



Town hall meeting set for Tuesday

By Melinda Basnett

Bird City Century II Development Foundation is sponsoring a Town Hall Meeting for the residents of the Bird City area at the American Legion Hall in Bird City beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Heartland Childcare will be providing a free will offering spaghetti dinner as well as free will donation baby-sitting for the meeting. (See Ad)

Director Cathy Domsch plans to discuss a strategic plan for the future of Bird City and the surrounding area. Topics such as housing, recreation, activities, business development, education, and infrastructure will be discussed.

This is the first of three consecutive town hall meetings that will fo-

cus on the development of a strategic plan for the Bird City community. The wish is to receive community input from the residents on the community's future, and to educate residents on the current condition of the community. Also to involve the youth and find out what is needed to bring them back to the area as well as visions of the future and how to sustain what the area already has and survive the next century. Future meetings will be April 25, May 2, and May 9.

All residents are encouraged to attend and help make the area a place for future generations to enjoy. The future is what we make it to be. The economic growth of the area will only happen if everyone makes an effort.

Cemetery tour starts at 12:45 Sunday afternoon

At 12:45 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, a school bus will load for the Cemetery Tour which is being sponsored by the Cheyenne County Historical Society. They will be touring the northwest corner of Cheyenne County and hearing some history of 10 cemeteries along the way.

There will be two cemeteries that will be talked about as the group travels along. They are First German and Mount Hermon. Gilbert Ochsner and Margaret Bucholtz will be giving the information of each of them.

According to the extensive research of Marilyn Holzwarth, she records that "one cemetery which has not been found is the old Wano Cemetery. It was just east of the school on lots owned by A.M. Brenaman.

The first burial mentioned in early papers is that of Phillip Eberhart who was drowned in the Hackberry on Aug. 28, 1885. Other burials which mention east Wano include: Fannie Brenaman; H. H. Carson; Myrtie Carter; Norman Cassler, Isaac Cherry; Mary Ewing Cover, and Edward W. Poley. The *Cheyenne County Rustler* states that Isaac Cherry was moved to Lawn Ridge Cemetery on Dec. 7, 1889. He was with H. H. Carson and Norman Cassler

when they were caught in a blizzard and perished on the Middle Beaver on Jan. 6, 1886.

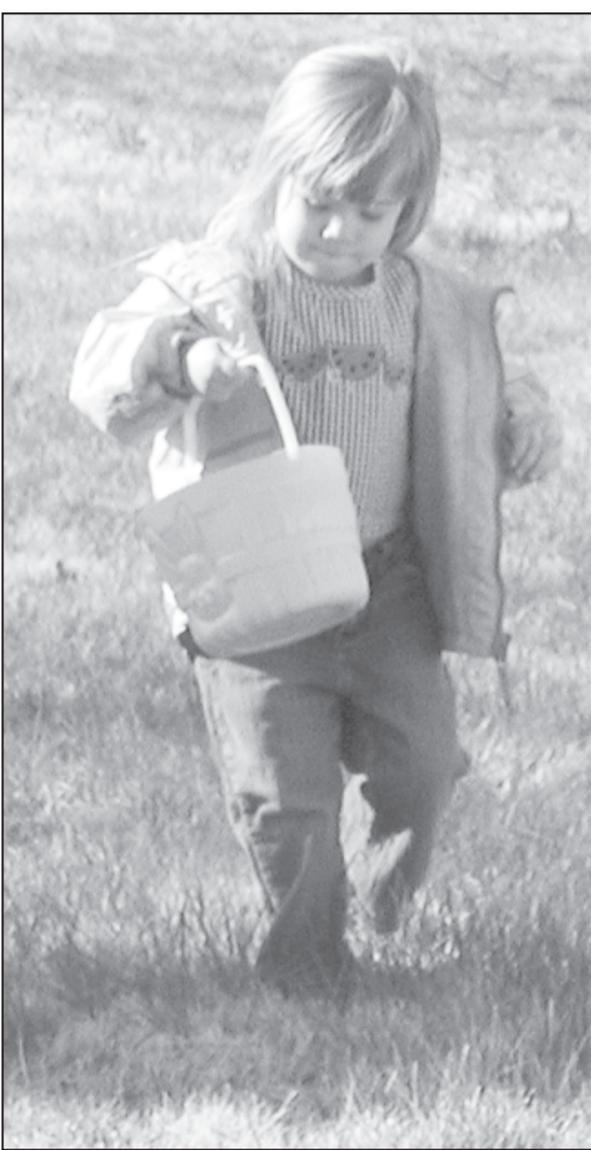
Fannie Brenaman, Myrtie Carter and Edward Poley may have been moved to the St. Francis Cemetery according to plot records. Mary Ewing Cover was moved to the G.A.R. Cemetery north of St. Francis. It is believed that Phillip Eberhart now rests in the Zion Evangelical Cemetery northwest of St. Francis."

The guest speakers are Sherry Schultz, Gilbert Ochsner, Clyde Smith, Albert Keller, Marlin Rueb, Norvin Northrup, Tobe Zwegardt, Donna Northrup, Margaret Bucholtz, Marvin Zimbleman and Robert and Gertie Zwegardt. Each will tell the history of one of the cemeteries.

Tobe will honor the group with his witching of graves, which is almost a dying art.

There will be a meal served at the Kurt Bucholtz farm following the tour. There tourist will enjoy some music and great fellowship.

Those who would rather not take the bus can follow in a car. A free-will donation will be taken to help with the cost of the bus and bus driver. The tour is open to the public.



Briana Vandike and Jaden Boyson inspect their finds at the Easter Egg Hunt in Bird City Park. Tammi Carmichael and

Amy Hendricks organized the event. Games and prizes as well as cookies were enjoyed before the wind came up.

Prairie dog management budget gone

By Karen Krien

Dave Flemming, county road and bridge supervisor, and Dan Schlittenhardt, noxious weed/prairie dog manager, reported that the prairie dog budget was not in good condition.

Mr. Schlittenhardt, at the Friday meeting, told the Cheyenne County Commissioners that there was \$9,200 in the budget and \$9,100 had already been spent. There was \$5,000 outstanding bills but there were still eight months of the year left and prairie dog errandication will begin again in the fall.

The commissioners discussed that in some counties, townships provide the cost-share for getting rid of the prairie dogs. However, while some Cheyenne County townships have money, others have none. They talked about doing away with cost sharing but they felt that cost sharing encouraged landowners to get rid of prairie dogs. They also noted that it was not fair to neighboring landowners if prairie dogs were moving in on their land.

The commissioners agreed that something different was going to need to be done in the way of getting rid of prairie dogs. Possibly,

Mr. Schlittenhardt could charge the landowner for the total amount of bait used and the landowner would collect from the township.

The matter was tabled with no decision being made.

Sheriff's report

Sheriff Troy Gardner told the commissioners that the new pickup for the county was here and he traded off the Lumina vehicle. He said that this will leave one vehicle for part time use in both St. Francis and Bird City. The new pickup will need a light bar for the top. Earlier he had budgeted \$2,000 for it but had forgotten that they had a grant to purchase two bullet-proof vests. The grant pays for one-half of the cost and the county has to pay for the other one-half. When all the figures are in, the sheriff's budget will be over \$600.

The money paid back from the vest grant will go into the General Fund and the sheriff wondered if it could be paid back to the sheriff's budget. That was not an option but the commissioners would keep in mind that this money had been paid back and a budget credit can be applied.

They turned to the light bar and after talking about the fact that a

better light bar could be moved to the next new pickup and would have a five-year warranty. The commissioners agreed to have the sheriff get the light bar that he thought would work the best.

Sheriff Gardner asked for an executive session to discuss personnel. When coming back into session, he asked the commissioners to approve hiring Craig Van Allen to fill Bob Juelson's position as deputy. They approved the proposal.

Business incentives discussed

Carol Redding, Cheyenne County Development Coordinator, presented a draft of incentive plans for bringing in new businesses and expanding existing businesses. There was editing for revising the list. A committee will check over the plans and the commissioners will look at them again at the next meeting.

In other business

In other business: Deb Lindsten, deputy clerk, said she was disappointed in the election equipment meeting she had attended as there was no-hands on training. There are two more trainings coming up and, if the com-

missioners approve, she will go to one meeting and the clerk, Terry Miller, will go to the other.

• Mr. Schlittenhardt was given permission to go to the West District Weed meeting on April 19.

• Supervisor Flemming gave his annual report. He also had highway permits for Rosewood Resources to bore under the road as well as one area where the owner has not been located so the company wanted to use the county's right-of-way to lay a line. He and the commissioners discussed Bird City City Council purchasing the county's dump truck and the county purchasing a tandem-axle state truck with a plow blade. No decision was made.

• Four people were appointed to the Sunflower Extension District Board. They are Perry Keller, Randy Rueb, Penny Gienger and Cindy Burr. (See related article.)

• Gary Rogers, emergency manager, told the commissioners that it was not too late to appoint a representative from Cheyenne County to serve on the Northwest Kansas Regional Homeland Security Council. Individuals will be contacted to serve. (See related article.)

Years Ago

15 years ago - April 1991

National Honor Society members of the 1990-91 chapter include Cory Busse, Ted Glasco, Kody Krien, Shane Antholz, Troy Scott, Jason Elijah, Mariah Berry, Sherri Cooper, Kandee Krien, Stacey Merklin and Mark Montgomery.

The Blacksmith Shop is the newest building at the Thresher grounds. Housed in the shop will be a forge, trip hammer, wheel grinder, milling machine, huge drip press, lathe, antique power hacksaw, disc roller and wagon tire engine.

Gary Leach, John Deeds and Ronald Johnson won positions on the Cheylin Board of Education. There were only three candidates for the City Council with no opposition. Seats on the council go to Don Ayre, Harold Nelsen and Steve Carpenter.

Carroll Ginther gave his last annual report for Northwest Kansas Electric Cooperative at the annual meeting. He is retiring after 20 years in Bird City and a career of 40 years in the utility business.

Angela Antholz resigned as business and related subjects teacher at Cheylin.

Garden Club celebrates Arbor Day in McDonald

The McDonald Town and Country Garden Club held their annual Arbor Day program on Wednesday on the lot south of the Frosty Mug.

Pastor Greg Moyer opened the program with a Scripture reading and a prayer. He compared the growth of a tree to the growth of a person.

The Cheylin fourth grade students led the flag salute before presenting their program. Their skit under the direction of Tammi Carmichael was very clever. Shayla Hubbard was the unhappy little pine tree who longed to have leaves instead of prickly needles. Other students did what they could to make her happy. At the conclusion they had a song they had learned in Mrs. Hengen's music class.

After the program the Environmental posters were returned to the students. Five of these posters had been sent to the Rocky Mountain Regional chairman in South Dakota. Posters from other schools in Kansas were also sent to South Dakota. The judges pick the three best posters from Kansas. The first place poster was a girl from Hays for which she will receive a big Smokey Bear doll. Blaine Burns and Eddie Frisbie had second and third place posters. Very Kacirek presented both the boys with Smokey Bear

dolls which are provided by the District Forestry Department in Hays. All students received Smokey Bear rulers.

An Aristocrat flowering pear tree was planted in the plot south of the Frosty Mug. Rick and Early Connell gave a bottle of water to all who were attending. After the tree planting all went to the Senior Center for cookies and punch.

When the children left to return to school Joan Tongish opened the business meeting. Discussion followed about the State meeting in Hays on April 28-30. Cookies were packaged and frozen to take to the convention. The miniature roses have been ordered to use for door prizes. May activities were discussed and the date of May 10 was set for the plant and food sale and the planting of street planters. The baskets of flowers at the Gazebo will have to be done with new flowers.

On May 27 club members will decorate tables for the Alumni dinner.

The Program was very interesting a video on "Her Gardens". Margie Hubbard did the arrangement for the month. For her "Green Goddess" she used ponytail grass, eucalyptus, toad flax, and white snapdragons from her greenhouse.



RAY JOHNSONS ADDS water to the soil at the Arbor Day celebration as Cheylin fourth graders and garden club members look on.

Times Staff photo by Melinda Basnett