

Plans being made for cancer relay

Cancer is a word that, to many, has become way too familiar. Every day, people hear of friends, family, acquaintances and loved ones who are told, "you have cancer."

"We, as a community, can join in the fight to help stamp out this dreaded disease," said Pat Rose, Cheyenne County Relay for Life chairman, "by participating in the 2013 relay for life."

The 2013 relay has been set for 7 p.m. on June 8 through 7 a.m. on June 9 at Sawhill Park, St. Francis. The theme, "Under the Big Top," has been chosen to help them obtain ideas for camp sites.

Relay for Life is an all-night event to help the participants better understand the long, tiring struggle of the patient as they go through treatment. As the night progresses, the relayer becomes tired just as the cancer patient becomes weary. Even though they both become tired, they don't give up as they continue on to the dawn of a new day, with hope.

Blood donations needed

The American Red Cross will set up for blood donations from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 20, at Peace Lutheran Church, 202 N. College, in St. Francis. The goal is for 48 units of whole blood.

Appointments can be made but walk ins are welcome. All blood types are needed. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in.

All donors are automatically entered in a drawing to win a pre-paid VISA card.

Teams are formed with as many members as they wish. If teams do not wish to spend the night, they may set up time slots as long as one member of the team is on the track at all times.

The committee is open to anyone who wishes to help in this exciting event, Pat said. There is a place for everyone to become involved. Those who do not wish to serve on the committee but would like to help in some way will be welcome.

As part of the raising awareness, emphasis is being placed on living a healthier lifestyle to promote cancer prevention. The committee will be working with the school to begin awareness of the effects of tobacco and sun on cancer prevention, and to help raise awareness on the importance of nutrition and physical activity in prevention.

By participating on a relay team or on the committee or as a community, Pat said, we are helping raise money for research, helping provide gas cards, lodging, transportation and programs to local families and to those diagnosed with cancer.

If you or someone you know, Pat said, has been stricken with cancer and needs assistance, contact one of the committee or call 1-800-237-2345. Help is only a phone call away.

Those interested in forming a team or helping on the committee, contact Pat at 785-332-5348. The time is now!!



CUTTING THEIR CAKES were Rod Klepper and Carol Marsh during the senior birthday party

Senior citizens attend Christmas potluck

Twenty-four senior Bird City residents attended the combined Christmas potluck and birthday party on Monday. Following the good food and birthday cakes provided by Rod Klepper and Carol Marsh, Bonnie Burr conducted a brief business meeting.

Mrs. Burr informed those present the name of the Senior Center has been changed to "Bird City

Area on Aging" on the tax exempt paperwork but will still remain called the Senior Center. Pastor Tom Bailey pointed out the sign on the front of the center should also have the new name added to it, and he is obtaining a quote from Hot Brush to make this addition.

Next Birthday party will be January 14.

Wellness Center

At the Senior Citizen dinner last week, it was reported the furnace has been installed to the Cheylin Wellness Center and is providing heat for the interior.

Nakita Schneider is in the process of finishing the drywall prior to painting, and the construction class students are building the interior window frames.

The rubber composite walking track has been ordered and Mike Boyson of Hot Brush is in the process of finishing the exterior sign.

Shaw Construction is scheduled to begin working on the cement parking area and sidewalks within the next two weeks and Michael Pochop of Mydee Plumbing reports the rough in plumbing is nearly completed and most of the fixtures are already here.

If things keep moving along as they have been the Wellness Center should be ready to start working out in after the first of the year.

Show to get free water for 5 years

The Bird City City Council, at the Dec. third meeting, agreed that the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Association had been charged too much for water at the show grounds. The association will have free water for the next five years.

Last year, Rod Klepper, Association board member, asked the city employees to check into why the water bill was so high for the thresher show grounds all year when they only used water the month of the thresher show.

After the city clerk, DeAnza Ambrosier and city superintendent, Brad Schneider, checked into the situation it was determined that the show grounds and a resident's meter were on the same mainline, therefore the resident's water must be subtracted from the thresher show ground's meter each month.

Mr. Klepper attended the December meeting hoping to come up with a solution. It was determined that the city would install new separate water barrels at an approximate cost of \$1,000 for each barrel to isolate two water barrels located on the show grounds.

As for the overpayment, Mr. Klepper said they were not concerned with refunding money for the overpayment, but asked for the city to provide the Thresher Show with free water and sewer for five years. Motion was made and carried to provide the Thresher Show with five years of free water and sewer and install two separate water meter barrels.

Five year strategic plan

Cathy Domsch from Century II presented the five year strategic plan for Bird City for the year 2011 thru 2015.

Hal Antholz, as the chair of five social environment goals which were: financial sustainability of Cheylin School, Community Wellness Center, senior center facility, historic preservation or community development, and increase availability of health care services.

Troy Burr and Velda Wright are the chairs for establishing six physical environment goals which were: replacement of city water system, street repair/sidewalk replacement, senior housing, recycling education and increased availability, safety issue: U.S. 36 and Bird Avenue, and the

Community Center.

Rod Young as the chair establishing six economic environment goals which were: increase availability of Blue Collar Service Industries, increase availability of financing for start-up businesses and business expansion, increase quality of economic development program for Bird City, increase retail and commercial business opportunities, increase availability of hotel/lodging, and suitability of industrial buildings.

Mrs. Domsch said the environment teams have become stagnant; have achieved many goals, but need to update if they wish to move forward and continue to become a progressive community. They can update in February 2013 with a series of town hall meetings. As the community leaders, the city council needs to be involved and committed in this process. And past discussion on future Housing Rehab/Demo Community Development Block Grant; will need Housing Assessment Tool completed. This project can be completed as part of the physical Environment Team once the strategic plan is updated, if so desired.

Scrap metal ordinance

The scrap metal dealer's ordinance No. 328 was passed. Each registration for a scrap metal dealer to purchase regulated scrap metal shall be accompanied by a fee of \$400. The registration fee for such renewal, which shall be in addition to the fee provided by section 3, shall be \$50. This ordinance will regulate the sale of scrap metal in an attempt to cut down on the theft of scrap metal.

In other business

- In other business
- Brent Whittington has been hired to fill the temporary maintenance position for up to 100 hours.
- City Clerk Ambrosier completed her training with the City Clerk Institute and is now certified.
- City policy on designated holidays has been to work on Veteran's Day and take Christmas Eve off. City employees took Veteran's Day off so they will be working on Christmas Eve.
- Employee end of the year bonuses were approved for \$250 for full-time employees and \$150 for part-time employees that have worked a full year.

Obituary

Shirley Mae Amack

Dec. 2, 1926 - Nov. 22, 2012

Shirley Mae Amack, 85, Bird City homemaker, died Thursday, Nov. 22, 2012, at Good Samaritan Village nursing home — St. Francis.

She was born on Dec. 2, 1926, to Lloyd and Myrtle Warner in Goodland. When she was five her father died. Her mother remarried when she was eight to Robert Standish and the family moved to a farm south of St. Francis in the Lawn Ridge Community.

Mrs. Amack attended grade school and high school in St. Francis.

On Sept. 21, 1946, she and Keith Amack were married. The couple lived in St. Francis and later moved to Goodland. Then they bought a house in Bird

City.

Preceding her in death were her husband on Dec. 23, 2000; her parents; her step-father; and a son Merlin at his birth.

Survivors include three sons, Gary (Vickie) Amack of Livingston, Texas, Marvin Amack of Phoenix Ariz. and Jimmy (Jan) Amack of Colorado Springs, Colo.; sister, Joyce Graves of Bird City, and many nieces and nephews.

Services were on Tuesday, Nov. 27, at Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis, with burial in the Lawn Ridge Cemetery, rural St. Francis.

Memorials to the Shirley Amack Memorial Fund may be sent to the funeral home.



Florence Antholz is celebrating her 80th Birthday!

Her children request the honor of your presence at a reception Dec. 30 - 2-4 p.m. Prairie Developmental Center, 208 S. 4th, Atwood. Cards may be sent to her at: 601 Vine, Atwood, KS 67730



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She is registered at Walmart and Target.

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