

Costa Rican 4-H leader participates in exchange program



Rafael Morales (left) and Bill Broderick

The 4-H exchange program is not just for kids, anymore, adult youth workers now participate too.

Rafael Morales, a 4-H adult leader in Costa Rica is staying through the exchange program with the family of Morrow County Extension agent Bill Broderick.

A long time 4-H leader and supporter, Morales currently has a 15 year-old daughter who is staying in Michigan on a 4-H youth exchange. Last year the Morales family hosted a girl from Bend at their home. Morales spent a week at the Broderick home in Hermiston, then spent a week in Bend at the home of Kim Evans, the girl his family hosted last year. He will stay with the Broderick family another week before he returns home. He says he will not be able to visit his daughter in Michigan because of the expense.

While Morales speaks very little English, he says he is enjoying his visit in the U.S. Because Morales speaks little English and Broderick speaks little Spanish, Broderick says that it has been a real challenge to communicate. The two employ a Spanish, English handheld processor. Broderick's wife, Laura, however, is bilingual. "We've really enjoyed the experience," said Broderick. "This is the first time we've hosted a foreign exchange student."

Morales is from the town of Guanacaste, a fairly small town near San Jose, Costa Rica. Morales and his wife, Lidieth, have four children, Allen, 17, Zahyra, 15, who is in Michigan, Maribel, 11 and Tatiana, nine.

Morales, 44, was a banker for 20 years. After he retired from the banking business he bought a furniture and appliance business.

The idea of the adult exchange started in Costa Rica about a year ago and now 21 "4-S" professionals are in Oregon until early February studying the Oregon State University Extension Service's 4-H and youth development program.

The Central American delegates are guests of the OSU Extension 4-H Agents Association, said Ann Schaubert, a Marion County Extension agent

who is coordinating the visit. The 4-S program is similar to 4-H in the U.S.

The Costa Rican visitors will be looking for ideas they can adapt in their own work as they observe 4-H programs and activities in 14 counties. They also hope to learn more about U.S. culture during their visit, Schaubert said. They were welcomed to Oregon January 14 by OSU Provost Roy Arnold and other OSU officials during an orientation session in Corvallis.

The idea for the exchange started when Schaubert was in Costa Rica last year on sabbatical leave to study Spanish and Central American culture.

Costa Rica and Oregon have a long relationship as sister states in the Partners of the Americas program. OSU Extension agents and specialists have visited Costa Rica several times, while Oregonians have hosted Costa Rican professionals and workers interested in learning more about such topics as commercial fishing.

The Costa Rican 4-S professionals will observe 4-H programs in Morrow, Clatsop, Deschutes, Harney, Josephine, Klamath, Lane, Lincoln, Marion, Multnomah, Wasco, Washington and Yamhill counties and on the Warm Springs Reservation.

'Pinocchio' auditions set Feb. 8

Auditions will be held for the Missoula Children's Theatre production of Pinocchio on Monday, February 8, at the Heppner Middle School gym from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

All those auditioning should plan to arrive at 3:30 and stay the full two hours. Some of the youngsters cast in the production will be asked to stay for a rehearsal immediately following the auditions.

Students and adults are encouraged to audition. Roles to be cast include the Blue Fairy, Jiminy Cricket, Candlewick, and his gang, the Fox and Cat, the Pleasure Isle Kids, Urchins and Toys. Pinocchio and Gepetto are played by the Missoula Children's Theatre tour actors, Lyla Braden and Michael Shooner. Assistant directors are also needed to work backstage and throughout the week.

The MCT productions are complete with costumes, scenery,

props and make-up. The actor-directors from the company will conduct rehearsals throughout the week of February 8-13.

Pinocchio will be presented on Saturday, February 13, at 7 p.m. in the Middle School gym. The Missoula Children's Theatre residency in Heppner is sponsored by The Morrow County Museum with funding from the Morrow County School District's Artist-in-Residence Program.

For further information, call Marsha Sweek, 676-5524.

'73, '83 class reunion meeting set

Alumni from the classes of '73 and '83 is invited to meet at Kate's Pizza on Feb. 3, at 7 p.m. to discuss plans for a class reunion.

Those attending are asked to bring addresses and ideas.

Elks Hoop Shoot contest winners



Local Elks hoop shoot winners are l-r: 10 & 11 year olds Blake Knowles and Casey Ingrahm, 12 & 13 year olds Jill Barber and Derek Gunderson, 8 & 9 year olds Sara Eckman and Kiel Waterland.

The Elks hoop shoot was held Saturday, Jan. 23 at the high school gym in Lone and Heppner. Winner for the 12 & 13 year old girls was Kara Miller but she declined due to a conflicting schedule, so second place winner Jill Barber gets to go to district in Millers' place. District will be held Saturday, June 30 in Hermiston. Winners from district keep advancing.

Elk, deer forage on CRP, canola

The snow not only creates problems for drivers, but is making life difficult for wildlife and farmers.

Bob Krein of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife says that the snow has driven the elk down as far north as Baseline Road, even though snow is not crusted over. He reported around 400 head around Ruggs, which have dispersed and moved down country. "I'm hoping that warmer weather will get them to turn around and go back up," he said.

Priest brings experience to Heppner



The Rev. Thomas R. Scanlan, new priest at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Heppner, brings 36 years of experience to his new position.

Father Scanlan, 65, entered seminary in 1949 at St. John's at Brighton, Massachusetts, in Boston and was ordained in 1957. He first came to Eastern Oregon when he volunteered to serve in the Diocese of Baker, which covers all of eastern Oregon.

Father Scanlan served 2 1/2 years at The Dalles, two years at Klamath Falls, one year at Baker City and Ontario, four years at Burns as an assistant priest, four years at Bonanza, which is around 15 miles east of Klamath Falls, nine years at Chiloquin, which is 30 miles north of Klamath Falls and 12 years as parish priest at Burns. He came to Heppner on November 14.

Born and raised in Boston, Father Scanlan hails from Irish parentage. His paternal great-grandfather was born in County Waterford, Ireland, and his maternal grandmother was born in County Cork.

Father Scanlan has a sister who lives in Portland and two brothers who live in Boston. His father John J. was a fireman in Boston. Father Scanlan himself was assistant volunteer fire chief and an EMT II at Chiloquin. Back injuries, however, prevent him from continuing his fire department volunteer work.

Father Scanlan served two years in the Navy as a radio man on a submarine tender at Key West, Florida.

Commenting on his assignment in Heppner, Father Scanlan said, "I just want to be a good priest and serve the people. They're good people. I expect to stay here awhile," he added.

Krein says that most of the wildlife is not a problem because they are staying in the CRP grass.

Some, however, are destroying crops. Dustin Padberg says that around 300 to 500 elk have migrated on the Marvin Padberg place down Willow Creek, around four miles up Rhea Creek Road. The elk are eating bunch grass on the plateau near his place during the daytime and are coming down into the flats during the night, bedding down in the CRP.

Around 150-200 deer have also wandered on to the Padberg

place.

"The deer are more of a problem," Padberg said, because they are eating their canola. Canola comes up as a cabbage-like plant and lies dormant until the growing season, said Padberg. "The deer are eating the leaves and destroying the crop." He said that they run the deer off with snowmobiles, but they just come back.

"It's neat to see them," said Padberg, but added, "not if they eat the canola."

Free income tax assistance provided

Free income tax assistance will be available to the community starting Monday, February 1, through the TAX-AIDE program of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).

Sherron Woodside, local coordinator for the tax program, said the service is designed to help all low and moderate income taxpayers understand income tax forms and become familiar with special benefits available to them.

"In the past, we have learned that many older persons are unaware of special benefits they are entitled to claim. Some may not be required to file a return because of limited income," Woodside said.

"The government may owe you money," she continued. "Taxpayers that had a job, earned less than \$22,370 and had a child who lived with them may be due money from the government under the Earned Income Credit."

Persons using the service should bring copies of their previous year's federal and state tax returns, forms for the current tax year, relevant material showing income for the year (including W-2's and 1099's etc.) and receipts/cancelled checks for personal deductions (medical, property taxes, contributions, etc.).

According to Woodside, TAX-AIDE counselors are trained to assist with basic tax forms and questions. Individuals with complex tax assistance needs may be referred to professional tax preparers.

AARP is celebrating its 25th anniversary of association with the IRS in tax preparation assistance. AARP is one of the nation's leading organizations for people 50 years and over. "It serves their needs and interests through legislative advocacy, research, informative programs and community services provided by a network of local chapters and experienced volunteers throughout the country," Woodside said. The organization also offers members a wide range of special membership benefits, including "Modern Maturity" magazine and the monthly "Bulletin".

For assistance in Heppner stop by the St. Patrick's Senior Center Mondays and Fridays or call 676-9030 for an appointment.

Assistance is available in Irrigon on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to noon at Stokes Landing Senior Center, walk-ins welcome and in Boardman on Wednesdays from 1-7 p.m. at the Boardman City library. For appointment call 481-9252.

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