

Motocross, Cruz bring action to St. Pat's

By Claudia Hughes
 "Be ye fast or be ye slow, if you've wheels, it's a go." Four-wheelers and motorcycles will be roaring around at the fairgrounds during the Oregon Trail Pro-Rodeo's St. Paddy's Motocross.
 Races start at 10 a.m. sharp, with a break for the Great Green Parade at 1 p.m., after which races will resume.
 The first St. Paddy's Cruz-In will feature antique, classic and custom

entries participating in the parade, after which the public can get up close and personal as they view entries behind Les Schwab Tire Center.
 Experts will judge and a People's and a Leprechaun's Choice award will be presented.
 One and all are encouraged to stop by and cast their votes," said committee chairpersons Dick and Lynnea Sargent.
 There will also be races of other

sorts, not requiring wheels. Take the Ewe-do-bingo, for instance; well, "live sheep activity" would be descriptive enough. Heppner High School cheerleaders are chairing this event. And no wheels are required to participate in the O'Ducky Race. Adopt your ducky from Heppner Colt football players.
 Additionally, Cathy Cutsforth Fullmer promises some other innovative races prior to the parade. See you at the races.

Cowboy poet to entertain Saturday

Blair Sneddon, cowboy poet, will entertain fireside at the All Saints Episcopal Church Parish Hall on Saturday, March 17, at 7 p.m., with musical entertainment provided by Kelli Bates and Amanda Sneddon.
 The evening will also include audience participation. Bring an instrument, a song, story or poem to share.

Blair Sneddon claims he is "just an ol' boy who gets to do a little cowboyin' but never got to be a real one." He and his wife, Geralean, reside in Reedsport and both were raised in Baker County. Sneddon, a retired PUD manager, spends much of his free time in Halfway, helping family with their cattle and ranch operation. He confesses he's not Irish, but he is willing to put aside his Scottish heritage and become Irish for the day.

Poetry has been a hobby for Horseshoes contest at Hager

Four sets of new Oregon State Horseshoe Pitching Association-approved pits have been installed in Hager Park in Heppner.
 Sunday, March 18, at 1:30 p.m., weather permitting, a doubles, and possibly a singles, contest will be held in the park.
 Sign up at Bucknum's Tavern this week or come by the park prior to 1:30 p.m. on Sunday.
 The tournament is free.
 All ages are welcome to attend. Some horseshoes will be available. Anyone who has a pair that could be used for the afternoon, call Rod Wilson at 676-5434.

Sneddon. He enjoys both reading cowboy poetry and writing his own. He devotes much time to charity engagements throughout the Central Oregon Coast and the Willamette Valley with his auctioneering and poetry.

Kelli Bates and Amanda Sneddon, Heppner High School seniors,

A Wee Bit O'Ireland

By Claudia Hughes
 See all the flags a flying. The huge Irish flag above the IOOF hall, the Irish flags in front of businesses, the family flags up and down Heppner's Main Street. When you see them, think of all the Irish that have come and gone. This week in particular we're thinking of Jack Healy, an Irishman proud of his Irish heritage, who for many, many years hung these flags on Heppner's Main Street. These flags were sewn by his wife Gwen and will always remind us of them.
 Jack is now somewhere in the great beyond, probably sharing a few jokes with Jim Farley, Paul Hisler, Bill Healy, Ilene Kilkenny, Ebb Hughes, and the likes of them. We dedicate this year's celebration to Jack and Gwen; and we appreciate you, Gwen, from the bottom of our hearts.

"May the road rise up to meet you; may the wind be always at your back; may the rain fall soft upon your fields, the sun shine warm upon your face; and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand."

recently performed at the District 7 solo/ensemble competition in LaGrande. They will sing some Irish traditional music as well as some country-western.

"A Bit O'Blarney with Blair" is sponsored by the St. Patrick's Planning Committee and funded by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District. Admission is free. For more information contact Tami Sneddon at 676-9046.

Coffee Hour features fun and music

If you are looking for some Irish music and maybe a good joke or story, don't forget the KUMA coffee hour Saturday morning upstairs at the Heppner Elks.
 Beginning at 10 a.m. the coffee hour will once again feature the music of the Irish Players.

There will also be a new musical group this year: The Shamrockettes. Cara O'Osmin, Pam O'Wunderlich, and Monica O'Hunter. The group will sing an original song called "A wee bit o' Ireland in Heppner."

Also again this year will be the Irish Joke & Story Telling Contest. If you know a good joke or story share it with the crowd and you could be the winner of a cash prize. The best joke or story wins \$50 cash, second place gets \$30 and third gets \$20.

And don't forget the whole show is broadcast over KUMA radio so even if you can't make it to the show, you can still take part in the good time.

Ceili, a family affair

By Claudia Hughes
 Sometimes spelled Ceiligh and pronounced K-Lee, it means singing, dancing, jokes and an all-around good time. St. Patrick's Day in Heppner wouldn't be tradition without John Doherty and The Irish Singers. What a crew they are, changing some through the years, but steady in their consistent offering of both rollicking and serious Irish music. Many a tear comes to an eye as their tunes invoke many memories. They are the KUMA coffee, most would say, and it is appreciative we are that they also sing during the afternoon Ceili upstairs at the Heppner Elks.
 Mike Duffy, one of the Irish Singers, MC's the Ceili, and a great job he does.

Following the Irish Singers, the audience will enjoy the varied talents of the County Morrow Ceili Kids, students of Peg Willis, who brings out the best in fiddlers. These young people from age six and up have won many awards and are being

requested to entertain more and more.

Round Up City Cloggers are clogging to Irish music during the Ceili and in the parade. Those who viewed them last year got to try their "feet" at clogging and a good time was had by all.

A bagpiper will be on hand to contribute to the Celtic flavor of the day.

It's a family affair. Bring all ages and enjoy, from 2-4 p.m. on Saturday, March 17 at the Elks.

Teen dance Saturday

A teen dance will be held this Saturday, March 17, from 9 p.m. until midnight at the Morrow County Fairgrounds.

The admission price is \$2 per person. Music will be by Rob McKenzie.

The dance is sponsored by the Morrow County Fair Board.

Musician to perform Sunday

By Claudia Hughes
 On Sunday, March 18, at 2 p.m. at the Heppner Elementary Gym, the audience will be transported back in time to old Ireland via three screens and the guitar harp of John Doan.

The St. Patrick's Committee arranged for the presentation through the sponsorship of the Morrow County Unified Recreation District, to give all the hard working volunteers and visitors a chance to relax and enjoy entertainment at the end of a very busy weekend.

John Doan's 20-stringed harp guitar musically reflects his journey and experiences in Ireland. The audience will be transported back to the very sites where the music was composed through an imaginative slide presentation. It is a journey that takes along the Celtic spirit in us all. End your weekend with John Doan's Celtic Pilgrimage...Ancient Paths to Sacred Places.

Heppner Chamber of Commerce Merchants WELCOME you to the 19th Annual WEE BIT O'IRELAND

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2001 St. Patrick's Celebration SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- *****Friday, March 16*****
 *HEPPNER PUBLIC LIBRARY - Open 11AM - 5PM.
 *MORROW COUNTY MUSEUM - Open 1 - 5 PM.
 *VENDOR'S SQUARE - Enjoy crafts, food and other treasures from local and visiting vendors. All day Friday, Saturday & Sunday at the Neighborhood Center on Main Street across from the Library/Museum/City Park. For information call Debbie at 541-676-5024.
 *MRS. O'LEARY'S STEW FEED - 5 - 7 PM at St. Patrick's Senior Center, 190 N. Main Street, prepared by the Heppner United Methodist Church members.
 *BUFFET DINNER - 6 - 8 PM at the Elks, 142 N. Main Street.
 *ST. PATRICK'S ANNUAL AUCTION - Starting at 7 PM at the Elks, 142 N. Main Street. Live Auction, Country Store and Silent Auction. Drawing for \$100 Pot O' Gold.
 *LADS & LASSIES TEEN DANCE - 9 PM - midnight—a drug and alcohol free event for teens at Heppner High School. Sponsored by Morrow County Unified Recreation District and Morrow County Behavioral Health.
 *****Saturday, March 17*****
 *BREAKFAST - 6 - 10 AM at St. Patrick's Senior Center, prepared by O' Senior Center.
 *SHEEP DOG TRIALS - Starting at 8:30 AM (all day) at Thompson's Ranch, 3 miles northwest of Heppner on Bunker Hill Rd. off of Hwy. 74, between mileposts #41 and #42.
 *VOLKSWALK - 8 AM - 4 PM. Make a "grand tour" of the Irish Capitol of Oregon. The event starts at Central Red Apple on Main Street and tours the town on a 6.2 mile/10 kilometer route.
 *ST. PADDY'S MOTOCROSS - Sponsored by the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Committee. Sign up from 8 - 9 AM with races going from 9 AM - noon, then continuing after the Parade at 2 PM until finished. \$2 admission fee.
 *MORROW COUNTY MUSEUM & FARM EXHIBIT OPEN
 *MORROW COUNTY CREATIVE ARTS AND CRAFTS - 9 AM - 3 PM, show and sale at Les Schwab.
 *VENDOR'S SQUARE - All day at the Neighborhood Center across the street from the Library/Museum/City Park.
 *IRISH HOOP SHOOT - Starting at 10 AM on E. Willow Street, sponsored by Heppner Colt Basketball.
 *KUMA COFFEE HOUR - 10 AM at the Elks, 142 N. Main Street. Come hear family histories, music, stories and blarney! Enter the IRISH BROGUE CONTEST and win cash prizes.
 *HEPPNER PUBLIC LIBRARY - Open 11 AM - 3 PM.
 *O'SENIOR CENTER - 11 AM - 1:30 PM. Have a taste of Irish homemade soup and bread, pie and coffee 3 - 4:30 PM. Videos of Ireland for your relaxation.
 *O'BARBECUE chicken and Ribs - 11 AM - 4 PM by Kessler's Katering at the City Park on Main Street.
 *SHAMROCK LANES - Irish Sweepstakes/Mixed Doubles Bowling Tournament, 11 AM and 2:30 PM.
 *BRUNCH - 11:15 AM - 1:30 PM at the Elks, 142 N. Main Street.
 *LITTLE LEPRECHAUN CARNIVAL AND KIDS KUISINE - 11:30 AM - 3 PM. On Main Street between the Post Office and The Shoe Box.
 *IRISH PARADE - 1PM on Main Street. Drawing for \$100 Pot O' Gold.
 *BLUE MOUNTAIN OLD TIME FIDDLERS - 2 - 5 PM at Heppner Elementary School Auditorium. Admission charged to benefit OSEA Scholarships.
 *CEILI (pronounced K-Lee) - 2 - 4 PM, upstairs at the Elks, 142 N. Main Street. *John Doherty and the Irish Singers *Bagpipers *County Morrow Ceili Kids *Round-Up City Cloggers
 *EWE-DO BINGO - 2:30 PM. Live sheep activity on NW Willow Street. Sponsored by Heppner High School Cheerleaders.
 *TOURS - 2:30 - 4 PM. Morrow County Courthouse. Historical structure built of blue basalt in 1902 at 100 S. Court Street.
 *O'DUCKY RACE - 3 PM. Starts at bridge in front of Courthouse. Adopt a duck to win a prize of \$10 to \$100. Sponsored by Heppner Colt Football Program.
 *ST. PATRICK'S HAM DINNER - 4 - 7 PM at the St. Patrick's Catholic Parish Hall at 560 NW Jones Street. Family tickets available.
 *BUFFET DINNER - 6 - 8 PM. Corn Beef & Cabbage, etc. with music from 9 PM - 2 AM at the Elks, 142 N. Main Street.
 *A BIT O'BLARNEY WITH BLAIR - 7 PM at All Saint's Episcopal Church. Fireside gathering with poet, Blair Sneddon, music and audience participation. Bring an instrument, a song, story or poem to share.
 *TEEN DANCE - 9 PM - midnight at the Morrow County Fairgrounds. Music by Rob McKenzie. Sponsored by the Morrow County Fair Board. \$2 admission.
 *WEE HOURS O'THE MORNIN' BREAKFAST - 10 PM-3 AM by Heppner Volunteer Fire Department at 190 NW Willow Street.
 *****Sunday, March 18*****
 *BREAKFAST - 7 - 10 AM at the Nazarene Church, 335 N. Gilmore.
 *SHAMROCK LANES - Irish Sweepstakes/Mixed Doubles Bowling Tournament, 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM.
 *CHURCH - Your choice. Visitors welcome.
 *VENDOR'S SQUARE - All day at the Neighborhood Center across from the Library/Museum/City Park.
 *SHEEP DOG TRIALS - All day at Thompson's Ranch, 3 miles northwest of Heppner on Bunker Hill Rd. off of Hwy. 74, between mileposts #41 and #42.
 *ENTERTAINMENT - JOHN DOAN - 2 PM at the Heppner Elementary School Auditorium. Come join us for "A Celtic Pilgrimage" performed by John Doan, renowned harp guitarist. This performance is free to everyone through a grant from the Morrow County Unified Recreation District. Drawing for \$100 Pot O' Gold.



We hope you enjoy the weekend. Come back, again!
 For more information:
 Call 541-676-5536 or 541-676-5886
 ST. PATRICK'S DAY • P.O. Box 1232 • Heppner, Oregon 97836
 or visit us at www.heppner.net