

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick
mccormickcasey@rocketmail.com

Where does the time go? It seems like just yesterday that our youngest son, Joey, was this cute little kid with a space between his front teeth.

He still has that space, but last Sunday he turned 16. How did this happen?

It doesn't seem all that long ago that my twin brother and I hit that momentous age. We were sharing an early 1970s Jeep CJ-5, taking turns having it for a day. This worked out very well until three

days after our birthday. That was the day I decided to roll the Jeep on a side street in Wheat Ridge, Colo.

My poor family. Mom cried, Dad shook his head and my "half-egg" didn't speak to me for a while. But I did learn a powerful lesson from that experience: turn into a skid.

So today, I'm the one shaking my head in disbelief. How did this ever happen?

I'm gonna have to teach Joey how to turn into a skid.

Introducing

Paisley Grace Sowers
Jared and Brook Sowers of Independence, Mo., announce the birth of their daughter, Paisley Grace, born April 19, 2011. She weighed 6 pounds, 13.5 ounces and was 18 inches long.

Her grandparents are David and Teresa Sowers of St. Francis, Vicky Royall of Statesville, N.C., and Steve Kennedy of Boonville, N.C. Great-grandparents are Betty Kennedy of Boonville and Judy York of Yadkinville, N.C., the late Charles Royall, Richard Kennedy, Raymond and Sharon Schlup and Lewis and Audrey Sowers.



Sowers

Keely Taylor Brunswig
Keely Taylor Brunswig, daughter of Preston and Amber Brunswig was born April 5, 2011, at 6:47 a.m. in Wichita. She weighed 7 pounds and 15 ounces and was 18 1/2-inches long. She is welcomed home by a brother, Jace and a sister, Aubrey.

Grandparents are Diana Brunswig-Bosso and Mark Bosso of Arnold, Mo., Chris and Melinda Taylor of Arkansas City and John Brunswig of Haigler, Neb.



Brunswig



Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Cheyenne County has a good number of "contractors" doing home repair, construction, and remodeling. A few of them are excellent, some are good, and others should just go away. An "excellent" contractor, gives a definitive bid, shows up on schedule, does the work to spec, and bills within a reasonable range of the quote. I have had some excellent experiences with a couple of "contractors" and some horrible ones with others. I had a "contractor" recently who looked at my needs on a Wednesday, assured me they would be out on the following Saturday to do the work. On FRIDAY afternoon I called to see if any additional material was needed, and was informed that they really couldn't get to it for a couple of weeks! Huh? Would they have

bothered to let me know that if I hadn't called, or just not shown up? We'll never know. A couple of days later, they did call to let me know they wouldn't be doing the work at all. As my BS detector had redlined after the Friday call, I had already engaged another "contractor" who showed up, did excellent work and is almost finished. Prior to this, I had a "contractor" who was supposed to do the job, but in 10 months, never got to it. I had one who started a job (barely) and never came back to finish it (lawsuit). I had several who said they would be out to quote work and never showed, never called. Anyone who has work to be done, should get recent references, a quote in writing with a firm start date, and not be asked for money "up front". Beware!

Chuck Kribs, Bird City

The Bird City Times
(USPS 056-720)

Serving the communities of Bird City and McDonald

Karen Krien, Editor
Norma Martinez, Co-Editor
Karen Krien - Publisher
Anita Schmid - Adv. Mgr.
Periodicals postage paid at Bird City, Kansas 67731-0220
Phone (785) 734-7031
Fax (785) 332-3001
Or Phone (785) 332-3162
E-Mail bc.times@nwkans.com
Published every Thursday
\$33 per year in Cheyenne and surrounding counties; other in-state \$36 and all out-of-state subscriptions, \$40 (strictly in advance).

Postmaster: Send address correction to P.O. Box 220 Bird City, Kansas 67731-0220

Official City Newspaper
Published Weekly By
Nor'West Newspapers, Incorporated
Bird City, KS 67731

Bird City Times

Renew your Times subscription or subscribe today!

RATES
Kansas - \$33 Area - \$36
Out-of-State - \$40
College:
Kansas - \$30
Out-of-State - \$33

Just cut out this coupon and mail it to:
The Bird City Times
P.O. Box 220
Bird City, Kansas 67731

Name _____
Address _____
State _____
Zip _____

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

Bird City Times
(available in local area only)

Brought to you by
The Times

"Your sponsorship could be right here."
For more information contact: Anita at
785-332-3162

Bulletin Board

Potluck
The senior center potluck will be held at noon on Monday, May 23.

Offices closed on May 30
The deadline for ads, pictures and stories for the June 2 issue of The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times will be at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 31, as the offices will be closed on Memorial Day (Monday, May 30). The newspapers will be published and delivered one day late that week.

Cheyenne Valley Cemetery service
Cheyenne Valley Cemetery Memorial Day service, south of

Wheeler, will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, May 30. Bring a sack lunch to enjoy during the annual business meeting.

Deadline for comments
The deadline for people to comment and/or complain about the changes in pick up times at the post offices in St. Francis and Bird City must be postmarked by May 24. Contact: Consumer Affairs Manager, Central Plains District, P.O. Box 199504, Omaha, NE 68119-9504. The proposed time for mail pick up in St. Francis is 2:15 p.m. (is now 4:40 p.m.); and Bird City pick up will be 2:40 p.m. (is now at 3:45).

Weight watchers walk
Come one/come all at 6 p.m. tonight (Thursday) to the United Methodist Church for a 5K Weight Watchers walk with friends and family. Watermelon will be served following the walk. For more information, call Vickie Schliep at 332-2479.

Bird City Alumni
The Bird City Alumni will be held on Saturday, May 28, at the Bird City Legion hall. Tickets can be purchased until May 21 at First National Bank, Bird City, and Hometown Market. See classified for more information.

Narcotics Anonymous
Narcotics Anonymous meetings are held at 104 W Webster/Methodist Education Building on Sunday nights at 8 p.m. and 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 or in need of assistance, please call the toll-free number 1-800-794-4624.

Village Update

Jeffrey Paulsen, Administrator St. Francis Good Samaritan Village

I would again like to thank everybody who has been supportive of the Village from the day of the fire until now. We were out of operation from Oct. 19 until March 14. As most of you know, for those 5 months staff and residents were scattered. We are now regrouped with 22 residents and 40 staff with the completion of Phase I of the recovery. This brings us to the next step, Phase II.

The planning work of Phase II is in motion. Many of you have noticed that the blue tarps are still up on the south roof, and that the burned center section of the building has not had any work going on, thinking nothing is happening. In fact, the Society is working with a long-term care engineering and design firm which has submitted architectural drawings to the State of Kansas for approval of the modified reconstruction of the center section. The plans include the addition of three private rooms at the west side, and three offices at the east side, with a connecting corridor.

When the connecting corridor is re-established, residents will again have wheel chair access to the main dining room and the activities lounge. Approval on the design is expected within two or three weeks, at which time the demolition of the center section will begin. In preparation for that, the center section has been gutted including the removal of the old asbestos floor tile. Of the existing structure, only the north wall will be left standing. The timeline calls for the center section to be completed in September-October.

Then the temporary dining rooms, activities room, and therapy room in the west wing will be re-converted to resident semi-private rooms, opening up ten beds. With the three added private rooms, our bed capacity will be at 35. Before the fire, we had 50 beds. At 35 beds the Village should again be a financially self-sustaining operation.

In consideration of the upcoming vote on county ownership of the Village, I would like to point out that of the five Good Samaritan facilities in Northwest Kansas, St. Francis is the only one which is not county-owned. The facilities in Atwood, Oberlin, Goodland, and Sharon Springs are county-owned with the Good Samaritan Society as the contracted operator. This is the same arrangement that the Society is putting before the Cheyenne County Commission, subject to voter approval.

There will be a lot of information and pro and con discussion in the coming weeks about this vote--what direction is best for the community, how much of an investment are taxpayers prepared to make, etc. At 35 beds, the Village should not require much taxpayer support, especially if the Village and Cheyenne County Hospital are considered jointly in terms of county financing. If the question of construction at the Village--to add assisted living units, or more private rooms, or an Alzheimer's Unit--is on the table, that is a whole other discussion in terms of taxpayer financing and the long-term economic viability of Cheyenne County.

In short, we as a community are at a crossroads. I recognize Tom Keller and the Community Builders for their commitment and involvement to promote the best interests of Cheyenne County, and to Cheyenne County Hospital Administrator Les Lacy for inviting the Kansas Rural Health Works Program to get involved in the planning process.

Personally, my family and I enjoy being a part of the Cheyenne County frontier community. It is a wonderful community, and we hope and pray that voters will come to a consensus on how to best move forward.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

What weather from sweaters to shorts and back again in three days. The Thursday rain of nearly an inch was wonderful and the cool weather is just what the wheat crop needs. The wheat looks as good as I have ever seen it.

The flowering crabs in Bird Avenue, the crabs at the park and the Bradford pears there were at their zenith the past 10 days. Yards look great, tulips and jonquils have been blooming. Today is Friday the thirteenth, not an unlucky day in my book.

Thursday my wife and I attended a luncheon at the Legion Hall. We helped initiate the new white tables and chairs that the legion and Century II have purchased. Wonderful chairs and the tables are light weight. This is a huge improvement for the legion. The fund raisers were well worth the effort. Those of you from out of town can look forward to the improvements at the legion the next time you are back to Bird City. Life is good.

Stan Dorsch
Bird CityDo

Team misses qualifying for state golf meet

The Cheylin golf team just missed qualifying for the state golf meet by two strokes on Monday.

They had two strong performances from Kenan Reeh and Wil Orten who shot an 86 and 92 respectively. Reed had to play off for third, fourth and fifth place and ended up with fourth. Wil placed 10th.

Both Reeh and Orten qualified individually for the state meet.

The Cheylin team came in fourth with a 384, Sylvan Lucas was first, Tipton, second and LaCrosse, third with a score of 382.

Other members of the Cheylin team were Adam Orten with a 101, Rubin Razo with a 105 and Alex Chaparro with a 106.

The top three teams in sand greens qualify for state and the top three individuals on a non-qualifying team are eligible for state.

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m. 1 hr. 55 min.

Thor 3D

May 20, 21 & 22 Action/Adventure, Science Fiction/
Fantasy and Adaptation
PG-13 for sequences of intense sci-fi action and violence.

Chris Hemsworth, Anthony Hopkins, Natalie Portman, Tom Hiddleston, Idris Elba, Stellan Skarsgard

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

Children 12 & Under: \$4 All Others: \$6

Get Ready for Summer Now !!!

Swimsuit and Shorts
Weather Will be Here Soon

Start a Laser Hair Removal Treatment Now
30 % Off Sale On
Legs, Bikini, Underarms Combination
12 Month No Interest Financing available

Frontier Medical Rejuvenation
Dr. Rebecca Allard

607 S Benton Street 785-772-1906
St. Francis, Ks
frontiermed@yahoo.com
Credit Cards Accepted

I make insurance simple.

Call today to see how I make it simple to protect your family, home, car and business.

Casey McCormick
102 E Washington
St Francis, KS
785-332-3312

FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES
Insurance • Investments

Auto | Home | Life | Business | College | Retirement

Securities & services offered through Equi Trust Marketing Services, LLC, 5400 University Ave., West Des Moines, IA 50266, 877/866-2904, Member SIPC, Farm Bureau Property & Casualty Insurance Company - Western Agricultural Insurance Company - Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company - West Des Moines, IA - Affiliates Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services © 2010 FBL Financial Group, Inc. M083-ML-1 (5-10)

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

Rural Health Works Survey
starts Tuesday, May 31
Random calls will be made throughout the county by the Fort Hays State University Docking Institute
People are asked not to hang up — That their answers are very important to the survey. The survey will be conducted between 6 and 9 p.m. and lasts only 10 minutes.

May Calendar

Dr. Frankum May 18
Dr. Reeves May 18
Dr. Curtis May 26

For more information or to schedule an appointment call 785-332-2104