



**TRI-POD THE CAT, along with owner Brandi French of North Dakota, shows off his fancy cat house.**

*Times staff photo by Norma Martinez*

# Young Miss shares joy in heartland roots

For the past two years, there has been little interest in the Cheyenne County Young Miss program. Last year, Bailey Merklin was the only junior girl to sign up and this year, Mariah Beikman, junior, was the only entry.



**Beikman**

A Young Miss has several duties during the year including tossing the first bundle of wheat into the threshing machine each day at the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show and being the emcee at the 4-H style revue held on Monday, the week of the Cheyenne County Fair.

The Young Miss committee agreed that Mariah should write an essay. Following is Mariah's essay.

**Raised in the Heartland**  
*By Mariah Beikman*  
2015 Cheyenne County Young Miss

I'm driving down Main Street, on a warm summer night, windows rolled down with my favorite country song blasting. I see the sun setting just behind the elevator and realize this scene is my hometown. The place I took my first steps and where I will graduate from high school. They say it takes a village to raise a child and I believe Saint Francis is my village. Being raised in the heartland has shown me many cool aspects of small town life that I would be deprived of not having lived here.

In my years of being a part of

our small, quaint town I have been blessed to be able to meet and talk to many of my elders and learn from them. Their stories have shown me that having every luxury is not what makes Saint Francis paradise. It is the relationships you have and simple joys you find, in life that make it paradise.

Saint Francis, being the close knit community that it is, means knowing almost everyone in town. Being able to greet and talk to people is a special feeling that the big city folks don't get to enjoy. When in a time of crisis we pull together and realize how wonderful rural life really is. Always having the feeling of your entire community backing you in your time of need is why I believe Saint Francis has been a great place to grow up.

Not all things however, are perfect about our small town. I do realize that we are sort of out in no man's land and do not have all modern conveniences. These being a shoe store, a fashion outlet, or even a prom dress shop. It's not always ideal to drive at least three hours for our closest shopping outlet, but it must be done. Although we don't have everything right at our fingertips, it's still an amazing place to live.

Saint Francis has been a wonderful place to grow up. While it may not have always been absolutely perfect every second of every day, or offer the newest and latest trends and conveniences, it is and always will be my hometown. My little rural town on the high plains is a part of the heartland and will always have a part of my heart.

# Temporary residents enjoy Bird City living

*By Norma Martinez*

Temporary residents of Bird City, Sam and Brandi French, came from North Dakota and parked their trailer home in the TNT Trailer Park, along with a fancy cat house belonging to their cat, Tri-Pod. He got his name by showing up at their door last year with a broken leg. On Saturday, he was hooked to a long chain attached to his condo type cat house, and enjoying the sun.

The French's have been here for two months, and will be here for another two or three months. Sam works for the Elk Horn Pipe Line in Wray, Colo., and Brandi is a

traveling occupational therapist and now working in Phillipsburg. They stopped at Bird City, and because of the friendliness of the town people, they hooked their camper trailer up at the TNT Trailer Park. Wray is only a 90 minute commute for Mr. French, and a two-hour commute for Mrs. French to Phillipsburg, so it is about a half-way meeting point for them after working a full day.

Brandi said she feels right at home here, and says she spends her spare time babysitting a rose bush in the trailer park, and being entertained by a bunny with only one eye, which she has named One Eye Jack.

# School board adopts resolution for continuous annual tax levy, citizens given 40 days to respond

*By Norma Martinez*

In last week's and this week's Bird City Times newspaper a public notice was published by the Cheylin Board of Education to pass a resolution to levy a tax for capital outlay funds. This came about after the Legislature passed an expansion of the scope of eligible expenditures for capital resolution.

After deep discussion, during the June 9 board meeting the board adopted the resolution authorizing the board to make a continuous and permanent annual tax levy in an amount not to exceed eight mills. Citizens have 40 days from June 26, to file a claim protesting this petition and if no one submits a claim, the resolution will take effect when the board adopts the 2014-2015 budget on Aug. 11.

This new law will allow the board to review the mill rate annually and adjust the number of mills levied up or down depending on the revenue needs for the upcoming school year.

The additional expenditures that can be charged to the capital outlay fund include maintaining the school district property and equipment and an acquisition of performance uniforms and software. Full lists of what the board can use these funds for are listed in the public notice.

**Wellness landscaping**

During the May board meeting members had passed a motion to rock the entire grounds around the wellness center with rock. After checking into the price of rock and discussing rock versus landscaping, the board voted to rescind last month's motion and go with Steve Woody's bid for \$3,615 with Power Service Company. This bid includes planting buffalo seed over the entire grounds, and four trees. A separate bid was accepted for \$555 for temporary hoses, sprinklers and timers to be set up and used to keep the newly seeded ground wet. This work was to be completed by the first of July.

Ken Krien is donating his labor and equipment for the necessary dirt work for the landscaping. Martin Burton has \$10,000 available through Bird City Century II funds he would like to use on purchasing the equipment needed to maintain

the landscaping once it is installed. The previous committee consisting of Martin Burton, Amy Hendricks, Anita Pochop, Superintendent Shelly Angelos and Kody Tegmeiere will reconvene to determine equipment needed and provide recommendations to the board for this project. Ms. Angelos will then give Mr. Burton the go ahead to move forward.

**Health insurance**

Due to the high cost of health insurance, the board has been looking into different options. A committee was formed consisting of board members Belinda Serrano, Kelly Leach and Jane Brubaker and three teachers. The superintendent and board clerk will do the preliminary work and will be working with a company called Benefit Health Advisor. This company is an independent agent/consultant and will handle the entire bid process of gathering quotes from different insurance companies who put the plan out to bid annually. They also provide services through conducting employee meetings to assist members with claim questions and advise/educate their clients on health care reform. This company has provided these same services for Dodge City Community College and Dodge City

School. The following time lines for potential insurance changes have been set by the committee: The district will provide Benefit Health Advisor the necessary information to send out for bid by early August, the board will review quotes and make a decision by September, employee meetings and open enrollment will be held during October and coverage will begin in January.

**Summer projects completed**

Reports from Superintendent Angelos were given that the tile in the bathrooms nearest the cafeteria has been replaced. The window project is on schedule and should be completed by the scheduled completion date.

**Back-to-school community barbeque**

The date is set for the back-to-school barbeque at the Bird City Park for Aug. 12, at 6 p.m. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided by the Cheylin Booster Club and board members will cook and prepare the meal.

**New alumni trophy's home**

The board agreed to donate the Bird City school trophy cases to the Bird City alumni and they will be moved from the third floor of the High school to the Thresher Show grounds. These cases were original-

ly built by John Dapron who served many years as the Bird City janitor.

**In other business**

- The board approved the closing of the books for the fiscal school year.

- The board approved the Schools Quality Education membership for the new school year in the amount of \$325.

- The board approved the junior high and senior high schedules presented by the superintendent for the new school year with the note it could be changed as deemed necessary. The changes that were made were: course titles and the seminar time on Wednesday is adjusted allotting 21 minutes rather than the 29 allowed last year.

- The updated 2014-2015 calendar was approved with the exception of Sept. 26, which is no longer a school day.

- Salaries for the classified staff for this year were approved with no increases in salaries.

**Next meeting**

The budget hearing is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. prior to the regular monthly Board meeting on Aug. 11.

This report was taken from the unapproved minutes recorded by Shelley Angelos.

# Public Notice

## Cheylin board to pass resolution

Published in the Bird City Times, Bird City, Kansas, Thursday, July 3, 2014. (27)

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Separate sealed BIDS will be received at the City Clerk's Office, City of Bird City, 111 East 4th Street, Bird City, Kansas on July 24, 2014, until 3:30 PM, Local Time, and then such BIDS shall be publicly opened and read aloud in the City Office for two separate bid packages; furnishing all equipment, labor, materials and appurtenances required to construct approximately 1600 lineal feet of 6" water main, replacement of water meters, and installation of insert valves and appurtenances and other such work as may be incidental to **WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS (DISTRIBUTION MAINS AND METERS)**; and to provide and install variable frequency drives and/or electrical soft starts and other such work as may be incidental to **WELL #6 & #7 UPGRADES**.

The City (Owner) reserves the right to reject any or all bids; and to waive irregularities or informalities to accept the BID it deems most beneficial. Bids received after the specified time of closing will be returned unopened. The Owner will accept only those sealed bids, either hand delivered or received via U.S. Mail or other commercial carrier. Items transmitted by facsimile or electronically will not be accepted.

The Contract Documents may be examined at the following locations:

Miller & Associates, 1111 Central Avenue, Kearney, NE 68847  
Miller & Associates, 109 East 2nd Street, McCook, NE 69001  
City of Bird City, 111 East 4th Street, Bird City, KS 67731

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of Miller & Associates, Consulting Engineers, P.C. located at 1111 Central Avenue, P.O. Box 306, Kearney, Nebraska 68847, Telephone 308/234-6456 upon payment for the following amounts:

	½-Size	Full Size	Refund
Water System	\$65	\$95	\$15
Improvements (Distribution Mains & Meters)			
Well #6 & #7 Upgrades	\$60	-	\$10

Each BIDDERS will be required to submit with his proposal, a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond made payable, without condition, to the City Clerk, Bird City, Kansas, in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the proposal.

Attention of the BIDDERS is particularly called to the requirements as to the conditions of employment to be observed and minimum Davis Bacon wage rates to be paid under the contract, Section 3 of the 1968 Housing & Urban Development Act, Section 109 of the 1984 Housing and Community Development Act, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 (Nondiscrimination in Employment), and Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act.

BIDDERS on this work will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246. Requirements for bidders and contractors under this order are explained in the specifications.

Contractors and subcontractors on American Recovery and Reinvestment Act federally assisted construction projects are required to pay their laborers and mechanics not less than those established by the U.S. Department of Labor. A current wage decision containing the appropriate building and/or heavy type rates is included in the specifications for bidding purposes.

In addition, labor standard provisions, EPA Form 5720-4, Davis Bacon and Related Acts, for federally assisted contracts are found in the federal assurances of these specifications.

Bidders must fully comply with Subpart C of 2 CFR Part 180 and 2 CFR Part 1532, entitled Responsibilities of Participants Regarding Transactions (Doing Business with Other Persons). Contractors, subcontractors, or suppliers that appear on the Excluded Parts List System at [HYPERLINK "http://www.epls.gov"](http://www.epls.gov) [www.epls.gov](http://www.epls.gov) are not eligible for award of any contracts funded by the Kansas Public Water Supply Loan Fund.

Bidders on this work, including sub-contractors or vendors, will be required to comply with the Kansas Act Against Discrimination (K.S.A. 44-1001 et. seq.) and the Kansas Age Discrimination in Employment Act (K.S.A. 44-1111 et. seq.).

All contractors and subcontracts exceeding \$100,000, at any tier under a KPWSLF Loan Agreement shall comply with the Anti-Lobbying Act, Section 319 of Public Law 101-121, and file an Anti-Lobbying Certification form, and the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form, if required, to the next tier above.

The Owner is an equal opportunity employer and requires all contractors and consultants to comply with all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations.

The Owner, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, sex, age and disability/handicap in consideration for an award.

(SEAL) CITY OF BIRD CITY (OWNER)

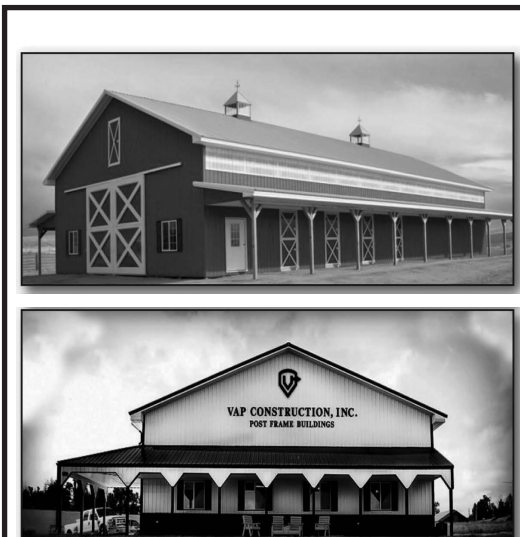
ATTEST:

By \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Mayor

## The Saint Francis Herald & Bird City Times

# Office will be closed



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