

Good turnout for wheat day

By Tim Burr

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Nearly 70 producers attended the annual Cheyenne County Wheat Plot tour, held on Wednesday, June 19. The test plots, located south of Wheeler, are on land operated by Sunny Crest Farms.

The Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service, along with plot cooperators, W.H. Jr., Tom, and Matt Smull of Sunny Crest Farms, had 22 varieties planted uniformly next to the road for convenient viewing and comparison. Pamphlets were distributed which contained information on each of the varieties, along with test plot yield history for the last five years.

Jeanne Faulk, area agronomist with Sunflower Extension district, informed the attendees of the pertinent facts of the test plot, such as planting date, seeding rate, fertility and tillage practices. Jim Schroyer, Kansas

State Wheat Specialist, walked through and discussed each of the varieties, pointing out their qualities and deficiencies. As is the case nearly every year, a few newly developed varieties had been added to the plot, while a few of older varieties had been dropped.

Both Faulk and Schroyer discussed the challenges the crop faced this year, most notably dry weather, but also late freeze, and insects. Earlier in the day, they had been at plot tours in Wallace and Sherman counties. They indicated that the drought had taken a much more severe toll on those plots, and the Cheyenne County plot certainly looked quite good in comparison.

At the end of the tour, participants were provided a meal, served at the American Implement shop building in Wheeler. The meal was sponsored by the Cheyenne County grain dealers, with drinks sponsored by the Kansas Wheat Alliance.



NORM DORSCH and Ken Beougher, right, were among 70 farmers who attended the Cheyenne County Wheat Field Day on June 19. Through the years, they have seldom missed a field day.

Times staff photo by Tim Burr

Work begins on old cafe

By Norma Martinez

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Bird City residents have noticed some activity going on at the old Heritage Corner Café on the corner of Bressler and Bird streets.

John and Lisa Blea from Denver, have bought the building and are in the process of refurbishing it as a bed and breakfast. Plans are to start work in the living room, bedroom, kitchen and bath apartment in the back upper level of the building. This will give them a place to stay when they come to work on the restaurant side and a second apartment next to the present apartment.

These two apartments will be for those who are unable to climb the stairs to the upper level. Eventually the upstairs will be rented to overnight or weekend guests. Currently the new owners are open as to the type of food they will serve in the restaurant, but they are thinking in terms of Mexican food.

John, Lisa and their grandson Craig have been coming to Bird City several years for the Antique Thresher Show, along with John's parents Joe and Jane Blea from



CRAIG BLEA, grandson of John and Lisa Blea, new owners of the old Heritage Corner Cafe, is painting while his friend, Gracie Glass checks out his work. Times photo by Norma Martinez.

Pueblo, Colo., brothers-in-law: Joe and Cathy Callan., Michael and Sarah Callan, from Hastings, Neb., and numerous other friends. The Bleas have been looking at towns within the half-way range of Hastings and Denver. They said they fell in love with the friendliness of Bird City residents.

John is a policeman with the Denver Police Department and plans on having the remodeled apartments completed in four years when he is ready for

retirement from the force. In the mean time, the basement sports room is perfect to entertain their grandson Craig and his friends while they are working, along with all the other family members while they are attending this year's and future thresher shows.

If you happen to drive by and see John and Lisa there working, stop in, introduce yourselves and check out the progress they are making.

Antique auction held in city

By Norma Martinez

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Dorothy Mast brought Beverly Higgins back to Bird City as a guest consignor for her antique auction sale at the American Legion hall Saturday. The inside of the hall was lined up with tables of items on both sides of the walls; furniture was lined up in the center aisle of the north east side and along the west wall. Boxes and boxes full of miscellaneous items along with boats, boat motors, yard equipment, hand tools, mowers and many other items were lined up between the Legion hall and post office. Many of the items were collectibles accumulated from four generations.

The center of the hall was set up with chairs that were almost filled with bidders from Bird City, Nebraska and Colorado.

Lloyd Michael, the auctioneer from Julesburg, Colo., had a relief auctioneer who relieved him when his voice needed a break and several workers saying, "Hip" and keeping track of the higher bidders. Two ladies at the computers kept track of the items sold, billings for the bidders holding the bidding numbers and collecting the checks or cash.

Bids went high on items such as antique guns, a 30-gallon porcelain pickling crock, a leather fainting couch and many other miscellaneous items. A pair of boxing gloves with Jack Dempsey's autograph went for \$6 while a painted trunk went for \$90, a porcelain doll and antique collector doll went for \$35. The most unique item was purchased by Janice Churchwell, the pianist for Cheylin School and Wesleyan Church. She purchased an old organ that had been hollowed out and turned into a desk.

Owners of antique shops were carrying out box loads of items. One lady from the Armadillo Antique Mall in Lakewood, Colo., took time to stop and tell Dorothy how much she was going to enjoy the set of books she used to read



DORTHY MAST and her granddaughter, Amy Schilmeister are keeping track of the bids during the antique auction. Kathy Briney came from Edson to pick up a few antiques.

as a child. She also thanked her for allowing her the opportunity to purchase many other items.

Many Auxiliary ladies were kept busy before the auction baking a large assortment of pies sold by the slice. Wanda Dowdy and Carol Peters were taking money for the food items and coffee. Pastor Tom Bailey was there early and waited in line for the opportunity to purchase the first slice of pie for the day. His choice was peach pie, and with his lunch he had a slice of rhubarb pie.

The lunch menu consisted of: sloppy joes, ham or ham and cheese sandwiches, hot dogs, potato salad, brownies and coffee or tea. Proceeds from these items went to the Ladies Auxiliary.

Dorothy's daughter Deb Moellenberg, came from Idalia and friend Kathy Briney came

from Edson. Amy Schilmeister along with several granddaughters and great-grandchildren and a niece also offered support.

Beverly Higgins was accompanied by Michael Blakeley from Oshkosh, Neb., so she could be present for the auction. They returned to Nebraska after attending Wesleyan Church service Sunday. She said she is regaining her health, and adjusting to the quietness of living in the country and settling in at her new church, but Darwin is still adjusting to being in a senior living home. She was thankful for the opportunity to see all her life time friends in Bird City, St. Francis and McDonald.

Dorothy is still living in her Bird City home and will continue to be active in her historical research and the Historical Association.

Magician to appear Saturday at the Bird City Legion hall

On Saturday, June 29, Dan, Dan, the Magic Man will appear at the American Legion Hall in Bird City at 7 p.m.

Bird City Century II Development Foundation, along with the Bird City Public Library, will be hosting a magician show for all the kids and their families who attended the summer reading program this month at the library. The public is encouraged to attend and share in this spectacular

evening of magic.

About six years ago Dan visited Bird City and performed his magic show down at the Bird City Park and it was enjoyed by many! This year's Summer Reading theme at the library was, "Dig into Reading" and the program had over 45 young readers participating.

Dan Dan the Magician brings this year's theme to the stage where he will again perform and entertain with his magic! The

show will be approximately an hour long and is sure to be a hit for all ages who wish to come and join us.

Along with the magic show the Bird City Public Library will be serving a meal from 5:30-6:30 p.m. which will include shredded beef sandwiches, baked beans, chips, drinks, and popsicles for everyone attending. Mark your calendars and join us for a great evening of family entertainment!



SHE'S SAFE! Grace Sabatka slid into the base as the ball before the ball is caught.

Times photo by Darci Schields