

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

I love that we live in an area where so much natural beauty abounds. Cheyenne County delights the eyes with each seasonal change. Even after several years of drought there are many signs of nature's lasting life.

Another ecosystem close to us are the Colorado Rocky Mountains. As a boy, my family would take many day trips to see their numerous wonders.

Last weekend Lezlie and I sneaked off to celebrate our anniversary. We figured we would just gas up the car and wing it, ending up where we ended up.

The trip started out well until we reached I-70 at Byers. From there the race was on. We managed to keep pace with the Tony Stewarts, Jeff Gordons and Danica Patricks through Denver. I assured Lez that it would get bet-

ter once we got to the foot hills. I remembered how it used to be.

But the race wasn't over. The Mario Andrettis and Dale Earnhardts joined in. Trying to keep up with the pack, while more drivers shot and weaved on the Interstate, made for an unnerving experience, especially with the addition of mountain terrain.

By Idaho Springs this guy had had enough! We pulled into the pits and found a room for the night. The next morning I found an opening in the masses that I'm sure kept driving through the night. Peace came when we reached Minturn and we found a road that the "professional" racers didn't know about.

The rest of the mountain trip was relaxing and we were able to enjoy the splendor. It was more of what I remembered, rather than rubbing paint on the track.

Letter to the Editor

The following prayer was sent by former Bird City resident, Kent Chapman, who is now living in Emporia. Mr. Chapman has been in the area looking for relics on the Custer encampment site near Benkelman. He was reminded of a prayer written by William Lindsay White, son of William Allen White, in 1935. The prayer was printed in the *Emporia Gazette* during the Kansas drought of 1935. It is a "Prayer For Rain" and Mr. Chapman said it supposedly worked. He forwarded the shortened version of the poem to be printed in *The Saint Francis Herald* and *Bird City Times*, noting that this area needs rain in the "worst way."

O Lord, grant us rain

O Lord, in thy mercy grant us rain, and by that we don't mean a shower.

O Lord of Hosts, we want to look out the windows and watch the regiments of close-packed raindrops march diagonally

down. We want to hear the gurgle of the gutters under the eaves, and then the sputter of the downspout.

God of Israel, Isaac and Jacob, let it come down so hard, let the drops dance so high that the streets and sidewalks seem covered with a 6-inch fog of spatter-drops. Then let it just keep up for a while, and then begin to taper off, and then turn right around and get a lot worse, swishing, pounding, splattering, pouring, drenching, the thunder coming — crackity-bam — and the lightning flashing so fast and furious you can't tell which flash goes with which peal of thunder.

Kansas is indeed the promised land, O Lord, and if it gets a break it will flow with milk and honey. But we can't live much longer on promises. So in thine own way in thine own time, make up thy mind, O Lord, and we will bow before thy judgment, and praise thine everlasting name. Amen

For the Record

May 5-17: Criminal damage to property and criminal trespass. A window at Road 26 and E was reported broken.

May 16: Criminal damage to property. There was a report of damage to three road signs valued at \$300.

May 17: Criminal damage over \$500 and less than \$25,000 was reported at U.S. 36 and K-27. Damage to golf carts and course greens were reported.

May 17: An individual was arrested on criminal battery charges.

May 17: Criminal damage to property. The Dusty Farmer reported damage to a sign, a door window and a window.

May 18: Criminal damage at the

Goodland Greenline location in Wheeler. Damage to the office and manager's pickup were reported.

May 19: Frontier Equity reported the theft of a diesel pump at their location on U.S. 36 in Bird City.

May 21: An individual was arrested for driving while under the influence, and transporting an open container.

May 22: The city of St. Francis superintendent reported criminal damage in the 300 block of East Washington. A padlock hasp, door frame and water control timers were damaged.

May 24: The theft of an orange power cord valued at \$30 from an east Emerson residence was reported, but the victim refused to testify.

May 25: The theft of 26 miscellaneous landscape lights owned by three different individuals in St. Francis was reported.

May 28: A vehicle owned by Sheila Tygart parked in the Ben Franklin parking lot was damaged in a hit-and-run incident.

May 30: The K-Store on U.S. 36, St. Francis, reported the theft of four gallons of motor fuel valued at \$11.



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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL participants play a water relay game as Jane Brubaker, left, and helpers Whitney Churchwell and Craig Busse look on. Times Staff Photo by Melinda Basnett

Bulletin Board

American Legion Auxiliary

American Legion Auxiliary will meet at 2 p.m. on Friday. Roll call will be a "most impressive flag display". There is important business for the meeting.

Home Circle Club

The Home Circle Club will be meet at 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 15, in the home of Lucille Wright who will be the hostess. Don't forget to bring the pottery items that were given out to customers by the local merchants in year's past.

Card shower

Viola Wright, formerly of Bird City, will be celebrating her 90th birthday on June 13. Her children are having a card shower for her and welcome any family and friends to send birthday greetings to Viola Wright, 122 Hospital Rd. #2171, Brush, CO 80723.

McDonald Town and Country Garden Club

The McDonald Town and Country Garden Club will hold their annual Garden Tour on Wednesday, June 14. Members and guests are to meet a 9:00 a.m. at Marlene Johnson's and will drive to Atwood to tour gardens there. They will return to McDonald at noon for lunch at the Frosty Mug.

Fourth of July hours

The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City times will be closed on Tuesday, July 4k, in observance of Independence Day. Deadline for the July 6 newspaper will be 5 p.m. on Monday, July 3.

The newspapers will be at the post offices on Thursday afternoon, July and delivered to the routes Friday, July 7.

Historical Society celebrates Flag Day

A Flag Day celebration will be held at the Cheyenne County Museum at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday with music by the Once Again Sound Band. The public is welcome to attend. A short program will consist of the history of the American flag, patriotic music lead by the St. Francis Singers and raising and lowering the flag

A barbecue potluck supper will follow at about 6:30 p.m. Meat, beans, buns, drinks and table service will be provided. Bring a salad or dessert to share and a lawn chair would be helpful.

There will be a free-will offering. Meeting date changed for Alzheimer's/Dementia June event

Alzheimer's/Dementia support group will not meet on Monday, June 12, but will have a joint meeting with the Goodland support group on Tuesday, June 13.

Dr. Baskar of Atwood will be the guest speaker at the Carnegie Arts Center, at 8 central time. Dr. Baskar has done a great deal of work and research on Alzheimer's and presents a very interesting program.

County Commissioners

The Cheyenne County Commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. on Thursday, June 15, in the commissioner's room at the courthouse.

Association to Benefit Cheyenne County

The Association to Benefit Cheyenne County meets every third Thursday of the month at the Diamond R.

Vet rep in St. Francis

Jody Tubbs, of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs, at 9:30 a.m. central time on Thursday, June 15, will be at the county clerk's office in St. Francis 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.

Singles plan event

The Nebraska Chapter of Singles in Agriculture is hosting an event with the Kansas and Rocky Mountain chapters at St. Francis on June 10 and 11. Saturday, during the day, everyone is urged to take in the Stearman Fly-In. That evening, a lasagna dinner and dance will be held at the 4-H fairgrounds in Atwood.

Sunday morning, breakfast will be served at 8 a.m. at My Place Restaurant.

Singles in Agriculture is open to all singles 18 and over with agriculture background or ag-related occupation. The organization promotes education, recreational and social opportunities for singles in agriculture. For more information, call 308-868-2013 or visit the website: www.singlesinag.org.

Recovery Today/Narcotics Anonymous

Recovery Today group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. on Sunday nights at the United Methodist Educational Building. Call (785) 332-6542 or 8607 for more information.

Sainty Serenity Seekers/Alcoholics Anonymous

Sainty Serenity Seekers open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous is held at 7:30 p.m. each Thursday evening at the United Methodist Education Building at 104 W. Webster, St. Francis. Call (785) 332-6542 for more information

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.

Mentors needed

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cheyenne County is looking for mentors to meet with children needing a friend. Please call for information at 785-890-3665 or mail a letter of interest to BBBS, P.O. Box 13, St. Francis, 67756.

SHOWTIME: 8:00 p.m.

1 hour 26 min.

June 9, 10 & 11

Over the Hedge

Comedy, Kids/Family, Animation and Adaptation

Starring: Bruce Willis, Garry Shandling, Steve Carell, Wanda Sykes, William Shatner

Rated: PG for some rude humor and mild comic action.

Cheyenne Theater

St. Francis, KS 785-332-2747

Children 11 & under: \$2 12-18 yr.: \$3 Senior Citizens: \$3 Adults: \$4

CHEYENNE COUNTY HOSPITAL

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

Physician & Professional Service Directory

JUNE

June 6: Dr. Rubinowitz - Oncology

June 7: Dr. Frankum - Surgeon

June 13: Mammo

June 14: Dr. Reeves - Podiatrist

June 21: Dr. Frankum - Surgeon

June 22: Dr. Warren - Surgeon

June 27: Dr. Rubinowitz - Oncology

June 28: Dr. Uyemura - Ophthalmologist

CT's Available Daily

Ultrasounds Each Wednesday

TEAR AND SAVE

Don't forget to check out the Cheyenne County Hospital's website. It provides many sources for health information and programming. Visit www.cheyennecountyhospital.com

to see how useful this is for our patients, their families, and those who may want to know what kinds of services or facilities we have.

REMINDER

53rd Antique Steam Engine & Thresher Show



July 27, 28 & 29

From Bird City Century II Foundation