

PENDLETON

Fourth of July Parade

By JONATHAN BACH
East Oregonian

Red, white and blue abounded Saturday morning as the annual Fourth of July parade made its way from Main Street, past the Round-Up Grounds to Baxter Auto Parts.

Floats passed under a broad American flag hoisted stories high by two fire engines. (The Umatilla Tribal Fire Department let children explore the inside of its truck before the parade commenced.)

But not all of the participants were in motorized transport.

The Pendleton Round-Up court rode horseback, smiling broadly. A stream of flag bearers from Pendleton High School made the circuit by foot. And a mule-drawn wagon from Walla Walla Fair and Frontier Days rolled past bystanders.

Rebecca Borrer, 44, who helped with the mules, later described the parade in two words: “fun” and “hot.”

But the sun didn’t stop hundreds from flocking to Pendleton’s celebration of American independence.

Plus, there was a reward for the young ones: stickers and candy filled the margins of the streets as float riders



A float parades downtown during Saturday’s Fourth of July celebration in Pendleton.

Staff photo by Jonathan Bach

threw handfuls for children to snatch up.

“The grandchildren really enjoyed the candy,” said Dan Wilcock, 54, at Roy Raley Park as an Elks Lodge float passed by. But, he joked, “There were too many Tootsie rolls.”

The National Guard also participated in the parade, much to the pride of one

mother.

Jennifer Fossek, 40, said her son, Jared, 17, is now in boot camp with the National Guard.

She clasped an American flag and talked about how Jared wants to make a career for himself in the military.

As for the holiday itself: “It’s very heartwarming. It’s bringing tears to my eyes

just talking about it,” she said.

“To know there are men and women all over the United States celebrating their independence — it’s very overwhelming,” she said.

Contact Jonathan Bach at jbach@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0809.

Awards ceremony

At noon the Pendleton Veterans of Foreign Wars handed out trophies for the best participants.

The results for first place in the 13 categories were:

Equestrian Groups: Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Equestrian Groups-Royalty: Walla Walla Frontier Days

Equestrian with two riders or less: Happy Canyon Princesses

Horse and Buggy: Jill Perrine

First Responders/Armed Forces: Pilot Rock Fire Department

Motorized - Best Club: Blue Mountain A's

Motorized - Judges’ Choice: Underground Tours

Civic Groups and Service Clubs: Quilts of Valor

People with Pets: Pendleton Animal Welfare Center

Business and Commercial: Cayuse Technologies

Youth groups: Children’s Museum of Eastern Oregon

Floats: Pendleton Lions Club

Veterans of Foreign Wars Patriot Trophy: First Church of God

Crystal Sullenger, 37, a woman with cheetah spots tattooed on her right arm, received the trophy for PAWS. She moved to Pendleton from Portland and said the parade gave her a “good feeling for the town.”



Staff photo by Jonathan Bach

A small dog rides atop a horse at Saturday’s Fourth of July parade.

Fifth-wheel burns near Pilot Rock

Weekend quiet for Hermiston fire fighters

By JONATHAN BACH
East Oregonian



Staff photo by Jonathan Bach

Emergency responders stand by a burned down fifth-wheel after extinguishing the blaze Sunday evening.

A fifth-wheel burned to the ground Sunday evening near Pilot Rock.

Christa Rooper, 45, said her children had been burning trash in a barrel near the trailer they used as a hangout when it caught fire. Rooper said her children ran inside their main house at 43636 Hoeft Road to tell her about the fire. A propane tank exploded in the area of the trailer, too, according to Rooper.

A neighbor, Frank Hoeft, 73, also heard the propane tank explode and came to help with the fire.

Rooper called emergency services at 4:58 p.m., and the fire was extinguished by 5:30 p.m.

Pilot Rock Fire assistant chief Mark Moore praised emergency responders and mutual aid partners, who he said used about 2,000 gallons of water to put out the small blaze.

“They got down there quickly, brought down the right equipment and did

exactly what they were supposed to do,” he said.

Pilot Rock Fire Department and one of its mutual aid partners, Custom Spraying, emphasized that there is a burn ban currently in effect in both Umatilla and Morrow counties.

In Hermiston, three small

brush fires and a garage fire made for a relatively benign Fourth of July weekend this year.

“Surprisingly, based on how hot and dry it was, it was pretty quiet,” Hermiston Fire Department fire marshal Tom Bohm said.

He said during the evening of the Fourth of July the department responded to a small brush fire on Minnehaha, one on Southwest 17th St. and one near Warehouse Beach off Highway 730. All three were caused by fireworks.

He said the garage fire, which happened on Powerline Road on Sunday afternoon, was caused by an electrical short and was not fireworks-related.

Jade McDowell contributed to this story.

Contact Jonathan Bach at jbach@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0809.



Staff photo by Jonathan Bach

Bald eagle rescue

A young female bald eagle stands atop a perch at Blue Mountain Wildlife outside Pendleton Monday. The female bird of prey was sent from Washington to Blue Mountain Wildlife on the Fourth of July after it was found in a body of water, according to Lynn Tompkins, BMW’s executive director. The fledgling probably got into an altercation with an older osprey, which chased it into the water, said Tompkins. She hopes to send the underweight bird back to Washington on Thursday. For more information, visit www.bluemountainwildlife.org.

BRIEFLY

Idaho man killed in Baker crash

BAKER — A car driven by Enrique Jimenez, 64, of Boise, Idaho, was traveling west on I-84 near Durkee when it swerved into a pickup truck and rolled several times in Baker County, according to a news release from Oregon State Police.

Jimenez was ejected from the Hyundai. Emergency personnel arrived early Saturday morning and declared him dead on scene. The pickup’s owner, Taylor Grove, of Phoenix, Arizona, was not injured.

Officials suspect alcohol consumption by Jimenez as a contributing factor to the crash. A preliminary investigation indicated he was not wearing a seatbelt.

The investigation is ongoing and more information will be released as it becomes available.

Briefs are compiled from staff and wire reports, and press releases. Email press.releases@news@eastoregonian.com

SUBMIT COMMUNITY NEWS

Submit information to: community@eastoregonian.com or drop off to the attention of Tammy Malgesini at 333 E. Main St., Hermiston or Renee Struthers at 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

UMATILLA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY’S FUN-FILLED FAMILY EVENT

Back in Time:
An Old Fashioned Picnic at Heritage Station
Saturday, July 11, 11:00 am – 2:00 p.m.
Tickets \$15.00 adults, \$5.00 children 12 and under

Picnic lunch
Live music by Joe Lindsay
(formerly of the BMCC ensemble *Absolutely Nobody*)
Interactive pioneer station for kids

Tickets available at Armchair Books and Heritage Station Museum.

HERITAGE STATION
The Umatilla County Historical Society Museum

Call Heritage Station Museum at 541-276-0012 for information

ATHENA CALEDONIAN GAMES

JULY 11-12, 2015
JULY 10, CEILIDH DINNER 5:30-7:30
ATHENA, OREGON
Family event with Scottish music, dancing & sport

Vendors
Parade
Entertainment in the Park
Dancing, Piping & Scottish Athletic Competitions

Kids’ Games
Story Tellers
Caledonian Tattoo
Kirkin O’ The Tartan
Celtic Harp
Horseshoe Tournaments

www.athenacaledoniangames.org

THANK YOU!

The Ione 4th of July Celebration Committee would like to thank the following for their support:

Morrow County Unified Recreation Dist.; Smitty’s Ace Hardware; Morrow County Parks; Morrow County; The Gazette Times; The Hermiston Herald and the East Oregonian.

Thank you to all those businesses and individuals who helped sponsor:
1000 Yard TV Shoot; Red, White & Blues Poker/Cribbage Tournament & BBQ Chicken Dinner; 2015 Golf Tournament; 2015 Blues Cruise.

the Y
FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

PEACH BASKET CLASSIC 2015
AUGUST 1ST & 2ND, 2015

AVOID LATE FEES, SIGN UP ONLINE BEFORE JULY 10TH, 2015
WWW.PEACHBASKETCLASSIC.COM

POWERADE
ION™ ADVANCED ELECTROLYTE SYSTEM

CharterMedia
YOUR TEAM ON TARGET

Charter