

Ione biology students attend two-day Portland field trip



Pictured L-R: Stefanie Archer, Tyree Svetich, Bora Moon, Brianna Peterson, Patrick Lee and David Wilson. -Contributed Photo



Pictured L-R: Stefanie Archer, David Wilson, Bora Moon, Patrick Lee, Brianna Peterson, Matt Hams, RJ Ramos and Mikey Raible. -Contributed Photo

The biology students at Ione High School attended a two-day field trip to the Portland area with biology teacher, Erin Heideman. Thanks to a generous grant from the Ione Education Foundation and a donation by Sunflower Junction, students were able to attend the trip at no cost.

The trip started with a full tour of the Portland Shriner's Hospital. In cooperation with the hospital volunteer coordinator, the students enjoyed a full lunch and lecture from the prosthetic department and were able to glean a child's view of what it would be like to be a patient there.

"I thought it was really cool," said sophomore, Gunner Jessen. "I didn't have an idea they could do all this stuff in a shop."

In addition to the Shriners Hospital, students visited the World Forestry Center and enjoyed a behind the scenes tour at the Oregon Zoo with a giraffe animal encounter. "My favorite part was seeing the giraffes," said sophomore Korean foreign exchanged student Bora Moon. "It was so neat to see them up close."

The biology class is especially grateful to Shilo Svetich who drove one vehicle and to the Ione Education Foundation for their generosity.

Ione claims district speech title

In just its second year of competition, the Ione Speech and Debate Team won the OSAA District 9 speech championship. The district tournament took place at Pine Eagle High School in Halfway on Friday, April 4th.

Other teams in attendance were Hermiston High School (2nd place), Pine Eagle High School (3rd place), and Vale High School (4th place). Ione brought nine students to the competition, with all of them contributing points to the team total.

Throughout the day Ione picked up five individual speech titles and one debate championship. "What really impressed me," Coach Jim Raible said, "was the way they helped each other and worked as a team."

Individual results for Ione include: Mikey Raible - 1st in After Dinner Speaking, 1st in Impromptu Speaking; Sarah Stillman - 1st in Original Oratory; Brianna Peterson - 1st in

Poetry Reading, 3rd in Prose Reading; Brenna Rietmann - 1st in Extemporaneous Speaking, 3rd in Impromptu Speaking; Mary Gates - 1st in Lincoln Douglas Debate, 2nd in Extemporaneous Speaking; Tom Holland - 2nd in Impromptu Speaking, 3rd in Radio Commentary; Teonna Vandever and Tiana Camarillo - 2nd in Public Forum Debate; and Gunner Jessen - 4th in After Dinner Speaking.

The eight students who placed first or second in their events qualify for the state tournament at Western Oregon University in Monmouth on April 17th -19th. They will be joined by Alex Carlson who had already earned his spot at state in Student Congress.

The team now will be looking for fundraising opportunities to help cover the cost of traveling to the state tournament. For more information or to help support the speech program, contact Jim Raible at Ione Community School at 422-7131.

FFA Banquet to be held April 30

The Heppner High School FFA Banquet will be held Wednesday, April 30, at 6 p.m. at the Morrow County Fairgrounds.

Members with last names beginning with A-M are asked to bring a dessert or appetizer and last names beginning with N-Z are asked to bring a salad/side dish. Meat and drinks will be provided by the chapter.

The FFA Alumni annual meeting will be held at 5 p.m., just prior to the banquet, at the fairgrounds. Anyone interested in supporting the FFA chapter are welcome. You need not have been an FFA member to attend.

Motocross a success despite injury

By Melissa West

St. Patrick's weekend this year turned out better than before. The streets of Heppner were once again filled with people, as each person went from activity to activity, waiting for the parade.

The Motor Cross once again caught the attention of the many people who came to celebrate St. Patrick's weekend. As people took their seats in the stands to watch this year's performance, many of the contestants were getting ready for the races. Before the races started, many came out in the arena to test out the track and show off some of their stunts, racing with caution, but with the will to win, all expected to just have fun.

However like any sport along with all the fun come a few accidents,

and this year Jake Gump experienced just that. Coming down, out of the air off the Table Top, Gump lost control of his bike, landing hard onto the track, paramedics were called in, people stood, watching in horror as Gump lay on the ground unconscious and not breathing. The ambulance rushed in to take him to the hospital to be airlifted out. After that the contestants continued to race, but only a few would continue to be daredevils. Doctors had managed to revive Gump, and he was sent to Bend with a dislocated eye socket, broken ribs, broken sternum, collapsed lungs, and a few other injuries.

Gump was later discharged from the hospital and was reported to be at home continuing the recovery process.

EOU Chamber Choir launches Portland tour, alumni invited to reception



The Eastern Oregon University Chamber Choir will embark on a four-day tour of the Portland area next week. Highlights include a reunion concert with the gospel choir Chosen Generation on Sunday, April 13.

The concert starts at 7 p.m. at the Life Change Christian Center, 3635 North Williams Avenue in Portland. Admission is free, with donations accepted to benefit the Chamber Choir.

Derrick McDuffey is the director of the Portland-based group, Chosen Generation. He is a long-time friend and colleague of Peter Wordelman, director of the EOU Chamber Choir. The two choirs performed sold-out concerts in La Grande in January and Wordelman is

excited to take the group of EOU students to Portland to reconnect with McDuffey.

"Almost every graduate of the EOU choir program has benefited from Derrick McDuffey in some way," Wordelman said. "Every time my choir gets the opportunity to learn from him, they can hardly stop singing once we leave the rehearsal or performance. What better opportunity to get back together, reconnect and celebrate than with music."

The EOU Alumni Association will host an informal reception after the concert on Sunday. Portland-area alumni and prospective students will be able to meet choir members from both groups and receive information and updates about

How to Grow Your Business with Government Contracts seminars coming to be held

"You don't want to miss a great opportunity to learn how to take advantage of all the government contracts out there which could help your business grow," said Greg Smith, organizer for three upcoming seminars sponsored by the Government Contract Assistance Program (GCAP). Time is running out so sign up now for these special workshops in Boardman on Tuesday April 22, Ontario on Wednesday April 23rd, and Redmond on Thursday April 24th.

"GCAP is a valuable tool in helping unlock the mystery of government contracts," said Rick Evans, director of GCAP. "The government contracting market is immense and yet largely untapped by Oregon busi-

nesses. The program can help businesses maneuver their way through this important market."

The seminar on April 22 runs from 9 a.m. to noon at the Port of Morrow Riverfront Center, 2 Marine Drive in Boardman. The one on April 23 starts at 9 a.m. to noon. It takes place at the Treasure Valley Community College Small Business Development Center, 650 College Blvd in Ontario.

The workshop on April 24 will be held at the Central Oregon Community College Small Business Development Center, 2030 SE College Loop in Redmond. It will go from 9 a.m. to noon.

Federal, State and Local agencies spend hundreds of billions of dollars in contracted services every year and local companies are often a perfect fit for these services. "We are lucky to have two excellent presenters this year with in-depth experience on how businesses can navigate the government procurement process," said Smith.

Mike Bowen has been with GCAP for over a decade and has completed over 1,600 hours of training in professional contracts management among other highly valued credentials. His presentations will include how to get leads on Federal, State and local contracting opportunities and some specific programs for small business at the federal level. Oregon's Procurement Information Network is sending Kelly Stevens-Malnar from their Outreach and Training Unit. She will demonstrate how to access a wide variety of state and local government public bidding opportunities and contract information. In addition Stevens-Malnar will demonstrate how your business can register on the ORPIN system and other resources for growing your business.

The seminars are free but advanced registration is recommended. Contact Greg Smith at

541-963-4814 or at gsmith@gcap.org.

OSAA distributes more than \$297,000 to member schools

Oregon high schools will receive playoff travel reimbursement checks this week for participation in OSAA / U.S. Bank / Les Schwab Tires State Championships during winter 2008. A total of \$297,227 is being distributed by the OSAA to 234 member schools, nearly 80% of the OSAA membership. Forty-eight schools will receive travel reimbursement checks in excess of \$2,500 each.

Total playoff travel reimbursement from OSAA

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Pioneer Memorial Hospice to host site for annual bereavement teleconference

Pioneer Memorial Hospice will be hosting a local viewing site for the Hospice Foundation of America's (HFA) 15th annual National Bereavement Teleconference, "Living With Grief: Children and Adolescents." This year's telecast will be moderated by Frank Sesno, Professor of Media and Public Affairs at The George Washington University and Special Correspondent with CNN.

HFA's 2008 teleconference will focus on the experience of grieving children and adolescents and the ways that all hospice professionals, educators and counselors, parents, social workers, physicians, grief counselors, funeral directors, and clergy can best

support these populations as they cope with loss and grief. The program and accompanying book written by child and adolescent grief experts will examine the newest theories and practices, and as always, will combine academic research with hands-on ideas for use in hospice support groups and other settings.

Mr. Sesno will lead the panel of noted authorities that includes: Kenneth J. Doka, PhD, MDiv from The College of New Rochelle, Nancy Hogan, PhD, RN, FAAN from Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing, Rita Milburn-Dobson, MA, RNC, FT from Precious Gems Supportive Services, Laura E. Olague, MEd, CT

from Children's Grief Center, Stacy F. Orloff, EdD LCSW from The Hospice of the Florida Suncoast, and J. William Worden, PhD, ABPP from Harvard Childhood Bereavement Study.

Continuing Education credits are available for a wide range of professions. To learn more about this satellite and webcast teleconference visit the Hospice Foundation of America web site at www.hospicefoundation.org.

This program will be broadcast on Wednesday, April 16, from 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Heppner's Seventh-day Adventist Church, who is providing the space, the equipment and the satellite hook-up.

Nominations open for Highest Volunteer Award in the state

Nominations are now open for the 2008 Oregon Governor's Volunteer Awards. Individuals and groups will be honored in the following categories: Outstanding Adult (ages 19-54); Outstanding Youth (age 18 or under); Outstanding Senior Volunteer (ages 55+); Outstanding Volunteer Program; Outstanding State-

wide Volunteer Program; Outstanding Employee Volunteer Program; and Outstanding Youth Volunteer Program or Group.

These awards, presented by Oregon Volunteers, recognize volunteers and volunteer programs that have demonstrated dedication, commitment, and determination in promoting

and supporting volunteerism throughout Oregon and have worked to strengthen communities and improve the quality of life for Oregon residents through service.

Nomination forms and additional information are available online at www.oregonvolunteers.org.

"Every day, extraordinary individuals, orga-

nizations, and businesses effect real change in their communities through volunteer service. They are the catalysts that help others move past their differences to build shared understanding and solve common problems. Volunteers give Oregon hope for the future," said Tom Cope, co-chair of Oregon Volunteers.