

Welcoming home a world champion



COURTESY PHOTO

Friends and family welcomed World Champion cowboy, Coy Johnston home from Gillette, Wyoming on Sunday, July 24. Pictured above with signs made for Coy's welcome are, l-r: Heather Harwager, Cotter Johnston, Jason Johnston, Coy, Johnston, Cayson Johnston, Jennifer Johnston, Connie O'Brien and Michele Needs at the Johnston family ranch west of Stapleton.

Marcia Hora

Stapleton cowboy Coy Johnston said he wasn't nervous, but his mom and grandma sure were, as he set up in the box for his final run at the 2022 National High School Rodeo Finals held last week in Gillette, Wyoming.

Johnston, who was the last person to go in the short go handled the pressure to win the world title 60 years to the day his grandfather, Jim Johnston won the national bull riding

title in 1962. He clocked a cumulative time of 13.79 seconds over his three runs to win the average and title.

Johnston was the first one out in the first go and set the pace with the fastest time of 4.14. He followed that with a time of 4.86 in the second go and placed 7th, and posted the 4th best time in the short go Saturday night at 4.79.

It was the culmination of a rodeo career that began at the age of four. "I practice bulldogging two days a week and something else every

night," Johnston said. "Rodeo is what our family has always done."

The 18-year-old will be a senior at Stapleton High School this fall where he also participates in football and basketball.

Johnston made it to state this year in team roping and calf roping and was the Nebraska State High School Rodeo Steer Wrestling Champion. He also brought home the timed event trailer.

"Ote Barry called me yesterday to congratulate me," Johnston said. "He was the national steer

wrestling champion in 1980 and while I was at nationals, I competed in the Ote Berry Junior World Championships and placed third in the jackpot to qualify for Vegas."

Johnston adds his name to the list of Nebraskans winning the world steer wrestling title, in addition to Berry, and includes Casey McPeak in 1976; Jim Will in 1967; Bill Hammond in 1965; and Tony Weise in 1963.

Johnston's dad is also a two time Nebraska State Steer Wrestling Cham-

pion with titles in 1990 and 1991. His uncles on both sides also made it to nationals.

Johnston gives a lot of credit to his horse, Jazz,

and hazing horse, Freckles.

"I couldn't have any better horses. They're good. I

See Johnston
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Nebraska Press Comes To Town

The Stapleton Enterprise/McPherson County News and Thomas County Herald hosted the Nebraska Press Association and One Press at the office in Stapleton. The group enjoyed a tasting at Herbie's Speakeasy, a tour of Stapleton, and a steak dinner served at the Stapleton Community Center.

Attending were Dennis DeRossett, executive director of Nebraska Press, Violet Spader, sales and marketing director, and Susan Watson, member services/press releases.

Officers and board members in attendance were Kevin Peterson, NPA president, Wayne Herald; Rob Dump, treasurer, Hartington Cedar Co. News; Vickie Hrbaneck, One Press president, Norfolk Daily News; and Marcia Hora, vice president, The Stapleton Enterprise. Other newspapers represented were Gerri Peterson, Hooker County Tribune, Mullen, Peggy Year, Hartington Cedar Co. News, and Dennis Hueftle-Bullock, Custer County Chief, Broken



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Nebraska Press Association were at Creative Printers on Thursday, July 21 for a wine and whiskey tasting. They also toured businesses in town and had a steak supper at the community center to round out the day's activities. Owner and publisher Marcia Hora and editor Kendra Cutler are pictured in the Stapleton Community Center. Senator Mike Jacobson and his wife, Julie, were special guests.

Bow; and BYTZ who handles IT for the Nebraska Press Association. 42nd District State Senator Mike Jacobson and his wife, Julie, were special guests, along with Larry and Carol Hardesty, Kearney, contributing Enterprise editor, Heather Gill, Kids Scoop News, and

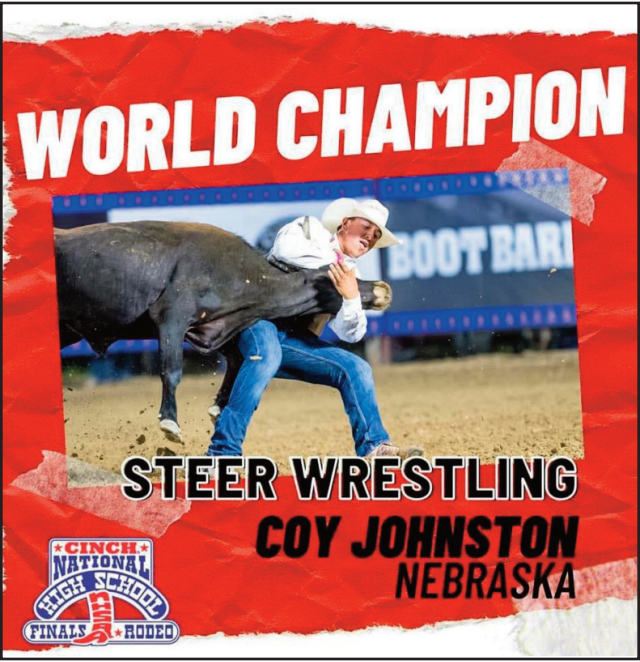
Barry and Nikki Lovitt, Lazy RW Whiskey.

Hosting the event were Enterprise staff, Kendra Cutler, editor and Megan Amos, reporter and circulation editor, and Bo and Kadee McVay, Wayne Hora, and Tony Cutler.

The executive boards

held their July meeting at North Platte on Friday morning, July 22.

Special thanks to the St. John's Altar Society, Kristie Walz, Kristy Opela, Jeana Hanna and Cindy Frey for serving and Skip and Megan Hecox for grilling the steaks.



Two Killed In Plane Crash

The morning of July 25, 2022, the McPherson County Sheriff responded to a report of a plane crash north of Ringgold. The McPherson County Sheriff, with the assistance of the Logan County Sheriff's office, and the Nebraska State Patrol responded as well as the McPherson County Fire and Rescue Dept. It was determined there were two occupants in the aircraft, both were fatalities.

The identity of the two individuals are James Michael Holland, age 80 of Fort Collins Colorado and Daniel Benedict Zahner, age 58 of Boulder Colorado. They were occupants of a two-seat private plane that crashed at approximately 8:40 a.m. July 25, approximately 11 miles north of Ringgold or 12 miles northeast of Tryon in pastureland in McPherson County. The aircraft had departed Greeley Colorado earlier that morning enroute to Cherokee Iowa.

The weather was rain and drizzle with very low ceiling and visibility which may have contributed to the accident. At this time the Sheriff's office has no clear causes.

The National Transportation Board and the Federal Aviation Administration investigations are ongoing at this time.

Give Blood August 26 In Tryon

Donated blood is a lifesaving gift most healthy people can give. The community is encouraged to donate blood on August 26, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the McPherson County Fair Building.

To make an appointment or to learn more, call Elaine at 587-2446, download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Completion of a RapidPass® online health history questionnaire is encouraged to help speed up the donation process. To get started, follow the instructions at redcrossblood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors, 18 years of age and younger, also have to meet certain requirements.

Weather

DATE	HI	LOW	MT.
23	94	67	0
24	101	60	0
25	86	60	.05
26	67	60	.03
27	85	55	.05
28	75	56	.48
29	77	57	0
30	80	57	0
31	85	58	0

Observations: Fog was observed on July 24, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31. Thunder was recorded on July 26, 27 & 28

According to <https://www.drought.gov/states/nebraska>

Since 2000, the longest duration of drought (D1-D4) in Nebraska lasted 348 weeks beginning on February 5, 2002, and ending on September 30, 2008. The most intense period of drought occurred the week of October 2, 2012, where D4 affected 77.61% of Nebraska land. D4 classification is exceptional and widespread crop and pasture losses.

McPherson Co. News



- Over The Hills
- Graphic Files
- McPherson County Fair Days

Notices



- Robert F. Hanich Charitable Trust Notice
- McPherson Co. School District #90 Notice
- McPherson Co. Commissioners Notice
- Upper Loup NRD Meeting Notice
- Village of Stapleton Meeting Notice
- Stapleton Rural Fire Board Meeting Notice

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