

## Girls Scouts sell cookies

By Norma Martinez  
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The Girl Scouts were at the Hometown Market with the annual cookie sales.

County commissioner Ernie Ketzner purchased several boxes of cookies from the Girl Scouts. Before he paid for them he gave them a mini quiz on their salesmanship. First he asked, what kind of cookies they were selling? This year's newest addition is Mango Crèmes with nutrifusion."

Their scout leaders did not agree with the girls enthusiastic response to the question, "What are you going to do with the money you earn from these sales?" The girls eagerly responded in agreement that,

they were going to have a party! "They will have a little party, but their largest amount of money earned will go to pay for their badges," Kendra Hespe and Dana Wright said.

There are eight girls and each one will earn about 10 badges a year.

These girls ranging in ages from 5 - 11 years old are Kaylynn Hendricks, Nellie Hespe, Isabelle Hespe, Briana Vandike, McKinzie Horibik, Grace Wright, Guinevere Burr and Isabelle Gabaldon.

Once the cookie sales are over the girls will be busy looking for projects to do toward raising the funds needed to purchase new windows and having them installed in the Scout Hut.



ERNIE KETZNER is purchasing Girl Scout cookies from Briana Vandike, Isabella Hespe, Grace Wright, Nellie Hespe, Kaylynn Hendricks and Guinevere Burr while Kendra Hespe and Dana Wright oversee. Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

## Thresher association holds meeting to plan next year's 60th anniversary celebration

By Norma Martinez  
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Plans presented during the March 2 Thresher Show meeting at the Senior Center are signs that the 60th annual show is off to a good start toward being one the best shows ever. Thirty-one members were present to participate in planning for the July 25, 26 and 27 anniversary celebration.

Since last year's show showed a profit, it was determined to leave the cost of admission to the grounds the same; 6 - 12 years daily admission \$3, and adults \$7. Memberships can be purchased for \$20.00. The new buttons containing a 1949 8N Ford are available for those who wish to purchase a membership.

Ken Beougher has set the country church service up for Sunday, July 28, at 9 a.m. He and Darci Schields are also making plans for providing music to be played on the country church organ during the three days of the event.

Darci Schields and Bonnie Michael will work on the newsletter again this year. Articles need to be given to Darci by April 2.

Officers for the 2014 show will remain the same: Lonnie Coon as president, Ken Beougher as vice-president, Darci Schields as secretary, Rod Klepper as treasurer, and Steve Busse and Brendon Haack as directors.

Suggestions made at the January meeting are well underway toward improving this year's show. These changes or additions are: to increase the attendance of the tractor pull it was decided to change it to Friday evening, the Community Club dinner and entertainment will be at the Legion hall on Thursday evening. Additional entertainment in the Eggers Building or schoolhouse throughout the event is still being considered.

An all-day swap meet will be held on Thursday only, with purchase of a one-day grounds ticket, or membership for admittance. Vendors must remove their goods or relocate into the regular swap meet area at the end of the time set. Vendors must bring their own tables. Mr. Klepper is the coordinator of this event.

Willy Martinez is talking to the Benkelman Horseshoe Club about arranging for a horseshoe tournament during this year's show.

The queen's introduction has always been one of the most popular events and highlights of the event. Complaints have been that the present speaker system is not adequate for everyone to hear the announcement and queen's speech. Hal Sager has made plans to install additional speakers. Brandon Haack was not available to give a full report, but he is in



DARCI SCHIELDS is showing the 2013 thresher show badges with the 1949 8N Ford Tractor.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

the process of purchasing FM transmitters at an approximate cost of \$600. This will allow the events to be heard in various buildings.

Plans are underway on setting up a spot with qualified tractor drivers to assist children with the experience in getting to drive a tractor. Gerald Wright is working on adding a "Drive a straight line" contest incorporating a GPS unit. Other projects being worked on are: a talking tour telling the history of the machinery equipment, demonstration of the bailer machine, and tearing a motor apart. The possibility of inviting Car Clubs to include an exhibit of antique cars is also being looked at.

Wanda Dowdy has been working on "Build a Bear" shirts with the antique engine logo on it for the children to have an opportunity of taking home a souvenir.

Dennis Wright is working on the possibility of getting a branding iron made to be able to brand the shingles made by the shingle machine as souvenirs.

**Future plans for show grounds**  
Gerald Wright and Rex Weishapl spoke of the possibility of constructing another building south of the steam engine shop. This would eliminate having to move things back and forth from the present machine shop to the steam engine shop when making repairs, or rebuilding parts. Randy McDonald has machinery he would like to donate, and this would save a lot of time and money to be able to do this repair work on the grounds and eliminate the cost of sending the work out. The present machine

shop does not have enough room for the machinery.

Mr. Klepper would like to see the present museum redesigned as to individual rooms rather than spread out for a better showing. Reconstructing the museum and expanding would make it possible to provide a year round Historical Museum.

The print shop needs to have more space than presently provided, and the quilt shop needs more room to display their quilts. By building a new quilt shop building, the print shop could expand to this area. Equipment is available for the print shop to do their-own screen printing, but space is not available to set it up. Children could even be provided the opportunity of screen-printing their own T-shirts.

### Truck sale

Gerald Wright read a letter written by Mike Levin who comes from Arizona for the thresher show every year. He has been looking for an old truck to purchase and restore. Last year he located an old pickup truck that had been sitting on the grounds so long, it had a tree growing from the back of it. He made an offer to purchase this truck from the Thresher Association for \$300. His plans are to take his time in restoring it, so Mr. Levin is not sure when he will have it completed, but agreed once he has completed the restoration, he will bring it for display during the shows. This offer was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Anyone who has other ideas can contact Mr. Klepper, Mr. Coon, Mr. Beougher, or Mrs. Schields.

## Time changes on Sunday

The sun is coming up earlier and the days are a little longer. However, Daylight Saving Time will arrive on Sunday, over a week before the first day of spring on March 20.

With the change, it will be a little darker in the mornings and the evenings will be lighter longer. Those itching to get out in the yard and garden after work will now have an extra hour. It will also give the golfers a little more time to hit those balls around Riverside Recreation.

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2 a.m. Sunday, although most people spring their clocks forward Saturday night before they head to bed. If not, they might miss church on Sunday.

While time change used to come later in March, even in April, last year was the fourth time under

federal law that it began the second weekend in March.

There will still be some cold weather and even a snow storm or two, but the time change is a small assurance that spring is on the way. There have already been some 60-degree temperatures in February and over the weekend, with a chance of 60-plus degrees on Thursday. However, on Tuesday, the weatherman is calling for cooler temperatures and a chance for needed moisture over the weekend.

In a couple of months, school will be out, the swimming pool will be open and harvest will be just around the corner. Those below-zero temperatures will be replaced by 90+ degrees.

## Bird City couple receives tragic news on Saturday

By Norma Martinez  
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Willy and Carol Martinez along with their daughter Teresa Quintana from Brighton, Colo., drove to California for their great-grandson, James "JJ" Vanpatick and his father's funeral this week.

On Saturday they received the tragic news that divers were looking for the bodies of JP and 5-year old JJ in Murphy's Pond located in Cottonwood, Calif.

Shareena Quintana, the mother of JJ lives in Red Bluff, Calif. JP lives behind the pond and had taken JJ and his 4-year-old sister Aubrey Vansickle fishing without life vests. JJ fell out of the boat and his father jumped into the water to try to rescue him and they both went under the water.

JP's father, Jim, saw the incident from his house and jumped in trying to save them. He was unable to reach them in time, but was able to bring Aubrey safely to shore.

Divers searched until dark and through the weekend. On Monday Willy and Carol received the news that the two bodies had been found around 10:30 that morning.

It wasn't the first time they had gone fishing in the pond and there were no problems. When JP went into the water he was wearing knee high rubber boots and they filled up with water causing him to sink to the bottom. Divers found JP still holding his son in his arms.



SHAYLA HUBBARD and Stephanie Busse are dishing up the shredded beef and scalloped potatoes for the Teens for Christ dinner.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

## Teens hold after-church fund-raiser

Sunday's weather cooperated for the second try for the Teens for Christ After-Church Dinner at St. John Lutheran Church and it was a success. Because of the bad weather it had to be re-scheduled from the week before. Ninety-five plates of salads, shredded beef, scalloped potatoes, barbecued green beans, dinner rolls and desserts were served.

The free-will offering from the

dinner will be used toward helping to finance the teens mission trip to Haiti. The group of teens and adults will be leaving on May 26, and return on June 1. Members of this group consist of Pastor Dan Carson, Dianna Carson, DeAnza Ambrosier, Stephanie Busse, Shayla Hubbard, Casey Vandike, Ivan Kemp and Nakita Schneider.

This is to be a mission's trip but

will also include a busy schedule of travel and an educational experience. After their arrival in Port au Prince, they will travel and assist with the Jesus Film Project, www.jesusfilm.org/home, help at orphanages, schools and hospitals. They will travel by boat to lie de law Gonave, and view the storm damage from the recent hurricanes.