

Kids soar at annual Fly-In

By Rylan Boggs
Blue Mountain Eagle

Planes soared overhead as children eagerly waited for their turn to fly at Saturday's Grant County Fly-In.

"It's just so bizarre," said 9-year-old Riley Gregg after riding in Frank Stinnett's Cessna 172 XP during the event at the Grant County Regional Airport.

Stinnett has been flying for 45 years and looks forward to the Fly-In every year.

"I enjoy introducing people to the love of flying," he said. "I like to see the kids get excited. It's so amazing."

Stinnett also helped children learn to love aviation by flying in low and slow to drop candy near the runway for children to run out and collect. The candy drop was a hit with the younger kids, who sprinted out to fill their pockets.

During the Fly-In, students in grades one through 12 were given free airplane rides around Grant County Regional Airport. Six pilots volunteered their time and



The Eagle/Rylan Boggs

Frank Stinnett drops candy out of his Cessna 172 XP for children to collect during the annual Grant County Fly-In Saturday, Sept. 10, at the Grant County Regional Airport in John Day.

planes to give students 15- to 20-minute rides.

Those waiting for their flights, or with a fear of heights, weren't left out as there was a hot breakfast put on by Cliffhouse Catering.

The Forest Service also brought two decommissioned helicopters used for

simulating rappelling to the event. Equipment Program Manager Jeremy McIntosh supervised the simulators and explained how the system works. As the aircraft used for rappelling are expensive and fragile, the Forest Service uses old Army UH-1 hulls that are identical to the aircraft used.

Grant County Air Search Treasurer Cheryl Berry said the Grant County Fly-In began as a community service "to get children interested in planes."

"Air Search partners with the airport to put on the event, and provides the pilots, airplanes and escorts," she said.



Nine-year-old Riley Gregg looks out the window of Frank Stinnett's Cessna 172 XP during the annual at the Grant County Fly-In Saturday. "It's just so bizarre," Gregg said after the flight.



Mitch Gregg and his 9-year-old son, Riley, look out the window of Frank Stinnett's Cessna 172 XP.

Tending the next herd of stockgrowers

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

The next generation of Grant County stockgrowers is off to a good start.

At Thursday's Grant County Stockgrowers Association meeting, three teens — Cinch Anderson of Izee, Samantha Adams of Monument and Maggie Justice of John Day — showed educational displays they made for the Grant County Fair, spoke about their breeding herds and answered questions from the audience of about 25.

Stockgrowers President Alec Oliver then awarded each with a monetary prize from the association.

Anderson, a freshman at Grant Union Junior-Senior High School, said his cattle are part of his family's operation, but he leases some of them from his parents. He shared an educational display, "Calf Pulling 101."

Earlier this year, Anderson delivered his first calf, which inspired him to create the display. He received a \$50 first-place award at the meeting.

Adams, a Monument School eighth-grader, is raising five boer goats, two of which are due to have kids in October.

In her presentation, she



Samantha Adams, a Monument School eighth-grader, talks about her 4-H educational display on boer goats at Thursday's Grant County Stockgrowers Association meeting in John Day. To her right is Stockgrowers president Alec Oliver.

The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

explained boer goats are preferred for being well-behaved in training and showing and for the plentiful low-fat red meat they yield. She plans to sell her goats, and said several 4-H'ers had already asked about the kids that are due.

When asked what kind of meat tastes best to her, Adams said with a smile, "Honestly, I like bacon ... and hamburgers."

Adams received \$30 and second place.

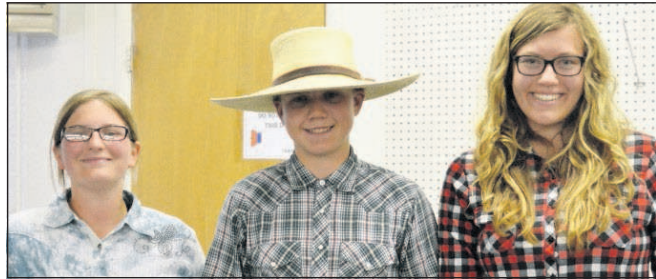
Justice, who was awarded third place and \$20, spoke about the pros and cons of crested wheat grass.

The Grant Union junior is

raising 10 head of cattle, including an Angus crossbreed and Charolais crossbreed.

Oliver, the Stockgrowers president, said it was great to see young people starting their own breeding herds.

"This is what Stockgrowers is about in the county, and these are some of the youngest stockgrowers," he said. "We like to see the next generation come along and see all these youths interested."



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Samantha Adams, left, Cinch Anderson and Maggie Justice each received awards for their 4-H breeding projects at Thursday's Grant County Stockgrowers Association meeting in John Day. Anderson won first place and received \$50, Adams won second and \$30 and Justice won third and \$20.

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Grant County Chamber Monthly Newsletter

WELCOME TO CHAMBER CHATTER! We have had a very busy year so far and it doesn't appear that it will slow down much at this point. The 2017 Solar Eclipse event has turned into quite a challenge consuming considerable hours working with the cities, counties, and many different organizations in coordinating and preparing for the known and the unknown situations to make the event fun, safe, and successful for the thousands of visitors predicted to attend from all parts of the world. If you haven't gotten involved and are thinking about it, our next meeting will be held at the Canyon City Community Hall at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 14. Tammy Bremner and others will bring everyone up to date.

The new TESLA electric car charging station has been installed on the east side of the Chamber office and the John Day location will now appear in the vehicles' electronic mapping system as a charge location. The new location should attract travelers from surrounding areas and can now utilize Highways 26 and 395. The second charging location is at the Historic Hotel Prairie in Prairie City and more will be installed at the 1188 Brewing Company soon. Hopefully the electric car enthusiasts will spend a night or two, visit our restaurants, museums, and other popular Grant County attractions.

One of our board members, Bruce Ward, has long advocated that travelers are missing an amazing part of Oregon by not traveling Hwy. 26 through Grant County. We agree and are discussing a media blitz and other promotional ideas in order to share with people from outside our area what we are fortunate to experience everyday.

We would like to welcome our newest members: Ritter Hotsprings, John Day Trailer Park and Laundromat, and John Day Elks Lodge #1824.

Our next open meeting will begin at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, in the Chamber of Commerce office, then will adjourn shortly to be continued at noon for lunch and a guest speaker at the Outpost Pizza Pub and Grill. The guest speaker this month will be Chelsea Harrison, Chamber of Commerce manager for Harney County, who will share with us what is happening in her area.

Please join us for our Annual Installation and volunteer appreciation ceremony on Wednesday, Sept. 21, at the John Day Elks Lodge. A no host bar will begin at 5 p.m. Food will be provided. Guest speakers include Nick Green, John Day City Manager, and Haley Walker, who is the Grant County Regional Airport Manager. Live music by the ever popular Frank Carlson will begin after the ceremony. Please RSVP as soon as possible to (541) 575-0547. See you there.

Jerry Franklin
Chamber President

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