

Do you have an event coming up? **Let us know** so we can help you promote it!

High Plains Compass

There is a place where possibilities are as endless as the horizons.

E-NEWSLETTER

MAY 2011

Community Celebrations, Festivals and County Fairs!

Inside this issue:

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Several great events are coming up in the next few weeks!

Check out Page 6!

Summer is almost here! The anticipation and excitement is starting to build for all the local communities festivities and celebrations!

What are these events all about? According to Wikipedia—
*A **festival** is an event, usually and ordinarily staged by a local community, which centers on and celebrates some unique aspect of that community and the Festival. These events serve to meet specific needs, as well*

as to provide entertainment.

What about the County Fairs? Once again Wikipedia defines this as—
an agricultural show is a public event showcasing the equipment, animals, sports and recreation associated with agriculture and animal husbandry. Including arts and crafts, live entertainment, fireworks and parades. Regardless of how you define these events the outcomes are pretty much the same—FUN!

I find these events as a time to get together, chat with old friends, meet new people and remember the history and culture that makes each town, county, and state unique!

This issue is a giant “save the date” with descriptions, websites, contacts and information about several communities. Take a look and make your summer plans now!

Willow Tree Festival

Gordon, Nebraska

The Willow Tree Festival is named for a real Willow Tree that still lives on the banks of Antelope Creek near the Sheridan County Fair Grounds in Gordon, Nebraska. The Lone Willow was for many years a meeting place for all of the early residents of the area including cowboys, settlers, fur traders, and

Native Americans. It is in this spirit of "A Place to Meet" that we invite you and your family to meet us at the Willow Tree Festival on the banks of Antelope Creek at Winship Park in Gordon. The Willow Tree Festival is held each year on the second weekend in September and is a two day, outdoor event in the city park. The festival fea-

tures a large variety of live professional entertainment on two stages and amateur entertainment on a third stage. Food and craft booths, children's activities, music for all tastes, mimes, magicians, storytellers, dancers and more are all there to entertain.

[www.willowtreefestival.com/
template_f1_home.html](http://www.willowtreefestival.com/template_f1_home.html)

Festivals and Celebrations

Lyman Days, Sat. June 11, Wildcat Ball field

8am-Biscuits and Gravy

9am-Parade on Jeffers Avenue

10am-Coed Mud Volleyball

12pm-Beer Garden opens

1pm-Horseshoe Tournament

1-3pm-Pony Express Riders

2pm-Power Wheels Race

4pm-Home Brew Judging

8pm-The Drivin' Dynamics

Food and Craft Vendors all day!

COLORADO

Haxtun- **Haxtun Corn Festival**, Sept. 24-25, 2011 "Cornfest" as it is known by the locals includes the following events: 5K Walk or Run, parade, kiddie parade, kiddie races, street games, antique tractor pull, quilt show, crop and garden show, baking contest, hot dog eating contest, cake decorating contest, demolition derby, dance, Little Mr. & Miss Haxtun Corn Festival, flower show, golf tournament, Fireman's pancake breakfast, FFA auction, kiddie rides, vendors, and food booths. There is truly something for everyone. For information about renting a vendor space, call (970)774-6104.

Ovid-**Ovid Days**, Sat. July 9, 2011. Includes: Street Dance, BBQ, Duck Races, Car Show.

Holyoke-**Dandelion Daze Car Show**, June 18, 2011. 9am-3pm: Show & Shine, Food, Vendors, Crafts, Kids Games and more. Merchant Sales, 11am-1:30pm: RC Gas powered Car Races - South Side Courthouse, 2pm - Car Show Results and Quilt Show Raffle Drawing. For more information visit: www.holyokechamber.org/events/Dandel17.gif

WYOMING

Fort Laramie -**Fort Laramie Rendezvous**, June 17-19, 2011. Three days of an authentic 1804-1840 period Rendezvous. Guest speakers, Wind River Indian Dancers, southeast Wyoming pies and drums, and Mountain Man singers. Call 307-575-2105 or 307-837-2570 for more information.

NEBRASKA

Crawford-**Peabody Hale 49th Fiddle Contest**. July 30, 2011, Crawford City Park. Fiddle and Vocal Contest, Horse-shoes, Quilt Show, concessions. Gate opens at 8am.

Scottsbluff-Panhandle Research & Extension Center-Tues, July 26, 2011.

"**University of Nebraska Expo: Research and Extension in Action since 1910**". The event starts with a VIP tour for invited guests at 4pm, and then the main event for the public begins at 5pm. Field tours, arboretum walking tours and exhibits on the grounds at the Panhandle Research & Extension Center at 4502 Avenue I in Scottsbluff. The Scottsbluff-Gering Chamber of Commerce sponsors a barbecue meal for the participants.

Lodgepole -July 4, 2011, **Potluck & Fireworks**
Lodgepole-Sept 3-5, 2011, **Old Settlers Days**

Dalton-Sept. 16-18, 2011, **Fall Festival**.

Chadron-**Fur Trade Days**-July 8-10, 2011. This annual community celebration is in honor of the town's origins as a fur and hide trading post for French and other settlers in the Great Plains during the 1800s. Includes: A Parade, Beer Gardens, Class Reunions, arts, crafts and The World Famous Buffalo Chop Throwing Contest.

Potter-**Potter Days**-Sept 2-4, 2011. Main activities on Sat Sept 3, some activities start Friday evening and the golf tournament carries over into Sunday.

Alliance-**Heritage Days**, July 19-24, 2011. For more information call 308-762-1520.

Bayard-Aug 19-21, 2011, **Chimney Rock Pioneer Days**. Following the opening ceremonies is the "kidnapping" of this year's victim. Valley Bank's annual pork loin BBQ follows and the band Dirty Johnnies will provide the music for Friday night. Other events include a 5k run, ride to Angora Hill, parade, food vendors, Co-ed Softball tournament, The Jim Rice Band, "trapShoot" and much more!

Morrill-**Horse Creek Annual Rendezvous Days**, The third weekend of July, a full day of fun and activities will be shared by the community and friends. Activities include golf tournament, street dance, a leisurely stroll on a walking tour, kid's games, live entertainment, a car show featuring refurbished autos, and great food at the barbeque!

Bridgeport-**Camp Clarke Days**, June 2-4, 2011. Crafts, parade, trackers, Horse-shoe tournament, food and much more!!!!
Schedule being updated, check back for more information.
<http://bridgeport-ne.com/2009/07/camp-clarke-days/>

Hay Springs-**Friendly Festival**, sponsored by Hay Springs Area Chamber of Commerce, is held annually on the last weekend of August.

Kimball-**85th Annual Farmer's Day**, Sat, Sept 24, 2011. Fun Run, Parade, Hamburger Feed, Plan now for Farmer's Day 2011!

Chappell, NE Events

The **Chappell Flag Days** this summer will be June 11 through June 18. June 11 starts it off with the Chappell Car Club's Rod Run, with vendors downtown, store specials, and a street dance.

Saturday, June 18, will be the City-wide garage sales, along with the Treasure Trek coming through.

The Chappell Lions' Club will be hosting their youth Fishing

Derby on Saturday, June 25, and they will also have the fireworks display on Sunday, July 3.

For More information visit their website
www.chappellchamber.com/

2nd Annual Chappell Rod Run:

1/8 Mile Drag Races; Show & Shine with DJ Service "Lost in the 50's"; Trophy Presentations, \$500 Cash Giveaway. June 11th, 2011.

Events include a Show and Shine, Lunch, Rod Run, and Drag Races.

For a complete listing of the times of events, accommodations and prizes, please e-mail the e-mail provided or visit their website:

www.chappellrodrun.com

Sterling, CO Events

Father's Day Weekend, June 18-19, 2011, **High Plains Outdoor Expo & Tractor Pull**, sponsored by the Logan County Chamber of Commerce and the Lodging Tax Board. The Expo will be held at the Logan County Fairgrounds and General Admission is free to the Expo.

The Tractor Pull will be held at 6pm on Saturday. On Sunday there will be a new event! Come join in the fun on Sunday at 10am for Hoof Beats on the Plains Draft Horse and Mule Show. For more information on the tractor pull, visit their website: www.nspapulling.com.

Some of the family activities include: a bicycle rodeo, children's fishing contest, disc golf, a dragon bounce house, bungee trampoline and a kite fly-

ing demonstration. Also available will be recycling services and document shredding, as well as an opportunity to obtain a child ID kit. Among the many delicious foods will be BBQ, Grebble, Cabbage Pockets, Kettle Corn, Shaved Ice, and more. Many vendors will offer such items as jewelry, hand bags, cooking & pantry items, scented candles, tee shirts, flip flops, etc.

Come and check out the wonderful variety of products, food and fun. Something for everyone!!

July Jamz-Fridays in July, 2011, 6:30-7:30pm. Musical entertainment presented by the Sterling Arts Council. It will be hosted every Friday in July. Refreshments are available but the residents are also encouraged to bring their

own picnic dinner.

Heritage Festival- July 4, 2011. Activities of the Heritage Festival are all free of charge. There will be fun for the entire family with lots to see, to do, and to eat. Plan to spend the day in your hometown and celebrate the Fourth of July with your neighbors.

Sugar Beet Days-Sept 17-18, 2011, 9am-5pm. Booths with crafts and creations of all kinds. There will be food and entertainment. This Festival is a two-day event with fun for all ages including homemade craft items, great food vendors, rides and exceptional entertainment. Check out the vendors and the great merchandise they bring along. Visit www.sugarbeetdays.com for more information.

Oregon Trails Days

This annual event in Gering, Nebraska is a celebration dedicated recognizing the people who settled this great region. The event is filled with old-fashioned parades, an art show, a chili cook-off, live concerts, street dances, a community barbeque, an international food fair, a 5-mile run, a unique kiddie parade, a car show, a bicycle hill climb and so much more. In fact there is so much going on during Oregon Trails Days it takes this whole Web site just to tell you about it: www.oregontrailsdays.com/index.html

*Did you
know?*

**Crawford,
NE is cele-
brating 125
Years?**

**For a sched-
ule of
events and
the celebra-
tion click
below.**

[http://
crawfordne-
braska.biz/
pdf/125cel.
pdf](http://crawfordne-braska.biz/pdf/125cel.pdf)

County Fairs and Rodeos

COLORADO

Sterling-Logan County Fair
"Growing from Generation to
Generation"

Aug 4-14, 2011

Attractions include: Parade,
Concert with Leann Rimes &
Jerrod Niemann, NextEra
Energy Extreme Bull Riding,
Junior Rodeo, Dick Stull
Memorial PRCA Rodeo,
"Tough Enough to Wear
Pink" night DDRA Demoli-
tion Derby, and much more!

For a complete listing of
dates and times visit: [http://
www.lcfair.org/](http://www.lcfair.org/)

**Holyoke-Phillips County
Fair.** July 27-31, 2011

Stock Race, Parade, Fair,
Fireworks, BBQ, and much
more!

For a complete listing of
events & dates visit: [http://
www.phillipscountyfair.net/](http://www.phillipscountyfair.net/)

**Julesburg- Sedgwick
County Fair.** Aug 3-7, 2011
at the Sedgwick County Fair
Grounds.

Attractions include: Arts,
Crafts, Livestock, Rodeo,
Food, Parade, Dance, BBQ,
and Much More.

WYOMING

**Torrington-Goshen County
Fair.** July 23-31, 2011

"Boots, Chaps & Cowboy
Hats." Parade, fun activities,
sidewalk sales, food vendors,
chili cook-off, barbeque, live
entertainment, art displays,
farmers market, carnival
jumps, dunk tank & much
more.

**LaGrange-39th Annual Mini
Fair & Rodeo.** June 25,
2011. Ever see a wild cow
milking or a boot race? Well,

the LaGrange Mini Fair is
the place to see all the ac-
tion. There is a pancake
breakfast, pet parade, gym-
khana, ranch rodeo, bull
riding and much more. It's a
full day of fun. Come out to
experience some cowboy en-
tertainment!

NEBRASKA

**Gordon-Sheridan County
Fair and Rodeo** held each
year in August. This week-
long event features bareback
riding, calf roping, saddle
bronc riding, team roping,
barrel racing, bull riding,
steer wrestling, and the
"protector of the cowboy" --
the rodeo clown. Many
events and activities such as
the 4-H livestock exhibits
and show, an old-timer cow-
boy breakfast at the Tri-
State Cowboy Museum, a
local parade in downtown
Gordon, youth and adult
dances, a Saturday night
stage show featuring nation-
ally known entertainers
along with numerous other
events. For event specifics:
www.sheridancountyfair.com

**Harrison-Sioux County Fair
& Rodeo.** Aug. 3-7, 2011.
Harrison Hot Trot race, Pa-
rade, Pig Wrestling contest,
Mud Race, Demolition
Derby.

**Kimball-Kimball County
Fair.** Aug. 10-15, 2011. Kim-
ball Fairgrounds.

**Kimball-3rd Annual Ranch
Rodeo,** June 11, 2011, Kim-
ball Fairgrounds. Entertain-
ment, food and drink. There
will also be prize money
awarded.

**Hemingford-Box Butte
County Fair.** Aug. 7-13,
2011. This Fair is deemed to
be one of the top County
Fairs in the state of Ne-
braska and the first Panhan-
dle County Fair to feature
top country music stars.
Some of the numerous ac-
tivities include a Saturday
night concert, teen dance,
demolition derby, livestock
auction, 4-H animal shows,
carnival, kids games night,
local queen contest, and pa-
rade.

The JaneDear Girls will take
the stage at the grandstand
on Sat. Aug. 13. For a com-
plete list of events visit
www.bbcfair.com.

**Lewellen/Oshkosh-Garden
County Fair.** Aug 4-7, 2011.
4-H Exhibits, Concessions,
Parade, Beer Garden, Bingo,
Dancing, Rodeo by Rodeo
Rose, Balloon House Jumps,
Paint Ball Wars, Turtle
Races, Golf Cart Races, and
Demolition Derby on Sun-
day. Visit
www.growgardencounty.org/
for details.

**Alliance-Cattle Capital Ro-
deo.** July 7-8, 2011. Alliance
Rodeo Grounds. Gates open
at 5pm.

**Chadron-Dawes County
Fair.** Jul 29 - Aug 5, 2011
<http://dawescountyfair.com>

**Crawford-4th of July & Ro-
deo.** July 1-4, 2011. Tiny
Twisters Minatare Bulls,
Junior Fun Day, PRCA Ro-
deo, Parade, Fireworks, and
much more! For a complete
list of events and times visit:
www.oldwesttrailrodeo.com/

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WORDPRESS

Sidney, NE Events

Sidney-June 4, **Summer Reading Program Kickoff!**

Sponsored by the Friends of the Sidney Public Library.

The Family Fun Day runs from 10am-2pm and includes a BBQ - Hotdog, Chips & Drink \$3, Kids Games & Activities, Used Book Sale, Story Time. Just For Kix Dancers will perform in front of the library at 11:30am

June 10-12, **Gold Rush Days** Kicks off with a Friday Night 5K at 8:30pm in Sidney's Legion Park, sponsored by the Cheyenne County Chamber of Commerce. Saturday, enjoy food and craft vendors, entertain-

ment, wagon rides, tipi tours, canon firing demonstrations, quick draw competitions, and more!

July 3, **Ladies Chamber Ice Cream Social**

July 24 - 31, **Cheyenne County Fair & Rodeo**

July 30, **Thanks With Franks & Downtown Sidewalk Sales**

Sept 17, **VOCAIR Flying Club's Annual Fly-In Breakfast**

Sept. 30-Oct. 2, **Oktoberfest.**

Above right: Bagpipers at the 2010 Oktoberfest Parade.

Ethnic Festival, continuous free entertainment, parade, high



school band competition, dances with live music, craft shows, farmer's market, ethnic foods. Parade and **Cruisin' Class Rod & Roll Show**

PAX - Program Academic Exchange

PAX is a non-profit educational organization that promotes and arranges international student exchange to foster the positive development of the world's young people and to support international peace, friendship and cross-cultural understanding. Each year up to 600-800 high school students participate in international exchange. All PAX programs feature a home stay experience with a family abroad.

Andrea Graham from Gering, NE contacted our office. Her task with PAX involves promoting and arranging international student exchange to foster the positive develop-

ment of the world's young people and to support international peace, friendship and cross-cultural understanding. She currently has three students placed in Gering High School--two Swedish students and a Japanese student.

She is interested in getting more cultural diversity throughout the panhandle. In order to do so, she needs the assistance of anyone and everyone who is willing to help. Specifically she is looking for opportunities to speak during community meetings, post flyers about the organization, or meet with businesses to explain in detail.

PAX pays \$150 as a referral fee for each host family referral they receive from any organization/group/family.

Please contact Andrea if you are interested in the PAX program or would like any questions answered. She thanks you very much your time and consideration.

Andrea Graham
308.631.1243

andigraham22@gmail.com.

Please feel free to check out their website at:

www.pax.org

PAX is a U.S. Department of State Designated youth exchange program.

High Plains Compass

There is a place where possibilities are as endless as the horizons.

High Plains Compass

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Northeast CO, & Western NE

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“There is a place where the possibilities are as endless as the horizons.”

Mystery Photo



Hint: It's world famous!

[E-mail your submission!](#)

Nobody guessed correctly for last month's Mystery Photo. The photo was taken on Chadron's Main Street.

High Plains Compass Events!

May 1-31: Through the Eyes of a Sunny Freckle, Solo exhibition, Hanlon House, Scottsbluff, NE

May 19: Welcome to Shelbyville, Documentary, Midwest Theater, 7pm, Scottsbluff, NE

May 21: 8k Fun Run, Wildcat Hills Nature Center, 8:30am, Gering, NE

May 21: 5th Annual Fishing Tournament, Oliver Reservoir, 10am-2pm, Kimball, NE

May 21: Soaring into the Future of our Youth, Community Partnership Auction Gala, Fundraiser, Silent Auction, Elks Club, 5:30pm, Sidney, NE

May 28: FWL Scholarship Golf Tournament, Hillside Golf Course, 9am, Sidney, NE

June 1-3: Just For Kix Summer Camp, Partnered with the Sidney Public Library, St. Patrick's Parish Center, Sidney, NE

June 4: Cabela's Kid's Fishing Day, Legion Park, Sidney, NE

June 6/25: 5th Annual Co-ed Softball Tournament, Deadline to register is the 6th, play on the 25th, Kimball, NE

June 9-July 21: Midwest Summer Matinee Madness, Thursday night movies, Midwest Theater, 1:30pm, Scottsbluff, NE

June 10: Hank Williams: Lost Highway, Several dates in June, July & August, Post Playhouse, Crawford, NE

June 10-12, 17-19: The Jungle Book, West Elementary, Sidney, NE

June 10: Friday Night Gold Rush 5K, Sidney, NE

June 10-12: 12th Annual Intertribal Gathering, Contest Powwow, Fort Robinson State Park, Crawford, NE

June 11: Pony Express Re-Ride, Several stops along the Nebraska/Colorado State Line

June 11: 2nd Annual Chappell Rod Run, Show and Shine, Lunch, Rod Run, and Drag Races, Chappell Municipal Airport, Chappell, NE

June 14: Creating Captains Football Camp, Open to youth 3rd-9th grades, West Elementary, 8:30am, Sidney, NE

To add an event,
please click [HERE!](#)

Sign Up For Our Upcoming Events Here!