



PAM BOLIN serves Nikki Rose at the Relay for Life on Friday Night. The Hobo Snack Shack proceeds went to the American Cancer Society.

Snacks popular Friday nite

By Karen Krien

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Hobo Snack Shack, seen at sales, auctions and other events, is owned and operated by Jim and Pam Bolin.

Jim said he always wanted to have a snack wagon so when he retired at the end of the year, they found the pull trailer on the internet and purchased it. It was set up for selling snacks with a grill, sink and cupboards but they added a couple more refrigerators and recently put in a hot dog cooker.

They pull the snack shack to auctions and events in St. Francis and Bird City as well as other places in Northwest Kansas. Recently, they were the only food vendors at the Pickin' on the Plains in Colby.

At the Relay for Life walk in St. Francis, they not only provided the food but donated all the profits to the American Cancer Society.

Their menu is basically sandwiches: hamburgers, cheeseburgers, pork burgers and hot dogs as well as walking tacos. They have baked beans, potato salad, chips and drinks which are sold separately. Pam specializes in making deep-fat fried Snickers on a stick. The candy bar is dipped in funnel cake batter, then deep-fat



JIM BOLIN was busy flipping burgers for the hungry people at the horse show.

Herald staff photos by Karen Krien

fried.

Pam has run Captain Hook's Fine Dining in Wheeler for the last 20 years. She knew what she was doing when Jim wanted to purchase the snack shack. She also uses the cafe to prepare some food ahead of time.

Jim does the heavy labor, setting

up the equipment and getting the trailer ready to pull.

Their logo is "We cater anything - No event is too large or small!" For more information or to book the Hobo Snack Shack at an event, call 785-332-5520 or 785-332-5516.

Fair events scheduled —

Fair board uses new idea at Thursday evening show

By Karen Krien

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New entertainment in front of the grandstand at the Cheyenne County Fair is the Tuff Trucks competition on Thursday night, Aug. 4. The action will start at 7 p.m.

Adam Peter, fair board member, organized the event but he noted that it was a competition for any vehicle.

It is not limited to a truck, he said. The vehicle can be a car,

van, truck... even a derby car — whatever the driver wants to enter.

Earlier in the day, the fair board members and other volunteers will be making the track. It will be held in the demolition derby area but will have jumps, curves and other obstacles to make the race more interesting. Drivers will race one at a time and the best time through the track will be the winner.

There will be three winners

and the purse will be determined by the number of entries. The fair board had also agreed to throw in some cash.

The rules are simple. Each participant must wear a seat belt and a helmet, and the battery in the vehicle must be tied down.

People interested in trying their skill on the track should either show up by 5:30 p.m. on Thursday and fill out an entry form or call Adam at 785-332-4039.

Garden tractors revving up

The garden tractors will be revving up for the tractor pull in between heats at the demolition derby held Saturday, Aug. 6, the concluding event of the Cheyenne County Fair held in St. Francis.

The garden tractor pull is not new but it is improved. Marty and Tammy Church and their son, Jakob, and Jake and Jamie Lightle, Burlington, have formed KC Garden Tractor Pullers.

Jakob was a puller during the derby last year.

We had these souped up tractors, Mr. Church said, and it seemed a shame not to be able to use them again.

KC (stands for Kansas and Colorado) Garden Tractor Pullers purchased an official transfer sled. There are different classes but general rules include weight restrictions and, if the mower is not a stock riding mower, wheelie bars will be required.

There will be several other pull competition this year but

the club members plan to branch out and next year, hold garden tractor pulls at different events in the area.

People having garden tractors and want to try it at a pull are urged to get them ready and enter. Competitors need to enter at the pit in front of the grandstand at 4 p.m. on Saturday.

For more information on the pull on Aug. 6 or to become a member of the KC Garden Tractor Pullers, contact Marty at 785-332-4622.

Heat affects tomato plants

Tomatoes are a warm-season plant that's averse to summer heat.

When daytime temperatures rise above 95 degrees, the plant's ripening fruits turn orange, not red. If those hot days combine with nighttime temperatures above 75 F., the plant's fruit set is poor.

"Neither reaction is permanent. If you can just keep that plant alive, it'll produce normally again when the weather's cooler," said Ward Upham, K-State Research and Extension horticulturist.

To avoid heat's "orange" effect, gardeners can harvest when existing fruits first start to ripen from green.

"They'll finish ripening off the

vine," Upham said. "And, if you keep them in temperatures of 75 to 85 degrees, their red pigment will form just as it should. You'll get normal-looking, deep-red tomatoes."

"If you don't want to go to the trouble, though, don't worry. Orange tomatoes are just as edible as red ones."

Gardeners can't force tomato plants to set fruit in hot weather. Heat not only leads to abnormal growth in the flowers' reproductive organs but also interferes with pollen's viability, he said. Wind and/or dry weather simply make the responses worse.

"It takes about three weeks for flowers to try to develop fruit

before you can see something's wrong. At that point, fruit should be within a week of reaching full size and starting to change color," Upham said.

"Heat-set" tomatoes are now on the market under such variety names as Florida 91, Sun Leaper, and Sun Master, he said. Often, however, they can handle just 2 to 3 degrees more heat before they also develop fruit-set problems.

"Fortunately, going from flower to ripened fruit generally takes no more than 45 days. So, if gardeners can keep the plants alive now, they should have plenty of time to harvest more tomatoes before first frost," Upham said.



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