

# State plans listed for National Ag. Day

Morrow County is an agricultural county, so it seems fitting that we pause and reflect on that fact, along with the rest of the nation on March 19, National Agriculture Day, 1979. Agriculture is big busi-

ness in our county, producing a gross estimated income of over \$67 million in 1978. (This figure includes grains, potatoes, and other crops, as well as livestock. It does not include forestry, which is also an agricultural product, although not often recognized as such.) That is a lot of dollars, which do a lot for all of us in this county, whether we be farmers or other business people.

## Extension Events....

With Birdine Tullis



A number of activities will be happening in Oregon to celebrate Agriculture Day, including a Parade of Agriculture in Salem, and an Ag Day Celebration at Lancaster Mall, Salem, which will include meat demonstrations by Cowbellies, as well as others by wheat and other commodity groups. On March 19 there will be a Legislative Brunch, featuring Oregon products, and a presentation of Oregon products to Governor Atiyeh.

In a nutshell, "Ag Day's main goal is to alert non-farm consumers to American Agriculture, it's record, and even more importantly, the challenges it faces in continuing to meet the world's food and fiber requirements. Only 4 percent of the American population now farm. (In colonial days, the number was 85 percent farmers!) That four percent is doing a tremendous job of trying to produce your foods as economically as possible, while all their costs for the production are rising rapidly with inflation. Americans today spend the smallest percentage of their dollar for food than any other nation.

National Ag Day, March 19...a good day to say "We appreciate agriculture, and the farmers and ranchers of Morrow County."

4-H RECOGNITION AND AWARDS COMMITTEE MEETS

A number of 4-H committees have been appointed to work

with the Executive Council in developing recommendations and guidelines for the leaders council. The Recognition and Awards committee with members Jennelle Bailey, Jennifer Breedon, Marylou Daltoso and

Diann Morter, met recently to consider the awards program for the county. New recommendation was for a scholarship to be provided by the leader's council. Guidelines

and application were outlined for the scholarship. Hopefully, the idea will be presented to the 4-H Council, and implemented this spring. Other committees appointed by the council include camp, 4-H fair, agriculture, home ec., horse, and a youth advisory committee.

MORROW MEMBERS JOIN UMATILLA "4-H SUPER-TOUR"

Invitations were sent recently to all home ec and creative arts leaders asking their members to join the Umatilla County "Super-tour" to Portland. Several members are looking forward

to two fun and education packed days in the city, touring such places as Daisy Kingdom, Pendleton Woolen Mills Shirt Factory, an airlines flight kitchen, the fabric department and class workrooms at Meier & Frank, as well as skating at Lloyd's Center, and lunches and dinners at two popular restaurants in Portland. A plus for the trip will be the opportunity to make new friends. Betty McLaughlin, Heppner, will chaperone the Morrow girls participating.

MORROW SPRING TOUR PLANNED

When the sun starts shining, the girls get the urge to travel! For all of you who have been asking about a spring tour... one is planned for April. The annual spring event this year will be to Hood River to learn about Jantzen's garment factory, and other spots of interest near Hood River.

Watch for more information soon on the spring tour. My grapevine also tells me there is interest in traveling to north Morrow to see what is happening at the coal fired plant and other developments there. Let us hear if you are interested in that idea.

SEW SOMETHING SPECIAL

For those who sew, "Sew Something Special" will be our spring special event, planned for April 4, Pendleton, and April 5, fairgrounds, Heppner. There will be "How-to-do" ideas galore, including blazers, pants, applique, t-shirts, down garments and outdoor wear, sewing machine embroidery, cathedral quilts—plus "Painless Sewing" and "What's New in Fashion and Fabrics."

Programs will be identical in Pendleton and Heppner, so if one day doesn't fit your schedule, you may attend the other. It is for everyone, so keep watching for more details!

The Nifty Knitters—a 4-H knitting club—met for the second time on Friday, Feb. 16, 1979.

Members present were: Noella Rill, Jennifer Rill, Staci Toll, and Tareena Nash. Two of us learned to knit, and two of us learned to purl. We decided on our knitting club name.

Our officers are, as elected during the first meeting Jan. 16: Pres., Noella Rill; Sec., Denise Kennedy; News Reporter, Jennifer Rill. Our leader is Debbie Hyatt.

Anyone interested in joining is welcome, and it is not too late. For more information you may call 676-5201 (Debbie Hyatt) before 4 p.m. or the Morrow County Extension Office.

Jenni'er Rill, reporter

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## PGG sets Saturday for annual meeting

The annual membership meeting of Pendleton Grain Growers, Inc., will be held on Saturday, March 17, 1979, in the Pendleton Memorial Armory.

The meeting will include a no-host cocktail hour from 6 to 7 p.m., followed by a buffet dinner for members and guests. The business meeting will follow dinner. Following a financial report, President Bill Etter, and Don Cook, PGG General Manager, will give reports.

Terms of office for directors

William Hansell, Gerald Terjeson, and John Madison expire at the meeting. Nominees for the three at large positions on the board are: Jack Correa, Bill Ferguson, Charles Kopp, John Madison and Gerald Terjeson.

Special recognition of past presidents and pre-1961 board members will be part of our fiftieth year celebration of service to agriculture.

Presentation of twenty-five year service awards and 4-H and FFA Champion awards will close out the meeting.

## Ullman outlines meat import law

"Consumers and producers alike would benefit from stabilized prices under this meat import legislation," Oregon Congressman Al Ullman said this week in introducing the Meat Import Act of 1979.

"This measure is aimed at stabilizing prices by reversing a situation in which additional meat imports are allowed at times when domestic cattle production is high and meat prices are declining," Ullman said.

"Under a counter-cyclical formula in the legislation, additional imports would be allowed when domestic supplies are low and the market price consequently high.

### Skin disease

### in cattle

### topic of meeting

Do you know there is scabies in Oregon? Learn more about this parasitic skin disease at the seminar March 15, 8 p.m., West of Willow Cafe, Heppner.

Dr. Glenn Rea, State Veterinarian will present a new scabies film and discuss the potential loss due to scabies. There will also be a short report of pending legislation pertinent to the livestock industry of Oregon.

"This legislation is critically necessary if we are going to reduce the wide and destructive swings in domestic meat prices," Ullman said.

The measure, which had some 40 co-sponsors when introduced, is similar to a bill approved by Congress last

year, but vetoed by President Carter.

"The President's authority to alter import quota levels has been modified in the 1979 Act meeting the objections that led to the veto last year," Ullman said.

Ullman first introduced the

legislation after the President raised meat import quota levels in response to increases in the price of beef.

The Presidential action took place at a time when cattle prices were just beginning to recover from a long slump.

## Antelope, wildcat, bighorn hunting law changes are being considered

The Fish and Wildlife Commission will conduct a public hearing beginning at 9 a.m., Thursday, March 15, to take public testimony on antelope, cougar and bighorn sheep hunting seasons for 1979. The Commission will also consider two bowhunting regulations at this session. The hearing will be held at the Fish and Wildlife Department headquarters, 506 S.W. Mill Street, Portland.

Following public and staff testimony, the Commission will set the regulations for antelope, cougar and bighorns. The bowhunting season opening date will be set and the creation of a deer bow tag will also be considered for adoption.

Staff proposals call for an antelope season of August 18 through August 22. 1,275 tags would be offered for antelope. This number is up ten tags

from last year.

The Department staff is also recommending that no limit be set on tag purchases for the two Gerber reservoir antelope bow hunts. Two hundred tags were authorized for the hunts last year, but a large percentage of those tags went unclaimed or the tag holder did not hunt.

The only restriction proposed this year is that interested bow hunters would be allowed to apply for only one hunt period.

Thirty-three tags are proposed for the September bighorn sheep hunts this year. That is two less tags than last year.

Staff biologists report that sheep populations show good production this year with most herds either stable or increasing.

The two tag decrease would mean removal of one tag from

each of the Hurricane Divide sheep hunts. A seven day extension of the Strawberry Mountain hunt is also recommended.

The number of cougar tags proposed by the staff is 140. Up ten tags from last year. The increases come in areas where cougar populations are on the rise and also where livestock damage is a problem.

## Oregon farmers assured fuel despite crunch

State Director of Agriculture Leonard Kunzman said today that farmers do not have to worry about their bulk gasoline and oil supplies being cut by oil companies.

He said the U.S. Department of Energy's regional office had informed the Department of Agriculture that federal regulations stipulate farmers' accounts will receive 100 per cent of current requirements. The only other sector exempt is the U.S. Department of Defense.

Commenting on the exemption, Kunzman remarked, "With the population of not only this country, but other parts of the world so dependent on the farmers of the United States for their food, it is gratifying to learn that the federal government recognizes agriculture's importance enough to grant this exemption."

Some Oregon farmers had become concerned about having enough oil and gasoline for planting and harvesting of their 1978 crops when one of the major oil companies notified its customers that it would be allocating gasoline.

Within a couple of days, however, the company had notified farmers that they would be exempt from the allocation, but farmers feeling uncertain of their status contacted the Oregon Department of Agriculture asking for help in finding out exactly what effect a fuel shortage would have on agricultural operations.

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