



The color guard led the Fourth of July parade in Prairie City.



Four festively dressed girls await the start of the Fourth of July parade in Prairie City.



Katie Johnson, 15, Mt. Vernon, sang the national anthem for the public.



A miniature pony pulls two members of the Stiner family in the Fourth of July parade in Prairie City.

Prairie City Fourth pleases crowd

Well-attended family-friendly event

By Richard Hanners
Blue Mountain Eagle

Fire trucks made up most of the vehicles or floats at this year's Fourth of July parade in Prairie City, including Prairie City Fire Department's giant duce-and-a-half and antique Ford.

People from across Grant County lined Front Street around noon. Young children scrambled to scoop up candy thrown from the floats under bright blue skies.

Katie Johnson, 15, Mt. Vernon, sang the national anthem when the color guard reached McHaley Avenue. Johnson typically performs bluegrass with family members.

Johnson is gathering funds for her Calvary Horse Camp, which will be held at the Cornerstone Christian Fellowship Church in John Day and the Grant County Fairgrounds



Smokey Bear high-fives a young girl during the Fourth of July parade in Prairie City.

Eagle photos/Richard Hanners

from July 29 through Aug. 3.

This is the first year of her service project, Johnson said. The camp will provide riding opportunities for foster girls ages 9-12 from Grants Pass, Eugene, Salem, Pendleton and Portland, she said.

Prairie City resident Anna Marie Smith recently assumed the mantle for coordinating the Prairie City Fourth of July parade. Wanda Winegar orga-

nized things in past years.

The grand marshal this year was former Prairie City Fire Chief Dean Hicks, who drove his red 1991 Corvette in the parade.

A long line quickly formed near City Hall following the parade for tri-tip barbecue and strawberry shortcake. Hundreds of vehicles pulled up to the Oxbow Ranch outside of town around dusk for

the city-sponsored fireworks display.

Parade results

Grand Champion: Grant County Wildfire Softball Team

Classic Car
First: Antique fire truck from the Prairie City Fire Department

Second: Grumpy's Graphics
Third: Sherri Dowdy

Float
First: Sam Palmer and family

Second: Prairie City Senior Center
Third: Grant County Wildfire Softball Team



A young girl on the Prairie Baptist Church Vacation Bible School float throws candy to kids on the sidewalk during the Fourth of July parade in Prairie City.

Walking Individual

First: Lloyd Fuller for Twice Upon A Time

Non-motorized

First: Tucker Carpenter on his mountain bike

Walking Group

First: American Legion color guard

Second: Chester's Thriftway
Third: Prairie City High School cheerleaders and dance team

Horse-drawn

First: Del Raymond's wagon and quarter horses

Second: Stiner family cart and miniature pony

Mounted Group

First: Grant County Fair and Rodeo

Court, Queen Trinity Hutchison and Princess Courtney Nichols

Decorated Vehicle

First: Blue Mountain Care Center

ATVs and Dirt Bike

First: Gracey Kenyon on her dirt bike

Demolition Derby Car

First: Tyler Nodine
Second: Steve Patterson

Truck

First: Thunderbolt Fire Service
Second: Malheur National Forest

Emergency Vehicle

First: John Day City and Rural Fire Department
Second: Prairie City City and Rural Fire Department

Celebrating the Fourth in Monument

Blue Mountain Eagle

The Monument Fourth of July Jubilee had a schedule full of activities starting with a biscuit and gravy breakfast and ending with a fireworks show over the river.

Sahara Hyder organized the 4-H Color Run 5K, with 27 runners taking a route on Wall Creek Road, starting and ending at Monument School.

After the parade, people enjoyed events in the park, including bobbing for apples and a display of patriotically themed quilts and knitted items at the basketball court. Carson McKay, who will be a junior at Prairie City School this fall, auctioned off desserts.

Lonnie Lawrence, who spearheaded games and activities, said it was a fun and enjoyable day.

"The kids games were well attended, and everyone seemed to have a good time," she said. "We had a really good turnout, much better than expected, and did quite well."

Horseshoes

First: Cody Cole and David Hudson, 50/50 pot

Corn hole

First: Heath Vaughan and Jake Kralman, 50/50 pot

4-H Color Run 5K

First: Josh Thomas, 24:45
Second: Brittany Desadier, 24:46
Third: Jordan Desadier, 24:47

Parade results

Best of Show: Aubrey Bowlus and Kyla Emerson

Horse Division

First: Taylor Hamilton and Jenna Kelli

Ambulance Crew

First: Stacey Cox and Casey Pogue

Walking Group

First: Molly Jean and Mary Cade

Fire Crew

First: Archie Osborn

Motorcycle

First: Weston Hamilton



Eagle photos/Alixandra Hand

Participating in the parade was a tall order at the Monument Fourth of July Jubilee.



A clown rides a unicycle in the parade.



ABOVE: Children ride in the parade at the Monument Fourth of July Jubilee. LEFT: Weston Hamilton won first place in the Motorcycle Division.

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While on a vacation with his family, Count Dracula makes a romantic connection.
FRI-THURS (4:10) 7:10 9:40

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FRI-THURS (3:50) 6:50 9:30

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