

St. Patrick's Senior Center alive with volunteer activity

Security and accessibility are responsibilities related to one group of volunteers who give community service time to the operation of St. Patrick's Senior Center. Nine women give hours each week to keep the hub of the center functioning smoothly and efficiently. At present, there are three alternate persons who also may be called to substitute for a "regular" in an emergency. These volunteers are skilled in phone etiquette, trained to know the activities and resources of the center and reflect the pride they have in this community run resource, as well as the surrounding area as a whole. They are a group of people who put their "best foot forward" to express the welcoming and generous spirit of the place.

The office is the hub of the activities and services offered by the center. It is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-12 noon; then from 1-4 p.m. Requests for transportation needs of seniors and those with disabilities are coordinated through the office. The volunteer in charge is responsible for the many details of scheduling, recording and connecting with CAPECO, the center's "parent agency." They are ready repositories of information, as simple as the Wednesday noon meal menu or as complicated as criteria for renting the center for a reunion to information about renting an apartment. Many times a name for a contact is all that is needed. The volunteer is prepared to be helpful even when information is not at hand. They remain aware of the alarm system and what to do in case of an emergency among the residents of the apartments.

Keeping a careful log of all that goes on during a person's assigned time is an important assist to the next person coming in. These precise and careful notes about callers, phone calls, requests and activities is one key to enabling smoothness of operation even though many different people are in charge, each at her or his allotted time. Each volunteer familiarizes herself with the activities of previous hours to be aware of unfinished business from some one else's time of "watch". Taking care of the mail, being sure communications get to the proper person, hosting the common room, recording people present for activities, making coffee, and watering the plants at scheduled times, are additional amenities provided by the volunteers.

St. Patrick's Senior Center is a treasure of the Heppner community. The office staff is a group of volunteers who make it so. It is available to all people of the community (at a cost) to conduct activities, which may need more space than a home or meeting room can provide. Judy Buschke is the office staff coordinator (also a volunteer) and is the one to contact to inquire about the possibility of your being part of the varied and interesting way to serve our community.

Heppner student graduates from Creighton University

Traci Dickenson, of Heppner, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Creighton University in Omaha, NE, in December 2002.

Creighton University is an independent, Catholic, comprehensive university operated by the Jesuits. The university enrolls more than 6200 students of diverse faiths and races from across the United States and 65 countries. The University is located on a 92-acre campus adjacent to the downtown business district of Omaha

WCLL to hold monthly meeting

Willow Creek Little League (WCLL) will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, Feb. 13 in Arlington at the Village Inn, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The Willow Creek board is still looking for people interested in joining the board and becoming active in Little League. WCLL encompasses Fossil, Condon, Arlington, Ione and Heppner and would like to have members representing each of these towns. Those who would like to get involved or would like more information may contact Sandi Day at 676-5275, or attend the meeting.

HES students spend hours taking time out for reading



68 fifth and sixth graders participated in HES's "Time Out For Reading" program.



(back row L-R): Stephanie Rill, Sherilyn Peck, Matt Holland and Spencer Palmer; (front row L-R): Christopher Hendricks, Chris Hickerson, Katie Moore, Maggie Armato, Araceli Zavala and Mark McCabe.

In the month of January, students in grades 5-6 at Heppner Elementary School read a total of 143,927 minutes during the annual "Time Out For Reading" program. This popular program is centered around a basketball theme, and students compete as individuals, and also as teams. Rather than counting books or pages read, the readers keep track of the amount of time spent reading, thus creating a program that is fair to all participants, whatever the reading level.

A student must read at least 90 minutes a week to "move" from one quarter to another. For that 90-minute minimum, the young people received a treat, and a chance to win a new book by reading a thousand minutes or more for the week. During one week of the program, fifteen students read over a thousand minutes and received new books.

On Friday, Jan. 31, 61 of the 68 total fifth and sixth graders stayed after school for a reading party. Snacks were served, and then the literary group read, won prizes during book searches such as: turn to page 67 of your book; if there is the name of one of the months of year on that page, you win a prize. After brown-bag dinners, the movie "White Fang," based on the classic novel by Jack London, was enjoyed by all.

The top ten finishers in the contest were: Chris Hickerson, Katie Moore, Maggie Armato, Matt Holland, Stephanie Rill, Christopher Hendricks, Araceli Zavala, Mark McCabe, Spencer Palmer and Sherilyn Peck. The total for Chris alone was 7,748 minutes. He

won a backpack for all of his efforts.

When asked how he racked up so many minutes, Chris replied, "Well, I set my alarm for 5:00 a.m. so I could get up and read. Then every evening I would stay up until 9:00 or 9:30 and then read every other opportunity during the day." When Chris was asked about his reading material, he replied, "The best book I read was 'The Great Turkey Walk'. I really like adventure stories, and it was a good one." Chris's dad was amazed at the lack of TV watching during the month January. Hopefully these young readers will continue to read in the coming months, as it's always important to "take time out for reading".

Ione Youth Group participates in Souper Bowl of Caring



Caitlin Orem, Natalie McElligott and Jenny Griffith collect donations after church services.

Ione Youth Group participated in the "Souper Bowl of Caring" on Super Bowl Sunday by collecting money for Domestic Violence Services of Morrow and Umatilla counties. The Souper Bowl of Caring is an international grassroots movement that encourages people to give their time and money to serve others in their communities. Ione youth collected donations at Valby Lutheran Church, St. William's Catholic Church, and the Ione United Church of Christ.

Kricket Nicholson, executive director of Domestic Violence Services spoke at the United Church of Christ service. She stated that domestic violence is multi-generational: Those who

live in violence become violent themselves or become victims of violence. DVS teaches victims new skills such as communication, parenting, setting boundaries, and how to improve their self worth. Nicholson defines domestic violence as "one person

OSU Extension training video

The Oregon State University Extension Office in Morrow County will show the Private Pesticide Applicator CORE Training video on Thursday, Feb. 20 and Saturday, Feb. 22. The video will be shown at the Extension Office, in the former Kinzua office building, from 7-11 a.m.

Participants will earn four core pesticide credits. The

4-H News

Sew Happy 4-H Club Reporter, Catherine McElligott

The Jan. 3 meeting of Sew Happy was called to order by Kathryn Strouse. In attendance were: Maggie and Joe Armato, Emily Thompson, Kathryn Strouse, Sherilyn Peck, Catherine McElligott, Kylee Helfrecht and guest, Steven Thompson.

The group made a "fun and creative" snack called "Bugz." These snacks are made with pretzels, Ritz crackers, M&Ms, peanut butter, chocolate frosting and chocolate chips. The group discussed ways to make the snacks more nutritious by using raisins, only peanut butter, or dried fruit.

The next meeting will be Feb. 14, at Sharon Lewis' house. The group will be making cookies.

University of Idaho announces Dean's List recipients

The University of Idaho in Moscow, ID, announced the names its Dean's List for fall semester, August to December 2002. Matthew Jepsen and Roberta Jean Rankin of Heppner and Jeremiah Lee McElligott of Ione were among those honored.

Students must earn a term grade point average of 3.3 or better on 14 or more graded credits to be on the Dean's List.

Magnetic Door Signs

Order Yours Here

Heppner Gazette-Times
676-9228

Morrow County Grain Growers CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY



and Free Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, February 15th from 8 a.m.-noon

Factory Representatives will be available to answer your questions.

Free Knife Sharpening

FREE CARNATIONS to the first 300 ladies
Lots of Door Prizes! Sign up for drawings!

At the CONVENIENCE STORE & GAS STATION:

* Free Coffee & Cookies * Door Prizes awarded at 12 noon
* Free Fountain Pop with Fuel

Everyone Is Welcome To Attend!



Morrow County Grain Growers

350 Main Street, Lexington ~ 989-8221 • 1-800-452-7396
For farm equipment, visit our web site at www.mcgg.net

-- SERVICE AUCTION --

The Heppner High School Senior Class will hold a service auction this Friday, Feb. 7, before the varsity boys' basketball game against Weston-McEwen. (If there is not enough time, a silent auction will be held for the remaining students)
SUPPORT YOUR HHS SENIOR CLASS!

Remember to take tree lights down

Now that the festive holidays have past, it is time to take the Christmas lights off the trees along Main Street. This chore needs to be done, so that the trees can get ready for Spring without disturbance.



Kristen Nicholson, executive director of DVS, speaks at the United Church of Christ.

controlling another through fear, intimidation, or violence."

Altogether Ione Youth Group collected \$299.50 for Domestic Violence Services. They also collected cans of soup that Sunday, which they donated to the Heppner Neighborhood Center.

Office to show training video

training video includes information about: pesticide laws and regulations; pesticide labels; personal protective equipment; sprayer calibration; and procedures for mixing and loading.

There is no cost to participate, but pre-registration is required. For more information, or to pre-register, please call 541-676-9642.