

Morrow County's Newspaper

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Registration for Century Farms starts

One of the special events slated in connection with Oregon's part in the nation's bicentennial observance will be the program honoring Oregon families who have owned and operated the same farm for 100 years or more.

Registrations for this honor have been on a five-year basis or in connection with special observances. The opening up of the registration period this year was announced jointly this week by State Director of Agriculture Leonard Kunzman and Tom Vaughan, director of the Oregon Historical Society.

The program dates back to 1938 when Oregon was preparing for celebration of its centennial. It is sponsored jointly by the Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Oregon Historical Society.

Registration for the "Century Farm" honors is with the Oregon Department of Agriculture, with the deadline for the completed applications to

be received by the department by July 1, 1976. Registration forms are available from the Information Office, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Building, Salem, OR 97310. The forms and rules for the program will also be available at County Extension Service offices.

"Century Farm" certificates are provided by the Oregon Historical Society, which also permanently files the original applications.

Cooperating with the department of agriculture and historical society is the Oregon State Fair by including the program at which the certificates are presented on the fair schedule. Owners of the new "Century Farms" attend the fair as guests of the Oregon State Fair Commission.

For a farm to be eligible for certification as a "Century Farm" it must have been operated continuously by the same family since 1876 or

before. If it has ever been rented the farm will not qualify. Owners of "Century Farms" must reside in Oregon and if they are not living on the farm must actively manage and direct the farming of the land.

The line of ownership of the farm since the original settler or purchaser may be through children, brothers and sisters, nephews and nieces or adopted children.

To be considered a farm there must be at least 10 acres and for three out of the five years immediately preceding application for "Century Farm" honors there must have been a gross income from farm uses of not less than \$500 yearly.

The last time there was registration of "Century Farms" was in 1974. Registration was opened up that year because of the agricultural theme of the Oregon State Fair. That year there were 26 new farms registered,

bringing to 564 the total number of farms receiving "Century Farm" recognition since the program was started in 1958.

The farm dating back the most years is that of Claudio and Dolores Bustamante of Star Route, Box 10, St. Paul. It was settled in 1840 by Mrs. Bustamante's great grandfather, Augustin Raymond, a French-Canadian fur trapper who came to Oregon in 1830 with Dr. John McLaughlin. The farm, however, was not registered for the program until 1973, when registrations were taken in connection with the 100th anniversary observance of the Oregon Historical Society.

There is no record of how many of the 564 farms registered since the program started are still owned by the same families, since certificates are in the name of the original owner and farms are not registered.

At Chamber

Little League starts Saturday

The Willow Creek Little League season officially opens this Saturday when the Indians meet the Dodgers at 1:30 p.m. followed by the second game of the double header at 4 p.m. when the Braves meet the Giants, at the Little League field, Heppner.

According to Dave Dollarhide, speaking before the Chamber of Commerce, Monday, the Little League field is getting a new look. Some of the plywood panels have been replaced and are in the process of being repainted. Kinzua Corporation has furnished the plywood for the fence and the money charged to the sponsors will go toward new uniforms and athletic equipment for the four teams involved. The teams and the sponsors are as follows: Braves, Elks Lodge; Indians, Morrow County Grain Growers; Dodgers, IOOF Lodge; Giants, Kinzua Corporation.

Besides having 4 Little League teams there are also a number of Farm Teams for the youngsters, with a total of 85-100 youngsters involved in the program.

"The program is based on the concept of being able to give the kids a sense of pride," said Dollarhide. "What is needed is parent participation and support for the youngsters."

John Gochbauer also spoke to the members reporting on the Girls Slow Pitch Teams in the area.

The program started about 3 years ago and today there are 5 teams. The teams are comprised of girls in the 4th through the 8th grades with about 80 girls in the program.

The girls season begins May 8. Funds for the various girls teams are needed as the girls have no uniforms and a number of the baseballs wind up in Willow Creek.

"The girls play all out, never give up and do the best they can all the time," said Gochbauer, as he praised the teams.

There is no set of rules and regulations the girls teams follow to the tee, as we have to take any umpires and referees we can get for the games.

Last year an All-Star team was chosen and the girls went to Pendleton to participate in the finals. They all had a good time in the tourney.

Jim Wishart commented on the Chamber's float and stated, "The plywood was obtained from Kinzua Corporation and it should be cut out and painted within the next few weeks."

The Extension Office will present the program for next week.

G-T has new owner

Ernest V. Joiner this week announced the sale of the Gazette-Times to Mr. and Mrs. Gerry Reed of Hermiston. The transfer is effective May 1.

Joiner purchased the paper in July 1973 from Charles and Dorothy Heard. Last year he repurchased the Sebastopol Times and has been operating both papers since March 1975.

Joiner said he found it impossible to operate the Gazette-Times from such a long distance, and that it is not in the best interest of either the public or the newspaper to have an absentee publisher.

"Heppner and Morrow County will gain a great deal," Joiner said. "By having a local, experienced newspaper man in charge, Absentee ownership of a newspaper simply does not work. It is unfair to the readers who have every right to be able to meet and confer with the publisher on matters of community interest and concern." Joiner said he had hoped to live in

Heppner. "I think Morrow County people are the salt of the earth," he said, "and Oregon is one of the finest places to live."

Joiner has high praise for Reed. "He is among the state's finest publisher-editors," Joiner said. His Hermiston Herald is a national and state prize-winning weekly. He is the president of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, and has been in the weekly newspaper business for the largest part of his life. More important, he is already something of a resident of Morrow County. Reed and his wife Delores bought the Charley Heard's cabin a couple of years ago and spend a great deal of their time there and in Heppner.

Mr. and Mrs. Reed have three children: two boys and a girl.

"If Reed doesn't give Heppner the best newspaper it's ever had, I have promised to come back up there and shoot him," Joiner said.

PGE offers wind power project

Portland General Electric Company has offered space and facilities for a Federal wind power demonstration project near Boardman, U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration recently asked for proposed sites on which to locate the experimental wind generation facility and expects many sites to be offered. Deadline for proposal submission to NASA Lewis Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio was April 19.

PGE's proposal offers space, services and facilities on a site where a half million kilowatt coal generating plant is under construction 11 miles south of Boardman.

Oregon's Energy Facility Siting Council has heartily endorsed the proposal.

The proposal was prepared by the PGE Generation Resources Investigation Team under the direction of Neil Woodley. Woodley said PGE's proposal includes wind data already obtained from a meteorological tower which has been placed at the site for approximately two years. He says ERDA will select twelve sites from the proposals submitted to begin the Phase I collection of data from which 4 to 6 of the best sites will be

selected for the Phase II demonstration wind machine installation. The Phase II installation is expected to start late in 1976 and continue through 1978. Following system checkout, experimental operation of the wind turbines with the assistance of the selected organizations is expected to last two years.

The four wind turbine demonstration generators are being planned, developed and fabricated by contractors to NASA-Lewis Research Center for ERDA. Generators to be installed will be of type types with blades ranging in diameter from 125 to 200 feet and a power rating from 125 kilowatts to 1.5 megawatts. 125 kilowatts represents the electricity demand for approximately a dozen average households.

During the two years that experimental operations are planned to continue, the utility hosting the wind equipment is expected to utilize the power from the generator to the maximum practical extent and to provide agreed-upon data to the Government. At the end of the two years the Government has the option to extend operations for another two year period based on mutual agreement.

Agri-rama draws packed audience

Women, agriculture and progress were in the spotlight at the "Agri-rama" which attracted a full house audience in Heppner, this week. The special bicentennial event was the annual Extension Homemakers Day for Morrow County, presented in a new way, with the cooperation of those involved in the wheat, sheep, potato and beef industries of the area.

It was a very big event, as expected, for Morrow County is now fourth in gross agricultural income in Oregon, and one of the fastest growing areas in the nation. "It was standing room only for a while after we opened the doors," reports Birdine Tullis, Morrow Extension Service. Each commodity group had displays and goodies to sample relating to their product as well as a rich reward of recipes and consumer information.

Mistress of ceremonies for the afternoon program was Vera Cooley, Irrigon, chairman of the Extension Homemakers Advisory Committee, with the assistance of Jean Bennett, president, Morrow CowBelles, Mary Lou Carlson, Oregon Potato Commission, Dode Krebs, president Oregon Sheepproducers Auxiliary and Susan Snyder, president Oregon Wheathearts.

Guest speakers and programs presented were Edwin Stastny, Malin, OR, president of the National Potato Council and chairman of Oregon Potato Commission, who commented on growth of the potato industry in the county and the tremendous future of the industry as well as potato and potato products for export purposes; Jeep Slocum, vice president of Oregon Potato, Inc., Boardman, who briefly outlined potential for growth of the industry, and present condition of the industry in the area.

Dode Krebs, Ione, and Linda Gifford, Heppner, representing the sheep industry presented a varied program of history of sheep, and present conditions of the industry.

Ms. Gifford demonstrated spinning and weaving of wool, an ancient skill, but fast growing hobby for those who enjoy beautiful fabrics.

Jean Bennett and Jeanne Howell spoke for the cattle industry. Ms. Howell presented an informative film depicting reasons and economics of fluctuating meat prices.

Representing the wheat industry, Ralph McEwen, Oregon Wheat Commission and Susan Snyder, Oregon Wheathearts related facts of the industry and Jan Murray demonstrated sprouting wheat for delicious snacks and food products.

Harold Kerr, Morrow Extension Agent, keynote speaker for the event, offered praise for the active role of Morrow County women in community and commodity groups, as well as encouragement for continued activity. Noting that throughout history women have played a major role in production of agricultural products, he read a short letter written by a farm wife depicting an average day in the life of a homemaker 100 years ago.

Door prizes donated by each agricultural group and local businesses were awarded throughout the afternoon. The crowd found it quite amusing with Ed Stastny, president of the National Potato Council won a box of potatoes!

Hostesses for the successful event were the Extension Homemakers Committee, with the Boardman study group in charge of registration and name tags by Pine City group.

School board accepts bids

At the board of directors meeting of the Morrow County School District April 21, the board considered action to be taken on bids that had been received to date on new construction and replacement of windows at the Heppner upper elementary building.

The low bids on all projects were higher than had been anticipated.

Of the bond issue of \$1 million a total of \$266,500 was for buildings and windows, with the remaining \$101,500 to be used for remodeling of rooms at Ione and A.C. Houghton, improvements at Riverside and Heppner Elementary and for miscellaneous expenses and architects fees.

The total amount of the bids for the classrooms at Riverside and A.C. Houghton and for the shops at Ione and Heppner was \$1,052,000, or \$99,500 over the amount allocated in the bond issue.

After negotiations with bidders and cutting such items as brick facing, stucco finish, vinyl wainscoting, painting, fencing and paving at various projects, the building bids were trimmed by \$31,470.

An additional interest earning on bond issue money of

\$47,740 would also be used to offset the cost of the buildings.

Bids were awarded to: Riverman & Sons, Portland, Oregon; 8 classrooms at A.C. Houghton Elementary, \$394,430 and 4 classrooms at Riverside High School, \$186,000.

Gaines Construction Co., Burns, OR; Ione High School Shop, \$137,000.

Eastern Oregon Construction Co., Pendleton, OR; Heppner High School shop, \$292,000.

This is a total of \$1,020,630 for the buildings.

The board received three bids for window replacement at Heppner upper elementary with Window Industries of Portland submitting a low bid of \$34,800.

A concern was registered that the low bid was not acceptable since it did not meet bid specifications.

The board has asked that the bidders be contacted and asked to demonstrate their products to the board at the May 17 regular board meeting. A decision on the acceptance of a window replacement bid has been deferred until that time.

Heppner High Honor Students

The following Heppner High School students were named to the honor roll for the 3rd nine weeks of the 1975-76 school year:

HIGH HONOR: Seniors: Sandra Bennett, Steve Jones and Molly Pierce. Juniors: Vicki Edmundson and Nola Binchus. Sophomores: Kristi Edmundson and Kathy Wolf. Freshmen: William Kenny and Joycelyn Thorpe.

HONOR: Seniors: David Brandstegen, Allen Burkenbine, Greg Clow, Suzanne Cutsforth, Kimee Haguerwood, Doug Harris, Liz Hellums, Tim Skow, Tami Toll, Clay We; and Ted Nonchester. Juniors: David Allstott, Lisa

Burkenbine, Darla Cooper, Debby Holland, Kathleen (Guy) Kenny, Sharon McCarl, Steve McLaughlin, Chris Rauch, Tina Schmidt and Kristi Smith.

Sophomores: Shelley Grace, Dee Hedman, Diane Holland, Doug Marquardt, Sheree Marquardt, Ardith Newman, Cathy Palmer, Lori Rhea, Shelley Thompson and Joan Warren.

Freshmen: Connie Burkenbine, Michelle Cutsforth, Judy Farley, Julia Grieb, Laurie Harrison, Maureen Healy, Scott McEwen, Jackie Molahan, Wendy Myers, Syndi Sams and Marie Yocum.

Filing property value appeals

Property owners receiving value increase notices might consider filing property value appeals with county boards of equalization suggests John J. Lobdell, director of the Oregon Department of Revenue. But appeals should be filed only if owners feel their property is overvalued, he adds.

Lobdell stresses appeals can be made only on the basis of values, not just because taxpayers feel their taxes will be too high.

The process is not difficult and, most importantly, experience has shown that taxpayers have received value reductions if they are able to substantiate that properties are overvalued.

Last year more than 6,100 appeals were filed with local boards of equalization. Of this total, 3,090 properties were reduced in value. Also, there were 733 appeals decided by the Oregon Department of Revenue in 1975 and values were reduced for more than 340 of the properties.

In Morrow County there were 54 appeals on Real Property. Of this total 18 were sustained, 34 reduced and 2 increased. The same figures apply to Real and Personal property.

Decisions set forth in property value appeal decisions issued in 1975 are as follows:

Number of decisions issued, 3; taxpayer relief denied, 1; taxpayer relief granted, 1. Assessor stipulated (value generally reduced), 1. There was 1 case of taxpayer relief denied and in this case he was represented by himself, rather than by an attorney.

Lobdell adds that it is not necessary to be represented by an attorney or private appraiser, although professional representation may help. Last year 40 per cent of the taxpayers appealing to the department without professional representation had their values reduced. Forty-seven per cent of the owners represented by attorneys or private appraisers received value reductions from the department.

Persons interested in filing appeals may obtain copies of a department brochure titled "Appeal," available at offices of the revenue department, some county assessors' offices or by writing Oregon Department of Revenue, State Office Building, Salem, OR 97310.

Appeal forms are available from county clerks or county assessors and must be filed with county boards of equalization no later than May 17, 1976.



Susan Snyder and Ralph McEwen. McEwen is with the Oregon Wheat Commission.

Health needs survey

Enclosed in your electric billing this month from Columbia Basin Electric Coop you will find a "Health Needs Survey."

This survey has been developed by the Tri-County Health Services Commission as a means of acquiring citizen input into the future health needs of the area. It is anticipated that through the use of this survey, a better understanding of the citizen's needs and desires will be available.

Cooperation on the part of all residents will provide for an adequate base of information.

To complete the survey, mark the appropriate box. Once you have completed it, fold the survey so the return address is on the outside and mail it. No postage is necessary.

If you have any questions regarding the survey, call the Tri-County Health Services office, Heppner, 676-5131.

Swim team sign-ups

Heppner Swim Team is now organizing for the Summer. All children who are interested in joining the Swim Team should sign up at the Grade School.

Swim Team practices each morning except Sunday and Monday. Most meets are held on Sunday afternoon. Each child swims in every event so there are many opportunities to participate.

Parent support and encouragement is necessary for a successful Swim Team. Last year the Heppner Swim Team took 1st place in their division at Regional Finals held in Pendleton.

To get acquainted with new members and their families, there will be a picnic Sunday, May 16. Those who sign up will be notified of time and place.

