

It's time for the Thresher Show



Queen tells her history

This year's Thresher Queen will be crowned at the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher show on Thursday, July 26, at noon on the show grounds. The Thresher Show will start on Wednesday and end Sunday morning. The schedule of events is less on Sundays but there will be a church service in the old church on the grounds.

The Thresher Queen is always a secret revealed at the crowning. This year's queen was born and raised in the surrounding area in 1925. There were six children in her family and she was the third child.

She remembers the Dirty 30s when, in the middle of the day, it became night time and that it was very scary. "Mother and Dad would always have us kids in the cellar as we didn't know what was happening," she said. "It was a black cloud of dirt. Everyone said it was blowing from Oklahoma."

Then, of course, she remembers the 1935 flood.

"I will never forget that!" she said.



2007 Thresher Queen

Their house set on a hill so water came up around the yard. After the water went down, her father hitched up his mule and wagon, and he and a neighbor went to see if they could find any stranded people.

"Guess this is all for now. So guess who I am," the mystery queen said.

Hospital reneges on lot purchase

The Cheyenne County Hospital Board met in special session on Monday, July 9, clinic basement meeting room in St. Francis to discuss the recent agreement to purchase property for a parking lot. With an audience comprised of neighbors, the board agreed not to purchase the property.

According to the unapproved minutes of the July 9 meeting, those present were board members: Jerry Toler, Swede Calnon, Joy Anderegg and Traci Neitzel; neighbors: Deb Harper, Don and Carol Gamblin, Craig and Sharon Van Allen, Roseanna White, Glorienne Milne and Marjorie Walz. Others at the meeting were Les Lacy, hospital administrator, and Shawna Blanka, record. Jackie John, representing Great Plains Health Alliance, was there via ITV.

Mr. Lacy told those objecting to the proposed Spencer Street parking lot that the parking lot had been planned so the area in front of the hospital and clinic could be used for patients and visitors. Employee parking has been an issue.

Mrs. Harper asked where was the consideration for the neighbors — they felt like they should have been consulted from the beginning and where would the money for the project come from?

Mr. Lacy that the hospital funds depreciation to do facility upkeep such as this project. She said she thought there were more things in the hospital that needed the money than buying the property. She also stated that, if the hospital didn't need money, then why was it still on the tax roll.

One of those attending asked if the employees had a problem with walking a block?

The group said they would prefer employees parking around the block versus having a parking lot on the block.

"The paper said that in the future the east would be made into parking like the west, why don't you do that first?" Mrs. Gamblin said.

Some issues we have are the water that runs from the emergency entrance, drains into that property and it will create problems in the winter and the safety of the kids in the area, she said.

"When we moved here a few years ago we bought our house because it was a good neighborhood, nice houses and if there would have been the parking lot then, we would not have bought our house," she said.

Mrs. Harper said she noticed, when it snows, the hospital property doesn't get cleaned now in a timely matter so when it snows who is going to clean the new parking area?

Mr. Van Allen said that the park-

ing lot will decrease the value of the entire block.

It was pointed out that there are 45 parking spots and if the hospital was really that concerned with parking couldn't the employees park a little further away? And what about the parking spot that has been filled with rock on the west side.

They realized that the day that the mammography truck comes does cause issues for parking.

Mrs. White said she felt it would be an issue with kids and the cars going in and out of the alley and to the street.

Mr. Van Allen told the board that 100 percent of the neighbors are against the purchase of the property. We have a nice neighborhood and we will continue to take care of it.

Mr. Lacy pointed out that he has no personal investment in this one way or the other. He said the board has budgeted carefully and have looked at this from a financial standpoint; they have board reserves and funded depreciation to help with the upkeep on the facility.

"Why were we not invited to the first meeting when this was discussed and decided upon?" Mrs. Gamblin asked. "We had to find out about it in the paper. You were not considering us like you said you were."

Mrs. Harper asked Mr. Calnon why he had asked about the property. He said so the employees would have more parking, for safety issues and possibility of preventing wrecks on the streets.

Someone mentioned that the hospital could request for more stop signs to be put in if needed. Mr. Calnon pointed out that the hospital board meetings are public meetings and anyone can attend.

Mr. Van Allen said he was contacted by a board member who said if the neighbors were against the parking lot, then other avenues would be pursued but then it came out in the paper that the board had voted to purchase the property.

Mr. Gamblin said that the east parking made more sense for now, the grass is pretty but expensive, so why not go ahead and make the east side parking like the west side.

Mr. Lacy said the east basement entrance has a fire code issue that needs to be taken care of. It was asked then isn't being up to code more important than spending the money on the property?

The board went into a 20-minute executive session at 9:10 to discuss property with no decisions to be made. After coming out of executive session Ms. Anderegg moved to not purchase the property and send a letter telling them of the decision to everyone on the block.

THRESHER SHOW TIME — Norman Dorsch and Larry Fikan move an antique planter getting ready for the 54th Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show.

Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

Thresher show begins Thursday

By Karen Krien
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The sound of the thresher's whistle Thursday morning, July 26, will mark the beginning of the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher show east of Bird City on U.S. 36. The show will go full steam until Sunday when there are limited activities but services will be held in the old church on the grounds.

Thursday through Saturday will find the antique steam engines in action, threshing, plowing, corn shelling and wood sawing. The parade of cars and tractors will be held each day at 1:15 p.m. Earlier, the parade of old machinery and early-day harvest equipment is held at 10:45.

On Thursday at noon, the 2006 Thresher Queen will be recognized and then, the new Thresher Queen will be crowned. The princess, Holly Keller, will be on hand throughout the show to throw in the first bundle of wheat to be threshed.

The old-fashioned literary will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday in the country schoolhouse. Everyone is encouraged to bring poems and stories to share.

On Friday, the Highway 385 Band will be entertaining at 7 p.m. The McDonald Lions Club barbecue will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Saturday. The antique tractor pull

will start at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Sunday church services will be held at 9 and 9:30 a.m. Barb Beougher, lay minister, will be the speaker.

Activities

There are numerous activities for the kids and adults. The kid's favorite is the tug-o'-war which starts at 1 p.m.

New this year is kite flying. Each day at 2:30 p.m., everyone, young and old, is encouraged to bring their kite to the grounds. With the winds that usually blow in northwest Kansas, there should be some great kite flying.

Visit the buildings

The Thresher show grounds has numerous buildings fill with interesting items from the past. Building Three has antique farm machinery; Building Seven is the car museum; Building Nine is the blacksmith shop; The creamery is located in Building 10; Building 11 is the Bacon steam engine building; Building 12 holds the quilt display and printing press; and Building 14 is the Dorsch/Sawyer tractor museum.

New buildings added to the grounds this year are the Brubaker and Wilkens buildings. People will want to be sure and check out the contents of these buildings.

One of the buildings which offers

lots of history and demonstrations is the Eggers Building. It is filled with historical crafts, early-day pioneer rooms and exhibits. The caboose sits beside the building.

Dorothy Mast, Bird City, will demonstrate how to develop a memory book journal on Saturday at 10:30 a.m. Barbara Smith, Bird City, will be working in the beauty shop but, as of Tuesday, the times of the demonstrations were not known.

Bonnie Burr, one of the Eggers Building coordinator, said the new queen doll will be put in the case during the show. She urges everyone to stop by and see the large collection of queen dolls.

The queen is responsible for having a doll made and bringing it to the

Thresher Show. Mrs. Burr said it is amazing how much each doll resembles her queen.

Swap meet

There will be a swap meet each day from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the east side of the grounds.

The new co-presidents, Clayton and Lori Janicke, are looking forward to the show.

"We will have many of the same activities, showing the younger generation how our grandparents and great-grandparents lived," said Mrs. Janicke. "We urge everyone to stop by and spend the day — there is a lot to see."

For more information, contact the Janickes at 785-734-2667; or Ken Beougher, 785-734-2555.

Schedule

Thresher Show schedule
9:30 - Servicing equipment.
10 - Invocation, flag raising, introductions including queen and princess.
10:15 - Corn shelling/prony brake and Baker fan testing.
10:45 - Parade of old machinery and early-day harvest equipment.
11:15 - Pyramid stunt/steam engine talk/thresher talk.
11:45 - Steam engine races.

Noon - lunch
1 - Kids tug-o'-war with small steam engine.
1:15 - Parade of antique cars
1:30 - Parade of antique tractors and steam engines
2:30 - Thresher, plowing and straw baling
Kite flying
3:15 - Saw mill and shingle mill
4 - Steam engine races/stationary engine demo/antique auto display
4:30 - Steam engine rides

Fair board overturns hog classification

By Leslie McCormick
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The Cheyenne County Fair Board was faced Thursday night with making a decision on whether a hog could be shown as a Hampshire or crossbred. After a lengthy discussion, the board overturned the ruling made by two different officials.

A 4-H family purchased what they thought was a Hampshire hog. At both the 4-H livestock weigh-in and the Spring Livestock Show, the hog was classified by two different officials as a crossbred because of the underbelly of the hog. The Hampshire rules read that in order to qualify as a Hampshire, the belt must go completely around the girth of the

hog, which, in the case of this particular hog, it did not.

The rules also state that the white on the rear legs cannot come above the hock of the animal. The hog in question had an "off belt," meaning that the belt does not go all the way around and the white on the right rear leg comes above the hock by at least 1 to 2 inches.

The 4-H family (the name was never mentioned at the meeting) did object to the classification on both rulings. However the family did not make direct contact with the superintendent. Two fair board members, Dick Bursch and Jared Douthit, presented the information to the superintendent.

Mr. Bursch said that he and Mr. Douthit would not be voting on

the issue as they were only presenting the facts for the other members to decide.

Mr. Douthit brought an updated classification with a new ruling that said a Hampshire with an off belt can be shown as a market hog but not as a breeding Hampshire.

John Finley, board member, felt that the hog had been classified twice as a crossbred, and the board should stand behind its superintendents.

Nick Ketzner said that he could see both sides of the matter. Mr. Ketzner classifies the sheep and he said he was pretty lenient as to his judgment on the rules with low numbers of sheep.

After lots of questions and lots of discussion, the members had a



motion and a second to vote. Mr. Ketzner asked if they could vote by secret ballot so that nobody knew who voted which way. Mr. Bursch said that they could vote that way. Gary Cooper, secretary, calculated the votes and announced six votes for Hampshire and one no.

Editor's note: Read more about the fair board meeting elsewhere in this issue.