

Willow Creek Symphony and Singers to perform holiday concert



Willow Creek Symphony



Willow Creek Singers

The Willow Creek Symphony and Singers will present a holiday concert on Sunday, Dec. 7 at 3:15 p.m., at the Heppner High School cafeteria.

The singers will perform several Christmas songs including "Sing Gloria," "The Perfect Rose," and "The Friendly Beasts," a medieval French carol depicting the role the animals played in the Christmas story. The symphony will perform the theme from "Babes in Toyland," along with a variety of music including "Swedish Polka," selections from "The Music Man" and themes from Brahms and Mozart.

The symphony is also performing two Young People's Concerts for area school children on Thursday,

Dec. 4 at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. at the Echo Community Center.

Conductor of the Willow Creek Symphony and Singers is R. Lee Friese of Athena. Assistant conductors are Wendy Appleton of Heppner and Nolan Frost of Pendleton. The symphony and singers are based in Heppner and are comprised of youth and adults from throughout Morrow and Umatilla counties and Waitsburg, WA. Both groups are affiliated with Inland Northwest Musicians at 25 S.E. Court, Pendleton, (541) 966-6649 or e-mail info@inwm.org.

The concert is free to the public and is sponsored by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District.

Shenanigans continue pop can collection

The Shenanigans fiddle group has a new box and location to collect beverage cans in Heppner. The box is located at the home of Louis and Betty Carlson at 625 South Chase St. The box is labeled and easy to see from the street. There is also a box at the home of Kara Clay in

Ione on Main Street across from the United Church of Christ.

The fiddle group also plans a pop can drive in early January after the holidays and will be picking up cans at a date to be announced.

The group is raising funds to go on a trip to a music school in Ireland next July.

Willow Creek Symphony to perform at HES

Music inspires and enriches our lives in many ways. Some people are actively involved, while others participate vicariously in its wonders. Music touches almost everyone in some way. The language of music is assimilated both intellectually and emotionally, and like any other language, is most easily learned at a young age. The immediacy and excitement of a live performance is an important part of music education.

Willow Creek Symphony is proud to provide an opportunity for elementary age students to attend a concert by an orchestra that consists of many of their peers. Willow Creek Symphony is an orchestra of approximately 40 members, whose age range from 9 to 70. It is a wonderful opportunity for students of any age to learn together. The orchestra serves as a preparatory group for Inland Northwest Orchestra. Both groups are directed by R. Lee Friese of Athena. Associate conductors for Willow Creek

are Wendy Appleton of Heppner and Nolan Frost of Pendleton. Some of the Willow Creek members also play in Inland Northwest Orchestra, serving as mentors for less experienced players. Several players participate with their family. The Burnette family, for example, includes Tim on trumpet, Danette and niece, Amber Scott, playing percussion, Cassey on violin and Gabriel on viola.

Approximately 25 players are school age students who play in their school bands, are home-schooled, or take private lessons. The orchestra also includes adults, who are returning to instruments not played since high school or college, like Chris Huether, a school psychologist from Waitsburg, WA. She performs with her son Isaac in Willow Creek and her daughter Sara in Inland Northwest Orchestra. Some have taken up their instrument later in life, such as retired judge Louis Carlson, who began learning the string bass after retiring and

teacher Kathleen Mercer, who plays flute in Inland Northwest Orchestra, but is learning clarinet with the Willow Creek group.

People in the group travel from all over our region to Heppner every Friday evening to rehearse the repertoire, hone their instrument skills and enjoy the diversity of ages and personalities among their fellow musicians.

Some music included in this year's performance includes "Temple Scene," from Mozart's opera "The Magic Flute" and "Themes from First Symphony," which is taken from Johannes Brahms "First Symphony." These have melodies that are very familiar even to those unfamiliar with classical music. Also included in the program are lighter works such as, "Toyland! Toyland!" which is a suite from Victor Herbert's "Babes in Toyland."

Willow Creek Symphony and its parent organization Inland Northwest Musicians appreciate the City of Echo and city administrator

Diane Berry for providing their wonderful ballroom in Echo's historic Community Center. Willow Creek Symphony is performing their Young People's Concerts on Dec. 4 and Inland Northwest Orchestra and Chorale will return to the Community Center for a Christmas concert on Dec. 20. We hope that young people attending the concerts are inspired to choose instruments and begin their own music education. Those students and adults who are interested in joining the organization should contact R. Lee Friese or Nolan Frost at (541) 966-6649.

Willow Creek Symphony will be joined by the Willow Creek singers for two additional free concerts presented to the general public on Saturday, Dec. 6, at Stanfield Elementary School at 7:30 p.m., and on Sunday, Dec. 7, at Heppner Elementary School, at 3:15 p.m. The Dec. 7 concert in Heppner is sponsored by Morrow County Unified Recreation District.

New business opens in Heppner



Ron and Beverly Howe

Returning to the pizza business, Ron and Beverly Howe have opened Howe's About Pizza in Heppner. "We're just doing what we like to do and making a living at it," said Beverly. Ron used to own a pizza parlor in Kennewick, but has been out of the business for a while.

Taking their time in converting the previous Court Street Market into a restaurant, they have decided to start out as take-out only. However, they hope to eventually open a seating area as well. They not only offer pizza, but also sandwiches, soups and salads.

The Howes mainly run the business on their own, although they said Ron is teaching Celita Strouse the aspects, even the pizza cooking, of the business. The Howes' family has also helped add to the business. Beverly's sister come up from southern Oregon and painted a mural of an elk and mountain scene on one of the restaurant's walls. Another family helper, their brother-in-law, is responsible for the name. "He was delighted when he found out we were using his idea," said Beverly.

St. Patrick's Senior Center news

Hope/Valby/All Saints Shared Ministry volunteers will be on hand to serve the weekly meal at St. Patrick's Senior Center on Dec. 10.

The alcove near the stairway to the apartments will be prepared as a parking place for wheel chairs, electric vehicles and similar equipments used or owned by residents.

A desk, a two-drawer metal file cabinet, two occasional swivel chairs and a tiered occasional table are now offered for sale by vote of the Board of Directors. Anyone interested in purchase of any of these items may contact a board member for information and leave a sealed bid at the Center office by Dec. 16 at 4 p.m.

Senior citizens have become a particular target for telemarketers. There are now federal laws governing the intrusions of telemarketers. How to protect yourself from such callers, the designation of calling times permitted, how they must identify themselves are three of a number of regulations set up to protect the unwary.

To prepare for the sessions on elder abuse, scheduled for January, keeping aware of and keeping a record of such nuisance calls and the style of their presentation is information the presenters will find helpful. A presentation pertaining to the number of calls will be on the survey sheet, which is in preparation.

Stroll Heppner and Parade of Light comes to Heppner



Morrow County Courthouse employees decorate tree in preparation for the 2nd annual tree auction.

Holiday events begin on Thursday, Dec. 4, with all day open houses at Heppner merchants. Viewing of the Christmas trees for the Chamber auction and pictures with Santa will be from 4:30-6 p.m., at the Shoe Box.

From 4:30-5:30 p.m., children are invited to bring their ornaments and help light up the big Christmas tree next to the Post Office. Christmas carolers and music will help to entertain one and all and free cocoa and hot cider will be provided. This event is sponsored by Central Red Apple Market.

The Light Parade will begin at 6 p.m. Parade

organizers say "the more the merrier, decorate your wagon, car, boat, truck, trailer, bicycle, yourself." There are four prize categories in which to win a \$100 prize. People's Choice can be voted on at Central Red Apple.

Holiday events will continue on Friday, Dec. 5, with the 2nd Annual Designer Christmas Tree Auction. The fundraising auction for the Heppner Chamber of Commerce will be held from 6-8 p.m. at the Shoe Box. There will be live music, punch, cookies, no-host wine and appetizers. The evening is sure to be sparkly.

Thanksgiving community dinner huge success

St. Patrick's Senior Center was the place to be for Thanksgiving dinner and good entertainment. Over 100 people enjoyed the food, and lots of it.

The Heppner Christian Missionary Fellowships appreciates everyone for their help, the food donated and for the great turnout.

Holiday Tips From Justin...

Tidings of Comfort and Joy.

Ropers...

It feels good to give an original gift. The Original Roper from Justin Boots.

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MURRAY'S CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, December 4th We will be open until 8 p.m.

Treasure Hunt Begins! (Drawing Dec. 6)
Mini-Wine Tasting from 5-7:30 p.m.
Hourly Door Prizes all day!

LIGHT PARADE at 6 p.m.

Murray's Drug and Murray's Country Rose Main Street, Heppner