

Commissioners adopt a burn ban resolution

By Karen Krien

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The Cheyenne County Commissioners, on Monday, July 8, voted to adopt a burn ban resolution. The area is extremely dry and there is a much greater chance for fires.

Anyone starting a fire outside the St. Francis and Bird City city limits or anywhere else in the county, whether it be a ditch fire, trash, charcoal grills, can be fined up to \$500 or one month in jail or both.

Hot temps continue

Temperatures have been 100 degrees and over for the last week. Kathy Woodcox, St. Francis weather observer, reported five days of temperatures over 100 with the highest being 110 degrees on June 24. The National Weather Service is forecasting 100 degrees and up through Monday.

The wind, for the most part, has blown an average of 15 to 20 miles

an hour with gusts anywhere from 30 to 50 miles per hour as a dry storm or two moved through the area.

The hot weather is great harvest weather and farmers are trying to get the wheat cut as quickly as possible. However, the pastures are suffering.

Fires

Firemen in the area and surrounding area have been fighting fires. George Harper, St. Francis fire chief, reminds people that it is dry and there is a high fire danger. Be careful, he said, as it just takes a spark to tender a fire.

The National Weather Service reports that there could be a slight chance of rain but temperatures will range in the 90s and low 100s. Until there is a change, people are asked to use common sense in handling fire.

And, until there is a big change, the fire ban is in effect.



COMBINES GET READY FOR SHOW — Many of the combines at the thresher show are antiques and small compared to the combines today.

Thresher show to celebrate 60th year

The Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher show will celebrate 60 years. The show begins Thursday, July 25, at the thresher show grounds east of Bird City and will wind down Sunday with church service at 9 a.m. at the Neville Church on the grounds.

Through Saturday visitors will find the antique steam engines in action, threshing, plowing, corn shelling and wood sawing. The parade of cars and tractors will be held each day at 1:15 p.m. Earlier, the parade of old machinery and early-day harvest equipment is held at 10:45.

The new Thresher Queen's identity will be revealed at 1:15 on Thursday and she will be crowned. The 2012 Thresher Queen, Manette Henderson, will retire and her doll will be displayed with the other former queen dolls.

Thursday entertainment is the Highway 385 band from Colorado. The music starts at 7 p.m. following the Community Club meal at the American Legion hall. Serving begins at 5 p.m.

On Friday starting at 6:30 p.m., the antique tractor and steam engine pull will start. Note, this is a new night. The association hope the change will increase the attendance by not competing with shows being held at surrounding county fairs. It will also allow the out-of-town volunteers a chance to attend and participate before heading home Saturday evening.

Before the pull on Friday, there will be a barbecue at the dining

hall on the thresher grounds. The barbecue is a fund raiser for the high school golf team.

Saturday morning from 7 to 10 a.m. will be the chuck wagon breakfast at the thresher grounds. The meal will be cooked outside over the coals by John Schaffner, famous chuck wagon cook.

Activities

There are numerous other activities for the kids and adults. The kid's favorite is the tug-o'-war with the little steam engine which starts at 1 p.m. New on both Friday and Saturday is the children's Treasure Dig where kids can dig into a big pile of sand and find toys, trinkets and buried treasure.

Farm Credit will be providing free watermelon on Saturday afternoon.

People are welcome to visit the many buildings filled with articles used in the past. There will be demonstrations, new items to see and other activities. The swap meet will be held on the grounds. This is an attraction that draws collectors looking for certain items.

Visit the buildings

The Thresher Show special section will be inserted in the *Bird City Times* and *The Saint Francis Herald* next week. It is being delivered to subscribers throughout the United States. Extra copies will be available.

The president of the Threshers Association is Lonnie Coon, vice president is Ken Beougher; Darci Schields, secretary and Rod Klepper, treasurer. They have been working with the many volunteers who make the

Thresher show a success each year.

For more information, contact

Lonnie at 785-890-3514 or Ken, 785-332-4822.

Clues told about the 2013 Thresher Queen

At 1:15 on Thursday, July 25, the 2013 Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Queen will be crowned. And, who will carry the title for the next year?

Clues and photos of the queen will be published in the *Times* and *The Herald* for the next two weeks.

Take a close look at the photos, read the clues and see if you can guess who she is, said Phyllis Wright, Queen Committee.

This year's queen is no stranger to the state of Kansas as she was born in Jewell County. Her family lived on her grandparent's farm with her grandfather. She had six brothers and one sister. At this writing, three brothers and her sister are living.

Like many children who grew up in the country, our queen and her siblings helped their mother with gardening (a big one each year) along with canning vegetables and fruits or the family and, of course, learning to milk the cows. Her father was employed by a nearby neighbor farmer.

Another job they did for their parents was chop wood to heat their home. The little queen wanted to help so she laid her wood cips down, a brother swung the axe and took her index finger first joint off. Ouch! She said



2013 Thresher Queen

they carried her to the house where her mother put the end of her finger back on, wrapped it and, somehow, got hold of the doctor, who arrived at their house and examined her finger. He put a splint on it, wrapped it and it healed fine.

Look for more clues and another photo next week.



THIS little boy was sure excited about the kids fireworks held on Knorr Repair's parking lot on Saturday evening. Herald photos by Doug Sloper



RICHARD CRAM, portraying Abe Lincoln, gave the Gettysburg Address at the Fourth of July celebration.

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