Day camp fun for all ages



The six Sherman County 4-H clubs held their annual day camp at the fairgrounds Thursday. The kids did craft projects, decorating flip-flops, painting picture frames and buckets, and making bottle rockets. They also heard presentations on foods and nutrition, emergency medical technician training and bicycle safety. The 4-H clubs held a petting zoo, a dog agility presentation and a dove release demonstration. After the dog agility presentation, Lacie Cowan (above right) watched as Jessie the dog gave Chantel Coats (above left) a few kisses. Xavier Colby (top right) and Ashley Anderson (right) enjoyed the lunch the 4-H clubs served at the day camp. Photos by Kathryn Gurfinkel The Goodland Star-News





Cyberland helps break world record

According to the "Official Video Game & Pinball Book of World Records," compiled by Twin Galaxies, it's "a significant milestone in the technological and sociological evolution of electronic gaming." Others might say some people have too much time on their hands. Whatever. Eleven Goodland players helped set a world record for the number of players online at one time in a first-person shooter game. They gathered on June 26 at Cyber-land, 210E. 17th St., to play "Joint Operations: Typhoon Rising" with 149 others from around the U.S. and Canada. This was the kick-off event for the game's tour, said Carol Bennett, iGames events operations director. iGames is an association of independent and franchised game centers. Matt Breininger, manager of iGames that Goodland got inover the summer. Richard Breininger, owner of Cyberland, said players gathered at 16 centers throughout North America to play the game. He said a twohour practice session was held start-

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Some of the 11 players at Cyberland wired into a game of "Joint

Book preserves memories of Tri-State antique shows

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News A Bird City native has put together a book preserving memories from 50 years of the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show.

The book, which will go on sale in July, will be available at the 51st annual show Thursday-Sunday, July 29-Aug. 1, at Bird City.

"Fifty Years, Celebrating and Preserving an American Farming Tradition," is a 134-page full-color hardback "coffee-table" book, written by Jennifer Dorsch Erickson, who grew up in Bird City and now lives in Des Moines.

Erickson, the daughter of Stan Dorsch, treasurer of the association, and his wife Delores, said she grew up around the thresher show, the biggest event of the year in Bird City.

"Every summer, I grew up going there," Erickson said. "It's a special part of my childhood, the memories from that. The older guys who started it, I remember them as a kid."

They're all gone, Erickson said: it's run by a second generation now, but the ones who started the show had stories that would be lost. It's important to preserve that history.

She said she went to the thresher association's board with the idea for the book. They wanted to know what it would cost. After getting some figures, she said, they approved the idea and began looking for stories and pictures. Many people loaned pictures of the equipment and of their families enjoying the show, she said.

The association hired a professional photographer, who spent three days at the show last year on its 50th anniversary. The combination of professional photos and those brought in made the book.

"It's a beautiful book with hundreds of colorful photos," Erickson said. "Anyone who has ever enjoyed a day at the steam engine show will love this book."

It's something you can sit down and spend an hour or more with and not get through it all, she said, or you can skim through the pictures in 10 or 15 minutes. There are more than 250 photos to explore.

Erickson researched and wrote the text while collaborating with a

corrections



Jim Heiniken of Estes Park, Colo., drove the tractor as wheat was threshed at the 2003 Tri-State Antique Engine and Threshers Association Show. Photo provided by the Threasher Association

graphic designer to create an attractive book. It is being printed in will be delivered to Bird City in themselves, she said. about two weeks.

by a grant from the Century II Foundation of Bird City, and profits go to the thresher association.

The text tells the history of the organization since Roy Kite first held a Case exhibition in 1950. The first official show was at the Kite farm in 1953

"I think the show's history is a fabulous testimony to Bird City," Erickson said. "So many people there is a parade of antique cars, mentioned during my research interviews that the steam engine show is such a treasure for the community and that they knew of many other little towns that wished they had something like it."

One town that was interested, Erickson said, was Goodland. In the late '50s, she said, several of those involved with the show were invited by the Goodland Chamber of Commerce to come to Goodland. Someone wanted to buy all the stuff and bring the show to Goodland, she said, but the owners were all from Bird City and weren't interested in selling.

The book includes memories, Erickson said, interesting equipment and activities added over the vears.

The writer, who has come back from Iowa for the show in eight of the past 10 years, said her three favorite pieces of equipment are the steam engines, the Holt combine and the player piano in the museum building.

those who run the show, Erickson and seeing what she did as a kid. The Goodland Star-News will

said, that the equipment still runs. Those who go to the show can see Ames, Iowa, and, Erickson said, it and experience the equipment for

It's not just to look at, she added; The project was paid for in part they will train you on how to do it and let you try your hand.

The Holt is a wonder of technology, Erickson said; they run it every day during the show and you can imagine that in the 1920s it was actually cutting wheat.

Erickson said another of her favorites from the show is the homemade pie offered every day.

Besides the antique equipment, kids' tug-of-war with a small steam engine, steam engine races, quilts, an old-time printing press with lead type, crafts, a swap meet and other activities.

Erickson estimates that in the past six years, there have been between 2,000 and 3,000 people at the show each year. They travel from the Denver area and a lot of places in Kansas, she said, and passersby see it and stop since it is right along U.S. 36.

Erickson graduated from Cheylin High School in 1985 and earned an ag journalism degree from Kansas State University. She then moved to Iowa, where she worked for Meredith Corp., publisher of Successful Farming magazine.

She is married to Scott Erickson, who works in the marketing department for Kemin Industries, a pet food and seed company in Des Moines. She has been a freelance writer since 1994 and is raising two daughters, Emily, 8, and Anna, 6.

Erickson said her daughters love coming to the thresher show, hang-It's a tribute to the founders and ing out with Grandma and Grandpa

Operations: Typhoon Rising" on June 26 which set a world record. Photo by Richard Breininger

ing at 4 p.m., after which the game with a case of Coke donated by started at 6 and went until 9.

Breininger said the manufacturer provided two T-shirts as prizes. Cyberland, said it was through modified its server to allow that many players online at the same rough July 17, people can come in preciate you calling to our attention volved. More events are planned time. That is more than double the and play the game for an hour free. any failure to live up to this standard. capacity of any other current first-

person shooter game, he said. Each player at Cyberland received at least one prize, including one who got a copy of the game. The players were treated to pizza along Coca-Cola of Goodland, which also

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 Breininger said from now th- to keep an accurate record and ap-

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Fundraiser

for Goodland Activities Center Saturday, July 10

Sale starts at 10:00 a.m. Items will sell fast (2 hours) **Goodland Activities Center** 808 Main, Goodland, Kan. 785-890-7242

Short List of Items

• Cadillac 1 of 1000 made • Sofa • Tell City Chair • Lane Cedar Chest • Maytag washer and dryer • Antiques • Oak Cabinets for Kitchen • Exercise equipment • Lawn Boy mower • and much more.

Thank You for

your support!

Auctioneer Terry Richardson will be donating his time.

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