Youth livestock

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to their stalls af-

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Aug. 20, 2021,

at the Morrow

County Fair.

Since 1913,

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The 2022 fair

is Aug. 17-20 in

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BRIEFS

Rotary wrangles in new venue for cowboy breakfast

Things are sizzling as the Hermiston Rotary Club prepares for its annual cowboy breakfasts at a new venue.

A 50-plus year tradition, the hearty meals are held during the later part of Umatilla County Fair week. In the spirit of the fair theme of "Moo-ving Forward Together," this year's breakfasts will be at the Hermiston Community Center, 415 S. Highway 395. Hot off the griddle, Rotarians will serve pancakes, sausage, eggs, hash browns and fresh fruit on Friday, Aug. 12 and Saturday, Aug. 13, 6:30-10:30 a.m.

In addition to the air-conditioned environment, there's another exciting change — there is no charge for the breakfast. Those in attendance are invited to make a donation. Money will go to support the Umatilla County Fair Youth Livestock Sale.

Founded in 1905, Rotary International includes men and women of all ages who use their energy and talents to improve the lives of people locally and across the globe. For more information about the local club, visit www.hermistonrotaryclub.com or search Facebook.

Local musicians to strum tunes at Delish Bistro

Live music is planned at Delish Bistro in the coming weeks. There is no cover charge to enjoy the music, which runs from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at 1619 N. First St., Hermiston.

Dallin Puzey, a 2011 Hermiston High School graduate, performs Saturday, Aug. 13, 6:30-9:30 p.m. If you miss that show, he returns on Aug. 27.

A mostly self-taught musician, Puzey plays guitar, piano and harmonica. In addition to writing and performing his own music, Puzey plays a variety of familiar folk, country, rock and pop songs.

And on Aug. 20, J.D. Kindle will take the stage. The Pendleton-based musician is the frontman for James Dean Kindle & the Eastern Oregon Playboys. In addition, the versatile musician has performed with a variety of ensembles as well as solo.

For more information about the bistro, visit www.delishbistro. com. For questions about the events, call 541-303-9006.

Red Cross holds local blood drives

The American Red Cross is calling for donors to give blood in August to prevent a blood shortage. There are two upcoming drives in Umatilla County.

The first is Monday, Aug. 15, 12:45-5:30 p.m., at Good Shepherd Medical Center, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. The second is Sept. 7, 1-6 p.m., at Milton-Freewater Community Center, 109 N.E. Fifth St.

To incentivize the giving, the Red Cross in a press release Monday, Aug. 8, announced all who come to give this month will be entered to win gas for a year.

The Red Cross pegs the value of a year's worth of free gas at \$6,000. There will be three winners. Details are available at rcblood.org/fuel.

Everyone who comes to give blood or platelets in August also will receive a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of choice.

Donors can schedule an appointment to give using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, by visiting RedCrossBlood.org or by calling 800-733-2767.

The Red Cross also encouraged donors to follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App to complete their predonation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive.

Free sports physicals for Echo and Stanfield

With the fall sports season getting ready to kick off, Echo and Stanfield school districts have made arrangements for free sports physicals. Family Health Associates will perform the exams for Echo and Stanfield student-athletes on Wednesday, Aug. 17, 1-4 p.m. at the Echo School District, 600 Gerome St.

Valid for two years, students in seventh, ninth and 11th grade, as well as those that did not play a sport last year need to update their physicals. For more information, visit www.echo.k12.or.us. For questions, call 541-376-8436.

Get the scoop on candidates

An ice cream social fundraising event organized by the Morrow County Republicans will include several 2022 Republican candidates.

Featuring Tillamook ice cream, people are invited to Get the Scoop on Wednesday, Aug. 17, 3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Christian Life Center, 535 Morgan St., Heppner. Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased at Murray's Drugs at 217 N. Main St., Heppner, or 101 Kinkade Road, Boardman.

Those running for office who plan to attend include Rep. Cliff Bentz, Oregon District 2 U.S. Congress; Jo Rae Perkins, U.S. Senate candidate; Christine Drazan, Oregon governor candidate; Cheri Helt, candidate for Oregon commissioner of Labor and Industry; and state Rep. Greg Smith of Oregon House District 57.

"The event will be an opportunity for individuals to enjoy a Tillamook ice cream sundae while personally meeting and talking with the candidates," said Clint Carlson, Morrow County Republicans chairman.

Money raised from the event will support the work of the Morrow County Republicans. For more information about the group or to make arrangements to purchase tickets to the ice cream social, email mocoreps@gmail.com.

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Morrow County Fair features bountiful food, family, fun

Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo celebrates centennial

BY TAMMY MALGESINI Hermiston Herald

The Morrow County Fair is gearing up for a fantastic year, Fair Secretary Ann Jones said.

The four-day event gets underway Wednesday, Aug. 17, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the Morrow County Fairgrounds, 74473 Highway 74.

Fair admission is free thanks to gate sponsor Lamb Weston. Free admission, Jones said, has had a direct impact over the past few years on the number of people who enter the gates throughout the day.

"Our admission was never really high anyways, but this way people can just come and grab something for lunch or dinner," she said. "Also, it really helps with families on a tight budget."

This year's event, Jones said, is extra special. Held on the final two days of the fair, the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo is celebrating its centennial.

The 2022 fair theme — The Bounty of our County — highlights the region's rich agricultural history, as well as showcases the talents of the region's adults and youths. Jones said 4-H and FFA, in particular, help develop interests, personal growth and leadership skills.

"I think it's important as adults to support that," she said.



Hermiston Herald, File

"Working on projects gives kids drive and focus."

However, that's only one aspect of the fair — there are lots of fun things to do, including a parade (Aug. 20, 10 a.m.) with many past royalty court members expected, special dinners (Aug. 17-18, 7 p.m.) and the Kids' Fun Zone (daily, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.).

It features a mechanical bull, an arcade room, face painting and a balloon artist.

One of the fair's most popular events, Jones said, is an ice cream social (Aug. 18, 3 p.m.). With the Blue Mountain Old-Time Fiddlers performing from 2:30-4:30 p.m., people can enjoy Tillamook ice cream while listening to toe-tappin' music.

Also, the fair wrangled in a couple of female favorites. Jessie Leigh (Aug. 17, 7-10 p.m.) and Olivia Harms (Aug. 19,

1-3 p.m.), the daughter of Western Music Hall of Fame member Joni Harms, are both returning to the fair's main stage.

"She's just a bundle of energy," Jones said about Leigh. "She puts on a great show.

After trying to book Zac Grooms for several years, the stars finally aligned. Fairgoers will get a double-shot with two 90-minute performances (Aug. 20, 12 p.m. & 5:30). In addition to original songs, Grooms plays a variety of country covers.

An Arlington native, Grooms is the frontman for Brewer's Grade Band. In 2018, the group reeled in the country band of the year award from the International Music and Entertainment Association.

If 2021's record-breaking rodeo crowds are any indication, the rodeo's centennial event

(Aug. 19-20, 7 p.m.) should bust out of the chutes. Come at least 30 minutes early, get settled in your seats and cheer on the kids in mutton bustin' contests.

After the nightly rodeo performances, Dan Burns 3D Productions will crank things up with music, lights and fog. People can dance the night away, even if they don't attend the rodeo.

Also, visitors are encouraged to linger a little longer. The Morrow County Jackpot Rodeo (Aug. 21, at 1 p.m.) features local cowboys.

Rodeo tickets are \$10/general, \$6/ages 7-12 and free/ages 6 and under. For tickets and additional information, visit www. oregontrailprorodeo.com or call 541-256-0217.

For more about the fair, including a full schedule, visit www.co.morrow.or.us/fair. For questions, call 541-676-9474.

Walla Walla VA holds education events

Hermiston Herald

The Veteran Affairs medical center in Walla Walla hosts the first of three educational events supporting veteran care on subsequent Wednesdays.

The Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center announced it is holding the 2022 Caregiver Support Summit on Aug. 10, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This year's topic is suicide prevention.

There will be several presentations covering this subject plus a Q&A session. Also, a veteran and their caregiver will share their personal story. No RSVP is necessary to participate. Join the event via computer/tablet at bit. ly/Caregiver-Summit-081022. An optional phone option is available by calling 872-701-0185 and entering the conference code 824404902#.

For any questions or additional information, email vhawww-wallawallacaregiversupport@va.gov or call 509-525-5200, ext. 26716.

The following week on Aug. 17 is the in-person Veterans Advance Directive Fair from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Walla Walla VA's Theater Building.

Walla Walla VA enrolled Veterans can get general information and assistance in completing advance directive documentation to guide the veteran's family in making medical/health care decisions for the veteran in emergency situations. Staff will be on hand to work one-on-one with veterans and their families to answer questions and assist in completion of necessary documents.

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No appointment is necessary. Light refreshments will be available. If you are unable to attend and would like more information, contact your provider team/social worker to get connected/assistance.

And then Aug. 24 is the 10th Annual VA Palliative Care Forum, 7:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is a virtual event. This year's theme is Living Well: Embracing life-limiting health challenges with dignity.

Participants can learn from a collaborative team about palliative care in the VA system and participate in some presentations/discussions. Continuing education units will be available for medical doctors, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, chaplains, nurses and social workers.

Preregistration is recommended. VA employees can register through the Talent Management System by searching for No. 4625360 and signing up. Non-VA providers can contact Sandra Lenz, Walla Walla VA's Palliative Care coordinator, at Sandra.Lenz@va.gov or calling 509-525-5200, ext. 26715. Join

in on this virtual conversation/ presentations via your computer at bit.ly/3ovZFa1 on Aug. 24.

Information about the events

is on the Walla Walla VA's Facebook page and on under the events link at www.wallawalla. va.gov/vawallawalla.





Shaun Curtain 360-921-2071 or email: ShaunCurtain@gmail.com | www.ShaunCurtain.com



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