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Beecher days scheduled for this weekend

By Karen Krien

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The Beecher Island Reunion will be held Saturday and Sunday.

Forty years ago, the Battle of Beecher Island took place. It was a fierce battle with many lives, both Indian and white, lost.

Today, the battle site, 19 miles west of St. Francis on U.S. 35, then north, is a peaceful place. The cottonwoods shade the area which is just north of the Arikaree River that lazily moves along.

This is the place of Beecher Island Reunion which has become a tradition bringing people from far and near to participate in the activities and enjoy the entertainment.

After the smoke has settled from the black powder shoot which starts at 9 a.m. following breakfast at 6:30, there will be games and races.

Some of the activities are the three-legged race, egg toss, cow-chip throwing and the exciting penny dig for different ages.

At 7 p.m., the music will bust out of the auditorium as Judy Coder and her "Pride of the Prairie" band perform. Ms. Coder is a professional western singer, yodeler, storyteller, songwriter and cowboy band leader.

The four-member band and Ms. Coder will provide western swing, traditional music of the American west and newer music closely tied to the cowboy. (See related article.)

Sunday

There will be a pancake breakfast starting at 6:30 a.m. Phil Mitchel will be the speaker at the Sunday church service. Providing the music will be Greg Carlin and "The Shadow Riders."

Schedule

Saturday, Sept. 13

Quilt show presented by the Beecher Island Helping Hand Club.

6:30 a.m. Breakfast, Idalia Bicentennial Club.

9 a.m. Black Powder Shoot, Idalia Gun Club.

11 a.m. Concessions provided by Wray Lions throughout the day.

1 p.m. Games and Races

Turtle race registration.

Turtle races follow other races.

7 p.m. Music by Judy Coder and "Pride of the Prairie."

Sunday, Sept. 14

6:30 a.m. Pancake breakfast, Idalia Lions Club.

9:45 a.m. Flag raising, area Boy Scouts.

10 a.m. Sunday service with guest speaker, Phil Mitchel, music by Greg Carlin and "The Shadow Riders."

1 p.m. Music by the Akers Family Band.

Singing of "Arikaree."

History presentation.

Drawing for quilt and baskets, Beecher Island Helping Hand Club.

The Sunday afternoon program will start at 1 p.m. The Akers Family Band will entertain the audience with a mixture of folk, patriotic and sacred music.

The song, "Arikaree" will be sung and a historic presentation given.

The weekend will end with a drawing for the winner of the quilt and baskets made by the Beecher Island Helping Hand Club.



FUTURE POM SQUAD — Performing during halftime at the football game Friday night were (l to r) Hadleigh Hilt, Bailey Workman, Amanda Neitzel and Emma Johnson.

Herald staff photo by Leslie McCormick

Homecoming festivities start Monday

By Karen Krien

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Starting Monday, the St. Francis junior-senior high school will be buzzing with activities and excitement as it is Homecoming Week. Friday, Sept. 19, marks the highlight of the week when the Homecoming King and Queen are crowned during an afternoon assembly and the football game with Goodland is played at home on Greene Field.

Throughout the week, there will be special activities. People visiting the school may be greeted by students dressed as twins, super heroes or the villain.

Monday is Twin Day and winners will be announced during seminar starting at 3:20 p.m. Just so students don't get carried away with their costumes, they are reminded to stay within the school dress code requirements.

That evening, seniors will paint

Main Street from the school to the west end of the courthouse. The junior varsity football team has a game with Goodland on Greene Field.

Tuesday, the high school volleyball teams will be playing Atwood and Sharon Springs in the Sainty gym. Game time starts at 4 p.m.

In honor of the volleyball team, Tuesday has been named as "Volleyball Appreciation Day." Students are urged to

wear dress clothes.

Wednesday, students will appear at school dressed as either a super hero or a villain.

On Thursday, students will be signing T-shirts. The cheerleaders will be teaching grade school students cheers during seminar at 3:15.

The junior high volleyball ladies and football team will be playing at home against Oakley.

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When to expect a freeze

As the state climatologist for Kansas, Mary Knapp answers many questions about the weather. But, a particular one always starts surfacing at this time every year.

"The curious want to know when we'll see our first freeze," said Ms. Knapp, who runs the Kansas Weather Data Library, based with Kansas State University Research and Extension.

"Gardeners are hoping for an extended growing season, and allergy sufferers are hoping for an end to the pollen."

History says this year's first Kansas freeze could come any time now, she said. In Manhattan, the record date for the earliest freeze - when temperatures reached 32 degrees or lower -- is Sept. 13. That happened in 1890 and 1902.

In northwest and north central Kansas, freezing weather can arrive even earlier, she said. For example, Colby and Hoxie have had freezes as early as Sept. 3 - which makes a very short growing season.

On the other hand, the latest date for a first frost in those communities is Nov. 10. That happened in 1998.

Kathy Landenberger, St. Francis weather observer, reported some needed moisture Sunday night and early Monday morning. St. Francis had .29 inch but there was over an inch 8 to 10 miles south of St. Francis.

The weekend was cool with a high of only 78 degrees and a low of 44 degrees.

Monday was damp and cloudy and the high was 56 degrees.

Last week's temps were:

Date	High	Low	Prec.
Sept. 2	75	42	
Sept. 3	73	42	
Sept. 4	79	47	.22
Sept. 5	68	52	T
Sept. 6	73	50	
Sept. 7	78	44	.29
Sept. 8	56	45	



MANY ATTENDED the tournament luncheon to help raise money for equipment. Pictured are (l to r) Pat and Larry Brunow, Jessie Schield, Bessie and Albert Burr.

Tournament raises \$6,300



JASON JOHNSON, St. Francis, was one of the participants in the tournament.

Herald staff photos by Betty Jean Winston

Sunday was a beautiful day for playing a fun day of golf at the sixth "Swing Fore Your Health" benefit golf tournament at Riverside Recreation.

The main coordinators, Shawna Blanka, Heidi Tice and Mila Bandel agreed that the tournament was a big success.

There were 12 teams participating in the tournament. There was also a great turnout for the free-will luncheon held at the Riverside dining room.

When all the money was tallied, the was \$6,300 which will be used to help purchase equipment for the kitchen remodel.

Everyone, from the hole sponsors, golf proceeds and those who donated at the luncheon, helped raise the money, Mrs. Blanka said. It wouldn't have been as much fun if were not for those who donated prizes

She also added that, the tournament would not have been possible without the help of the Cheyenne County Hospital and Clinic employees.

Tournament placers included:

First Flight —

First place: Tom Smull, Ward Cassidy, Chris Bracelin.

Second place: Matt Smull, Rick Kriegh, Brock McAttee.

Third place (tie): Derrick Tice, Shannon Grover, Matt Bandel; Jason Johnson, Kevin Sanderson, Jenifer Sanderson; Darren Kannady, Lynn Hoelting, Amy Gilming.

Second Flight —

First place: Kenny Bracelin, Wade Quiggle, Robin Peterson.

Second place: Neil McCumber, Larry Forsythe, See RAISES on Page 7



NEW VIAERO COMMUNICATION tower went up Friday. It is located south of the county shop, out of the city limits.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Employee retires

By Margaret Bucholtz

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The St. Francis City Council members presented Chet Gardner with a plaque for his years of service to the city when they met on Sept. 2.

On Friday, Sept. 5, Mr. Gardner retired from the city after 13 years. The plaque was shaped like a truck

and was made by Scott Houtman. The council adopted Ordinance 554, which repealed Charter Ordinance 2002-1. The quorum for the council is again set at three of the five council members.

A tree trimming license was approved for David Rudy.

Property cleanup is continuing throughout the city.