

T.K. Murphy to become Christian Church pastor

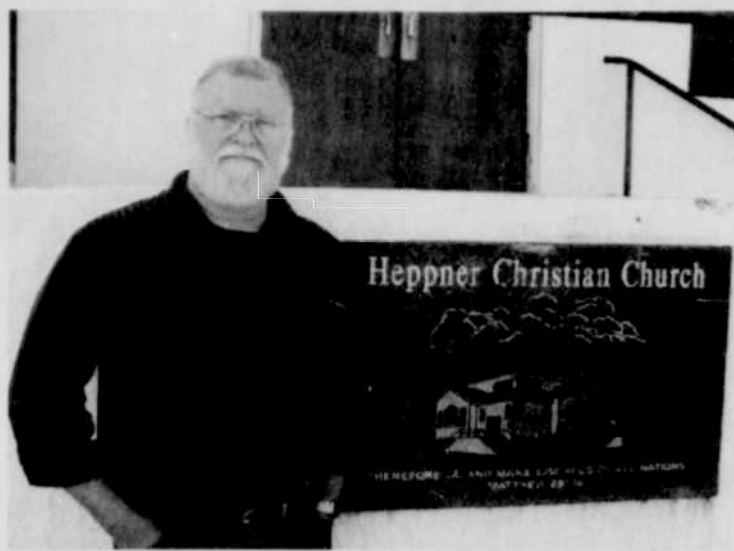
T.K. Murphy has been hired as the new part-time pastor for the congregation at Heppner Christian Church.

A leather craftsman by trade, he plans to devote his off-duty time to a saddle and leather goods shop he hopes to establish in Heppner.

Murphy has a varied resume. After studying wildlife management at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, Georgia, in the early '70s, he migrated to Alaska. Beginning his ministry at the Government Hill Church of Christ in Anchorage, he participated in evangelical, prison, and hospital ministries there.

For most of the '80s, he served as a full-time pastor at the Farewell Ave. Christian Church in Fairbanks. In addition to handling all pulpit duties and adult classes there, he oversaw construction of an addition to the church building and presided over a jump in average Sunday attendance from 15 to 110, a 70-fold increase over an 18-month span.

During the '90s, Murphy resigned his salaried church position in Fairbanks and started a leather goods business to fund mission trips, but continued teaching adult church classes and some preaching. He was



T.K. Murphy

also a Gideon from 1994 to 2000.

In 2000, he moved to the Willamette Valley, taking up pastoral duties at the Church of Christ in Springfield. While there, he also held Bible study classes at a local Christian book store for the benefit of the area high school students.

Before coming to Heppner, Murphy served as associate minister at the Church of Christ in Santa Clara, near Eugene. There, he handled class instruction, intermittent preaching duties, and a special community outreach program which entailed distribution of five to seven tons of groceries weekly to needy families and individuals in the local area.

Murphy's objectives at Heppner Christian Church

are simply to "preach the Word, love the people, and let the Holy Spirit do His work."

He considers himself a history buff, and loves books and travel. Admitting that his voluminous library is something of a storage problem, he maintains that the books have a mysterious tendency to reproduce all by themselves.

He will be joined by Carla, his wife of 21 years, along with sons Matt, 14, and Will, nine. Another son Ben, 19, is currently serving with the U.S. Navy on a mine sweeper in the Persian Gulf.

According to a news release, "Murphy's not overly attached to titles, and doesn't have to be addressed as 'Pastor. Murphy'" will be just fine."

James Boyd Brown convicted of Columbia Basin Electric Co-op burglary

Morrow County District Attorney Elizabeth A. Ballard reports that James Boyd Brown, 40, was convicted of Burglary in the Second Degree and Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine on July 2.

The charges stemmed from an incident on October 9, 2006, when Brown burglarized a building owned by Columbia Basin Electric Co-op located at 54174 Highway 74, Heppner.

According to Ballard, when officers from the Morrow County Sheriff's Office arrived on the scene and arrested Brown, he was found to be in possession of methamphetamine.

Circuit Court Judge Jeffrey M. Wallace sentenced Brown to 13 months in prison. Additional terms of the sentence include recommendations that Brown pay restitution and participate in drug treatment, said Ballard.

Scholarships deadlines announced

The South Morrow County Scholarship Trust has announced a deadline of September 15 for applications for the Elizabeth Slottee Memorial Scholarship and the Lexington Voter Precinct Scholarship.

The Slottee Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to a junior, senior or graduate student majoring or minoring in music at an accredited college. If no applicants are found, the award can be given to a student who has been accepted into a school of education. The scholarship amount will be determined by the earnings of the donations of the community and the Slottee family, totaling more than \$10,000.

The Lexington Voter Precinct Scholarship is for \$500 and will be awarded to a college sophomore, junior or senior living in the Lexington voters' precinct. Applications in disc format may be picked up at Bank of Eastern Oregon, Heppner Branch, or from Barbara Hayes at the Kuhn and Spicer law office.

For more information, contact Sharon Harrison at 676-9125, Del LaRue at 422-7468, or Barbara Hayes at 676-9141.

St. Patrick's Senior Center menu

The menu for Wednesday, July 11, will be spaghetti with meat sauce, tossed green salad, spiced pears, garlic bread and cake. Members of St. Patrick's Parish will serve.

The menu for Wednesday, July 18, will be enchiladas with cheese, rice and beans, fresh salsa with chips, fruit and cookies. Members of the Heppner United Methodist Church will serve.

The menu for Wednesday, July 25, will be ham, au gratin potatoes, mixed vegetables, peaches, rolls and cookies. Members of the Church of the Nazarene and the Seventh-day Adventist Church will serve.

Caledonian games planned in Athena July 13-15

Caledonian Games, a Scottish Heritage festival in Athena, is preparing to make "Connections" in 2007 Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 13-15. The theme of the printed program is "Scottish Connections between Scottish famous authors and events" and bringing it together into Athena's festival. The festival includes Scottish Highland dancing, piping and Scottish athletic events, storytelling, clan tents, entertainment, a parade, fun run, vendors and food.

An evening performance of bag pipe bands on the field in the fashion of a military review, called a Tattoo, is slated for Saturday night at 6:30 p.m.... The \$5 admission donation is the only paid event for the entire day. "Visitors should "come early and stay late on Saturday," says Chairman Sue Friese. "Bring a hat for the sun and stay all day."

During the day on Saturday, July 14, visitors to Athena's Caledonian Games can see the parade on Main Street at 9 a.m., and then move to the city park to see the Highland dancing and piping competitions at 10 a.m.

Scottish athletic events start at noon with pre-registration in the big green tent on the lower athletic field at 11:30 a.m. Free entertainment will start in the park around 1:30 p.m. at the completion of the competition. Clan tents are visitors from around the Pacific Northwest. They come to invite visitors to inquire if there is Scottish heritage in each of their families.

The horseshoe tournament will be at 2 p.m. as the entertainment schedule continues.

The grand finale of the day on Saturday is the evening outdoor concert in the stadium, called the Tattoo. Four bagpipe bands will be featured on the field: Weston-McEwen High School Pipes and Drum from Athena, Desert Thistle Pipe and Drum from the Tri-Cities, WA, Boise Highlanders from Idaho and Rivercity Pipe Band from Portland. A feature of the Tattoo, which is developing, may be a Haggis Hurl at the Tattoo. Haggis is a prized dinner made of oatmeal and mutton and parts cooked and stuffed into a sheep's stomach. The haggis may be vaulted through the air, landing in whatever manner or condition. Plans for the Haggis Hurl are to be announced. "It's great fun to see," said Friese.

Spectators may be more than interested onlookers at the Caledonian Games. Open registration is accepted for the Scottish athletic events. Two tries are offered and the third attempt at the heavy athletic events counts. There is the 56-pound Weight Toss for height and then for distance, the 16-pound Sheaf Toss, 16-pound Scottish Hammer and the 20-pound Stone Put competition. The most popular and final athletic event is the Caber Toss. (The caber looks like a telephone pole.) The games are regulation with regulation specifics on the equipment. There are women's events with the Caber Toss, weight tosses for distance and height and a Rolling Pin Toss. Age limits apply, but otherwise, anyone can step up and compete.

Spectators may join in the 5K or 10K Fun Run that leaves from city park at the Third Street gates. New organizers will release information to be announced.

Walk-in registrations will be accepted for the Horseshoe Tournament. Organizer Steve Bailey of Athena explains that this tournament is a Scottish event based in historic Scotland. Registration is 1:30 p.m. before the 2 p.m. event start-up.

Children's athletic events are new for the 2007 Caledonian Games schedule. The events are provided by a grant from the Umatilla County Cultural Coalition. Games will be open to youngsters age eight to 12 and will run from about 10 a.m. after the downtown parade until 3 p.m. Games will be described and fun events are offered involving bean bag throws. The children's events will carry Scottish names like Loch Leap, Running through the Rye, Stag Shoot, Haggis Hurl and a scaled-down version of the adult competition, the Caber Toss.

The sheep dog trials run from 8 a.m. to finish for each day of the two-day event, which is usually about 3 p.m. Often 50 dogs compete to run the sheep through gates at the command of the dog's trainer who can give voice commands and whistles from the starting gate. The dogs work the sheep to various patterns of cutting out certain sheep or different gates. Sometimes the sheep have different ideas than the dogs. "It is fascinating to watch the dog working in partnership to the handler," says Friese.

Programs and Caledonian commemorative pins are sold at the Caledonian souvenir booth help to support the games. Full schedules and details are contained in the \$2 program for sale at the booth. Caledonian Games pins say "Hoot, Mon!", a Scottish saying that means great fun, man! They picture a kilted Scotsman tossing the caber. These are available for \$4.

The entertainment schedule is to be announced in the afternoon in the park. Kilts Askew, a polished Celtic band with a smooth sound will be featured. Buck 63 and a Rock is a pair of wandering minstrels who come from southern Oregon. They handle guitar and a pipe pretty well and will be enjoyable to hear, adds Friese.

The pre-games event is the Friday night Ceilidh, pronounced Kay-Lee, which means simply a party. It will be held at the city park with dinner served from 5:30-7 p.m. A dinner of hamburgers or grilled chicken and the trimmings will be prepared by the Athena Christian Church cooking club. The Ceilidh is a joint fund raiser for Caledonian Games and the cooking club. Rob Barrick, piper and harper from Portland, will fill the air with the Scottish skirl of the pipes to get the event off to a great start.

Morrow County Fair Books available

The Morrow County Fair Premium Books are out and may be picked up at the local post office, the Fair Office or the 4-H Office.

Everyone is reminded that the deadline for Open Class Livestock is July 20. To register call 541-676-9474. Beef, Dairy, Goats and Sheep, Swine, Poultry and Small Animals can be entered.

The Fair Office is now open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 1-5 p.m., so Open Class exhibit numbers and tags can be picked up anytime during business hours. Pre-registration is appreciated. Registration will be on Monday, August 13 from 1 to 8 p.m. for all 4-H

and Open exhibits (except livestock). Flowers, fruits and vegetables will take entries on Monday, August 13 from 4 to 8 p.m. and Tuesday, August 14 from 8 to 10 a.m.

Parents are reminded to save their kids' art and craft projects from school and home. There are divisions for kids three to 14 years of age. Those interested may check the Premium Book starting on page 65. They can also enter flowers along with fruits and vegetables.

Adults have many departments to choose from, whether it's preserving foods (Canning), sewing (Cloth-

ing, Needlework, or Quilts) or even working outdoors (Flowers, Fruits and Vegetables) or cooking (Foods). Don't forget about creativity (Art, Creative Writing, Crafts and Photography). "We have a department for you, so come and enter your items in the fair and possibly win some money," said fair secretary Renee Yocom. "All the information you need is in the Premium Book."

For anyone who has a club that would like to display their items, there are Community Booths available at the fair, and there are also Commercial Crop and Land Products.

Safe driving saves lives

The Oregon Department of Transportation is encouraging motorists, during the busy summer traveling season and beyond, to practice safe driving — and conserve fuel at the same time. Studies show the faster you drive, the more fuel you use; and speed is the number one factor in crash fatalities in Oregon. So "slow down" is the phrase everyone is using.

The U.S. Department

of Energy offers consumers several tips for conserving fuel:

- Stay within posted speed limits. For example, most Oregon rural highways have a maximum 55 mph speed limit; driving 65 mph rather than 55 mph increases fuel consumption by 15 — 20 percent.

- Remove excess weight. An extra 100 pounds in your vehicle could reduce your mpg by up to two


percent.

- Drive sensibly — don't tailgate. If you practice safe driving, you can avoid unnecessary braking and acceleration, improving your fuel economy by 5 — 10 percent.

- Combine errands. Several short trips from a cold start can use twice as much fuel as one trip covering the same distance when the engine is warm. Visit the "Drive Less, Save More" website for more information at www.drivelessavemore.com.

For more tips on saving gas, visit www.fueleconomy.gov, and for more information about transportation safety in Oregon, visit www.oregon.gov/ODOT. For updated information on highway work and current travel information throughout Oregon, visit www.tripcheck.com, or call the Oregon road report at 511 or 1-800-977-6368.

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BURNING BAN

Effective July 1, 2007, the Fire Chief of the City of Heppner is imposing a CLOSED SEASON for open burning based on local fire safety concerns.

This burning ban is for the City of Heppner. A reminder that open burning also includes a "burn barrel."

The closed season will remain in effect until further notice this fall as per ORS 478.960.



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