



EMILY MENTZER/Itemizer-Observer file

A jousting competitor asks the crowd if it is for France or Britannia. People in the crowd cheer their champion.

The renaissance revived again

By **Stephanie Blair**
The Itemizer-Observer

KINGS VALLEY — Calling all lords and ladies: the 22nd annual Shrewsbury Renaissance Faire is coming to Kings Valley once again Saturday and Sunday.

For those who have never experienced the faire before, each year gates open a few miles south of Pedee where people can travel back in time to the English Renaissance.

Time-appropriate attire is optional, but will have to be brought by those wishing to dress up, as “garb rental” will not be available this year, fair co-organizer Adrian Hughes said.

But dressing up is only a small part of the fun — the faire is filled with activities for those young and old.

“If you have small children we have the rat catching game, and all the kids get to play for free — give them a bracelet and a rat catcher’s license,” said fair co-organizer Jackie Hughes.

Throughout the fairgrounds are rat-masked individuals that the rat catchers can “catch” to earn a prize at the end of the day.

A Time Warp

What: Shrewsbury Renaissance Faire.
When: Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jousting tournament shows are at noon and 4 p.m. each day.
Where: Kings Valley, near the Polk-Benton county line.
Admission: \$11 for adults; \$5 for seniors and children ages 6 to 12; Free for children 5 and younger.
Of note: For VIP tickets email shrew@shrewfaire.com with the subject line “I want to be a VIP.”
For more information, driving directions and a \$1-off admission coupon, go to www.shrewfaire.com.

There is also a maze, a puppet theater and sword fighting lessons for kids — among other daring adventures, like squire training.

For adults, there is a wooing contest each day, as well as a prize for the “Best Calves in the Shire.”

For those who prefer to observe rather than participate, there are lots of options for entertainment as well. The faire has a number of acts making the rounds at their various performance areas.

“All of our favorite acts are returning this year, and we do have some new ones as well,” Adrian said. “All our acts rotate all the stages, so you can pretty much stay in one place with a big mug of something and the entertainment will come to you.

I’ve certainly enjoyed doing that in the past.”

This will be the last year to see the Cascade Mounted Archers. The troop’s final performance will be at Shrewsbury this week.

“It’s Mongolian archery on horseback, and it’s really cool,” Jackie said.

Though gates are open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day, Adrian recommends arriving early for a special treat.

“If you get there just about 20 minutes early, we put on an opening show to keep people entertained while we’re going through the line,” Adrian said.

No matter what time patrons arrive, they come prepared to go without modern technology for purchasing or communicating.

“There are no ATMs, there’s no cellular service. So be prepared to bring cash and fill up on your gas before you get out here,” Jackie said.

One more thing that won’t be found at the faire: pets. Service animals are allowed, but personal companions should stay at home.

“It gets very hot here at the end of the year, around harvest festival time,” Adrian said. “Every year we get someone who doesn’t get the ‘no pet’ policy and they leave their dog in the car.”

For humans seeking relief from the heat at the faire, Jackie and Adrian suggest they explore the shaded forest area, which can be found across the recently installed footbridge.

“We have been opening up progressively over the last few years a shaded forest area,” Adrian said. “This year we have much more space opened up, we expect to have a lot more shade for our patrons.”

There will also be a number of food and drink vendors, including a cider house and, of course, grilling.

“Can’t go to a renaissance fair without having a turkey leg,” Jackie said, chuckling.

NEWS IN BRIEF

‘Medicare 101’ informational session

MONMOUTH — Polk County residents with questions about Medicare may attend a free presentation, “Medicare 101,” held at noon on Sept. 13 and Oct. 6 at the Monmouth Senior Center, 180 Warren St. S.

The 90-minute presentation will cover how Medicare works, supplemental insurance options, and fall open enrollment for Medicare Part C and D plans. The presentation also will cover assistance for people with low income and resources, how the Affordable Care Act impacts Medicare, and how to prevent, detect and report Medicare waste, fraud and abuse.

The session will be led by a certified senior health insurance benefits assistance and senior Medicare patrol counselor.

Polk County residents interested in a 60-minute, one-on-one appointment with a SHIBA volunteer may call the Dallas office of Northwest Senior and Disability Services, 503-831-0581.

For more information about the presentation: oregonshiba.org.

Dallas officer to graduate academy

DALLAS — Officer Michael Sunday, of the Dallas Police Department, will graduate from the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training’s 370th Basic Police Class Friday at 11 a.m.

The ceremony will take place at the Oregon Public Safety Academy, 4190 Aumsville Highway SE, Salem. Chief Steven Bartol, of the Milwaukie Police Department, will be the guest speaker.

The Basic Police Class is a 16-week course.

Dallas teacher attending cancer summit

DALLAS — Retired Dallas teacher Kay Graven will join 700 cancer patients, survivors and volunteers from across the country at the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network Leadership Summit and Lobby Day in Washington D.C. Sunday through Sept. 13.

Graven hopes to meet with senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden and Rep. Kurt Schrader to discuss federal funding for cancer research.

Graven lost her father to smoking-related lung cancer in 2004.

Help clean up Madrona Saturday

MONMOUTH — A National Day of Service project will be at Madrona Park from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday. Volunteers are needed to plant a new xeriscape garden and more than 150 native plants in the east end of the park.

“Bring shovels, rakes and other implements of destruction,” said Mark Fancey, community development manager, in a press release. “This will be my last planting project in Monmouth, and it will be a big one.”

Arboretum project Monday evening

DALLAS — Volunteers are needed at the Delbert Hunter Arboretum at Dallas City Park for the final evening work event of the summer. The event is from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Monday.

Volunteers will work around the gazebo maintaining trails, spreading bark, and weeding. Children are welcome with an adult. Gloves are recommended. Tools and snacks are provided.

For more information: Kimber, 503-623-7359.

Ped safety ‘sting’ set for Monday

INDEPENDENCE — The Independence Police Department will conduct a four-hour operation on Monday at heavily used crosswalks on Monmouth Street and Gun Club Road.

For more information: ci.independence.or.us.

DEADLINES

NEWS DEADLINES

For inclusion in the Wednesday edition of the *Itemizer-Observer*:

Social news (weddings, engagements, anniversaries, births, milestones) — 5 p.m. on Thursday.

Community events — Noon on Friday for both the Community Notebook and Community Calendar.

Letters to the editor — 10 a.m. on Monday.

Obituaries — 4 p.m. on Monday.

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Retail display ads — 3 p.m. Friday.

Classified display ads — 11 a.m. on Monday.

Classified line ads — Noon on Monday. Classified ads are updated daily on www.polkio.com.

Public notices — Noon on Friday.

CORRECTIONS

The *Polk County Itemizer-Observer* is committed to publishing accurate news, feature and sports reports. If you see anything that requires a correction or clarification, call the newsroom at 503-623-2373 or send an email to ementzer@polkio.com.

WEBSITE

The *Polk County Itemizer-Observer* website, www.polkio.com, is updated each week by Wednesday afternoon. There, you will find nearly every story that appears in the print version of the newspaper, as well as some items, including additional photos, that do not appear in print due to space limitations.

The *Itemizer-Observer* is also on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Watch for breaking news, links to stories, sports scores updates and more.

WEATHER

RECORDED	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
Aug. 29.....	89	58	.00
Aug. 30.....	82	50	.00
Aug. 31.....	86	55	.00
Sept. 1.....	94	57	.00
Sept. 2.....	98	58	.00
Sept. 3.....	98	59	.00
Sept. 4.....	92	61	.00

Rainfall during Aug. — 0.15 in.
Rain through Sept. 4 — 33.45 in.

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Are you a Christian looking to do more?

The Gideons, who are the people who put Bibles into hotels, are looking for Christian men to become involved.

We are hosting a lunch on

Saturday, Sept. 16th

to provide more information.

If you are interested, R.S.V.P. to Beverly at 503-420-4442 between 9 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. weekdays.

Sudoku

Difficulty: ★★★★★☆

Solution on Page 6A

						8	7
2			6	5	7	1	
7					3		
				6	2		
8		7	4		5	3	6
			6	7			
				9			5
			8	5	4	2	
1	9						

Row →

Three-by-three square →

Column ↓

4	3	2	8	1	6	7	5	9
5	6	9	3	7	4	8	1	2
1	7	8	9	5	2	4	6	3
3	4	7	2	8	5	6	9	1
2	1	6	7	4	9	3	8	5
9	8	5	1	6	3	2	7	4
7	9	1	4	3	8	5	2	6
8	5	3	6	2	1	9	4	7
6	2	4	5	9	7	1	3	8

How to do Sudoku

Fill in the grid so the numbers 1 through 9 appear just once in every column, row, and three-by-three square. See example above.

The Christian Science Monitor