



TANNER GILLILAND gauges the steam boiler of the scaled replica steam engine he drove last year. The engine did not pass safety inspection and will not be driven through the parade.

Herald staff photo by Linda Schneider

Thresher show starts today

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Today, (Thursday) is opening day for the Antique Engine and Thresher Show. And for the next three days, Bird City, Kan., will be bustling at the seams with visitors from all over tri-state area and further.

The Thresher Show is an event that takes weeks of preparations, inspections and repairs. Every antique tractor and pieces of equipment will be checked, cleaned and made ready for the daily parades.

One of the exhibits will include the antique steam engine tractors. Many of the steam engine tractors are nearly 100 years old. A 1916 Case and a 1912 Advance Rumely to name just two, and each one requires a certification for insurance and for safety.

For over 25 years, Gerald Wright and his crew have been inspecting to ensure the safety of the steam engines. For three years in a

row they have checked the thickness of steam compartments and if they do not pass inspection, they are not driven. With the pressure that it takes to run these massive tractors, there is a lot of danger as Mr. Wright will tell about the tragic accident that killed two people and injured 40 spectators when a steam engine tractor blew up in Median, OH.

What is unique about the inspection is Mr. Wright's crew. They are young men and women who come out to the Thresher grounds to help with the inspections. They are as young as 10 years old and not older than 18.

This year, under the watchful eye of Mr. Wright, Rex Weishape and David Burns of Bird City, Marcus and Brady Colson of Colby, Tanner Gilliland of St. Francis, and other youths, learn about using gauges, tearing into engine cases, sand blasting and making the tools

that will open up the bellies of these 100-year old tractors. They learn about the history of each tractor, each one of the crew has his favorite and will tell the story of who owned and how it came to be part of the Thresher Show. In addition, each one of the crew is licensed to drive the old tractors in the Thresher parade.

In addition, behind the scenes, for nearly as long as Gerald, so has been Rosemary Powell. She has been responsible for recording the information needed for insuring the tractors for the show.

"The fun thing for these kids, is that they will get drive the tractors they have been working and inspecting," said Mr. Wright.

Bonny Reservoir again is in danger of being drained

According to an article in the *Sterling (Colo.) Journal Advocate*, Bonny Dam, located just over the Colorado-Kansas border, is once again in danger of being drained.

The 12-mile pipeline planned for delivering well water from the Republican River Basin in Colorado to the Nebraska state line falls a little short — not in length, but because it does not adequately compensate Kansas on the South Fork of the Republican.

At their quarterly meeting here July 10 board members from the Republican River Water Conservation District heard from Jim Slattery, owner of Slattery Aqua Engineers, that the proposed pipeline to carry water to the North Fork of the Republican River won't satisfy all compact requirements.

The Republican River District has secured water rights to provide water for the pipeline from deep irrigation wells in the Republican River Basin. The amount of water the pipeline would deliver is enough to meet the basin-wide total. But the compact is written so that a percentage of the water owed by Colorado must flow through the South Fork of the Republican into Kansas.

The amount is adjustable between the north and south forks, but a basic percentage is required from each fork. Still not compensated will be between 2,000 and 2,500 acre feet of water per year that Colorado will owe Kansas on the South Fork.

The District plans to go ahead with the proposed pipeline to deliver water to Nebraska, but will still need to find a way to compensate Kansas. One way that has been discussed is to drain Bonny Reservoir, located along the South Fork; then evaporation from the reservoir would no longer be charged against Colorado.

On Jan. 22 this year, the District

signed the second of two contracts to purchase designated ground water rights that will produce nearly 15,000 acre-feet of water per year for the compact compliance pipeline.

On Jan. 22, the Colorado Water Conservation Board voted to approve a \$60 million loan application by the District with a 2-percent interest rate over 20 years, to finance the pipeline project.

To assure the Colorado Water Conservation Board that the District could repay the loan, the board of directors voted to increase 2008 use fees from \$5.50 to \$14.50 per irrigated acre on irrigation diversions.

In his report to the District on Thursday, Mr. Slattery showed maps of the irrigation wells the district has secured rights to, as well as a fly-over map of the proposed pipeline location. The water supply is estimated to last for at least 25 years, Mr. Slattery said.

The District board has advertised for a pipeline coordinator to oversee the installation of the planned pipeline. Three qualified applications were received, and two of the candidates have been interviewed, Board President Dennis Coryell reported. The third candidate was to be interviewed after Thursday's meeting.

Background on the Compact

Colorado, Nebraska and Kansas signed a compact in the 1940s allocating the water in the Republican River Basin between the three states. Then numerous irrigation wells were drilled across the basin in all three states. The level of water in the underlying Ogallala Aquifer began to drop. Kansas sued Colorado, claiming it was taking more than its share of the basin's water.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of Kansas, but circumstances in the Republican Basin have been

altered to the point that Colorado has not managed to reach compact compliance since. Kansas threatened to sue again, even though some wells in Colorado had been shut down.

Republican River Water Conservation District

The Republican River Water Conservation District was created by the Colorado General Assembly in 2004 to assist the state in complying with the limitations of the Republican River Compact.

The District is managed and controlled by a 15-member board of directors. It includes all of Yuma and Phillips counties and the portions of Sedgwick, Logan, Washington, Lincoln and Kit Carson counties that make up the Republican River drainage basin.

Surface water with measurable live flow within the district includes the Arikaree River and the North Fork and South Fork of the Republican River. The Ogallala Aquifer underlies most of the district. From it, water is pumped to the surface for irrigation, municipal, industrial and domestic use.

In October 2004, the District Board created the Republican River Water Conservation District Water Activity Enterprise. A water use fee was assessed on all irrigated acres within the district and on municipal and commercial uses, as well as a fee for evaporation from Bonny Reservoir.

These funds are used to offer incentives for water rights to be voluntarily retired, which will reduce consumptive use of water within the district. Money from federal programs, such as the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), a voluntary land retirement program, is also used.

— Story courtesy of Sterling, Colo., Journal Advocate

WE'D LOVE TO TEACH YOUR CHILD!
ABC Preschool will be accepting enrollment for the 2008-2009 school year.
When: Tues., Aug. 12
Time: 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Where: United Methodist Education Building
104 W. Webster • St. Francis, KS
Please bring your child's immunization records. Preschoolers need to have a physical, available at Cheyenne Clinic
For more info, please contact JaNan (785) 332-2615 or Amy (785) 332-3954

Yes!!
There will be a
Tumbleweed Roundup
of Music and Poetry
At the Cheyenne Theater
Aug. 9, 2008
Two Performances
2 & 7 p.m.
Featuring:
"Tumbleweed", "The Wild Rose Poet"
"Leonard Hopper", "Fred Magley"
With an open mike for anyone wishing to join us.

Kodak Picture Kiosk
NEW! Create prints in seconds.
It's quick and so easy to do!
• Simply stunning Kodak prints
• It's easy—print as many as you need
• Make simple edits like zoom, crop, and reduce red-eye
Drawing: August 8
Register now at **Krien Pharmacy** to win 25 free 4x6 prints. Two names will be drawn!
available at Krien Pharmacy

Re-Elect RAY LEE
Commissioner District 2
Your votes will be greatly appreciated!
Pol. adv. pd. for by Ray Lee, Treas.

The St. Francis Swimming Pool
Fair Hours
→ Mon.-Wed.: Regular Hours
→ Thursday - 1:30 - 5:30 p.m.
No Evening Swim
→ Friday: 1:30-5:30 p.m.
No Evening Swim
→ Saturday.: 1:30-5:30 p.m.
Pool Number: 332-3410

"We Are So Grateful!"
"My family and I thank you for the kindness you have shown us this summer while we have campaigned for District Judge. Whether it is through helping us get out signs or visiting with us in your homes, churches and businesses, I am truly humbled by your graciousness and support. I look forward to the opportunity to serve you. I would appreciate your vote August 5, 2008."—Andrea Wyrick, Republican Candidate for District Judge, Division 2.

www.wyrick4judge.com
To serve the people honestly, truthfully and humbly with integrity, equality and respect-Exodus 18:21
Paid for by Wyrick for District Judge-Jerry Vincent, Treasurer

At 40 & 60—Ten Years ago
We can hardly believe it, but it is so!
Happy Birthday —
Kathy, 12th of Aug.
Helene, July 15th

Come Support Your Future Indians
The Entire Community Welcome
Saturday, Aug. 2nd
Kick-off 5 p.m.
(Grades entering 4th-7th)
Hamburger Fry 6 p.m. Cost: \$5
St. Francis High School
Sponsored by Booster Club

JEM Jewelers
Is Now Open!
Gold, Silver, Diamonds,
Gemstones, Family Jewelry,
Watch Batteries, Jewelry Repairs,
Hand Bags & Fine Fragrances.
Free Gift Wrapping
Bonus free gift with purchase!
423 Main Street, Suite A
Wray, Co.
Tues.- Fri. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sat. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Closed Sun./Mon.
Phone: 970-332-5577

Who Do YOU Want For Sheriff?
He is trustworthy, honest and fair. He performs his job with professionalism, respect, dignity and integrity. He has sincere compassion and concern for his community and the citizens of Cheyenne County. He proves to have the law enforcement knowledge and experience for the position.
He is a son, a brother, a father, a husband and a friend.
Vote CRAIG VAN ALLEN For Sheriff To Protect and Serve!
Pol. adv paid for by committee to elect Craig Van Allen, Kody Krien, Treasurer

VOTE TO RE-ELECT DOLORES JENIK
I know the people of this county and understand their needs!
10 yrs in the Co Treasurer's Office
8 yrs as Co Treasurer and 2 yrs as Deputy
15 yrs experience of working in financial institutions with duties ranging from: front line service, small loans, accounting, working with trust department and investing their funds and securing pledges for these funds
Born in St Francis and raised in Bird City
Pol. Adv. Paid for by Dolores Jenik