



Wildfires a major impact in 2016

BY CAROL BRONSON

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The title of this section of the paper is called "Working the Land," which seems to imply that the farmers and ranchers who grow the food — each one producing enough to feed 155 people worldwide, according to farmfeedus.org — are in charge.

They are, to a degree. Management practices make a big difference in productivity, but no other industry is as dependent upon forces they can't control. Timing matters. Did the farmer plant wheat when moisture was available to bring the seed up and sustain the plants through the winter? In the fall of 2015, most did; wheat fields have never been more lush. Rainfall matters. Last fall, much of Kansas was considered to have recovered from a drought of several years. A dry winter has put about a quarter of the state back in the moderate drought category and three-fourths is abnormally dry, according to state climatologist Mary Knapp.

Freezing temperatures on March 19 and 20 — in the 20s in south central Kansas and into the single digits for some far western counties — could pose a problem for wheat producers. The risk of freeze injury is probably greatest in south central Kansas, particularly in Harper, Barber, and Sumner counties, and possibly surrounding regions, said Romulo Lollato, K-State wheat production specialist, and Erick DeWolf, K-State extension plant pathologist. Yield, and the bottom line in the ledger book, could be affected.

And still they persist. Farming and ranching is what they know, it's what they have, or they and their families choose that as a lifestyle as well as a source of income. Their mettle was tested at the end of March, as wildfires blew through Barber and Comanche

counties in what has been called the Anderson Creek Fire, and in smaller fires in Reno and Harvey counties and in Barton County. In early April, several areas in the northeast part of the state were on fire and blazes consumed about 3,800 acres, a home and outbuildings in Morton County to the southwest.

Working the land has never been easy; for many producers it will be particularly difficult this year as they recover from fires that blackened the grass that would feed their livestock, burned the hay that is the alternative source of food, and destroyed barns, sheds, fencing and a relatively small number of homes. Officials are still tallying the damages, but this is what is known about the Anderson Creek Fire, that blew into the state from Oklahoma on the night of March 22 and raged into the next week:

- 271,715 acres burned in Barber County and nearly 400,000 in the total area that also included Comanche County in Kansas and Woods County, Oklahoma, its point of origin.
- Weeks later, hot spots were still being monitored.
- 11 occupied and unoccupied homes were lost, along with an unknown number of barns and sheds.
- The number of livestock lost has

not been tabulated. Oklahoma reported 600 cattle lost from the Anderson Creek Fire, which consumed fewer total acres than in Kansas.

• More than 130 agencies outside of Barber County helped bring the monster under control. This number does not include volunteers, citizens and management teams.

• On Easter weekend, the Kansas Army National Guard dropped 68,000 gallons of water scooped from the Barber County State Lake by four

Black Hawk helicopters.

In this section, you will read about efforts to fight the fires, how it impacted the land and the economy and how our neighbors will move forward to recovery. It will be a long-term project — read especially the story about relief efforts that have been established and how those of us spared, by the capriciousness of the wind, can help.



Some farmers may plan for a double crop on their acreage, grazing calves during the winter and early spring, then allowing the wheat to mature for harvesting in the summer. Other producers may plant wheat for the purpose of grazing cattle, and that may be the best choice left for those who lost pasture grass to fire. Photo by Gale Rose



Firefighters hoped to stop the fire as it reached Highway 160 but despite their efforts, the flames jumped the highway as if it wasn't even there. Highway 160 is a "Scenic Byway" but travelers got a much different view than normal after the fire. Photo by Gale Rose

Farmers and ranchers cherish their land



BY JOHN SCHLAGECK,
Kansas Farm Bureau

Farmers and ranchers strive to protect our planet each and every day. On April 22, nearly 2 million agricultural producers will celebrate the 45th observance of Earth Day with the rest of us who live in this country.

Like each day's sunrise and sunset, some take this land for granted. Conservation of our planet can be a struggle because some regard the land as a commodity that belongs to them. Others see this earth as a community to which they belong.

Farmers and ranchers belong to this second category. They love, care and respect the land. Ag producers adhere to an ethic that enlarges the boundaries of our community to include soils, waters, plants, trees and animals — collectively — the land.

The fondest wish of farmers and ranchers is to pass their land on to their children. They work years to leave a legacy of good land stewardship.

There is no other way for land to survive the impact of technology and the demands put on it by man. Let us never forget that while our land yields fruits, vegetables and grains, it also yields a cultural harvest — one we as inhabitants all share and must nurture.

Today, less than two percent of our population makes its living directly from the land. Middlemen, countless machines and sophisticated technol-

ogy separate those who do not work the land from this valuable resource. Many have no vital relation to the land. To others the land is viewed as the space between cities on which crops and grass grow or cattle graze.

As we celebrate Earth Day this April 22, let's remember land use is not solely an economic question. Let's remember it in terms of what is ethically and aesthetically right, as well as what is economically expedient.

The future of our land and its viability hinges on investments of time, forethought, skill and faith, rather than only investments of capital. We have continually modernized our farm equipment, plant foods, pesticides and other production inputs and we are proud of the abundance of the crops we produce.

We can never throw away these tools that have provided so much for so many. On this Earth Day, let's renew our commitment to harmony with our life-giving land. Let's once again reaffirm our commitment to always hold sacred the land.

This Earth Day, renew your pledge to the earth as a community to which you belong. Nurture, love and respect this land that includes soil, water, plants, trees and animals.

John Schlageck is a leading commentator on agriculture and rural Kansas. Born and raised on a diversified farm in northwestern Kansas, his writing reflects a lifetime of experience, knowledge and passion.

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Focusing on positives after fire



Mike Jacobs is able to feed his cows, thanks to the generosity of people from all over the state who have donated hay to him and other ranchers in Barber and Comanche counties. Photo by Carol Bronson

BY CAROL BRONSON
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A Lake City rancher lost 3,000 acres of grassland, 400 round bales of hay, miles of fencing and about 20 newly-born calves. A barn on the family ranch, built in the 1920s, burned.

Mike Jacobs' losses to what has become known as the Anderson Creek fire are significant. But loss isn't the story Jacobs wants to tell.

The real story is the generosity of people that has been overwhelming and humbling. And most welcome, helping him feed 160 cows and their babies that have nothing else on the ranch to eat. On the night of March 23, while the fire still burned, he received a call from a farmer in a neighboring county, asking if he needed hay. Jacobs did, and he agreed to what he considered a fair price. The next morning, free hay started showing up. Cliff McKinney, a rancher near Medicine Lodge, and a friend orchestrated the first hay donation. Jacobs estimates 10 to 15 semi-loads, each hauling about 30 big bales, have unloaded at his place. They've come from Yates Center, Junction City, Leoti, Winfield and Pratt, all over the state. It's enough to get him by until the grass recovers — if the rains come.

A fire that began at Anderson Creek, Oklahoma — hence the name

— blew into Comanche County the night of March 22. With reports that the fire was expected to stay to the west of them, Mike and brother Mace Jacobs left about 8 a.m. the morning of the 23rd to go to a bull sale at La Crosse.

About 10:30, Mike's wife Shari called to say the wind had shifted and fire was heading for Lake City. Two hours away, he asked her to fill a fire truck that was on the property in anticipation of a controlled burn, and to call neighbors for help.

Jody Nittler gave permission for 120 cows to be put onto his wheat field, and Chad Nittler helped move 40 cows and calves to another location.

All the cows were saved, but some of the babies couldn't keep up and were burned. The Jacobs men stayed at the sale until the bulls they wanted sold, then headed home. They were stopped at Sun City and told they couldn't go any farther.

With an "I gotta get home," they continued on, and within a mile were in thick smoke. A fire crew, headed west, told them they could probably get through.

Barber County firefighters had already put out fires around three Jacobs homes, but for the next six or seven hours the family continued to battle blazes and embers as the wind shifted.

Mike's son Josh was there, along with his father-in-law, Bill Gallagher, son-in-law Robert Smiley, and a neighbor, Ryan Eubank. They bounced between the three homes, cooling fuel tanks with water, controlling embers and moving horses to safety.

Thinking the barn was safe, they left it briefly, and five minutes later, it was fully engulfed in flames. Fearing one of the homes was on fire, a family member called 9-1-1. Crews from Atlanta and Winfield, more than 100 miles away, responded. Before it was all over, about 130 agencies were involved. Around 1 a.m. on Thursday, they finally felt comfortable enough with the situation to go to bed.

Jacobs is not discouraged.

"In a way, it's a blessing — not for the losses, but for the amount of the burn (of invasive red cedar trees)," he said. "We have a clean slate, so to speak."

Prescribed fire, under carefully controlled situations and with plenty of help — and even then it scares him — is a normal part of his operation. He had about 800 acres that he needed to burn when the wind was out of the north, and 400 with a south wind. Fire pushed by the west winds "annihilated everything," he said.

Ponds are regenerating without the cedar trees that suck up water. A two-inch snow on Easter Sunday and some

rain have helped. Jacobs is already seeing signs of green in the black.

He prays every night for rain. The Jacobs land is part of the Skinner Ranch that in the 1920 and '30s encompassed 30,000 to 40,000 acres of land in Barber County. Candy Jacobs, Mike and Mace's mother, lives at the former headquarters, where he recalls as a young child seeing cattle being brought in, sorted, and loaded into railroad cars. The brothers took over the ranch in 1997. They have cross-fenced the huge pastures, and rotate cattle to new sections of grass every five days. This summer, they'll probably rotate every two or three days, to give the grass a chance to recover. For 15 years, they grazed yearlings, but in 2008 switched to a cow-calf operation. In that same year, they had to reduce numbers due to drought.

Herd reduction is again a possibility. If the rains come, they'll be all right — if there isn't enough grass to feed them, they'll sell cows.

Jacobs' situation is not unique. All over the Gyp Hills, ranchers will be praying for rain, tightening their belts and managing resources the best they can. They've done it before, and their ancestors have done it before them. But no one has ever seen anything like the Anderson Creek fire, considered to be the largest in Kansas recorded history.

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Grass greening up as land heals

BY GALE ROSE
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The land is healing and green is slowly returning to Barber County. But a short time ago, it was an unending ocean of ash and dust that seemed to stretch on forever that residents and travelers saw in the 271,715 acres of burned land in Barber County.

Smoke from the fire filled the sky for days and reached over 100 miles away and was visible from outer space.

But at ground level, it was if a giant hand had swept away every living thing, plants and animals, and left ash and soot covered land that mixed with dust and blew across unending acres of bare soil and blackened skeletons of trees. At first glance, it looks like it might never recover. The animals have no place to nest, no food to eat, trees are dead and the black, rolling hills seem to go on forever. While the Anderson Creek Fire did extensive damage to land, livestock and property, this is not the end of things but part of a process that has been going on for hundreds of years. The land has adapted over the years and fire is actually good for the prairie, said Mike Miller, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism chief of information section. Already, the burned area is beginning to green up. The fire did cause a loss of life among the animals that inhabit the area but for the most part, survival rates tend to be very high, Miller said.

Ranch buffalo in the fire zone moved to a prairie dog town in their pasture when the fire threatened. The seemed to know instinctively that the grass at the prairie dog town is eaten almost to the ground and the fire could not get to them so they could be safe within the confines of their pasture.

Some wildlife is already making an appearance. Quail have been seen back in the fire zone. Turkey has also been seen. The healing process will take time



In the days following the fire, cattle graze on feed in the midst of burned-out desolation. Many truckloads of feed were hauled into the area for hungry herds. Experts are optimistic that the grass will come back healthier than before, but it may take some time. Photo by Gale Rose

but in the long run, the area will come back better and healthier than before. The fire removed decades of woody vegetation and burned an unknown number of cedar trees that tend to proliferate and suck moisture out of the ground at an enormous rate and has a huge impact on water usage.

"Those trees use a tremendous amount of water," Miller said. "It can change the entire ecosystem. It will bring it back to what it should be."

Land manager Ted Alexander and his son Brian have been removing or burning cedar trees for years and now they have running water, said Walt Fick, Kansas State University associate professor of range management. Alexander manages 7,000 acres of grass west of Medicine Lodge. He had lots of fence work to do, including replacing 150 corners.

Getting rid of the undergrowth will improve the quality of the grass and provide new growth that is desirable for cattle. The new grass growth will benefit a lot of ground nesting birds like quail, lesser prairie chicken and western meadowlark. This wild fire was shocking because of its size and speed. The Natural Resource Conservation Service promotes prescribed burning to prevent fuel buildup and

improve grassland, said Andy Burr, NRCS state wildlife biologist. When people started moving into this area, they suppressed fire and that led to the conditions that resulted in this massive fire. The prairie was adapted to fire but in the end it benefits the native rangeland. Now the prairie should come back stronger and healthier. It just takes time and moisture, Burr said. While moisture is essential for the restoration of grasslands, too much could cause erosion issues because there is nothing covering the ground, Fick said. Part of the grass recovery process has to do with the speed and heat of the fire. The faster a fire moves, the less time it spend over one location and the less damage it does to the plants. The temperature of a prairie fire can reach several hundred degrees. Even within a quarter of an inch of the surface, the temperature can reach 100 degrees. But this heat doesn't get down into the ground.

However, for some short grass species like buffalo grass and blue gamma, their growth point is at ground level and they are not adapted well for fire. Much of their recovery depends on precipitation. Fire like this can reduce production for two years, Fick said.

Other varieties of grass that have a

growing point below ground like some bunch grasses, should recover faster. The roots on those plants also help reduce erosion.

"I don't think they will be damaged much at all," Fick said. If the area gets back into a normal rainfall pattern, it should help the recovery. The timing of the fire was good. It occurred within a month of prescribed burning. The growth season for grass is just starting so that will help with recovery. Had this fire occurred in November or December, the results would have been much worse.

Cedar trees and herbaceous trees were both consumed in the fire. The cedars don't resprout but most of the other trees will. The shrub plants like sumac and sandhill plums will also come back and will be important for getting the upland game animals to come back. When the plants come back, the animals will follow. Ragweed that is a good source of food for quail has an underground stem so it should survive. Adult quail and prairie chicken like broadleaf plants. Plants also provide food for insects that are high protein for birds so as the land recovers, so will the animal populations.

Groups providing aid in areas affected by fire

BY JEFF GUY
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South Central Community Foundation, a charitable organization headquartered in Pratt, covering seven counties in the region, has experienced an increase in giving to assist farmers and ranchers affected by the recent wildfires.

The SCCF has received approximately \$21,000 in cash and check donations, Bekki Pribil, SCCF executive director, said. There has been around \$4,000 in donations through funds people have established with the organization to go to charities.

Donors can earmark their donations to go to certain areas or they can leave it to the discretion of the charity where to give the money. The SCCF Board of Directors is working with Barber and Comanche counties to determine where the non-earmarked funds should go. The funds should be distributed within the next 30 days, Pribil said.

"We're waiting to see where the greater needs are," Pribil said.

The foundation is only taking financial, rather than in-kind donations, such as hay, fencing or wire, Pribil said. While donations can be earmarked, to be tax deductible, they cannot be earmarked for an individual, Pribil said. Donations have been coming in from all over Kansas and parts of Colorado and Utah, Pribil said. Everyone who donates will receive a thank you letter and a receipt, which can be used for tax deductions. Pribil emphasized that all donations are staying "100 percent local in these two counties. We won't hold anything back."

Anyone wishing to make donations through SCCF can go to its website at scfks.org/donate.html. There is a button saying, "donate" on which a person can click and make a credit or debit card donation. Checks or cash can be mailed to South Central Community Foundation at P.O. Box 8624, Pratt, Ks. 67124.

For further information, consult the website at scf.org or call the foundation at 672-7929.

"We certainly appreciate all the giving hearts," Pribil said.

Mark Stumpe, director of services with United Way of the Plains in Wichita, said his office has been taking calls from people who want to donate supplies such as hay and fencing and forwarding them to Barber, Comanche, Reno and Harvey counties. All the calls for donating to Barber and Comanche counties, the United Way is forwarding

to Jerry McNamar, coordinator for the Barber County Emergency Operations Center.

"Jerry's office is center point for fire relief," Stumpe said.

The Barber County EOC office can be reached at 825-4986.

Zel Polf, county coordinator at the Barber County Kansas Farm Bureau office in Medicine Lodge, said KFB's website has three sections - for people to make financial donations, to offer supplies or labor and for people to request supplies and labor. The website is kfb.org/Article/KFB-Fire-Relief. Through the website people with needs, such as fence wire or fence posting, and people who can meet those needs can "cut out the middle man" and arrange logistics themselves, Polf said.

"Our goal on that website is to help speed along recovery," Polf said. "Down here the vast majority of people stepping up to help with hay and fence supplies is amazing."

Financial donations to the KFB and KLA (Kansas Livestock Association) will be distributed evenly to people affected by the fires whether they belong to the organizations or not, Polf said.

Matt Teagarden, CEO of KLA in Topeka, said the organization made \$92,000 to benefit farmers and ranchers recently through the sale of a heifer in Pratt. KLA has also received more than \$60,000 in donations.

Under the Farm Service Agency, farmers and ranchers may be eligible for financial relief through federal programs such as the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm-raised Fish (ELAP) and the



With some help from Chris Ragan, welder Kevin Riffey puts together a metal corner for a pasture fence. Grassland manager Ted Alexander had 7,000 acres of grass and needed 150 new corners to get his pasture fences back in operation. The welders were putting out a corner section every 12 minutes. All the pasture around Alexander's home place was burned but none of the buildings or equipment was damaged. Photo by Gale Rose

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP).

Then there are insurance claims, which farmers and ranchers are bringing to their individual insurers.

"A lot of the work we do may come

later," said Bob Hansen, public information officer for the Kansas Insurer's office. "It occurs after people file claims and have questions about those claims."



BTI would like to thank the firemen that took time to help fight the Barber County Wild Fires. Also, thank you to the emergency personnel, IC teams and volunteers who helped organize, feed and protect these brave men & women.

Congratulations on a job well done!

To all the farmers, ranchers, and all involved who lost their homes, livestock, fencing, etc., please know the BTI family is keeping you in our thoughts and prayers as you rebuild and recover during this difficult time.

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Economic impact unknown



The fire consumed a couple of bridges on a long abandoned railroad line. The image of the entire bridge on fire at night became a much-repeated sight on social media. The fire consumed nearly all this bridge but totally eliminated another. Photo by Gale Rose

BY GALE ROSE
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Finding the total economic impact of the Anderson Creek fire in Barber County may be as difficult as it was putting the fire out.

Numerous agencies were involved in assessing the damage through out the county and their statistics released through Barber County Attorney Gatien Wood's office reveal at least some of the numbers associated with the fire. The fire burned 271,715 acres in Barber County alone. The entire acreage of the fire in Oklahoma and in Kansas in Comanche and Barber Counties has been estimated at around 400,000 acres. That is roughly half the size of Rhode Island. There were 130 agencies outside Barber County that assisted with the fire. The estimated cost of fighting the fire and associated suppression is over \$1 million. This estimate doesn't include the number of volunteer man hours necessary to battle the blaze. Some of the units broke down under the tremendous usage and that is additional cost for the fire. The number of miles of fence to be replaced is hard to estimate over such a large area but the cost per mile is somewhere in the \$6,000 to \$10,000 per mile with the second number being used most frequently. Determining the loss of livestock is an ongoing process. Some cattle died outright, some had to be

put down because of injury from smoke and flame. Some cattle have not been found. It will be some time before an accurate account can be made of the loss of animals. Farmers and ranchers turn their individual data into the United States Department of Agriculture for assistance. When the USDA has collected all the data they will share their estimates with the Kansas Department of Agriculture and with the public, said KDA Director of Communications Heather Landsdown. Hunting is an important part of revenue in Barber County. Part of the economic impact involves hunting leases. Landsdown said Josh Roe, KDA assistant secretary, thinks hunting leases will likely be unaffected because hunting on those properties takes place mostly in the fall so there will be several months for the area to recover. Also, those hunting leases are very coveted so people will hang onto them for this season so they can use them in the future. Many animals died or had to be put down or got lost and were not found. Producers will need to replace those animals. While this may impact the cattle market locally, the statewide cattle market is so wide it won't affect it too much. Livestock need something to eat but the fire took the grass and hay. When a call went out for hay, producers across the area and state responded and brought in hay to help reduce the cost for area livestock producers. Businesses are

also helping reduce the economic impact on farmers. Chromatin, a global sorghum company, is reducing the cost of forage, silage and hay products for cattle feed. Their sorghum can rapidly produce feed for livestock. They have also reduced the cost of a product farmers can use for ground reclamation as a cover crop with a blend of grasses and forage products, said Mike Battin, Chromatin director of national sales.

While the fire covered a vast area, much of it was grassland but there

were many farms and structures in the path of the fire. The official count is 11 "structures" that includes occupied and unoccupied residences. The value of these properties will be assessed and property owners are encouraged to contact their county extension office and/or the local Department of Agriculture to report damage to livestock, property, livestock, etc.

More information is coming but it will take some time to know the full extent of economic impact on the county.



Mike Axtell (left) leads son Landon and wife Shelly passed burned out trees as they ride to check the damage at his parents' property just south of Sun City. The fire destroyed a bridge and horseback was the only way to get to Bill and Helen Axtell's property. Photo by Gale Rose



Rugged terrain made fighting the fire extremely difficult and dangerous for firefighters as they struggled with thick smoke and fast moving fire. Photo by Gale Rose



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Firefighters battle for friends and families

BY ROCKY ROBINSON

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Just before 10 p.m. on Tuesday, March 22, the Barber County Rural Fire Department put out the page for help. Without hesitation, volunteer firefighters like Jahue Warman left their homes to help battle the blaze that would later be called the Anderson Creek Fire. Warman was one of the first firefighters from Pratt County to aid with the massive grass fire that destroyed nearly 400,000 acres. After leaving the fire station at around 10:30 p.m., he did not return until almost noon the next day. Before leaving he helped prepare the truck for the next crew that would take his place. With many of the firefighters being volunteers, like Warman, they were forced to coordinate their time fighting the blaze around their work schedules. Fighting the blaze at night and working during the day. But Warman was just one of almost 400 firefighters that helped fight the fire, according to an NPR report. The Barber County firefighters had an exceptionally rough go of it. According to Rick Wesley, the Barber County Rural fire chief, the volunteers kept track of their time not in hours, but days. Not only did they have to defend their home from one of Kansas's largest grass fires, but the day before they were also out all night fighting a different fire south of

Sharon.

"We were already up a day and most of the night before fighting the Anderson Creek Fire," Wesley said. "We made it home and were only there for a few hours before going out for almost two full days again. I think the adrenalin just keeps you going." Although many of the volunteers, like Wesley and Warman, have had years of experience battling fires, the weather conditions and the sheer magnitude of the fire created new challenges for many of the firefighters. The rough Barber County countryside also became a problem for the firefighters who were unfamiliar with the area. "This was a whole new world to me," said Warman. "I have fought grass fires before but most only take two or three truck and you can put it out in a few hours. We were driving into 15 foot flames in pastures with grass that has never been cut."

No firefighters were seriously injured during the blaze, but some were sent home with singed hair and a new respect for the southern Kansas countryside.

At one point Warman and his partner Rex Robinson ran out of gas and were forced to abandon the truck in search of assistance. They were later pulled out by another group of volunteers, but this was the only time Warman said he truly felt his life was in danger.



Jahue Warman, Sawyer firefighter, prepares to take on the Anderson Creek Wildfire. Warman was one of the first firefighters from Pratt County to help with the fire. Photo courtesy Rex Robinson

Many people volunteer around their community, but only a handful are willing to risk their lives every time the pager goes off. Wesley says that a willingness to help people is a trait that all firefighters have in common. Many of the firefighters that volunteer with him are close friends and community members.

"Our guys did a great job, even being chief I don't have to explain to them how to fight a fire. They are experienced and know how to handle a grass fire," Wesley said. "They are neighbors and ranchers and are fight-

ing for their land and homes. And even the ones who aren't ranchers are fighting with and for their friends."

For many firefighters it is that willingness to help others that helps keep their mind at ease when battling fires. According to Elisabeth Mohler, even though many of these small town fire departments are made up of volunteers, they form close friendships that help them through the fear.

"I trust the guys I go out on fires with," Mohler said. "We stick together and work as a team. We put ourselves in harm's way every time we go on a fire call so it wasn't much different in that aspect." Mohler has been a volunteer for six years now and has worked with the Sawyer, Pratt and Cullison fire departments. She also has extensive training battling both structural and wild land fires. Mohler also spent a number of hours battling the Anderson Creek Fire. "It takes a lot to be able to put yourself in harm's way, take yourself away from your families and friends and run into burning buildings or out into the flames of a wildfire," Mohler said. "But it's what we do and the men and women on our fire departments are our family as well."



Sawyer firefighter Rex Robinson took this picture over the cab of the truck during the nighttime hours in the Lake City-Sun City area.

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Pratt Community College thanks all the volunteers who were involved in assisting with the Barber County fires. In particular the individuals providing police, fire and emergency medical services.



Pratt CC employees and students providing service: Ed Freeman, Mason Welsch, Luke Laha, Jessica Lindsey, Heather Wilson, Theresa Gee. The PCC Bookstore served as a donation location.



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