

By Norma Martinez
bc.times@nwkanssas.com

The sixty-first Antique Engine and Thresher Show is only four weeks away. Some things are still in the making, and some things are well underway. The buttons are ready for early purchasing, featuring the 1924 Buffalo Springfield Steam Roller donated by Randy McDonald to the Tri-State Antique Engine and Threshers Association last year. This steam roller is a rare item, and has been appraised at a value of over \$20,000.

The foundation has been poured for the new Wright Building. The roofing cables have been delivered, and plans are to continue moving forward and having this building completed in time for the show. This building will provide a 60 by 120 foot air-conditioned room for a 30 by 60 foot cowboy porch, designed for sitting and whittling.

Twelve dozen good quality neutral colored caps have been ordered for this year's show in addition to the T-shirts that have been sold during past shows.

During the winter, Norman and Bob Dorsch have been enjoying the new gas furnace installed in the shop while working on restoring a D-19 AC tractor, donated to the Association by the Hal Sager family.

Dawn Dirks had donated a Farmall H tractor that is being restored by the Northwest Area Vocational paint and body class.

Center Church has added their church bells which have rang for many years at Center Church about ten miles southeast of Bird City. Attendance has dropped in the church, so the friends and families of the Center Church decided to let their charter expire and donate the bells to the Thresher Association. A memorial is in the planning stage to honor the ancestry members of the Center church.

The no parking area has been expanded to include the line from the south area of building five to the north end of the Eggers Building. This space will be used for developing a kid's area. The treasure dig in the corn tank was a big hit with the children last year, and will be provided again this year in this area. Other plans are in the making for this area, and will be available as they are finalized.

Art Wilkens has been installing shelves in the Wilkens Building to display his Pedal Toys collection which is claimed to be one of the largest private collections of Antique Farm toys in the Nation.

The Eggers museum has added a Mother Corner, where parents with babies can come and rest, cool off, and take care of their infants needs, such as nursing or rocking.

Larry Fikan has been an active member for many years, and has 15

restored tractors. The time has come when he is unable to drive from Atwood to the Thresher grounds. To honor him for his years of dedicated service the Brubaker Building has now been renamed the Brubaker - Fikan Building.

Dee Dorsch has been in charge of the Quilt Shop for many years. This year, she decided it was time to turn this position over to someone else. Dee's dedicated service, along with Stan Dorsch's help, has been an asset towards setting this shop up in a way to display many others artistically stitched quilts. Dee's desire has been to expand the quilt shop and to include Fiber Arts of items such as embroidery, crochet, knit, applique, or artistic sewing. To share items this year, contact Marcia Hickert. The kid's tractor pull event has always been a popular event, and plans are in the making to qualify the Kiddy Tractor Pull as a sanctioned event. This will allow the winners to qualify for the competition at the State Fair.

Last year, the tractor pull was changed to Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. It showed an increase in attendance, and will remain the same this year.

The three day yard sale event was a big success, and will be held again this year in the area southeast of the church. The only cost will be the purchase of a grounds admission. To reserve a spot, call Rod Klepper at 785-734-7309.

Vendors are still needed for Building #5 and outside the building for an annual \$20 membership which provides unlimited access to all the buildings, events, and displays during the three day show. To reserve a spot, call Rod Klepper.

Twelve 30 amp electric hookups have been installed southeast of the church for RV's. To reserve a spot, call Mary Smith at 443-1702. For the T-N-T Trailer Parking in town, call 734-7100.

Runners, walkers, and stroller-pushers, to be guaranteed an official FunRun t-shirt, must register by July 1. Amy Hendricks is in charge of the Fun Run. Registration forms can be found at www.cheylin.com, www.birdcity.com or www.threshershow.blog.com. If you need more information, you may Email hendricks@cheylin.com, or call 784-2341 ext. 112 or 734-2207. The Horseshoe Tournament, sponsored by Big Ed's, is scheduled for Saturday for both men and women. Contact Willy Martinez at 332-4059 for more information or registration.

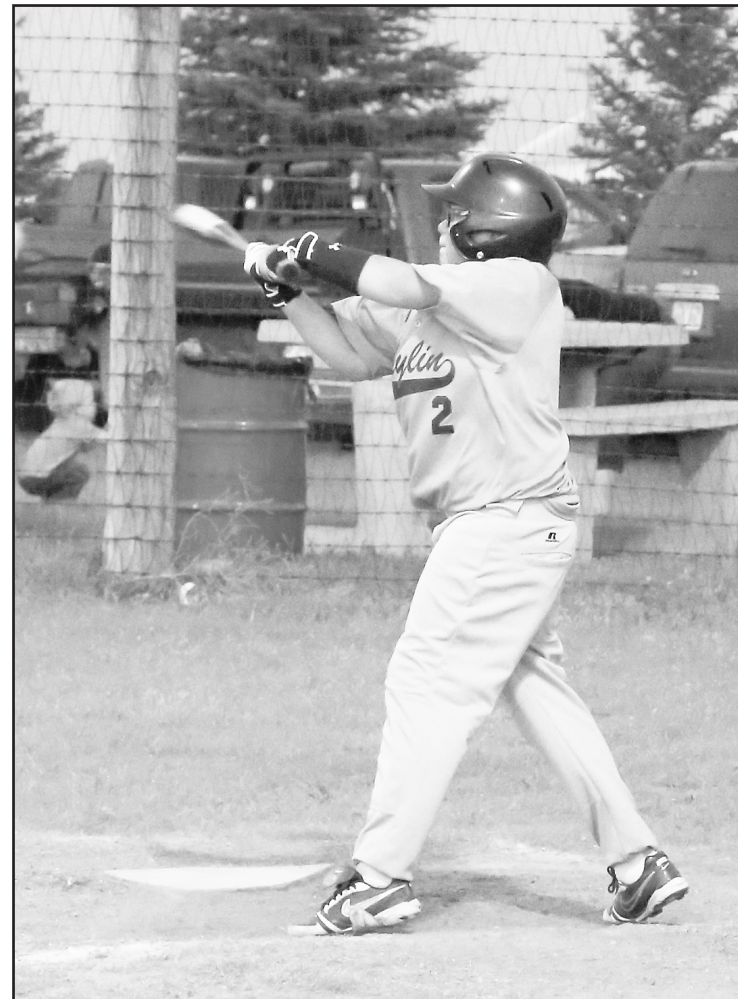
Help is always needed on Tuesday July 28, to help Doug Fleming and Brad Schneider with the mowing and clean up, in preparation for the big show. Mark this date on your calendar, and plan a family evening working with your kids and enjoying the cookout to follow.



BRADY KETZNER holds his base waiting for his teammate to bat during the June 24 game against Wauneta-Palisade Times photo by Norma Martinez

ANDREW SCHIELDS is taking his turn at bat during the Cheylin vs St. Francis C-Team baseball game in McDonald. Cheylin defeated St. Francis, 5-1. The two teams will meet up again this Friday (June 27) in St. Francis at 7 p.m.

Photo courtesy of Darci Schields



Thank You

We wish to thank all our friends and neighbors for their continuing support, prayers and phone calls, while Gail was flown to the North Colorado Medical Center in Greeley, Colo., twice and then in an ambulance to the Cheyenne County Hospital. The doctors, nurses, aides were always there with compassion and care. We are so thankful for our children and families. They were always there to help us, care for us, call us, bring us home and travel long distances. We are blessed to have them. Thank you to the Bird City EMTs for all the care and concern, Mary for watering the flowers, Deb for her concern, Pastor Dan for his prayers; the Eagle Medical flight crews, who were so gracious, Dr. Mary Beth Miller for all her help, along with her crew. So many thoughts and prayers were sent our way, and we are so thankful. May God bless you all, as he has blessed us.

—Gail and Kay Miller



Come & Go Birthday Celebration for Gertrude Voorhies



Saturday, June 28
3:00-5:00 p.m.
Senior Citizens Center
Bird City
(Located on main street west of Hometown Market)
Come help us wish our mother a "Happy Birthday" as she celebrates her 90th Birthday.
Hosted by Gertie's children & their families, Kent-Terry-Sheri-Kim

Welcome All
Bird City, St. Francis, Wheeler
& Country Neighbors
4th annual
Cheyenne County
July 4th Celebration
Bird City, Kansas
Friday, July 4
Let's all celebrate
America's Birthday with events
& activities for all ages!

- Be inspired by the large city-wide American Flag display
- Enjoy seeing the patriotic-decorated yards, homes, churches & businesses
- Cheer on your favorite contestant at the Hot Dog Eating Contest
- Let a smile come to your face as you watch the red, white & blue kid's parade
- Raise your voice as we all sing our favorite songs at the patriotic sing-a-long
- Meet your family & friends at the thresher grounds to enjoy food, drinks, music & rides as we wait for a spectacular fireworks display set to patriotic music.
See 1,000 red & blue LED finger lights light up the grounds.

Many sponsors say:
"See you in Bird City!"

Bird City City Council, Century II Development, Thresher Association, Bird City American Legion, Bird City Community Club, Bird City Churches, Bird City Fire Dept. & EMTs, Bird City Senior Center, Bird City City Employees, Cheylin Schools, Designs By Dawn, The Bank in Bird City, Hometown Market, 2nd Beginnings Thrift Store, Big Ed's Steakhouse, Frontier Equity, Wright Insurance, Gary & Jane Brubaker Family Farm, Smith Family Farms, Steve Busse Family Farm, Gary & Merilee Leach Farm, Yonkey Family Farm, Peoples State Bank in McDonald, McDonald Grocery, St. Francis United Methodist Thrift Store, Owens True Value, Roger Neitzel Heating & Cooling, Lampe Motor Sports, Salon 117, Leach Insurance, Levi Pochop Construction & many other individuals.



The Saint Francis Herald
& Bird City Times
Office will be closed