

AROUND ABOUT

With Justine Weatherford

A mortal little island.
No other land or clime.
Has placed more deathless heroes.
In the pantheon of time.

(author unknown)

Are you aware that of the "foreigners" who have won the Congressional Medal of Honor, approximately 50 percent were Irishmen? They exceed the combined total of those of English, Scotch, Welsh, German, Russian or French extraction.

It is always interesting during the third month of the year to re-read parts of John F. Kilkenny's "Shamrocks and Shepherds: The Irish of Morrow County" when Celts all over the world are memorializing the death in about 461 of their patron, Saint Patrick.

Kilkenny states, "The principal characters around whom spun the dramatic influx of the Irish into Morrow County were comparatively few in number. The first to plant a firm foot in the Heppner area was William Hughes, who arrived around 1870. Not far behind was the dedicated Charlie Cunningham, who filed his pre-emption claim on Butter Creek in 1876. In the eighties came Felix Johnson, Jeremiah Brosnan, Michael Kenny, Patrick, B.P. and James G. Doherty, to settle and then welcome John and Kilkenny and James Carty in 1890.

"These, with the help of a few others, were the men who bore the heavy burden of providing the cost of transportation for the waiting friends and relatives in Ireland. They were the stalwarts upon whose shoulders were placed the task of providing a livelihood for the greenhorns. This livelihood they did provide, and in turn the greenhorns became ranchers and put the power of the earnings to the never ending stream of incoming Gaelic blood. To all of the early explorers their descendants are eternally grateful and carry their names with a pride known only to the Irish."

The complete text and the pictures on the 55 pages of Kilkenny's book are fascinating. The final pages contain a large picture of the men who attended the state meeting of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in Heppner 66 years ago, in February, 1914. All wore their Sunday best. Everyone's head is covered, some with billed caps, some with Derbys and a few with stovepipe hats. The listing of the names of the 90 pictured in front of the county courthouse shows that many have descendants still living in this area.

"Tis said that for years the flag of Ireland was hoisted on Heppner's Main Street each March 17. Now the principal annual celebration is the St. Patrick's Day Irish Stew Dinner and family entertainment presented by the ladies of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Parish. This pleasant gathering comes again next Monday evening, beginning at 5 p.m. in the parish hall.

Last week's column about the Burton-Riggs Family, based on the writing of Pearl Padberg Kruse, stimulated considerable comment. Among those who telephoned this columnist are Doris Palmateer Stract in Portland and Darlene Howell Arrington, Heppner. Doris said she will be sending along some family history she has compiled. Darlene is working at genealogical research which will lead to more information about interesting ancestors, including a red-headed Irish lass named Molly O'Day.

J. Ed LaTrace's death last week saddened many, especially his senior friends. Ed, as a young lad, had watched from a hillside as the tremendous flood of 1903 rushed down Willow Creek. He had much to tell of changes in the early life of south Morrow, where he spent his lifetime.

Many cheered a return presentation of Winn Crist's Chinese noodles last Saturday evening at the Harshman's V. & G. (very good) Tavern in Lexington. Winn, now retired, will be long remembered as the purveyor of delicious dishes at the little eatery he used to preside over on Heppner's Main Street. The special meal benefited one of the county's very worthwhile organizations, the Search and Rescue Unit.

Two front page stories in last Sunday's Oregonian touched people here. Both happen to be church related. The re-settlement of Laotian refugees at Condon was well covered in both pictures and text. A second major article was about the Internal Revenue Service probe of the Human Morality Church. The strange church, which the Oregonian said could involve a huge tax-dodge scheme, seems to have been master-minded in part by Charles Black who some of us got to know when he taught evening classes in financial management here in 1970 under Blue Mountain Community College. He was once a partner in the discredited Alcorn and Black brokerage house in Portland.

Usually we have a collection of Irish jokes ready for the column nearest to St. Patrick's Day, but this year we are not in a very joking mood. Most persons, especially senior citizens, are edgy about the frantic financial fiasco in which we are all involved. However, after reading about the potato famine in Ireland in the 1840's and reviewing some facts about the worldwide depression and great financial panic of 1893 which almost emptied the U.S. Treasury, and having personally experienced the difficult years after the crash of 1929—maybe we just need stronger faith that this country will continue to manage, somehow.

The Irish are great at surviving. To slightly re-phrase one of their sayings, "An Irishman will never really panic as long as he can hold on to one blade of grass and not fall off the face of the earth."

Beecher's scene of no-host birthday luncheon

A no-host luncheon was held at Beecher's Cafe and Lounge Feb. 22, in honor of Norma Rea's birthday. Following the luncheon, members attending went to the

home of Anna Ball for the afternoon. Those attending were Ida Coleman, Myrtle Imel, Doris Gollyhorn, Geneva Palmer, Laura Holt, Frances Smouse, Vera Rietmann, Ruby Roberts, Edith

Nickson, Anna Ball and Norma Rea.

Cheryl Crockett, Lorraine Ball, Bonnie Ball and Eva Hamlett, finished the Income Tax Preparation class last Wednesday evening. This was a six weeks' course, meeting for three hours on Wednesday evening at the school district office in Lexington. The class was taught by Frank Pearson and sponsored by Blue Mountain Community College.



Stuffed peppers tasty fare for spring

Everyone needs a few surefire recipes at hand to perk up family meals. Rock Cornish hens are a good buy right now, as are fresh green peppers. Chicken flavor stuffing mix combines with browned sausage and whole kernel corn as a hearty filling for the peppers, and the blending of taste and texture is a happy combination. Savory Stuffed Peppers provide just the right change-of-pace plate mate for any meal—be it everyday or holiday.

STUFFED PEPPERS

- 4 medium green peppers
- Salted water
- 1/2 pound bulk sausage
- 1 package (6 oz.) Stove Top chicken flavor stuffing mix
- 1-3/4 cups water
- 1 can (8 oz.) whole kernel corn, drained
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

Halve peppers lengthwise; discard stems and seeds. Parboil peppers in boiling salted water for 5 minutes; drain and place in shallow baking dish with 1/8 inch of water. Brown sausage well in a skillet; drain well, reserving 1/4 cup drippings. Add contents of Vegetable/Seasoning Packet and water to sausage and reserved drippings in skillet. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer 6 minutes. Add Stuffing Crumbs and corn; stir just to moisten. Cover, remove from heat and let stand 5 minutes. Spoon into pepper halves. Bake at 400° for 30 minutes; then top with cheese and bake 5 minutes longer, or until cheese is melted. Makes 4 cups stuffing mixture or 8 servings.

Cookery classes set

The popularity of food processors and microwave ovens, now appearing in modern-day kitchens, has prompted the Umatilla and Morrow counties' Home Extension Advisory Councils to schedule four workshops.

Lorinda Moholt, home economist for the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, Portland, will conduct the workshops. The fee for each workshop includes a set of recipes and a meal which the participants will prepare.

According to Extension Home Economist Molly Saul, the classes are nearly full. She states that preregistration is required. Before they were advertised to the public, Mrs. Saul said persons heard about them by word of mouth and called in to register.

Participants in each workshop will have the opportunity to use at least four different microwave ovens, or four completely different food processors. Mrs. Saul states that the workshops are helpful to anyone contemplating purchasing either a microwave oven or a food processor. They are also useful to anyone who owns these appliances, but wants to know how to fully utilize them.

Grade school plans concert

Fifth through eighth grade students at Heppner Grade School and Heppner Junior High will perform the annual Spring Musical program tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the junior high auditorium.

The concert is open to the public and admission is free.

Butter creek 4-H club elects officers

By 4-H reporter Steve Miller
The Buttercreek Livestock 4-H Club recently had a meeting at Tad Miller's home. Nine members were present. Angie Ashbeck and Nancy Baily are new members.

Election of officers took place with the following being elected: president Jeff Bailey; vice president Tony Curran; secretary Nancy Miller; reporter Steve Miller.

Roll call was for each member to name parts of a hog. We discussed our projects for this year and may be taking some field trips during the year.

The meeting was adjourned and refreshments were served.

Classes are scheduled as follows:

Microwave Cooking—Tuesday, April 8, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Pendleton High School Home Economics Lab.

Food Processor—Wednesday, April 9, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Pendleton High School Home Economics Lab. Thursday, April 10, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Hermiston High School Home Economics Lab.

The fee for the microwave workshop is \$18. It includes a full dinner and a complete set of recipes.

The fee for the food processor workshops is \$10. This includes a meal and a set of recipes.

Mrs. Saul states that the registration fee must be paid at the time of registration. Checks should be made out to the Umatilla County Home Extension Advisory Council. There will be a waiting list compiled in case registrants should drop out.

Heppner Rodeo Club holds slave auction to raise funds

Advisor Sheri Brock and seventeen members of the Heppner High School Rodeo Club were sold at a slave auction March 6 in an effort to raise money for the club.

Buyers placed bids on the slaves and the amount of money that was bid will go to the club. In return for the money, the slaves have to work for the highest bidder for eight hours.

Slaves that were sold included Sheri Brock, Steve Marlatt, Jana Steagall, Joedy Marlatt, Brett Sherer, Tony Curran, Ann Van Schoiack, Marie Van Schoiack, Cliff Dougherty, Jeff Bailey, Don Kindsfather, Lee Rice, Kathy Hansen, Mike Curran, Tara Mahoney, Marty Britt, Rocky Steagall and Eric Clow.

Gary Grieb was the auctioneer.

Heppner Elks

358

St. Patrick's Dance

Dance—9:00 Clam Feed—6:30 Saturday, March 15

Music By The Wheat Germs
(5 banjos plus specialty acts)

Elks and out of town guests only

Extension Events.....

Cultural arts trip planned

By Birdine Tullis
Morrow Extension Service Spring Tour

If you've had it with the winter, and feel that a change of routine would cheer you up, think about signing on for the spring tour to The Dalles area!

Anyone is welcome to join the chartered bus tour planned for April 2, which will take you on a walking tour of the historical parts of The Dalles; to the Art Center to view the collection of local artists' work, a luncheon at Portage Inn, followed by time to discover and explore Maryhill Museum. This tour was planned last fall but not completed. Now, Homemakers' Advisory Committee has rescheduled the event. Cost for transportation is \$10, with luncheon and museum costs to be paid by each person. Bus will depart from Heppner, with a stop for passengers at Boardman Cultural Arts is emphasized by Extension Homemakers' Council, and our local committee feels the history of The Dalles has influenced our local area as it developed in the early days. The Dalles is rich in history, with three courthouses, museums, and other historical spots.

For more information call 676-9642, or to reserve a bus seat, send your check for \$10, made payable to Morrow Homemakers' Council, Box 397, Heppner, 97836. Reservations must be made by March 20. (The small cost of \$10 is figured for a full bus load. If the bus is not filled, the trip will be cancelled.)

News for gardeners
As the early spring sunshine turns most gardeners' thoughts to the outdoors and starts their green thumbs

throbbing, it seems timely to announce plans for a special backyard gardening program planned for April 14 in Heppner.

Alcohol treatment budget review

The Morrow County Alcohol Planning Committee will meet March 19 at 7:30 p.m. in Columbia Basin Electric Coop conference room to review the Mental Health Services budget for alcohol services for the coming year and to discuss proposed alcohol treatment programs for the county. The public is invited to attend.

Ray McNeilan, extension agent from Multnomah County will present three gardening programs in our local area. First session will be 7:30 p.m. in Heppner, April 14, followed by a program in Hermiston the next day. A similar program will be in Pendleton, April 15, 7:30 p.m. McNeilan is well known for his weekly advice to gardeners featured in the Northwest section of the Sunday Oregonian. He has also been involved in the development of a Master Gardener program sponsored by Extension in the valley counties.

Early announcement of the timely programs is made in order that all interested gardeners and garden clubs may get the dates on their calendars. More information will be available nearer the dates of the program.

Washington Focus
Teens looking for an opportunity to travel will be interested in the opportunity to join others from Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, and other states for a week-long conference at the National 4-H Center in Washington, D.C. The program includes six action-packed days where

participants will learn more about their rights, responsibilities and heritage as American citizens. Included also will be the chance to view the White House, Supreme Court, and attend committee hearings on Capitol Hill. Dates for the Washington Focus are August 2-9, 1980. Cost, which includes air fare, bus transportation, meals and lodging is \$650.

Tips on storing poisonous household substances

March 16-22 is National Poison Prevention Week. "Children Act Fast, So Do Poisons" is the thought for the occasion! Poisonings have been dramatically reduced since the introduction of child-resistant bottles, but still

thousands of children are accidentally poisoned. The majority of the accidents are with children under five who cannot distinguish between candy and pills, or soft drinks and other substances. Some tips on storing household cleaning products, chemicals and other potentially poisonous substances commonly found in the home may help prevent accidents. Never store cleaning products in containers designed for foods (coke bottles, etc.) Store all medicines out of reach of children, and preferably in a cabinet or container which cannot be reached or opened by a small child. If under the sink storage is used for cleaning products, make certain the cupboard door can be locked or closed to keep little

people out! Remember, those little people reach things with the help of a chair...things stored on shelves are easily reached.

If an accident should occur, Oregon has a toll free number to call for assistance. The Poison Information Center in Portland operates 24 hours a day and can be reached by dialing 1-800-425-7165. This is a handy number to have right by your phone! Call it promptly if an emergency arises. Baby sitters should be instructed to call the center, and be informed on where you have the number listed. Delay might be fatal.

Accidents prevented are the best answer. Take a few minutes to look around your home this week and eliminate possible danger areas.

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St. Patrick's Altar Society

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

IRISH STEW DINNER

Monday—March 17, 1980

5:00-7:30 p.m.

St. Patrick's Parish Hall

MENU

Fruit Salad Stew French Bread

Homemade Pies and Cakes

ADULTS \$3⁰⁰—CHILDREN \$1⁰⁰—FAMILY \$8⁰⁰

Entertainment by Lindsay Family and Folk Choir

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