



Cheyenne County Hospital - First Place - Business Division.

Thresher Queen remembers things from her youth

By Karen Krien
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For two weeks prior to the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show, there were clues printed about the new Thresher Queen and who she would be. There were people who knew her but hadn't guessed she was the queen. Even the photo of her as a young girl didn't give the secret away.

On Thursday, July 26, Millie Glasco, Bird City, was crowned in a special noon ceremony. Her predecessor Agnes Burk, who was also at the crowning, presented the doll in her image to the Thresher Association.

Mrs. Glasco was born Feb. 17, 1925, to Miles and Gertrude Jones in Benkelman. Her dad raised a lot of hogs and had cows and calves plus fed cattle. Mother raised turkeys and that was how the grasshoppers were controlled.

Mrs. Glasco was the third child and had two brothers and three sisters. They lived on the Republican River. When the 1935 flood came, she remembers it as "terrible."

"We saw houses and all sorts of things go down the river," she said.

"Close to our place, a neighbor and his wife were stranded on top of their house for two nights."

She said the only thing that saved them was that the corner of their house fell into the door of their cellar and was caught. Mrs. Glasco's mother always left a light on in her window and the neighbors swam to that light.

The Jones house was high enough that the water raised only to their yard. After the water went down, they built a swinging bridge across the water. For a long time, that was the only way they could get across the river to go to town.

"The school bus would come as far as possible and we walked down to get on," she said, noting that, at the time, she was only 10-years-old.

In the Dirty 30s, Mrs. Glasco remembers the middle of the day being as dark as the night. They would go to the cellar because they couldn't tell what was coming.

Her grandfather, Joel Thomas Jones, drove stage coach from Independence, Mo., to Salt Lake City for many years.

"My father often told stories that Grandfather had told him — things



Queen Millie Glasco

that happened to him while he drove," she said.

Mrs. Glasco went to school in Benkelman and graduated in 1943. She worked at the bank until she married Glenn Glasco in April 1945. Mr. Glasco was in the service at the time, having volunteered in August 1944. He went to the South Pacific shortly afterwards.

While Mr. Glasco was gone, Mrs. Glasco went to work for her dad who owned the Benkelman Sales Company. Mr. Glasco returned home in November 1946. They had two children, Lynn, who married Candy Childers; and Connie, who married Ron Huxman. Through the years, they were blessed with five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

"I feel truly blessed," the queen concluded.

Budget hearing held prior to the city council meeting

By Melinda Basnett

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Monday evening began with the public budget hearing before the regular Bird City City Council meeting. There were a number of citizens there for the hearing and they voiced a number of questions.

Those present were Ted Patch, Hal Sager, Darlene Burr, Larry and Treva Henry, Michael Sager, and Cathy Domsch. Mayor Troy Burr called the hearing to order and the questions began.

Mrs. Henry took the floor saying that she was alarmed when she saw the amount of increase in the budget for the coming year. The dollar amount of the 2007 budget went from \$448,400 to a proposed \$586,693, a \$138,293 increase.

"We have to remember that most people are on a fixed income and if it (budget) keeps going up, people will have to move," she said.

She quoted figures from the published budget and Mayor Burr asked her where she got her figures and told her she was wrong. He ex-

plained the mill levy had actually gone down 3 mills. But due to a change in the valuations, the budget had increased.

"Well, we just need to watch what we are doing," Mrs. Henry said. "We are," Mayor Burr said. Adding that the council had left much of the budget the same as last year.

"What do you want us to do? What services would you like us to cut out? Give us some direction," he said.

Mrs. Henry said she would let him know and took her seat.

The next question came from Mr. Patch.

"How much of the \$100,000 increase in the water and sewer budget is the new facility (waste water treatment) and how many years can we expect the increase to continue?" he asked.

Mayor Burr explained that if the money is not included in the budget, it cannot be spent if needed without amending the budget and publishing the amendment, and having another hearing. All of which is time con-

suming and costly, he said.

"We figured high in case we need it." Mayor Burr said.

"There was \$40,000 for production and distribution and \$60,000 for improvements added," councilwoman Deb Smith said.

Mayor Burr went on to explain that water and sewer funds are generated by sales, not taxes. Meaning that projected sales would cover the expense, not raising taxpayers' expense. If the money is not needed for repairs it will carryover into the next year's funds.

"I noticed there is no equipment fund" Mr. Henry asked.

"We don't publish that because that isn't budgeted. That money comes from the general fund, and water revenue," treasurer Phyllis Carson explained.

Council members have no plans for any major equipment purchases at this time.

After no further questions, the hearing was adjourned and the budget was approved.

Book Review

Book review from the Bird City Public Library

Cold Mountain
By Charles Frazier

One of the most acclaimed novels in recent memory, Charles Frazier's *Cold Mountain* is a masterpiece that is at once an enthralling adventure, a stirring love story, and a luminous evocation of a vanished America in all its savagery, solitude

and splendor.

Sorely wounded and fatally disillusioned in the fighting at Petersburg, Inman, a Confederate soldier, decides to walk back to his home in the Blue Ridge Mountains and to Ada, the woman he loved there years before. His trek across the disintegrating South brings him into intimate and sometimes lethal converse with slaves and marauders,

bounty hunters and witches, both helpful and malign. At the same time, Ada is trying to revive her father's derelict farm and learn to survive in a world where the old certainties have been swept away. As it interweaves their stories, *Cold Mountain* asserts itself as an authentic American *Odyssey*—hugely powerful, majestically loved and keenly moving.

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To apply or for more information, contact Casey McCormick or Karen Krien at the St. Francis Herald, 785-332-3162 or stop by the office at 310 W. Washington, St. Francis.



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