

HEPPNER



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St. Pat's auction change should prove exciting

The St. Patrick's Day Celebration in Heppner will feature changes in the Sunday auction that has the auction committee excited.

The March 15 event, which funds the weekend event and provides financial support for local projects, will begin at 11:30 a.m. with the music of "Absolutely Nobody".

Admission for this entertaining a cappella quintet will be \$1 or a "Pot O'Gold" button.

"Absolutely Nobody" from Pendleton, includes at least one Irishman direct from Ireland and one Irishman from Heppner. The group sings original and Irish music, as well as songs from the past ... and has a good time doing so.

The auction, which will begin at 1 p.m., will continue to feature new and antique items of distinct value, but with some changes.

A "Country Store" will feature homemade crafts, home baked and canned goodies, and other smaller items.

There will also be a "silent auction, where small new items, and many gift certificates will be featured. Separate tickets for 50 cents will also be sold for a fourth event, a drawing on select items for children and adults. Drawings and silent auction awards will take place periodically through the afternoon.

"The variety of events should make the auction more interesting and shorten the actual

'live auction' time such that participants will not have to spend quite so many hours in attendance to see the full selection of items available," said an auction spokesperson.

The auction committee asks private citizens, as well as merchants, to think of items they can donate to the auction.

"Our various communities support each other in many ways, bringing tourists to the area for festivals and events, and we all enjoy these events ourselves as well," said the spokesperson. "We hope that Pendleton, Hermiston and Heppner will continue to support our contribution to this event."

Money raised at the auction helps support the St. Pat's Celebration--paying overhead costs such as advertising, decorations and promotion, as well as entertainment. The Auction Committee also makes contributions to the South Morrow County Scholarship Fund and each year to another local project. In 1997 a donation was made to People for the Pool.

Donors may call one of the following numbers to make arrangements for item pickup: Dan and Doris Brosnan, 676-5886, John Murray, 676-9631, or Steve Rhea, 676-9922. Donations may be left at the "Twice Upon A Time" Bookstore in Heppner, or at Kuhn, Spicer and Mills Law Offices in Hermiston.

Performance set Feb. 18 at HHS

Jim Valley, former member of the Paul Revere and the Raiders band, will hold a program at Heppner High School from 7-8 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 18.

Parents, children and families are invited to attend the evening "sock hop". The performance is sponsored by Oregon Together. There is no admission charge.

WCPD board extends swim hours

The Willow Creek Park District Board decided to extend swim session hours at the Willow Creek Waterpark after citizens voiced their concern at a park district meeting Feb. 11.

"We originally had a schedule that shortened weekday open swim sessions and eliminated some weekend open swims," said Skip Matthews, WCPD Board chairman. "Several citizens from the district came to our meeting to express their concerns about the shorter schedule and the board agreed to change the schedule to expand some of our open swims to be more in line with what the public wanted."

The new waterpark hours will be: weekdays--lessons from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 5-7 p.m., open swim 1-5 p.m. with half hour break at 3 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.; Saturdays--open swim, 2-5 p.m.; Sundays--open swim 5-8

Testimony indicates support for boot camp



Local citizens attend forum on proposed youth camp.

Testimony, both in favor of and against a proposed youth boot camp for Heppner, was given at a public meeting last Thursday.

Although not all of the 130 people who attended the meeting at the Forest Service building in Heppner did speak, those who did seemed to be in support of the facility by about three to one.

The proposed correctional facility would house about 50 non-violent 14 to 18-year-old offenders for a period of four months at a time in a military-style boot camp.

The proposed site for the camp is on the edge of Heppner along Highway 74.

Those against the facility said they were concerned that the boys in the camp would escape, that the facility would not bring as much economic benefit to the area as supporters claim, and that they just don't want "that type of facility in our backyard".

Those in favor of the facility said it would not only bring needed jobs into the community, but also is a good place for youthful offenders to go besides into MacLaren-type maximum security facilities.

As far as the economic benefits, the camp would employ 33 full-time employees with a monthly payroll of \$85,000. Supporters say this type of employment is needed because of the uncertainty of the wood products industry in the area, and the fact that Heppner is actually losing population.

Camp director Betsy Leighty said some of the youth would be allowed out of the facility for work details, however, she points out that anyone who attempts to escape from the program is taken out of the camp and given an additional five years incarceration.

A final decision on the location of the camp is scheduled to be made April 20. There are presently five communities being considered for the facility and the field is expected to be narrowed to three by this Thursday.

Morrow County has committed \$50,000 toward landing the facility and all three commissioners, along with the

Commission and the US Forest Service have endorsed the project.

Hospital Foundation donates funds to nursing home

The Pioneer Memorial Hospital Foundation trustees voted to donate \$5,000 towards new windows in the nursing home rooms at their recent annual meeting.

Auxiliary members Delia Robinson and Tonya Jones explained the ongoing program to update the windows and redecorate the rooms. The foundation contribution will cover slightly less than half of the project.

Anyone who would like to help with the project may send their contribution to Pioneer Memorial

Hospital Foundation, P.O. Box 515, Heppner, OR 97836. Mark contributions "Nursing Home" so the funds are directed properly.

Trustees elected to the foundation board were Don Peterson, Al Osmin and Sherree Mahoney.

They join existing trustees Larry Mills, Betty Brown, Linda LaRue and Glen Ward.

In other business, the trustees heard a report from the Morrow County district administrator Ken Schmidt on district-wide issues, including billing and doctor recruitment.

Fairgrounds project receives \$20,000 grant

The Morrow County Fairgrounds multi-purpose building project is the recipient of a \$20,000 grant from the North Central Regional Strategies Board, and Boardman Park improvements received a \$30,000 grant for a boat dock, multi-purpose court and walking trail.

The projects were funded with the 1997-98 Regional Strategies and Rural Investment Funds. Eleven projects, with a total allocation of \$398,300, were selected in the six county region and one multi-region grant, covering Cen-

tral, South Central, Baker-Malheur and North Central regions was approved. Each of the north central Oregon counties had at least one proposal funded.

More information is available by calling the Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation office in Canyon City, 575-2786. Regional Strategies and Rural Investment Funds are lottery monies distributed to the regions through the Oregon Economic Development Dept. and administered locally by the Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation.

Win \$50 for your Irish brogue

Can you sound like a "real" Irishman? Can you sound like a real Irishman for \$50.

If so, start practicing your best Irish brogue and you could be the winner of the first "Irish Brogue Contest" to be held during the St. Patrick's Day show on St. Patrick's Day weekend.

Contestants will recite a short poem or joke in their best Irish brogue and the best one, as judged by the crowd, will win

\$50. Second prize will be \$30 and the third place winner will receive a twenty dollar bill.

All contestants will be heard on the air of KUMA radio, which broadcasts the program live from the Elk's Club.

Anyone wanting to enter the contest should contact David Sykes at the Heppner Gazette-Times. The contest will be limited to the first 10 people to enter.

Cattlemen call for project's termination

The Oregon Cattlemen adopted by unanimous acclamation a resolution calling for the termination of the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project.

The Oregon Cattlemen at their January board meeting heard from their consultant Patricia Larson of Ecosystem Research and Analysis, who has been reviewing the draft environmental impact statement for the association. Larson presented a summary of her analysis of the statement using as examples the section that discusses livestock and livestock grazing.

"The use of terms to describe grazing practices such as "overgrazing" or "(im)proper grazing" implies that one can make that determination over whole states

or regions rather than site specifically," said an OCA release. "This DEIS does not address how to improve this practice," said Larson.

Larson cited some of the references in the water quality sections of the DEIS and demonstrated the quality of the scientific literature used in many cases by exposing them as speculative case studies rather than research reports.

"The Cattlemen's resolution recognizes that the project is a top-down public land management plan," said the release. "Although it has declared for several years that it was using the best science available it displays an ineptitude for separating the facts of science from the myths of popular belief."

Find the Hidden Shamrock Win a Gold Coin

The St. Patrick's Day treasure hunt is back. Each week until March 11th a clue for the treasure hunt will be printed in the Gazette-Times. If followed, these clues will guide treasure hunters to a green shamrock hidden somewhere in the city limits of Heppner.

The first person to find the hidden shamrock will win a .10 ounce gold coin, valued at \$45. The coin is donated by the Bank of Eastern Oregon and is on display there.

RULES:

1. A new set of clues to guide you to the hidden shamrock will appear in each edition of the Heppner Gazette-Times.
2. A total of four clues will be given through March 11th.
3. The hidden shamrock is not on private property and no digging or moving of objects, dirt or other material is necessary to find the shamrock.
4. The first person to find the shamrock should bring it to the Heppner Gazette-Times to claim the gold coin.

Clue Number One:



Can't find the shamrock on your own? Just follow the clues and you will be shown Waiting for you an Irish leaf But you gotta think fast and be there first. A street has the same name as this guy He's old, 63, for your sharp eyes Study the picture and you're sure to find Where to begin your hunt for the prize. Remember everything that you read It's gonna be helpful as you proceed.

Follow the clues, and may the Luck O' the Irish be with you. This contest is sponsored by the Bank of Eastern Oregon and the Heppner Gazette-Times.



MCGG BATTERY SALE: CENEX 600 SERIES

151503	24-24F	600	\$36.00 SALE PRICE
151546	74	600	\$38.00 SALE PRICE
150463	70	600	\$40.00 SALE PRICE
150455	42	600	\$35.00 SALE PRICE
150578	58	600	\$38.00 SALE PRICE
151538	65	600	\$62.00 SALE PRICE
151810	35	600	\$38.50 SALE PRICE

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