

BMX competition attracts crowd to Redmond

BY TIM TRAINOR

Redmond Spokesman

REDMOND — More than 1,000 BMX racers, and many more family and fans, packed the First Interstate Bank Center for an event that attracted riders from throughout the region.

USA BMX's Great Northwest Nationals kicked off Friday morning with open practice and preliminaries, continued through Saturday with qualifiers, and commenced on Sunday with a slate full of finals in the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center indoor arena.

Competitors came from as far as Southern California and British Columbia to take part in the event, which was canceled the last two years due to COVID-19. They ranged in age and experience — from toddlers navigating an obstacle-filled course for the first time, to seniors who have long-toured the northwest BMX circuit.

"It's too much fun to get back and see everyone," said Larry Kopperud, who brought his children down to compete in Redmond before the pandemic and was happy to be back for the 2022 edition. The family travels to a number of races throughout the Pacific Northwest — but the Great Northwest Nationals is one of the highlights.

Kopperud rode bikes recreationally around the Southern California neighborhood where he grew up. Now living in Bremerton, Wash., his children got into the sport at a young age. At 12 and 14 years old, they plan their summers around BMX competitions.

"They like this more than the team sports and the school sports," said Kopperud. "They get to kind of lead themselves, compete how they want to."

Locals are competing as well. They include Jet Arzaga, 15, of Redmond, Banyon Howell, 16, of Bend, and 50-year-old Bend rider Michelle Goodin.



Tim Trainor/The Spokesman

Competitors rip through the course Saturday at the Great Northwest Nationals competition at the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center.

FLASHBACK

Forest Service ups fire suppression funding in 1972

The Spokesman

75 YEARS AGO

April 17, 1947 — VFW Installation Set for Friday At Air-Base Hall

Deschutes post No. 4108 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars will be host to the district No. 14 posts and auxiliaries at the joint installation of incoming officers Friday, April 18. Starting at 8:30 p.m., the joint installation will be held in the Legion-VFW hall at Roberts field.

Installing officer will be Francis G. Gates of Bend, senior vice commander of the department of Oregon, and other department officers will also be present, it was announced this week by Don F. Ross, acting commander of the Redmond post. The joint installation will be an open meeting with posts and auxiliaries from Bend, Prineville,

Madras, Redmond and Sisters participating. Ross has urged all incoming and outgoing officers to be present.

Following the installation, a program of dancing has been scheduled. Refreshments will be served by the auxiliaries, Ross said.

50 YEARS AGO

April 12, 1972 — Bend fire station planned by Forest Service

Plans for increased federal funding for Oregon forest fire prevention and suppression include \$13,000 for survey and design of a Bend fire station, announced Sen. Mark O. Hatfield.

Oregon's increase in U.S. Forest Service appropriations from \$2,611,000 for the current fiscal year to \$2,693,000 represents an increase of \$82,000, which overall USFS

fire fighting funding will drop by \$833,000.

Bureau of Land Management plans and increase of \$315,000, of which \$134,000 will be used in eastern Oregon.

Eastern Oregon increases include \$70,000 for pre-suppression funds above last year's tally of \$376,000 for the purchase of new equipment and temporary personnel. It also includes funds for construction of a new \$27,000 communication center in Lakeview and \$37,000 for planning new fire control stations and lookouts, including the one in Bend.

25 YEARS AGO

April 16, 1997 — Students to warn against drain dumping

Fourth and fifth grade students at Vern Patrick Elementary School will participate in

a storm drain marketing project Saturday morning, in cooperation with the Redmond Public Works Department.

Storm drain marketing is an educational program design to inform citizens about the ecological hazards of dumping household chemicals into storm drains.

The project involves painting a stencil next to the storm drain to remind people that everything that goes into a storm drain ultimately affects groundwater. The stencil says "Dump No Waste — Protect Your Groundwater."

Students will target storm drains only around Vern Pat-

rick school.

The project also involves distributing a brochure to homes in the area where drains have been marked.

In a related project, the students raised rainbow trout and kokanee salmon in their classrooms. The fish were released into Fireman's pond.

OBITUARY

Kenneth G. Ross Sr.

December 12, 1929 - March 7, 2022

Kenneth Gordon Ross Sr. passed away on March 7th, 2022 at the age of 92. Ken was born in Bothell, Washington December 12th, 1929 along with a twin brother, Keith, to William and Olga Ross. He lived a full and interesting life.



Ken worked for Boeing for a short period prior to entering the US Army in 1951, where he served for approximately two years. After being discharged he went to work for Pacific Power and Light Company in Seattle. It was there he met the love of his life, Mary. They married in 1955 and lived in Redmond, Washington where they began raising two sons. In the early 60's they moved to Dryden, Washington where Ken worked with his father-in-law in construction. In 1965 they moved to Leavenworth, where he began a long career with the US Forest Service as a wildland firefighter. His career with the Forest Service took him and the family to many locations over the years. From Leavenworth, they moved to Glide, Oregon, and later to Walla Walla. In 1981 they moved from Walla Walla to Laurel, Montana, then to Orofino, Idaho where he retired in 1986. After retirement, they moved to Chelan, Washington, and promptly started a complete remodel/rebuild project on an older home which kept them busy for the next few years. In 2015 they sold their home in Chelan and moved to Redmond, Oregon, to be closer to family. During his lifetime he and Mary made many lasting friendships.

Ken loved hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, traveling, and feeding the birds. He was able to hunt with family until he was 90. He also loved music and enjoyed working on his 1937 Ford pickup that he acquired in the mid-'50s.

Ken was preceded in death by his parents, 4 brothers, and 3 sisters. He is survived by his loving wife Mary, his sons Ken Jr. (Karen), Karl (Traci), three step-grandchildren, 2 brothers, Dick and Jerry, along with many nieces, nephews, and close friends who were like family.

Ken was a devoted husband, wonderful father and father-in-law, and friend to many. He will be deeply missed by all.

No services are planned at this time. A celebration of life will be planned at a later date.

Calendar

Continued from P1

Northern Paiute Storyteller Wilson Wewa: Hear Northern Paiute Storyteller Wilson Wewa speak; 7-8 p.m.; free; High Desert Music Hall, 818 SW Forest Ave., Redmond; deschuteslibrary.org or 541-527-1387.

Friday 4/15

Coffee Clatter: Join for a morning of business networking and check out MountainStar Family Relief Nursery; 8:30-9:30 a.m.; free; MountainStar Family Relief Nursery, 2724 SW Timber Ave., Redmond; visitredmondoregon.com or 541-923-5191.

Phillip Austin: The country musician will perform; 6:30-9:30 p.m.; free; General Duffy's Watering Hole, 404 SW Forest Ave., Redmond; generalduffys.com or 541-527-4345.

DJ NellyNice: Dance the night away with good vibes and pop disco, house and party jams; 7-10 p.m.; free; General Duffy's Watering Hole-Annex, 404 SW Forest Ave, Bend; generalduffys.com or 541-527-4345.

Marble, The Color Study & Night Channels: All three alternative rock bands will perform; 8 p.m.; \$12; High Desert Music Hall, 818 SW Forest Ave., Redmond; highdesertmusicall.com or 541-527-1387.

Saturday 4/16

Spring Gardening Seminar — Native Bees and Plants: OSU Master Gardener Toni Stephan will offer their insight into the world of bees in Central Oregon; 10 a.m.; \$5-\$35 Choose 1 class (\$5) or up to 7 (\$35); OSU Extension Service, Online; gocomga.com or 541-548-6088.

Spring Gardening Seminar — Composting: OSU Master Gardeners Rocky Bessette and Toni Stephan will offer their insight into the world of composting in Central Oregon; 1 p.m.; \$5-\$35 Choose 1 class (\$5) or up to 7 (\$35); OSU Extension Service, Online; gocomga.com or 541-548-6088.

Live at The Tasting Room — Gritts & Gravy: A smaller version of the full band Dry Canyon Stampede will perform their folksy country music; 5-8 p.m.; \$15 adults, children 12 and under free; Faith Hope & Charity Vineyards, 70450 NW Lower Valley

Drive, Terrebonne; faithhopeandcharityevents.com or 541-526-5075.

Sunday 4/17

Sunday Brunch and Karaoke: Join for brunch and then later Karaoke; 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; free; General Duffy's Watering Hole, 404 SW Forest Ave., Redmond; facebook.com/Generalduffys or 541-527-4345.

Monday 4/18

Central Oregon Retired Educators Meeting: All interested in education are welcome to attend and help work on projects that benefit local organizations; 11:30 a.m.; lunch is \$10; Zion Lutheran Church, 1113 SW Black Butte Blvd., Redmond; facebook.com/centraloregonretirededucators or 541-548-3490.

Planning Commission Meeting: A regular meeting will be held; 6:30-8:30 p.m.; free; Redmond City Hall, 411 SW Ninth St., Redmond; redmondoregon.gov or 541-923-7710.

DEATH NOTICES

"Jim" Edgar James Parker III of BEND
March 30, 1938 -
March 16, 1922
Arrangements: Niswonger-Reynolds
https://www.bendfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/Jim-Edgar-James-Parker-III?obId=24398615#/obituaryInfo
Services: Buried at Greenwood Cemetery after a graveside service on March 26, 2022

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