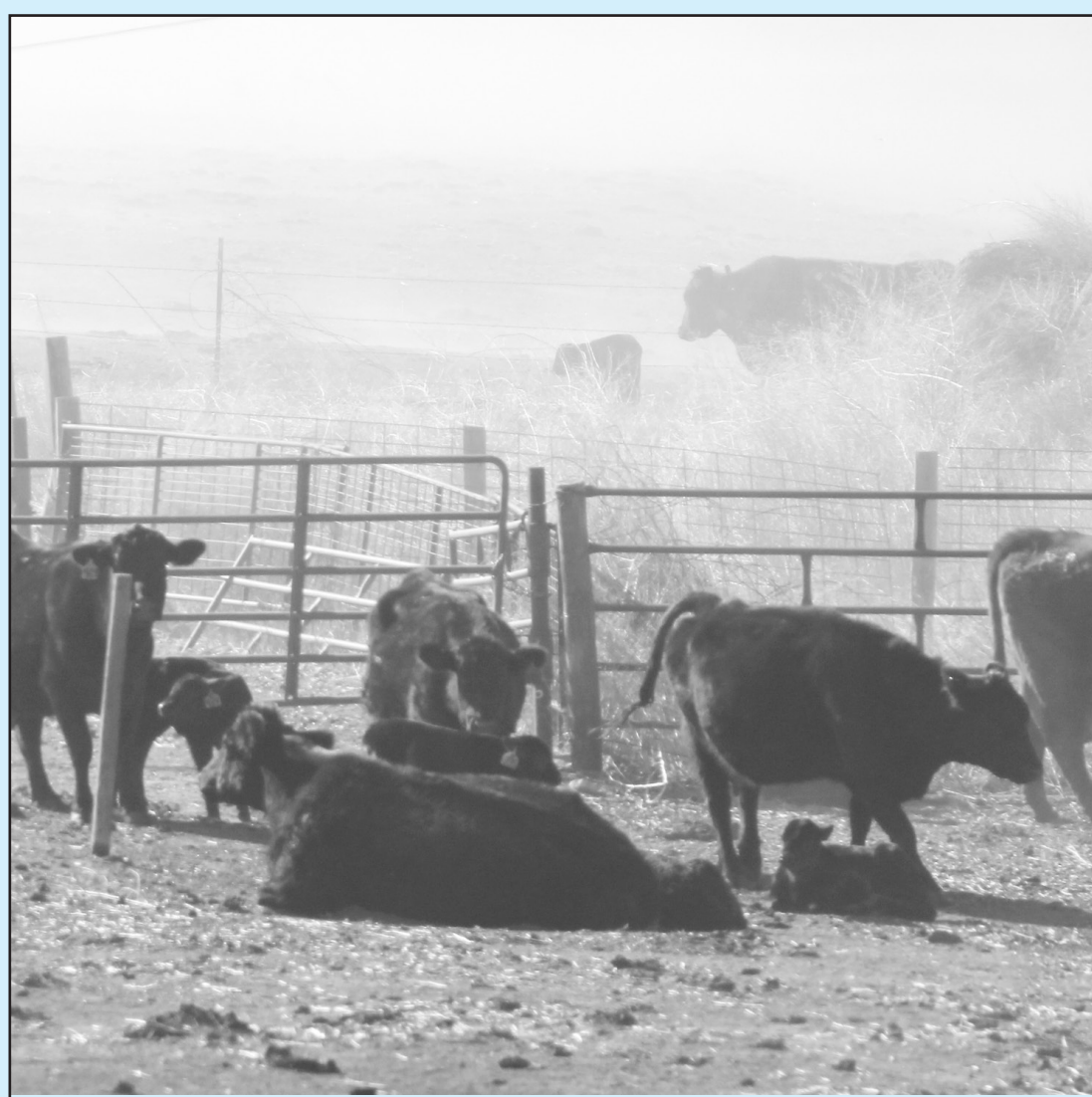
Signs of spring are in the air in spite of the sharp gusty winds and light wet snows. Driving on the country roads last Friday kept drivers alert watching for the deer.

The turkeys are beginning to return and join the group of three that remained behind and survived the winter. Within three miles, six rooster pheasants were seen. That's almost what was seen all last year. If this continues we should have lots of happy hunters come fall.

Farmers are working in the fields, spraying and preparing the ground for planting. Last month's wet snows were just what the winter wheat needed to turn the fields green. Lots of calves are following their moms around in the pastures.

The thermometers are fluctuating from 45 degrees to the upper 50s with cooler temperatures in the evenings. Winds are registering at 47 to 55 mph bringing wind chill factors and dust storms and causing low visibility in areas.

On Monday, deer were resting away from the wind, cows were calving in spite of the dust storms and cell phone alerts were issued in the area asking people to avoid traveling until after 7 p.m., due to poor visibility from the dust. U.S. 36 was closed off toward Atwood. Later in the evening the winds died down but temperatures had dropped to 17 degrees. Next week weathermen are predicting we will go into spring weather.



WIND KICKS UP as colder weather moves back into the area on Monday. Despite the wind and dust storms, the cows were still calving. Later in the day the winds died down and temperatures dropped. Times staff photo by Norma Martinez.