

The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES

Morrow County's Award-Winning Weekly Newspaper

VOL. 96 NO. 22

HEPPNER, OREGON

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1978

12 PAGES

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Three shows highlight weekend Junior Rodeo

The first of three Morrow County Junior Rodeo performances will get underway Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the Fairgrounds in Heppner, with over 170 young cowboys and cowgirls competing in the 1978 contest.

Saturday and Sunday rodeo action will start at 1 p.m. with awards to be presented by the Junior Rodeo Court after Sunday's performance. The Friday night show begins at 7:30 p.m.

No Cowboy Breakfast is planned this year, but snack shacks will be manned by Heppner Lions' Club members during all performances.

A dance featuring music by the Jim Ackley Band will be held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Fair Pavilion after Saturday's show.

This year's contestants will compete in 11 events: bareback riding, saddle bronc, cow riding, goat tying, pole bending, team roping, bull dogging, girls' calf riding, break-away roping and barrel racing.

Awards will be presented in each event,

with an all-around trophy given to the best boy and girl performers in both senior and junior divisions.

A Jody Ruggs memorial award will be given to the senior girl trophy winner. A special rotating trophy will be presented to the best all-around performer in memory of Harold Erwin, well-known Morrow County cowboy who died in 1976.

Bob and Bev Steagall, chairman and secretary respectively, are coordinating this year's rodeo. Directors in charge of different events include: Bob Mahoney, riding; Bob Montgomery, roping; Kite Healy, track; Jerry Dougherty, dance; Dick Sherer, grounds; and Judy Eckman, donations and awards.

Joe Nichols of Echo will be announcer for the rodeo shows, with stock provided by Howard Johnson and John Rattray of Condon.

Reigning over the action will be the Morrow County Junior Rodeo Court, Queen Cindy Dougherty and Princesses Kathleen Van Schoiack and Jana Steagall.

Morrow County 4-H'ers get national delegate nomination

Two Morrow County 4-H members, Jan Peterson and Erin Evans, have been nominated as delegates to the National 4-H Congress to be held in Chicago later this year.

Both girls have been active in local 4-H home economics projects, with Erin receiving her nomination in the clothing division, and Jan in foods and nutrition. Both girls qualified for their nominations during recent statewide competition, based on 4-H project records.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Peterson of Lone, Jan recently completed her senior year at Lone High School, where she was an honor student, and served as a home economics assistant teacher. She was the lone graduating senior from across the state to win the \$500 Oregon Wheat Commission Scholarship, which will be put to use this Fall when she



Erin Evans



Jan Peterson

enters Oregon State University. Jan has been involved with 4-H since she was 9 years old.

Erin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vern Evans of Irrigon,

just completed her junior year at Riverside High School, where she was an honor student, a cheerleader, an FFA member and active in student government. Her 4-H

project areas have included horses and clothing.

County 4-H Extension Agent Birdine Tullis noted that the two Morrow County girls were the only local applicants for the nominations. "We know they'll both be there when the final winners will be announced" in September, she said.

Weather

Hi Low Prec.

Wednesday, May 24	62	40	.01
Thursday, May 25	66	40	
Friday, May 26	66	36	.02
Saturday, May 27	71	45	.11
Sunday, May 28	65	45	
Monday, May 29	65	37	.01
Tuesday, May 30	67	35	

29 area students receive Carl Troedson scholarships

Carl W. Troedson scholarships for the coming school year have been awarded to 29 students from Morrow County.

Announcement of the awards to graduating seniors were made during graduation ceremonies at the county's three high schools last week.

Heppner High students receiving the awards were Kristi Edmundson, Diane Holland, Cathy Palmer, Joan Warren and Bruce Young. Lone recipients were Grace McElligott, Jan Peterson, Jeanie Piening, and Natalie Tews. Students from River-

side receiving the scholarships were Cally Broadbent, Penny Conboy, Marilee Heilberg and Tammie Rock.

These students may apply for renewal of their scholarship grants, provided that good academic standing is maintained during their first year of college or other post-high school training program.

Morrow County students who have previously won the grants and successfully applied for renewal include Arlene Cannon, Carl Christman, Darla Cooper, Linda Cooper, Joan Doherty, Kate

Evans, Linda Jones, Ashley McCabe, Catherine McElligott, Theresa McElligott, Dawn Peterson, Chris Rauch, Mark Sargent, Linda Skoubo, Tim Skow and Jerry Zielinski.

The scholarship funds come from interest earned on an initial grant from the late Carl W. Troedson, an lone area wheat grower. Selection of recipients is performed by a committee made up of the Morrow County School Superintendent, the pastor of Valby Lutheran Church, and the Morrow County Judge, as stipulated in Mr. Troedson's will.

Lone Church of Christ auction and barbecue opens Saturday

United Church of Christ's 15th annual Auction and Barbecue will be held June 3 at the Willows Grange Hall in Lone.

Activities will begin at 10 a.m., with the traditional ringing of the cowbell, which signals the opening of the Country Store with its home-made sewing, fancy work, arts and crafts, used but useful household articles and home-cooked foods including bread, rolls, sweet breads, cakes, pies, jam, jelly and pickles.

Areas of special interest to children will include the Fish Pond at 10 cents per cast; the Kiddie Korner, featuring toys, sporting goods, games, puzzles and books at a fraction of their original price; and the Snack Shack, which will be open all day with sno-cones and pop.

Auctioneer Don Winks will be calling for the first bid for his 15th consecutive year on a variety of new and used articles, starting at 10:30 a.m. Volunteers will begin serving the pit barbecue dinner at

12:30 p.m. in the Grange's dining room. The meal will include barbecued beef, a variety of salads, baked beans and garlic bread. The first two places in line will be auctioned off just before the dinner.

Antique Alley and the Silent Auction will feature items of interest to the antique collector. Silent Auction containers will be opened during the lunch hour, and large items will be auctioned off just prior to, then after, lunch. Included in the sale will be old trunks, a pressed back chair, an oak

rocking chair, three drawer dressers, a wicker rocking chair, stained glass and many other items.

Special arrangements have been made for self-contained recreation vehicles to be parked overnight on the grounds.

Inside

Babe Ruth team wins
See story Page Four
Campers lost and found
See story Page Two

County foster homes in rare supply

'Pure and simple love' makes Irrigon foster home happy

by Elane Blanchet
Billy and Sammie Griffin of Irrigon feel that the most important ingredient in being a foster parent is pure and simple love.

The couple has five sons of their own, ranging in age from 9½ to 18, but since 1973 have found room in their home and hearts for a total of nine other youngsters, temporarily separated from their natural parents for a variety of reasons.

Sammie feels that part of her empathy with her foster children stems from the fact that her mother died when she was eight years old: I was a very lonely child and I think that's why I related to these kids, because they're all suffering from a lack of love and are hungry for love."

She mentioned "love" several times within the space of a few minutes, with husband Billy sitting nearby in silent agreement. "You may think I overemphasize love, but if these children had a secure home with enough love, they wouldn't be in a situation where they had to be placed in a foster home."

Andy presents a slightly different situation for the Griffins, in that he has been the youngest charge, and they've had him for the longest time. A child abuse case, Andy will be placed up for adoption if a rare termination of parental rights procedure goes through circuit court. If this happens, the Griffins have discussed adopt-

ing Andy but haven't made any decision. "Billy's nearing retirement age, and we wonder if he might not be better off with a younger couple. Emotions really get in the way, but we'd have to decide what would be best for him," Sammie said.

In the Griffins' home all decisions about taking any foster child is made by the whole family. "We have a unique system—everyone in the family votes and there has to be 100 per cent agreement. There have been children we haven't taken because everyone didn't agree," Sammie commented. A very Christian-oriented home, the family prays for guidance before voting on any particular child.

Sammie feels that caring for foster children has been beneficial for her own family: "When my own kids see the need, the loneliness with these kids and the communication breakdown in their families, they work harder to be close."

While the Griffins said they've never had a real adjustment problem with any of their foster charges, Sammie points out that every child



Tickling session

Little 'Andy' is held by his foster mother Sammie Griffin, while his foster dad, Bill, laughs during a tickling session at their home in Irrigon. The Children's Services Division is looking for foster homes in Morrow County to place youngsters who need to be separated from their natural parents on a temporary basis.

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CSD cites need for foster homes

The Morrow County branch of the Children's Services Division in Heppner is putting out a call for persons who would like to provide foster homes for youngsters temporarily separated from their natural parents.

At present, 16 children have been placed through the office in foster homes, but only seven of these are within the county.

"We're down to the point where we really need more foster homes in Morrow County," commented local CSD Caseworker Bill Sheirbon. "It's not fair to ask other counties to provide homes for most of our kids. It cuts into the number of homes available for their own."

Sheirbon said that three foster families from Heppner recently moved away, reducing an already low number of homes in the county open to foster children. "Ideally we should have twice as many homes available as we have kids, to be able to fit the child with the family." He explained that some persons are able to care for only a certain kind of child on a short time basis, and that he would feel comfortable with 25-30 foster

homes to make appropriate placement.

The Children's Services Division licenses foster homes according to guidelines that include enough space for the child or children, adequate sewage and water supply, adequate standards of cleanliness and other such criteria.

Sheirbon said he was looking for families who have realistic ideas on how to raise children, who know different kinds of discipline techniques, and who function well themselves. "I'm not specifically looking for middle-income homes—sometimes children from low-income environments have trouble fitting in," he commented.

While there is a stipend ranging from \$123 to \$195 per month, depending on age, paid for caring for foster children, the family is required to be able to meet its needs without relying on the board payments made on behalf of the foster child.

The children themselves fall into two categories: teenagers from juvenile court and dependency children.

Sheirbon said youngsters

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