

## 'Catch the Pioneer Spirit' at this year's fair and rodeo

It's time to "Catch the Pioneer Spirit" at this year's Morrow County Fair and Rodeo, August 14-18. Local rodeo fans and hometown visitors should mark calendars for the trek to this year's PRCA rodeo, August 17 and 18, which has been appropriately dubbed "The Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo".

Fair premium books will be ready for circulation by June 1. And it's not too early to make fair booth reservations or to plan exhibits, says fair secretary Darlene Scroggins. This year's theme should provide lots of ideas for a very western-type parade entry or for fair exhibits, she added.

While the Heppner rodeo has been a tradition since 1922, last year was the first professional rodeo since 1977. About 238 PRCA contestants competed for a total purse of around \$20,000. Sponsors have again pledged \$1000 per event for purses. That, added to entry fees, will help attract national contenders from the professional rodeo circuit.

A new event this year will be steer wrestling. A first-time award of PRCA all-around saddle, made by Boyer's Saddlery, is being donated by Roe and Marilyn Gardner, owners of Gardner's Mens Wear in Heppner and Roemark's in

Hermiston. Local Eastern Oregon \$1000 sponsors for calf roping, barrel racing, team roping, bull riding, saddle bronc, bareback and steer wrestling are Miller Wheat, Inc., Anderson Seed Company, Les Schwab, Graybeal Distributing, Morrow County Grain Growers and Hawkeye Construction.

The Heppner show has also been chosen as one of the 10 Wrangler-sponsored Northwest Circuit Rodeos. About 125 tickets are to be given away with the purchase of Wrangler jeans.

Specialty acts will feature Joe Sanford, a well-known Kennewick, WA.-based clown. Additional thrills are anticipated by professional bull fighter Bruce Kinsey, of Chelan, Washington.

The rodeo will again be staged inside a professionally-designed arena in front of the north grandstand. Portable bleacher seating on the arena's south side will accommodate an anticipated crowd of 2000, judging from attendance at last year's show, officials said.

This year the old wooden bucking chutes will be torn down and replaced with portable chutes designed to handle larger bulls provided by stock contractors Kelsey McLean and

Beard Rodeo contractors.

A Mike Currin memorial belt buckle will be awarded to the champion PRCA calf roper in memory of this young local PRCA performer who was killed in an airplane crash last summer.

Jay Harwood, Sacramento, California, who has announced here the past two years will again be the announcer. Harwood, one of the top announcers in the country, has officiated at the National Rodeo Finals, the pro-tour finals, and at the Ellensburg rodeo and Calgary

Stampede.

Morrow County's fair and rodeo week will also feature the traditional Morrow County Amateur Rodeo on Friday night, August 16. In addition to eligible participants residing within the county, Morrow County alumni rodeo hands have been invited to participate.

This year a separate rodeo gate of \$6 per person will be charged. However, fair admission is \$1 per person, compared to last year's season ticket of \$12.50 for all events.

## Court takes first in parade

After two weekends of traveling through the state promoting the Morrow County Fair and the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo, the 1991 Fair and Rodeo Court came away with a first-place trophy at the Pioneer Posse Parade in Milton-Freewater last weekend. This marked the first mounted parade appearance of the season.

Last weekend the young ambassadors represented the county at

Portland Meadows, where the fair and rodeo sponsors a race each year. Queen Jodee Ashbeck and her princesses, Jodi Vandeventer, Elizabeth Doherty, Kristine Bedor-tha and Jenni Ashbeck, presented "Lincoln Logger" with a beautiful turquoise horse blanket.

The next scheduled appearance will be the Arlington Rodeo the first weekend of May.

## Wheatland Pomona Grange holds meeting

By Delpha Jones

Wheatland Pomona Grange met at the Clarno Hall on Saturday. The meeting was presided over by the Overseer Dot Halvorsen. Reports from various Granges were heard giving news of regular meetings, benefits and giving to the Neighborhood Centers and day care centers. The lecturers report fine programs with speakers on various subjects, movies of interesting topics and programs on agriculture and others.

Cards were sent to the members who are ill, and others needing a bit of cheer. A report was heard that Spray Grange recently initiated 27 members into the grange. The granges are getting new members from insurance programs by the grange insurance companies.

Lexington will host the 5th degree later in the fall at the Lexington Grange Hall. The resolution committee was Barbara Gilbert, Jean Nelson and Helen Crawford.

A lovely lunch was served after which a cake walk and program by Phil Neese, Gilliam County agent, on the topic of micronutrients for soils were enjoyed. Most soils in Morrow and Gilliam can use applications of nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium and sulphur. Organic and inorganic nitrogen are very much the same in

value to the soil, he said. Pamphlets from the extension vegetable crop specialist at Oregon State University were handed out. This is one of the services of the extension in the state. Grangers say they hope this project will not be curtailed because of budget cuts.

Eldon and Barbara Gilbert were elected as voting delegates to state grange session.

A resolution "New redistricting of state legislature by population" was read and passed, unfavorable to the new redistricting. The resolution states that Morrow County be represented by one representative and one senator.

The next meeting will be the annual picnic on July 28 at Anson Wright Park. Roll call of Granges was Lexington eight; Williams nine; Clarno three; and visitors three.

The yellow fields of grain near Echo are reported to be rape. This is harvested and the seeds sent to the Orient where there is much call for the oil.

The members attending from Lexington and Willows Grange motored over in the St. Patrick's Senior Citizen bus.

## Lindsays chosen as grand marshals for U of Portland

Larry and Corrine Lindsay, Lexington, have been chosen as the grand marshals for this year's University of Portland graduation. Both active in the alumni association they were each valedictorian of their college classes, Larry in business administration and Corrine in chemistry. They will both be receiving honorary doctorates in the humanities.

Theresa Lindsay will graduate with honors magna cum laude from the University of Portland, Sunday, May 5 with a degree in history. Theresa plans to continue on to graduate school.

## St. Patrick's Senior Center Bulletin Board



Fred Lundin presents pin to Rachel Harnett

Photo by Carol Atherly

Pam Sagely, Morrow County Encourager, explained the services provided by the Community Action Program of East Central Oregon at the senior dinner April 24.

Extension agents Fred Lundin and Carol Bennett presented pins and certificates of appreciation to the senior volunteers who folded news letters for the Extension Service during the past year.

There were 103 present for the dinner. Pete Schwarzin won the meal ticket and VoJean Forquer won the door prize. The guest prize was won by Jean Crawford of Portland and R.G. Watkins the birthday gift. Members from the Christian Church served.

The menu for the May 8 Mother's Day dinner is roast turkey, whipped potatoes with gravy, green beans, hot roll and surprise dessert. Members of the Catholic Church will serve. Hosts for the May dinners are Barton Clark and Ed Dick. The Senior Center Board will meet at 1 p.m. following the dinner.

The activities committee set a tentative date of May 19 for the "Spring Fling", an afternoon of fun, food and music beginning at 2 p.m.

The public talk series will begin at the Heppner Senior Center May 5 from 6 to 8 p.m. The topic will be "America's Role in the Middle East". Everyone is invited to participate.

Residents of St. Patrick's Senior apartments were saddened by the death of former tenant Charlene Isom.

The flag from the front of St. Patrick's Center has disappeared. Whoever took it please bring it back.

Upcoming events: Monday Quilter's and Company 1 to 4 p.m.; Tuesday Exercises 10-10:30 a.m. hobby time 1-4 p.m.; Wed. senior dinner 12 noon; Thurs. exercise 10-10:30 a.m.

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