

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

It is strange how we become dependent on things.

President Bush reminds us that we are "addicted to oil." How else would we get around? We have to have it to operate machinery for work.

When we get home what is the first thing most of us do? We turn on the television. It is what we need to get information and escape from a hectic day.

But one of the oddest obsessions has to be computers.

What got me thinking of this is an e-mail exchange from an old friend in Denver. Every day or so I get some of the most entertaining e-mails from him which are sent on to other folks. But sometimes his e-mails are serious.

He sent an e-mail last week titled "sad day." It came Friday, a day I was on the road selling ads. I didn't come across it until Monday. At first I thought it would be one of his typically funny e-mails. When I opened it I realized it was bad news.

My friend's wife had died Friday morning. It was sudden and a heart attack was suspected.

I responded by replying via e-mail. What would have been done before over the phone or by mail seemed naturally replaced by our computers.

I guess by it seeming natural proves how much we are dependent on this ever changing technology. And tonight, after I finish working on my computer, I will drive home and watch some television.

Bulletin Board

Memorial service

Memorial services for Ross Archer are scheduled for 10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 17, at Knodel Funeral Home in St. Francis. Burial of the urn will be held at a later date. Memorials may be given to the Rawlins County Hospital or the McDonald Ambulance Service.

Bird City Dairy Producer Meeting

Bird City Dairy Producers meeting is planned for 7 p.m. on Monday at the American Legion. Information concerning this meeting found in ad in this issue of the Times.

Closed Presidents' Day

The Cheyenne County Courthouse and Landfill will be closed Monday, Feb. 19, in observance of Presidents' Day.

Health Fair

The Cheyenne County Hospital will be sponsoring a Health Fair for men and women with lab draw dates of March 26 and March 28 and exam dates of March 27 through March 29. Check ad below for times and additional information concerning exams.

Tax help

AARP Tax-Aide is available in St. Francis with middle- and low-incomes. AARP volunteers Rowland Roelfs and Wayne Keeker will be available at the St. Francis Library from 2 to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays and at the St. Francis Senior Center from 2 to 5 p.m. on Thursdays through April 15.

Bird seed business featured on QVC

Bird City Bird Seed will be featured on QVC, along with its owner Tabettha Ketzner, at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 21. Mrs. Ketzner was a guest on the show before Christmas but there was a short notification which did not allow readers of the *Bird City Times* and the *Saint Francis Herald* much advanced time to see the show. In fact, many people received their papers in the mail after the showing.

Bird City Bird Seed is a small manufacturing business which produces non-toxic, weatherproof bird feed in molds as well as bags of the specially mixed seeds.

Mrs. Ketzner will be showing her spring line of items.

Commissioners meeting

The Cheyenne County Commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. today (Thursday) in the commissioner's

room at the courthouse.

Development Corporation grant

Grant applications for up to \$500 may be submitted to Midwest Energy by March 1. Your organization may contact Carol at the Cheyenne County Development Corporation at 332-3508 to submit an application.

Wildlife Banquet

Mark your calendar for March 23 when the Cheyenne County Wildlife Banquet will be held.

World War II program at The Gateway

Jay Antle, an assistant professor of history at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, will present an informative talk about "Mobilizing the Masses: World War II Homefront Posters at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, at The Gateway Civic Center in Oberlin.

For details call Ella Betts (785) 475-3557 or Mary Henzel (785) 475-3329.

Western Plains Art Association

Western Plains Art Association will present The Hughes Brothers of Branson at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 24, at the Hoxie High School Auditorium. They will do an entertaining family variety show.

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.



THE BIRD CITY Post Office participated in National Consumer Protection Week on Friday. The postal service encourages the theme "Read Up and Reach Out: Be an informed consumer." Sponsored by the Federal Trade Commission. Stop illegal scams by; Read Up, know your rights and do your research before responding. Reach Out; know who to contact, where to file complaints and help to educate others so they can protect themselves.

Times staff photo by Melinda Basnett

Obituaries

William Elmer Hook

May 12, 1934 - Feb. 1, 2007

William Elmer Hook was born May 12, 1934, to William Elmer and Hazel Edria (Nickelson) Hook in rural Sherman County, Kan. He had one older sister, Beverly.

Bill attended school at Brownville and finished his high school at Brewster and Goodland. After high school, Bill was a member of the 10th Infantry and spent two years in Germany.

Bill returned to the states where he met and married Phyllis L. (Lueschen) Hook on Sept. 2, 1958. They were blessed with four children; Myra, Bonni, Eric and Pam.

Bill was an insurance salesman. Later he became a real estate broker and auctioneer, which he enjoyed immensely. The only thing he enjoyed more than auctioning was his grandkids and recently his great-grandkids.

Bill fought the good fight and finished the race, dying on Feb. 1, 2007. He left behind his wife, Phyllis; children, Myra and Mark Pizzo of Hobbs, N.M., Bonni and Steve Pennie of Boise, Idaho, Eric and Leslie Hook and Pam Hook and Jim Bolin of St. Francis; his granddaughters, Amanda and Robert Acosta and Meredith and Tommy Snook, of Hobbs, Stephanie Pennie of Tulsa, Okla., Valerie and Emilie Pennie of Boise; great-grandchildren are Miranda and Daniel Acosta and Shelby and Eric Snook of Hobbs.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Bill and Hazel; and his sister, Beverly Ingram.

Funeral services were held Feb. 3

at the United Methodist Church in St. Francis with Reverend Morita Truman officiating.

Escorts were special friends Leonard Richard, Charles Curry, Gary Leach, Norris Anderson, Pat Stuart, Willard Busby, Don Whitmore and Maurice Blume.

Arrangements were by Knodel Funeral Home, St. Francis.

Olive Fishbeck Stebbins

Feb. 28, 1909 - Jan. 24, 2007

Olive Fishbeck Stebbins was born Feb. 28, 1909, in Cheyenne County, Kan., to Philip and Ivy Fishbeck and died Jan. 24, 2007.

She was married in 1930 to Marlin Stebbins, who preceded her in death. She was also preceded by a daughter and granddaughter.

Olive is survived by two daughters, Miriam Wolfe and Ferida Siver, as well as three grandchildren, five nieces, six nephews and four great-grandchildren; also two sisters, Hazel Brannan and Mildred Hargrove.

Interment was in the Crown Hill Cemetery in Denver.

Henry Dean (Hank) Weaver

Died Feb. 5, 2007

Henry Dean (Hank) Weaver, age 71, died Feb. 5, 2007, at the Ted Warthen Center in St. George, Utah, after bravely battling prostate cancer for several years.

Hank of Mesquite, Nev., was born in St. Francis, Kan.

He served in the Korean War and returned home to run the family farm for more than 50 years.

On Nov. 19, 1988, he married Carla P. Cody in Las Vegas, Nev., where they resided for several years.

His love of the mountains and fish-

ing took them to Beaver, Utah. Hank created a picture-perfect setting on the side of a mountain where he built a beautiful log home, landscaped to perfection. A small building in back was an art studio for his painting passion.

In 2001, Hank and Carla moved to Mesquite. Hank immediately became involved in local activities, including the Elks Lodge, The Mesquite Fine Arts Center and Studio 31, which was his pride.

Despite knowing his battle with cancer was lost, he never lost his love of life. He enthusiastically welcomed every visitor with the same positive attitude he displayed with all of his friends and family. Many lives were touched by Hank and many will feel blessed by having known him.

Hank is survived by his wife, Carla, of Mesquite; sister Polly Shahan of Nebraska; son Michael of Colorado; daughter Jeanine of Kansas, and three lovely granddaughters.

Hank's memorial service were held on Saturday, Feb. 10, at the Mesquite United Methodist Church, 420 Pioneer Blvd., followed by a celebration of life at the Mesquite Elks Lodge.

In lieu of flowers, Hank requested that donations be made to the Mesquite Cancer Help Society, the Ted Warthen Center for the Terminally Ill, St. George, Utah, or the Mesquite Elks Lodge Building Fund.

SHOWTIME: 7:30 p.m.

2 hours, 07 min.

Feb. 16, 17 & 18

We Are Marshall

Drama and Sports

Starring: Matthew McConaughey, Matthew Fox, David Strathairn, Ian McShane, Anthony Mackie

Rating: PG for emotional thematic material, a crash scene, and mild language.

Cheyenne Theater St. Francis, KS 785-332-2747

Children 11 & under: \$2 12-18 yr.: \$3 Senior Citizens: \$3 Adults: \$4

CHEYENNE COUNTY HOSPITAL

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

The Cheyenne County Hospital will be sponsoring a Health Fair for Men and Women. We will offer a female exam that includes a breast and pelvic exam with pap smear, the male exam will include a prostate check. There are two lab exams available - the lab profile will be a Chemistry Panel (with TSH and Lipid panel) and PSA. The fee is due at time of service and will not be billed to insurance.

Lab Draws Dates and Times

Mon., March 26 - Wed., March 28 • 7-10 a.m. daily
•No appointment needed. •PLEASE REMEMBER TO FAST FOR THE CHEM PANEL LAB TEST (nothing to eat or drink except water after your evening meal)

Lab Draw Location: Cheyenne Co. Health Dept. (located in the Cheyenne Co. Clinic basement)

Exam dates and times:

Tues., March 27 • 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Wed., March 28 • 1:30-5:00 p.m.
Thurs., March 29 • 1:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Location: Cheyenne Co. Clinic - St. Francis

Fee: Female Exam - \$25; Male Exam - \$25; Chemistry Panel w/TSH & Lipid - \$35; PSA - \$20.

Please contact the Cheyenne County Clinic to schedule your exam or if you have additional questions at 785-332-2682.

The Cheyenne County Clinic and Health Department will be sponsoring health fairs twice a year being offered the last week of March and last week of September.

The Bird City Times

(USPS 056-720)

Serving the communities of Bird City and McDonald

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Melinda Basnett, Associate Editor
Karen Krien - Publisher
Shawn C. McCormick - Adv. Mgr.
Periodicals postage paid at Bird City, Kansas 67731-0220
Phone (785) 538-2289
Fax (785) 332-3001
Or Phone (785) 332-3162
E-Mail bctimes@nwkansas.com
Published every Thursday \$30 per year in Cheyenne and surrounding counties; other in-state and all out-of-state subscriptions, \$34 (strictly in advance).

Postmaster: Send address correction to P.O. Box 220 Bird City, Kansas 67731-0220

Official City Newspaper
Published Weekly By
Nor'West Newspapers,
Incorporated
Bird City, KS 67731



Bird City Dairy Producer Meeting

Monday, February 19 ~ 7 pm at the American Legion

Open to any area producers interested in selling feed commodities to Bird City Dairy. Listen to a short presentation on specific feed needs, then visit with Mike McCarty one-on-one, as Bird City Dairy is ready to establish long-term relationships with potential producers for the Dairy.



BIRD CITY CENTURY II Development Foundation 785-734-2556

"A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE BIRD CITY COMMUNITY."



American Profile

Celebrating Hometown Life

See American Profile magazine in this week's issue of

The Saint Francis Herald

(available in local area only)

Brought to you by The Herald

"Your sponsorship could be right here.

For more information contact: Casey at 785-332-3162

Corrections

The *Saint Francis Herald* will correct or clarify any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at 332-3162 to report errors. We believe that news stories should be fair and factual, and appreciate your calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.