

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Wild Horse Raffle Raises \$1,570 for Youth Scholarship Program

Klamath Falls, OR – The Klamath County 4-H Equestrian Clubs and Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) Klamath Falls Resource Area recently presented local residents Caitlyn Wirth, Devon Howresko and Kathleen Porter each with an equestrian scholarship to further their college education.

Scholarships have been awarded via this program since 1999. Funding for these academic awards is generated from a wild horse raffle. Tonya Pinckney, BLM wild horse and burro specialist, initiates the process each February by traveling to Oregon’s Wild Horse Corral Facility in Hines, Oregon, to select a foal to be gentled for the fundraising event. Raffle tickets are sold for \$5 apiece by 4-H members and BLM employees at the High Desert Trail Packing Clinic each May and the Klamath County Fair each August. The official drawing is held on Saturday evening of the Klamath County Fair.

A roan filly from the Beatys Butte Herd Management Area was this year’s promotional horse. The foal is appropriately named Wendy, as she “blows” the socks off of everyone she meets. This includes her new owner, Ronald Dace of Beatty, Oregon, who was announced as the 2009 raffle winner on August 8.

This year’s event generated \$1,570 for this worthy cause. Over the past 11 years, volunteers have raised more than \$14,000 through this raffle to fund 20 scholarship awards.

“I’m excited about the ongoing support local residents have shown for our equestrian scholarship program,” said Pinckney. “This allows us to continue to help local youth pay for their college tuition, as well as showcase the quality of the wild horses available for adoption through the BLM.”

For more information on the equestrian scholarship program, please contact the BLM at (541) 883-6916.

About the BLM

The BLM manages more land – 256 million acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

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