

## Kansas Day celebration brings a big crowd

By Norma Martinez

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On Jan. 29, 1861, Kansas was formed as a state to become the thirty-fourth state in the Union. Last Wednesday afternoon, close to 200 people turned out for the eighty-fifth Kansas Day potluck and celebration program, held in the American Legion Hall. Shirley Watson set at a table containing memorabilia on Charles Wesley and Cynthia Annie Maxson Trickett, the founders of Cheyenne County Kansas Day in 1930.

Marsha Magley, Vernetta Haack, Phyllis Wright and Rosemary Powell were at the registration table to greet everyone as they came in the door, and to have them sign in under the list containing the year they were born. Everyone was given a badge to wear, identifying who they were.

Other tables were set up with memorabilia by the following participating Homesteaders and groups: Helene Landenberger had a display containing a book with the complete history of the Magley family, Homesteaders, and other memorabilia items of interest. She was on hand to answer questions anyone had on the homestead.

Dan Busse had a large display showing the history of buffalo in Cheyenne County during the years of 1850-1900. The center of his display contained a very fragile buffalo skull he found in a spring on the property his grandparents homesteaded. In 1974, this spring had formed a pond, and he was told the spring water and fine sand is what helped to preserve the skull. When he had it analyzed by an archeologist, they told him this animal was ap-

proximately 5-6 years old when it died, between one to two thousand years ago.

Kenneth Beougher had a display of the Finney and Eula Jones Farmstead, established in 1930. His also had his proudest item, a copy of his grandfathers Homestead Certificate, established in 1892, and signed by Benjamin Harrison, the President of the United States. Mike Boyson, a homestead ancestor, had a display of his Hot Brush Sign business, and was ready to answer any questions any one had.

The Home Circle Club ladies proudly displayed items from their homestead ancestors. The center of this display had a large quilt that the ladies together had made from the sunbonnet pattern. Ladies from this group stood out, as they were all dressed in their homestead attire and sunbonnets. These ladies were: Dana Clendenin, Joy Anderegg, Avis Hazuka, Carol Peters, Phyllis Wright, Dorothy Chipperfield, and Carol Marsh. Mrs. Chipperfield displayed an antique violin that had been owned by her late brother, Mux Johnson.

The Ladies of St. John Lutheran Church, Bird City, were the Kitchen Hostesses. Lots of good food was provided by the ladies. The Wesleyan Church Ladies decorated the tables with homestead kitchen utensils, provided by Kenneth Beougher. Pastor David Rossbach from the Lutheran Church gave the Table Grace/Invocation, Memorial Benediction for the 102 Cheyenne County members who had passed on in 2013, and the Benediction prayer.

Introductions were made by



AVIS HAZUKA AND Carol Peters, part of the Home Circle Club, displayed items from homestead ancestors.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

the President Rodney Klepper, who recognized the remaining officers; Sally Wieck, Vice President; Rosemary Powell, Secretary; and Helene Landenberger, Treasurer. Officers for the 2015 Kansas Day were elected, with a unanimous vote: President - Dawn Petty, Vice President - Mike Boyson, Secretary - Rose Mary Powell, Treasurer - Helene Landenberger.

Certificates and recognition were awarded to the following; Tobe Zwegardt, at age 99, as the eldest Kansas born male, eldest Cheyenne County born male, and the eldest man present. He was also recognized as being the gentleman pictured in The Ultimate Guide for Northwest Kansas by the Cheyenne County Development Corporation. Hazel Douthit was the eldest Kansas born, eldest Cheyenne County born, and eldest female attendee. Pastor David Rossbach, who was born in Canada, was the only foreign born male attendee, and Susan Chomer-Johnson, who was born in Germany in 1958, was the only foreign born female. The youngest boy in attendance was Roger Prideaux, and Kelly Fisher the youngest girl.

During the luncheon, Dawn Petty played her violin, Echoe Lennox accompanied her on the

guitar, and sang a few songs. The ladies at the St. John Lutheran Church of Bird City were in charge of the pot luck meal, and the Wesleyan church ladies decorated the tables with homesteader kitchen utensils furnished by Kenneth Beougher.

The program entertainment was presented by the Cheylin fourth thru sixth grade choir, at the direction of Rose Hengen. Tammi Carmichael's fourth grade, and Amy Moree's fifth graders gave an Historical / Educational Presentation on the Kansas State Seal, which will be detailed in a separate article.

Cindy Wiley and her St. Francis third grade class entertained everyone with square dancing.

The guest speaker, Tina Miller, came from the Homestead National Monument of America at Beatrice, NE. She is very knowledgeable on Homestead Heritage, and the Homestead Act, and answered everyone's questions that were presented to her.

This year's presentation and programs were one of the best attended and most enjoyable in the last several years. Without the team efforts of everyone who participated and contributed, this year's Kansas Day it would not have been possible.



TINA MILLER, from the Homestead National Monument of America answered questions at Kansas Day celebration.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez



ECHOE LENNOX, left, played guitar and sang a few songs during the luncheon.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

## Scholar bowl teams capture medals at meet

The Cheylin High School scholar's team recently traveled to Brewster for a meet. Eight teams were there vying for honors.

Cheylin had one varsity team and two junior varsity teams in the competition. The first junior varsity team consisted of Elsa Burr, Reece Leonard, Tommy Frisbie, and Bergen Bock. This team won the third place medals.

The second junior varsity team was Cheyenne Hewitt, Riccio Flores, and Gavin Lennox. They placed fourth.

The varsity team of Jacob Brubaker, Ivan Kemp, Itzel Cosbos, and Ellie Pochop, brought home first place and the gold medals with a record of six wins and one loss.

The following Wednesday, it was off to

Ransom for the Western Kansas Liberty League meet. Eleven teams played 10 rounds, which makes for a very long day of brain activity.

This involved the varsity team only, which was Jacob Brubaker, Itzel Cosbos, Ivan Kemp, Elsa Burr, Ellie Pochop, and Reece Leonard. After a long afternoon, the varsity stood at eight wins and two losses. Both losses were by tie breakers. The varsity team ended up with the silver medals and the second place plaque for the league meet.

The next meet will be Regionals, which will be held in Tribune. If Cheylin comes home with first, second or third, it will be on to state at Rolla.



ELSA BURR, Itzel Cosbos, Ellie Pochop, Reece Leonard, Ivan Kemp, and Jacob Brubaker wait to receive the silver medals at the League meet.

Photo courtesy of Janet Carmichael