



CHEYLIN SECOND GRADERS, Moserrat Salais (l), Taighe Weeter, Kaylynn Hendricks, and Jayden Boyson lead the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance at the opening of the National Honor Society basketball games held on Feb. 25. Grades second through fifth competed against each other.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

Quality of life topic at meeting

By Casey McCormick
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With concerns about maintaining a quality life in Cheyenne County, members of two groups came together to discuss working on common issues.

On Thursday, March 4, members of the Community Builders came to the Cheyenne County Farm Bureau meeting held in St. Francis. This gave both organizations an opportunity to talk about who they are and what they have in common.

Tom Keller, of the Community Builders, described the Builders as a loose-knit, grass roots group who is concerned with educating others and encouraging individuals to act.

This can be seen in some of the activities the Community Builders have worked with.

"A recent forum and town hall meeting, each held in Cheyenne County, attracted 300 individuals," he said. "That represents over 10 percent of the population coming together to voice concerns."

Farm Bureau is a national organization with connections in all 105 Kansas counties. Dan Sowers, president of the Farm Bureau Association of Cheyenne County, saw similarities in

that his organization, although primarily agriculture based, has an interest in keeping the county going.

"Farm Bureau is one of the loudest voices for ag in Topeka and Washington," Mr. Sowers said, "If the issues of both align with Farm Bureau policies, it might be something to lobby for."

The Farm Bureau board indicated that membership to its group is not limited to just farmers. Anyone can purchase a yearly membership, which not only gains access to their insurance, but allows them participation in the agricultural association.

It is hoped that in the future these two organizations can work together on issues that affect each other.

Also present at the meeting were Farm Bureau board members Shawna Blanka, Chuck Downey, Samantha Raile, Clayton Janicke and Ron Zwegardt. Connie Holzwarth, Farm Bureau agent-manager, Alisa Rath, county director and Craig Cooper, district manager from Hoxie were also in attendance.

Other Community Builders who came were Jeff Paulsen, Roger Jensen, Ruth Milliken, Dale Patton and Les Lacy.

Art show draws family and friends to Bird City Library

By Linda Schneider
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Last Saturday, the Bird City Library hosted an art show of Emily C. Hudson's many paintings, ceramic bowls and other creative items. Also on Saturday, a reception was held with family and friends from Bird City and Benkelman, Neb. attending.

Ms. Hudson graduated from Dundy County High School in Benkelman in 2005; she continued her education at North Platt Community College with an Art Educator major. She is currently finishing up her studies at Chadron State in Chadron, Neb., and is

student teaching art education in kindergarten through 12 grades at Callaway School in Custer County, Neb.

Having the art show began last year during the annual Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher show when Stan and Dee Dorsch invited her to display her art at the Bird City Library.

When asked what kind of style she would call her paintings, Emily said she would say that her paintings are her "country girl style." Many are scenes from her childhood days such as her grandparent's farm and places she has visited.

"When I was little, I loved playing in the dirt, mixing up concoctions, and finger paints," said Ms. Hudson. "I am an artist today because I still like working with my hands and getting dirty."

Born and raised in Benkelman, Neb., she comes to Bird City often with her parents, Randy and Sally (Hickert) Hudson, and sister, Eleanor, to visit with Uncle Dave Hickert and Aunt Marcia.

Mrs. Hudson hails from Bird City and was among the first graduates from Cheylin in 1976.

Visitors can see Emily's art displays until April 3.



EMILY HUDSON (l) tells the story of her painting "Arikaree Breaks" to Margaret and John McDonald of Benkelman, Neb.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

Candidate officially throws hat into race for the 120th district seat

By Karen Krien
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At a public meeting on Thursday, St. Francis resident, Ward Cassidy, announced he will be running as a Republican for the office of Representative of the 120th District. He will be running against incumbent John Faber in the primary.

David Morrow, fellow teacher in the St. Francis schools, opened the meeting. Mr. Cassidy, he said, is now ready for retirement — ready to go fishing — but, instead, he has chosen to be in public service. He is comfortable to make \$84 a day and be gone from home a lot, he said.

In the last three weeks, Mr. Cassidy said he has had over 200 phone calls from people as far away as Norton and Phillipsburg, telling him they are glad he is running and that they will support him.

He recently made a political appearance with Republican Congressman Jerry Moran. It was his first real taste of the campaign trail and he was impressed with how very politically organized Mr. Moran was.

While most politicians have certain stands on issues, he said he has only two: 1) he is pro-life; and 2) he is against gun control.

His main issue is looking out for the five counties in his district.

"I will watch out for our five counties," he said. "I want to get a grassroots movement going but I'm not going to do any negative campaigning."

He said that he will need campaign funds but he is not taking them from Phillip Morris because



WARD CASSIDY ANNOUNCES his candidacy for upcoming state elections.

Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

of the moral aspects. However, when a person in the audience asked if he would take support from the National Rifle Association, he said he would.

I just want what's best for Western Kansas and I need your support, he said.

If elected, he wants to serve on the Agriculture Committee because that is what drives our ship in Western Kansas; the Education Committee because he has spent his life in education; and the Taxation Committee. The later committee, he admitted that he had a lot to learn but it is an area he wants to learn as much as possible about.

In the last few weeks, Mr. Cassidy said he has met lots of people in all lines of work and those retired. If I have a question, he said,

I will call these people and talk to them. I am representing the people and they will have a say in how I make my decisions.

He was asked about the 1-cent sales tax which has been proposed at different times. Mr. Cassidy said he had talked to several businessmen who said, if it keep their doors open and saves the communities, it will be OK.

Sherry Schultz noted that if the sales tax doesn't go up, their property taxes probably will.

Receiving the top vote in the primary on Aug. 3 is important to getting Mr. Cassidy elected to the Kansas House of Representatives.

Terry Miller, clerk, said there have already been several registered Democrats come to the

office and have their party affiliation changed to Republican so they can vote for Mr. Cassidy. He said they can change their party affiliation back right after the primary.

Mike Day, treasurer for the Cassidy campaign, explained some of the laws, noting that in the primary, there are limits of \$500 per person for donations. Anything over \$50 has to be reported. Expenses will be reported.

There has been an account, "Cassidy For Representative." People wanting to donate can mail them to Box 575, St. Francis, KS 67756, drop them off at Kite and Day law office, St. Francis, or give them to Mr. Cassidy.

Safety training set for April 10



A multi-county tractor safety training will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 10, at the Brewster High School.

In 1970, the United States Department of Labor declared agricultural tasks as hazardous for children under the age of 16. With certain exemptions, this law made employment of youth under the age of 16 at these jobs illegal for anyone other than their parents or legal guardian.

The long-withstanding tradition of youth finding summer employment on local farms prompted the development of the Hazardous Occupations Training (tractor safety) program to train and certify youth 14 and 15 years of age to work in agricultural occupation for someone other than their parents.

Recent interpretations of the law also require youth to have this certification to work for family partnerships, family corporations, and grandparents. In the case of family partnerships and corpora-

tions, even when one partner is the parent, the youth technically works for the corporation, and therefore must have the certification.

This training is also available for youth working on their parent's farms as well as any rural resident or farm worker who desires a refresher course on farm safety.

To meet the requirements of the law, youth should plan to attend a multi-county Hazardous Occupations Training to be held in Brewster. There is also required reading to do and assignments to complete prior to the class, so early registration is encouraged.

To register, provide your name, address, social security number, date of birth, and a check in the amount of \$10 payable to the local county Extension office by Monday, April 5.

The registration fee includes your manual, materials, and refreshments for breaks. A pizza lunch is being provided by Farm Bureau of Thomas and Sherman counties.

Food show in Sainty

By Karen Krien
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People are urged to stop by the St. Francis high school Monday about 5 p.m. to see the 4-H's in action.

Monday is Cheyenne County 4-H Day and 4-H's will be performing a variety of talents from singing, to dancing, to playing instruments. There will also be demonstrations, project talks and skits.

The Favorite Food Show will be held in the cafeteria. The 4-H's will create a meal, party or snack, attractively set the table and provide the recipe. They are judged and the room is then opened to the public.

Attending 4-H Day encourages the 4-H's as they learn to speak and perform to the public. It is also entertaining for those in the audience.