

## Forest Service sponsors bird contest



Photo by Joyce Hughes

Winners front row l-r: Sally Calvert, Dan Jepsen, Chelsea Bredemeier, Brianne Wishart. Back: Matt Setness, David Piper, Tylynn Smith, Brad Adams

The Heppner Ranger District recently presented a program in the schools on neotropical migratory birds and sponsored a contest for area school children in celebration of International Neotropical Migratory Bird Day on May 9.

Neotropical migratory birds winter in southern Mexico, Central America and South America and breed in the U.S. and Canada. The birds include the Vaux's swift, the yellow warblers and the western tanagers. Around 200 species of birds will live in the Umatilla National Forest this summer. More than half are considered migratory birds, although not all come from as far away as the tropics.

Students at Heppner Elementary School were introduced to some of the colorful birds during an assembly on May 3. Whitney Weatherford, a wildlife specialist with the North Fork John Day Ranger District spoke about neotropical migratory birds, Lyn

Tompkins, a raptor rehabilitator from Pendleton displayed several live raptors, a red-tailed hawk, an American kestrel and baby short-eared owls.

Sixty-four children in first through fourth grade participated by drawing and coloring pictures of neotropical migrants. Prizes included birding field guides and colorful posters of the neotropical migratory birds. Each participant received his choice of a U.S. Forest Service wildlife poster. The children's pictures will be displayed at Murray Drugs.

Winning first place in grades one and two were Sally Calvert, Daniel Jepsen and Chelsea Bredemeier. Second place winners were David Piper, Tylynn Smith and Bradley Adams. First place winners each received a bird book and second place winners received posters.

## United Methodist to convene in Salem

The Oregon-Idaho conference of the United Methodist Church will meet at the Willamette University in Salem from June 9-13.

The annual conference is a time of church business, inspiration and fellowship. Each church is represented by its pastor and a lay

member. Bishop William Dew will preside.

Two hundred twenty-two churches from Oregon and southern Idaho comprise the conference.

Voting members attending from Heppner will be the Rev. Bob Dowrey, Cara Osmin and the Rev. Grace Drake.

## Nelsons host crowd for state conservation tour



Photo by Joyce Hughes

Doug Drake (l) with Chuck Nelson and Bruce Adrews

A warm sunny day greeted a large crowd from several counties that gathered on June 2 at the Nelson Farm to honor the Chuck Nelson family as Oregon State Farm Conservation winners.

A noon barbecue at the Nelsons' shop building was hosted by the Morrow County Wheat League. An afternoon farm tour via vehicles provided an overview of the farm's winning conservation methods and the well-manicured tall green wheat that holds a promise of a bumper crop.

As caretaker of the 3,200 acres that he farms, Nelson said he was

actually farming for five separate landlords including land that belongs in the family. Honors are not new for this family since the 1956 Morrow County Conservation farm title was bestowed on Nelson's father, Norman Nelson and his uncle, Alfred Nelson, when they were in business together. After the farm operation was divided in 1974 Alfred Nelson's son, Kenneth Nelson, received the conservation award in 1985.

Nelson, his wife, Lisa, children Justin and Courtney and Nelson's mother, Jean are active partners in this farm operation. During the

## Fair and Rodeo court keeps busy

The Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Court wrapped up a busy May taking top parade honors at the Arlington Rodeo on May 1 and another first place May 29 and 30

at the Spray Rodeo. The girls remain busy promoting the fair and rodeo and will soon be pre-selling Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo tickets. June 11-13 the girls will travel to central Oregon for the Sisters Rodeo.

## Plans underway for wagon train visit

By Anne Morter  
Organizers are requesting that vendors wishing to sell their wares at the two-day stop of the official Sesquicentennial Wagon Train at Cecil to complete registration form by June 15. Forms are available from Nancy Brownfield at Wheatland Insurance in Ione. Interested parties may call her at 422-7410 or stop by the office.

The Wagon Train will arrive at the Krebs Ranch in Cecil on August 18 in the afternoon. An old-fashioned box social lunch is tentatively planned for that day. The train will also stay the night of August 19, which will feature

a lamb barbecue from 5-7 p.m.

The event will be open to the public. Tickets will be sold in advance with locations to be announced later.

Organizers hope to have a wide variety of food, crafts and other unique offerings with an Oregon Trail theme available for the two days. Sellers should expect to operate from noon until evening on Wednesday and from 10 a.m. until evening on Thursday. The wagon train will move on at 7 a.m. on Friday. It is expected that a larger number of people will be on hand while the train is stopped at Cecil.

A \$15 registration fee will be charged to cover the necessary expenses of staging this stop. Vendors from Ione, Heppner, Lexington and the surrounding area are encouraged to display their goods.

## Fire Extinguisher Service Day



Wednesday - June 16  
Starting at 9 a.m. at  
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Lexington, OR

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Technician on duty for same day service of:

Dry Chemical - CO2  
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Phone 989-8221

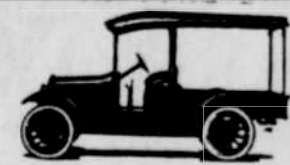
Phone 989-8221  
1-800-452-7396

## 4-H News

### Two-Trackers

School is finally out and it's time to start getting those horses out for the summer. Sunday, August 1 is the 4-H fair horse show. "That's less than two months away," said a 4-H horse spokesperson. Saturday, June 19 will be a Morrow County pre-fair tune-up clinic at the fairgrounds at 10 a.m.

The Two-Trackers will meet at the fairgrounds Sunday afternoons at 3 p.m. from now until fair. The time may be changed depending on the group.



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