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Gazette Times

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HHS drama to perform November 9 &10

Left to right: Sarah Johnson and Baillie Keithley in "Help! I'm Trapped In A High School"

Heppner High School drama department will perform "Help! I'm Trapped In A High School" on November 9 and 10 at 7 p.m. The performance will take place at the Heppner High School Cafeteria and admission is $1. Jodi Chapa will direct the play with backstage production direction by Baillie Keithley. Jodessa Chapa and Kolleen Chapa will be handling the sound, lights and curtains. Jodi Chapa, Jodessa Chapa, Kolleen Chapa, Jenna Bowman, Kendra Rayburn, Baillie Keithley and Katie Kilkenny did scenery.

"Help! I'm Trapped In A High School" is an offbeat comedy, telling a story about students who are under the rules of a drill sergeant principal. There is an array of characters, each making you laugh.

The cast includes Sarah Johnson, Baillie Keithley, Jason Houweling, Kendra Rayburn, Kelsey Wolff, Colton Helfrecht, Jenna Bowman, Sarah Price, Jessica Conner, Eddie Collins, Stephanie Smith, Keshi Richmond, Brianne Jones, Veronica Wilhelm, Mahaley Huddleston, Katie Kilkenny, Brenda Victorio, Vicky Koch and Cyde Coil.

Terrace Drive wall project nears completion

New wall installed near courthouse

In the recent past, Morrow County and the City of Heppner discovered that Terrace Drive, south of the Courthouse was not a dedicated street. The portion adjacent to the Courthouse parking lot however, is a dedicated city street came to light. Concrete barricades were placed at the top and bottom of the hill. This street could also be very hazardous in the ice and snow as well as when it was very wet.

In the last month, Morrow County has torn out the old asphalt and filled the area in preparation for landscaping. Roger Mortimore, Randy Henrichs, and Craig Gutierrez took down by hand the previous wall that faced Terrace Drive and the blue basalt stones were saved. These stones were then used to face the new retaining wall that faces Court St. The new wall looks just like an extension of the older wall.

Morrow County Public Works employees Randy Henrichs, Craig Gutierrez, Mike Verley, Roger Mortimore and Simon Winters built the new wall and poured a new sidewalk. The wall on Court St. looks very professional and matches the workmanship of the existing wall. Their skill and dedication will be admired and noted for years to come.

While the equipment was available, some dead and dying trees and shrubbery were also removed. The process of landscaping and replanting trees, shrubs and greenery is ongoing and will continue into next spring.

Skip Matthews receives Super Supervisor award

Skip Matthews, Thomas Hofeller, FSA Associate Administrator for Operations and Management, Whitney Matthews, 15, Skip's daughter.

Ronald Matthews, "Skip" to his family, friends and coworkers, was honored in a ceremony in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 26 when he received the "Super Supervisor Award" from the Association for Persons with Disabilities in Agriculture. This annual award recognizes supervisors who have taken extraordinary steps to support USDA employees with disabilities. APDA is an employee organization designed to celebrate diversity within USDA.

Cindy Doherty recommended Mathews for this award. While pleased to have been selected for this honor, Mathews, who is the County Executive Director in Morrow County, Oregon, is humbled at the same time.

In 2003 Skip hired Adam Doherty as a program technician in the Morrow County Office. At age 23, Doherty had been in a wheelchair since an automobile accident left him paralyzed when he was 16. Mathews says he hired Adam because, after looking through the applications, his stood out at the top of the pile.

"I can't tell you how thankful our whole family is that Skip took a chance on Adam. Had he seen only the wheelchair, he would have missed the hard-working, smart person that Adam really is, and not just a young kid in a wheelchair," said Cindy Doherty. Since he began working full-time, Adam has purchased his own home.

Dr. Tom Kalil, Master of Ceremonies and Assistant to the Deputy Administrator of Farm Loan Programs; Dale Moore, USDA Chief of Staff, Skip Matthews.

Whitney Matthews, Tom Kalil's daughter with some Marines at the Iwo Jima Memorial.

Adam says that Mathews has been a great boss and points out that even though the snowy winters in eastern Oregon can be pretty tough for someone in a wheelchair to get around, Mathews has always accommodated him.

Mathews says, "Adam has been great to have as an employee. We would be lost without him. All our applications and payments are heavily geared toward the computer, and most of our work here involves computer map work. Adam did a great job for us as a temporary hire, and so, when a permanent opening came up he applied for it and was hired on as a full-time member of our staff."

Ione plans Veteran's Day Celebration

As American citizens across the United States pay tribute to all Veterans, the Ione American Legion #95 and Auxiliary Unit will be hosting the Veterans Day service in Ione.

The observation will begin at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 10. The celebration will begin at the Memorial flagpole. Following the ceremony at the flagpole, everyone is invited to the Legion Hall for refreshments and the completion of the program.

Lieutenant Colonel Dan Hill will be the guest speaker. He is a Circuit Judge for Umatilla and Morrow County. He has served in various capacities for the United States Army. He has just returned from New Orleans where his JAG team provided legal services and advice. He has been assigned to Afghanistan in 2006. LTC Hill is married, and has one child. His wife, Jacque, owns and operates IJ Gems in Hermiston. LTC Hill's father, James Hill of Hermiston, served in the Korean conflict. His grandfather served in the Navy.

The public is welcome to attend. In case of inclement weather, the services will be held at the Legion Hall in Ione.

Lexington recall unsuccessful

A recall election against Lexington councilmember Jean Brazell was unsuccessful Tuesday, 62 no to 35 yes.

MCGG will be closed Thursday, Nov. 24th through Sunday, Nov. 27th in observance of Thanksgiving. Have a safe & happy holiday!

Morrow County Grain Growers

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

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