

Chamber Chatter

Boardman

Rabies Clinic: The City of Boardman is hosting a low-cost rabies vaccination clinic on Saturday, Aug. 25, from 1-3 p.m. at the Boardman City Park. The cost is \$19.95 per pet. The Country Animal Hospital and the American Cancer Society will offer a Doggie Wash and Barbeque for donations. Pre-registration is encouraged for the vaccinations; call 541-481-9252.

Rollin' on the River: The fourth annual Rollin' on the River will be held on Saturday, Sept. 22, at the Boardman Marina Park from 3-9 p.m. Two live bands have been booked for your listening and dancing pleasure. Rollin' on the River also includes a car show, dinner, and wine and beer. Call the chamber for more information. Tickets are available for purchase now.

Traeger Wood Pellet Barbecue: The Kiwanis Club of Boardman and the Boardman Chamber are selling tickets for a Traeger Jr. 055 wood pellet barbecue. Tickets are just \$5 each or 5 for \$20. The drawing will be held at Rollin' on the River on Sept. 22, you need not be present to win. Purchase tickets at the chamber office or from any committee member. The Traeger was donated by Ranch & Home; they now have a new store open in Milton-Freewater.

Biggest Winner: The Community Health Improvement Partnership of Morrow County is once again holding the Biggest Winner Program. Registration and initial weigh-in will be 6-7 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 28 and Sept. 4, at Sam Boardman Elementary, Heppner Elementary

School, Ione Community Church and the Irrigon Jr./Sr. High School. For more information, contact 541-676-2538 or <http://www.ohsu.edu/MCCHIP>.

Step Out Walk for Diabetes: ConAgra Foods-Lamb Weston challenges the businesses of our community to put a team together to participate in a fundraiser for the American Diabetes Association. On Sept. 29, they will host a 5K walk at the Boardman Marina Park, with registration at 8:45 a.m. and the walk to begin at 9 a.m. Each walker is requested to donate \$25; participants will receive a t-shirt at the end of the walk. Pre-register by September 18 by calling 541-481-2011, ext. 67310.

Senior Breakfast: Saturday, Sept. 1, the Boardman Senior Center will hold their monthly community breakfast from 7:30-10:30 a.m. Breakfast is just \$5.

Chamber Membership Lunch: The next Chamber Membership Lunch will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 19. We will be taking a bus tour of the Greenwood Tree Farm. The lunch tour will be from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30

p.m. and the cost will be \$20 for a box lunch from Boardman Select Market and the bus tour. This is your opportunity to learn more about Greenwood Tree Farm and get in the middle of the trees. We do have limited number of spaces available on the bus, so get your reservation in as soon as possible.

Clean-Up Day: Make sure you are gathering your team to help with the Boardman Clean-Up Day on Saturday, Sept. 29, from 8 a.m. till noon. We will be cleaning up trash at several locations around town. So find your work gloves and your organization team members and join us in making Boardman look much cleaner. The organization with the most volunteer hours will receive \$100, 2nd place \$75 and 3rd place \$50. Call the chamber if you have any questions.

Boardman Quilt Show: The eighth annual quilt show will be held October 12-13 at the Port of Morrow Riverfront Center. Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and admission is \$3. Call Katherine for more information 541-922-5293.

Medical fund set up for local woman

An account has been set up at the Bank of Eastern Oregon to help with the medical expenses of local woman Peggy Michel.

Michel, 63, was diagnosed with esophageal cancer three months ago. The cancer is now in stage three; Michel has been traveling back and forth to OHSU and Providence Medical Center in Walla Walla for

chemotherapy and radiation. She has been told that, after that treatment, she will need to undergo surgery.

Since Michel has no insurance and does not qualify for Medicare, her friends have set up the BEO bank account for those who would be willing to contribute toward her substantial medical fees.

Local boys get 'corny' with FFA project

All right, maybe the only thing corny about this story is the headline. However, two local boys have shown some extra initiative with their FFA project this year, and it does involve a lot of corn.

Shane Miles and Tate Gentry, both of Heppner, grew half an acre of sweet corn as a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) through their FFA program. Shane is the son of Craig and Tawny Miles, and Tate is the son of Jerry and Terri Gentry. Both boys are students at Heppner High School.

They grew the corn in one of the circles farmed by Shane's father, on land leased from the Padberg family. The boys said Craig Miles bought the seed, which they plan to repay, along with the cost of some irrigation, after they sell the corn. Otherwise, all the work and cost has been their own...and a lot of work it was.

After beginning the planting with a single-row planter pulled behind a tractor, the two young men decided the results were less than satisfactory, and planted the rest of the corn by hand. They also maintained the plot by hand, rototilling the rows themselves and caring for their crop in every stage.

"We realized it was going to be a lot of work hand planting, because you handle every kernel, but it was fun," said Gentry.

Miles added that it was an eye-opening experience, seeing the corn through all stages of development.

"We got to learn different stages of it (the growth process), like the tassling stages," Miles said.

The purpose of an SAE project is to learn by doing. FFA members work with agricultural teachers to develop projects based on placement (getting an agricultural job), research and experimentation, exploring Ag careers or, as with these two boys, engaging in entrepreneurship by owning and operating an agricultural business.



Shane Miles (L) and Tate Gentry stand in front of their half-acre of sweet corn, raised as part of an SAE through the local FFA program. -Contributed photo

Beth Dickenson was the boys' supervisor for the project, but she says all the praise goes to them.

"I'm not going to take any credit for it," said Dickenson. "They've learned a lot and put a lot of time into it. They've been really busy and I'm really proud of them for making it work. I'm proud of them for thinking outside of the box. It's been a great project for them."

Dickenson said the project started a couple of years ago as a conversation with Miles and his dad regarding the possibility of using a corner that wasn't in production for something else. Miles later persuaded Gentry to partner up.

"Now they have corn coming out their ears, no pun intended," Dickenson said. "I haven't tried any yet but I'm looking forward to it."

In order to apply for certain degrees within FFA, the boys also have to make a certain amount of money from their projects. That

means it's time for them to think about selling the corn. They expect the first of the crop to ripen around Sept. 1, with most of it ready in the first two to three weeks of September. They plan to sell it at the Heppner farmer's market, take orders and even carry it door to door if necessary. They plan on selling three ears for a dollar, but said they will have a discount for anyone who wants to buy it by the pickup load.

And, like any good farmers, even in the midst of harvest and sales, they are planning for next year's crop. Gentry said they are thinking of a custom-made planter pulled behind a tractor, so they can plant more corn, faster.

"So we can get more than half an acre next year," Miles added.

Anyone interested in farm-fresh corn from this FFA project can catch the boys at the farmer's market starting next month, or call Gentry at 541-676-5239 or Miles at 541-922-8377.

Over the Tee Cup

Pat Edmundson took low gross of the field on Tuesday, Aug. 21, when the ladies played at Willow Creek Country Club. Karen Thompson had low net and Lorrene Montgomery had the least putts.

On flight A, Pat Edmundson had the long drive. For flight B, Lorrene Montgomery had the long

drive and Karen Thompson had K.P. On flight C, Toni Nichols had low gross, and Laura Rogers had low net and the long drive.

Karen Thompson also had a birdie on #4.

For upcoming events, the club is planning a club championship/Eddi Skob Tournament for Sept. 4-5.

Medicare and Social Security 'town hall' to air in Oregon

Program takes Oregonians' voices to D.C. in debate about Medicare, Social Security

Straight Talk on Medicare and Social Security will take the national conversation about the future of Medicare and Social Security to television stations throughout Oregon with a one-hour town hall meeting on Aug. 26. Sponsored by AARP Oregon, the program is a part of the national 'You've Earned a Say' initiative.

"Oregonians say they are frustrated Washington D.C. isn't listening to them when it comes to the future of Medicare and Social Security," said Jerry Cohen, AARP Oregon State Director. "So we're taking the

debate about Medicare and Social Security out from behind closed doors in D.C. and into the living rooms of Oregonians."

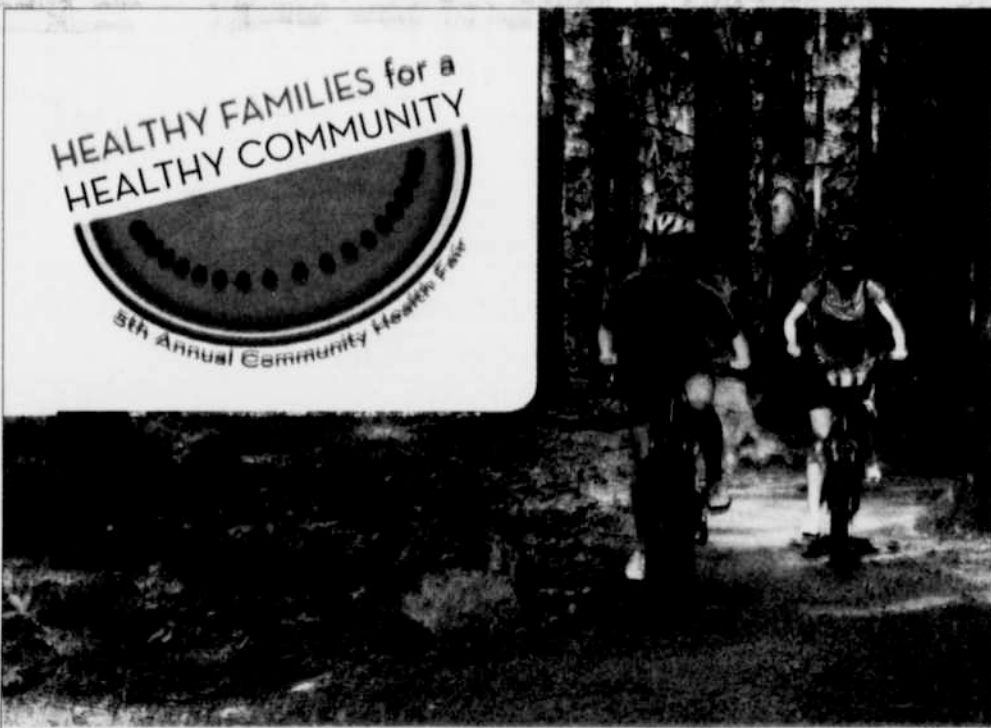
Medford television station KOB-TV is producing the town hall.

Oregon experts will share information about these important programs... and also listen to studio audience members and provide the public with ways to make their voices heard. KOB-TV News director Julie Akins will moderate.

Television stations in Eugene, Bend and Portland will join KOB-TV in airing the town hall meeting on Aug.

26. It will be rebroadcast on September 2 on some stations. AARP Oregon will show the program on social media channels on YouTube www.youtube.com/user/AARPOregon and Facebook (www.facebook.com/AARPOregon).

At www.earnedaday.org, viewers will find resources and information about Social Security and Medicare, and the challenges they face. There are online tools that highlight some of the policy options being discussed, and allow users to side with the arguments either for or against those policies.



FamilyCare Health Plan's 5th Annual

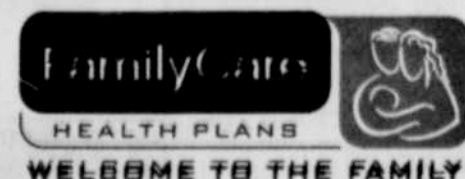
COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

McKenzie Park in Hermiston
Saturday, August 25, 2012 • 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

It's FREE!

Join us for healthy living tips, food, refreshments, games, music, prizes and fun for all ages!

- free dental checkups
- free blood pressure checks
- car seat safety checks



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