

Tellechea, Renfro win May featured gardens

By Kay Proctor

Close friends and close neighbors, Kathy Tellechea and Pam Renfro of Lexington, have been chosen by the Heppner Garden Club for its May Featured Garden recognition.

When Kathy and her husband, the late John Tellechea, moved onto their corner lot in 1978, the land was bare. Over the years, fencing and outbuildings were added and the soil enriched with sheep and rabbit droppings from Kathy's own animals. Kathy raises vegetables and has landscaped the yard and beds with a wide variety of plantings, including 200 roses. Her well-maintained yard and home causes traffic to stop to admire the many blooms. Her favorite plants are both floribunda and hybrid tea roses.

Kathy got her love of gardening from her mother, the late Dorothy Burcham. She describes her gardening style as "neat and tidy...everything has a place." Her undomesticated Barbado sheep help by keeping weeds down on the large town property. Her three heelers, Annie, Dallas and Chula, help by keeping watch over everything.

Visiting sons John and Phillip keeps Kathy busy, and she and Pam share a hobby of raising and showing Mini Rex rabbits.

Moving from the Willamette Valley in 1995 with husband, John, Pam tackled the challenge of gardening in eastern Oregon. Her corner lot had an older yard, which Pam has added to and enhanced while John does the vegetable gardening.

She enjoys "push-



Pam Renfro (L) and Kathy Tellechea (R) won the Garden Club's Featured Garden Award for May. -Contributed photo

ing the limits to see what can grow" here and encourages others to give themselves "time to figure out where a plant will grow best" and to also "have fun."

With a love of gardening that comes from both sides of her family, back to her grandparents, Pam's style of gardening is "the more the merrier," with full beds and no dirt showing. Her favorite plant is whatever is in bloom and whatever will live through our late spring and early autumn frosts.

Part of the Renfro household includes John's pet sheep, dog Dundee, laying chickens, doves and fantail pigeons.

Kathy and Pam's gardening spills out into the alley separating their

homes. Views across their park-like properties this time of year showcase a large number of colorful tulips and daffodils greeting all who pass by.

The Featured Garden recognition honors those with exceptional seasonal highlights, special outdoor projects or rural locations. To suggest a place for this honor, contact Kay Proctor of the Heppner Garden Club.



A whimsical bunny peers out of the flowers in one of the winners' gardens. -Contributed photo

Spray rodeo and half-marathon Memorial Day weekend

The annual Spray Rodeo and Eastern Oregon Half-Marathon will take place in Spray May 27-29.

The 64th annual Spray Rodeo will begin with slack on Friday May 27 at 11 a.m. There is no admission charge for Friday, and concessions will be available on the grounds.

Saturday kicks off the main events with the Eastern Oregon Half-Marathon at 8 a.m. It is the longest-running half-marathon in the state, with a 13.2 mile course from Service Creek to Spray.

Saturday and Sunday mornings will feature a "Buckaroo Breakfast" in the school cafeteria. The breakfast will run from early morning until 11 a.m.

and will be prepared by students and parents in the Spray High School athletic programs.

The parade will begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 28 at the Spray General Store. Queen Sara Marcus will lead; grand marshals will be past and present rodeo clowns.

The rodeo itself will begin with the grand entry at 1 p.m. Contestants include members of the Northwest Professional Rodeo Association, Idaho Cowboys Association and Pro West Professional Rodeo Association. Aside from the usual rodeo events, there will also be a kids', women's and men's quarter-mile race, three-

quarter-mile relay race and ranch bronc riding. Rodeo stock will be furnished by: 2010 stock contractor of the year, B-Bar-D Rodeos; 2010 announcer of the year, Scott Allen; 2010 contract act of the year, JJ Harrison and 2010 bullfighter of the year, Jason McCall.

Festivities Saturday will finish with a dance at the school gym, with music by Hired Guns of Hermiston.

A cowboy church service will be held Sunday at 9 a.m. in the rodeo grandstands. The final performance of the rodeo will take place at 1 p.m.

For further information about these events, call 541-468-2442.

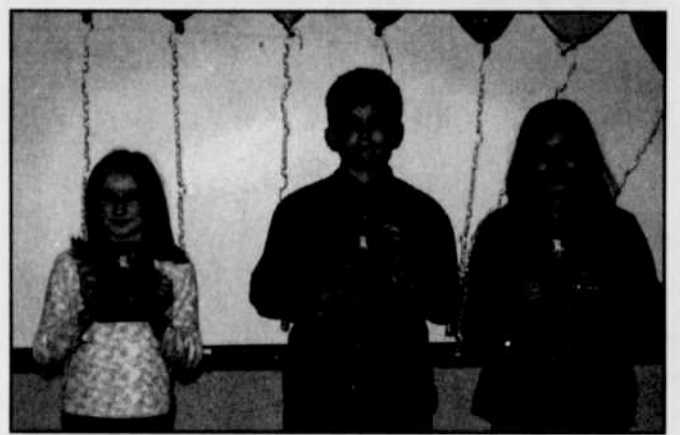
S-P-E-L-L-I-N-G a breeze for students

Nearly 40 students from Umatilla and Morrow counties showed off their spelling prowess during the 2011 Umatilla-Morrow Spelling Contest on May 9 at Blue Mountain Community College.

The spelling contest, sponsored by the Umatilla-Morrow Education Service District, brings together 1st through 12th grade students who are the spelling champions in their respective divisions in their schools. The students take a written spelling test during the contest, and first through third place winners are selected in each of three divisions for each county: Division 1 (1st through 5th grade), Division 2 (6th-8th grade), and Division 3 (9th-12th grade).

This year, 39 students represented 33 schools in Umatilla and Morrow counties.

An awards ceremony



Morrow County Division 1 winners (L-R) Olivia Schmidt, Jared Miller and Dvita Sharma pose with their certificates. -Contributed photo

ny was held immediately following the completion of the test scoring. Winners from each Morrow County division include:

Division 1

1st Place: Olivia Schmidt, Heppner Elementary
2nd Place: Jared Miller, Windy River Elementary
3rd Place: Dvita Sharma, Sam Boardman Elementary

Division 2

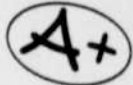
1st Place: Ryan Ibarra, Riverside Jr/Sr High School
2nd Place: Riley Lawson, Ir-rigon Jr/Sr High School
3rd Place: Oskar Peterson, Ione Community School

Division 3

1st Place: Corbin Tegner, Ir-rigon Jr/Sr High School
2nd Place: Christine Raible, Ione Community School
3rd Place: Andrew Bara, Heppner High School

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Boardman Scouts celebrate Cinco De Mayo



After presenting the flag for salute during the Cinco De Mayo celebration at the Boardman Marina, Scout Pack 615 conducted a special cleanup project at the Boardman Library. Rear to front (L-R): Arrik Russell, Nicholas Richards, Josh Mathews, Ethan Harper and Cody McCulloch. Front Row (L-R): Nathan Ellis, Braydyn Russell, Daniel Crist and Miles Harper. -Contributed photo

LOOK WHO'S TURNING 80



Please join us for a birthday luncheon in honor of Eddie Gunderson
NO GIFTS PLEASE

Sunday May 29th, 2011 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Heppner Elks Lodge

Technology open house to be held this week

Pat Struthers and the Heppner Chamber of Commerce will host a technology open house on Thursday, May 19 at 7 p.m. at Heppner City Hall.

This event will begin with a proposal by the hosts to organize a local computer user's group, which would provide an informal atmosphere to allow computer users to get answers to common (and not so common) questions about technology issues.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Struthers will conduct a short Q&A session on computer security, maintenance and anti-virus issues as a follow-up to a series of articles he wrote for the Gazette-Times a few years ago.

A number of local businesses will be making presentations and helping host the monthly meetings. Sibbea Browning of Entirely Equine Marketing will be doing presentations on web-based marketing for small- and home-based businesses. She is also an expert photographer and

digital photography editor. Dave Sykes of the Heppner Gazette-Times will be outlining the technical requirements for submitting articles and photographs for the Gazette-Times.

Struthers has been offering computer repair services in the Heppner area for six years, and for some time he has seen the need for an informal user's group. Computers have become simpler and safer to use in the last five or six years, but there still many areas of basic knowledge about technology that are difficult to acquire.

The local community has dozens of residents and business people that have expertise and experience in various technology areas. The hosts of this open house are confident that a good mix of beginning and more experienced users, meeting on a regular basis, could begin to remedy a lot of the frustration involved in making technology work.

Struthers, the Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group (WC-VEDG) Technology Committee and the Chamber are happy to continue to host such a group if the local community finds it useful.

Community Lunch Menu

Willow Creek Baptist church members will be serving lunch on Wednesday, May 25 at St. Patrick's Senior Center.

The meal will include lasagna, mixed vegetables, applesauce, garlic bread and cake.

Menu is subject to change.

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Steaks!

Steaks!

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