

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

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My education has helped me along with many things. Having a background in history and English puts writing this column right down my alley for instance.

But one subject that always gave me fits was mathematics. Although I had some very dedicated teachers try as they would, my brain never seemed to be able to grasp numbers and how they work together.

But I do have an understanding of how math can work in a family.

Addition is at work as we welcome another daughter, Nichole, to the clan. Trey married

his soul-mate last week in Mexico and we will have a celebration for them this weekend. That will also bring up our numbers as family and friends will gather to see the newly weds.

Next October the oldest son, Travis, will join with his longtime girlfriend, Brooke, in a Kansas City wedding. Again we get to increase another daughter to our ranks.

So now that I have the addition thing down, I wonder how long it will be for the couples to work on multiplication? I can't wait to see some new children running around and creating new branches on the family tree.

Maybe this mathematics stuff isn't as tough as I thought.

Fire department to receive money

Bird City Rural Fire Department is among six fire departments receiving \$45,600 for fire operations and safety.

U.S. Senator Pat Roberts announced over \$806,200 in six grants were awarded to Kansas firefighters to improve homeland security.

"I am pleased to announce these funds, which are vital to improve firefighting efforts and first responder needs in rural Kansas," Senator Roberts said. "It's imperative to support our local fire departments."

Others receiving grants were:

- Shawnee County Fire District

2 in Auburn: \$45,600.

- Derby Fire and Rescue Department: \$32,947.

- Sherman Township Fire District in Farlington: \$36,290.

- Anderson County Rural Fire Department in Garnett: \$155,800.

- Olathe Fire Department: \$490,000.

The funds were awarded by the 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program under the United States Department of Homeland Security. The program assists rural, urban and suburban fire departments throughout the United States.

Bank officer completes school of fundamentals

Gina Krien, operations officer, People State Bank, McDonald, recently completed the 2010 School of Banking Fundamentals. This school was held April 12 through April 16 in Topeka. It is sponsored by the Kansas and Nebraska Bankers Association and is in partnership with the Colorado, Louisiana and Wyoming Bankers Associations.

The school is designed to instruct students in core banking concepts as they relate to the overall functioning of a bank. Completion of this course assists students in developing skills which allow them to better serve their banking community.

The School of Banking is located in Lincoln, Neb.

Bird City News

Tuesday, Edna Roesener and other Red Hat Mama's had lunch at Montana Mike in Colby. After, all the ladies were guests at Colby Heartland Christian School.

Edna and a few other Red Hatter's were coffee guests at Irma Deeds' home before returning home.

Sunday, Edna Roesener joined her daughter, Audrey (Shrader) Evins at the Colby High School auditorium to see

great-granddaughter, Emma Evins perform with the Nicole's School of Dance, presenting "Fire and Ice."

Emma Evins is the daughter of J.L. and Carrie Evins of Oakley. Other families attending were Avery and Cale Evins, children of J.L. and Carrie; Addison and Finley Tavscher of Shawnee, children of Jeff and Amanda (Evins) Tavscher, who is visiting there grandmother, Audrey.

Smile it's Spring

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May birthdays

May birthdays will be celebrated at 3 p.m. on Monday at the Bird City Senior Center.

American Legion Auxiliary
The American Legion Auxiliary will meet on Friday at 2 p.m. at the Bird City American Legion hall.

Bird City Community Club
Bird City Community Club meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday at the senior center.

Story time

Story time will be on Friday at 10 a.m. on the library.

Cheylin Spring Concert

The Cheylin bands, both elementary and high school will be performing on Tuesday, May 11 in the Cheylin High School gymnasium. Music begins at 7 p.m. For updates on current Cheylin sports events and programs, go online to www.cheylin.com and click on calendar.

Crafters wanted

For the Bird City 125-Year Celebration, crafters are needed to set up vendor tables on Saturday, June 12. Contact Carol Marsh at 785-734-2231, or Wanda Dowdy at 785-734-2383. (see classified ad)

Community Food Bank

The Community (formerly Cheylin) Food Bank is located in the United Methodist Church of Bird City (upstairs) and the entrance is through the east door. The hours are 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays, and 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Saturdays.

Alzheimer's/Dementia Support Group

The Alzheimer's/Dementia Support Group will meet at 7:20 p.m. on Monday at the St. Francis Public Library.

National Day of Prayer

The National Day of Prayer will be observed at noon, Thursday (today) in front of the Cheyenne County Courthouse. Everyone is welcome to come and pray for the future of America and our leaders. Individual silent and spoken prayers will be prayed as well as corporately praying the National Day of Prayer 2010 prayer written by honorary chairman Franklin Graham. For information call 332-2487 or 332-8905.

Veterans History Project

All of the information needed to participate in the Veterans History Project is included in the March Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary March meeting story in this issue of

Bulletin Board

The Herald and Times.

Floats needed

Floater entries are needed for the 125th celebration in Bird City on June 16. Call Karen Flemming at 785-734-2463 or 785-332-8830.

Fair Board

The Cheyenne County Fair Board will meet tonight (Thursday) at the courthouse.

Cheyenne County Commissioners

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

Bereavement Support Group.

The open grief support group is planning sessions for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved

one with the meetings be held at the Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, 808 South First Street Highway 25 in Atwood. Enter the east door at the church.

The events are planned for 2 to 3:30 p.m. on the third Monday of the month. Please call Tara Bowles at (785) 626-3211 or Maralyn Cooper at 1-800-315-5122 to register.

The May 17 topic is "The universality of the grief process."

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 in need of assistance, please call the toll-free number 1-800-794-4624.

County lags in census returns

By Karen Krien
karen.k@nwkansas.com
Cheyenne County's Census return rate reached 70 percent on Friday, but lags behind the national rate which is up to 72 percent and the Kansas state average is 75 percent.

The latest return figures bring Cheyenne County even with the 70 percent returned for the 2000 census, but the goal is to get the county closer to the 80 percent rate.

The Kansas return rate is up to 75 percent. Other counties in northwest Kansas include Sherman 64 percent, Rawlins 59 percent, Decatur

60 percent, Thomas 70 percent, Sheridan 70 percent, Wallace 66 percent, Logan 70 percent and the highest in the neighborhood Graham 77 percent.

Looking inside Cheyenne County, the city of St. Francis' return rate is 67 percent and Bird City's is 67 percent.

Across the western part of the state Trego is one of the leading counties with 83 percent return.

The largest field operation associated with the 2010 Census began Monday, said Lech Wisniewski of the Kansas City

Regional Census office. For every residence where a census questionnaire was not returned, a census enumerator will come to that house and attempt to secure a completed questionnaire.

Workers needed

Census workers are needed. Applicants wanting to work locally with the Census Bureau can apply and test throughout May at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays at the county extension office and, on Tuesdays, at 5:30 p.m. at the St. Francis Public Library. All applicants will need two forms of identification.

Club Clip

McDonald Senior Citizens

Forty-three senior citizens and nurse, Rose Whithurst, enjoyed potluck dinner at the McDonald Senior Citizens on Monday, May 3. Joan Tongish, president, welcomed everyone and gave a warm welcome to the guests, Deana Freeman, administrator of the Rawlins County Hospital and Phil Studer, hospital board member. Birthdays and anniversaries are acknowledge. Owen Wingfield read a humorous reading and then led everyone in prayer.

Following the delicious diner, the guests, Deana Freeman and Phil Studer gave a slide presentation about the remodeling to be done at

about coming events. June Committees will be Poem and Prayer: Em Threlkel; Prizes, LaVina Waters; Bingo, Leonard Vyzourek, Kitchen Help: Marlene Johnson, Betty Lewis and Phyllis Wingfield.

Tables had been decorated by Phyllis Wingfield, who had made clever little race cars, for each place setting.

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m.

1 hr. 48 min.

Clash of the Titans

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Dr. Ferris will be at 291 15th St. in Burlington, CO. on May 19 and 22.



'2010 The Year of the Cardinal Bird City Rural High School'

Annual Alumni Banquet

May 29, 6 p.m.

American Legion Hall, Bird City

Tickets - \$15, can be purchased by contacting First National Bank 785-734-2100 or in person in Bird City



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St. Francis, Kansas 67786 - 785.332.8990
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Check your renewal dates

Current Rates

The Saint Francis Herald

Area - \$38 KS - \$42
Out-of-State - \$48

Bird City Times

Area - \$33 KS - \$36
Out-of-State - \$40

American Profile

Celebrating Hometown Life

See American Profile magazine in this week's issue of

The Bird City Times

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