

Mackenzie Carr Named "Miss Rodeo Oregon"

On July 1st 2010 Mackenzie Carr of Vernonia Oregon was crowned the 2011 Miss Rodeo Oregon during the first rodeo performance of the 75th Annual St. Paul Rodeo.

"Thank you to the Miss Rodeo Oregon board, its members, and pageant committee for all of your hard work," said Carr upon returning home. "I am excited as to be expected, but more importantly, I am honored to have the opportunity to represent such an amazing organization. I am looking forward to next year and cannot wait to serve as your 2011 Miss Rodeo Oregon!"

In addition to the title, Mackenzie won the knowledge, personality, appearance, speech,



Mackenzie Carr (left) of Vernonia, pictured with 2010 Miss Rodeo Oregon, Ashley Zeigler, was named 2011 Miss Rodeo Oregon on July 1st.

horsemanship, and photogenic awards. She will represent Oregon and the sport of rodeo throughout Oregon and the country during 2011, culminating in the Miss Rodeo America pageant in December 2011, held during the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas, Nevada.

"Thank you to everyone for the congratulatory wishes!" said Mackenzie. "I am so thankful to have such a supportive group of friends and family!"

Carr also graciously acknowledged her competitors in the competition. "Stacy, SaVanna and Charlotte: It was a great pageant and I am very glad to have met you all."

Carr came home with numerous prizes from the pageant, including a custom made Bob Roy saddle with a sting ray seat, valued at \$3,000.

Carr is the daughter of Alan

and Barb Carr of Vernonia, Oregon. Mackenzie was a 2008 graduate and Valedictorian of Vernonia High School, and also a nine year member of Columbia County Horse 4-H. She has had the honor of singing the national anthem at various venues, including many different rodeos, sporting events, and opening the Rodney Atkins concert at the Oregon State Fair. She attended Oregon State University for two years, and will be transferring to earn an Architectural degree, minoring in Speech Communications. She hopes to focus on interior architecture and commercial building design. In her spare time she enjoys riding her horses, giving riding lessons to children, and training horses. She also takes pleasure in playing volleyball, country western dancing, and spending time in the great outdoors.

Mackenzie's mother, Barb Carr, was excited about her daughter's accomplishments, but was also thankful for all the support Mackenzie has received. "What I am most proud of is to witness the genuine support and excitement of so many people who were right there next to us wishing Mackenzie the best,"

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It's Columbia County Fair and Rodeo Time *continued from front page*

Other new events this year include a Teddy Bear Picnic on what has traditionally been Kids Day on Thursday. The Teddy Bear Picnic replaces the Baby Gala and will include crafts for both kids and their Bears that they are encouraged to bring to the Fair. The Dragon Theater Puppets will also be on hand throughout the week and doing a puppet-making workshop on Thursday. Ronald McDonald will make an appearance on Thursday, as well.

Sunday is "Grange Day," a new event, with the entire day sponsored in part by your local Granges. Look for coupons in this and other local papers for 50% off admission to the Fair, courtesy

of the Grange. There will be a "25 Mile Meal" with everything served grown or raised within twenty-five miles of the fairgrounds. There will be vendors from agricultural businesses and groups-- with how-to demonstrations on everything from beekeeping to indoor gardening to birdhouse construction to making goat cheese. Grange Day also features \$15 Carnival wristbands, courtesy of your local Grange. "There will just be tons of stuff to do for everyone," says Courtney, about Grange Day at the Fair.

Of course, this year's Fair and Rodeo will feature all your favorites. Wednesday is Senior's Day, with the "My Fair Lady Pageant" taking place,

Talent Show tryouts, the River City Cloggers performing and Stock Car Races in the evening.

Thursday will feature the Just 4 Fun & Junior Rodeo and the Exceptional Rodeo. Friday kicks off the NPRA Rodeo which continues on Saturday and ends with "Dancin' in the Dirt with Coyote Creek."

Saturday is the C.E.P.A. Expo, the Talent Show Finals, and Livestock Auction. Sunday is the Chili Cook-Off.

Throughout the week, the carnival will be up and running, the Grange Museum will be open, you can visit the Master Gardeners demo garden, shop at the Fair Benefit Plant Sale ("This

has gotten really big!" says Courtney), enjoy the Elks Chicken Dinner on Friday and Saturday and enjoy music and other entertainment on numerous stages throughout the fairgrounds. And don't forget to check out all the 4-H kids and their animals in the barns.

For current information on what's happening during the Fair and Rodeo, a Facebook page will be updated throughout. "Last year, we had baby goats born right in the middle of the Fair," said Courtney. "This year, people will be able to find out about things like that by checking our 'Columbia County Fair and Rodeo' Facebook page."

Smith Family Gets a Home *continued from front page*

house or not."

Upon arriving at her new house, twelve-year-old Paige immediately went to the car and got paint and a roller-- she was ready to get to work painting her new room. Sara Smith would be moving into Sara Rhodes' old room, a cute coincidence. Everyone was excited, happy and relieved to have finally arrived.

The Rhodes, who are moving just down the street, have been calling their new house "Three Doors Down." When asked what they might call their

new house, the Smiths replied, "Home."

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Checking back with the Smiths a little more than a week after the move, Ernie Smith had this to say about finally getting settled: "A week after moving into the new house, it was finally sinking in that we were really home. It's been so peaceful being able to sit in our living room and know that we aren't going to have to go find another place now," said Ernie. "On the Fourth of July we

sat in *our* front yard and watched the fireworks."

Ernie said the family had spent the previous day shopping. The girls were finally getting their own bedroom sets-- something they hadn't had since December of 2007.

"It wasn't until we actually got moved in and we were sitting there one night and Robin looked at me and said, 'I've forgotten about all the rentals and trailers-- I'm so happy we're at home.'"



Taylor Smith (left) along with the rest of his family, stand in the door way of their new home.

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