



Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick
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From the dawn of time man has built structures to honor his gods. An example of this are the great cathedrals of Europe. I'm sure Jews, Muslims, Buddhists and others have made attempts to honor their deities in similar ways. However, my experiences are as a Christian, and from this I write.

In college, in the early 1980s, I was fortunate to spend part of a summer studying in Great Britain. While there I saw several examples of the great churches built during the Middle Ages.

In England I visited Westminster Abbey, the Salisbury Cathedral and the York Minster. Each was awe-inspiring in both size and architecture.

But the place of worship that has stayed with me most is St. Paul's Cathedral in London.

One bright and sunny Sunday morning in June, I took a double-decker bus for a service there. All the way I had the picture in my mind of the giant dome surrounded by the clouds

of destruction during World War II. The Nazi Blitz targeted what was both of Christian value and a national treasure of the British. Although London burned around it, St. Paul's endured the bombing.

I don't recall the sermon that day, for I spent most of the service staring around at the ornate magnificence of the church. There was one part of the ceremony that will never leave me. When the all-boys choir began singing, it was as if the dome had opened to the heavens and the voices of angels had joined the singers.

I mentioned that St. Paul's is a national site. The crypt is the resting place of Lord Horatio Nelson, who defeated the French and Spanish Navies at the Battle of Trafalger, the Duke of Wellington, who bested Napoleon at Waterloo, and the great architect, Christopher Wren, who designed St. Paul's.

If you can't get to London in the near future to visit in person, try the website at www.stpauls.co.uk. It's worth a look.

Letters from Linda

By Linda Schneider
dublins@hotmail.com

You may or may not have noticed that I missed a week of "Letters from Linda." There was a reason for that: I was with my husband, Brad, in the Cardiac Progressive Care Unit at Hays Medical Center. He had a mild heart attack.

We are home now and Brad is doing well, but that is exactly what the doctor told me, Brad had a *mild* heart attack. If you or a loved one has ever heard that statement you are probably thinking the same thing I did, is there such a thing as a *mild* heart attack?

So that you can understand what I am talking about, I will insert the word *mild* in places I deem appropriate as I share with you this *mild* event.

When I walked into the house on Monday afternoon, Brad was *mildly* upset. He was having *mild* chest pain, his arm and neck were *mildly* in pain, and he was *mildly* confused.

After I called the doctor's office, because I was *mildly* concerned, the nurse told him that he needed to get to the hospital for tests. He *mildly*

agreed to go.

Once at the hospital, the doctor and the attendants on duty quickly took him to ER and *mildly* attached him up to a machine to check on his vitals.

Lab work was done and the doctor expressed *mild* concern about the results and decided that Brad should be airlifted to Hays Medical Center.

As Brad was being airlifted, I drove 2½ hours because of the *mild* snowstorm that was quickly approaching the area and I wanted to get there ahead of the storm.

At the center, I was quickly escorted to my husband's room. Nurses and care attendants were *mildly* prepping and wiring him up to machines and IVs. I spent the rest of the night *mildly* sleeping.

When tests were completed on Brad, the doctor told me that Brad had a *mild* heart attack and a stint had been inserted in one of his heart arteries that was 99 percent closed.

So, I ask again, "Is there such a thing as a *mild* heart attack?"

I would like to thank everyone for your prayers and the cards sent to Brad. These acts of kindness were a more-than *mild* comfort to me.

School Menu

Monday, 01/21
Breakfast: sausage, cheese scone, juice, toast, assorted cereal and milk
Lunch: burrito with chili, tater triangle, salad bar, fruit and milk

Tuesday, 01/22
Breakfast: oatmeal, juice, toast, assorted cereal and milk
Lunch: chicken fajita, rice, vegetable, salad bar, fruit and milk

Wednesday, 01/23
Breakfast: sausage gravy, biscuits, juice, toast, assorted cereal and milk
Lunch: beef and noodles, mashed potatoes, rolls, salad bar, fruit and milk

Thursday, 01/24
Breakfast: french toast, juice, toast, assorted cereal and milk
Lunch: hamburger sandwich, smile potatoes, salad bar, fruit and milk

Bulletin Board

Birthday party for 90th
Vi (Kehlbeck) Peck will turn 90 on Jan. 21. To celebrate this special occasion, her family will honor her with a birthday party to be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 19, at the Good Samaritan Village in St. Francis.

You are welcome to attend and share a special memory with Vi and have a piece of cake. No gifts please.

Cards may be sent to her in care of the Good Samaritan Village, 820 S. Denison, St. Francis, KS 67756.

Assisted Living Task Force
Are you interested in Assisted Living? If you live out-of-state, would you be interested in returning to Bird City if assisted living was made available?

This is a community project and senior citizens are encouraged to get involved. Please contact one of the following task force member, Dan Bowers, Roseanna Underwood, Sherry Carmichael, Robert (Bob) Brubaker, or Linda Schneider with your input.

You may also contact Cathy Domsch, Century II, at 785-734-2556.

Special Governing Body Meeting
A special meeting of the governing body will be held at the Century II building in the boardroom at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

The object and purpose of holding the meeting is for goal-setting for the future of Bird City.

Kansas Day celebration
Cheyenne County's 79th Kansas Day Celebration will be held Tuesday, Jan. 29, at the Bird City Legion hall. Registration opens at 10:30 a.m. The potluck will begin at noon. Leo Oliva, Kansas historian, will present "Rowdy Kansas Territory," a series of vignettes of a few important events that occurred during the troublesome territorial period and the struggle to make Kansas a free state. Cheylin and St. Francis students, the Swingin' Seniors and St. Francis Singers will provide entertainment.

Cheyenne County Historical Society
The Cheyenne County Historical Society will hold an installation of officers for 2008 at the first quarterly meeting on Jan. 20 at 2:30 p.m. in the museum. Cookies and hot cider will be served. Unique door prizes will be awarded to two lucky winners.

The Historical Society encourages everyone interested in history to become a member this year.

Reschedule Finance Course
The Crown Financial Ministry Course on debt-free living has been rescheduled to begin Jan. 19. Room for two more couples. Call 785-332-3581 for further information.

Prairie Land Food
The distribution for Prairie Land Food will be Jan. 19 from 12:30 to 1 p.m. at The First Baptist Church, 420 S. Scott.

Cheyenne County Hospital Board
The Cheyenne County Hospital Board will meet at 3 p.m. Thursday,

Jan. 24, in the basement of the clinic in St. Francis.

Kansas Day Ceremony
Cheyenne County's 79th Kansas Day Ceremony will be held Tuesday, Jan. 29, at the Bird City Legion Hall. Registration opens at 10 a.m. The potluck will begin at 11:30. Leo Oliva, Kansas historian, will present "Rowdy Kansas Territory." Other entertainment will be provided by Cheylin and St. Francis students, The Swingin' Seniors and St. Francis Singers.

Installation of officers
Installation of officers for the Cheyenne County Historical Society will take place at the first quarterly meeting at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 20, at the museum.

All interested residents of Cheyenne County are welcome to attend. The Historical Society encourages anyone interested in history to become a member this year.

Free seminar
Learn how to secure cash flow to assist your crop insurance

and production needs at a free seminar starting at 11:30 a.m. at the St. Francis Equity meeting room on Wednesday, Jan. 23. The speaker is Art Henrickson with Ag Solutions. The seminar is sponsored by the Cheyenne County Farm Bureau.

Lunch will be provided.

Please call the office at (785) 332-3312 by Jan. 18 to make a reservation.

Windsong Chorus
Chapter U, P.E.O. is sponsoring the Windsong Chorus on Jan. 27 at the high school in St. Francis at 3:30 p.m.

Veterans Affairs
Jody Tubbs, of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs, will be in St. Francis at 9:30 a.m. today (Thursday) at the county clerk's office. You may also contact the Veteran's Affairs office in Colby any Monday, Wednesday, or Friday at 785-462-3572.

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

LIEAP will start accepting applications on Jan. 22

The Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) will be accepting applications for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) from Tuesday, Jan. 22 through Monday, March 31.

The program provides an annual benefit to help qualifying households pay winter heating bills. Individuals with disabilities, elderly persons, and families with children are the primary groups assisted. An average benefit of \$293.43 was provided to 41,269 households in 2007.

"This important program helps those in need maintain safe and warm homes throughout the cold winter months," said the services secretary, Don Jordan.

To qualify, applicants must be responsible for direct payment of their heating bills. Income eligibility guidelines are set at 130 percent of the federal poverty level. Persons with incomes within the following guidelines may receive these benefits:

Persons living	
Maximum allowable	
at the address	
monthly income	
1	\$ 1,107
2	\$1,484
3	\$1,861
4	\$2,238
5	\$2,615

Add \$377 for each additional person.

The level of benefit varies according to household income, number of persons living at the address, type of dwelling, type of heating fuel, and utility rates. Applicants must demonstrate they have made payments on their heating utility bill two out of the last three months and those payments must be equal to 10 percent of the household's gross

income or \$40 whichever is less. Applications for the program have been mailed to households who received energy assistance last year, along with other targeted low-income families, including those who received

food assistance or cash assistance in December. Applications are available at local Social and Rehabilitation Services offices or can be requested by calling toll-free 1-800-432-0043. Visit www.srskansas.org to apply online.

Chatting with Cathy

By Cathy Domsch

In a December issue of the *High Plains Journal*, editor Holly Martin wrote an article titled "Community with promise?" Her first sentence was the question "What are the most important things to a young agricultural producer making his or her way back to the farm or ranch?"

In a recent program she and her family attended, young families wanting to make the transition home stated they needed a supportive community, good schools, access to good health care and career opportunities for their spouses. Basically, they need their community to be progressive.

Ms. Martin concluded her article with "It is more important than ever that we attract the best and the brightest back to the farm. But as those young people make their decisions, it is becoming even more important that they are moving back to a community with promise. Rural communities can no longer rest on the benefits they have always had. They must be proactive, progressive and engaging. If they are, finding the next generation's farmers and

business owners will take care of itself."

Take a look around our community. Are we progressive? I think so, but we still have work to do. We have high speed internet, a medical clinic, and good schools and churches. We have a beautiful city park, walking path, swimming pool and an active recreation commission. City council is applying to build new moderate income homes and a task force has been created to build an assisted living facility. There are scholarship programs available for those wishing to continue their education and come back to Bird City to live and work, and there is loan assistance for start-up and existing businesses.

I know I haven't listed everything we have to offer, and I know there is more that we could offer if we continue to work together. Let me know your ideas to continue on the progressive track for our community! Give me a call at 785-734-2556, an email at <<mailto:centuryii@bcks.net>> or stop by the office at 107 West Bressler.

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m. 2 hr. 3 min.

National Treasure: Book of Secrets
Jan. 18, 19 & 20
Nicolas Cage, Diane Kruger, Ed Harris, Helen Mirren, Justin Bartha
Action/Adventure, Thriller and Sequel
Rating: PG for some violence and action
St. Francis, KS 785-332-2747
Children 12 & Under: \$3 All Others: \$5

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Are you interested in moderate income housing in Bird City?

If you are interested in renting a single family home or duplex, stop by City Hall or BCCII to pick up an application. Applications are due by February 1 to Northwest Kansas Housing for the waiting list!

For more information contact the Foundation office at 785-734-2556 or City Hall at 785-734-2616.

BIRD CITY CENTURY II Development Foundation
785-734-2556
WWW.BIRDCITY.COM
"FOR GOOD. FOR EVER."

CHEYENNE COUNTY HOSPITAL
210 W. 1st • St. Francis, KS
785-332-2104

It's not too late to get your flu vaccine!

Flu Vaccines are still Available at the Cheyenne County Clinic. There is no appointment necessary. For more information please call 785-332-2682

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