

Youth group experiences 30 hours of 'famine' to help end world hunger



The Ecumenical Youth Group raised \$1,014.66 during the World Vision 30-hour fast toward fighting world famine. Left to right: Merilee McDowell, Vicki Rayburn, the Rev. Elke Sharma, Chris E. Pryor, Taylor Disque, Hayden Qualls, Sydney Qualls, Robanai Disque. Other youth group members not pictured include: Kacie Gray, Austin Moses, Michael Reed, Kaitlyn Harper and Blake Greenup. —Photo by April Sykes

The Heppner Ecumenical Youth Group participated in a World Vision 30 Hour Famine that took place at All Saints Episcopal Church recently. The group began their famine at noon on Friday, Feb. 28, and finished on Saturday, March 1, at 6 p.m.

The group, which consisted of nine youth and five adults, began its famine with a Bible study led by Dave DeMayo, member of the Hope Lutheran

and All Saints Episcopal Church shared ministry. They continued reading scriptures and associated Bible studies connected with the famine study materials throughout the 30 hours.

Other members of the shared ministry volunteered to help with the group's efforts. Cherry Webber donated craft materials, Merilee McDowell came and spoke to the kids about MS and the community

MS Walk that is coming up in April, and Dan Sharp played games with the kids and made sure that the heat system was working properly for the all-night event.

The youth also made a poster for a Portland homeless shelter called Operation Nightwatch. They have been gathering rain gear, books and magazines for this shelter for the past month and wanted to send a poster to brighten their shelter walls. Items gathered so far for the shelter are hats, coats, ponchos, hand warmers, scarves and boots. The Friends of the Library donated a hundred books for this outreach project, and the youth group members say they are very grateful for their generous donation.

The youth gathered cans of chili at the World Famine and donated 40 cans of chili for the All Saints Episcopal and Hope Lutheran Church shared ministry food boxes that were distributed on

March 23. The youth group donated 40 cans of tuna to the food boxes as well, which the youth paid for out of their youth group account from monies that they have raised through various fundraisers held over the past year.

The kids watched the DVD series, "The Bible," played games, knitted, crocheted, and had prayer time and lots of interesting discussion about facts on world famine, as well as famine in our country, state and city.

The kids that participated in the famine were Blake Greenup, Kasey Gray, Chris Pryor, Sydney Qualls, Hayden Qualls, Cassie Bowles, Austin Moses and Michael Reed. Youth leaders that participated in the famine were Robanai Disque, Vicki Rayburn, the Rev. Elke Sharma and Shelli Britt. Taylor Disque served as a youth volunteer for this event.

Donations gathered by the group totaled \$1,014.66.

St. Pat's drama benefits local schools



Top: Donations collected at the lone production of The Life of St. Lawrence O'Toole were recently presented to the school supply fund at Lone Community School. Father Condon and the St. Pat's Players present a drama each year with showings in Lone and Heppner. Shown is Anne Morter presenting the check to Lone principal Sarah Crane-Simpson. Bottom: Heppner Elementary School teacher and St. Patrick's parishioner Mary Ann Elguezabal accepts a check for the Heppner production proceeds from Dan Van Schoiack, who played St. Lawrence in the play. —Contributed photos

BMCC, AARP to offer driver's safety course in Heppner

Blue Mountain Community College and AARP have teamed up to offer a driver's safety course in Heppner on April 17.

The AARP Driver Safety Program is reportedly the nation's first and largest course for drivers age 50 and older. The course is designed to help people learn defensive driving skills and get a refresher of the rules of the road. Once the course is completed, participants may be eligible for a discount on their auto

insurance. The class will be held at the Morrow County Extension Office in Heppner from 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$20 for non-members of AARP and \$15 for AARP members.

Please call to reserve a space in the class. Contact BMCC Morrow County at 541-422-7040 or email at amorter@bluecc.edu, or contact the instructor directly—Lou Bisson at 541-989-8141. Minimum enrollment must be met to hold this class, so pre-registration is required.

Ione speech students head to state contest



Daniel Holtz and Joe Doherty, both Ione juniors, are headed to the state speech and debate tournament after placing at districts in Hood River last Saturday. TJ Patton (not pictured) will also represent Ione at state. —Contributed photo

DA's Report

Morrow County District Attorney Justin Nelson has released the following report:

-Earl Lee Sanders, 27, was convicted of Sexual Abuse in the First Degree, a Class B felony, based on a guilty plea. The defendant was sentenced to 75 months prison time with credit for time served and 10 years post-prison supervision minus time actually served. Recommended conditions of post-prison supervision include sex offender follow-up treatment, no direct or indirect contact with the victim, victim's residence, victim's family or the victim's place of

employment, and that the defendant complete a GED. Additional counts of Sexual Abuse I were disposed without conviction. Total fines, fees and assessments were \$200.

-Erasma Garza Jr. was found in violation of probation; the defendant's probation was revoked and the defendant sentenced to six months with Morrow County LSA. Recommended as part of post-prison supervision was a drug package and payment of fines and fees. Financial obligations were to be docketed as a civil judgment. Total fine for the violation was \$25.

Sheriff's Report

January 15: Morrow County Sheriff's Office received report of theft from a Boardman man. He said that when he went to work that morning, the lock to the gate had been cut, one of his trailers had been broken into and things taken. A deputy responded and took a report.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon man that four horses showed up in his driveway, two ponies, a stud and one mare. MCSO responded.

-MCSO received report of a male with a shotgun on the side of the road in a red pickup with a dog. The caller didn't know if it was hunting season or not. He said the man didn't appear to be doing anything wrong, but he wanted MCSO to know.

-MCSO received report of a subject in custody at Umatilla County Jail. UCJ said that they would serve an Irrigon Justice Court warrant to Carri Ann Boylan for Failure to Appear with \$940.50 bail in full.

-MCSO received report of a chimney fire at a Heppner residence. Heppner Fire Department and a deputy responded.

January 16: Morrow County Sheriff's Office received report from an Irrigon woman of a fire in the pig pens. She said it was not threatening the house at the time. Irrigon Fire Department, Irrigon Ambulance and MCSO responded and extinguished the fire.

-MCSO received report from a subject in Irrigon

that he could hear a female screaming "help, help." He said he wasn't sure what was happening, but he could hear a lot of noise. MCSO and Boardman Police Department responded.

-MCSO Deputy advised he was flagged down by a female, but he was out with a male and giving a courtesy ride to Umatilla.

-MCSO received report from a male subject who said he had legal custody of his son with paperwork stating the same and would be coming to Oregon the next week to pick him up. He was concerned that there may be issues and wanted to advise MCSO of his plans. He was advised to call dispatch when he was in Irrigon and ready to make contact.

-MCSO received a 911 call from a male subject who said he met a woman who wanted him to sell drugs, but he didn't want to, so she threatened him. The incident occurred in Yakima and the caller was calling from Sunnyside, WA. He was referred to Yakima police.

-MCSO received request for a records check for someone with an insurance company looking for information on a Dec. 3 motor vehicle accident with a 2002 Lincoln Continental and a Pinto. MCSO searched for the accident, but could not find any that matched that information.

-MCSO received report from a Boardman subject that his roommate was setting fires to things outside the residence. He

reported that dry shrubs by the trailer were on fire. The caller said that the suspect is a 45-year-old man and a psychologist was trying to determine if he had mental issues.

-MCSO cited Martha Patricia Rojas Ochoa, 52, for Violation of the Speed Limit 85 mph in a 65 mph zone.

-MCSO received report of a suspicious vehicle near the tribal fisheries area of Boardman.

January 20: Morrow County Sheriff's Office received report of a white/silver headset missing in Irrigon.

-MCSO received report of water gushing out of a meter box and running

down to a storm drain in Heppner.

-MCSO received report of a white GMC Chevy pickup driving by the caller's house at a high rate of speed in Irrigon.

-MCSO received report from the sheriff of a suspicious vehicle parked in the corner of a field on Frontage Lane/County Line Rd.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon man that his house was egged the previous night..

-MCSO received request from an Irrigon woman to have her husband trespass from the residence. She described his pickup.

-MCSO received report from a Heppner woman that her car slid off the road and ended up in a field. Heppner Ambulance, Heppner Fire Department and MCSO responded. The woman refused transport.

-MCSO received report from a Heppner man of an internet scam. He said he had all the emails printed off for a deputy to review. A deputy responded and spoke with the caller. It was determined to be a civil matter.

-MCSO received report from a Heppner caller that the neighbor's dogs have been outside all week and the owner appeared to be gone. They did not know if the dogs had food or water. A deputy checked the residence and determined that the two dogs and one cat had food, water and shelter. He was unable to contact the owner.

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