

## Fun blooms around Wauneta during Harvest Fest

Written by Wauneta Breeze  
Thursday, 31 July 2014 15:43 -

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**New to the Harvest Fest lineup was a Greased Pig Chase sponsored by the Wauneta-Palisade FFA. While some kids like Erika Rahn (pictured with pig) grabbed right on to the event, others, like LiLeigh Littrel, weren't so sure. (Christi Christner | The Wauneta Breeze)**

**By Sheri Hink-Wagner**

**The Wauneta Breeze**

Another successful Harvest Fest is on the books after last weekend's flurry of activity. The

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four-day event featured several new events and lots of old favorites.

Harvest Fest committee chairperson Brenda Anderson said, "I really appreciate all the volunteer help we get for Harvest Festival, it would not be possible without people taking part in providing events or participating."

A Harvest Fest attendee told Anderson, "I hope when I have grandchildren that are old enough to participate, that we will still be having Wauneta Harvest Festival," Anderson said, "This always makes you feel the time you put in it is worthwhile."

The celebration kicked off with a special showing of the Broadway production of "Driving Miss Daisy" at the Chateau Theatre, which was attended by 48 people. The Senior Center offered a pancake supper prior to the show that had a good attendance as well.

Things heated up on Friday, quite literally with a high of 104 degrees. Those who wanted to stay cool took in the puzzle contest at the Senior Center. Many youngsters got relief from the heat at the Pool Olympics where the littlest ones picked ducks and played basketball. Others enjoyed raft boat races, diving contest, watermelon races and pop can dives.

Friday evening was busy at the park with frisbee games, egg races and a greased pig chase for the kids, sand volleyball and baseball for kids and adults alike.

The Lion's Club served up refreshments with their annual Walking Taco Feed, where they served between 80 and 100 people, a few less than previous years.

Saturday was chuck full of activities starting with the annual Yucca Run (with one of the largest drawings to date), BW Telcom's courtesy breakfast where 175-200 people enjoyed a free meal.

The parade had a total of 37 entries this year. Susie's Creative Stitches took first place honors in the business class. Valley Bank and Trust earned second place and Wauneta Crossroads,

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third.

The Wauneta Senior Center took first place in the organization class, followed by the Wauneta-Palisade Cheerleaders in second.

Don Fortkamp took first place in the open class with his 1984 Oldsmobile Brougham Cutless. Second place went to Amber Gonzales with her horse Rush and third to Merrell Maris with his 1962 Studebaker Lark.

Ella and Tyler O'Neil took first place in the youth division and the Wauneta-Palisade Cub Scouts earned second place.

Ed and Jo Arenz were grand marshals of the parade.

After the parade there were several choices of things to do. Valley Bank hosted a nickel scramble for preschoolers and chalk art on main street. Micah Bley, Erika Rahn, Kaia Applegarth, Kendra Bley and McKinze McKinney were the five participants out of the total 15 contestants chosen as winners. They each earned \$5 in Chamber Bucks.

Southwest Public Power District offered bucket truck rides for kids, young and old, after the parade. Other after-parade activities included a poker walk.

Mercy Meals of Southwest Nebraska and the Wauneta EMS each offered lunches after the parade. Mercy Meals served approximately 250 and the Wauneta EMS served between 80-100.

Saturday afternoon featured a flurry of activities including the annual water fights—a great way to get cool, FFA duck race, 3rd annual Cody Fanning Memorial Horseshoe tournament and pasture golf where eight people tried their hand at Joey Large's course.

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Saturday evening the Chamber sponsored the annual barbeque on main street where approximately 550 shared a meal. The ladies from St. Paul's Lutheran Church provided another opportunity to cool down with homemade pie and ice cream at the event.

The FFA chapter kept people entertained with barnyard Olympics. Saturday night main street stayed busy when 135 attended the concert on the north end of Tecumseh where the Sherman County String Band performed.

The weekend came to a close on Sunday when the Senior Center hosted Sunday dinner for 57 people. See pages 6 and 7 for photos from the weekend.