

Cheyenne County Trail Ride Sunday

By Karen Krien
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The 20th Cheyenne County Trail Ride has been set for 1 p.m. (Mountain Time) sharp on Sunday. The ride, which will last about 2.5 hours, will start at the Jeter Isely's farm, northeast of Wheeler. To get to the Isely's, go 4 miles east on U.S. 36, 6 miles north on Rd. 23, then 1/2-mile west on Rd. T.

The ride is always planned for the second weekend in October. It is generally a little cooler and the trees are turning colors. Last year, the ride was postponed to the following Sunday because of the weather. If there is inclement weather this year on Sunday, the ride

will move to Sunday, Oct. 17. Gary Cooper, one of the coordinators, said this ride will be a little easier terrain and ideal for kids. The highlight will be the top of "Morris hill" where the riders will be able to see for miles in all directions. Mr. Cooper said there will also be a water break on top of the hill.

20 years ago
Mr. Cooper coordinated the first Cheyenne County Trail Ride 20 years ago. The goal of the rides were to explore Cheyenne County on horseback. Some of the rides have overlapped areas on past rides but no one seems to care.

"We are starting to run out of places to ride," he said. However, he

has the site for the 21st ride spotted for next year.

Looking back, he said he has seen a number of parents and children who started riding and now, those children are riding with children of their own. An example is Pat Carmen riding with her daughter, Cheryl. Cheryl is now riding with her daughter, Kaycee.

Ten years ago, a special two-day ride was held. The group started at the South Fork Schoolhouse north of St. Francis and rode to the Colorado line.

"We called it the 'Colorado or bust' ride," Mr. Cooper said.

They camped overnight at the fairgrounds in St. Francis, then rode

on to the Colorado line the next morning.

There have been some scary events but they have all ended with no serious results. Several years ago, they were riding southwest of St. Francis and those unable to be on a horse, were enjoying the day on a hayrack pulled by a team of horses. As they went down a hill, the wagon brake failed and began to crowd the team, causing them to run down the hill. It could have been tragic but the driver was able to get the team under control. At the bottom of the hill, one of the kids said, "That was fun! Can we do it again?"

Each year, the number of riders varies, depending on the weather,

the economy or, conflicting events. When it started, it was held in June but there were so many things going on that it was moved to October.

Through the years, the least number of riders was 18 or 19 but generally, there are more. Mr. Cooper said there are anywhere from 65 to 127 riders.

While the majority of the riders are local, there is almost always Marshal and Julie Roy from Oakley and Patrick Tinkham from Colby. However, there are five riders who attended for years but died and will be missed. They included Don Ziegelmeier, Wilber Henry, Denny Cox, George Phillips and Glenn Phillips.

St. Jude
Those on the ride will be able to donate to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

"Donations will be accepted for the kids who would like to saddle up but can't," said Sharon Olofson, coordinator.

Barbecue following
After the ride, there will be a barbecue with the meat being prepared by Doug Ross.

For more information, contact Mr. Cooper, 785-332-2904; Mrs. Olofson, 785-332-2248, Joe Hoffman, 785-332-2154, Todd Krien, 785-332-3246 or Frank Tracy, 308-423-2646.

The Goodland Star-News wins photo award

Members of the Nor'West Newspapers group collected three awards for photography from the National Newspaper Association's 2009 Better Newspapers Contest over the weekend in Omaha.

Tom Betz, editor of *The Goodland Star-News*, led the winners with first place for Best Feature Photo in the class for weekly newspapers 2,700 and under circulation. His shot showed a young girl grinning as she held a fire hose under the guidance of a volunteer fireman at the Flatlander Fall Festival last year.

Editor Karen Krien of *The Saint*

Francis Herald, took third place in the same class for a shot of a boy hanging on for dear life while riding a sheep during a "mutton bustin'" contest at the Cheyenne County Fair.

Andy Heintz, sports editor of the *Colby Free Press*, won third for Best Sports Photo in the class for papers under 3,000 circulation. His photo showed a pass slipping through the fingers of a junior high football player.

The Nor'West Newspaper group includes the *Norton Telegram* and *The Oberlin Herald*, and is head-

quartered in Oberlin.

Awards were given at the newspaper association's 124th annual convention in Omaha on Saturday. All three winners had planned to attend with their families, but Betz was called away for the funeral of his father.

Contest Chair Jeff Farren, publisher of the *Kendall County Record* in Yorkville, Ill., said the competition drew 2,349 entries, with 634 awards won by 143 member newspapers in 37 states.

Colby man sentenced in thefts

A Colby man has been sentenced to 30 months in federal prison for his part in the theft and interstate transportation of stolen farm equipment.

Matthew T. Jones, 32, Colby, has been sentenced to 30 months in federal prison for stealing farming equipment, U.S. Attorney Barry Grissom said in Wichita. Jones was ordered to pay \$496,311 in restitution.

Jones pleaded guilty to three counts of interstate transportation of stolen farm equipment and agreed

to pay more than \$1.1 million in restitution.

In his plea, Jones admitted that on June 1, 2006, he and co-defendant Ryan Hanzlick traveled to Oklahoma looking for a combine to steal. They found a Gleanor R65 combine, which they loaded onto a trailer attached to their truck and took the combine to Jones' farm in Kansas.

On April 26, 2008, Hanzlick called Jones and told him about a John Deere 8530 tractor and John Deere 1720 prototype planter locat-

ed near Elsie, Neb. They transported the tractor and planter to Jones' farm in Kansas.

Earlier this month, Hanzlick was sentenced to 36 months in federal prison.

Grissom commended the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, the Kansas Attorney General's office, law enforcement agencies in Thomas, Wichita, Sherman, Wallace, Greeley, Rawlins and Cheyenne counties and Assistant U.S. Attorney Alan Metzger for their work on the case.

Nominations sought for awards

The Sherman County Conservation Awards Program committee is seeking nominations for this year's conservation awards program and windbreak awards program.

Nominations can be made by any person in Sherman county. Nominations should be sent to the Sunflower Extension District, Goodland Office by Friday, Oct. 22. The awards will be presented at the Soil Conservation District's Annual meeting on Feb. 14.

This program is sponsored by the agricultural committee of the Kansas Bankers Association. Last

year awards were made to: Robin and Carol Deeds for windbreak, and Melvin and Shannon Nemechek for soil conservation.

The program is to stimulate a greater interest in conservation of the agricultural resources of Kansas by giving recognition to farmers and landowners who have made outstanding progress in the establishment of soil and water conservation on their farms.

Points to be considered in selecting soil conservation award winners include use of land according to its capabilities; completeness of

conservation plan; balance of farm enterprise; quality of conservation work completed and maintenance of practices; and special practices unique to the farming operation.

The windbreak award considers windbreaks which provide protection from damaging winds for residential (or other structures) areas, livestock, or fields. Windbreaks should be a minimum of three years old. Points to be considered in selecting award winners include windbreak design, management, location, density and length.

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corrections

The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story.

Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors.

We believe that news should be fair and factual.

We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

GHS Cowboys of the Week

Based on positive academic performance, attendance improvement, positive attitude or random acts of kindness, the student nominees this week are: **Ryder Kling and John Aguirre**

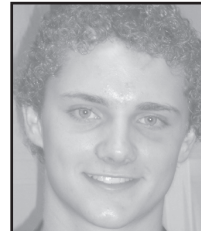


These students receive an Activity Period Pass. These students were randomly selected from all nominees and will receive a local food gift certificate sponsored by Goodland Kiwanis Club, special parking, first in lunch line and recognized throughout the community!

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