

# County fair to honor elderly

HURRICANE — The Washington County Fair, scheduled for July 31 and Aug. 1 and 2, will honor many of the county's senior citizens as well as recall much of the nostalgia of past fairs.

"We'll be looking back at fairs from years past and documenting how the fair has changed and grown over the years," fair chairman Cleo Atkin said.

In just the past six years since Atkin has served as the Fair Board chairman the county fair has doubled in exhibits.

"The ribbon cutting ceremony used to include few more people than the fair board, local dignitaries and

the county commission," she said.

Now up to 700 people gather on Thursday for the ceremony kicking off the fourth largest fair in the state.

An important part of this year's ribbon cutting, which will be held in Hurricane at 6:30 p.m. on July 31, will be the honoring of the grand marshals Reed Wittwer and Roosevelt Gubler, as well as "Our Fair Lady" Nellie Gubler.

There will also be special recognition given to past county commissioners, fair grand marshalls and fair chairmen.

"The fair has come a long way since the old Peach Days," Atkin said. "It's evolved into a bonafide

fair with representation from the entire county."

This year, in addition to all the other traditional aspects of the fair, there will be a wide array of workshops and demonstrations such as food preparation, quilting, bobbin lace, pie baking, portrait painting and other things.

"We've done all we can to move the fair from being just a viewing experience to a total learning experience as well," Atkin said.