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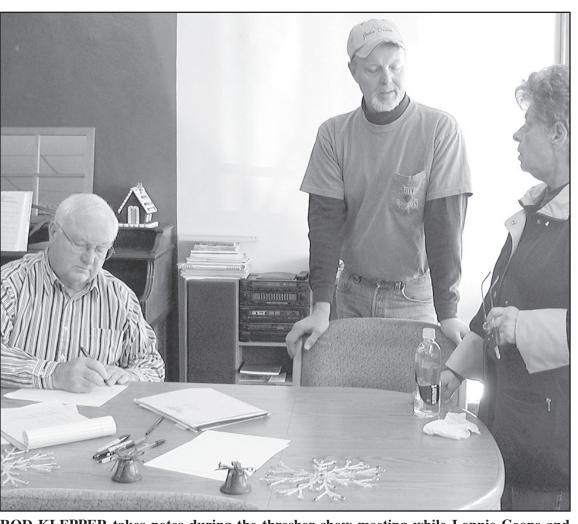
Kansas Day held



GUSTAVE HESPE points to the 'KS' while Mitchell Howard tells how Kansas got it's name during the Kansas Day presentation by Cheylin third and fourth graders. Times staff photos by Norma Martinez



PHIL CRAWFORD 'Tumbleweed' entertained the guests during the Kansas Day luncheon.



ROD KLEPPER takes notes during the thresher show meeting while Lonnie Coons and Phyllis Wright discuss the plans being made for this year's 60th anniversary.

Plans being made for bigger and better thresher show

By Norma Martinez bc.times@nwkansas.com

Last year's Antique Engine and Thresher Show was one of the best. Plans are off and in the making for a bigger and better Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher show. The show will be celebrating its 60th anniversary and a group of 25 residents came to the meeting on Sunday with lots of good ideas for drawing in a larger crowd than last year. They plan on adding more educational and fun-type events than in past vears.

Rod Klepper has been checking into the cost of expanding the outreach through different means of advertising. He hopes to accomplish this through community bill boards, brochures, radio, magazines with a broad coverage of more than just the local areas, and is asking for any other suggestions.

"Our thresher show is known as being the oldest in Kansas, so let's advertise it as the oldest,"

knows of magazines with rea-

them for information and costs. tional opportunities and involv-Mrs. Schields has already been ing more of the high school stusending out letters to leads that dents. Some of these suggestions she presently has. She can be were: having a couple tractors contacted at Bird City Century with qualified adults available II, 785-734-2556.

Other discussion was the posthe tractor pull from Saturday to Friday night, and the community dinner to Thursday versus Frifor Friday, but Mrs. Schields said it could be changed to Thursday with no problem. She will re- needed to have more educational serve it for both days until a final decision is made.

Discussion was held on holding a swap meet and garage sale on Thursday only. Admission for the swap meet would be by purchasing gate admission tickets, or membership. Another suggestion was to hold a horseshoe held at 10 a.m. on March 2 at the tournament which would attract more outside people.

He asked that anyone who son to come up with one thing or Darci Schields to work on in they would like to see added or preparation for the annual meetsonable advertising, or any other changed. There were some good ing in March. suggestions to contact Darci suggestions including ideas of

Schields, the thresher associa- providing more entertainment tion secretary, so she can contact for the children, more educato allow the children an opportunity to drive them, milk a cow, sibility of changing the days for a drawing for children to win the opportunity to drive a steam engine, dig for buried trinkets in the sand, raffle a refurbished 1953 day. The Legion Hall is reserved tractor, and add more musical performances on the grounds.

Everyone agreed that they events conducted throughout the day on an ongoing schedule. This would provide a means of entertainment at all times for those not interested in the regular events and keep the children entertained.

The annual meeting will be thresher grounds. Any new ideas and suggestions can be given Mr. Klepper asked each per- to Rod Klepper, Ken Beougher,

Society seeks information on farm and ranch families

tion of farm and ranch families for the historical booklet, "Stewards of the Land." The purpose of this colthrough generations.

but do not have to be direct descen- complete. dants of the original homesteader. For those who have already reletter. We realize this type of col-

ation is seeking historical informa- do not be overwhelmed by the takes a lot of time and effort. guide list you received.

the collection of information that lection of history is to honor those you wish to share on your farm farm families who have continued or ranch family of the original to live on and care for the land homesteader. As much information as possible of the original home-These families can be a relative, steader will make your story more

The Bird City Historical Associcieved a phone call or letter, please election of information and research

For those who have not been con-This list is only to guide you in tacted by phone or letter, we would ask that you contact us as we do not wish to miss any eligible farm or ranch. Otherwise, we will be unable to honor your farm or ranch.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at: The Bird City Historical Associa-You will be contacted further by tion, Inc., P. O. Box 8, Bird City, KS 67731 - 785-734-2383.

Local company produces feed for top show animals

By Tim Burr tburr@nwkansas.com

A local business, HighNoon Feeds, made a big splash last week at the National Western Stock Show, held in Denver.

According to Nick Ketzner, owner and operator, HighNoon Feeds was fed to a good number of the high-placing animals at the show. HighNoon, Nick said, was used by the grand champion and reserve champion market lamb winners, and the grand champion goat winner, along with eight of the 10 finalists in the market lamb division.

He also said that HighNoon was fed to the grand champion market steer, a crossbred that was owned by Shilo Schaake, son of well known Kansas State judging coach, Dr. Schaake. Nick said he also provided feed to a number of other local showers and exhibi-

HighNoon Feeds was established in 2001 by the Nick Ketzner family.

'We've gone through a lot of changes, challenges and growth since then," Nick said. "We started off as a one-man operation with basically a scoop shovel and a couple of bags. Now, with equipment and processes, we feel like we can do a top rate job."

The biggest challenge for High-Noon feeds was recovering from the 2007 tornado, which completely destroyed the business, and Nick's and Heidi's homestead.

"That was a bad day," he said. "But, with a lot of work, and help from friends and neighbors and family, we are back stronger than

HighNoon Feeds now produces about 60 to 70 tons of feed per



NICK KETZNER bags up some feed for a customer. Times staff photo by Tim Burr

The feed is sold from Nebraska for 4-H and FFA, all the way to to Texas, and from Iowa to Wyo-

week, around 4,000 tons annually. feed, we specialize in show feeds

professional show fitters. We are excited that our customers have "We don't make a commercial done so well at the Stock Show."