



Forage grasses tested in area

By Melinda Basnett

Planting grass, it's something everyone in this area thinks of just for their lawns. Not anymore. With the increase in cattle production many are planting grass pastures on their irrigated ground.

Brock Ketzner, Eastern Colorado Seed employee recently held Forage Field Day near Bird City on a trial field owned by Ernie Ketzner.

About 20 local producers heard Mr. Ketzner along with others representing Eastern Colorado Seed, Burlington, Colo. as they spoke on the importance of good quality feedstuffs.

Results show that by planting grass by itself or in combination with alfalfa a producer gets better palatability and higher nutritional values with less watering and fertilizing than traditional crops. The varieties are winter hardy, stress and disease resistant and produce a high energy and protein rich forage designed for grazing or haying. Season length is also beneficial.

In the trial near Bird City, the field was seeded Oct. 1, with a mixture of ryegrass, fescue, and clover. On April 15 50# nitrogen was applied. The field was divided into two sections 60 acres and 55 acres. May 1, 75 pairs were turned on 60 acres (2000 lb) beef per acre. The cattle were rotated every 3-4 days. The cattle were pulled off twice for watering, two days each. On June 10 the cattle were pulled off for 10 days for fertilizing and watering applying 25# nitrogen. One June 20, 25 acres were restocked with 4800 pounds of beef per acre. The cattle remained until July 14 then were pulled off and the 25 acres were mowed to prevent spot grazing, and watered. On July 16 the cattle returned and rotated 3 days on irrigated and 4 days on native pasture. The north 35 acres were allowed to grow since June 10 and swathed July 25.

The grasses remained tender and grew back quickly as the cattle were rotated.



BROCK KETZNER explains the difference in the variety of grasses planted on a test plot near Bird City. The grasses were planted for grazing cattle.

Times Staff photo by Melinda Basnett

Information meeting set for area dairy

Bird City Century II Development Foundation is hosting a meeting to inform Bird City citizens and area producers about its latest economic development project, Bird City Dairy.

Bird City Dairy will be owned and operated by the McCarty Family of McCarty Dairy of Rexford. The Bird City Dairy will open with 1,800 head of cows in the spring of 2007, with plans to expand to 3,000 head in the next five years. Employment opportunities will include 18 employees and one manager at opening, with the potential of 30 employees after complete expansion.

Plan to attend the informational

meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 23, at the Bird City American Legion. The McCarty Family and K-State Dairy Specialist, John Smith will be present. The McCarty's and Mr. Smith will be available to answer any questions people have including economic impact of feeds to the area, why some dairies succeed and some fail, where the milk goes, and the impact of the dairy in our community and school.

For more information contact Cathy Domsch, Bird City Century II Development Foundation at 785-734-2556 or email to centuryii@bcks.net.

School is ready for classes to begin as positions are filled

By Melinda Basnett

The regular meeting of the Cheylin Board of Education on Monday evening found members and administration tying up loose ends and getting things ready for Wednesday morning classes to begin.

The ratification of the negotiated agreement with the Cheylin Teachers Organization was approved. The following positions were approved: Tammi Carmichael as junior high assistant volleyball coach, Anita Pochop as Cheylin concessions manager, Lieta Estrada and Susan McKain as part-time custodians, Anna Martinez as food service/office aide, and Max Keltz as junior high activities director.

A budget report was given and a mill levy increase was approved. The budget hearing was set for 8 a.m. on Aug. 28.

"We're ready for school to start," David Zumbahlen, superintendent/principal, said in his administrative report to board members. "So far we have 143 students enrolled with a few yet to come."

Also discussed were the approval of letting students participate in wrestling in St. Francis; cross training someone on the power school program; field trip guidelines; and the approval of a request of bus use by the booster club for after-prom.

A 10-minute executive session was requested to discuss non-elected personnel at 9:30 with no decisions made following.



Relay for Life gives hope to cancer patients waiting for a cure

Sawhill Park will be the site for the seventh annual Relay for Life on Saturday. Former and current cancer patients, their families, civic organizations and the public are encouraged to take part in the American Cancer Society's signature event to raise money for the fight against cancer. The events will begin at 7 p.m. on Saturday and continue throughout the evening ending at 7 a.m. on Sunday morning, Aug. 20.

"The public is encouraged to bring a lawn chair and join the events surrounding the Relay," Deb Lindsten, relay chairman, said. "Check the list of events with this article."

Beginning at 6:30 p.m., the Chamber of Commerce will be cooking hamburgers and hot dogs, which will be served with chips for a free-will offering. The Shrine Candy Wagon will be available to sell bottled water, pop, popcorn, cotton candy and snow cones. The Lions Club will be serving breakfast at 6 a.m. Sunday morning, again for a free-will offering. All proceeds from all three organizations will be donated to the American Cancer Society.

There are many sponsors for this event. The generosity of these sponsors make funds available to American Cancer Society for necessary research, education, advocacy and service. Take time to show appreciation to those listed on the back of the T-shirts worn by team members.

A part of the fun is the campsites which are set up by the Relay teams. Team walkers will be on the track around the park

from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., as they walk toward the dawn of a new breakthrough in cancer research.

Activities have been planned by the Relay teams to encourage participation throughout the evening. "Midnite Madness" will start at midnight, with fun for all ages. There will be "Crazy Laps," and "Spotlight Awards."

At 7 p.m. Saturday the Relay will have the opening ceremony with Pastor Morita Truman giving a prayer. The Boy Scouts will do a flag ceremony, and Katlyn Jones will sing the National Anthem. The first lap of the Relay will be walked by cancer survivors, the second lap will include the survivor's families and caregivers. The teams will follow and will keep someone from each team walking all night.

After the Survivors Laps, activities will begin in the band shell. The "Locks of Love" hair cuts will be given by Denise Andrist from Girlfriends and Guys Too, and her crew. Wigs for survivors can be made from any 10 inches or more donation of hair, and they anticipate at least five people will come forth to donate. Call Ericka Wieck at 332-3553 for additional information concerning Locks of Love.

An auction of donated items will be going on in the band shell, merchandise to be laid out on



tables for viewing. The Petersens from Western Auction and Real Estate have volunteered to do the auction.

The highlight of the evening will be the impressive luminaria ceremony, which will start at 9 p.m. The luminarias will be lit all along the sidewalks and band shell by local cancer survivors. They will remain burning throughout the remainder

of the night in remembrance of those who have lost their battle to cancer and as a reminder of HOPE, honoring survivors.

A Powerpoint presentation will be given on a large screen in the band shell with all the names of the survivors and those who have lost their battle to cancer for whom luminarias have been purchased. To purchase luminaria, contact Deb Lindsten, Relay Chairman, at the courthouse or Deb Patton, Luminaria Chairman.

Jennifer Van Eaton, Community Income Development Specialist of the American Cancer Society, will be talking about the "Wall of Hope," which is a huge banner which will be signed by people all across the nation in support of continued government spending for cancer research. There will be a banner to be signed locally, and it, too, will be sent to Washington for a mass request for continued cancer research. See related article about the banner.

There will be a 6:30 a.m. closing and special recognitions. For further information about the Relay, please call Ms. Lindsten at (785) 332-2022 or (785) 332-8800.

"We encourage the community to come down to Sawhill and share in the activities," Ms. Lindsten said. "There have been some new and fun activities planned for the seventh annual American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. We will be remembering those who have lost their battle to cancer and celebrating the lives of those who are survivors and give us hope. It will be a wonderful community event. Hope to see you there."

Schedule

Saturday

- 6 p.m. - Registration of survivors at the Shrine Pavilion in the city park.
- 7-9 p.m. - Chamber of Commerce serving hamburgers and hot dogs (free-will offering).
- 7 p.m. - Opening ceremony and national anthem.
- Survivor's Lap.
- Caregiver/Family Lap.
- Auction in the band shell.
- Locks of Love
- Shriners serving all evening.
- 9 p.m. - Luminaria Cer-

emony in the band shell.

Sunday

- 12 a.m. Midnight Madness, fun for all ages/crazy laps, spotlight awards
- 6 a.m. - Lions Club will be serving breakfast (free-will offering).
- 6:30 a.m. - Closing ceremony.
- Special recognitions.



Relay banner will be sent to Washington to be displayed

There will be a banner at this year's Cheyenne County Relay for Life which will be taken to Washington, D.C., where it will be on display with 5,000 other banners from other communities.

The banners will make up the Wall of Hope monument on the National Mall. There, the Wall of Hope will be a focal point of Celebration on the Hill 2006 and will demonstrate the unity of the entire country in support of cancer survivors and their families. The Wall of Hope will also be an event which will show the country's lawmakers how the American Cancer Society is waging the fight against cancer in communities nationwide.

On Saturday, people are urged to come to the Relay for Life event to not only participate and enjoy the entertainment but to also sign the banner in Sawhill Park. As they sign the banners, people might want to write messages of support. The banners will tell the stories of countless loved ones who have battled cancer.

"We are hoping everybody will come by and sign the banner," said Deb Lindsten, relay chairman, adding that the banner signatures are testaments to the spirit, courage and strength of the millions of Americans touched by cancer.

