

# 2012 BIG HORN COUNTY

# FAIR DAYS

## Free stage features Home Free vocal band; Friday performance

This year's main concert for the Big Horn County Fair will be Friday afternoon, Aug. 3 and will feature the a cappella sound of the Home Free vocal band. The concert kicks off at the free stage at about 2:30 p.m.

According to their website, [www.homefreevocalband.com](http://www.homefreevocalband.com), Home Free "is a distinctive combination of comedy and music featuring five male vocalists with extensive theatrical and musical training."

The vocalists are:

•Matt Atwood. Born and raised in Mankato, Minn., Atwood discovered how amazing his singing and acting ability was when he was only 13 and cast as a principal actor in a collegiate musical, according to biographical information from the band's website. After high school, he studied theater at Minnesota State University – Mankato where he notched another 20 plus lead roles before scoring his first professional role (and principal) as Marius in "Les Miserables."

•Adam Rupp. Adam began playing the trumpet at a young age and went on to graduate from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minn., with a music performance degree on trumpet. Those techniques naturally translated into the extraordinary beat-boxing skills he utilizes now. Rupp carries first place vocal percussionist titles from both the Denver and Chicago National Harmony Sweepstakes. And because this skill is so unique he specializes in Home Free's musical outreach

and education programs that includes an entire workshop dedicated to teaching the art of vocal percussion.

•Rob Lundquist. For some it takes one experience to form an obsession. And for Lundquist that was his first musical performance his junior year in high school, "Man of La Mancha," according to the website. Rob got hooked and has been addicted to singing and performing ever since. After graduating from high school, Park Center High School in Brooklyn Park, Minn., he attended the University of Minnesota-Duluth to study vocal performance. Though he was trained classically, Lundquist continued being drawn to singing in the vocal jazz group and performing musical theater repertoire. So after graduating from UMD with a B.A. in music (and a minor in political science for backup), Lundquist began singing in the a cappella group, Four Shadow. When the group recently retired, Lundquist had about a second to breathe before joining Home Free as one of the tenors.

•Tim Foust. Tim Foust was born in Lubbock, Texas. He had penchant for songwriting and singing at an early age. In high school he performed and studied classical music extensively. Although Foust studied at Lamar University for a couple of years as a pre-dental major, his inner musician took over. He left school and joined up with an a cappella group out of Minneapolis called Blue Jupiter. Blue Jupiter toured



The Home Free Vocal Band is the premiere free stage act at this year's county fair with a Friday afternoon performance.

the U.S. at hundreds of venues and released the album Ear Candy to critical acclaim. This album included Tim's first recorded original song. He left Blue Jupiter to join Boston-based vocal band "Ball In The House".

As a member of the group, Tim performed more than 250 shows per year, recorded with diamond producer Tim Coons, shared the stage with many stars such as Gladys Knight and Kenny Loggins, and was a featured vocalist on the popular Cool Whip jingle for Kraft's national television and radio campaign.

Songwriting has become Foust's passion, but he continues to work in many different areas of

the industry. He still uses his near-five-octave range to entertain live audiences around the world as a guest vocalist in groups such as America's premiere doo wop group, The Alley Cats.

•Chris Rupp. With a love for a cappella in grade school, Chris grew up studying and experimenting with the complicated beauty of harmonization. High school wasn't about to hold him back and at 16 he began his professional musical career. Chris continued his studies at Gustavus Adolphus College and then Mankato State University where he graduated with a degree in music performance – emphasis in vocal and piano. Since then Chris

has been teaching privately and traveling all over the world as the musical director and baritone for Home Free. His compositions and arrangements have won many awards and you may have heard a jingle or two of his on the radio or TV.

According to the website, each Home Free performance showcases a new, animated, and electrifying experience that draws audiences in, and leaves them amazed. With a genre of music that covers an expansive mix of pop, jazz, classical and country, all songs are done with only the human voice and microphones, resulting in a truly unique and incredible sound.

## Basin City Arts Center kicks off fair week with western concert

By KARLA POMEROY

The Basin City Arts Center has foregone their regular melodrama during the Big Horn County Fair Week and this year, in the spirit of the fair, is bringing in county music artist Jared Rogerson.

Rogerson will be performing at 7 p.m., July 31, at the Basin City Arts Center in Basin, 117 South Fourth Street. Tickets at the door are adults, \$10; seniors, \$8; and kids 12 and under, \$5.

In a telephone interview Rogerson said he'll be bringing a three-piece acoustic band. "We're excited to be playing in the old theater," he said, adding he played at the BCAC a few years ago as solo act.

"I tour all over the West and I thought an acoustic performance would be the right fit for the Basin City Arts Center," he said.

Rogerson said he will have some unique instrumentation at the concert. He will be playing acoustic rhythm guitar, acoustic lead guitar will be Brian Hensien from Lander and on acoustic percussion that includes the ca-hon and djembe will be Jim Halsey of Casper.

"We'll have all kinds of neat sounds," he said.

Rogerson will perform songs from his two CDs "Bad Hay" and "Peace, Love and Horses," along



Jared Rogerson will perform at the BCAC Tuesday night.

with trying out some brand new songs for the Basin audience.

Rogerson said he has lived all over the West and Midwest, growing up in Northern Utah and competing in college rodeo for Weber State.

Rogerson settled in Pinedale about 10 years ago, saying that he fell in love with the Wind River Mountains.

He said he got into music because of he loves to write songs, specifically writing songs that promote Western ideas. "My experience in the mountains and the rodeo circuit I have a lifetime worth of material. I really wasn't concerned

See 'WESTERN CONCERT,' page 8



The 2012-2013 Big Horn County Fair and Rodeo Royalty is (l-r): Junior Princess Trenity Hackney, Princess Jessa Clark and Queen Morgan Flitner.

## Fair royalty crowned in June

By JENNIFER BUTLER

Morgan Flitner, 18, of Greybull was crowned the 2012-2013 Big Horn County Fair and Rodeo Queen June 2.

The royalty contestants for queen, princess and junior princess competed that Saturday night at the Big Horn REA Arena. The girls were tested on their horsemanship by requiring them to complete a specific riding pattern in the arena. After completion of the

pattern the girls were asked to answer questions about the horse's anatomy, tack, rodeo, and why they should be crowned the queen, princess or junior princess.

Flitner rode her horse, Dunny, a dun buckskin quarter horse, during the competition. On her application for the contest Flitner wrote that she would like to be queen

See 'QUEEN,' page 8

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## Meet the Big Horn County Board and fair manager



There will be new faces at this year's fair including (l-r): board member and Chairman Felix Carrizales, fair manager Deb Schnitzmeier, board members Andy Perkins and Casey Sorenson. (Not pictured are board members Tim Flitner and Carl Nielsen.) The group is working to offer Big Horn County the best fair they can. They want to hear the community's suggestions to help make future fairs even better.

## Board prepares for current, future fairs

**By JENNIFER BUTLER**

From the beginning of this year the previous Big Horn County Fair Board members have gradually resigned from their positions, creating an entirely new board. The newest board members, Carl Nielsen and Andy Perkins have only been on the board for about two months. The other three board members, Felix Carrizales, Tim Flitner and Casey Sorenson have been members since February.

Flitner said, "The great thing about this board is that we are very cohesive and are like minded, this enables us to make quick and decisive decisions."

**Felix Carrizales** — Chairman Carrizales is a longtime resident of Burlington, currently residing there with his wife, Cindy and two of their six children. The other four children are married, serving a mission or currently working.

Carrizales said although this is the first time serving on this board, he has experience with 4-H. He said that in this youth he entered leather working projects in the county fair. He added his daughters also showed sheep and pigs in the fair.

He said he brings a positive attitude to the fair board along with a willingness to make the experience at the fair good and fun for everyone. He added his main goals are to build community involvement, create a fun fair, and achieve positive support

for the fair. He said he would also like to see continued improvements on the fairgrounds themselves.

Carrizales said, "I am really excited about the fair, and I hope that all will come and have fun and enjoy the youth excellence in 4-H and FFA. I want to make it a positive time for kids and family."

**Tim Flitner** — The vice chairman and Shell resident, Flitner said he has a strong background in both 4-H and FFA because as a youth he was very involved. He said he showed steers, sheep and pigs and was a livestock judge in both organizations. Flitner's children are also very involved in 4-H and FFA.

Flitner said his goals for the fair are: "First, are the facilities; to give them an upgrade for the community. Second, to create a better experience for the youth. And, third, to create a stronger involvement for those who do not have children entered in the fair."

Flitner said the greatest change he has seen from his entrance onto the board is the positive perception of the board. He said, "We have become aggressive about the grounds and other areas." He added, only time will tell if they will be successful in their endeavors.

**Casey Sorenson** — Board treasurer Sorenson, like Flitner, has a lot of past experience in 4-H, FFA and livestock judging. Sorenson showed steers and lambs in

his youth. He said the main reason why he wanted to become a fair board member is "to give back to the community what the fair gave me."

Sorenson said his main goals are to simplify and strengthen the fair budget. He also would like to make the fair more fun for those who are not involved in FFA and 4-H. He added he would like to "bring in at least one "big ticket" entertainer, examples include, Profession Bull Riding (PBR), Championship Bull Riding (CBR), popular singer, popular comedian."

He added he would also like to see the multi-purpose indoor arena completed and the fairgrounds being used year-round.

Sorenson said he has a strong financial background, outside thinker and a different point of view that would help this year's progress.

Sorenson said he has seen great improvements in the relationship between the fair and the community.

**Carl Nielsen** — Nielsen said he has lived in Hyattville for the past 30 years. He still shows sheep in various locations such as Nevada, Utah and around Wyoming. He said he also grew up in 4-H and was a member for 13 years.

Nielsen said he had tried for years to be placed on the fair board but this year he decided to make a more serious attempt. He said he wanted to do something about all the complaints, and try to fix the

wrong things about the fair. Nielsen said he wanted to restore the faith of the community back into the fair along with getting more involvement from the community.

**Andy Perkins** — The board secretary, Perkins, said he was a member of 4-H for 11 years and is now a 4-H leader in Lovell. He added for most of his life he has been an active breeder of show sheep.

Perkins said he first started showing at the BHC fair when he was 8 years old and has not missed a fair since.

Perkins said the main reason for him to join the fair board is to help "make the Big Horn County Fair a positive influence on the youth of our county. Hopefully, through 4-H and FFA our youth can learn the value of hard work and have some fun along the way."

Along with the other board members, Perkins, said one of his main goals is to get more people from the community involved with the fair. He said, "There are a lot of very talented people in Big Horn County and I would like to see some of their knowledge passed on to our youth."

Perkins added, "The board is currently a very new board with lots of new ideas. I think we are trying our best to make the fair the best we can. As with any new group we will make mistakes along the way but hopefully we can learn from them and continue to better serve the youth of our county."

## Manager gains experience fast as first fair approaches

**By JENNIFER BUTLER**

Late last year the previous Big Horn County Fair Board agreed to hire Big Horn County resident Deb Schnitzmeier as the new fair manager.

Schnitzmeier began her duties after the first of the year. She said although she had no previous experience, her goal was to hit the ground running.

Since she has been in this position for over six months she has learned a lot about how to coordinate a fair with both indirect and direct involvement. She said, "It has

been a great challenge." Schnitzmeier said as soon as she entered the position she began working on the fair book and other fair tasks. She added she also became the "sounding board" for all those who had opinions about the fair.

Schnitzmeier said her biggest strength that she offers to the fair community is her ability to see the end goal and make plans to reach it. She added she is also willing to

listen to people's suggestions and take them into consideration. She has been on the phone a lot talking to community members and the main thing she has heard is their desire to get back to an old-fashioned, fun and family-oriented kind of fair.

Her main goal is to see the fair reach out to the towns and rural communities to bring people back to the fair, she said, adding, "I would like

the fair to nurture the small town and old fashion character... a fair with character we have the resources here with the people and their talents to help us achieve this goal."

Another goal is for the fair to fix what we already have and to create fair grounds that the community is proud of. She said she believes the grounds have greatly improved.

Schnitzmeier said no matter how many challenges she has faced since she began she enjoys her work as the fair manager and is pleased to have taken the job.



Deb Schnitzmeier

## Storyteller's program includes sing-a-long

**By KARLA POMEROY**

Tiger Tom Walsh will be presenting his program "Life on the Farm" Kids and Family several times during the free stage acts at this year's Big Horn County Fair.

He will be performing at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 2, 1 and 6 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 3, and noon and 4 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 4.

Walsh said, "For over 25 years, I have entertained and delighted audiences with action and silly songs, storytelling, laughter, sing-a-long and audience participation."

He said the "Life on the Farm" program has received wide acclaim as a "truly wonderful show for children and families."

His stage is decorated with quilts, brightly colored flags and banners with the "Life on the Farm" theme.

Tiger Tom Walsh entertains and educates by bringing an understanding of farm culture, history, safety, fun facts about the value of fresh vegetables and the hilarity of interactive music and songs from down on the farm.

Within his unique show, singer and storyteller Tiger Tom Walsh performs music from the beginnings of American music know as "Roots" music. As music came to this country from other nations it changed over time and became something original to America.

Tiger Tom takes spectators

on a historic passage of songs and stories from one year to the next from his own travels through this great county collecting songs including folklorist John Lomax of the Smithsonian Institute of America.

American music concerts in which he plays and sings Roots, Traditional, Mountain, Folk and Ballads of American music he learned from people like folklorist Mike Seeger (Smithsonian institute of America), Legendary Traditional American musicians Doc Watson and Norm Blake.

There are many other local musical acts at the fair free stage.

The free stage schedule begins at noon Thursday, Aug. 2 and Friday, Aug. 3, and runs through 6 p.m. Saturday's free stage begins at 11 a.m.

Acts for the free stage include Jo Bowman of Worland (solo artist from the South Fork band), the south Big Horn County gospel group Heaven Bound, the Rewinders from Cowley with a variety of country and old time rock and roll, the bluegrass band Prairie Grass from Thermopolis, the Absaroka Mountain Thunder Cloggers of Powell, guitarist Nathan Werbelow and South Fork of the Worland area.

The free stage schedule is as follows:



Tiger Tom Walsh will be presenting his "Life on the Farm" Kids and Family show several times Thursday through Saturday.

**Thursday**  
Jo Bowman, noon  
Nathan Werbelow, 1 p.m.  
Storyteller Tiger Tom Walsh, 2 p.m.  
4-H Fashion Revue, 3:30 p.m.  
Prairie Grass, 5 p.m.

**Friday**  
South Fork, noon  
Tiger Tom Walsh, 1 p.m.  
Heaven Bound, 2 p.m.

Home Free, 2:30  
Prairie Grass, 4 p.m.  
Rewinders, 5 p.m.  
Tiger Tom Walsh, 6 p.m.

**Saturday**  
Tiger Tom Walsh, noon  
Absaroka Mountain Thunder, 1 p.m.  
Heaven Bound, 2 p.m.  
South Fork, 3 p.m.  
Tiger Tom Walsh, 4 p.m.  
Rewinders, 5 p.m.

## Quilt show a big draw at County Fair

**By MARLYS GOOD**

King size, queen size, appliqué, throws, wall hangings. Bright colors, muted colors. Take your pick. The Big Horn County Fair Quilt Show will have a quilt to catch your eye. More than one probably.

Sherry Fink, who has been supervising the BHC Quilt Show for 11 years, said, "The quilt show is one of the biggest draws for the community; it draws more people in (to the fairgrounds). We ask as many as possible to sign the registry and we usually get 450-500 that do. But many more pass through."

The show will include quilts that are judged, and quilts that aren't. It is entirely up to the quilter.

Fink said entry forms for the show are available at Big Horn Quilts in Greybull. If the quilter wants her quilt to be judged, however, it will have to be entered through the Big Horn County Fair, like all other entries.

Fink would appreciate it if all those displaying quilts would complete the form available at Big Horn Quilts,

regardless of whether it is to be judged. This allows Fink and her helpers to attach a label to the quilt that viewers can easily read.

Entry forms can be left at Big Horn Quilts, mailed to Fink at Box 74, Basin, WY. 82410, or the information can be e-mailed to Fink at skfink@ctwest.net.

Quilts are to be at the main BHC Fair Building on Wednesday, Aug. 1 between the hours of 7 - 11 a.m. They can also be left at Big Horn Quilts on or before Aug. 1.

Fink said in observing the people who pass through the exhibition hall, "I think they are drawn to subject matter more than the quilt. In this area, especially, it seems people really like those that have animals or scenery."

As for Fink, who began quilting in 1979, "I have been at this game for so long, I am attracted more to color and design than subject matter. Fabric is like an artist's palette. It you have it on hand you can experiment." For instance, she pointed out, "If one shade of green doesn't work, another will."



The quilt show opens Thursday, Aug. 2 and runs through Saturday, Aug. 4.

Fink thoroughly enjoys overseeing the quilt show. She said, "I have worked with just about everybody who brings in a quilt for this show." This gives her a good idea of what to expect, but, "Every year someone always surprises me. There will be one especially that catches my eye."

What catches Fink's eye, might not catch yours. "My favorite might not be everybody else's." And that is the joy of quilting.

Stop at the Big Horn County Fair and meander through the "quilt shop." It will open August 2 at 9 a.m. and run through Saturday, Aug. 4 at 8 p.m.

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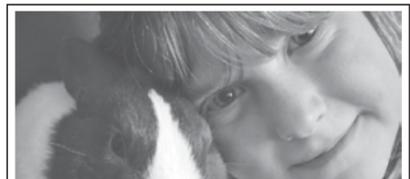
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**MEMBER Spotlight** **All in the family for the Bullingers**

BY MARLYS GOOD

In 4-H language, the Chris and Christine Bullinger family is going to the "dogs." That includes Michael, 16, Rachel, 14, Ammon, 11 and Melissa, 9, all members of the Otto Flats 4-H Club, who will be showing off their respective "projects" at the Big Horn County Fair next week.

Their 4-H interests go beyond the three Papillon's (toy spaniel) and Australian shepherd they have been training. Each of the four has a market lamb project; Ammon added robotics, he and Rachel have art projects and Melissa is into fabric and fashion. (John, the oldest of the Bullinger siblings and a nine-year member of 4-H, did not sign up this year. Still waiting in the wings is 6-year-old Rebecca.)

When did the interest in dogs start? Christine said it was the year Michael attended a State 4-H dog camp. "When they saw the agility ... the tunnels ... they were hooked and have been big time ever since," she laughed.

Christine grew up in Oregon — and in 4-H, so she knows how time-consuming it is; she also knows how much fun it can be, and how much young people gain by being involved. It was different for Chris, who does not have a 4-H background.

But that has all changed. As his youngsters got more

involved, so did Chris. Sheep pens, dog tunnels, agility courses, Chris does it all. He constructed most of the agility equipment used at the fairgrounds for the dog show (which starts at 9 a.m. Saturday), the walk, the jumps, "stuff like that," Christine explained, "and he'll have to help load and transport it to Basin. He also helps figure out the feeding rations for the lambs — what we feed them and what we can use that we grow right here on the farm so we don't have to buy pre-packaged feed. We keep him roped in," Christine laughed. "He is very supportive."

With the fair just two weeks away, it is getting busier at the Bullingers.

Melissa, with some guidance from her mother, is working on a dress, which must be finished and ready to model come July 26 (today). "Just next week," Christine said, in her interview last week, with a smile in her voice. The 8-year-old has a pillow case completed already so that is no problem. All four spend 20-30 minutes a day working with their market lambs, teaching them how to stand, etc. for the showmanship competition, and another 20-30 minutes a day working with their dogs. The Papillions have longer coats, so they have to be brushed and trimmed every two weeks; they will be bathed and clipped just be-



The Bullingers, Rachel, Melissa, Michael and Ammon will be showing dogs and sheep at this year's fair.

fore the dog show.

Ammon has already taken his robot to the 4-H Showcase Showdown, and took second overall for construction in the intermediate competition. It was a "tasty" robot. Based on a factory theme, it was programmed to pick a strawberry off a conveyor belt, and dip it in chocolate. "Good to taste," his mother laughed. You can see the chocolate-dipping robot at the fair, and the young man has "ideas" for building another one, but it is up in the air whether it will be completed in time to be entered.

It's a busy time and a hectic time, but the Bullingers know that their youngsters gain so much from being involved in 4-H.

"They have gained a lot

in terms of setting goals and learning how to achieve them. They have learned the more they put into a project, the better the results will be. Some projects they do they just throw something together, some they spend a lot more time at, working at it, put in a lot more effort, and those are the ones they will win prizes with. They have learned public speaking skills through the presentation contests every year, through the community service they have learned to give back to others. They learn to manage their time."

Summing it up, Christine said, "It's all gain. A lot of time involved, but they learn life skills that will help them in their job and family as they grow older."

**MEMBER Spotlight** **Being a leader is 'pretty enjoyable'**

BY MARLYS GOOD

It didn't take much more than a decade for Shawn Stoffers to transition from being a member of the Shell Rough Riders 4-H Club, to being a leader of the Shell Rough Riders.

Stoffers, whose family moved to the Beaver Creek area in 1986, spent four years as a Rough Rider, serving as its president for several years. When he outgrew 4-H, it was natural for him to continue helping his young friends up Shell, like Sarah Anderson and the Fitch children. Which he did for 10 years. Projects included steers, sheep and horses, right up Shawn's alley as his 4-H projects included steers and market beef.

In 2002 he became a leader and after 10 years he draws, "It ain't bad. It's pretty enjoyable."

Maybe more so now that his sons, Clancy, 13, and Carson, 8, are involved. "It's more enjoyable to watch my kids show than when I was doing it," he laughs.

As a leader Shawn shares the job with Cammy Cannady. "I do the beef, she does the overall thing," he explains. "She is really good at it."

Stoffers ticks off his "protégés" that include, "Two Dooley kids, four Flitner kids (Gregs) and Marshall Flitner, my two and two Griffins. I don't want to leave anyone out, but I think that's it."

New members, he says, "The young kids, I go help, teach them to halter break their animals, get them started, then they come to meetings," and "the older kids help the young kids and I help them all. 4-H is one thing where everybody helps everybody."

The club meets once a month, but things are heating up with the Big Horn County Fair less than a month away, he said in a recent interview. "We are getting ready for some of the 'Feeder Shows,' there's one at Powell and one at Basin. They are like the

County Fair, you take the animals in, show them, get judged. Just like at fair."

At the Stoffers house, Clancy and Carson "have been washing our animals once a day to cool them down and make their hair grow." An activity that keeps the Flitner, Griffins and Dooley kids busy also.

A careful watch is kept on the feeding of the steers. There is a science to it. "You want them to weigh 1,200 to 1,300 by fair time. They (judges) like them big anymore. Many animals may weigh 1,350 pounds. If they are not fat it is hard to win," he explains.

As a general axiom, "Whatever an animal weighs you feed them 3 percent of that. That works pretty well. The bigger they get, you may go back to 2-1/2 percent. But they still eat (about) 25-pounds of grain a day.

"Their diet is strictly hay and grain. They are kept in a pen, no green grass. You get them on green grass and it don't work."

That is the formula for feeder steers. The Dooleys, Flitners and Stoffers also have breeding heifers, which are put on a different diet. "They don't get much grain. You don't want them fat; you want them ready to have calves. They are fed basically hay and a lot are put out in pastures."

Showmanship is taught in a show ring, "Kind of like a classroom. You teach them ways to do it right. Keep their (animal's) head up, the way to set their feet. But the biggest thing now is how to groom them. It takes quite a bit of hair spray," to groom a steer, he



Shawn Stoffers has been active in the fair as a 4-H member, leader and enjoying the festivities like the horseshoe pitching tournament.

laughs.

If there is one aspect of 4-H that is not as enjoyable it is keeping record books. Complete and up-to-date, but it has to be done.

The best part is watching the kids mature and grow; watching them show their animals at the Big Horn County Fair.

And Stoffers will be front and center, beaming with pride as his "protégés" show off their year's work. But he'll have a special smile for his two. County and state fairs over, record books in, and the year's work done. But they'll get something special. "Once a year we take them and go down to Worland for a big bowling and pizza party."

**LEADER Spotlight** **It's a family tradition for 25-year member Ruth Howe**

By PATTI CARPENTER

For many, 4-H is a multi-generational experience. Ruth Howe has been a member of 4-H most of her life. The organization acknowledged her recently for her 25 years of participating in the organization.

"My mother was a 4-H member, I was a member when I was a child, I put my own children through 4-H and now my grandchildren are members," explained Howe.

Howe grew up on a farm about 50 miles from Lusk. She and her two brothers and two sisters were all members of 4-H.

"We did horses, steers, breeding cows and I remember winning a heifer once," said Howe. She fondly remembers the greased-pig contest for girls and the catch-a-calf contest for boys, where she and her brother both won calves.

"It was exciting because my brother and I both won black calves and my father raised Herefords, (typically red with white markings) so

it was fun to see the black animals versus the Hereford colored animals."

Howe's family raised about 60 head of cattle on a dry-land farm.

"I was on a horse gathering cows when I was just a kid," said Howe. As a child, she participated in 4-H for nine years. Participating in 4-H was a big part of her social life, which was otherwise isolated on a farm that was located far away from town.

"It was a learning experience for me," said Howe. "I learned how to judge animals but most of all it helped me to mingle with other children because we lived 50 miles from the nearest town and until I went to high school. I didn't have a lot of interaction with other children, except my brothers and sisters. For many years, we were the only kids in our little country school."

Howe is the "key leader" for the Eagle Rock 4-H Club in Lovell. She has been a leader in 4-H for 25 years. She is well-known for her "petting zoo" booth at the



Ruth Howe has been involved in 4-H most of her life.

4-H carnival and at the county fair.

Howe hopes that by encouraging her grandchildren and great-grandchildren to participate in 4-H, she can play a role in continuing the long tradition of active 4-H membership

in her family. So far, her own children participated for up to 10 years and their offspring have already embarked on a similar path. "I'm here to help anyone who wants my help," said Howe. "I think it's a great program for kids."

**MEMBER Spotlight** **Social skills highlight experience for 10-year member**

By PATTI CARPENTER

"Some people think that milk and bacon comes from the grocery store, but 4-H teaches young people where it really comes from," said 18-year-old Miranda Griffis, a member of 4-H for 10 years. For Griffis and other active members in 4-H, it's about learning to take on a project from start to finish, like raising an animal or learning to take professional looking photographs. It's about leadership and hard work. It's about taking pride in a job well done and learning how to present that project with pride before a group of judges.

"The fair is fun and it's a time when you finally get to show off all the hard

work you did all year," said Griffis. Since Griffis already lives on a farm, working with animals is second nature to her. It was the social skills that she learned in 4-H that she found most valuable.

"The whole point of 4-H for me was to get out and meet people," said Griffis. "I've made 4-H friends at the fair, who I might not see every day until the fair rolls around."

With the support and encouragement of family members and 4-H leaders, Griffis has shown dogs, horses, sheep and pigs at the fair. She also learned about photography, which she hopes to continue as a hobby throughout her life. On a scale of one to 10,



Miranda Griffis has participated in 4-H for 10 years.

Griffis rates her experience in 4-H as a "10 plus," not only for herself but also for the animals that have participated with her.

"I especially enjoyed the dog classes," said Griffis. "It was a good social experience for me and for the dogs, too."

Griffis competed at first with her pet dachshund and later with her blue heeler. Since the dogs don't get away from the farm much, Griffis felt the social experience was good for them.

Griffis is a recent graduate of Lovell High School and plans to study occupational therapy at Northwest College. With a busy college life looming in her future, Griffis doesn't see herself continuing to participate in 4-H, but looks forward to seeing her own children participate someday.

"I've done my time, I've done everything I'm going to do, now it's time to let the younger kids have a chance to learn and grow like I did in 4-H," said Griffis.

**Smoking in designated areas allowed on fairgrounds**

While signs posted along the midway at the Big Horn County Fair last year declared no smoking on the fairgrounds, few people complied, according to Sheriff Ken Blackburn.

He said while the county has a policy of no tobacco on county property, the county does not have an enforceable ordinance. At the July 17 commissioner meeting, he sought input on how to han-

dle tobacco at this year's fair. Blackburn said he agrees that smoking should not be allowed in any of the buildings or the livestock barns. He said he also believes it should not be allowed in the grandstands or other areas where a large amount of people are gathered.

He said a no tobacco policy affects a lot of smokeless tobacco users, which one usually finds at fairs and ro-

deos. Chairman Jerry Ewen said, "I'm OK with a no smoking policy. It is a health hazard." However, he said he would agree to a suggestion of designated smoking areas.

Blackburn said if this year they can direct smokers to designated areas, then he can work with the county attorney's office on working on an enforceable ordinance for

the future. The commissioners approved a motion to allow smoking on the fairgrounds in designated areas. The sheriff's office, Basin Police Department and the fair board will determine the areas.

Have fun at the fair!



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Good luck to everyone participating!

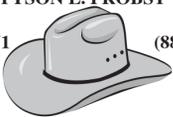
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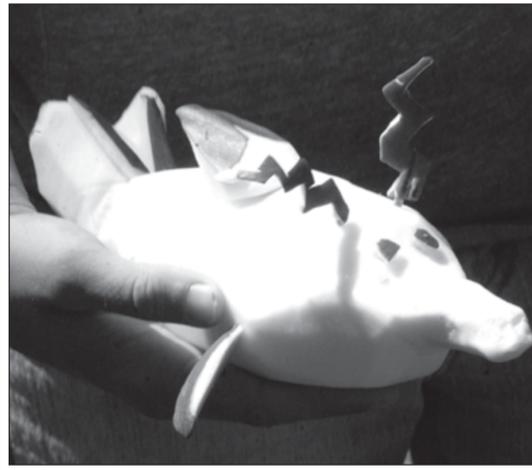
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**Zucchini, horseshoes, air playground and more**

Along with all the exhibits, musical entertainment and livestock shows, the Big Horn County Fair offers a variety of other entertainment including the zucchini carving contest (above a dolphin from last year's contest) which is at noon on Saturday, Aug. 4. The horseshoe pitching contest will also be at noon Aug. 4. The dress-a-pet will be at 1 p.m. in the show arena. There is the peewee sheep showmanship at 2 p.m. on Aug. 2 and the sheep lead just before at 2:30 p.m. The Junior Livestock Sale will again be on Friday night, Aug. 1, starting at 6 p.m., in the Big Horn REA Arena. The air playground will be at the fair starting Thursdays, from noon - 6 p.m.



## Open Class has something for everyone

The Big Horn County Fair is not just for the youth of the communities, people of all ages are welcome and encouraged to enter in nine different open class departments.

There is still time to grab that jar of pickles you just canned, or that salsa, or that afghan you just finished and enter in this year's fair.

Deadlines for most open class events is Monday, July 30. Exceptions include hay entries, which were due July 19 and horse entries (July 26).

There is Open Class Livestock, which follows the junior shows and includes beef, dairy goat, swine, sheep, horse halter, horse performance, peewee sheep showmanship for the youngest of exhibitors, carcass classes and angora goats.

Open Class Rabbits, Poultry and Eggs also includes turkey, ducks, geese, ornamental birds and pigeons.

Open Class Grain — Forage and Crops include corn and threshed grain, sheaf grain, hay, potatoes, soy bean, vegetables for seed, stock and root and the hay show and sugar beets.

Open Class Fruits and Vegetables includes a variety of both and also includes herbs and spices.

Open Class Floriculture includes cut flowers and artistic arrangements.

Open Class Food Preservation includes canned vegetables fruits and juices, jellies and preserves, pickles, relishes and more.

Open Class Needlework includes crochet, cross-stitch, embroidery, machine showing and more.

Open Class Arts and Crafts including paintings, children's art, sculptures and models, photography, leatherwork and much more.

Open Class Culinary includes pastries and other baked goods, foreign foods, bean festival foods and diabetic foods.

See the fair book, available at various locations around the county, or call the fair office at 568-2968 for more information.

## Fair Parade set for Saturday morning

The Basin Area Chamber of Commerce works in conjunction with the Big Horn County Fair Board to sponsor the Big Horn County Fair Parade each year. This year's parade will again be at 10 a.m. Saturday morning, Aug. 4.

Lineup starts at the Big Horn County Library along north and south Sixth Street. The parade winds its way down C Street/Wyoming Highway 30 and takes a right turn onto Fourth Street/U.S. Highway 20 and proceeds south down to the fairgrounds.

Parade entries are asked to start lining up at 9:30 a.m. Entries for the parade are still being accepted through noon on Friday, July 27 (tomorrow).

Cash prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place judged to best follow the theme of the parade — "Barn In the USA."

Entry forms are available at all chamber offices in the county or in the fair book. Call the Basin Area Chamber at 568-3055 for more information. Entries are asked to limit siren and horn noise.



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## Rabbit show schedule just one of several changes

By JENNIFER BUTLER  
Staff Reporter

There have been six major changes to the schedule and plans from this year's Big Horn County Fair.

First the Ranch Horse Versatility has been removed from competitions.

Second, the English Performances have been moved to Monday, July 30, and will be followed by the Open Halter Horse classes.

Third, the Open Swine class will be held at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 1, after the Junior Swine class.

Fourth, the Junior Rabbit and Poultry shows will be scheduled for 10 a.m. on Friday, August 3. Open class for rabbit and poultry will follow the junior class. The show had previously been on Thursday during the sheep show but due to conflicts between 4-H and FFA members who show both sheep and/or chicken and rabbits it was moved to Friday.

Fifth, the free stage concert, Home Free, will begin around 2:30 p.m. on Friday, August 3. The concert is scheduled as a family-friendly event.

Sixth, the Big Horn County Fair Board will have a silent auction for a 4-H member's projects in the 4-H general exhibit building. The bidding will begin on Thursday, July 26 and end on Saturday, August 2. County 4-H members wanting to place an item up for auction should contact the extension office at 765-2868.

Fair Manager Deb Schnitzmeier said there have also been changes to the fairgrounds. She said the show arena was recently painted with accent colors. She said they were painted with FFA blue and gold and 4-H green. She added they also added sunshades in the same colors.

Schnitzmeier added there are changes to the free stage, the new horse sheds, and new footings for the grandstand.



## The 1921 fair drew raves, one rant

By MARLYS GOOD

The 2012 edition of the Big Horn County Fair is just around the corner. Much will be written of the annual event, the exhibits, the young people, 4-H and FFA members, as well as those who enter displays in the Open Class, who devote hours of their time preparing for judging.

But we doubt any write-ups will be as flowery or verbose as those that appeared in the Sept. 9, 1921 Greybull Standard. The reporter was eloquent indeed.

The Fair was held Sept. 6-8 and an ad in the Sept. 1 edition promised: "Three Big Nights as well as Three Big Days." There were: "Races of every description. Wild Horse Races. Horse and Auto Relay Races. Bareback Contests. Bucking Contests. Funny Clowns. Exhibition Riding. Free Acts on the Track."

The nights would include: "Campfire Night and Corn Roast Tuesday. Costume Parade with prizes offered Wednesday. The Big Carnival and Masquerade Dance Thursday night. Baseball on Wednesday and Thursday mornings at the Baseball Park" and last but not least: "Finest Merry-Go-Round in All the Land."

How about this review of the children's handiwork: "In this department was the displays of the handiwork of the children of the public schools of the county, which could not help but cause pride to arise in the breast of the parents of the county in our school system. It was a demonstration of the fact that out here in the big west where the winds blow over the peaks of the greatest mountain ranges of the continent, the dust storms occasionally drive us to cover and the sun shines more days in the year, and the stars stand out of the canopy overhead like diamonds studded into the great curtain of night there is developing talent as great as any ever written about in all history. Drawings and sketches were displayed that caused the visitor to pause and ponder over what the children had wrought."

How many women living in and around Big Horn County today would relate to this paragraph on the poultry exhibit. "This appealed very strongly to the women as well as the men, for it is a rare housewife who is not interested in poultry and it is questionable if the woman lives who, when the warm rays of the spring sun shed over the landscape each year, is not actuated by a desire to set a hen and raise some chickens of her own?"

The writer, however, did not give a heads up to the entire fair. He took issue with the "games of chance" offered in some of the concession stands.

"The only thing that don't seem to be needed any more in order to develop the moral and educational side of young America, to produce better crops, better livestock, better home life, is the cocksureness that savor of games of chance in which youth is led to believe he may be lucky or might beat the deal and come off winner. It occurs to us that the farmers and many others might take a deeper interest in the fairs if those in charge would refuse to grant privileges to such things. There is an element of sport and a desire to take a chance in the human family that don't require any cultivation and it is unfair to permit things that can only cut one's eye teeth, through experience on which some bright individual with no other incentive than gain, may impart."

He ended with the dire warning: "These things have caused many fairs in other states to be shunned and go broke because the farmers did not believe their best interests were being conserved or their children benefitted."

Will the 2012 Fair include any such "games of chance"? What would that 1921 writer have to say about the pig wrestling that is and has been such a popular part of the fairs in the past dozen or so years? Or the calcutta that precedes it, which could certainly be described as a "game of chance?" How many women wandering through the "chicken barn" will be fighting the urge to raise chickens of their own? Or will they think: "Hey, I can have chicken for supper. Do I want it broasted, roasted or fried?"

Or will they look at the geese in their pens and think of raising them so they can make goose-down pillows.

One thing for sure, the after-the-fair stories in 2012 will not be as flowery, descriptive, or perhaps even as trumpy as the one in 1921.

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# WESTERN CONCERT

From page 1

about singing and performing, just about writing."

Rogerson said the singing just became the next stage of development in his musical career.

According to his biography on the website, [www.jaredrogerson.com](http://www.jaredrogerson.com), Rogerson is the product of a generation learning to thrive in midst of ever

**ON THE WEB:**

[www.jaredrogerson.com](http://www.jaredrogerson.com)

changing surroundings. His songwriting draws from 17 years of experience bronc riding in rodeos and thousands of miles dedicated to exploring the remote backcountry on horseback.

"I learned things you can't learn in any classroom," he said.

Rogerson's college tuition was covered mostly through rodeo and academic scholarships and he

earned a master's degree in biology while continuing to rodeo professionally.

It was one last rodeo injury in 2007 that spurred Rogerson into taking his music more seriously. He now sports an L-shaped scar on the inner joint of his riding arm where the biceps tendon was re-attached.

"I like this scar, it was good timing. It gave me an opportunity to escape with my life and chase a different dream," he said.

Rogerson has also been influenced by a variety

of musical styles. "When you're rodeoing, you spend most of the time just driving and listening to the radio. We listened to whatever would keep us awake," he said. The resulting line-up of some of his all time favorite artists includes George Strait, Brad Paisley, Steve Earle, Lucinda Williams, Bob Dylan, the Grateful Dead and Bon Jovi. However the artist that he said undoubtedly influenced his life and music most was Chris LeDoux.

According to the web-

site's media release, "If you take Jared's diverse repertoire of life experiences and mix it together with all the musical genres that have inspired him, the end result is a unique sonic blend of contemporary authenticity that he calls, "Western Country." His 2011 release, "Peace, Love & Horses," is described as a modern cowboy-flavored vibe lyrically embellished with character and an honest edge, and deepened by the unmistakable tone of genuine experience.

"For me, it's about living everyday life in a western circumstance. The West has raised-up its very own cowboys and hippies and everything in between. I think writing songs about all these different things really paints a better picture of The West and what I'm all about," Rogerson said. Promoting rodeo, and education, teaching life's lessons, and bringing forth a greater awareness of our wild surroundings are all part of a role that Rogerson is proud to fill.

# QUEEN

From page 1

because, "I'm a very driven individual. I have served as the past Big Horn County Senior Princess, where I represented the county at numerous local rodeos and parades.

"Being the Big Horn County Queen would be an honor and help me take another step toward achieving my goal of running for Miss Rodeo Wyoming."

Jessa Clark, 15, of Basin was named BHC Fair and Rodeo Princess. In the contest Clark rode her horse, Guess, a brown quarter horse.

In her application Clark said, "I love rodeo queening, and I always have! I love the sport of rodeo. I am a real cowgirl, and I love where I live! Most of all, I love to promote the sport of rodeo to everyone

around to make them feel that amazing rodeo spirit!"

Trenity Hackney, 10, of Cowley was named BHC Fair and Rodeo Junior Princess.

Hackney was one of three girls competing for the title.

Hackney was riding a horse she has been leasing for over two years, named Cricket. Cricket is a black quarter horse.

Hackney, when asked why she wanted to become junior princess, said, "To support and encourage the youth of Big Horn County. I would also like to share my experience and knowledge of equines with other youth."

Jordan Flitner was awarded best horsemanship and Lindsey Hobbs was named Miss Congeniality (voted on by the contestants).

# Derby organizers expect another classic

Organizers of this year's Big Horn County Fair demolition derby expect another "crash 'em and bash 'em" classic when the event takes center stage at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 5.

Steve VanderPloeg said the derby will be "the same as it's always been," with no significant changes.

Drivers will be competing for their share of the \$3,000 purse. The winner will get \$1,500, the second-place finisher \$1,000 and the third-place finisher \$500.

The entry fee is \$50 per car. Entry forms are available at the fair office. Drivers can also register by showing up early on the day of the competition.

Admission is \$8 for adults; kids 5 and under are free.

For more information, contact the fair office at 568-2968.



The annual demolition derby will conclude the entertainment at this year's Big Horn County Fair. Crashing begins at 2:30 p.m. Aug. 5, at the Big Horn REA Arena.

# Junior events rolled into main rodeo

By NATHAN OSTER

There have been tweaks over the years to the schedule, but the Saturday night rodeo remains one of the top draws of the annual Big Horn County Fair.

The ropin' and ridin' on Saturday, Aug. 4 in the Big Horn REA Arena will begin with the team roping and barrel racing slack at 3 p.m.

The main rodeo will start at 7 p.m. and include junior barrel racing and steer riding. Last year those junior rodeo events preceded the main rodeo. The main rodeo will feature bareback, saddle bronc and bull riding; calf, breakaway and team roping; the ladies barrels and wild horse race.

Admission for the evening rodeo is \$8.

The fair dance featuring the Cowley Boys will follow the rodeo and cap the evening's festivities.



Shannon Hill races around a barrel during last year's rodeo. This year's rodeo gets under way at 7 p.m. Saturday night.

# Pig wrestling in the spotlight Aug. 2

By NATHAN OSTER

It's a natural that pig wrestling be included in the lineup for the Big Horn County Fair.

Double D Pig Wrestling, which puts on 25 pig wrestling shows annually throughout Montana, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming, is based in south Big Horn County. The owners of the business, Ron and Donna Dalin, reside outside Greybull.

"We've been supplying the animals for 20 to 25 years," said Donna.

While the fair runs the show, it's the Dalins who bring the hogs, set up the ring and mix the mud, which this year is being supplied by Wyo-Ben.

For fairgoers, it's must-see entertainment. The action on Thursday, Aug. 2, gets under way at 6 p.m. in the Big Horn REA Arena. Admission is \$6.

There will be divisions for pee wee (ages 5-8), juniors (9-16), women (16 and over) and men (16 and over). The entry fee is \$10 for pee wees, \$40 for juniors and \$60 for both men's and women's teams.

Team entry fees must accompany team registration and be received in the fair office by no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 1. There is no limit to the number of entries, but the wrestling performance is on a first-come, first-served basis.



There are divisions for all ages in the pig wrestling competition that begins at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 2.

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**Good Luck to all Fair Contestants!**

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