

## Sun smiles down on parade



Hardman Community Center takes first in parade

The sun smiled down on this year's St. Patrick's parade Saturday, March 14, as crowds of people lined Heppner's streets.

The Heppner American Legion Post 87 led this year's parade and the honors as they claimed the Leprechaun's Choice award.

The Hardman Community Center's covered wagon was covered with shamrocks and sagebrush to take first place in the non-commercial float division; the O'Ducky Jailhouse was second and the Hope Lutheran Church Irish potatoes marched to third place.

Smokey Bear, who donned a green necktie, and his four-wheeler escort won first place for the Forest Service in the commercial float division. Kinzua Corp's pot of gold at the end of the rainbow took second in that division.

Leprechaun Ryan Flynn of Gresham was best individual character. The Healy family lads and lassies in costume took first in the character group division.

Sharon Cherry and her Irish Wolfhounds of Hermiston won the animal division.

The Hermiston Police Department's DARE car took first in the miscellaneous non-profit division. The Hermiston Shufflers and Pendleton Blue Mountain Cloggers danced their way to second and third respectively in their division.

The U.S. Navy representing the Bombing Range even got in to the spirit of things with a first time entry and a first prize in the miscellaneous commercial division.

Ken Turner, of Heppner, and Ed Glenn of Boardman rode to first place in the antique machinery division with their thresher and steam-powered tractor. Gus Peterson was second with an old Maytag washing machine mounted on a trailer.

Guy Van Arsdale won first in the antique automobile division with his 1931 Ford Sedan. Bud Englert, Heppner, was second with a 1931 Ford pickup. Van Arsdale also won third with a 1920 Oldsmobile.

The parade was rounded out with various kids and pets, decorated bicycles, bands, clowns and political candidates.

## Engagements Alexander — Ball

The parents of Rhonda Beth Alexander and Brian Robert Ball announce the couple's engagement and forthcoming marriage.

The bride elect is the daughter of Dick and Peggy Wahlburg, Gresham, and Dennis and Marjorie McCoy of Hermiston. She is a 1990 graduate of Reynolds High School in Troutdale and works for Izzy Restaurant, Gresham.

Ball is the son of Bob and Bonni Ball of Ione. He is a 1989 graduate of Ione High School. After attending two years of college he enlisted into the U.S. Air Force. He is presently stationed at Plattsburg A.F.B., New York.

The couple will be married March 16, 1992 in Vancouver, WA. A reception in their honor will be March 21 at the Ione Legion Hall.

## County Health Care Council hears vital report

The Morrow County Health Care Council heard reports on several important health issues at the Feb. 20 meeting in Ione.

The advantages of obtaining the Rural Health Clinic designation for both clinics in Morrow County was discussed. This is a federal designation that allows for increased reimbursement under Medicare and Medicaid. This increased reimbursement is significant as Medicare and Medicaid account for 40 percent of the patient load at Pioneer Memorial Clinic. The combined patient load for Medicare/Medicaid at the Boardman Health Care Clinic is 55 percent. State averages are a combined 20 percent. This increase in revenue could decrease the need for tax support, or be used to pay the salary of a physician's assistant or nurse practitioner, according to Morrow County encourager Pam Sagely. The addition of these mid-level providers would allow for some relief for our physicians and/or expansion of services. Obtaining this designation also permits access to grant monies available exclusively to Rural Health Clinics.

The designation of Health Professional Shortage Area (the first step in being designated Rural Health Clinic) provides eligibility for placement of a physician or mid-level through the National Health Services Corps. This recruitment assistance could be of great benefit given the current difficulty in recruiting providers to rural areas.

Pioneer Memorial Clinic is presently seeking the Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designation. This designation is based on physician/service area population ratios. While this ratio for the Pioneer Memorial Clinic does not meet the federal guidelines for HPSA, the possibility exists for a state override of this criteria. The Medical Board is pursuing this with the appropriate state officials.

The Boardman Health Care Center has been designated a Health Professional Shortage Area due to the physician/service area population ratio for the Boardman/Irrigon area. The recruitment of a mid-level provider is an essential second step in obtaining Rural Health Clinic status for the Boardman Health Care Center. The Medical Board is actively recruiting mid-levels as well.

The council heard a second report on the possible creation of

a health district(s) in Morrow County. This report served to answer many of the questions raised at the focus group level on this issue. The committee reported on two other areas in Eastern Oregon that have opted for the creation of a health district. The major reason for these areas in creating a separate district seemed to stem from the need to ensure separate funding for their health systems. This has already been accomplished in Morrow County through the Medical Fund levy, said Sagely. It was felt that Measure 5 would impact a health district, the extent of which is unknown. It was reported that taxes would most likely be higher under a health district, due to the need for a tax base of possibly \$550,000 with an allowable increase of six percent each year. It was also learned that under the present county by-laws, the Medical Board cannot be elected. It was the collective opinion of this committee that Morrow County should not pursue a health district at the time. This issue should be reviewed in three years when the effects of Measure 5 are more clear.

A final report was given on the need for bilingual capabilities within health services in Morrow County. According to the committee report, the estimated percentage of Hispanic people in the Boardman/Irrigon area approaches 25 percent. Statistics from the Boardman Health Care Center indicate approximately 35 percent of their clientele is Hispanic; and the percentage is increasing. It was the consensus of this committee that the need for a facilitator for the Hispanic community existed. It was stated that the idea was to assimilate, rather than segregate. In addition, the need for Hispanics to learn English was discussed. This could be done through BMCC or large employers in the area. At the Boardman Health Care Center, Dr. Boss speaks fluent Spanish and some clinic personnel have a working knowledge of the language.

The next meeting of the Morrow County Health Care Council will be March 19 at the Irrigon City Hall beginning at 7 p.m. The council will be voting on recommendations on the issues listed. The council will also begin discussion on alternatives for delivering essential health care services in rural areas. The public is welcome to attend. For more information on the CDM Project, call Pam Sagely at 676-9122.

## Off the Wall

By Merlyn Robinson

During last week that was hectic and demanding, I wrestled with a back muscle spasm problem. So it was during one of those induced rest periods that I heard a radio announcer say that the week was dedicated to the dignity of women.

In Russia, the commentator said, women are given flowers in recognition, but they are still expected to come home from an outside job and do all the household chores.

So, American women have come a long way. Equal rights is what the women's movement is all about. And along with rearing a family or keeping a home liveable, women now have an equal opportunity to become construction workers, astronauts or to strive for any other occupation.

Smartly-dressed women at the workplace indeed have a dignified appearance. And they can still look sharp when working out in a jogging outfit. But it's hard to maintain a dignified look when cleaning the toilet bowl or scrubbing last week's garbage container.

Sprawled on the floor to relieve protesting muscles while looking at all the dust bunnies, gave me a new perspective. So I finally gave in and went to the chiropractor. However his analysis was not what I wanted to hear.

That helpful man labeled my affliction as "i-use-ta" which when translated means, I used to be able to do things like dig holes, lift and lug without suffering the consequences. So that put a damper on my spring fever attack in an attempt to make bare ground blossom. So hold the bouquets and pass me another rose bush along with a pre-dug planting hole.

Brain damage could be the reason workaholic-type people try to keep up with two jobs at the same time. And that pertains to people of all ages struggling with making ends meet. But I guess that the busy people must live longer since they can't find time to slow down.

It was plainly evident during another successful St. Patrick's celebration, that many busy volunteers are responsible for a whirlwind of activities. Some people concentrated on one activity, while others spread their time between events put on by several different organizations.

Without the efforts of all groups, this small town could not fuel the appetites of the influx of visitors. From potato pushers to hot cake flippers, food preparation took a great deal of effort. I don't think I've ever seen so many elephant ears being juggled in the hands of parade watchers.

The ninth annual sheep dog trials hosted an increased number of contestants. The sunshine brought out a lot more spectators. Again an event that takes lots of work and time. The lengthy parade brought out the Irish in everyone with not one shamrock wilting because of a spring storm. And the production by the Heppner Intergenerational Theatre Group is destined to become a classic.

While some people labeled the celebration "the luck of the Irish," I think it had more to do with the dedication of a rural community in hosting this affair. And now's the time to capitalize on those willing concerted efforts to make the most of the Oregon Trail sesquicentennial anniversary in 1993.

## Ragpoint demo at Ione Garden Club

"Ragpoint" or Making of Rag Baskets was demonstrated by Pat Wright at the Ione Garden Club on March 11 at the home of Phyllis Anderson with Delta Huber as co-hostess. Ragpoint is a simple method that does not require sewing and uses coiling rope wrapped with torn one inch fabric strips to shape the basket.

At the business meeting Delta Huber and Helen Martin reported attending the OFGC quarterly meeting held March 2 at McNary. Pat Pettyjohn reported receiving 56 posters for the Woodsey Owl and Smokey Bear contest from grades one through

five of the Ione Elementary school and nine conservation posters titled "Protect Our Butterflies" from the fifth grade. These were judged and winners sent on to district and state. Leila Palmer, garden therapy chairman, announced that the club would visit the Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home on March 24.

The annual plant sale will be held Thursday, April 23, at the Ione Legion Hall from 10 a.m. till 3 p.m.

Guest for the day was Darcy Robinson, who intends to become a member.

## What's new at the museum?

"What's new at the Museum?" is a popular question these days. The new permanent exhibit about the 1903 Heppner Flood with enlargements of the dramatic photos taken in the aftermath of the disaster which make a compelling statement about the scope of the destruction. Personal objects that survived the flood, telegrams, letters and newspapers that followed it complete the exhibit.

The popular exhibit of medical paraphernalia has been expanded with a donation of equipment and literature from the 1940's and 50's from the Morrow County Health Department. The new display has been moved into a larger case where it can be more readily seen and appreciated. The

Native American materials have been moved to a new location, the larger artifacts displayed in an eight foot case and the framed points, beads and small tools mounted on the wall. Other exhibit work is still going on but these major changes are worth checking out.

The museum would like to complete its collection of Morrow County high school annuals. Please keep this in mind the next time you've "had it up to here" with dusting those relics. Photos documenting the development of the north end of the county are also needed. If anyone has pictures of Boardman, Irrigon, Castle Rock, Coyote, etc. that the museum could borrow and make negative shots, please call 676-5524.

## Mike Hedman's 'Keith Kabobs' take first

Mike Hedman, Pilot Rock, formerly of Heppner, took best of show and first place at the barbecue division of the Lamb Cook-Off, held during the St. Patrick's festivities in Heppner.

Hedman's Lamb kabobs earned both honors. He won two nights at Driftwood Shores in Florence.

Second in the barbecue division was Shelly Rietmann, Ione, with her 'Whiskey Glazed Leg of Lamb.'

Bob Allen, Hardman, took first in the conventional division with his 'Danish Blue Lamb Chops.' Barbara Smallwood of Bend was second in that division with her 'Herbed Lamb in Sour Cream.'

Miscellaneous division winner was Kim Cuttsforth, Portland, former Heppner resident with her 'Lamb Salad with Pepper Dressing.'

Second was Liz Amato of San

Francisco with her 'Lamb Pita Pocket with Tatziki Sauce.'

Bryan Broderick, Hermiston, formerly of Ione, took first in the student division with his 'Lamb Stir Fry.'

Dawn Boor, Ione, was second in that division with her 'Sweet and Sour Lamb.'

Each adult won a cut of lamb from Superior Farms of Hermiston. Students won savings bonds.

Organizer Maureen Krebs said that 15 people entered the contest and estimated that around 250 came through to sample the cook-off goodies.

Judges for the adult division were Birdine Tullis, Ione and Sandi Richardson, Bend. Student division judge was Carol Bennett, Heppner.

In addition to the lamb prepared in the contest over 100 pounds of lamb were donated for

samples from growers and other people in the sheep industry.

Tom and Karin Watson, Gary Lovell and family, Glen and Roni Krebs, Lou Levy, Oregon Sheep Commission, Clint Krebs, Phil and Alice Belle Farrell, past O.S.G.A. and national president and Vita Williams were some of the people in the sheep industry who attended the cook off.

The contest was sponsored by the Oregon Sheep Commission, the Oregon Sheep Growers and the St. Patrick's Day Committee. 3K livestock provided two nights at Driftwood Shores and the Oregon Sheep Commission provided the savings bonds.

The winning recipe follows:  
Keith Kabobs  
1 1/2 lbs. boneless lamb, cut in to 1 1/2 in. cubes.  
1 onion, sliced and separated

1 green pepper, cut in pieces  
1 lb. mushrooms  
Barbecue sauce  
Italian Salad dressing  
Zucchini cut into 1/2" pieces also works well

Place lamb cubes into bowl. Add salad dressing to cover and marinate in refrigerator 12-24 hours before barbecuing.

Alternate meat chunks and vegetables on barbecue skewers. Cook on medium heat on the barbecue, turning three or four times and brushing on barbecue sauce. Cooking time 10-20 minutes.

Hedman adds that the Keith Kabobs are a family favorite when they travel because they can be prepared ahead of time, brought in an ice chest and barbecued on a portable grill. Hedman guarantees no left overs.

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