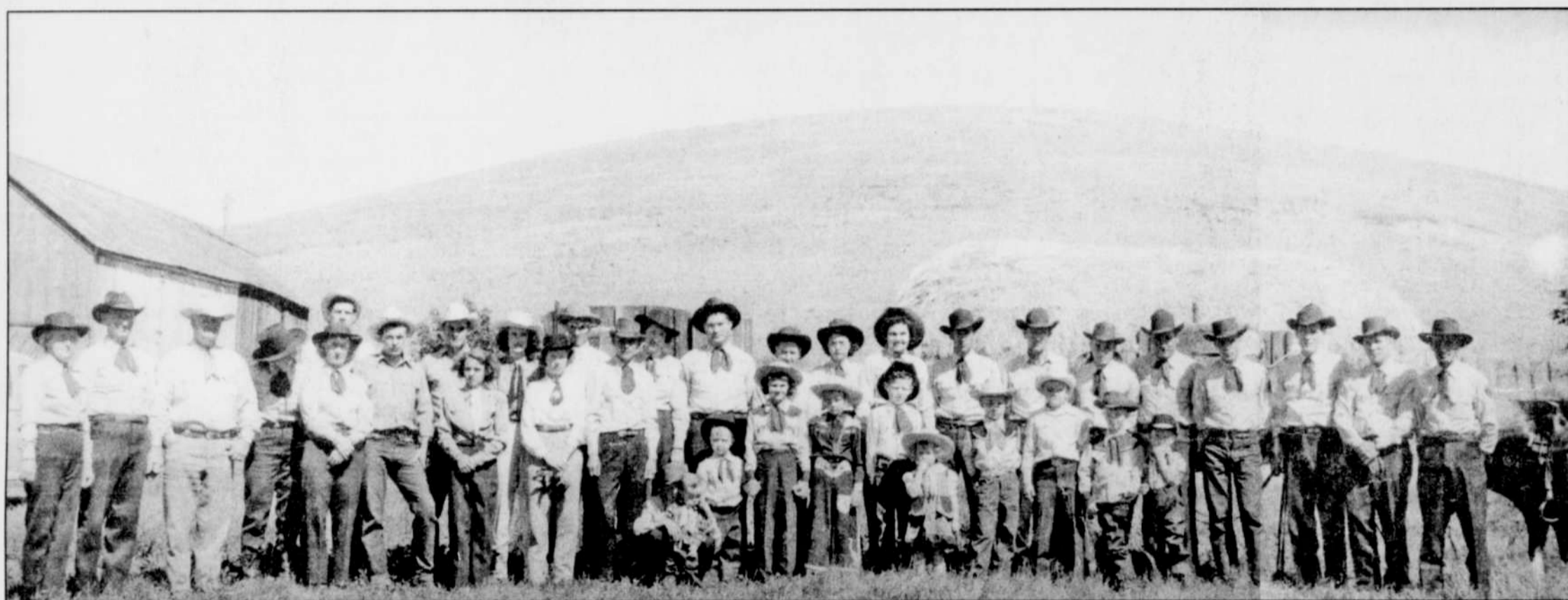
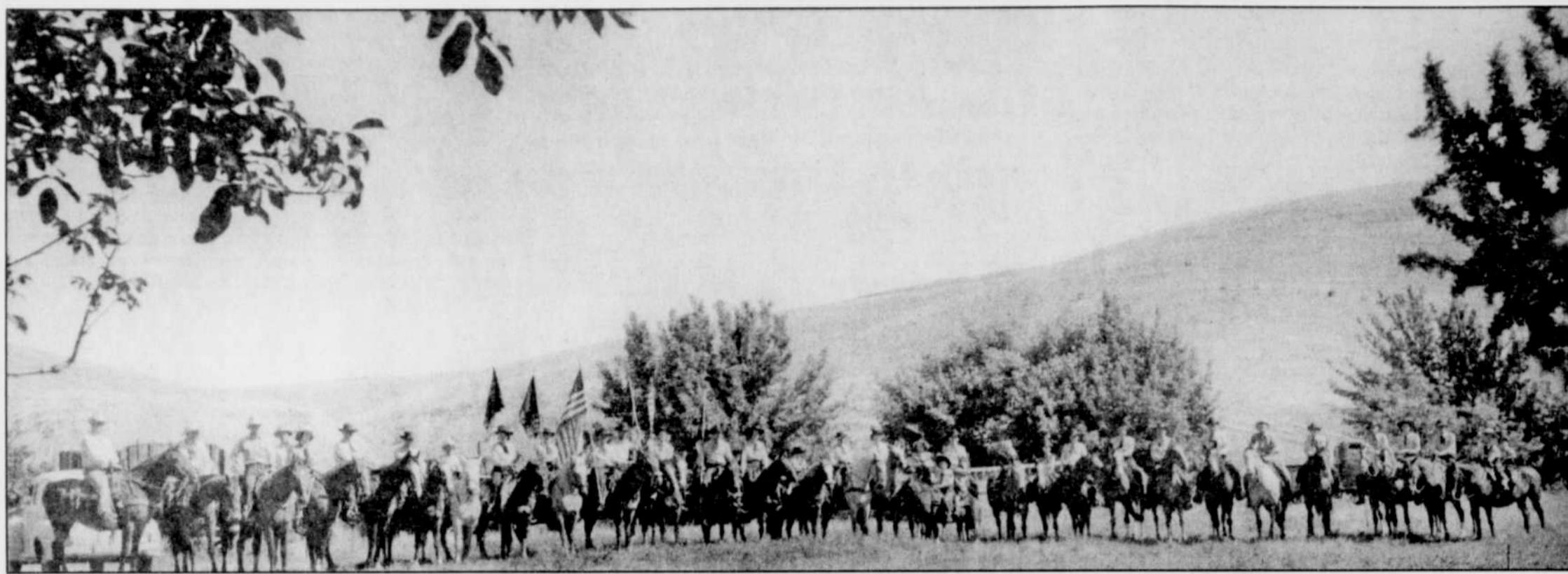


The Wranglers Riding Club - a brief history



The original Wranglers Riding Club members: (L-R): Beulah Mankin; Fred Mankin; Harry Dinges; Katie Monahan Hager; Elaine George; Harold Evans; Jack Wright; Bob Gammell; unidentified; Merlyn Robinson; unidentified; Don Robinson; unidentified; Altha Kirk; unidentified; unidentified; Kit George; Roy Quakenbush; Phyllis Piper; unidentified; unidentified; Dimple Munkers; unidentified; unidentified; Juanita Martin; unidentified; unidentified; Jerry Dougherty; Al Fetsch; unidentified; Roy Martin; unidentified; Norman Nelson; Les Wyman; Cal Sumner; Oscar George; Jim Lindsay. The top photograph shows the Riding Club members on their horses. -Contributed Photos

Merlyn Robinson graciously submitted these photos of the Wranglers Riding Club and was able to identify most of the participants. Readers are asked to submit names of the unidentified people to the Heppner Gazette-Times. Robinson also submitted a brief history of the club to accompany the photos:

The Wranglers Rid-

ing Club (of Heppner, OR) was first organized in 1946-47. Clubhouse records seem to have been lost over the preceding decades.

Original charter members include the following, most of whom were officers during various years: Oscar George; Howard Bryant; Bill Smethorst (second president); Altha Kirk

(secretary); Merle Beckett; Fred Mankin (horse show manager); Gerald Swaggart; Carl Sumner (first president); Cornett Green; Frank Turner; Merlyn Kirk Robinson; Harry Dinges; Beulah Mankin and Johnnie Eubanks (organized horse races during the fair and rodeo).

The drill team was

organized with 20-30 riders. The club initiated the first Cowboy Breakfast which was held on the courthouse lawn. Breakfast chairman was Merlyn Robinson and Dimple Munkers chaired the same for years. The club also had two sets for square dance horseback routines which showed at Condon, Heppner and Arlington.

The Wranglers Riding Club was famous for their extravagant weekend trail rides which were held at Ditch Creek, Johnson Creek and other various locations.

There was always a large showing at fair time. The (fair) horse show was, during that time, managed by the Wranglers. Fred Mankin

was the superintendent of the show for many years.

Additionally, there was always a big turnout of riders for parades. The uniforms included yellow long-sleeved shirts made of wool, Wrangler patch, brown tie, hat and pants. Several Wrangler banners with the club's insignia were also evident.

USDA extends application deadline for non-insured crop disaster assistance program

Darcy Vial, county executive director for USDA's Farm Service Agency in Morrow County, has announced that the application deadline to apply for crop year 2009 coverage under FSA's Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) has been extended to December 1, 2008.

Vial also detailed a crop year 2008 opportunity to obtain crop disaster program eligibility.

"The new Farm Bill created several new disaster programs which require that producers at least have

catastrophic coverage for all insurable crops and/or NAP coverage for noninsurable crops," said Vial. "Because the enactment of the Farm Bill was so late in the year, coupled with the expected increase in NAP activity for 2009 crops, it was prudent to extend the 2009 application deadline."

Regarding the 2008 crop year NAP coverage, Vial recently announced that producers who did not obtain 2008 crop insurance or NAP coverage by the applicable sales closing date

can still obtain 2008 disaster program eligibility. Producers can obtain that eligibility by applying for a waiver and paying an eligibility buy-in fee equivalent to the 2008 NAP or catastrophic risk protection plan fee for the crop or grazing lands. The deadline is September 16, 2008 to complete this 2008 program buy-in.

NAP provides financial assistance to producers of noninsurable crops when natural disasters cause low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting. The

extended 2009 NAP deadline applies to 2009 crops whose insurance deadlines were prior to December 1, 2008. Producers interested in 2009 NAP coverage are advised to apply at their earliest convenience and not wait until the extended deadline because actual crop loss coverage does not activate until 30 days after application.

For more information on the NAP or other disaster programs, contact the local USDA service center or FSA county office.

Fair contests underway



Pictured is Alex Carlson of Lone competing in the senior level presentations. Alex received a champion ribbon in his class and the opportunity to compete at the State Fair in Salem. -Contributed Photo

Fair began for Morrow County 4-H'ers on Wednesday, July 31, when 18 youth from grades four to 12 participated in the presentations.

This contest is open to all 4-H members and is held two weeks prior to fair in the 4-H Annex. Junior contestants (grades 4-6) have three to 10 minutes to complete their oral presentation and intermediates (grades 7-9) and seniors (grades 10-12) have 10 to 20 minutes.

Topics ranged from "archery" to "cake decorating" this year. These presentations are great experience for kids to get used to public speaking and all 4-H members are encouraged to participate. It is also a requirement if you're applying for the prestigious All-Around Achievement Award or Allied Livestock Industry Award. Morrow County 4-H Agent, Claire Sponseller, was really impressed with this year's participation and efforts.

Those participating this year were, Willy Gentry, Tate Gentry, Brett Harrison, Kyle Harrison, Devin Robinson, Garrett Robinson, Rebecca Jepsen, Morgan McPherson, Emily Doherty, Julianne Carlson, Jlyn Keefer, Rylee Kollman, Marissa Pratt, Jenna Taylor, Alex Carlson, Jacquelyn McPherson, Loran McPherson and Kristen Frederickson.

A complete list of fair results will be available after the remaining fair events.

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office reports handling the following business:

May 31 cont.: Boardman Police Dept. received a report from a caller

in Boardman that someone opened a door and scuffed his vehicle.

Boardman Police Dept. received a report from a caller in Boardman that a male subject was outside starting a fight with a subject on a bike then both went into the bar.

Irrigon ambulance received a request for an ambulance from a caller in Irrigon for a 72 year old female having difficulty breathing. The patient was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston.

June 1: MCSO received a report from a caller in Irrigon of two males fist-fighting in a parking lot. It was verbal only and the parties were separated. A male subject was trespassed from Bakes.

MCSO received a report that a male subject was racing around town. A deputy contacted the driver and found vehicle damage; the driver possibly hit a

fire hydrant or other object. The driver later requested a deputy contact to file a report; he hit a vehicle last night.

MCSO deputy advised subjects sleeping in their car that the Heppner park was closed.

MCSO received a report from a caller in Irrigon that three unknown male subjects entered her granddaughter's house; one went through a window and let the others in. It was determined the subjects were friends of the granddaughter and had permission to be there.

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