

Lenten dramas set at Hope, Valby

Pastor Stan Hoobing invites everyone to "meet the father of James the Less, one of Jesus' disciples" in the mid-week Hope-Valby Lutheran churches' Lenten dramas on Wednesday, at 7 p.m. at the home of Don and Martha Peterson, and Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. at Hope after the 6:30 soup supper.

There will be no Friday School on March 29 due to spring break. The next session will be Friday, April 5.

On Palm/Passion Sunday, March 31, the congregations of Hope and Valby will meet in the fellowship hall before services for the blessings of palm crosses, made in a village in Tanzania, East Africa. Proceeds

from the sale of palm crosses go to help support the medical and physical needs of the village, said Pastor Hoobing. After the blessing of the palm crosses, the congregation will proceed to the worship area for the rest of the service.

Worship service at Valby, lone, are at 9 a.m. with services at Hope, Heppner, beginning at 11 a.m. Pastor Hoobing's children's sermon will be based on the scripture reading of Matthew 12:1-11, entitled, "Shout, Hosanna". The adults' sermon is based on scripture reading of St. Matthew 26:14-56 entitled, "What a Friend He had in Judas".

All visitors and friends are welcome to attend the services at Hope and Valby Lutheran churches.

HES site council meeting held

Cathy Cutsforth was welcomed to the recent Heppner Elementary School (HES) site council meeting as the representative for the classified employees. She fills a vacancy created with the recent resignation of Dan VanLiew.

Site council members were informed of several special curriculum activities on the calendar. Mary Haguewood's fourth grade rocket project, Dave Gunderson's sixth grade math class bridge project, fifth grade field trip to Bend and Outdoor School at Tupper for the sixth graders were included on the calendar.

A new telephone system has been installed and is reported to be working well. A list of extension numbers for all of the staff members will be posted soon. Parents and teachers will be more accessible to each other

with the new system.

It was learned that the merry-go-round has been removed following a recent injury. It was also brought to the council's attention that a safety committee meets monthly to review potential hazards.

The teachers met Friday, March 15, to discuss multi-age grouping at HES. Brenda Simpson, a curriculum specialist from the Education Service District, was present to help with this.

Those in attendance were Dave Gunderson, Pat Hentges, Karen Clough, Bill Karwacki, Sandy Matthews, George Nairns, Tonia Adams, Cathy Cutsforth and Russ Morgan.

The next council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, at 7:30 p.m. in the elementary school staff room. The public is invited to attend with any questions or comments.

Century farm owners sought

The Oregon Historical Society (OHS) is now seeking applications for the 1996 Century Farm program. Since 1958, the program has honored nearly 1000 farms in Oregon. The program recognizes the achievement of Oregon's "first families" for keeping and working farms from generation to generation.

To qualify a farm for Century Farm status, it must have been operated continuously in the same family for 100 years or more, maintain a minimum gross income and meet other minor requirements.

The information provided by Century Farm applicants becomes an important part of the

state's historical record and has been used by researchers and writers to produce reports and papers, said an OHS news release.

Qualifying applicants receive a certificate signed by the governor and by officials of the OHS. The certificates are presented at specially arranged local awards ceremonies. Also, qualifying applicants receive the exclusive right to post a Century Farm sign on their property.

For applications and further information, contact Ron Brentano, coordinator, Century Farm Program, Oregon Historical Society, 1200 S.W. Park Avenue, Portland, OR 97215, telephone (503) 306-5215.

Hoop Shoot winners announced

The Hoop Shoot winners for this year's St. Patrick's celebration have been announced. Winners are as follows:

Five years and under: girls-tie first/second Kara Angell and Torrie Lovgren; boys-first Jared Huddleston, second Mark McCabe, third Brian Holland.

Six-seven years: girls-first Cyde Coil, second Holly (no last name available), third Tione (no last name available); boys-first Matt McCabe, second Zane Day, third Cody Lovgren.

Tourism committee wins state award

The Tourism Subcommittee of the North Central Oregon Regional Strategies Board (RSB) has won a statewide Innovative Tourism Development Award, reflecting the Tourism Committee's participation in creating an innovative regional Tourism Strategic Plan during 1995.

Eight-nine years: girls-first Madison Bailey, second Jenny Sherman, third Krystal Nairns; boys-first Luke Murray, second Jode Coil, third Kyle Nairns.

10-11 years: girls-first Brett Barber, second Lacey Matsson, third Meghan Bailey; boys-first Grant Godard, second Ben Turrell, third Jeff Hunt.

12 years: girls-first Jessie Gutierrez, second Shelly Rietmann, third Julie Proctor; boys-first Terry Reynolds, second Kyle Jacobson.

The prestigious award was presented by the Oregon Tourism Commission at the annual Oregon Governor's Conference on Tourism at Ashland. The award is presented annually by the state commission for "unique programs created through cooperative effort" in Oregon during the previous year, said a RSB news release.

The award was received at the conference by John Edmundson, Heppner, who chairs the Tourism Subcommittee; Denny Newell, director of the Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation and Mike Wetter of Michael Wetter & Associates.

Besides Edmundson, subcommittee members include Linda Harrington of Prairie City, Betsy Pattee of Condon, Jean Perry of Mitchell, John Prag of Boardman, John Weber of Grass Valley and Carrol White of Maupin. Former subcommittee members who also participated in the tourism project during 1995 are Dewanda Clark of The Dalles and David Freeman of John Day.

The tourism subcommittee contracted with a Salem-based consulting firm, Michael Wetter & Associates, during 1995 to develop a comprehensive, long-term tourism strategic plan for the region of northcentral Oregon. The plan serves Morrow, Gilliam, Grant, Sherman, Wasco and Wheeler counties, which is a territory larger than several eastern states.

The plan was completed in December 1995 and approved by the RSB in January. The consulting firm will work with the subcommittee through 1996 to implement the plan and to establish a regional tourism organization.

Kim Gutierrez attends training

Kim Gutierrez of Morrow County Grain Growers in Lexington recently completed a training session on servicing Case IH 2100 Series AXIAL-FLOW® combines at the Case Corporation service training center in Regina, Saskatchewan.

The session Gutierrez attended provided a comprehensive review of hydraulic, electronic and electrical systems and components featured in the combines, said a Case news release. Special testing, adjustment and calibration procedures were studied with an emphasis on troubleshooting. Attendees were also given an opportunity to disassemble, inspect and rebuild components.

Rural action plan approved

Developing affordable housing, building local capacity, creating partnerships, supporting small business and creating jobs are the key objectives of the North Central Regional Rural Action Plan, approved by the Oregon Economic Development Department (OEDD).

Approval of the plan is the first step in providing the region's six counties-Morrow, Gilliam, Grant, Sherman, Wasco and Wheeler-with nearly \$600,000 in rural investment funds allocated by the 1995 Oregon Legislature to help the state's rural communities.

The North Central Regional Strategy Board developed the plan following a series of workshops and public hearings. "This extensive outreach ensured representation of rural interests from incorporated, unincorporated and remote locations in all six counties in the region," said an OEDD news release.

The plan outlines the board's rural investment objectives for the biennium and will serve as a guide for evaluating projects

submitted for rural investment funding. In evaluating projects for possible funding, the regional board will take into consideration a project's ability to meet the priorities of rural areas with the greatest economic challenges; fill gaps in funding not available from other sources; leverage other public and private resources, and demonstrate measurable economic outcomes.

The board has set aside \$225,000 for projects that build a community's capacity to grow in each county. The board will use the remainder of the fund to finance projects that meet the broader goal of "developing a regional identity distinguished by efforts of excellence in economic development, education and commitment to quality of life," said the news release.

Copies of the plan, information about the application process for funding projects and access to the fund will be available through the region. For more information, contact the board at 276-6745.

BMCC approves tuition increase

Blue Mountain Community College Board of Directors, in an unanimous decision, approved a change in tuition during their regular March meeting. The 1996-97 tuition charge will continue at \$32 per credit hour. However, by increasing the number of credits students are charged for, from 13 to 15, the Resource and Review Committee expects an increase in generated revenue by an estimated \$42,000 fall term, with lesser amounts expected the other two terms.

The board made their decision after reviewing a letter submitted by Brett Mueller regarding the tuition change. One hundred, seventy-eight students signed a petition requesting a tuition rate increase rather than an increase in credits charged for. In the letter, Mueller noted that the pro-

posed increase will be made at the expense of full-time students, and part-time students should share the burden of an increase.

In other business, the board approved two amendments to phase two of the Master Facilities Plan and allowing a change in cost not to exceed \$19,000 plus expenses; approved the modified four-day summer work week, beginning the week of June 24 and ending the week of August 26; approved Bob Clapp's request for early retirement; approved regular and probationary contracts for all faculty and supervisor/administration, and scheduled a special board meeting for Wednesday, April 10, at 7 p.m.

The next regular board meeting is Wednesday, April 17, at the West Campus in Hermiston.

Miss Rodeo Oregon seeks applicants

Applications for the 1996 Miss Rodeo Oregon Pageant are now available. The pageant, to determine Miss Rodeo Oregon 1997, will be held in conjunction with the 1996 Crooked River Roundup, July 10-14, in Prineville.

The pageant seeks women between the ages of 18-24 with a "love of the sport of rodeo". Applicants must be unmarried.

The winner of the Miss Rodeo Oregon Pageant will compete in the 1997 Miss Rodeo America Pageant held in conjunction with the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas, Nevada.

For more information and applications, contact state delegate Elaine Palmer at (503) 889-6575 in the evenings. Deadline for submitting applications is Wednesday, April 10.

WCCC women's scramble April 2

It's time to think golf. Willow Creek Country Club (WCCC) women are invited to join a golf scramble on Tuesday, April 2. Kickoff breakfast will be at 9 a.m. with scramble play to

follow at 10 a.m. The breakfast and scramble will be put on by the WCCC ladies' officers.

Beginners are invited to come and join in the fun, said a club spokesperson.

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