

Bicentennial Forum

OF SHAMROCKS AND SHEPHERDS AND MORROW COUNTY'S KILKENNY FAMILY

By Justine Weatherford

Last week we got to a bit of Irish writing with the James G. Doherty family. We had determined this column would really "wear the green" this week and had gotten our copy of "Shamrocks and Shepherds" off the shelf when Saturday's mail brought us a letter and another copy of that green-covered book from Judge John Kilkenny. His gift is going to the Oregon section of the Heppner library. The following information is taken—some verbatim—from this 1969 publication.

So, while gathering facts about the first of Morrow's shamrocks, William Hughes from County Tipperary (Ebb's grandfather) who came here around 1870, and planning to gain more information about Charlie Cunningham, Jeremiah Brosnan, Felix Johnson, Michael Kenny and others who preceded John Kilkenny and James Carty, we are happy to present some kilkenny history this St. Patrick's week.

John Sheridan Kilkenny was born in County Leitrim, Ireland, in 1870, the son of Peter and Mary Ann (Sheridan) Kilkenny. Both parents had made trips to America by the early 1800s to obtain funds to support their family and lived in both New York and Boston on those occasions. John's sisters and brothers were Ellen, Rose, Bridget, Sarah, Katherine, Frank, Patrick and Peter. All came to America with the exception of Sarah.

John Kilkenny and Jim Carty arrived at Umatilla, Oregon Railway and Navigation line in May 1890. They had learned of a few Irishmen at Heppner and made their way there by foot. The first night they spent in the vicinity of the future Mike Kilkenny ranch on Butter Creek, the second at the forks of Sand Hollow and by the third, reached Heppner.

At first they were employed on the completion of the Heppner branch line of the railroad. Their early acquaintance with William Hughes, by then a successful merchant and stockgrower with money to loan, provided them with a start in the sheep business in 1892 or '93. They soon acquired three or four bands of sheep and took up a permanent residence in Sand Hollow at the site later known as the old Kilkenny Ranch and later became successful in the sheep business.

Before the turn of the century Jim Carty and John Kilkenny married Irish sisters, Maria and Rose Ann Currin.

By 1910 John started really expanding his operations, buying the W.B. Finley rangeland. In 1911, Rose Ann achieved a prodigious new home in Sand Hollow. She and the first four children, Rose Ellen, Johnny, Sarah and Bill visited Ireland. On their return, John took a trip to Ireland, returning before the birth of Mary Ann.

John S. Kilkenny became a long-time director and officer of the First National Bank of Heppner, was very active politically, was director and chairman of the board of the Alpine Public School District and served as a county commissioner for a number of years.

In 1914 he acquired the old George Currin ranch east of Heppner, consisting of more than 20,000 acres of fine bunch grass, dry farm and alfalfa land (where the Don Greenups now live). In February 1915 tragedy struck the family when Rose Ann was killed in an elevator accident in Pendleton. John's sister Mary came to take care of the family until John remarried in 1917. He married Lottie Russel, a daughter of Gilliam county pioneers, who became the mother of Ilene (Wyman), Colleen (Greenup) and Robert Emmett Kilkenny, all county residents.

In 1918 the purchase of a huge tract of summer grazing land on the middle fork of the John Day River greatly enlarged the Kilkenny holdings. In 1920 with the purchase of what was known as the Bowman Alfalfa ranch on Butter Creek, John achieved an ideal stock ranch setup, which he operated until the start of the Great Depression when he had to give up the mountain ranch.

John Kilkenny was no ordinary man. His industry was prodigious. Throughout his life he arose between 5 and 5:30 a.m. He drove his workmen and children, but he did not spare himself. His impatience with the indolent was matched only by his patience with the willing performer. He certainly belongs in the front ranks of great livestock men of his or any other time.

He died in 1939, almost 50 years after he first set foot on the beloved soil of Morrow County and was placed to rest beside Rose Ann in the Heppner Cemetery.

"How Irish was he? He was deeply and wholesomely and wholly Irish. There is no use in saying he was as Irish as the Book of Kells, nor as Irish as an evening spent in a Dublin public house, nor even as the man who destroyed Nelson's statue in Dublin Square. These references do not truly show how Irish he was. But this might: if a century from now someone else would say, that he, or she, is as Irish as John S. Kilkenny."

John F. Kilkenny is the Senior Circuit Judge of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals since his appointment by President Nixon in 1969. His court's circuit includes Oregon, Alaska, Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Washington, Hawaii and Guam. He practiced law in Pendleton from 1926. In 1960 he was appointed a U.S. District Judge.

He loves his native county and keeps close to it in his thoughts. He writes that his father encouraged him to perpetuate the names of its early Irish families and says he gathered information for "Shamrocks and Shepherds" off and on for more than 15 years.

Blue Mountain Community College

Spring Term Classes 1976

Adult Education And Community Service

A check for tuition payment must be mailed in to the college to reserve a spot in any class that is noted (Preregister).

For additional information, call 276-1260, ext. 205.

Students may enroll, pay fees, and purchase books at the first class meeting. A minimum of ten students is required for each class.

Margaret Davis is serving as our coordinator in the Hermiston area. Her college telephone in Hermiston is 567-9306.

Registration will not be accepted after the second week of classes.

Anne Doherty is serving as our coordinator in the Heppner area. Her college telephone in Heppner is 676-5277.

Hermiston

COURSE	CREDIT/COURSE #	STARTING DATE	MEETING NIGHT	TIME	LOCATION	TUITION	INSTRUCTOR
Cake Decorating (Lab fee \$5)		Mar. 29	Mon.	7-10 pm	HS	\$15.00	Green
Macrame (5 weeks)		Mar. 29	Mon.	7-9 pm	HS	\$5.00	Cullers
Small Gas Engines	3.213/3	Apr. 1	Thurs.	7-10 pm	HS	\$15.00	Johnson
Financial Management for Small Business	2.102/0	Apr. 1	Thurs.	7-10 pm	Jr. Hi.	\$15.00	Wilcox
Welding (Preregister) (Lab fee \$20)	4.206/2	Mar. 30	Tues.	7-10 pm	HS	\$15.00	Davis
Oil Painting	0.512/0	Mar. 31	Wed.	7-10 pm	HS	\$15.00	Campbell
Beginning Golf (6 weeks) (Preregister)	0.582/0	Mar. 31	Wed.	4:30-6 pm	HS	\$10.00	Bowen
Beginning Tennis (6 weeks) (Preregister)	0.582/0	Apr. 5	Mon. & Wed.	7-8:30 pm	HS	\$10.00	Caplinger
Expectant Parent's Class	0.892/0	Mar. 30	Tues.	7-10 pm	Sunset	\$20.00 (cpl)	Conklin
Beginning Sewing	0.925/3	Mar. 30	Tues.	7-10 pm	Jr. Hi.	\$15.00	Fries
Gardening (5 weeks)	0.862/0	Apr. 1	Thurs.	7-9 pm	HS	\$5.00	Miller
Introduction to Film	Eng 213/3	Mar. 30	Tues.	7-10 pm	Jr. Hi.	\$15.00	Soderstrom
Film Series	0.502(3)	Mar. 30	Tues.	7-10 pm	Jr. Hi.	\$15.00	Fries
Photography (Preregister) (Lab fee \$7.50)	0.519/0	Mar. 31	Wed.	7-10 pm	Jr. Hi.	\$15.00	Halling
Private Pilot Ground School (Preregister)	6.402/5	Mar. 29	Mon. & Thurs.	7-10 pm	Jr. Hi.	\$25.00	O'Rourke
Jewelry Making (Preregister) (Lab fee \$15.00)	0.516/0	Mar. 29	Mon.	7-10 pm	HS	\$15.00	Carlos
Business Machines (5 weeks)	2.900/1	Mar. 30	Tues.	7-9 pm	HS	\$5.00	Jenkins
French Cooking (6 weeks) (Preregister)		Mar. 29	Mon.	7-10 pm	Jr. Hi.	\$20.00	Bishop
Basic Electrical Code	0.795/0	Mar. 29	Mon.	7-10 pm	Jr. Hi.	\$15.00	Miller
Figure Control for Women	0.580/0	Mar. 30	Wed.	7:30-9:30 pm	Sunset	\$10.00	Dawson

For information about evening classes in Hermiston, Stanfield, Umatilla, and Boardman, call BMCC Coordinator, MARGARET DAVIS 567-9306.

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION, GED and ADULT HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA PROGRAMS
For information, call Margaret Davis 567-9306 or Fred McIntyre 567-3327

Stanfield

Toile Painting (Preregister)		Mar. 31	Wed.	7-10pm	HS	\$15.00	Smith
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Umatilla

Boating Safety & Seamanship (6 classes)		Mar. 31	M & W	7:30-9:30 pm	Umatilla Marina		C.G. Aux. Flotilla
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Boardman

Toile Painting (Preregister)		Mar. 29	Mon.	7-10 pm	HS	\$15.00	Smith
Beginning Golf (4 Sundays)	0.582/0	Apr. 4	Sun.	1:30-3 pm	Golf Course	\$10.00	Wilson

Heppner-Lexington

Hospital Care Education	9.418/1-2	Apr. 5	Mon.	7:30-9:30 pm	HS	\$10.00	Pioneer Hosp. Staff
Welding (Preregister) (Lab fee \$20)	4.206/2	Mar. 30	Tues. & Thurs.	9-10:30 am	Jr. Hi.	\$15.00	Weatherford
Basic Spoken Spanish (Preregister)	0.562/0	Mar. 30	Tues.	7:30-9:30 pm	HS	\$10.00	Peck
Beginning Tennis	0.582/0	Mar. 31	Wed.	7 pm	Jr. Hi.	\$10.00	Deford
Photographic Projects Workshop (Preregister)		Apr. 1	Thurs.	7-10 pm	HS	\$15.00	Toney
French Dessert Workshop (Lab fee)		Apr. 1	Thurs.	7-10 pm	HS	\$5.00	Rawlins
Beginning Golf (Preregister) (Green fee \$5 for non-members of Willow Creek Golf Course)	0.582/0	Apr. 3	Sat.	9:30-11:30 am	Golf Course	\$10.00	Edmundson
Toile Painting on Tin (Preregister)		Apr. 6	Tues.	7-10 pm	Lex. School	\$15.00	Piper/Padberg

For information about evening classes listed above, call BMCC Coordinator, Anne Doherty 676-5277

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION GED and ADULT HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA PROGRAMS
For information, call Madeline Buckendorf 676-9917

Hermiston

CAKE DECORATING: Students will learn basic skills in decorating cakes for all occasions. Icing and sugar work in borders, flowers, letters and other shapes will be stressed.

MACRAMÉ: Introduction to basic macrame knots and demonstrating the combination into designs. Several projects will be completed during this five-week course.

SMALL GAS ENGINES: Course will include instruction in a variety of small gas engines including lawn mowers, chain saws, rototillers, pipe lines, etc. Students will gain an understanding of the operation, maintenance and repairing of 2 and 4 cycle gasoline engines.

WELDING: The course introduces set-up and operation of oxyacetylene welding equipment. Demonstration and practice in welding, brazing, and soldering ferrous and non-ferrous metals. Preregistration necessary. Main tuition to BMCC.

OIL PAINTING: Introduction to sketching, transferring visual images to canvas and oil painting.

BEGINNING GOLF: A group golf instruction course for men and women. Learn the proper stance, grip of the club, and how to swing correctly. Instruction will cover the use of woods, irons, and the putter. Some attention will be given to the rules of the game and golf etiquette.

BEGINNING TENNIS: Course will include proper foot placement, strokes and rules of the game.

EXPECTANT PARENTS: Designed for the expectant couple. This course covers preparation for the parents-to-be, what to expect at the hospital, and care of the new mother and the newborn. Breathing techniques and relaxation exercises (La Mase birth technique) are emphasized to prepare the couple for a controlled labor and delivery.

BEGINNING SEWING: Designed for the beginning sewer or anyone wishing to brush up on basic sewing techniques. The course will include pattern selection and construction of a blouse, pants or skirt, and optional project.

GARDENING: Prepare for spring planting and care of your plants, flowers, shrubs, and trees. The course will also cover preparing the ground for a vegetable garden. What to plant and when to plant it.

INTRODUCTION TO FILM (Film Series): The purpose of the course is to develop visual literacy. Feature films will be viewed weekly and discussed in terms of aesthetics, society, history, and directors.

PHOTOGRAPHY: This course is for the beginning and amateur student of photography. Theory and laboratory procedures will be combined to develop a working knowledge of the basic principles and fundamentals of general photography.

PRIVATE PILOT GROUND SCHOOL: The class will cover the principles of flight, meteorology, navigation, aircraft and engine operation, flight instruments, flight information, radio communications, and flight problems. Students completing the class should have sufficient knowledge to pass the Federal Aviation Administration written examination for the Private Pilot Certificate.

JEWELRY MAKING: This is a course which is designed as an introduction into the handworking of non-ferrous metals; silver, gold, brass, etc. Primary concentration will be in centrifugal casting and hand constructed pieces, also some advanced work in stone setting and finishing.

BUSINESS MACHINES: Instruction in the operation of 10-key adding machine. All operations of the machine are studied. Students work at own rate of speed, pacing themselves so as to finish required jobs by the end of the term.

FRENCH COOKING: (Introduction to French Cooking) Students will learn about cooking and tasting dishes typical of French Cuisine; souffles, omelettes, quiche, crepes, and many more.

BASIC ELECTRICAL CODE: Fundamentals of electrical wiring. Reference to code book and its practical applications to dwellings and farm use. Will cover code changes and revisions.

FIGURE CONTROL FOR WOMEN: This course is a personal improvement and body conditioning program for women. Students will learn to exercise properly to get their body in good physical condition as well as to maintain it after the conclusion of the class.

Stanfield

TOILE PAINTING: Designed to teach the student the basic elements of toile and decorative painting. Work is done from patterns with application to a great variety of home decorations. Students does not need any background in drawing or sketching.

Boardman

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BEGINNING GOLF: A group golf instruction course for men and women. Learn the proper stance, grip of the club, and how to swing correctly. Instruction will cover the use of woods, irons, and the putter. Some attention will be given to the rules of the game and golf etiquette.

Umatilla

BOATING SAFETY AND SEAMANSHIP: Starts Mar. 11 - Wednesday and Monday - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Umatilla Marina - Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla.

Heppner - Lexington

HOSPITAL CARE EDUCATION: Course will include instruction on recognition and treatment of trauma and medical problems on an emergency basis until a doctor can be reached. Prerequisite: hospital personnel or hospital work experience.

WELDING: Instruction in arc welding and the fundamentals of oxyacetylene. Demonstrations and practice in welding, brazing and soldering ferrous and non-ferrous metals. Preregistration required, class size limited.

BASIC SPOKEN SPANISH: Taught in listening-speaking method. Emphasis on pronunciation and simple sentences. Preregistration required; class size limited.

TOILE PAINTING ON TIN: Special techniques for toile painting on metals. A six-week course. Prerequisite: Beginning Toile Painting or experience. Preregistration required; class size limited.

BEGINNING TENNIS: Beginning or intermediate tennis will be taught. Class hours will be determined at first session. Students will be grouped to permit individualized instruction.

PHOTOGRAPHIC PROJECTS WORKSHOP: Beginning or review class designed to involve students in functional projects utilizing photography and/or photographic process. Students will work in designing and producing their own postcards, personal books and calendars. Extra costs for supplies and lab fee. No photographic experience necessary. Preregistration necessary; class size limited.

FRENCH DESSERT WORKSHOP: A three-week workshop; demonstrations and practice in fancy French desserts. Week 1: cream puffs, eclairs, choux. Week 2: filled meringues, gateau rolls. Week 3: variations of sponge roll. Preregistration required; class size limited.

BEGINNING GOLF: A five-week course for adults with no prior experience in golfing. Preregistration required; class size limited.

The Spring Cotillion

April 3, 1976

Ione American Legion Hall

Dancing to Admission:
Rod Esselstyn \$12.50 per couple
9:30-1:30 a.m. \$7.50 singles

Happy Hour 8:30-9:30 p.m.

Midnight Buffet

sponsored by Beta Omega
Chapter of E.S.A.

All proceeds will go to
the Ione Volunteer Fire Dept.

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