

MPCC Cuts Ribbon At Valentine Campus



COURTESY PHOTO

Mid-Plains Community College officials, along with representatives from the Nebraska Legislature and the City of Valentine, cut the ribbon on a new campus in Valentine on Wednesday evening, July 26. Altogether, more than 20 donors contributed a total of \$2.7 million toward the campus. Those included MPCC, the City of Valentine, private foundations, federal agencies, individual donors and community businesses and organizations.

Valentine Campus benefits from local generosity

The ribbon cutting ceremony for the Valentine Campus of MPCC was held Wednesday, evening July 26. It should be noted that the new Valentine campus would not have been possible without the generous support of numerous members of the community, along with local and regional organizations, who envisioned the need for enhanced educational opportunities in the Nebraska Sandhills.

"The community support for the campus has just been outstanding," said Bonnie Kruse, MPCC area director of Institutional Advancement. "The residents of Valentine were the largest contributors - committing \$1 million as part of their sales tax renewal special election in 2014. That speaks volumes. It is the community's campus, and the town has really embraced that."

Altogether, more than 20 donors contributed a total of \$2.7 million toward the campus. In addition to the City of Valentine, those included: MPCC, private foundations, federal agencies, individual donors and community businesses and organizations.

"The majority of the money people gave to the project over last three

years went toward construction," said Kruse. "Now that the building is up, we can really start to focus on offering the community what it needs as far as training for current and potential employees."

Kruse said MPCC recognizes that every community is unique and requires different skill sets to thrive. That is what the college's outreach campuses in Valentine, Broken Bow, Ogallala and Imperial are designed to do - offer educational opportunities and customized training for the particular areas they serve. Ongoing contributions are essential to providing those services in Cherry County.

"The need doesn't stop once the building is constructed," said Kruse. "We want to give the community what it wants, and there are still opportunities for people to help us do that. When someone makes a gift to the college, it can be done in a number of ways, including scholarships, equipment or as an annual gift."

Those interested in contributing to the MPCC Valentine Campus project can contact Kruse at kruseb@mpcc.edu, or (308) 535-3754 for more information.

Bradley & Bass Represent Area At NHSRA Finals

The Saturday night, July 22 short round concluded the 2017 National High School Finals Rodeo (NHSFR) and the World Champions were crowned.

By three tenths of a second Elle Eagle became the 2017 High School World Champion barrel racer. The Colorado cowgirl overcame a hardship last year when her horse broke his leg. Eagle admires the grit and huge heart her horse gave throughout the rehabilitation process and to make it this far. She didn't think he'd come back from his injury.

Bareback rider, Payton Lackey of Blanco, TX made three consistent rides to give him a world title in the bareback riding. Lackey came into the short-go with 151 points on two, just three points ahead of Jess Pope. Lackey says he just picked up riding bareback horses eight months ago when he attended a bareback riding clinic offered by the four-time WNFR World Champion, Bobby Mote.

Texas cowboys and cowgirls showed their expertise in the cutting pen—Chaser Crouch is the boy's Cutting World Champion and Jamie Lyn Lucas is the girl's Cutting World Champion.

Brighton Bauman of Okeechobee, Florida came into the breakaway roping leading the aggregate and roped her calf in 2.56 seconds to hold the lead in the aggregate and earn the 2017 World Champion Breakaway Roping title.

Going into the final short round performance of the bull riding, Trey Holston (KS) led the aggregate by one point. Holston's 84-point ride was the highest in the final round - he covered all three of his rides for a total of 242 points and became the World Champion Bull Rider.

The goat tier from Texas, Sonora Schueneman had quick and consistent hands last week at the NHSFR. Schueneman won go-round 1 with a 6.83 second run and her 7.21 run in the second go-round set her first in the



RODEOPIX PHOTOS

JT Bradley, Brewster cowboy, competing in the Boy's Cutting at the 2017 NHSRA Finals held recently in Wyoming.



Ty Bass competed in the Reined Cow Horse competition at the recent 2017 NHSRA Finals in Wyoming.

round and in the average. Schueneman took the title when she tied her third goat in 7.59 seconds.

Mikayla Joh Almond of Olin, North Carolina fought a tough race in the pole bending. Almond came into the final round fifth in the average and had a smoking 19.865 second run to move her all the way to the top of the leader board just behind hometown cowgirl, Shay Hough.

Utah cowboy, Daxon Buttars scored high points in the reined cow horse arena throughout the week. Buttars ended up third in go round 1 with 292 points and second in go round 2 with 294.5 points. He scored 295.5 points in the final round to give him 882

points total and crown him the Reined Cow Horse World Champion.

Eighteen-year-old senior, Houston Brown from Miles City, Montana earned the 2017 Saddle Bronc World Title after his 79 point ride Saturday night. Brown won the first round and led the average by eight points going into the final short round.

The bulldogger from Oak View, California, Tucker Allen flipped three steers consistently at the NHSFR to earn him the 2017 World Champion Steer Wrestler title. Allen says Luke Branquinho is one of his biggest inspirations and thanks Branquinho for helping him get to where

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Unclaimed Property Outreach Activities to Begin First Week of August

Outreach activities for the Unclaimed Property Division of the Nebraska Treasurer's Office get underway next week at the Sarpy County Fair in Springfield and the York County Fair in York, State Treasurer Don Stenberg said today.

Unclaimed Property specialists will staff the Treasurer's booth Aug. 2-6 at the Sarpy County Fair and Aug. 3-6 at the York County Fair. The specialists will be available to help fairgoers search for unclaimed property for themselves or for friends and relatives and will assist them in filing claims or advising them on the documentation needed to complete their claims.

"Our outreach events are a good way for us to talk to Nebraskans, explain our unclaimed property program, and help Nebraskans search for unclaimed property we may be holding in

their names or in their friends' or relatives' names. We are also holding significant amounts for businesses, institutions, and organizations," Treasurer Stenberg said.

Other outreach events where Nebraskans can search for unclaimed property include the following:

- Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island, Pinnacle Bank Expo Building, Aug. 25-Sept. 4
- Husker Harvest Days, Diversified Industries North Building, Grand Island, Sept. 12-14
- Applejack Festival, Pumpkin Ridge Farm, Nebraska City, Sept. 16-17
- Northeast Nebraska Farm Show, Norfolk, Jan. 17-18, 2018

"The State Fair is one of the highlights of the year for our unclaimed property outreach team. The fair gives us an opportunity to reach a large number of people and results

in a significant number of approved claims. Last year \$55,608 was paid out in 229 claims originating from the State Fair," Stenberg said.

In all, the Treasurer's Office is holding \$170 million in unclaimed property for 350,000 Nebraskans, former Nebraskans, and heirs. So far, in 2017, the Treasurer's Office has paid out almost 12,000 claims, totaling almost \$10 million, putting the office on track to exceed the \$16.3 million, a record amount, returned last year.

Common forms of unclaimed property are uncashed paychecks, refunds, rental deposits, utility deposits, stocks, and dividends, insurance payments, savings bonds, matured CDs, and lost IRAs.

"Since county fairs and the State Fair attract Nebraskans from rural parts

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CSA 4-H Style Revue



COURTESY PHOTO

The Central Sandhills Area 4-H style revue was held Friday, July 14, at the Lodge at the Nebraska State 4-H Camp. Four-H'ers from Blaine, Thomas, Hooker and Grant counties had the opportunity to share their sewing projects, modeling skills, and play a little foosball with 4-H'ers from surrounding counties. Pictured above are the participants who competed in the competition, back row, l-r: Tel Kvanvig, Sierra Carr, and Molly Paxton. Middle row, l-r: Ember Chavez, Shaylee Milleson, Emily Chavez, Terra Shoemaker, Ella Rice, Tate Kvanvig, Kalli Licking, Peyton Paxton and Lola Rowse-Smith. Front row, l-r: Shalynn Amos, Augusta, Zane and Henrietta Schneidereit and Dominic Rowse-Smith. Complete results on back page of this issue.