

## Team BOHICA crowned road bowling champs

By Doris Brosnan

Snow, rain, or hail would not have deterred them, and as Irish luck would have it, the determined Road Bowlers did not have to contend with any such inclement weather on Sunday, March 16. The sun broke through the clouds as Heppner's Wee Bit O' Ireland Celebration was drawing to a close with the highly competitive Sheepdog Trials on the Thompson Ranch and the enormously dog-eat-dog Road Bowling event on Balm Fork Road.

Nine teams - five returning and four novice - showed up at 1:30 p.m., eager to challenge last year's Road Bowling champions (who were a "no show"): Team BOHICA, Three Old People and One Young Thing, Rhea Rollers, Mabe Team, Holcomb (2006 winning team), Barb and the Boys, Balm Fork Buzzards, Early Birds, and Turner Ranch.

This third year of the bowling activity started as soon as the thirty-two participants had endured a re-briefing on the "Guidelines and Rules," signed up, paid up, and grabbed their bowls, rugs, and chalk.

Leading off with the oft' heard warning "Bowling!" the Early Birds demonstrated the difficulty of the first curve. At first, the fluorescent-orange bowls - reminders of the British cannonballs first used in this game - were fairly easy to spot when they landed off the road in brush and weeds. Soon, however, the paint was chipped away and the bowls became pitted, as the teams battled the rough nature of the country road, more challenging than previous years' city streets. Strategy was

almost useless even on straight-aways, with players admittedly disappointed as the bowls veered one way or another when they encountered small bumps or dips, or when they covered a shorter distance than anticipated.

Unlike last year's water-feature-chal-



Team BOHICA claim their road bowling trophy.



Doris Brosnan gives instructions to road bowlers before the start of the competition.

enge, Balm Fork did not present a problem for any team. No traffic and no parked cars were a worry this year. And, importantly, no cattle were injured, though a few seemed to complain from roadside pastures as the competitors tossed by.

Whereas last year's most common number of tosses was twenty-seven to finish the 1.3-mile course, 38 tosses won this year's 1.2-mile competition. Last year, the greatest number of tosses needed to complete the course was 37. The greatest number on Balm Fork was 56, by a novice team.

Teams comprised of two, three, and four players participated in the afternoon event. Team BOHICA took first place and a prize of \$40. The names of Jason Hanna, Chad Doherty, Jake Roy, and Adam Doherty will be engraved on the Road Bowling Trophy, which will be on display at City Hall. Taking second place and \$24, Three Old People and One Young Thing used 39 tosses to finish. Third place and \$16 was awarded to the Rhea Rollers, whose 42 tosses tied with the Mabe team, but the Rollers' final toss went farther past the finish line. The remaining scores were 43, 45, 46, 48, and 56.

## April 29 last day to register or change party affiliation

April 29 is the last day to register to vote or change party affiliation before the primary elections in May. Postmarks will not be accepted for those wishing to change party affiliations.

## EASTER BUFFET AT JOHN'S PLACE

Sunday, March 23 ~ 12 - 6 p.m.

Enjoy Baked Ham, Lamb & Turkey, plus salads galore and dessert!

Price: \$14.95 (Kids 6 and under eat for free)



JOHN'S PLACE MAIN STREET, HEPPNER

## DA's Report

Morrow County District Attorney Elizabeth Ballard has released the following report:

-Kevin K. Alexander, 35, was convicted of contempt of court and was sentenced to 30 days in jail with 30 days suspended, 12 months bench probation, 10 hours of community service, other numerous conditions, and pay \$188 in fines, fees and assessments.

-James R. Colvin, 36, was convicted of assault in the fourth degree, a class A misdemeanor and was sentenced to 180 days in jail with 150 days suspended and credit received for 30 days served, 24 months bench probation, 40 hours of community service, other numerous conditions, and pay \$1,488 in fines, fees and assessments.

## Leprechaun Run a success Morrow County Historical Society announces spring 2008 tours

By Doris Brosnan

On Saturday, under somewhat threatening skies, fifty-two runners gathered at 11 a.m. for the first Leprechaun Run in Heppner. Children in kindergarten through the sixth grade joined the leprechauns at Heritage Park, eager to run the length of Main Street and see the reward one of the leprechauns had in its big black pot at the Shamrock Intersection.

Volunteer students Kristen Van Cleave, Ashley and Kelsey Wolff, Cyde Coil, Alex Pickles, and Jordan Hatfield, from the high school track program, helped adult volunteers Brandi Sweeney, Tiffany McCurry, Damon Brosnan, Larry Palmer, and Marianne Smith organize the runners into age groups. They also led them through some warm-up exercises and even jogged along with runners.

At 11:30, the fifth- and sixth-graders led off from the line, as a leprechaun lowered its starting flag, soon followed by the other age groups, one group at a time.

The runners were reminded that this was a "fun" run, not a contest to see who was the fastest, and everyone was encouraged to complete the 1/3-mile course in whatever fashion he or she wanted, by running, walking, or a combination of both.

The participants dashed up to the intersection by Les Schwab, made a U-turn, and headed back to the Shamrock and the finish gate. There, the leprechaun and its helpers, Earl and Mark Fishburn, rewarded with a gold dollar each person who completed the course. The crowds along the way rewarded all the runners with applause and shouts of encouragement.

Organizer Peggy Fishburn and her helpers, Sharon Harrison, Susan Hisler, and Doris Brosnan, report that the leprechauns hope to feature their run again next year as part of A Wee Bit O' Ireland, maybe with a few changes. They hope to see most of this year's runners return under sunnier skies and with many newcomers.

## BMCC offering beginner golf classes at Willow Creek Country Club

Blue Mountain Community College has scheduled a Beginning Golf class at the Willow Creek Country Club in Heppner starting April 3.

The class is intended for beginning golfers with little or no prior golfing experience and will run for six sessions, held Thursday evenings from 5-6:30 p.m.

Class dates are April 3, 17, 24, May 1, 8, & 15. There will be no class on April 10 due to an event scheduled at the golf course.

Josh Browning will instruct the class. Cost is \$35 to take the class and \$25 for a temporary membership to WCCC for non members. The temporary membership entitles class members to unlimited play during the run of class (April 3-May 15) and may be applied to a regular membership.

Space is limited so interested students are urged to register as soon as possible. Registration may be accomplished online at [www.bluecc.edu](http://www.bluecc.edu). For additional information, contact Anne Morter, Morrow County Coordinator, at 422-7040.

## 2008 St. Patrick's Raffle and Pot O' Gold winners announced

Winners have been announced for this year's St. Patrick's Raffle. Eva Kilkenny won the four piece patio set donated by Wal-Mart Distribution Center. Myrtle McMillan won the CD player donated by Wal-Mart Distribution Center. Becky Sparks won the men's basket. Sheryll Bates won the ladies basket. Tim Bowers won the framed picture donated by Wilcox Furniture. Jim Fichter won the dump truck of gravel donated by Roger Britt. Dan Michael won a unit of lumber donated by Kinzua Resources. Steve Bogart won the saw blade with name donated by Miller Manufacturing. Becky Sparks won the children's basket donated by Kay Fowler.

The \$100 Pot O' Gold winners were Gary Jones, Krissy Johnson, and Michael Kilkenny.

## Boardman to sponsor spring clean-up

The City of Boardman will sponsor a community-wide clean-up the month of April. The city has garbage vouchers available, with a \$50 limit, to residents of the City of Boardman. The vouchers are valid during the month of April at Finley Butte Landfill and the North Morrow Transfer Station. The garbage voucher program encourages citizens to clean up their residences by disposing of yard debris.

City residents may pick up their vouchers at Boardman City Hall at 200 City Center Circle beginning April 1. For more information on this program, call Boardman City Hall at 481-9252.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

ODOT is currently at Preliminary Plans in the development of a project that will address bridge repair, highway widening, new sidewalks, school crossing, and flattening the curve at the Stansbury intersection. This project will also develop drainage facilities for the roadway.

Estimated cost of \$2,000,000.

The public meeting will be March 20th at 6:30 pm at the Columbia Basin Electric Co op facility in Heppner, 171 W Linden Way.

For more information, please contact Tim Rynearson, Project Leader, ODOT - Region 5, 541-963-1364

Did you ever wonder what was on that large chunk of Morrow County landscape known as "The Bombing Range" before the U. S. Government took possession in the 1940's? And where is the location of "Old Town Boardman?" Was there really a gold mine in the old Boardman/Irrigon communities? Find out the answers to these and other questions on a pleasant tour, jointly sponsored by Morrow County Historical Society and Boardman Senior Citizens.

The first of several narrated historical tours of Morrow County will take place Tuesday, March 25, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. The tour will be conducted in the comfort of the Boardman Sr. Center bus. The narrator will be Harold Baker, long time Morrow County resident. LaVerne Gertler, CLD will drive the tour bus. The tour will leave the Boardman Sr. Center, 100 Tatone Street, at 10 a.m.

Contact the Boardman Sr. Center at 541-481-3257, to reserve your seat on the tour bus. Come early, park your car, have a cup of coffee, and be in the bus by 10 a.m. There is no charge for the tour; a donation of \$2-3 per person is suggested to cover the cost of fuel.

All interested persons are invited to join the Historical Society for \$5 per member. Memberships will be available for purchase prior to the tour. Historical Society Members have seating priority, and will receive early information about upcoming tours prior to the general public. Historic Tours of Irrigon, south Morrow County and possibly the Boardman Grasslands are in the planning stages.

The bus will return to the Sr. Center at noon. All interested tour members are welcome to purchase a meal at the Senior Lunch. The meal is \$4 for those 54 and under; or \$3 for those 55 and up. Contact the Boardman Sr. Center at 541-481-3257 to add your name to the tour list.

A mini tour is being planned to visit the Hanford Reactor #2. "Many may remember this reactor was responsible for the nuclear bombs that went off at Hiroshima," said Louis Carleson.

## Great Green Parade winners announced

Winners of the Great Green Parade have been announced. Heppner Pre-School won the Irish Character and Family division. Weston McEwen Pipes and Drums won the Musical and Dance Groups division. Relay for Life won the Irish Floats and Groups division. Hermiston Funrunners won for Irish Miscellaneous. Dan and Diana Arvieux won for Antique and Custom Vehicles. And Desert Shrine Club won for Parade and Special Vehicles.

Ribbons can be picked up at the Chamber office.

## FFA Alumni to meet tonight

An FFA Alumni meeting will be held tonight at 7 p.m. in the HHS Ag room.

## EASTER

is this Sunday, March 23!

We have Easter Candy, Cards, Giftware and Basket Stuffers!

Check out our new Yankee Candle scents!

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