

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

As the old saying goes, "Blood is thicker than water."
Last weekend Lezlie and I took our two youngest kids to Denver for a little family reunion. My father's sister, Katherine Baker, better known as Aunt Sissy or Kitty, was in town from California.
There were three children in her McCormick home. Aunt Sissy was the oldest, born 1923. Then came Uncle Bob, 1924. My Dad, Joe, was born in 1927. He was always the "baby of the family" and he got the nickname of Butchy.
Both Dad and his brother are gone. But they were sure in the room of my twin brother's home when we gathered last Saturday evening.
Aunt Sissy sat at the big, round, wood table with the old lazy Susan in the middle. The table came from the house I grew up in and was the location of many previous gatherings.

We had several generations of McCormicks and their significant others around. From outside, the neighbors had to have heard boisterous laughter as stories were retold for the countless time.
But when Aunt Sissy talked about the Depression, a silence fell on the audience. Even the young ones were absorbed into the moment.
She spoke of how our grandfather, Robert McCormick, had landed a job in Akron, Ohio, as the supervisor of a production line for golf balls. When the crash came he was let go, but he did not want the family to worry. Each day he continued to get ready and leave for work, although his day was filled with finding whatever work he could.
There were tough times, but the Irish-American spirit of our family always persevered with a love for one another and a quick smile.

Letter to the Editor

Editors note: The following letter was sent to The St. Francis Herald office last week and was scheduled to run before the Bird City town meeting concerning the dairy. Unfortunately it was omitted by accident. Our apology to Mr. Kribs.
Dear Editor,

I was walking my dog in our nice new park the other day, admiring what a committee of only four people could get done when they worked at it. My dog, doing what dogs do, did it on the lawn at the park! I quickly searched for something to pick it up with and located a piece of paper headed "Century II." After reading it carefully, it was obvious I had picked the right piece of paper, ideally suited to wrap crap in. I have never ceased to be amazed how some people can write such negative, untrue, poorly written trash. AND of course, not even have the courage to put their name to it. Are they dumb, malicious or probably both? I wonder what the person who wrote this has done, they themselves, for the betterment of Bird City? Answering my own question, nothing. If they had a better idea for the park, why didn't they bring it forth? Horrors! THEY might be

criticized for doing something. I am not a "member" of "Century II", Century II doesn't have "members". I am not on the Board of Century II nor do I wish to be.
I do work on projects as an unpaid volunteer, sometimes over 200 hours per month. I enjoy it, and believe firmly that work and creative thinking will get more done for our community than third grade level anonymous notes.
Century II is not a charity
Century II does not replace city government
Century II does not give out money to bail people out of poor business decisions.
Century II is limited by very stringent laws on foundations as to what it can and cannot do.
Century II is run by a group of very dedicated hard working volunteer citizens.
People who waste their time bashing Century II without finding out the facts or contributing their time and ideas to help our community are fools and lazy to boot.
If you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem.
Charles "Chuck" Kribs, Bird City

Introducing

Mason Charles Stallbaumer

Jason and Ann Stallbaumer, Centralia, wish to announce the birth of their son, Mason Charles, on Aug. 4, 2006. He weighed 7 pounds and was 20 inches long. Mason was born in Onaga Community Hospital. Helping to welcome him home

were Mayda, 8, Matthew, 5 and Monica, 3.
Grandparents are David and Marjean Zumbahlen of Bird City and Charles and Sandra Stallbaumer, Centralia.

Years Ago

40 years ago - 1966
The Pool Committee has been organized with the following officers: Maynard Wright, Chairman; Carol Brubaker, secretary; H.D. Shull, treasurer and Carl Antholz, Publicity Chairman. The people of the Bird City community turned out in full force for the rummage, food and antique sale to help boost the pool fund.

There is also a teen dance being planned at the Legion Hall to help raise funds. Men and boys in the community comprised four teams to have a softball tournament last weekend for the benefit of the pool fund. About \$160 was raised from the tournament plus \$17.87 donated by Donna Johnson and Laura Lee Jones from the concession stand.

The Bird City Times

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Cheylin Cheer Squad Car Wash
The Cheylin High School Cheer Squad will be holding a car wash on Friday, Sept. 1, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the South side of the gym in Bird City.
Sophomore Bake Sale
The Cheylin Sophomore Class will be having a bake sale on Friday, Sept. 1, from 9-11 am in front of the Hometown Market in Bird City.

Cheylin Home Games
Cheylin will host Lady Cougar Volleyball on Thursday and Cougar Football on Friday in Bird City. Show your support for our student athletes.

Herald/Times closed Labor Day
The Bird City Times and St. Francis Herald will be closed on Monday, Sept. 4 in observance of Labor Day. The paper will be delivered one day late that week, going to the post office Thursday afternoon, Sept. 7 and on the routes Friday, Sept. 8. The deadline for all ads, news and pictures that week will be 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Center Day
The annual Center Day reunion sponsored by Center Church Association will be Sunday, Sept. 3,

at the church grounds, 14 miles southeast of Bird City. Worship begins at 10:30 a.m. with a potluck at noon, annual business meeting and program begins at 1 p.m.. Bring a chair, potluck dish and a story, poem or reading to share. Pressure cooker checkup
Cheyenne County Courthouse
The Cheyenne County Courthouse will be closed on Monday, Sept. 4, in observance of Labor Day.

Pressure cooker checkup
A pressure cooker checkup will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 31, at the Extension office in the basement of the courthouse, St. Francis. Everyone is urged to bring their pressure cooker lid, gauge and seal and Melinda Daily, Sunflower District, Wallace County Family and Community Service FCS, will check and examine them.

US 36 Treasure Hunt Bird City Garage Sales
It's not too late to get your sale on the map for the city wide garage sales held on Sept. 15-17. Deadline is Sept. 12. Call Donna Johnson 785-734-2719.

St. Francis Library Art Gallery
The St. Francis Public Library will be displaying wooden repli-

cas of guns - handmade and art pictures belonging to Stan Faulkender of Ellis, in the Library Art Gallery during the month of September.

Kidder Massacre Tour
The Cheyenne County Historical Society will be holding a Kidder Massacre Tour beginning at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 10. Meet at the Bird City Library and join the group moving to the tour site. Be sure to bring your own water, wear comfortable shoes and dress appropriately for walking through a grassy area. Even though you are physically unable to walk on the tour, you may attend the program provided by guest speaker, Kent Chapman of Emporia.

Cheyenne County Commissioners
Cheyenne County Commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 31, at the courthouse.

Fair Board
The Cheyenne County Fair Board will meet at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 7.

Small Wind Workshops
A Small Wind Workshop will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6 at the Rawlins County 4-H building in Atwood. Other workshops are planned for

Holyoke, Colo., on Thursday morning Sept. 7 and Pine Bluffs, Wyo., on Thursday afternoon, Sept. 7. For more information contact Cheyenne County Development Corporation at (785) 332-3508.

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.

Hospital receives two more memorials

By Karen Krien
The hospital has received a life insurance payments benefit from Alvin Hempler and his sister, Lottie Hempler also left money to the hospital.

The Cheyenne County Hospital Board, at the Thursday meeting, was told that Mr. Hempler's insurance benefit was for \$10,306. Ms. Hempler's memorial, which was accepted at the July meeting, totaled \$61,179. It was voted to put Ms. Hempler's memorial toward the generator project.

Les Lacy, hospital administrator, had negotiated the bid of over \$107,000 down to \$94,000 for replacement of the hospital's generator with a 150 kilowatt model. The company agreed to take the old 65 kilowatt generator.

The hospital and clinic computers are connected with the fiber optic lines that will soon be running underground. The board accepted a bid of \$2,938 from H&H Sprinklers, Goodland, to bore underground between the two facilities. The other bid was from Jim's Electric and Engineering, Colby, which was \$6,323.

Resignations
The hospital had received two resignations from nurses: Beth Gabel RN and Natasha Wilson RN. Vicki Coates had stepped aside as clinic manager and Mr. Lacy said they would hire a manager in the near future. He also said that, at this time, it would not be necessary to use traveling nurses.

Brenda Hays, who had previously been approved by the board to further her education, by pursu-

ing an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner license, reported by letter that she would not return to Fort Hays State University this year but next summer, would re-evaluate. Her contract is for six years and she still plans to be finished by then.

In other business

• After Aug. 31, the providers will be able to access lab work from any networked computer terminal.

• At the July meeting, the administrator said the commissioners had asked that consideration be given to the hospital taking over the ambulance service. At the Thursday meeting, he reported that he believed it would not be in the best interest of patients, the county, the emergency medical service, or the hospital for the hospital to operate the service.

• The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) audit was completed on site at the hospital in July. Mr. Lacy said the audit cost the hospital \$23,293 mostly because the Provider Statistical and Reimbursement Reconciliation reports from Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services were late in arriving at the hospital. While this seemed costly, Mr. Lacy said he was relieved at the low amount as other hospitals were paying in the excess of \$100,000.

• Last year, the hospital and clinic had a shortage of flu vaccines. An order was placed through another company and, after some concern that this company would have the needed vaccine, it was announced that the

county should have an adequate stock.

President's comments

Jerry Toler, board president, reported on the Kansas Hospital Association meeting, saying that he felt that it was very good meeting. He thought that it would be good

if the board had more contact with Dr. Mary Beth Miller and department heads. This matter will be discussed at later meetings.

Next meeting
The next meeting of the board will be held at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 28, in the clinic basement.

Churches combining services at the park

A special Sunday is being planned for Bird City, according to Pastor Glenn Krebs of the Immanuel United Methodist Church and Pastor Shirley Daire of the St. John Lutheran Church.

Sunday, Sept. 10, will begin in an ordinary way for St. John Lutheran Church and Immanuel United Methodist Church in Bird City, with Sunday church school being held on the regular schedule from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. But then the day will become very special as the two congregations will enjoy a shared worship service in the Bird City Park beginning at 10:50 a.m.

A potluck dinner will follow the worship, and everyone is welcome to enjoy games and fellowship after dinner.

The worship service will celebrate Christian education, recognizing and honoring the teachers

and promoting the children. Children being promoted from third grade into fourth grade will each receive a beautiful gift Bible during the service.

The offering will be donated to the Cheyenne County Food Pantry.

"Everyone is welcome to worship with us on this special day," said the pastors. "Please bring lawn chairs, blankets, pillows, or whatever you need for comfortable seating during worship, as well as your own table service and a dish to share at the potluck dinner."

"The congregations of both churches are looking forward to seeing you there as we praise God in the great outdoors!"

For those who are unable to join the service in the park, an informal worship service will be held at St. John at 9:30 a.m.

THE GREAT US HWY 36 TREASURE HUNT
A 400 mile "treasure hunt" across Kansas on US Hwy 36.
Friday, Saturday Sunday
September 15, 16, 17
If you would like your garage sale or booth on the Bird City map, contact Donna Johnson 785-734-2719 or Carol Marsh 785-734-2231.
BIRD CITY KANSAS
"A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE BIRD CITY COMMUNITY."

SHOWTIME: 8:00 p.m. 1 hour, 28 min.
September 1, 2 & 3
Starring: Kevin James, Courtney Cox Arquette, Danny Glover, Sam Elliott, Wanda Sykes
Barnyard: The Original Party Animals
Comedy, Kids/Family and Animation
Rated: PG for some mild peril and rude humor.
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
SEPTEMBER
Sept. 5: Mammo
Sept. 6: Dr. Frankum - Surgeon
Sept. 6: Ultrasound
Sept. 7: Dr. Warren - Cardiology
Sept. 13: Ultrasound
Sept. 14: Dr. Warren - Surgeon
Sept. 20: Ultrasound
Sept. 20: Dr. Frankum - Surgeon
Sept. 20: Dr. Reeves - Podiatrist
Sept. 26: Mammo
Sept. 26: Rubinowitz - Oncology
Sept. 27: Ultrasound
Sept. 27: Dr. Uyemura-Ophthalmology
Sept. 28: Dr. Warren -Cardiology
CT's Each Monday
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