

Thresher Show begins next week

By Karen Krien

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The Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher show begins Thursday, July 31, at the thresher show grounds east of Bird City. The show will wind down Sunday with church service at 9 a.m. at the old church on the grounds.

Through Saturday visitors 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.

The new Thresher Queen's identity will be revealed and crowned. The 2007 Thresher Queen, Millie Glasco, will retire and her doll will be displayed with the other former queen dolls. The princess, Mandie Walden, 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. 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.

Activities

A new activity (this is the second year) will be kite flying. Each day at 2:30 p.m., everyone, young and old, is encouraged to bring their kite to the grounds. There should be some great kite flying.

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

People are welcome to visit the many buildings filled with articles used in the past. There will be demonstrations, new items to see and other activities. The swap meet will be held on the grounds. This is an attraction that draws collectors looking for certain items.

Visit the buildings

New this year is the Thresher Show special section which was inserted in the *Bird City Times* and *The St. Francis Herald* this week. It is being delivered to subscribers throughout the United States. Extra copies are available on the grounds.

The co-presidents of the Threshers Association are Clayton and Lori Janicke. They have been working with the many volunteers who make the Thresher show a success each year.

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



WADE CARMICHAEL INSTALLS new speakers at the Van Doren Park. Assisting him is Brad Schneider, city maintenance.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

Music coming soon to park

It won't be long before visitors at the Van Doren Park will be hearing music as they walk and play.

Wade Carmichael, Parks and Recreation Committee, along with Craig White and Brad Schneider, are installing speakers on the light poles that are beside the trail that runs through the park. The amplifier will be placed in

the Scout House, formerly the Boy Scout House. The amplifier and speakers were provided by a grant through Bird City Century II Development Foundation.

The Bird City Century II Development Foundation is classified as an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3), supporting organizations, and a non-profit

corporation organized in the state of Kansas.

The Foundation is a community foundation, which represents an opportunity for all friends of the Bird City community to give, through philanthropy, back to the Bird City community to enhance and ensure the quality of life for present and future generations of Bird City.



THE 2008 THRESHER QUEEN was in first grade posing with her fellow classmates at the country school she attended. There could be anywhere from three to 15 pupils at a time. Attending church with her neighbor, and friends is a special memory.

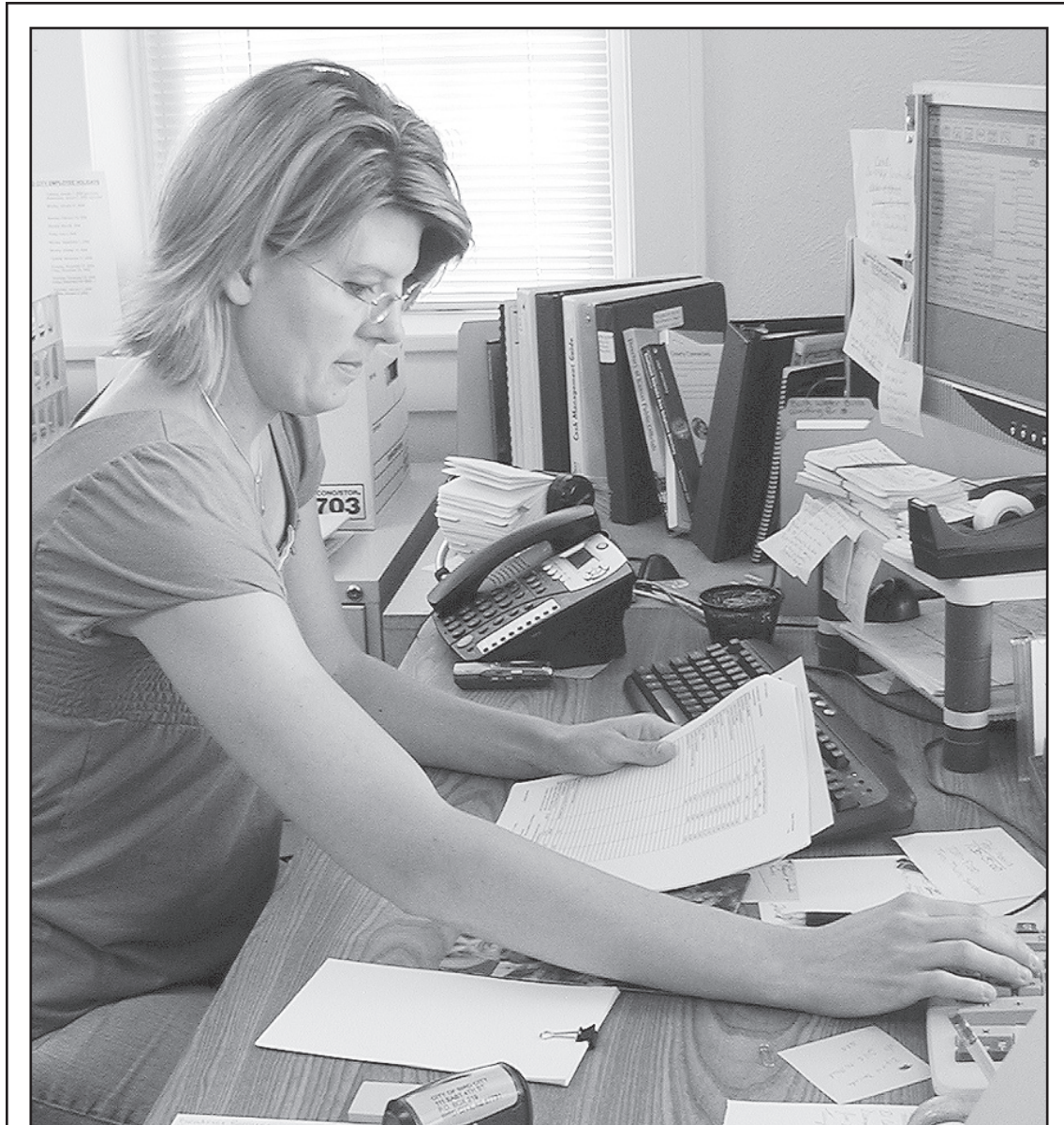
Last clues from Thresher Queen

The crowning of the 2008 Thresher Queen will be held on Thursday, July 31, in front of the grandstand at the Thresher show grounds. For the last two weeks, clues to the queen's identity have been printed. This week there is a photo when she was a student in country school.

The queen remembers the family boarding the Burlington passenger train in Bird City to go to Nebraska to visit relatives for Christmas.

So, who is she?

She is looking forward to meeting everyone at the Thresher Show at noon on July 31.



BIRD CITY HAS A NEW CITY CLERK. Tabetha Ketzner has filled the position vacated by Jana Diers. She is open for city business and says she likes the challenges her new position offers. Mrs. Ketzner and her family, Noel, Jacquelyn, Joslyn and Jade, are long-time Bird City residents.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

Forum will be held in Sainty

By Casey McCormick

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Members of the Community Builders group met on Wednesday, July 16, to finalize plans for a Cheyenne County candidate forum. The event will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday at the St. Francis Community High School auditorium.

All of the individuals running for office have been contacted and are expected to be at the forum. Each will be given time to introduce themselves and answer questions about why they should be elected.

Although all candidates, including those which are running uncontested, will be able to speak, more time will be given to contested races.

These include the office of District Court Judge, 15th District 2; Kevin Berens (R.) Scott Showalter (R.) and Andrea Wyrick (R); District Magistrate Judge, 15th District; Robert Van Allen (R) and Steven Orth (D); sheriff; Craig Van Allen (R.) David Warren (R.) and Philip Walters (R); treasurer; Dolores Jenik (R) and Carl Jenkins (R); commissioner District 2; Ray Lee (R) and Dale Patton (I)

The candidates that are uncontested and that should be present are commissioner District 3, Andrew Beikman (R); county clerk; Terry Miller (R); register of deeds; Mary Morrow (R). County attorney, Kari Gilliland (R) will not be able to attend but will have a statement read.

The Community Builders looked at formats used by other counties since this is the first time a forum such as this has been held in the county. Members of the group selected questions that will help the audience know more about the individuals running for office.

The questions will be sent to the candidates in advance.

The goal of the forum is to help voters make a more educated decision when they get to the voting booth.

Following the question and answer session in the auditorium, the candidates will be available for one-on-one conversations in the high school cafeteria. Refreshments will be served.

Acreage approved for grazing

"Emergency grazing of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage has been approved," said Angie Berens, director of the Cheyenne County Farm Service Agency.

Emergency grazing is allowed through Sept. 30. Participants shall leave at least 25 percent of each field or contiguous reserve program field ungrazed for wildlife, or graze not more than 75 percent of the stocking rate. All livestock must be removed by the end of this grazing period.

Emergency grazing and any other approved type of this program haying or grazing is not allowed on the same acreage.

"Ranchers and landowners interested in grazing reserve program land should contact our office to request emergency grazing on an individual contract basis prior to grazing," said Mrs. Berens.

Participants will work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to develop a forage management plan. If the Conservation Reserve Program cover is destroyed, the practice must be re-established at their own expense to remain in compliance with the program's contract.

Participants must also accept a 25-percent reduction in the annual rental payment for the acres actually grazed. Contact the Cheyenne County Service Center at (785) 332-2183.