

Extension Events... with Birdine Tullis



Of Interest to 4-H Livestock Members and Leaders

It's time right now to be selecting your 4-H market steer if you plan to exhibit it at the Oregon Wheat Grower's Junior Livestock Show in The Dalles next June 4-7, according to information I have received. Steers should be in your possession by January 10, 1978, and must have been born after October 1, 1977. To exhibit at the The Dalles show, the animal must be fed on a ration of at least 30 per cent wheat, and a feed record indicating kinds and amounts of grain fed must be kept. Members planning to feed out a hog or lamb for the show should have acquired them by April 1, 1978.

While many 4-H members plan to exhibit at the The Dalles show, more plan their projects to be ready for county fair. Those planning ahead for the market classes at county fair must have animals in their possession and care at least 90 days prior to the fair. **Know Your County Government**

A reminder to all 4-H leaders and members that a special program is planned for you on Thursday, Dec. 29, 1 p.m. at the Courthouse, Heppner. You'll have an opportunity to meet all your county officials, visit their offices, and hear all about how our county government works! Judge D.O. Nelson has made arrangements for this special event for all 4-H...and we hope to see all 4-H members there!

4-H'ers Can Do It!
The county should feel a sense of pride when one of their "young go out into state competition...and come home the winner!"

We offer congratulations to Lori Witt, on her winning the junior division of the state Make It With Wool Contest. To earn the honor of representing Oregon at the National Contest in Denver, Lori competed with district winners from throughout Oregon. The outfit she modeled was a 4-H project!

Daughter of Des and Ann Witt, Irrigon, Lori is active in 4-H horse, foods, and clothing projects. In addition to her clothing and modeling skills, she often carries home the trophies from quarter horse shows around Oregon.

As we send our best wishes with her to the national competition...we hope her achievements serve to encourage other 4-H'ers to participate in events offered! A few hints on purchasing microwave ovens

It looks as if Santa's pack will be bulging with microwave ovens this Christmas, if current advertising cam-

aigns are successful! Jan Weber, OSU Extension home management specialist, points out that there is more to buying a microwave oven than just plunking down the money and plugging it in at home. The fast-cooking ovens are a "hot" item in the home appliance industry right now and models and options on each model are multiplying at a dizzying rate, she said.

Consumers considering a microwave oven should check not only the wattage, but also "cooking power" the specialist explains. The average oven takes 1,500 watts to operate, but gives only 600 watts of cooking power. Check the cooking power wattage...the more wattage indicated for cooking, the greater the energy efficiency of the model. Lower wattage means slower cooking. "Most manufacturers indicate the cooking power or "output" wattage on the model nameplate" according to Ms. Weber. She encourages consumers to compare different brands and models, as well as prices before buying. Be sure the features you are paying for are something you'll use. Check the size of the oven, service and warranty, options available such as a browning unit, cooking instructions on face and the oven floor design. The position of the door when open, good instruction booklet on use, and ease of care and cleaning are other items to compare.

Cost of a microwave comes under the heading of a major purchase for most families...be sure the one you buy is the best buy for your family...the model which best fits your needs. Many new features have been added to the newer models...there is sure to be one that is just right!

Ms. Weber has prepared a new fact sheet to help those considering the purchase of a microwave oven, which will be available at all Extension offices soon.

Holiday Greetings to Morrow County

It's almost Christmas...and as that very special time comes again, we pause to reflect on the year passed! We count our blessings...and hope emerges that all of you with whom we work, all the people of our county, are finding many things in your lives which make the season special! We have hopes that the coming year will be a good one for all of us...and that our county will continue to be the very best place in all the world to live. Merry Christmas Morrow County...Beautiful New Year Coming!

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676-9228

NFO committee aids farm financing

A committee to open up areas of financing to hard pressed Morrow County farmers was formed last week by the National Farm Organization, the immediate result of a directive issued by the national NFO convention, held in Omaha, Neb., Dec. 5-9.

Don Peterson, Ione, president of the Oregon NFO, was one of seven Oregon representatives to the national convention, said the gathering dealt with many farm-related subjects and that he "came back enthused and ready to get things done."

The Morrow County NFO group met on Wednesday, Dec. 14 to form the committee which will work with individual farmers to insure that they can get the financing they need to stay in business. Members are Herman Bletzell, representing First National Bank; Paul Tews, Bank of Eastern Oregon; Don McElligott, Production Credit Association; and Don Peterson, Farmers Home Administration.

The new NFO finance committee was formed on the day the national farmers strike took affect, and Peterson said this was no coincidence.

"The convention passed a resolution supporting the concept of the strike and individual farmers in the NFO are presently striking," Peterson said. He added that as an organization, NFO is, in effect, on strike, holding the grain contracted to an NFO block for better prices. "Very little volume is moving," Peterson said.

The NFO strongly supports the concept of "block selling", in which a farmer commits his grain to be sold together with

other farmers. "The more grain we have, the more bargaining power we have in negotiating for higher prices", Peterson emphasized.

A NFO workshop in Lexington on Jan. 4 will work toward building a "505 block" in which farmers would agree to sell 10 per cent of their grain for exports and put the other

90 per cent into a block that would not be sold until NFO negotiators are hopefully able to get a price of \$5.05 a bushel for the wheat.

"I think it is important that farmers know the options—they are going to have to decide to stand together or maybe see a lot of their neighbors go out of business,"

Peterson commented. He said that a Farm Storage Loan was available, allowing a \$2.38 loan on wheat in storage for operating expenses.

Other issues to be dealt with at the Jan. 4 workshop include grain sales (domestic, export, local feed lots and local flour mills) and inventorying production in the county.

USDA announces mohair, wool support price hike

Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland announced that the department has revised upward the support prices for 1977 marketings of shorn wool and mohair. The incentive price for shorn wool is increased from 72 to 99 cents per pound and the support price for mohair is changed for 80.2 cents to \$1.498 per pound. The secretary also announced support prices for 1978 of \$1.03 per pound for wool and \$1.647 per pound for mohair.

The higher support prices were authorized by the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 through an amendment to the National Wool Act. The former support levels had been in effect from 1970 through 1976. On December 22, 1976, the U.S. Department of Agriculture had announced support prices for 1977 would continue unchanged.

Pulled wool will continue to be supported at a level comparable to the support price for shorn wool through payments on unshorn lambs. As in the past years, shorn wool payments will be based on a percentage of each producer's returns for sales.

The percentage will be that required to raise the National Average price received by all producers for shorn wool up to the announced support price of 99 cents a pound for 1977 and \$1.08 for 1978. Currently shorn wool prices are averaging 70

to 75 cents per pound.

Any mohair payments will be calculated in a manner similar to wool. However, mohair payments for 1977 and 1978 probably will not be necessary as it appears that the average price received by producers in the open market for both years will be higher than the support prices.

Applications for incentive payments on 1977 marketings must be filed in the county A.S.C.S. office by January 31, 1978.

Local Scout troop seeks new members

Boy Scout Troop No. 663 held its regular weekly meeting Wednesday, December 21, at the Elks Club.

Any old scouts interested in rejoining or new scouts interested in joining should call Glenn Ward at 676-9195, Bill Kuhn at 676-5033, Herm Winters at 676-9623.

Patch work club meets

The Patch Work Pockets 4-H Sewing Club met in Ione, December 2, at Oswalds' home. Everyone finished their tote bag this meeting. Paula Anderson brought refreshments. At our next meeting in January, we will start another project.

Lori Fetsch, Reporter

PRE-INVENTORY SALE

APF-T.V. Fun Game \$49⁹⁵
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Treasure Probes \$19⁹⁵ to \$69⁹⁵

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Sony VHF Weather Band now \$74⁹⁵
AM & FM Portable was \$89⁹⁵

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7 3/4%
3-Year Maturity

annual interest* would result in an age 65 nest-egg of over \$620,000! Given those same conditions and continued to age 70, that IRA account would be worth \$922,281.57.

Individual Retirement Accounts are available to any wage earner or self-employed person who is not currently a participant in any other pension or profit-sharing plan. An IRA account can be opened for as little as \$100 with additional deposits made in increments of \$25 or more,

and the current interest rate is guaranteed for a minimum of three years.

The annual contributions of up to \$1500—or 15% of your gross wages, whichever is less—are deductible from an individual's personal income taxes, both state and federal. If the contributor has a non-working spouse, up to \$1750 can be put away annually with the entire amount tax deductible. The proceeds of an IRA account are taxable only when disbursed, normally upon retirement. IRA is not just a personal retirement

plan for the very young, either. An IRA account can be opened by any eligible participant up to age 70. See examples in the box below. And now regulations permit contributions to an account that is opened before February 15, 1978, to be deducted from 1977 personal income taxes. So, stop in soon at any of First National's 145 banking offices and ask for a free Disclosure Brochure that details the complete First IRA plan. No other bank or thrift institution pays a higher rate of interest. If you don't have a retirement program now, you'll be glad someday that you stopped by First first.

Examples of IRA plan participation

Present Age	Value of Account at Age 60	Value of Account at Age 65	Value of Account at Age 70
20	\$417,181	\$621,854	\$922,281
30	182,748	277,743	417,181
35	118,030	182,748	277,743
40	73,940	118,030	182,748
45	43,902	73,940	118,030

(cents omitted)

This table is based on a deposit of \$1,500 per year made on the last day of each year paying 7-3/4% annual interest, computed on a daily basis, compounded and credited quarterly.



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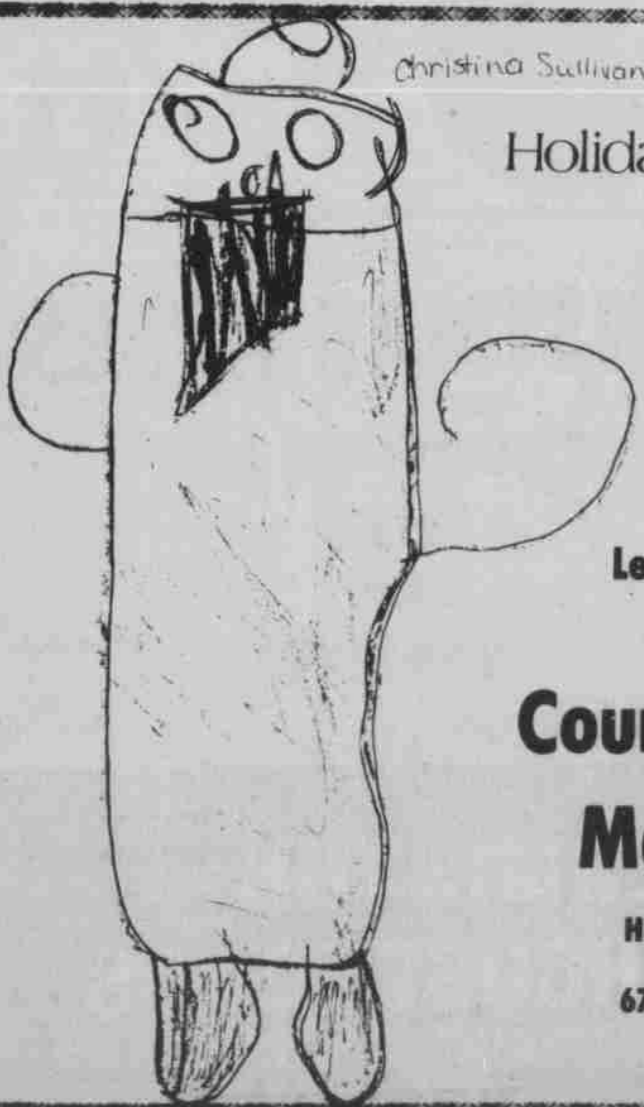
*Federal law and regulation prohibit payment of a time deposit prior to maturity unless three months of interest thereon is forfeited and interest on the amount withdrawn is reduced to the regular savings rate.

111 North Main

Heppner, Oregon

676-9163

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Christina Sullivan

Holiday Wishes

Lois, Mary,
Jan, Linda,
Jamalee,

Len Ray and Annie

Court Street Market

Heppner

676-9643

Happy Holiday

A special "thanks" to you and yours on this Holy and happy holiday!

Pettyjohn's Farm & Supply
676-9157