

Seniors graduate Saturday

Seven Cheylin seniors will be saying their farewells to teachers, students and the school as they graduate at 11 a.m. on Saturday at the high school in Bird City. All seven seniors are included in the graduation program.

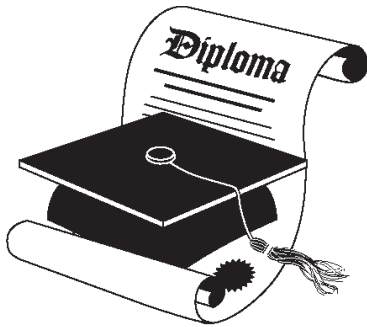
They chose "Cherish Yesterday - Dream Tomorrow - Live Like Crazy Today" as their motto. The class flower is a tulip and the colors are lime green, black and silver.

The welcome will be given by Lance Leonard and Vance Churchwell. Hudson Louderbaugh will give the invocation.

Superintendent Bruce Bolen will introduce Ana Ponce, salutatorian, and Naomi Reeh, valedictorian.

Before the slide show of the senior class, Anita Burton will announce the local awards and scholarships. The farewell will be given by Eliana Chavez and Max Hengen.

Presenting the diplomas are school board members, Eric Churchwell, George Louderbaugh



and Lori Janicke.

St. Francis

The St. Francis Community High School graduation ceremony is set for 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 23. There will be more information in the May 20 issue of *The Saint Francis Herald*.

Special graduation section

Inserted in this week's issue of the *Bird City Times* and *The Saint Francis Herald* is the graduation special section. Seniors and their plans are featured in the section. It was brought to readers by businesses and parents. It would not be possible without the cooperation of the school employees.



STUDENTS TAKE ADVANTAGE of the weather and enjoy the playground equipment.

Times photo by Linda Schneider

125th Committee sponsors activities

At 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 23, the Bird City Quasiquincentennial Committee is sponsoring various activities for the entire family.

Activities include a trap shoot, rifle shoot, .22 range for youth, along with horseshoes, bocca ball and a meal served at 6:30 p.m. Donations will be appreciated.

The location is the Krien family farm, 2-1/2 miles south of U.S. 36 on Road 25.

Ken Krien urges everyone to bring their guns and shells (shells will be available for purchase).

Come and enjoy family fun, fellowship, food and support the Quasiquincentennial fund, he said. Questions may be directed to Mr. Krien at 785-734-7015.

The Bird City Quasiquincentennial Committee is trying to finalize plans for the celebration for June 11, 12 and 13. A full weekend of activities is being planned.

The committee is seeking monetary donations to help cover the cost.

The committee estimates that the fund is approximately

\$10,000 short of the goal. All contributions up to \$20,000 are being matched by Bird City Century 11.

The Bird City's 125th committee would appreciate any support individuals and businesses can provide. See ad for more information.

Events being planned are a Cajun boil dinner and street dance with beer garden on Friday evening, a triathlon, a grand parade, an antique car show, craft and food vendors on Main Street, kid's events all day, a historical play, rodeo clown, races and other games as well as a free barbecue and dance at the park with beer garden on Saturday. On Sunday, there will be a community church service and potluck dinner.

Please check out <http://www.birdcityhistory.com> for a full schedule and more information. People can also go to the website to register the number of adults and children in their family for the free barbecue on June 12, or call Wanda Dowdy at 785-734-2383.



JARED CAHOJ participates at a recent track meet held in St. Francis.

Times photo by Linda Schneider



Reading program planned

"Make a Splash!" is the theme of this year's summer reading program at the Bird City Library. Children, preschool through fourth grade, will meet from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Thursday mornings, June 3, 10, 17 and 24.

Featured throughout the month will be: The Wonders of Water, An Ocean of Fun, High Seas Adventure and At the Water's Edge.

Story tellers, Teryn Carmichael and Whitney Churchwell, urge the children to "come make a splash with us!"

City council adopts water leak payment plan policy

By Karen Krien

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The Bird City Council has been dealing with some water leaks in the city. At the May 3 meeting, the city attorney presented some revisions in the Water Leak Payment Plan Policy.

Attorney Kevin Berens explained revisions made to the policy submitted at the previous meeting. The Payment Plan Policy will allow utility customers, who have experienced unusually high charges due to a water leak, to apply for a payment plan option instead of the full amount being due.

Customers will be required to submit proof of the leak as well as proof of proper repairs, he said. DeAnza Ambrosier, city clerk, explained that she has not experienced requests for such a policy; however, she would like to have a policy in place to follow should the issue arise.

The council adopted the policy. **125th celebration preparations** Rod Young, 125th Celebration Committee member, requested that the council approve allowing a beer garden to be erected during the celebration. He said Friday's

activities will include a street dance. A dance is also planned for Saturday evening's entertainment near the city park. He said allowing a beer garden to be established during the dances, means the city "would be taking a proactive approach to avoid problems."

Sherry Cherry, owner of Big Ed's Steakhouse and Lounge, explained the application process of obtaining a temporary license from the Alcoholic Beverage Control. She said that she will be submitting specific plans for the beer garden, including time, date, location and a diagram of each beer garden. She said she will also need to submit a letter of approval from the city. The beer garden, she said, will be "very closely monitored. There will be only one entrance/exit and no one will be allowed to bring alcohol in or out..."

After a lengthy discussion, Councilman Hal Sager moved to approve the beer gardens for the celebration. The motion carried 4-0.

Swimming pool policy

City attorney Berens suggested a few wording revisions to the proposed Pool Policy, to include

employee contracts and job descriptions. The policy with revisions was approved.

A 5-minute executive session was called. Coming out of the session, Ann Burr is the pool manager for the summer season.

Fire department grant

Undersheriff, Cody Beeson, reported that the Bird City Fire Department will receive a \$48,000 grant for the purchase of bunker gear. The city council promised the contribution of 2.5 percent matching funds. The council approved that he begin the gear selection.

Prosecutor's Trust Fund Scholarship

Mayor Burr received six applications from Cheylin seniors requesting to receive the Prosecutor's Trust Fund Scholarship. After consideration, Mayor Burr announced that Max Hengen will receive \$500, Ana Ponce, \$250 and Naomi Reeh, \$100.

Committee reports

Committee reports included:
• Equipment - In Councilman Lorán White's absence, Mr. Schneider reported that he had received two bids for trading in the Grasshopper lawn mower for a new

mower. Bids received were from Lang Diesel and Yost Farm Supply. The low bid of \$4,400 from Yost was accepted.

• Parks - Larry Schultz will remodel the shelter house.

• Streets: The crack sealing is complete. Councilman Sager expressed disappointment that they didn't cover a lot of area but was impressed with how many cracks were filled.

City maintenance report

Superintendent Schneider submitted three bids for painting the water tower. Mayor Burr questioned the requirements of having the job done. Issue tabled for more information.

Mr. Schneider said the crew was making progress with the sheriff's office remodel. He reported that most of the painting is done. They still need to tile the floor.

One bid from Don Wright was received for the pool generator in the amount of \$200 and it was accepted.

Attorney's report

Attorney Berens updated everyone on the unsafe structure notices sent out to property owners not in compliance with

city code. One property owner sent a letter to Mr. Berens, Mr. Schneider and Mrs. Ambrosier explaining his intentions of working on the property within the month. Another owner has made significant improvements to the condition of his home and yard, and the third issue is set for a hearing immediately preceding next month's Council meeting.

City clerk's report

Mrs. Ambrosier said the city was asked to participate in a vaccination clinic sponsored by Twin Peaks Vet Clinic in Benkelman. She said the clinic will be held on May 8, at the city maintenance shop. Mrs. Ambrosier said she will be available to register dogs and issue tags.

Open burning ordinance

Attorney Berens proposed revising the city's current burning ordinance by introducing Ordinance 321, Open Burning. The new ordinance amends section 5-201, 5-202 and 5-303 of Chapter 5 Article 2 of the City Code. The ordinance includes language permitting the use of recreational fires in fire pits and screened outdoor fireplaces.

Mrs. Ambrosier said she had received a lot of questions regarding recreational fires. She said some citizens were confused about whether they are currently required to obtain a permit before enjoying a fire pit. The new ordinance was approved.

Building permits

Building permits were approved for Tony Vandike for the construction of fence; Canda Orten, new construction of a fence, paver patio and walking path; Betty Beeson, new construction of a ramp; Steve Headrick, new construction of a shed. This application specifications described the shed to have tin siding. After brief discussion, it was decided to notify Mr. Headrick that the shed will need to be painted. The application was approved on the condition that the shed will be painted.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the city council has been set for 7 p.m. on June 7 in city hall, Bird City. *Editor's note: The above article was taken from the unapproved May 3 city council minutes.*