

Wheatland Grange picnic held

By Delpha Jones

The Wheatland Pomona Grange district picnic was held Sunday at the Anson Wright Park near Hardman with a good crowd present to enjoy the potluck dinner and the afternoon of visiting. Interesting reports were heard from the delegates to the state session, Eldon and Barbara Gilbert.

A discussion was held concerning the state of Oregon and the gambling that is being brought in with the lottery. Each grange was asked to go

to their respective granges and discuss this and let their views be known to the governor and legislators. So many things are passed without the vote of the people that the public is getting quite concerned.

A memorial was read and short histories given of the departed members, Pansy Sechafer from Greenfield Grange, and Margeret

Wright and Alfred Nelson from Lexington. The roll call of Granges was taken with the following reported: Willows 12; Greenfield six; Lexington five and two visitors. The next Pomona meeting will be October 26 at the Willows Grange in lone and will be an election of officers. Presiding at the meeting was master William Alford of Greenfield.

Neighborhood Center offers reduced-price school clothing

Are you on a fixed income with school children? The Neighborhood Center on Main Street across from the city library has some nice school and dress clothes that can be yours free or at a reduced price, said the Rev. Stan Hoobing, Neighborhood Center Board president.

According to Rev. Hoobing, the first six months of the year 153 people were given emergency food (7,650 pounds of food); 47 persons

received emergency clothing; three persons received medical emergency assistance; 48 state and federal income tax assistance on return forms; 75 winter heat assistance; an average of 25 persons a month were helped with General Education Development certificate; and over 310 per-

sons were helped indirectly or directly through networking system with other agencies and organizations.

"Persons who love to help other persons are VIP's (very important people)," said Hoobing. "If you have time and would love to volunteer, please drop by or contact the center by phone 676-5024. Your time and talents will be greatly appreciated."

Off the Wall

By Merlyn Robinson

Sometimes one has to ask oneself why we undertake a strenuous job, especially when they get to be my age and arthritic joints protest. It is to prove that the old body can still take it? Or is it a reluctance to give up on an activity that also tests the mental ability of an aging brain?

After a summer of 4-H horse judging at neighboring places like Union, Burns and John Day, I wondered why anyone would trade lounging in the shade for an opportunity to stand all day in the heat, dirt, wind or sometimes rain.

I guess it's just that kids and horses are an irresistible combination. And as boot heels sink slowly into knee-deep arena dust or mud, a judge unconsciously hopes that every skinny 80-pound rider can direct 1,000 pounds of horseflesh to perform correctly.

In 4-H contests, judges aren't always confronted with the best horse specimens. They come in all sizes, types and temperaments. Sometimes these horses could test the skills of a bronc rider.

There are usually the balkers who refuse to leave a line-up. And some of them have one thing on their minds—getting rid of a pint-sized rider. And then there's usually some cranky old mare who threatens everyone's safety as she pins her ears and tries to decide who to zero in on.

But these riders have lots of grit, though they don't have much option if Old Paint decides to stampede. And sometimes the pace at which horse and rider perform makes it seem like speed in the only criteria.

Meanwhile parents on the sidelines are coaching and cheering; just certain that their youngsters will be awarded a blue ribbon. And often they don't understand that deleting some maneuvers, happily loping along on the wrong lead or bouncing like a rubber ball just isn't a winning performance.

Fortunately in 4-H horse contests, the quality of mounts isn't a matter of importance—as long as that horse has four legs and doesn't limp. There is usually an individual horse that looks like his body got compressed in a vice or one that could win an ugly contest with a hammer head. Then there are some who could eat out of a fruit jar with their bottle noses. But to that youngster, that horse has the beauty of a champion; so it's the judges duty to find something positive to say about that horse and rider.

But as much as any judge would like to see these youngsters mounted on a quality horse, the positive thing is the dedication and involvement of youngsters and their families. Though riders usually get bounced off a few times, these kids are learning responsibility and skills. And that dedication keeps them busy and happy. There are just as many backyard-kept horses as there are ranch ones. And though these kids may not ride an arena champion, what better way for a young person to be involved?

Keeping a horse healthy and fed, acquiring tack and clothing is an expensive project. However most children are blessed with parents who absorb the costs, just as in other sports.

Learning basic horsemanship skills and sportsmanship in 4-H is often the stepping stone to other horse activities such as rodeo events including barrel racing, roping and court member participation.

However some of the most memorable events of those formative years is the camaraderie of a group trail ride—an activity that any age can enjoy.

4-H animal awards announced

Torrie Philippi was the grand champion beef showman at the Morrow County Fair held Aug. 14 through 18. Senior beef showman was Ryan Evans, Torrie Philippi was intermediate showman and

Casey Evans junior showman. In other beef awards, Jossie Evans was outstanding Angus exhibitor, Casey Evans, champion Simmental female, Shad Bishop, grand champion FFA steer and Sandy Allison, highest scoring polled hereford exhibitor.

Amy Gantenbein was champion dairy senior showman and grand champion dairy showman and Laurel Temple took champion dairy intermediate showman and 4-H champion dairy heifer.

Luke Swanson took grand champion market hog and Nancy Morter was champion swine senior showman and grand champion swine showman. Reserve grand champion was Kristi Mason, who also won champion swine junior showman. Dani Hill won champion gilt and champion swine intermediate showman. Jared Vandecar was champion swine beginner showman.

Grand champion market lamb award went to Sara Greenup. Char Coe took grand champion sheep showman and best fitted sheep.

Mikka Evans was champion sheep senior showman; Kelsie Evans champion sheep intermediate showman; and Shannon Walton champion sheep junior showman. Ryan Evans had champion ewe and champion Suffolk ewe awards. Mandy Gutierrez, Jennifer Rankin and Char Coe were the champion market lamb fitting team.

Jason Brown took both best rabbit showman and best of show rabbit and Lee Dawson took those honors in the poultry division.

Births

KayLee Ann Helfrecht—a daughter KayLee Ann was born to Jamie and Ronda Helfrecht, Pendleton, on August 6, 1991 at St. Anthony Hospital in Pendleton. The baby weighed 8 lbs. 8 oz.

Grandparents are Darlene and Stacey Lovgren, Heppner; Ron Quigley, Baker City; Patty and Gordy Angelle, Vancouver, WA; and Roger Helfrecht, Hermiston.

KayLee Ann joins a brother Colton, 3, at home.

Christian Lizbeth Zurita—a son, Christian Lizbeth was born to Marisa and Mifuel Zurita of Boardman on August 9, 1991 at Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston. The baby weighed 7 lbs. 1 oz.

Obituaries

Robert VanHoute
Robert Van Houte, 77, former superintendent of Morrow County Schools, died June 24, 1991.

Van Houte was born May 29, 1914 in Pioneer, WA. He held a bachelor's degree from the University of California at Berkeley and a master's degree from the University of Oregon.

Along with serving as superintendent of Morrow County Schools he taught school in Valseltz and Stanfield.

A longtime support of PERS causes, Mr. VanHoute was president of United Seniors of Oregon. He spent many hours at the state Capitol working on issues of concern to PERS retirees and other members.

Earl F. May
A graveside funeral service for Earl F. May was held Tuesday at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

Mr. May, 71, of Heppner, died Thursday, August 15, 1991 at Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home.

He was born Oct. 10, 1919 at Honeyville, Utah, to Ira and Adella Walters May. The family later moved to Sheridan, Mont., where he attended school.

He entered the U.S. Army in 1944. After he was discharged he began working as a heavy equipment operator.

He lived in the Hermiston area for several years before moving to Heppner in 1982.

On March 15, 1982, he married Mildred Howell in Heppner.

He enjoyed spending his time in the mountains.

Survivors include his wife at the home; brothers Warren of Jackson, Wyo., Lavar of Levan, Utah, Cliff of Dillon, Mont., Bill of Kelso, WA, Jim of Fruitland, Utah and Norris of Longview, WA.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Shriner's Hospital for Crippled Children, 3101 S.W. Sam Jackson Road, Portland 97201 or the Pioneer Memorial Hospital Fund, PO Box 9, Heppner, OR 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary, Heppner, was in charge of arrangements.

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