

# Kansas Day celebrates the rich history of the state

By Norma Martinez  
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On January, 29, 1861, Kansas was formed as a state to become the thirty-fourth state in the Union. Last Wednesday afternoon, close to 200 people turned out for the eighty-fifth Kansas Day potluck and celebration program, held in the American Legion Hall. Shirley Watson set at a table containing memorabilia on Charles Wesley and Cynthia Annie Maxson Trickett, the founders of Cheyenne County Kansas Day in 1930.

Marsha Magley, Verneeta Haack, Phyllis Wright, and Rosemary Powell were at the registration table to greet everyone as they came in the door, and to have them sign in under the list containing the year they were born. Next, everyone was given a badge to wear, identifying who they were.

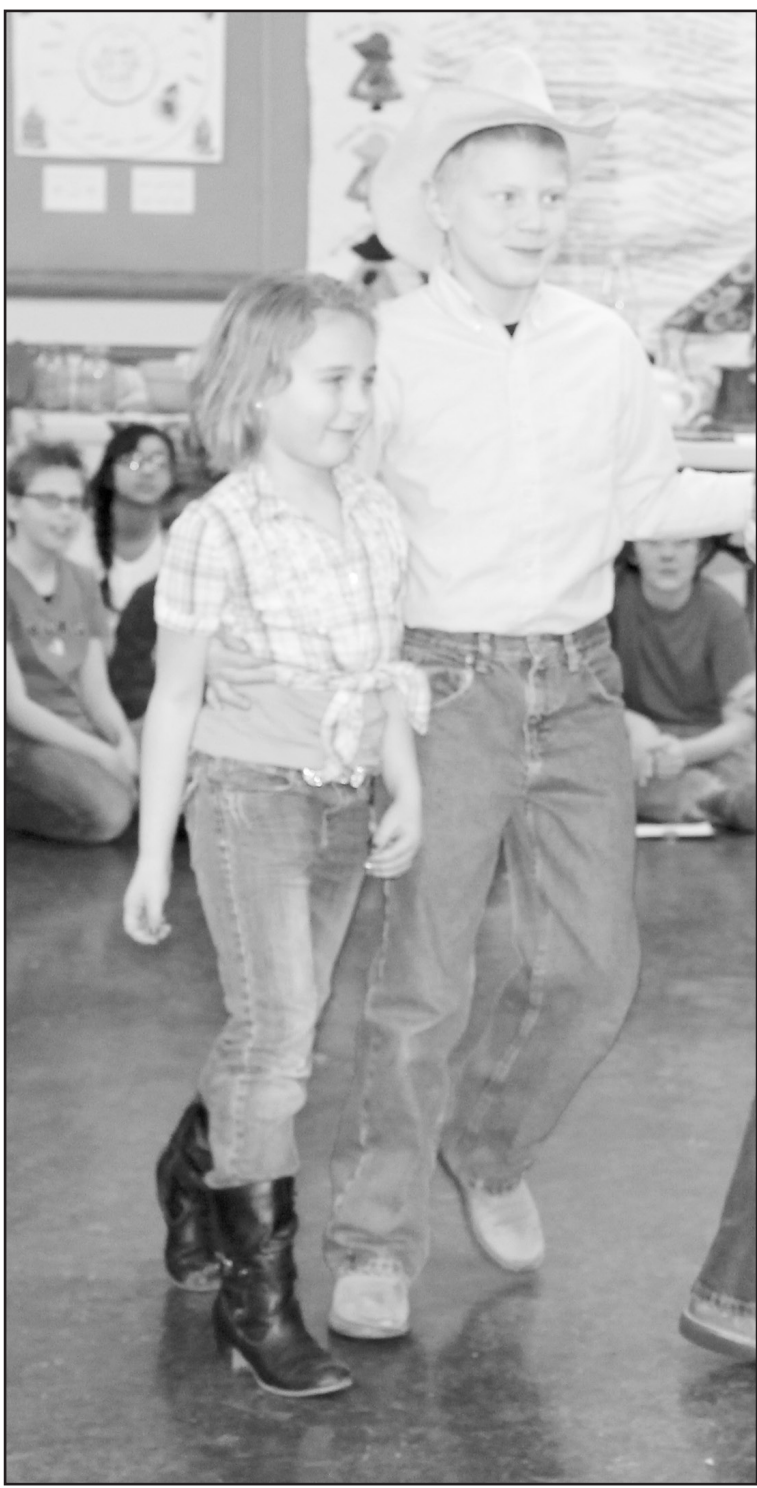
Other tables were set up with memorabilia by the following participating Homesteaders and groups: Helene Landenberger had a display containing a book with the complete history of the Magley family, Homesteaders, and other memorabilia items of interest. She was on hand to answer questions anyone had on the homestead.

Dan Busse had a large display showing the history of buffalo in Cheyenne County during the years of 1850-1900. The center of his display contained a very fragile buffalo skull he found in a spring on the property his grandparents homesteaded. In 1974, this spring had formed a pond, and he was told the spring water and fine sand is what helped to preserve the skull. When he had it analyzed by an archeologist, they told him this animal was approximately 5-6 years old when it died, between one to two thousand years ago.

Kenneth Beougher had a display of the Finney and Eula Jones Farmstead, established in 1930. His also had his proudest item, a copy of his grandfathers Homestead Certificate, established in 1892, and signed by Benjamin Harrison, the President of the United States. Mike Boyson, a homestead ancestor, had a display of his Hot Brush Sign business, and was ready to answer any questions any one had.

The Home Circle Club ladies proudly displayed items from their homestead ancestors. The center of this display had a large quilt that the ladies together had made from the sunbonnet pattern. Ladies from this group stood out, as they were all dressed in their homestead attire and sunbonnets. These ladies were: Dana Clendenin, Joy Anderegg, Avis Hazuka, Carol Peters, Phyllis Wright, Dorothy Chipperfield, and Carol Marsh. Mrs. Chipperfield displayed an antique violin that had been owned by her late brother, Mux Johnson.

The Ladies of St. John Lutheran Church, Bird City, were the Kitchen Hostesses. Lots of good food was provided by the ladies. The Wesleyan Church Ladies decorated the tables with homestead kitchen utensils, provided by Kenneth Beougher. Pastor David Rossbach from the Lutheran Church gave the Table Grace/Invocation, Memorial Benediction for the 102 Cheyenne County mem-



SAVANNAH MORRIS AND BEN NELSON square dance at the Kansas Day celebration Times photo by Norma Martinez

bers who had passed on in 2013, and the Benediction prayer.

Introductions were made by the President Rodney Klepper, who recognized the remaining officers; Sally Wieck, Vice President; Rosemary Powell, Secretary; and Helene Landenberger, Treasurer. Officers for the 2015 Kansas Day were elected, with a unanimous vote: President - Dawn Petty, Vice President - Mike Boyson, Secretary - Rose Mary Powell, Treasurer - Helene Landenberger.

Certificates and recognition were awarded to the following: Tobe Zweygardt, at age 99, as the eldest Kansas born male, eldest Cheyenne County born male, and the eldest man present. He was also recognized as being the gentleman pictured in The Ultimate Guide for Northwest Kansas by the Cheyenne County Development Corporation. Hazel Douthit was the eldest Kansas born, eldest Cheyenne County born, and eldest female attendee. Pastor David Rossbach, who was born in Canada, was the only foreign born male attendee, and Susan Chomer-Johnson, who was born in Germany in 1958, was the only foreign born female. The youngest boy in attendance was Roger Prideaux, and Kelly Fisher the youngest girl.

During the luncheon, Dawn Petty

played her violin, Echoe Lennox accompanied her on the guitar, and sang a few songs. The ladies at the St. John Lutheran Church of Bird City were in charge of the pot luck meal, and the Wesleyan church ladies decorated the tables with homestead kitchen utensils furnished by Kenneth Beougher.

The program entertainment was presented by the Cheylin fourth thru sixth grade choir, at the direction of Rose Hengen. Tammi Carmichael's fourth grade, and Amy Moree's fifth graders gave an Historical/Educational Presentation on the Kansas State Seal, which will be detailed in a separate article.

Cindy Wiley and her St. Francis third grade class entertained everyone with square dancing.

The guest speaker, Tina Miller, came from the Homestead National Monument of America at Beatrice, NE. She is very knowledgeable on Homestead Heritage, and the Homestead Act, and answered everyone's questions that were presented to her.

This year's presentation and programs were one of the best attended and most enjoyable in the last several years. Without the team efforts of everyone who participated and contributed, this year's Kansas Day it would not have been possible.

## Inmate death under investigation

The Goodland Police Department has completed its investigation into the death of an inmate at the Sherman County Bastille on Jan. 22, and handed the results over to the County Attorney's Office.

Police Chief Cliff Couch issued a press release Friday, saying the County Attorney's Office will be reviewing the case to determine what action should be taken.

The department was called in two weeks ago to investigate the death of inmate Brenda Sewell at the jail.

Sewell was originally arrested by the Kansas Highway Patrol on Jan. 20. The Sherman County Sheriff's Office, which administers the jail, requested that an outside agency conduct the investigation. The Kansas Bureau of Investigation declined, so the Goodland police took over.

The release said the department conducted numerous interviews, reviewed video footage, and examined other evidence in the course of its investigation.

"We understand that many people

are anxious to know the results of our investigation and we appreciate the patience everyone has shown as we investigated this incident," Couch said. "This investigation is very important, and we didn't want to rush it. We have taken great care to provide an accurate account of what happened to the County Attorney's Office."

"My thoughts and prayers are with Ms. Sewell's friends and family during what is surely a difficult time for them," said Couch.

## Story of the Orphan Train told

One's Company, with actress Pippa White, will be performing Story of the Orphan Train on Sunday, Feb. 16, 3:00p.m. CST in the Rawlins County High School auditorium. Western Plains Arts Association is also sponsoring a workshop prior to the show at 1:30 p.m. for storytellers or folks who would like to be storytellers to attend, located in the Teachers Workroom. This project is supported in part by an award from Mid-America Arts Alliance, the National Endowment for the Arts, Kansas Creative Arts and Industries Commission, and foundations, corporations and individuals throughout Ark., Kan., Mo., Neb., Okla., and Texas.

discusses: how many orphans were there? At least 200,000, or maybe as many as 500,000. Fending for themselves on the streets of New York, homeless children were given a chance for a new life in America's heartland by riding the orphan train. Orphans who remember the experience come to life, and share a heart-rending and forgotten part of history.

One's Company is a collection of one-woman shows featuring Pippa White. Pippa grew up in San Francisco, appeared regularly on television as a child, trained at the American Conservatory Theatre Academy, and for 5 years was seen as hostess of a daily morning television show on ABC. Moving to the Midwest led to her pursuing an education, starting

a family, and reestablishing a career with work in theatres, arts in education programs, and finally, not just one, but several one-woman shows drawing on many different sources for a collection of unusual and entertaining solo productions.

Ms. White adds to her performances many dialects and accents which are characteristic to her shows. She says some of her dialects come naturally, thanks to a British father, and both her parents spent considerable time in England. "Other children came home to milk and cookies after school," she says. "I came home to afternoon tea!" Admission to the show is with WPAA Season Ticket, or at the door; Adults, \$12; Students, \$6.

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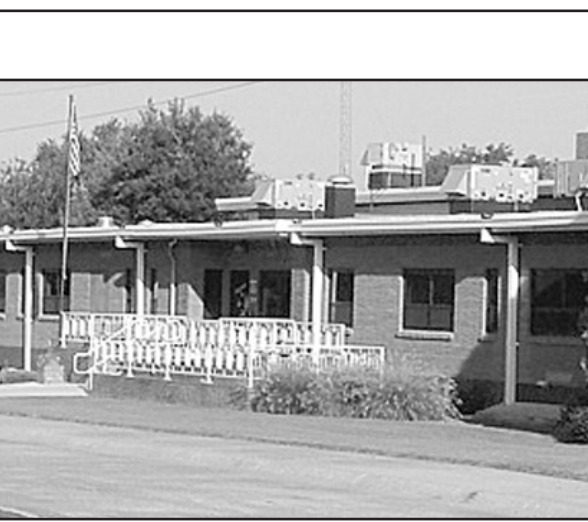
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Cheyenne County Hospital  
Happy First Birthday on Jan. 3,  
Krissiana Grace DeJong  
and congratulations to her  
parents Lisa & Chad DeJong!



THE FIRST BABY OF 2013 was Krissiana Grace DeJong, daughter of Lisa and Chad DeJong. She was delivered by Dr. Rebecca Allard at the Cheyenne County Hospital.

# Cheyenne County Hospital

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