

## Activities listed for next week's show

The Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show begins Thursday, July 30, at the thresher show grounds east of Bird City. The show will wind down Sunday with a church service at 9 a.m. at the Neville Country Church on the grounds.

Through Saturday, visitors will find the antique steam engines in action, threshing, plowing, straw baling, and wood sawing.

In addition, there are many programs taking place each day. After the flag raising and introduction of personnel at 10 a.m., the pyramid stunt, steam engine and thresher talk will start at 11:15 a.m. The Steam Engine Races are at 11:45 a.m. and visitors can enjoy a great lunch with the doors opening to the cafeteria at noon.

The 2009 Thresher Queen's identity will be revealed and she will be crowned at 1 p.m. on Thursday. The 2008 Thresher Queen, Lucille Wright, will retire and her doll will be displayed with the other former queen dolls. The princess, Dale Northrup, will be on hand throughout the show to throw in the first bundle of wheat to be threshed.

The parade of antique cars will be held at 1:30 p.m., following with the parade of antique tractors and steam engines to begin at 1:45 p.m. Friday will have a special recognition of Auto Club.

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 Heart City Heart Warmers will be entertaining at 7 p.m. at the Bird

City American Legion Hall. The McDonald Lions Club barbecue will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Saturday.

### Activities

A new activity (this is the second year) will be kite flying. Following the parade of antique tractors and steam engines, 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. Starting at 3:30 p.m., tiny tots through second grade children are invited to participate in the pedal tractor and car parade. Registration is required for this event starting at 3 p.m. at the Wilken's Building.

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 is 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 2009 president of the Threshers Association is Lonnie Coon. He has been working with the many volunteers who make the Thresher show a success each year.

For more information, contact Mr. Coon at 785-890-3514; or Ken Beougher, 785-734-2555.



JENNIFER SABATKA (LEFT) SINGS along with her daughter, Grace, during the Talent Show in McDonald.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

## Great weather for talent show and ice cream social

By Vera Kacirek

The weather on Sunday evening was perfect for the Talent Show and Ice Cream Social in the McDonald Park. A cloud in the west shaded the Gazebo and the lawn, making it very comfortable. A cloud hung in the west and waited until the end of the Show before it began to sprinkle.

Pastor Mark Adams welcomed everyone and offered the prayer for the evening. Master of ceremonies, Jay Gordon, got everything started on time. He did a super job with good jokes between numbers.

First on the program was Brenda Monpinio and her children, Daniel and Celina. They sang, "This Little Light of Mine." Phyllis Wingfield had several humorous readings that she had been asked to do.

Dawn Petty played several differ-

ent kinds of music on her violin and closed with "God Bless America." Alejandro Martinez did an original acrobatic dance. Alexi Regier dressed like a cowgirl and recited the speech she had given when she was a contestant for the Thomas County Miss Rodeo Princess. Ariel Regier sang the beautiful Christian song, "My Cross."

Grace Sabatka sang the song, "Lord, I Lift Your Name On High" with actions she learned at Bible School, and last was Jennifer Sabatka who entertained the crowd with the song, "The Little Brown Dog and The Little Green Frog," accompanied by Dawn Petty on the guitar.

Following the program, everyone enjoyed soft-serve ice cream and a variety of cakes.

The evening was called an Ice Cream Social, but the highlight of the evening was the quality of the Talent Show. Every entertainer reflected the spirit of the McDonald community-friendly, Christian, and caring.

A lot of the crowd were older and needed help to get seated, there was always someone close by to assist them.

The McDonald Area Development Committee is glad to sponsor this evening for the community each year, a patriotic, Christian, friendly program for all to enjoy.

A drawing was held for the donkey cart that Bill Schall had donated to the McDonald Area Development, and the winner of the drawing was Sylvia Walker.



DURING THE YARD AND GARDEN TOUR, visitors stopped at the Van Doren Park for refreshments and a walk around the park.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

## Tour promotes conservation

As part of series of yard and garden programs, as well as to promote community water conservation awareness, The Water Conservation Project Committee of Cheyenne County hosted a tour in both St. Francis and Bird City last weekend.

The Water Conservation Project Committee is one of eight in northwest Kansas that is a member of the Western Prairie Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc.

The Committee's mission is to be the vehicle to establish an environment of cooperation that will promote economic growth, stability and enhanced quality of life within the counties of northwest Kansas.

Members include Dana Belshe, Duane Cheney, Stan Dorsch, Eric Fiala, Joan Gienger, Myra Hyde, Joe Leibbrandt, Roger Orth, Spencer Schlepp, and Kary Zweygardt.

To start the four-stop tour in Bird City on Sunday, the first was at Dee and Stan Dorsch's

home. The second stop, Gwen Boswell's home, followed by a stop at the Van Doren Park with refreshments, and the last stop, Bud and Helen Frisbie's home.

At each stop, a crowd of about 15 attendees was given a tour of the property and heard stories from the owners.

Mr. and Mrs. Dorsch talked about the maintenance of having many plants indigenous to Kansas. Their talk included the care and weeding of the buffalo grass that surrounds their home. Visitors were given a tour of an area where several plants common to Kansas were planted.

On the next stop at Mrs. Boswell's home, she said most of the plantings around her home were accidents. She is living in the home her parents, Harry and Ruby Rambat, bought in the early 1960s.

It was pointed out many of her landscapes were watered through a soak and drip system. In her backyard, she planted a memorial tree for her son.

At the Van Doren Park, visitors stopped and had refreshments of fresh baked cookies and cool bottled water. Cathy Domsch, executive director Century II Development Foundation, was on hand to speak on the recent updates and construction to the park.

In addition, many of the local residents who attended the tour reminisced over the memories of past events in the park. Stories about the Shelter House and the old fire pit area that had been removed abounded.

The tour ended with a visit to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frisbie.

A concern in recent years has been to bring into focus awareness that of the eight wells in Cheyenne County that are fed by the Ogallala Aquifer, seven have declined in the water level over the last 10 years and have received national attention.

While the Committee knows they "can't save the world," they can perhaps promote good stewardship through information and education.



BRUCE AND EMILY BOLEN (LEFT), during the welcome barbecue on Sunday. Also pictured, (right) Shayla Hubbard, Rod Young and Stephanie Busse.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

## Residents welcome superintendent

It was a good weather for the community welcome barbecue for the new Cheylin superintendent/principal Bruce Bolen and his wife, Emily, at the Van Doren Shelter House and park held on Sunday.

The Cheylin Booster Club

sponsored the event and provided the hamburgers and hot dogs while everyone attending was asked to bring a favorite salad or dessert.

"We are both excited about being here in Bird City, it has always been our desire to live

and work in a small community," said Superintendent Bruce Bolen.

After grace was said by Pastor Dan Carson, everyone lined up and enjoyed good hamburgers, hot dogs and brats prepared by Rod Young and Loren White.