



WHEAT TEST PLOTS south of Wheeler were harvested last week by Gary Yonkey, sitting. Jeanne Falk-Jones, K-State Agronomist, talks to Tom Smull, of Sunny Crest Farms, co-operators.

Herald photo by Linda Elfers

## Start planning your float for the fair parade

**Amanda Miller**  
amiller@nwkans.com  
“From Cowboys to Cadillacs” is the Cheyenne County Fair Parade theme this year, and it’s all about celebrating every kind of cowboy, from the cattlemen and drovers to the Cadillac driving ranch owner. Don’t be intimidated, get your cowboy boots, black felt cowboy hat and lassos out to show your support for the fair Saturday, August 9, at 10 a.m.!

locally by the parade organizer. Mrs. Lampe said the floats are judged on uniqueness, creativity and how the float embraced the theme.

There will be three categories of entry: Family, Commercial, and Organization/Club. Each category will have a winner, and there is an overall grand champion chosen from the category winners. “We are encouraging every individual, family, business and organization to make a float,” Mrs. Lampe said. “People enjoy seeing the kids on bikes, four-wheelers or their own special creative float. They also like the horses, antique vehicles, derby cars and 4-H winners, just to name a few.”

There is no pre-registration even those that decide last minute to join are welcome. Those entering the parade just line up in front of the high school on College street in St. Francis. The parade coordinators will be at the top of Washington street to help anyone with questions.

Children on bikes and those on motorcycles will be kept in circle drive, so that they can all go at once in the parade. This is to keep the little ones safer during the parade. For additional information, contact Mrs. Lampe at 785-332-2145 or 785-332-2913.

Many have asked what the theme means this year. As some country music fans know, there are a few songs about cowboys and Cadillacs out there. Cadillacs have a recurring place in the cowboy culture; a pickup truck is even called a ‘cowboy’s Cadillac’ by some. If confused on how to decorate a float, all one has to do is decorate it to celebrate cowboy culture and it can’t go wrong!

First National Bank has been the organizer for the fair parade for a number of years, with Carla Lampe assuming the position of parade coordinator. She said she is looking forward to seeing what the community will bring to this year’s parade.

The floats will be judged by two to three judges who are picked

## Wheat harvest winding down

**Tim Burr**  
tburr@nwkans.com

The 2014 wheat harvest is winding down, but not quite over yet, reports the Cheyenne county grain dealers. As of Tuesday, each of the four elevators reported they were still receiving wheat from the field, but the rains and weather conditions had really slowed things.

“We are the same as done. Certainly the big push is over” said Ray Magnani of Frontier Ag in Bird City. “There is still a little scattered green, and some of the poorest wheat is yet

to be cut. It really hasn’t been a very exciting harvest.”

Wheeler Equity has a few producers who have not quite finished. “I dumped a couple of loads Sunday, before the rains came and stopped us. Monday, the weather wasn’t good for drying, but they tried it anyway. It was pretty wet,” said Dale Weeks, manager.

As of Tuesday morning, both Bartlett Grain and the St. Francis Equity had producers who were still cutting wheat. “We like the rains and the cooler weather, but we wish it could have held off for a couple of days so that we

could finish up” said Shirley Zwegardt, grain manager at the St. Francis Equity.

Harvest yields that have been reported are about what was expected before the harvest began. Most fields in the county suffered from the drought, and many were damaged by hail. Better yields were found in fields in the western and northwestern parts of the county, where growing and spring conditions had been more favorable. “This wasn’t the worst harvest we have ever seen, but it was sure wasn’t great. We’re glad we did get the bushels that were out there.” said Dale Weeks.

## Preparations made for annual thresher show

**Amanda Miller**  
amiller@nwkans.com

The 61st Annual Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher show will be held July 31 through Aug. 2 this year. With activities for children and adults alike, it is sure to be a good time for everyone who visits Bird City!

Beginning Thursday, July 31, The Thresher Show will take visitors back in history. There will be live demonstrations of wheat threshing, corn shelling, blacksmithing, wood planing, shingle and saw mills, and a player piano. Collections of barb wire, corn planters, hand tools and more will be displayed.

There will be many activities for the children as well! A petting zoo, bounce house, pedal tractors, barrel train and a lot more will be there for kids to enjoy. There will also be a scavenger hunt and a “McDonald Equity” corn treasure dig. The kids can

compete in tug-of-war or enjoy crafts; there is something at the show for everyone.

The show will include over 10 steam engines this year, along with 200 antique tractors, 150 pedal toys and 800 toy tractors.

Thursday at 10 a.m., the opening ceremonies will take place and kick off the show! Here is a schedule of some of the many events visitors can expect:

- Thursday July 31**
- 10 a.m. Opening Ceremonies
  - 11:15 Steam Engine demonstrations/races
  - 1 p.m. Tug of War (Steam Engine vs. Kids)
  - 1:15 Grand Introduction of Thresher Queen
  - 1:45 Parade
  - 2:45 Wheat Threshing
  - 6 p.m. Free concert: Heart City Heartwarmers
- Friday Aug. 1**
- 8 a.m. Tractor Convoy breakfast (Wheeler)
  - 10 a.m. Opening Ceremonies
  - 11:15 Steam Engine

- demonstrations/races
  - 1 p.m. Tug of War (Steam Engine vs. Kids)
  - 1:15 Parade
  - 3:15 Wheat Threshing
  - 5 p.m. Barbecue (Golf Team fundraiser)
  - 6:30 Antique tractor pull
  - 6:30 Kiddie pedal tractor pull
  - 8 p.m. Steam Engine pull
- Saturday Aug. 2**
- 8 a.m. John Schaffner’s Famous Chuck Wagon Breakfast
  - Fun Run for all ages (1m, 2m and 5k courses)
  - 10 a.m. Opening Ceremonies
  - 11:15 Steam Engine demonstrations/races
  - 1 p.m. Tug of War (Steam Engine vs. Kids)
  - Horseshoe Tournament (Big Ed’s)
  - 1:15 Parade
  - 2:15 Wheat binding
  - 2:45 Wheat harvesting
  - 3:45 Wheat threshing
  - 4:30 Lawn Tractor pull
- Sunday Aug. 3**
- 9 a.m. Country Church Service



NORM DORSCH mows the grounds for the thresher show July 31-Aug. 2

Herald staff photo by Tim Burr



RUSHING WATER came rushing down Benton Street on to St. Francis’ Main Street Sunday afternoon after a little less than an inch fell in approximately 20 minutes

## Thresher queen identity revealed

The 2014 Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show Queen will be crowned on Thursday, July 31, at 1:15 p.m., in front of the grandstand on the Thresher grounds. She will reign over the show activities and other activities throughout the year.

Last year’s queen, Carol Peters, will crown the new queen.

Each year, hints are given throughout the month to see if people can guess the identity of the new queen. Last week, clues included that she was born in a house by a dirt road, that she was baptized in a little country church, that she had two sets of grandparents living not far away and she with her Auntie’s doll.

This week, the clues tell that the new queen entered country school carrying a tablet and a pencil. It is a one-room school

with 16 students and a teacher dedicated to keeping the children safe during the “Dust Bowl” days.

Every fall, she was eager for the school program where box supper consisted of gaily decorated boxes packed with a good lunch and then auctioned off. Often, a bashful boy bought the box.

Following eighth grade graduation, she was concerned about how she could attend high school with so much work on the farm but she found a way. She said she enjoyed high school and was involved in home economics, marching band, twirling corp and a cappella choir. Also new was being a school girl rooming in town.

Have you guessed who she is? Find out her identity at 1:15 p.m. on Thursday, July 31, at the thresher show.