

Town takes 'pride' in their appearance

It is the responsibility of each household and business to maintain an attractive and clean appearance to their property.

"A large percentage of newcomers select our town because we have had this image," said Donna Johnson, member of PRIDE. "Very few leave the city and move to a small town thinking there will be laws, officials or even pride to be reconciled with."

"Be patient with these neighbors and by taking pride in your build-ings, yards and community grounds and they hopefully will follow the trend."

In past years, PRIDE has sponsored a city-wide Cleanup Day and this year is being done in several ways.

The following events have been

- put into action:
- Community Club successfully picked up yard waste and large, unused appliances this past Saturday.
 - The grade school art department is working on anti-litter posters which will be displayed in Main Street business windows.
 - An organized drive will find each street having the gutters cleaned of litter and this collection will be displayed to help with awareness of public neglect.
 - A Saturday with dry, still wind will be designated as a free day for burning yard thistles and helping neighbors with theirs.
 - "Please be aware and help with these events to make us proud of our town," Mrs. Johnson said, adding that the city council cooperation has been very much appreciated.



BIRD CITY HAS plenty to celebrate in March with all these birthdays! Gathered at the Senior Center are Delbert Powell, Ron Roberts, Betty Boch, Agnes Burk, Velma Kruse, Meta Dankenbring, Ada Connett, Arlene Mason and Norman Dorsch.
Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

Deficiency payments for unshorn pet

Wool in the form of unshorn lamb pelts is now eligible for loan deficiency payments under provisions of the 2002 Farm Bill. Eligible producers have until March 31 to apply for loan deficiency payments for unshorn pelts produced during the 2002 crop year.

Angie Berens, County Executive Director of the Cheyenne County Farm Service Agency, said loan deficiency payments would be available for the 2002 through 2007 crop years to producers who meet the agency's eligibility requirements.

To be eligible for a loan deficiency payment for unshorn pelts, producers must have beneficial interest in the pelts, owned the lamb for at least 30 calendar days before the date of slaughter, or slaughter the unshorn lamb for personal use. Producers must also comply with wetland conservation and highly erodible land conservation provisions on all lands they operate or have an interest in.

Director Berens said the beneficial interest rule has been waived for the 2002 crop year. "Producers who lost beneficial interest before the end of the 2002 crop year are eligible to request an loan deficiency payment based on the date beneficial interest was lost." The 2002 crop year ended on Dec. 31.

A second exception to the beneficial interest rule has been granted to eligible producers who lost beneficial interest between Jan. 1 and Feb. 21 of the 2003 crop year. Director Berens said because the policy and procedure were not available at the time, these producers are eligible to request a loan deficiency payment based on the date beneficial interest in the unshorn pelts was lost. Requests for loan deficiency payments based on this exception must be submitted no later than March 31.

The final date to request a deficiency payment for unshorn pelts is

Jan. 31 of the year following the year in which the unshorn lamb is slaughtered. However, Director Berens said, for the 2002 crop year only, the application date has been extended to March 31. For the 2003 through 2007 crop years, the final date to request a loan deficiency payment for unshorn pelts will be Jan. 31 of the year following the year in which the unshorn lamb is slaughtered.

Loan deficiency payments for unshorn lamb pelts are calculated by multiplying the "effective loan deficiency payment rate" by 6.865, the standard weight for an unshorn pelt. The result is then multiplied by the number of pelts to determine the total payment amount.

The effective loan deficiency payment rate for pelts is determined by subtracting the regional posted price for ungraded wool from the regional 2002-03 loan rate. The 2002-2003 loan price for ungraded wool in Region 2, which includes Kansas, is \$.40 per pound. Regional posted prices for graded and ungraded wool and mohair are announced every Tuesday at 3 p.m. eastern time.

An unshorn pelt is defined as the removed skin and attached wool from a slaughtered lamb that has never been shorn. To qualify for payment, pelts must have been produced by an eligible producer from live unshorn lambs of domestic origin in the United States.

Bulletin Board

Bird City Housing Authority
The Bird City Housing Authority will not have the scheduled meeting on March 17. A date for the next meeting, which will be in April, will be announced later.

Bingo
Bingo will be held on Saturday, March 15 at 7:30 at the Bird City American Legion. This is sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary.

Advanced voting
Registered voters will be able to vote in advance for the April 1 election for Cheylin Board of Education, Bird City Councilmen, St. Francis Board of Education, St. Francis City Council and St. Francis Mayor candidates. The voting booth was set up in the clerk's room in the courthouse on Wednesday and voters will be able to vote there until noon on March 31.

Special hospital board meeting
The Cheyenne County Hospital Board will hold a special meeting at 8 a.m. on March 14 in the clinic base-

ment in St. Francis. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the hospital plans, construction progress and approve clinic changes.

Historical Society
The Cheyenne County Historical Society will be meeting at the Cheyenne County Museum at 2 p.m. on Sunday. The yearly voting will take place. Please bring cookies and the museum staff will provide drinks.

Be prepared to tell about your memories of the "Dirty 30s" or stories passed to you from folks who lived through those years here in Kansas (or elsewhere). All who are interested are welcome.

Cheyenne County Commissioners
The Cheyenne County Commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. on Friday, March 14, in the commissioner's room in the courthouse.

Art at the Library
The art items made by Cheylin stu-

dents will be on display at the St. Francis Public Library during the month of March. People are urged to stop by and see the display during regular library hours.

Vet rep in St. Francis
Jody Tubbs, of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs, will be in St. Francis at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, March 20 at the county clerk's office to assist veterans and their dependents with VA claims work. If you are unable to contact Ms. Tubbs in St. Francis, you may contact the office in Colby any Monday, Wednesday, or Friday. That phone number is (785) 462-3572.

Taxaide
People Helping People Income Tax Assistance volunteers will assist you in preparing and filing your tax return. They will be at the St. Francis Public Library from 2 to 5 on Wednesdays and at the St. Francis Senior Citizens Center from 2 to 5 p.m. on Thursdays. For appointments call Annette Erskin at 332-2304; Rowland Roelfs at 332-3490 or Wayne Keeker at 332-3428.

Hospice Services Inc., has information available about end-of-life care, advance care planning, and other related topics. Hospice Service, Inc. is available to provide programs for groups and organizations. For more information, please 800-315-5122.

Alcoholics Anonymous/Al-Anon date change
Alcoholic Anonymous and Al-Anon open meeting, held at 8:30 p.m. Thursday at the Methodist Educational Building, upstairs. Contact 332-2168 or 332-2078.

Northwest Kansas Family Shelter
Northwest Kansas Family Shelter provides 24-hour-7 day-a-week services 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 if you are in need of assistance, please call the toll-free number 1-800-794-4624.

Need a Helping Hand
The Cheyenne County Helping Hands Coalition can help. Call the SRS office at (785) 332-2021.

For the Record

Sheriff's Department

- 36 Vehicle inspections made.
- 10 Summons delivered.
- 1 Garnishment made.
- 7 Subpeonas delivered.
- 1 Notice of hearing.
- Feb. 26: Fingerprint conducted for kindergarten through sixth grade students at Cheylin Grade School.
- Feb. 28: Officer was called to a domestic disturbance in St. Francis that started in the country. One male was transported to the Sherman County Bastille.
- March 2: Miguel Beraza of Wray, driving a 1991 GMC pickup, lost control and wrecked on Road 4 and H. Over \$500 damage and minor injuries were reported.
- March 1: Dwen DeGood had one cow shot dead and a stock tank had holes shot in it. The cow and tank were located south of St. Francis on Road C. The case is under investigation.
- March 3: An officer was called to

a domestic disturbance at Road 26 and CC. Two males were arrested and transported to Sherman County Bastille. George Atwood was charged with disorderly conduct and Dan Johnson was charged with trespassing.

March 3: Officers answered to a cattle-out call on north K-27.

March 9: Blake Krien, St. Francis, driving a 1997 Ford pickup on U.S. 36 was eastbound making a left turn at the carwash when Keith Cook of Goodland, driving a 1976 Chevy pickup passed Krien in the left lane in a no-passing zone. Over \$500 damage was reported but no injuries were reported. The accident was investigated by a St. Francis Police officer.

March 8: Kip Wiese reported a cow shot 7.5 miles west of St. Francis. The case is under investigation. Anyone with information should please contact the Cheyenne County Sheriff's Department.

Bird City News

Mark and Debbie Fairchild and children were guests of Keith and Hulda Dorsch for a pizza supper Thursday evening. The Fairchilds will be moving to Kentucky after April 1.

The City of Bird City is now accepting applications for

SUMMER HELP

Must have a valid driver's license
Wage dependent on experience
Apply at Bird City Hall

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Community Come & Go

Bridal Shower

Sat., March 22 • 2-4 p.m.
St. Joseph Catholic Church Hall
Bird City

HONORED BRIDES TO BE ...

☉ Kelly Antholz ☉ Kaylee Wilkens
☉ Alicia Burkhalter ☉ Amy Miller



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The Bird City Times

(USPS 056-720)

Serving the communities of Bird City and McDonald

Casey McCormick, Editor
Karen Krien - Publisher
Claire Jeanfreau-Hilt - Adv. Mgr.

Periodicals postage paid at Bird City, Kansas 67731
Phone (785) 734-2659
Fax (785) 734-2659
Or Phone (785) 332-3162
E-Mail bctimes@nwkansan.com
Published every Thursday
\$25 per year in Cheyenne and surrounding counties; other in-state and all out-of-state subscriptions, \$28 (strictly in advance).

Postmaster: Send address correction to P.O. Box 220 Bird City, Kansas 67731-0167

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



SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m. 1 hour & 35 min.

Showing **Just Married**
March 14, 15 & 16 *Comedy and Romance*

Rated: PG-13 for sexual content, some crude humor and a brief drug reference.

Starring: Ashton Kutcher, Brittany Murphy, Christian Kane, Taran Killam, Monet Mazur

Cheyenne Theater St. Francis, KS
785-332-2747

Children: \$2 Senior Citizens/High School: \$3 Adults: \$4

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