

Thresher Show begins this week

By Norma Martinez
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The Thresher show grounds have been showing a lot of activity since last week getting everything lined up and cleaned up for the 61st Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show this week.

Norm Dorsch and Ken Beougher, and several other volunteer workers, have been emptying the buildings of tractors and antique harvesting equipment and lining them up around the grounds for show. Once the buildings are cleared out, Rod Klepper and Willy Martinez are cleaning dust and dirt from the floors.

Last week and this week, Gerald Wright and his crew were at the show grounds playing in the grease and soot, getting the steam engines cleaned, tuned up and caliber tested. This is play time for Gerald, as he takes his vacation every year to work on the steam engines.

Gerald's workers from the past years are grown up and moving on to other areas of interest, making him short of help. On Monday Stan Wamhoff was working on his scale Russell steam engine for the kids to ride on. Gerald and Don Wright were working on the steam engines that will be lined up and driven in the parade each day. The steamers that will be ready to go are: the Rumley, Advance Rumley, Avery Undermount, Case 50 horse power, Case 65 horse power, Payton Russell and Gerald's Case 65.

Bonnie Burr's great nephew, Lloyd Stover, is the only trained youth worker returning for his fourth year to help with the steam engines. Connor and Harley McPherson are Gerald Wright's only youngsters in training for their first year. They were making fun out of cleaning up the grease spots on the Steam Engine Buildings floor on Monday. Being told by the former trainees the object of working on the steam engines is to see who can get the blackest, they couldn't quite understand why their mother told them they had to scrub themselves clean every evening just to get covered with soot and grease again the next day.

Workers are busy working on the new Wright Building. It will not be complete with the air-conditioning and whittler's porch for this year's show due to the rain and wind last month, but the walls and roof will at least be complete to provide a shady area.

The cooler weather, in the upper 60s-80s, made it easier for the workers to work and the predictions are for this type weather is to remain throughout the weekend. It should help to bring in a good crowd.



STAN WAMHOFF is working on his scale Russell steam engine to get ready for the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show starting this Thursday.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

2014 Thresher Show Schedule

Thursday July 31

10:00 Opening Ceremonies
10:15 Corn Shelling
10:45 Saw Mill Demonstration
11:15 Steam Engine demonstrations/ races
12:30 Turtle races
1:00 Tug of War (Steam Engine vs. Kids)
1:15 Grand Introduction of Thresher Queen
1:45 Parade
2:45 Wheat Threshing
5:30 Meal at Legion Hall (Community Club)
6:00 Free concert: Heart City Heartwarmers
Friday Aug. 1
8:00 Tractor Convoy breakfast (Wheeler)
9:00 Tractor Convoy departs (Wheeler)

10:00 Opening Ceremonies
10:15 Corn Shelling
10:45 Saw Mill demonstration
11:15 Steam Engine demonstrations/ races
1:00 Tug of War (Steam Engine vs. Kids)
1:15 Parade
2:15 Wheat harvesting/binding
2:45 Plowing
3:15 Wheat Threshing
3:45 Tractor Rodeo
5:00 Barbecue (Golf Team fundraiser)
6:30 Antique tractor pull
6:30 Kiddie pedal tractor pull
8:00 Steam Engine pull
Saturday Aug. 2
8:00 John Schaffner's Famous Chuck Wagon Breakfast
Fun Run for all ages

(1m, 2m and 5k courses)
10:00 Opening Ceremonies
10:15 Corn Shelling
10:45 Saw Mill demonstration
11:15 Steam Engine demonstrations/races
12:30 Turtle Races
1:00 Tug of War (Steam Engine vs. Kids)
Horseshoe Tournament (Big Ed's)
1:15 Parade
2:00 Free Watermelon feed (Farm Credit)
2:15 Wheat binding
2:45 Wheat harvesting
3:15 Plowing
3:45 Wheat threshing
4:30 Lawn Tractor pull
Sunday Aug. 3
9:00 Country Church Service



CONNOR AND HARLEY MCPHERSON clean up grease and soot for Gerald Wright.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

Cheyenne County Fair begins next week with rides and fun

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The Cheyenne County Fair is almost here, and everyone is eager to hop on the carnival rides and play the games! Cheyenne County 4-H'ers have been practicing dragging their steers, leading pigs, putting the last minute stitches on garments and baking their 20th batch of cookies, all in an effort to be the best at the 2014 fair.

The shows this year are sure to entertain people of all ages. For months, the Amusement Authority has been repairing, painting and making sure that every ride is safe. The fair board members have been getting building repairs made and the grounds mowed and prepared for next week.

All of this hard work is done by volunteers in the community, and to keep the fair going more are still needed! The Cheyenne County Fair Board is looking for people to help check tickets at the gates during the evening events. Thursday, Friday and Saturday volunteers are needed. If you are able to help the fair board any of

these days, call Dick Bursch at 785-821-0492.

The 4-H food stands will be open each night of the fair and during the days while there is judging going on. The carnival opens at 7 p.m. each evening, Wednesday through Friday, and at 6 p.m. on Saturday.

The grandstand entertainment this year kicks off with a new event - the Redneck Olympics - which will start at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 6. Admission is free to watch the competitions, and prizes will be given to the winners.

Thursday evening, Baxter Black is coming to Cheyenne County. Tickets can now be purchased online at www.cheyennefair.com to ensure that you get a seat. Fair board president Mr. Bursch suggests that everyone purchase their tickets early. Tickets will be sold at the gate as well. The concert will begin at 7 p.m. in the grandstands.

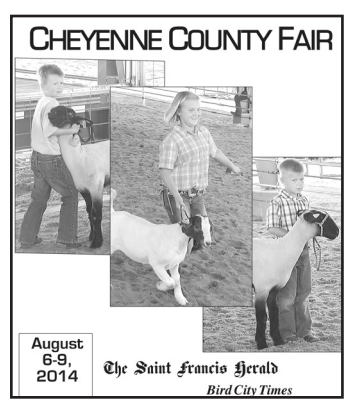
Friday evening the Tuff Trucks will be tackling a muddy course in the arena. Beginning at 8 p.m. in the grandstands, the Tuff Trucks

will perform jumps, twists and turns and splash through the water.

On Saturday, the Demolition Derby will be held in the grandstands at 7 p.m., which is always a crowd pleaser. It is one of the biggest attractions at the Cheyenne County Fair. This year should be no exception. Look for more information on the upcoming derby in next week's issue of The Herald.

For more information or to volunteer to help, please call Dick Bursch at 785-821-0492.

Look for insert this week!



Bird City could lose post office

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Bird City residents are in danger of losing their post office or having reduced services much like McDonald's post office last year.

This Thursday, July 31, at 4:30 p.m., local management from the regional post office will be holding a meeting with Bird City residents in the Legion Hall to determine the future of the Bird City post office. Questionnaires that were sent out will be reviewed as residents voice their opinions and concerns.

McDonald residents faced a similar problem last January when they were given the option of four choices on a questionnaire that was sent out. Residents rallied together, and because of the participation in the meeting that was held, their post office was kept open. Changes were made, however, and the McDonald post office is now open shorter hours.

Currently, the Bird City mail is sorted and picked up at the St. Francis post office. Residents of Bird City still have a post office in

town, and residents can currently receive all their mail there. The lobby is open 24 hours a day, everyday. Window hours run from 9 a.m. to 12:30. They then close for lunch for half an hour and return from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Bird City residents requesting mail to be held have to call or go to the St. Francis post office to have their mail held at the St. Francis post office rather than Bird City. Mail at Bird City, St. Francis and McDonald is being sent to North Platte, Neb., for processing.

Having a post office in town is vital to the community. The United States Postal Service has been closing the smaller, rural post offices over the last few years that have not been profitable. Unfortunately, it tends to be these rural post offices that are most needed by the town's residents.

The United States Postal Service reported that it ended the 2013 fiscal year with a net loss of \$5 billion. This marks the seventh consecutive year in which the postal service incurred a net loss,

highlighting the need to continue to capitalize on growth opportunities and reduce costs.

A self-sustaining government enterprise, the United States Postal Service is the only delivery service that reaches every address in the nation.

This Thursday, residents of Bird City are urged to attend the meeting. The number of concerned citizens may help keep the post office open and leave things as they currently are.

The questionnaires must be returned to the Bird City post office by July 31. The questionnaire gave Bird City residents four options, including closing the post office, keeping it open reduced hours based on workload, or having a local business contract with the post office and offer services.

Whatever your preference, it is important to attend the meeting and voice it. Without Bird City residents present, the local management for the regional post office may make a decision without the community's input.

Don't forget to vote on Tuesday,
Aug. 5 at the primary elections!

