

Cycling tour showcases rural Oregon



A group of bicyclists poses on the Heppner shamrock during a stop in the town. The group from Bicycle Rides Northwest rolled through town last week during the group's "Rolling Through Time" tour, a "historic ride through Oregon" that took place Aug. 9-16. The ride included stretches of the Blue Mountain Scenic Bikeway and the Old West Scenic Bikeway and wound through towns like Hardman, Heppner, John Day, Kimberly, Mt. Vernon, Prairie City, Spray, Service Creek and Ukiah. Heppner was also an overnight stop for the group. —Photo by David Sykes

Community Bank awards nearly \$12,000 for good grades

The fourth year of Community Bank's Earn While You Learn Program has set an all-time high in awards to student-customers for their academic success. For the 2014 award period, 531 students in the Eastern Oregon and Southeast Washington area cashed in on their good grades when Community Bank awarded students a total of \$11,939. The Earn While You Learn Program is an annual

reward of \$1 per top grade, up to \$50 annually per student, with payments given for the whole school year in June and July. The program was designed to encourage students in their academic success by awarding them for good grades. During the months of June and July, all Community Bank branches accepted end-of-the-year report cards from students in

grades one through 12. For every top grade (A-, A, A+ for middle and high school, and S+, E, etc. for grade school) that appeared on the report card, Community Bank deposited \$1 into their Community Bank Youth Savings Account. Since the bank's program began in 2011 participation has steadily increased, with an overall total of academic awards now at \$33,982.

NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

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 "We need all the donations we can get," she says, adding that the sale of donated goods not only helps keep the lights on at the center, but also provides money for food pantry items. Patton pointed out that the Neighborhood Center provides meat in its food boxes when possible, a service not provided by most food pantries. She says the center needs donations not only of money and food but also of gently used items ranging from jewelry to clothing to toys to furniture. While donated items have always been displayed for sale in the center's front room, Patton says they have been working to make the displays look better and more organized, to better appeal to people who might come in and shop.

Joyce Kay Holloman donated a few clothing racks, she says, which helped the center improve the store's layout. Patton says the new layout is part of an overall effort to make the center more welcoming. For those who might be afraid that the Neighborhood Center is turning into a thrift store, she points out that their prices are lower than most thrift stores, more in tune with the needs of low-income residents, while still aiding

the center's goal to provide aid to local citizens through the food pantry and other services. "We're a work in progress. We're always looking to better to center," Patton says. "I'm really proud of what we've accomplished." To accomplish even more, she says, the center continues to look for volunteers. Patton stresses that all ages and backgrounds, as well as those with disabilities and physical limitations, are welcome, as there are plenty of jobs that need to be done. She says it is also nice to have volunteers who can relate to all the different people the centers serves, which ranges from seniors to young mothers to children with a little pocket money.

"I had a 13-year-old girl come in and want to volunteer, and I thought that was awesome," she says. "This is a fun place to volunteer. It's nice to have a variety (of people). It makes this place better." She adds that they have even had some volunteers who were out of work and used the experience to learn job skills and build resumes. Typical volunteer duties include greeting customers; sorting, cleaning and pricing donated merchandise; and light dusting and cleaning of the work area.

Patton says the center wants to reach out to everyone who needs help, not only to those who are classified as "low income" but also to people who simply need a little help getting through a rough patch. "People who are really down on their luck can come here and get help," she says. "I want people to know the resources are here to help them when it's needed."

Finally, the Neighborhood Center is again raffling off a bike...actually, the same bike it has already raffled.

The bicycle was originally donated earlier this year by Lexington boy Cody Fletcher. Dwyla Yocom, also of Lexington, won that raffle but decided to re-donate the bike for another go-around. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5; the drawing will take place Friday, Aug. 29.

"We wanted to hold the raffle while the kids could still ride the bike," explains Patton.

With everything going on at the Neighborhood Center, Patton says she is thrilled about the changes that have been made and their plans for the future.

"I'm excited about it," she says. "I'm proud of the volunteers, the board members. I'm proud of what we're doing."

Colt football practice next week

Colt football practice for grades five through eight will begin next Monday, Aug. 25, at the football field at the Morrow County Fairgrounds.

Practice will run from 5-6:30 p.m. but players are asked to meet at the football field around 4:30 p.m. to change.

Questions, contact Adam Doherty at 541-429-0497.

Chamber Chatter

Don't forget to check out the Wildhorse Resort website for all the August activities.

Finley's Fresh Produce - Space Age location from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. - seven days a week: Next time you are heading to Hermiston, stop at the melon and veggie stand.

Friday, August 22 - Saturday, August 23 from

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Tillamook Cheese Days at the SAGE Center: Enjoy a delicious lunch featuring Tillamook Cheese; your choice of handmade pepperoni, Hawaiian or cheese pizzas with salad, cookie and drink for \$5 per person (SAGE Center admission included). Tillamook cheese products, including Tillamook Squeaky Cheese

Hermiston Tea Party welcomes author of 'Enemies Within' books

Monday, Aug. 25, at 7 p.m., the greater Hermiston area Tea Party will welcome guest speaker Trevor Loudon, author of the 2011 book, "Barack Obama and the Enemies Within."

Loudon's latest book is "The Enemies Within:

Communists, Socialists and Progressives in the U.S. Congress."

The presentation will take place at the Stafford Hansell Building, 915 SE Columbia Dr., Hermiston.

Questions, contact Rob Lovett at 541-571-7033.

curds, will also be available during the event.

Sunday, August 24, from 5-7 p.m. - Heppner's "Music In the Park" at lower field along Willow Creek with entertainment from Dakota Brown and Luke Basile: Bring your lawn chairs for an evening of great entertainment sponsored by the Morrow

County Unified Recreation District and facilitated by the Shared Ministry of Hope Lutheran Church and All Saints Episcopal church. You can bring your picnic meal or food will be available for purchase in support of the Shared Ministry's efforts to raise funds for a well-drilling trip to Haiti in 2015.

Music in the Park finale this week



Dakota Brown and Luke Basile will be featured at the summer's last Music in the Park in Heppner this Sunday. —Contributed photo

The final concert in this year's Heppner Music in the Park program will be held this Sunday, Aug. 24, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Heppner Elementary School's lower field.

Singer/songwriter Dakota Brown will be joined by guitarist Luke Basile for an evening of pop and soul music in this great new venue alongside Willow Creek. The field can be accessed from the grade school parking lot or across

the walking bridge from Main Street.

This concert series has been sponsored by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District and facilitated by the Shared Ministry of Hope Lutheran Church and All Saints Episcopal Church.

Food will be available for purchase by donation to help fund the Shared Ministry's next well-building mission trip to Haiti in the fall of 2015.

Community lunch menu

Hope Lutheran, Valby Lutheran and All Saints Episcopal church members will serve lunch on Wednesday, Aug. 27, at St. Patrick's Senior Center.

The meal will include chicken with broccoli; rice pilaf; orange glazed beets; sliced tomatoes; hot rolls; and raspberry parfait.

Milk is served at each meal. Suggested donation is \$3.50 per meal.

Menu is subject to change.

A DAY OF MIRACLES



Christian Life Center
 535 W Morgan St
 Heppner, OR 97836

Join us for "A Day of Miracles" Sunday, August 24, 2014

9:30 AM Pastor David Jenkins - Healing Promises in the Bible

10:30 AM Amy Hawk - Her amazing testimony of healing

6:00 PM Tim Van Cleave - Former Pastor of Christian Life Center and current Pastor of Bethel Church in Pendleton - Ministering in word and prayer

God is a God of Healing and Restoration for the Spirit, Soul, Body, Emotions, and Relationships.

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Amy Hawk & Family



Tim Van Cleave

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 541-384-2101

Email: hesscindy70@gmail.com

Chamber lunch meeting

The next lunch meeting of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce will be Thursday, Aug. 21, at noon in Heppner City Hall conference room.

Gary Neal with the Port of Morrow will be the guest speaker.

Cost of lunch is \$10; A&M's will cater. Chamber lunch attendees are asked to RSVP at 541-676-5536 no later than the Wednesday before to guarantee a lunch.