

# Jefferson County Fair entertains tribal youth, awards artwork



Leslie Mitts photos

Youth from the Boys and Girls Club stopped to see some award-winning goats.

The Jefferson County Fair proved to be a crowd pleaser for its 73rd year last weekend.

Tribal member Brigette M. Whipple won Best of Show in the Native American Arts and Crafts category for her beaded gloves featuring depictions of big horn sheep.

Whipple's daughter Rosebud also had artwork on display.

Tribal youth from the Head Start program and the Boys and Girls Club trekked to Madras for Kids' Day.

This year Kids' Day featured activities like 4-H livestock exhibits, pony rides and contests, much to the delight of the tribal youth in attendance.

In addition, a watermelon seed spitting contest and entertainment from Cook's Racing Pigs proved to be a crowd pleaser.



Brigette M. Whipple won best of show for her beaded gloves.

A parade wound through downtown Madras on Saturday.

Josh Turner was the featured performer this year, with a concert on Friday.

The Jefferson County fair also included a rodeo sanctioned

by the National Professional Rodeo Association.

Typically the fair is attended by over 20,000 people.

For 2007, the Jefferson County Fair will take place July 25 through July 28.

# Street light vandalism escalating in some neighborhoods

The streets of Warm Springs could be getting a little darker.

Nancy Collins, human services director for IHS, said they have spent over \$100,000 to replace standard streetlights with bulletproof lights and to cover the cost of repairs to existing streetlights.

When people discovered they couldn't shoot lights out

anymore, she said they starting cutting the conduit or smashing the wire boxes on poles.

Through an agreement with Pacific Power, the streetlights are repaired annually.

However, due to the high vandalism rates, Pacific Power may pull that service and the tribes would be left to repair the lights—something Collins says

would be too expensive.

Streetlights were originally installed to make areas safer at night for people's homes and for people walking in the community.

But at a cost of \$2,000 per light and \$2,000 per pole, the cost is quickly escalating out of control, Collins said.

"We're not gaining anything,"

she said. "People aren't gaining any benefit if community members are being allowed to chop the conduit."

For vandals, Collins said, "There's an electrical hazard to those people."

According to Collins, vandals aren't only endangering themselves, but they are endangering anyone who might walk by

and touch the exposed wires—like a curious young child.

If someone has a streetlight in front of their home and doesn't want it there, Collins advises them to give her a call rather than destroying the light.

"We'll have it taken out so we're not putting lights where people don't want them," she

said. Collins is available at 553-4943.

If you see someone vandalizing a light, Collins said to call the police immediately at 553-3343.

"Don't wait till the next day, call them right away," she added.

— By Leslie Mitts

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