

"Homecoming" commences St. Patrick's Day Celebration

A new stage production on Thursday, March 12, will mark the beginning of the St. Patrick's Day celebration in Heppner this year. "Homecoming" is the sixth drama, since 2002, presented by an ecumenical cast that includes the St. Patrick Church Thespians. The initial performance of this Condon-Lindsay play will be in Lone on Sunday, March 8.

Rather than reaching into the past for material, as Fr. Gerry Condon has done for his previous scripts, he places the initial action of "Homecoming" in a contemporary Heppner preparing for a St. Patrick's Day weekend celebration. Then, from the converging of hotel guests with stories to tell, the performance transitions into a time-transcending experience. Co-writer Joe Lindsay takes the characters and audience into another realm critical to the life of one character in particular.

The audience can



Characters in the play "Homecoming" practice for their upcoming performances. -Contributed Photo

again expect entertaining and thought-provoking dialogue, as well as music and humor of the Irish, to whom St. Patrick brought the Christian faith. The musical "dramady" features the talents of Michelle Stone (her debut with the St. Pat's thespians), Brian Kollman, Joe Lindsay, Corey Cooley, Stacy Cooley, Cord Cooley (the newest actor), Ken Turner, Luke Murray (another newcomer), Dick

Jones, Isabelle Kramer (the inaugural performance of this exchange student), Anne Morter, Tomas Elguezabal (new to the stage), Larry Lutchter, Barney Lindsay, and Dan VanSchoiack.

Introducing the performance will be Sheridan Tarnasky. Helping behind the scenes are Kim Armato, Nelson, Lois and Levi Connor, Martha Munkers, Janet Greenup, and Doris Bros-

nan. Hostesses for the dessert theatre will be Mary-Ann Eleguezabal, Evelyn Sweek, Kathy Morter, and June Crowell as hospitality is provided by the St. Patrick and St. William Altar Societies.

Dessert will be served in Lone at 3 p.m. and in Heppner at 7 p.m. The lone performance will be in the Grange Hall. The Heppner production will be staged in the parish hall on Jones Street, behind the Catholic church. During an inviting prelude to the performance, Ann and Luke Murray will play Irish musical selections. "Homecoming" will begin approximately 20 minutes after dessert is served.

This production is free to the public. At the door, however, freewill donations may be given. As in the past, all donations will be offered to a local, charitable entity agreed upon by the cast and crew.

Alumni softball game to be held

The 2009 Heppner High School softball team will be hosting a softball game fundraiser during St. Patrick's Day weekend. The game will be played on Friday, March 13, at 4 p.m. on the Bob Kilkenny Field.

The cost to play is \$10. Those playing will receive a t-shirt at the game.

Any Heppner High School female alumni that would like to participate are asked to contact Head Coach Petra Payne by phone or email for more information: (541) 676-9138 ext. 2518 or Petra.Payne@morrow.k12.or.us.

The community is invited to attend.

Health district completes Morrow Equity Loan



Melissa Drugge (right) recently presented a check for \$250,000 to the Morrow County Health District. The money is from the Morrow Equity Fund, administered by the Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation (GEODC), of which Drugge is the executive director. Victor Vander Does (left), administrator of the Morrow County Health District, and Larry Mills (center), chairman of the board of directors, accepted the check. This loan will give the health district a better interest rate at one percent for 10 years. The money was used on the recently completed long term care nursing home upgrade and hospital remodeling project. -Contributed Photo

Armato places second in Elks Most Valuable Student state competition

On February 28th Maggie Armato attended the Elks Most Valuable Student state competition in Oregon City where she placed second.

It was a day long event that began with a luncheon, continued with an afternoon of interviews and an opportunity for the 14 district champions to meet each other. The evening

concluded with a dinner and an awards ceremony that included an introduction of all the attendees and the announcement of the first through third place boy and girl winners.

Armato and all district champions will compete for the National Awards. Her attendance was sponsored by the Heppner Elks Lodge.

Mrs. O'Leary's stew feed to be held

Mrs. O'Leary's Beef Stew will be ready for hungry folks on Friday evening, March 13, from 5-7 p.m. Dinner rolls, coleslaw, and a choice of fine pies and desserts will finish the meal.

The cost will be \$6 for adults, \$2 for children ages 6-12, and free for children under the age of 5.

Members of the United Methodist church prepare and serve the meal at St. Patrick's Senior Center dining hall on Main Street in Heppner.

Chamber lunch meeting announcements

This week's Chamber lunch meeting will begin at noon at John's Place and will be an all entities meeting. The cost is \$9.

On Thursday, March 12, Will Hornyak, Storyteller (entertainment for St. Patrick's) will be the guest speaker.

On Thursday, March 19, the Civics Club will be coming to make a presentation on their trip to Washington D.C.

Tom Price Ranch gives tour to animal science class



Erin Heideman's animal science class recently took a field trip to visit the Tom Price Ranch on Butte Creek. Manager Marc Orem conducted the tour for the students and talked about the operation of the ranch and students had the opportunity to see livestock and learn more about career options. Pictured are: back row (L-R) - Alex Rietmann, Alex Fetterhoff, and Kevin LaRue; front row (L-R) Cory Peterson, Matt Hams, RJ Ramos, Dennis Schmidt, Hailey Arbogast, Brianna Peterson, Brenna Rietmann, Stefanie Medina and Kylie McElligott. -Contributed Photo

Kinzua Lunch Group to meet

The Kinzua Lunch Group met at Apple Bees in Prineville on February 20. Those in attendance were Ada Schell, Bernice Wilhelm, Mary McClain, Montell McDonald, Nancy Christson, Bob and Peg Nelson, John and Midge Geer, Yap and Cenone Benson and Bob and Lavonne Slinkard. The group will hold their next meeting at Service Creek on March 27 at 11:30 a.m.

Census Bureau to conduct employment testing

The Census Bureau will be conducting employment testing on Thursday, March 5, at 1 p.m. at the OSU extension office. For more information call 866-861-2010.

St. Patrick's Celebration Schedule of Events

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-Alumni softball game - 4 p.m., Bob Kilkenny Field, contact Petra Payne 676-9138.

-Amateur boxing smoker event - Starts at 8 p.m.; will be held at Heppner High School Gymnasium; sponsored by Heppner Chamber of Commerce/UROCK Radio. Gates open at 7 p.m., admission - \$10 (Adult-12 years of age); \$5 (11-8 years of age) 7-under free. For information call Chamber office at 541-676-5536. ♦Drawing for \$100 Pot O'Gold. Shuttle bus available starting at 7 p.m. - Heppner Family Foods.

Saturday, March 14, 2009
-Breakfast - 7-10 a.m. at St. Patrick's Senior Center, prepared by O'Senior Center. \$6-adult \$3-12 and under

-St. Paddy's Motorcross - Sign up from 7-8:30 a.m. with races beginning at 9 a.m. Sponsored by the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Committee. \$5 admission. Ages 5 and under are free.

-Donna Schonbacher tribute walk - 9:30 a.m. United Methodist Church (8:30-9:30 social hour).

-Silent auction - HHS 2009 Graduating class

fundraiser for graduation party - Heritage Land Company Office.

-Oregon Trail Library District/Heppner branch - Open 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

-Sheep Dog Trials - Starting at 8:30 a.m. (all day) at Thompson's Ranch, 3 miles northwest of Heppner on Bunker Hill Rd. off Hwy. 74, between mileposts 41 and 42.

-Live mannequin shows by HHS drama club - 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. - Sweet Productions Ice Cream Parlor.

-Children's carnival games 11 a.m.-3 p.m. - The Stable of Youth.

-Rolling Thunder BBQ - Featuring bar-b-que sandwiches (Tri-tip; corned beef; pulled pork, pulled chicken; BBQ nachos and bratwurst). Set up next to Heppner Family Foods on Willow Street

-Lind's concession - open at 9 a.m.; Located in parking lot of Heppner Family Foods on Main Street.

-Kessler's catering o' BBQ - Chicken and ribs at the City Park on Main Street.

-Friends of the Library - will be selling books to benefit the Heppner Li-

brary - City Hall 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

-Morrow County Heritage and Agricultural Museums - Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

-Morrow County Creative Arts & Crafts - 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., show and sale at Les Schwab.

-Vendor's Square - All Day - Neighborhood Center across the street from Library/Museum/City Park.

-KUMA coffee hour - 10 a.m. upstairs at the Elks Club. Come hear music, stories and blarney. Enter the Irish brogue contest and win cash prizes. ♦Drawing for \$100 Pot O'Gold.

-O'Senior Center - 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.-Have a taste of homemade Irish soup/rolls, cobbler with ice cream/coffee for \$6; 12 and under \$3.

-The Stable of Youth/Shamrock Lanes - Irish Sweepstakes/Mixed Doubles No-Tap Bowling Tournament; 3 p.m., 5 p.m. 7 p.m.

-Leprechaun Run - 11:30 a.m., for ages K-6; meet at 11:15 a.m. at Veteran's Memorial Park.

-Cruz-In Parade - noon on Main Street. An-

tique and Classic Cars.

-The Great Green Parade - 1 p.m. on Main Street

-Face painting - 1 p.m. Cornerstone Gallery and Gift Shop on Main Street.

-Children's hoop shoot - immediately following parade.

-O'Kiddie tricycle races - Right after the parade for 2-5 year olds. Event to take place at BEO drive-thru. Tricycles will be provided. The event is sponsored by the Heppner Daycare and Preschool.

-Ceili - 2-4 p.m., upstairs at the Elks. Irish entertainment featuring John Doherty & the Irish Singers and more.

-Ewe-Do-Bingo - 2:30 p.m. Live sheep activity - in front of BEO. Sponsored by the cheerleaders.

-O'Ducky race - 3 p.m. Starts at the bridge in front of the Morrow County Courthouse. Adopt a duck to win a prize of \$10 to \$100. Sponsored by Colt Football program.

-St. Pat's ham dinner and homemade pies - 4-7 p.m. at St. Patrick's Catholic Parish Hall, 560 NW Jones Street. Live musical enter-

tainment on stage, Irish of course.

-Buffet dinner - 6-9 p.m. - corn beef and cabbage, etc. with music from 9 p.m.-2 a.m., at the Elks.

-Teen-disco club night - 8-11 p.m.; Ages 14-19 years. Music, dancing, snack and specialty drink menu - \$2 charge.

-Entertainment - old time fiddlers show starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Fairgrounds dance hall, funded by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District. No admission charge. Stomp your feet and clap your hands to some good old fiddle music.

-Entertainment - Will Hornyak, Storyteller and Lindy Gravelle - 6:30-9 p.m. at Heppner Elementary gymnasium, funded by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District. No admission charge. ♦Drawing for \$100 Pot O'Gold.

-O'Casino night - 8:00-11 p.m. upstairs at the Elks Lodge; fundraiser for St. Patrick's fund.

-Wee Hours O' the Mornin' Breakfast - 9 p.m.-3 a.m. -The Stable of Youth - Sponsored by HHS boy's basketball team

Sunday, March 15, 2009

-Bucknum's after hours breakfast - 1-3 a.m. at Bucknum's Bar & Grill.

-Lind's Concession - open at 9 a.m. - Located in parking lot of Heppner Family Foods on Main Street.

-Church - Your choice. Visitor's welcome.

-Vendor's Square - All day at the Neighborhood Center across from Library/Museum/City Park.

-Sheep dog trials - All day at Thompson's Ranch. See Saturday for location.

-The Stable of Youth/Shamrock Lanes-Irish Sweepstakes/Mixed Doubles No-Tap Bowling Tournament; 1-5 p.m.

-Road Bowling - 1:30 p.m. - Get your team of up to four people ready to play.

RV Parking
Willow Creek RV Park: 541-676-5576

Northwestern Motel & RV Park: 541-676-9167 and Hermiston Comfort Inn & Suites: 541-564-5911

Morrow County Fairgrounds: 541-676-9474

For more information call 676-5536 or visit www.heppnerchamber.com.