

Thresher Queen shares her story

By Karen Krien

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Fortwo weeks prior to the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show, there were clues printed about the new Thresher Queen and who she would be. There were people who knew her but hadn't guessed she was the queen. Even the photo of her as a young girl didn't give the secret away.

On Thursday, July 26, Millie Glasco, Bird City, was crowned in a special noon ceremony. Her predecessor Agnes Burk, who was also at the crowning, presented the doll in her image to the Thresher Association.

Mrs. Glasco was born Feb. 17, 1925, to Miles and Gertrude Jones in Benkelman. Her dad raised a lot of hogs and had cows and calves plus fed cattle. Mother raised turkeys and that was how the grasshoppers were controlled.

Mrs. Glasco was the third child and had two brothers and three sisters. They lived on the Republican River. When the 1935 flood came, she remembers it as "terrible."

"We saw houses and all sorts of things go down the river," she said. "Close to our place, a neighbor and his wife were stranded on top of their house for two nights."

She said the only thing that saved them was that the corner of their house fell into the door of their cellar and was caught. Mrs. Glasco's mother always left a light on in her window and the neighbors swam to that light.

The Jones house was high enough that the water raised only to their yard. After the water went down, they built a swinging bridge across the water. For a long time, that was the only way they could get across the river to go to town.

"The school bus would come as far as possible and we walked down to



Glasco

get on," she said, noting that, at the time, she was only 10-years-old.

In the Dirty 30s, Mrs. Glasco remembers the middle of the day being as dark as the night. They would go to the cellar because they couldn't tell what was coming.

Her grandfather, Joel Thomas Jones, drove stage coach from Independence, Mo., to Salt Lake City for many years.

"My father often told stories that Grandfather had told him — things that happened to him while he drove," she said.

Mrs. Glasco went to school in Benkelman and graduated in 1943. She worked at the bank until she married Glenn Glasco in April 1945. Mr. Glasco was in the service at the time, having volunteered in August 1944. He went to the South Pacific shortly afterwards.

While Mr. Glasco was gone, Mrs. Glasco went to work for her dad who owned the Benkelman Sales Company. Mr. Glasco returned home in November 1946. They had two children, Lynn, who married Candy Childers; and Connie, who married Ron Huxman. Through the years, they were blessed with five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

"I feel truly blessed," the queen concluded.

KEEPING THE DUST DOWN and giving the new grass seed a drink. A Kansas Department of Transportation truck sprays down the soil in the medians along the Highway. Grass is already sprouting up.

Grass seed planted along highway

By Karen Krien

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Work has been in progress on the U.S. 36 medians and, by next year, there should be a good stand of grass.

This spring, Bill Lee, sub-area supervisor for the Kansas Department of Transportation, met with St. Francis city manager, J.R. Landenberger. Plans were laid out and they agreed to work together to get the medians looking more attractive.

The city council has tried to get plans worked out to beautify the medians. Studies were even completed but most required water and many of the plants wouldn't live through the salt-brine mixture put on the icy, snow-packed roads.

Because of the salt mixture, they agreed to plant buffalo grass which also takes less water.

For the past two weeks, the highway crew has removed 1,080 cubic yards of dirt and sand, cutting the height of the medians back to the

level of the curbs.

In an article which appeared on the front page of the District Three Kansas Department of Transportation bulletin, Mr. Lee said that the dirt had accumulated through the years and much had settled 6- to 12-inches above the curbs. Not only was it not attractive but the medians were hard to mow.

The city of St. Francis agreed to purchase and plant the buffalo grass seed.

Mr. Lee said it would take at least a year before a stand of grass is established.

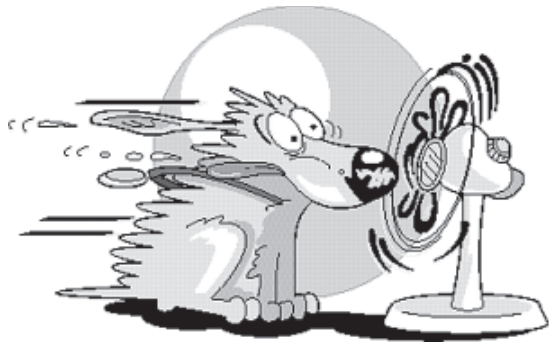
"In the end, the areas will be more attractive for the community — a community which takes a lot of pride in its appearance," he said.

The medians were installed in the 1950s and, at different times, there have been efforts to have them removed. However, Mr. Lee said they serve the important function of stockpiling the snow which is removed from the highways.



ROGER FAULKENDER plants grass seed in the medians along U.S. 36.

Herald staff photos by Karen Krien

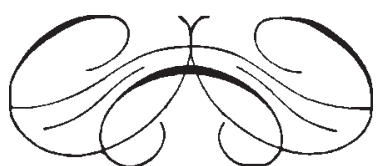


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Thank you . . .
Thanks to the fair board and the Parade Committee for choosing me as Grand Marshal; Eldon and Junior for furnishing the horse and buggy; and the crowd for watching.
Thanks to all the volunteers who worked at the fairgrounds and the newspaper for writing the stories about me.
I was well pleased with the way the fair turned out. It is growing each year!
God bless you all!!
Tobe Zweygardt

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