

'Dinner at the Cemetery' set for June

"Returning by popular demand," might explain the encore performance of "Dinner-at-the-Cemetery" in Heppner in just two months time.

On June 15, the "Din-

ner-at-the-Cemetery" players will restage "Memories of the Flood" in observance of the 110th anniversary of the most devastating natural disaster - based on impacts on people, property, and

the economy - recorded in Oregon by the end of the 20th century.

Resident descendants still can recall stories of terror and devastation told by family members who survived the 1903 Flood. "We wish to pay tribute to those survivors and memorialize the individuals who lost their lives on June 14, 1903," explains Sharon Harrison, co-producer of the production.

Knowing that the far-

reaching effects of the 1903 Flood touched lives across the State, an invitation goes out to all who wish to join the observance and learn from personal accounts by the some survivors.

The evening's event will begin at 6:30 with dinner, followed by "Memories of the Flood." Seating will be limited to 100. Cost for the evening has not yet been finalized but will be featured in a later announcement.

Sarah Carlson (L), Cliff Green and Janet Greenup (lower L) and dance hall girls have entertained at Dinner at the Cemetery in recent years. -File Photos



HHS graduation party fundraiser a success



HHS Seniors Austin Gutierrez and Austin Roberts present Bob and Aloha Despain with their new flat screen T.V.

The Heppner High School Class of 2013 has been busy raising funds for the after graduation celebration known as "Project Graduation", a drug and alcohol free event that takes place the night following commencement. All the money raised is used to purchase food, entertainment, and prizes for the graduates during the event.

Fundraising efforts have included the annual service auction, dodgeball and Texas Hold'em tournaments, and a raffle of a flat screen T.V. donated by Deb Gutierrez and a Traeger grill purchased at below cost from Ace Hardware in Hermiston.

Raffle tickets were printed and donated by

Dave and April Sykes of Heppner Gazette-Times. The seniors and their parents also served the annual crab feed dinner for the Independent Order of Oddfellows, and held baked potato and soup feeds during the basketball season. This year's graduates would like to thank all who have supported these fundraising efforts and have made this celebration a reality.

"We could not have met our goals if it had not been for the continued support of our family, friends, and the community," said senior Austin Roberts.

The class of 2013 would like to congratulate Bob and Aloha Despain, winners of the T.V., and Kris Dorran, winner of the grill.

Group raises about \$9,000 to fight MS



Almost 100 people wither walked or volunteered in other ways during the MS Walk held on Saturday. -Contributed photo

Walkers from near and far walked to raise money to help fund the continuing fight against Multiple Sclerosis (MS). According to organizer Merilee McDowell, 72 walkers participated in the fifteenth annual East Oregon MS Walk on Saturday. In addition to the walkers, between 20 and 25 others volunteered during the event.

In all, McDowell said, the group raised almost \$9,000. "That includes the money that was raised ahead of time and on the day of the walk," McDowell said that is comparable to the local dollars raised in 2012.

Participants and volunteers were treated to a brunch following the walk. "Everybody loved the brunch," she said. "It

was a great addition to our walk." McDowell said local and even a few regional businesses donated items for drawings that were held during the brunch. "We even had two local corporate sponsors and that is new this year" she said. Community Bank and the Bank of Eastern Oregon both contributed to the event.

A View from the Hill

Ballroom dancing day brings back memories

By Doris Brosnan

Since no fools reside at Willow Creek Terrace, April Fools' Day passed mainly as just the day signaling the changing of the calendar. Only Manager Nairns confesses to playing one joke on someone but then having to confess because of her conscience.

Since that day, April has been a month of interesting morning discussions, ongoing activities, and some new faces.

National Ballroom Dancing Day on the 4th brought back memories of dances and long gowns and discussion of some specific types of dances. Some hearty souls even enjoyed a twirl or two that morning.

National Scrabble Day was shared with a new visitor, Sandra Johnson, who invited residents to join her in a game. Many residents have voiced interest in repeating the Scrabble event, so several Scrabble boards and tiles will soon be permanent fixtures in the common room. Sandra

has voiced her interest in returning to the Hill often to share activities with the residents.

Residents did not miss this year's irony in the National Day of Laughter's designation on the 14th followed by the Boston Marathon on the 15th. The residents' and staff's noting the importance of laughter and their efforts that day to keep laughter alive preceded their somber discussion the next day about the horrific bombing in Boston. As one person succinctly queried, "Why such senseless acts of crime instead of random acts of kindness?"

Focusing on nature surely boosts everyone's spirits, so the garden and the return of spring-time birds are offering everyone uplifting opportunities. Some of the garden has been planted, and this week will bring a local youth group to the Hill to help with more planting and some weeding, a good plan in recognition of Earth Day on the 22nd. Many birds are already showing up at the Terrace feeders, and for the first time chukkers are roaming the grounds, so National Bird Day on the 26th and Go Birding Day on the 27th should be filled with opportunities to count and identify feathered friends.

The three new neighbors at the Terrace needed no identifying when they moved in this month. Rose Bergstrom has been a long-time resident of the Willow Creek Valley, as have RG

and Floss Watkins. These new personalities bring new views and memories that are welcomed by the community.

Just five days after moving into an apartment, RG celebrated his 83rd birthday. His sense of humor is obvious in his observation that so many people wished him a "Happy birthday!" so many times; he thought he was 85 by the end of the day!

Lois Allyn will actually turn 85 on May 9, so she and her neighbors and visiting friends will enjoy her special day and special lunch.

Maybe Lois's birthday lunch will feature some foods donated by the Odd Fellows. And maybe some Girls Scout cookies donated by the Shaws will still be a snack option. The residents have appreciated these tasty donations this month, as well as the books donated by Judy Davis.

Manager Nairns often acknowledges that the staff at Willow Creek Terrace is one of capable people "willing to go the extra mile." This week she wanted to stress that fact because recent transitions and changes have again brought to light the staff members' interest in "doing the right thing" and in "serving people." She gave each staff member a plant as a special "Thank You." Residents view these characteristics in their caregivers-friends as critical to a good life at Willow Creek Terrace.

Two concerts slated

Ione Community School will present two concerts in early May. The fifth grade band, middle school band and high school choir will perform on May 7 at 6 p.m. The Ione Elementary School spring musical "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" will be presented on May 14. Both events will be held at the school.

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

LADIES'S NIGHT

THURSDAY, MAY 2ND

6:00PM

HOT BARBECUE PULLED PORK SANDWICH
COLESLAW, POTATO SALAD & DESSERT!
Dinner by: Judy Buscke, Darlene Lovgren and Sharron Lewis

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