

King Arthur's Quest a crowd pleaser

Loosely based on the classic tale of Camelot, King Arthur strode across Medieval England in two packed performances of King Arthur's Quest in Boardman on March 27. Nearly 40 local youth moved this classic story through a landscape full of surprises.

King Arthur, played by Larissa Jones, was joined by: Guinevere, Andrea Orozco; Lancelot, Darin Hauner; Merlin, Amanda McKnight; Taliesin, Hayden Meyers; Ghost of King Arthur's Father, Avika Sharma; Mordred, McKenzie Wilson; and Morgan La Fey, Evelyn Garcia.

Knights of the "too small" Round Table: Regan Meyers; Dixie Gonzalez; and Edith Velasco tried to do the right thing. Damsels in Distress, Mischelle

Wilson and Jordeon Wilson-Martinez, constantly warned of trouble, as Raven, Xenia Velasco frequently announced "Nevermore." The Lady of the Lake, Jennifer Ashe, produced the sword in the stone. The Camelotians: Alaxandrea Dunn; Lina Dunn; Natalie Delacruz; Stephanie Gonzalez; Emma Finley and Lisa Finley; Dvita Sharma, Josh Gray, Zulema Gaytan, Marielena Lopez and Julio Bernal hid when the Ghost of Arthur's Father visited the castle.

The Mini Camelotians, identified the Dragon's problem as a toothache, and cured it with a giant dragon sized Band-Aid. Mini King Arthur, played by Megan Gilbertson; Mini Guinevere, Isabella Ganyoa; Mini Raven by Kayley Samson; Mini Knights by Makaila Lantis; Miles Harper; Ethan

Harper; Leti Bernal. Mini Taliesin was Chantal Lemus and Mini Lancelot by Trae Phelps. Annie Fletcher, MCT Tour Director played the parts of "Keeper of the Keep; Giant; and Dragon. Michael Orozco assisted Missoula Theater Director Ian Vytlacil; Kathy Turner was the Accompanist. King Arthur's problems were resolved when he learned to listen to his citizens; He made friends with the "not so terrible dragon" while Morgan La Fey and Mordred continually proposed better plans. As the story ended, all of the characters lived happily and harmoniously ever after.

Supporting the weeklong workshop and two performances were: Community Coordinators Kin Finley and Christy Meyers. Sharon Barrick hosted both directors for

the week. Sam Boardman Elementary School Principal Jacque Johnson and Morrow Co. School District donated workshop, rehearsal and performance space.

After the final production, the set scenery, and costumes were packed away...A teary eyed graduating senior held on to her costume until the last moment, murmuring, "This is my last time." Parent David Gray shared "My son will be talking about this play all year long!" Younger performers were making plans to meet again at the 2011 Spring Break. The little red MCT truck headed to its next workshop.

North Morrow Community Foundation sponsored the 2010 Missoula Children's Theater workshop in Boardman.

Chamber events announced

This week's chamber meeting will be discussion on the state initiative petition to continue using lottery funds for water, parks and wildlife. If passed, this ballot measure would dedicate 15% of the Oregon Lottery to natural areas and parks. The lunch meeting will start at noon at City Hall.

Cornerstone Gallery will cater the meal. The cost will be \$9.

Those planning to attend the weekly chamber lunch meetings are asked to RSVP no later than noon on Wednesdays to the Heppner Chamber of Commerce at 541-676-5536.

Upcoming events

-Wednesday, April 7 - 7 p.m. at City Hall. Combined Communities South Willow

Creek Valley Strategic Plan Meeting. This is for Heppner, Lexington and Ione communities so plan on coming as we build a strategic plan from the common threads that were developed during the individual community strategic plan meetings.

-Sunday, April 11 - 2 p.m. at Heppner High School Cafeteria. Candidates Forum

(Governor, District Attorney, Justice of the Peace Morrow County Judge, County Commissioner). The public is invited so come and meet with the candidates, know the issues and get an opportunity to submit a question to the candidates. Sponsored by Willow Creek Tea Party Patriots.

-Thursday, April 15 - Chamber lunch guest speaker will be Melissa Drugge from GEODC (Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation) to give an update on all of the projects they are involved in. Willow Creek Diner will be the caterer.

All-State football team announced

The 2009 2A All-State football team has been announced. Heppner players named were:

1st team offense

Wide receiver - Bryan Holland (Sr.)
Offensive line - Ian Murray (Jr.)

2nd team offense

Running back - Brent Eckman (Sr.)
Offensive line - Wacey Coil (Sr.)

1st team defense

Linebacker - Ian Murray (Jr.)
Defensive back - Bryan Holland (Sr.) and Jordan Hatfield (Sr.)

2nd team defense

Defensive line - David Berentson (Sr.)

Honorable Mention defense

Defensive line - Mark McCabe (Sr.)
Defensive back - Chris Lien (Sr.)

Training offered to support children, families during military deployment

The Military Child Education Coalition will host a special two-day professional development opportunity April 13-14 at the Umatilla-Morrow Education Service District to help educators, counselors and interested community members learn how to deal with the issues military children and families face during a loved one's deployment.

The training will be held at the UMESD, 2001 SW Nye Ave. in Pendleton,

from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Lodgepole/Ponderosa conference room on April 13-14. Registration is required, and educational credits are available for a fee. A continental breakfast will be provided. The program is funded by the U.S. Army-CYS.

The Oregon National Guard anticipates a major upcoming deployment involving troops from Oregon, Washington and Idaho, with units from the Hermiston, La Grande and

Baker City areas. Around 1,200 personnel from the three-state area could be deployed between June and September.

The Military Child Education Coalition's "Living in the New Normal (LINN)" training is a two-day professional development program that prepares school guidance professionals, educators and community members to recognize and address the issues facing children dealing with separation from a

loved one or experiencing trauma, grief and loss due to the loss or injury of a loved one. It provides adults with information to help support children during these times of uncertainty and gives them the framework to enable them to support families to ensure their children have the tools to bounce back from life's storms and stressors.

For more information, or to register online, please visit www.Military-Child.org.

2010 Walk MS to be held April 17

Join the Walk MS community move and be moved to end the devastating effects of MS. The 12th year of Walk MS Heppner will be held on April 17 at 9 a.m. with more than 100 people will be walking for a cure.

"Last year I felt like my MS was winning the fight so my doctor put me on a new disease modifying drug and today I am much better" said a past walker. It is because of generous supporters, walkers, and volunteers of Walk MS Heppner that these drugs are available to those with MS.

In Gilliam, Wheeler, and Morrow County there are at least 12 people who have MS, which means that 12 families in area communities are faced with the challenges of this disease every day. "I'm asking for your support again this year" said a walk coordina-



Pictured are members of the DeSpain Team at the 2009 Walk MS held in Heppner. -Contributed Photo

tor. "Your donations continue to make a difference in the lives of many people with MS."

Walk MS is the single largest fundraising event for the National MS Society- Oregon Chapter.

In 2009, 80 cents of every dollar donated to Walk MS went to the Oregon Chapter to support research and more services for people with MS in our area. Research is moving forward at a fast pace. A new oral medication could be available this spring which improves walking in people with all kinds of MS.

Participants can register online at www.mswalkoregon.com or by calling 503-445-8342. For more information contact Merilee McDowell at 541-676-5238.

Smithsonian Art Series launched this week at Heppner Library

Heppner area residents are invited to meet with staff from the Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM) and to share thoughts on various works of American art through four live, interactive video-conference programs coming to the Heppner public library from our nation's capital.

A special series of programs about American art and the artists behind the works will be presented through a live connection between the library and the Smithsonian museum.

Attendees who come to the library will be able to see and talk directly with museum staff who will be present via videoconference on a large TV screen. Smithsonian staff will be able to see and hear area residents while presenting various pieces of art and the stories behind them.

The SAAM programs are sponsored by the Oregon Trail Library District (OTLD) and Libraries of Eastern Oregon (LEO) and will be held on April 8, April 22, May 6, and May 20.

Each one-hour pro-

gram will begin at noon. All programs are free to the public. Persons are welcome to bring a sack lunch.

All ages are welcome to attend, whether to talk to Smithsonian staff or just to sit and see pieces of art that are on display or in storage at the Smithsonian museum in Washington, D.C.

On Thursday, April 8, SAAM staff will present "Lure of the West: the Art of Westward Expansion," focused on exploration of 19th and early 20th century art that was used to intrigue, educate, and entice people into the frontier.

Featured art includes portraits of Native Americans by George Catlin, western subjects by Frederic Remington and Albert Bierstadt, and well-known works from the Taos school.

On Thursday, April 22, "Reshaping American Life" will be presented, to question and evaluate the role of the federal government in the aftermath of the depression. By examining the 1930s in light of FDR's New Deal, participants analyze WPA and PWAP objects to understand the effect of the depression on the United States and the role of the federal government.

On Thursday, May 6, a program called "Young America" will explore how have artists depicted the U.S. war for independence and how those images shaped ideas and assumptions about the American Revolution. The program will show how artists com-

bine both fact and myth in reinterpreting history.

The SAAM program on Thursday, May 20, "A House Divided", will provide insight into how American artists have depicted the Civil War and its aftermath in art. This program, as well as the others, will feature art that is on exhibit at the national museum as well as pieces not seen by visitors to the national museum.

To learn more about SAAM and its offerings for individual or group enrichment, see www.americanart.org.

The SAAM series are offered for eastern Oregon residents to enhance the regional project of "A Sense of Place" currently underway by the nonprofit LEO to bring programs in the arts, sciences and humanities to the region.

SAAM staff has developed its series at no cost to LEO. Other programs in the sciences and humanities are made possible by a grant to LEO from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

IMLS is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas.

For further information about the programs, contact library district director Marsha Richmond at 541-481-3365. To learn more about SAAM, visit www.americanart.si.edu.

ICABO, 4th of July meetings to be held

ICABO will hold a regular meeting Thursday, April 8, at 7:30 a.m. at the Ione Market. Also, a 4th of July planning meeting will be held Tuesday, April 13, at 6:30 p.m. at Taylor's Restaurant.

VETERANS

Benefits Conference/ Health & Wellness Fair

Thursday, May 20th 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.
PORT OF MORROW Riverfront Center, Boardman, OR

All veterans are invited to attend!

Get information & learn how to negotiate the VA system!

Veterans will have an opportunity to network with representatives from various programs & to connect with the appropriate service providers

KEYNOTE SPEAKER - JIM WILLIS - OREGON DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN'S AFFAIRS PLUS MANY OTHERS

All Day Event • Lunch will be served!

Please confirm your registration Today!

call 541-922-6420 Leave your name and number

Creative Care Preschool to hold yard sale

Creative Care Preschool will hold a fundraiser yard sale on Saturday, April 17, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ione Legion Hall.



HEPPNER ELKS 358
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

FISHERMEN'S NIGHT

APRIL 15TH

* Prizes *

Oysters & Catfish



Happy 16th
Birthday, Carrie!

April 11th!

Love, Mom, Dad, Brian and
Lindsey, and Tony