

# LEWISTON ROUNDUP



Dear Lewiston Roundup Patrons, Sponsors, Supporters, Volunteers & Community Members:

We have been working on the 2020 edition of the Lewiston Roundup before the 2019 Roundup had even ended. We have held hope in our hearts, seeing familiar faces and friends as this pandemic has continued through our nation for months. We have heard your voices loud and clear, and you're ready to get Wild.

With that in mind, it makes this an even a harder decision. We consulted with the medical community, with County and City administrators, and repeatedly sought guidance from you all, and paid attention to what our guts and our hearts tell us.

Considering all aspects and acceptable guidelines for a large-scale event like ours, we feel we cannot meet the expectation set forth as it relates to large events at the Roundup Grounds including our Lewiston Roundup, the associated Roundup Week events including the Parade, and the August 8<sup>th</sup> She's Wild Summer Smash Demolition Derby.

With rodeo roots in the Lewis Clark Valley dating back to the late 1800s, and the formalization of the Lewiston Roundup via the Lewiston Roundup Association, Inc. in 1935, we rodeoed every year except in 1942 due to World War II; the 86<sup>th</sup> annual Lewiston Roundup will have to wait to see you September 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

This decision was not easily made and came after many meetings and heartfelt discussions surrounding the viability of a successful event. Many of our friends, patrons, volunteers and civic organizations will undoubtedly be financially and emotionally impacted even further. Many of these organizations rely on the fundraising efforts from the Roundup to operate their programs benefitting our community. For this reason, we have developed the She's Wild Cares Fund where a portion of the funds contributed will be earmarked and distributed to assist in their missions. Some of those organizations include Asotin High School Athletics & Senior Class, Casting for Recovery, Gina Quesenberry Foundation, LC Crew, Lewiston Lions Club, Nez Perce Sheriff's Search & Rescue and Rodeo Concessions Service Committee, among others.

We have been planning, we've waited for better outcomes while monitoring the development of new pandemic responses, and we came up with creative ways to meet the large event guidelines that have been put in place including social distancing, additional sanitizing, etc. but the scales continue to tip. It becomes more and more real that the costs to keep planning and moving forward would surmount our abilities of having a safe, community focused event in September.

We want to see you. We want to celebrate our community. We want to be able to do all of these things with you, for you, and safely. However, we cannot risk the safety of the community, our dedicated volunteers, and our faithful patrons. One of our events showcases how tough those of you are who have and are battling cancer, but out of respect to their well-being, we simply cannot expect them to join us during this time.

Many will try to make this political, and while we value everyone's right to their opinions; feasibility, rationality and common sense was applied to each scenario option evaluated.

We continue to operate as a 501(C)3 not-for-profit corporation, dedicated to hosting a nationally recognized PRCA rodeo, and to the development and maintenance of a multi-purpose, year-around facility available for community use. We will look to these historic events to make our rodeo and facility better for years to come. Our patrons will once again flood our stands, enjoy a cold beverage and good story in the She's Wild Saloon, and meet with our great sponsors, supporters, and Directors in the Ketch Pen.

We will again hear the Snake River Thunder and we will rile up the West-end Rowdies.

We told you a few months back; don't let up! Don't let down! Keep fighting. Help Idaho Rebound and see this through. Let the She's Wild mantra shine in this dire time, because we'll Give it to you Western come September 2021 as we gather and celebrate. If it was easy, it wouldn't be the Roundup way.

We thank you. We love you! You've been here for us through thick and thin, and we're still here, patiently waiting to see you very soon! Bring on September 2021 'cuz She's Wild!

On behalf of the Lewiston Roundup Association Board of Directors

Willie Deibel, President