

2014 EO Walk MS a success



Seventy-four people turned out for this year's EO Walk MS, which organizers hailed as a success. —Photo by Sandy Matthews

Seventy walkers and four runners turned out last weekend for the 16th annual Eastern Oregon Walk MS. Despite what seemed to be a lower-than-normal turnout, walk committee co-chair Merilee McDowell reported that the event has raised a record amount of \$10,919.60 so far, with money continuing to come in.

The event was also attended by Lisa Roth, Walk MS Oregon chapter president, and her mother, Polly. Roth, who has MS (Multiple Sclerosis) herself, spoke to the group about her diagnosis. She told the walkers there were only four medications available to treat MS when she was diagnosed; now there are 13. Roth told the walkers she was proud of this "small community" for working so hard for so many years to raise funds and awareness

for MS, and added that she felt efforts like theirs were the reason for the medical advances in the field of MS treatment.

Along with the 5K and 10K walks, participants were also able to compete in a 5K run this year. Run winners were: first-Michael Mendoza, Hermiston Starbucks employee; second-Teresa Crawford, Heppner; third-Stephanie Schuler, Heppner; and fourth-Arlynda Gates, Lone.

Also on hand at the event was staff from the Hermiston Starbucks, complete with coffee for participants.

Event organizers also made sure the walkers and runners were well-fed with sandwiches and fruit. The Portland Walk MS chapter attended and brought with them apples, oranges and 15 loaves of Dave's Killer Bread. Sandwich meat was

donated by Heppner Family Foods. Other food and condiments were donated by members of the Heppner United Methodist Church, Valby Lutheran, and the Shared Ministry of All Saints Episcopal and Hope Lutheran churches. Nancy Gochbauer headed up the sandwich crew.

Local sponsors for the walk this year were Community Bank, Bank of EO, MCGG, Devin Oil, Heppner Family Foods, Bucknums, All Saints Episcopal and Hope Lutheran. Event organizers say they were pleased with the turnout and enthusiasm of this year's event.

"Without the support of our committee, volunteers, those who donated and all the participants of the walk, we could not have this special event," commented McDowell. "It was a good year."

Student composers receive honors



Sam Grigg will play his original piece, "Castle Tower," at the state recital on May 17. —Contributed photo

Ten local students entered their original compositions in the Oregon Music Teacher's Association annual Composition Celebration.

Each student was required to write a song and notate it on the computer by themselves; students then performed their songs at a



Nicole Propheter and Rylee Bray were chosen to play their compositions at the state recital in May. —Contributed photo

recital held in Hermiston on Saturday, April 19.

Local students participating were Seth and Sam Grigg, Rylee and McKenna Bray, Hannah Palmer, Genevieve Smith, Nicole Propheter, Emma Rietmann, Roen Waite and Eli Petzoldt.

Three students were

chosen to play their songs at the state recital to be held in Portland on May 17. Sam Grigg will perform "Castle Tower," Rylee Bray, "Star Gazing," and Nicole Propheter, "Sonatina." Receiving honorable mention were Emma Rietmann and Genevieve Smith.

Sheriff's Report

January 27: -MCSO arrested Steven Royal Nettles, 53, on a charge for DUII/Felony and on a Clackamas County warrant for Failure to Appear. Subject was also cited for Driving While Suspended Violation and Open Container; lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

-MCSO received report of a motor vehicle accident on Hwy. 207 between Baseline and Cutsforth corner, an overturned vehicle that looked like it had a light on inside. Unknown if there were injuries.

-MCSO arrested Daniel Roy Walchli, 39, on a Morrow County warrant for Theft I/Possession of Methamphetamine and on a Benton County warrant for Failure to Appear/Traffic Stolen Property I, to be lodged at Umatilla County Jail with \$500 bail in full.

January 28: -A woman in Heppner reported that while they were gone the day before, the manager let the plumber in to work on their apartment while they were not there. Caller

New Scout troop formed



Boy Scout Troop 645 was established last weekend with their first meeting. The troop was hosted by John and Kerry Rietmann and made bird houses. The bird houses will be for sale to help purchase uniforms. Pictured with Kerry and John are (L-R) Finn Simpson, Corey Rice, Liam Heideman, Mason Orem and Martin Medina. The troop is led by den mother Sarah Simpson. —Photo by Erin Heideman

wanted to know what she could do about it.

-MCSO cited Ernesto

Mora Gomez, 40, for violating the Basic Rule 77/55.

MUSEUM CELEBRATES FARRA

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Green, who was a teenager back in 1960, recalls that the museum got off to a rocky start. In the beginning, it was only one small room. Since few people believed a museum could actually survive in a small town like Heppner, many local people were hesitant to gift their family heirlooms to the venture. A few days before the opening, Green says, they still weren't sure they would have what they needed.

Thanks to the work—and persuasion—of volunteers like Farra, the museum launched with multiple items on loan from local families. Over the years, some of those loans were recalled by family

members of the lenders. Others, like Farra's, remained and slowly built the Heritage Museum into the piece of history that stands today.

"A lot of that beginning stuff was yours," Green tells Farra, "and we've had it for 50 years."

Farra herself says she's forgotten how much she's given—she recalls several times when she has seen an exhibit she admired, only to turn over the donor card and realize it was one of her own items.

The museum has had some struggles over the years. For instance, Farm Foundation board member and volunteer Cherrie Clark says the museum has a shortage of vintage clothing due to a leaking

roof over a storage room in 2009. However, the setbacks haven't kept it from growing into a haven for county history. The museum is packed with a variety of historical items, which Clark says they try to keep out where people can see them rather than tucked away in back rooms.

The Farm Foundation plans to add to Farra's legacy in the future by adding a harness and shoe repair shop under Farra's name to the nearby Ag museum. Foundation board members include Green, Clark, Bob Harrison, Butch Laughlin, Archie Ball and Peggy Fishburn. The museum operates Tuesday through Saturday during the summer; it will open for the season May 1.

Hazardous waste event sees record collection

On Friday, April 25, the Morrow County Road Department in Lexington was the site of a free county-wide collection of hazardous waste. In order to keep toxic waste out of landfills, the county spent three hours and \$10,000 taking waste from local residents so it could be disposed of properly rather than going into local landfills.

Friday morning, the county collected: 250 pounds of propane, 300 pounds of aerosols, 1200 pounds of flammable toxic liquids like malathion and diazinon, 2500 pounds of paint, 900 pounds of toxic solids, 150 of dry batteries containing potassium hydroxide, one pound of non-PCB ballasts, 1600 pounds of flammable liquids like gasoline and petroleum



County residents were able to bring their household hazardous wastes to the Morrow County Road Department in Lexington for free last Friday so they could be disposed of properly. The county gathered a record amount of waste for the county in the event. —Photo by David Sykes

distillates, and 125 pounds of other environmentally hazardous substances like mercury.

That's a total of 7,026 pounds of hazardous materials, compared to

6,751 pounds in 2011 when this event was last held.

Some of the oils will be shipped to Utah and processed in an incinerator. Other waste will be recycled.

Firewood cutters prepare to head for the woods

Pendleton, OR— Personal-use firewood permits for the Umatilla National Forest will go on sale Thursday, May 1, according to Kevin Martin, Forest Supervisor. Permits are available at all Umatilla National Forest Offices and at Heppner Shell locally.

Firewood permits can be purchased for \$5 per cord with a minimum purchase of four cords for \$20. The maximum limit for personal-use firewood on the Umatilla National Forest is 12 cords per household per year.

Vendors will sell firewood permits in four-cord packets. An additional vendor fee, up to \$2, will be charged for each four-cord, \$20 firewood permit you purchase at a local vendor.

Most vendors are open early mornings, late evenings and on the weekends. An additional fee is not charged if you purchase a permit at a Forest Service Office.

Beginning this season firewood cutters will be required to keep a record of the date, time, and quantity of firewood removed from the National Forest System Lands. Additional information can be found in the Firewood Guide that accompanies each permit.

As we move into the hot, dry summer months, firewood cutting restrictions will be updated and posted on a recorded message at 1-877-958-9663. Restrictions will be announced by 6 p.m. on the day prior to the restriction(s) going into effect. Weekend restrictions will be announced by 6 p.m. on Friday. It is the public's responsibility to check

and see if there are any restrictions in place before cutting. Call the appropriate Forest's Firewood Hotline to check if firewood cutting is allowed, restricted to specific hours of the day, or prohibited.

For more information

on firewood cutting, please contact the Supervisor's Office at (541) 278-3716 or Heppner Ranger District at 541-676-9187

Firewood season will end November 30, 2014 on the Umatilla National Forest.

ODFW to hold public meeting in Heppner

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) invites interested parties to attend a public meeting on Wednesday, May 7, from 6-9 p.m. at the Heppner ODFW office, located in the old Kinzua Mill office at 54173 Hwy. 74, Heppner.

Topics for discussion will include proposed tag numbers for the 2014 big game seasons as well as proposed new hunts for 2015.

LEVY ON THE LINE

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ambulances in Boardman and Irrigon staffed with full-time paramedics, resulting faster and more reliable response times to patients.

Heppner day care plans preschool registration

Heppner DayCare, Inc. will hold preschool registration for three- and four-year-olds on Wednesday, May 14, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Parents and guardians are asked to bring immunization records. Questions, please call 541-676-5429.

Oh, the drama...

As a reminder, two dramatic events are planned locally in the coming weeks:

-The Heppner Jr/Sr High School Drama Department will present the musical "Newsies" May 7, 9 and 10, starting at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Admission is by donation.

-Auditions will be held for the Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) production of Treasure Island on Monday, May 5, in the Lone High School cafeteria from 3:45 to 5:45 p.m. The performance will be Saturday, May 10, in the Lone High School gymnasium at 7 p.m. For more information, call Lisa Rietmann at 541-422-7181.