

By Norma Martinez

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Thursday morning the school was swarming with busy bee beavers. The students from preschool to 12th grade and the teachers, faculty and staff were busy working inside and outside with their Pride-in-Your-School projects. The end of the day they all went home tired but left feeling very proud of their ability to not just spruce things up for the graduation but to clean house from top to bottom. Each class had their assigned projects and all the class students worked together as a full support team and teachers to get their projects completed before lunch time.

The kindergarten and preschool classes started by picking up papers in the elementary school yard, moved on to pick up the pinecones from underneath the high school pine trees, then to clean up the patron room. They had time to spare so their teacher Kayla Bursch ended up by getting her exercising by marching them zig zag across the grass and stopping to pick up any missed papers or debris and hopping across any concrete areas. The farther they went the higher their legs were raised in the air. Bridgett Pochop led the rear to make sure they all stayed in a straight line.

First and second grade students with their teachers Morgan Kauten and Hannah Louderbaugh recycled books and helped pack things up for the classroom moves that would take effect for next year. Morgan will be teaching a combined first and second grade class next year and Hanna will be teaching third grade. The class did get time off to go outside for the fresh air and recess and participate in the refreshments prepared by Jane Brubaker. Third graders picked up trash on the school grounds and football field, and helped Hanna make her move to the third grade classroom.

Fourth graders had a lesson in gardening as they prepared and worked in the flower beds on the south side of the building, planters northeast and southeast side, level classroom with their teacher Tammi Carmichael and Scott Angelos. Inside they separated the books that needed to be discarded in the classroom and library books.

Fifth graders gathered the tumbleweeds with Randy Miller and helped with boxes of discarded books and classroom moves. The senior students were in charge of the fire pit where the tumbleweeds were burned. The seniors who were not monitoring the fire were enjoying relaxing in the back of

the old hillbilly-looking truck.

Sixth graders cleaned in the junior high storage room and locker rooms and the fun part was to wash the large Cheylin bus. With close supervision they managed to stay dry while doing this. Randy Miller supervised this project to make sure they were doing all the washing and drying properly.

Seventh graders cleaned both lofts above the stage, the stage, the PA room in the hall, and the room under the stage to the west. This was the most tiring as they had to climb up and down narrow stairways lugging large items that were piled on the trailer out front. Rose and Dennis Hengen assisted with this project. Leticia Estrada was running a dust mop over the stage and said "I welcome all these energetic helpers as it makes my work easier to prepare everything into tip top shape for all the visitors coming to Saturday's graduation."

Eighth graders cleaned the football and track out-buildings, and cleaned out the high school uniform and equipment room. Anthony Blair was in charge of supervising this project. The high school uniforms were all separated and boxed up in the gym then taken to the cafeteria where they were separated out on tables and after eating their lunch all students were allowed to take two items.

The ninth graders had lots of fun with the feathers and finery in the prom room. There were lots of wood cutouts boards of all lengths and sizes and props that had to be carried outside and piled up in front. The boys had fun displaying the florescent pink feathers and glittery beads. Next they moved outside to wash windows. One group of four girls didn't have a ladder and in order to reach the top of the windows stacked each other on shoulders to reach the upper part while the other two stood at their sides to make sure no one fell off. They then moved on to text book sorting, collection and removal.

Tenth graders made sure they wore the grubbier cloths to school as they had to clean out the ag shop with the assistance of Max Keltz. The shop was actually in good shape with the exception of the accumulation of metal chairs and desks. These were all loaded into the horse trailer brought in by Eddie Frisbie.

Eleventh grade learned about landscaping as they laid pavers, straightened them and dug out areas to level and maintain the ones in the playground area. Then after they finished that they moved to



**CHEYLIN FOURTH GRADE** students clean up the flower garden and outside the school during Pride Day.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

the front of the buildings where they installed pavers around the trees, shrubs, and landscaped areas. Before installing the pavers they had to remove the grass from around the trees. This project was assisted by Susan Jensen.

The 12th graders scraped paint from the playground equipment. Then the fun and most fascinating part began for them. After donning rubber gloves they dipped their hand in the paint and ran it up and down the playground equipment formed from pipes. This allowed them to smoothly cover the pipe with their bright colors of paint.

The fourth grade class took time to stop their gardening and watch in awe to see this being done. Words of wisdom from one unidentified student, was, "Look over there." They are painting the swings! Why did they have to paint them green and yellow? Why not blue and white? They ended up being all different colors of the basics.

Michael Barnett, Cheyenne Hewitt and Jacob Brubaker were assigned to the technology department to provide a ladder, shovel and rake to the areas where they were needed.

At the end of the morning the front of the high school entry was covered with huge piles of discarded trash, the box trailer and a bin was completely full of broken down boxes. The street was full of trailers that were fully loaded down. All the items loaded on the trailer and piled in the yard were then loaded into the large horse trailer to be separated at the dump. All the students were ready for a hardy lunch of hamburgers, potato salad and fresh fruit prepared by Tina Sager, Linda Schneider and Leah Rambat. All the buildings and outside areas were neat, tidy and all the facilities were ready for the summer crew to come after next week and start their preparations for the 2014-2015 school year.

## Baby boy is born

Kendall Tinnes and Matt Carrow of Parker, Colo., are announcing the birth of their son, Wyatt Michael Carrow. He weighed 6 pounds 7 ounce and was 20 1/2 inches. Grandparents are Tom and Dee Carrow, Atwood. He was born May 12, 2014. Wyatt

## Obituary

**Darwin Eugene Higgins**  
Dec. 23, 1929 - May 9, 2014

Darwin Eugene Higgins (known to most as Higg) was born on Dec. 23, 1929, in Arcadia, Neb., to William and Ruby (Matheson) Higgins. He passed away at the age of 84 on May 9, 2014, in Oshkosh, Neb.

At the age of 5, Higg and family moved to Comstock, Neb., where he attended high school. After high school, he attended the University of Wyoming in Laramie, Wyo., for one year. Higg came to northwest Kansas in the summer of 1948, and worked on the farm of Francis Hurst southeast of Atwood. He met his wife, Helen Phelps and was married on April 10, 1949. From this marriage came two girls, Lori and Joni.

Higg enlisted in the Army, served from 1952-1954, and was discharged while at Fort Sheridan, Ill. In 1955, he then went to Fort Riley as a purchasing officer for the Civil Service.

Four years later, in 1959, Higg returned to Atwood and began working for Northwest Kansas Rural Electric. In 1971, he left the company and began his own electrical business in Bird City, called Higgins Electric.

Later in life, Higg worked at buying, restoring and selling antiques. He got lots and lots of joy meeting and talking to new people while working in the antique business.

On Feb. 29, 1988, Higg married Beverly (Antholz) Richardson in

Bird City. They were married by Pastor Charles Miller.

With this marriage, he was blessed with three stepsons, Kyle (Deb) of Grant, Neb.; Kyle (Amy) of Oshkosh, and Kurt (Tammy) of Cimarron; many grandchildren, Josh of Waco, Neb.; Jeremiah (Karyn) of Aurora, Colo.; Jarod (Jamie) of Owasso, Okla.; Justin of Grant, Neb.; Julianna of Spearfish, S.D.; Derek (Mollie) of Denver, Colo.; Dallas (Aimee) of Wray, Colo.; Dalyn of Manhattan; Devinn of Oshkosh; Wyatt of Hays; and one great-granddaughter, BrynAn Marie. Other family members include his brother Doug (Shirley) of Central City, Neb.; two nieces and two nephews, Aunt Merle Matheson of Sargent, Neb. and dear friend Michael Blakeley of Oshkosh.

Higg was a member of the Wesleyan Church in Bird City. Pastor Dan Carson was very influential in Higg's spiritual life.

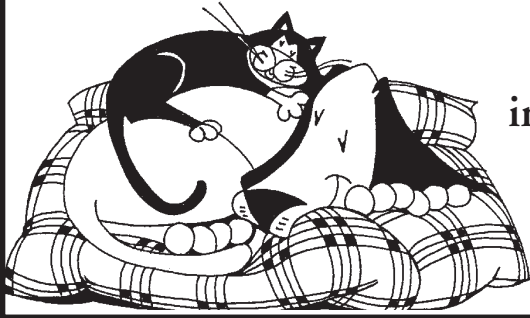
In November 2012, Higg and Beverly moved to Oshkosh. Due to health issues in April 2013, Higg went to the nursing home and died there while in special care.

Higg is preceded in death by his parents, wife Helen, one infant son, brother-in-law Roy Antholz and sister-in-law Hester Burr.

Services to be held at the Wesleyan Church in Bird City on Saturday, May 24, with Pastor Carson presiding. Inurnment via a private service will follow in Atwood.

## Republican Valley Vet Clinic Rabies Clinic For Cats & Dogs

Wednesday, May 28 • 1-7 p.m.  
Saturday, June 7 • 8 a.m.-1 p.m.



For more information, call the vet clinic at 332-2262.

## NOTICE • NOTICE

The St. Francis Herald and Bird City Times will be closed on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26th.

Ads and copy DEADLINE for the May 29 issue will be Tuesday, May 27 at 5 p.m.

Newspapers will be delivered one day late.

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## The Nature Conservancy

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**The Nature Conservancy  
invites you to enjoy a day on the prairie at  
the Smoky Valley Ranch Visitors Day**

**Saturday, June 7, 2014**  
All day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Smoky Valley Ranch south of Oakley, in Logan County, KS

*The Visitors Day will offer a close-up look at a working cattle and bison ranch. Driving and hiking tours will showcase conservation grazing practices and research. Presentations will cover early settlement and Native American history.*

To RSVP or for more information, please contact Shelby Stacy at The Nature Conservancy sstacy@tnc.org or 785-233-4400

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## Yost Ford Announces the Cheyenne County Recipients of the "Built Ford Tough" FFA Academic Scholarships

Ty Carmichael  
Cheylin High School

Bailey Merklin  
St. Francis High School

Each received a \$1,000 scholarship to be used to further their education. Ford began this program nationwide in 1997, and through this program, has donated over \$8.1 million to deserving FFA recipients. Yost Ford is proud to have been a part of this tremendous program for the last 8 years!

## The New Yost Ford