

Groups to mark water anniversary

By Gazette News Services

POWELL - The Homesteader Museum and the Shoshone Irrigation District will open the floodgates on their celebration marking the 100th anniversary of the first water delivery on the Shoshone Reclamation Project at a gala event starting at 5 p.m. April 25.

The two organizations will host dinner, speakers, music, activities for kids and the opening of the exhibit in the museum gallery. There is no charge for this event. A bus tour of Corbett Diversion Works and Garland Canal is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon, April 26, and costs \$10. For reservations and more information, call 754-9481 or 754-5741.

Wyoming Water Board President John Lawson will kick off the festivities. Powell High School's Pep Band and Peg Buntin's Fiddlers will provide music. Other outdoor activities include a dunking booth, a display of the topography and weather patterns of the Bighorn Basin, a Buck-a-Duck booth, bobbing for apples and an irrigation demonstration by local FFA students from PHS. Prizes for the elementary art contest "Magic Touch of Water" will also be awarded.

The gallery exhibit includes historic and contemporary photos that capture the technology and construction techniques of the early 1900s and contrasts the vast scope of the barren landscape with the efforts of the men and women who worked on it. Satellite photos of the canal will help orient people to features that they may never have heard of despite their proximity to local roadways.

The celebration marks the watershed moment the first water crawled down the Garland Canal from Corbett Dam to the lateral canals and ditches north of the Shoshone River on April 27, 1908.