

St. Patrick's parish hall in need of major repairs

Most of the residents of Heppner and surrounding areas have attended an event of some kind in the St. Patrick's parish hall at some time in their lives. The parish hall is one of only a couple of venues in south Morrow County large enough to accommodate large wedding receptions, funeral dinners, graduation parties and other events that bring a sometimes overwhelming crowd.

The Diocese of Baker purchased the property to build what is now the parish hall in 1959. There were actually two lots that were purchased at that time; one from Minnie Furlong and the other from John and Vivian Williams. In August

of that year ground was broken to erect the hall that still stands today.

Many may remember Fr. Raymond H. Beard, who said his first Mass here in Heppner on Sept. 4, 1959. Fr. Beard had spent the previous 12 years as pastor of St. Francis of Assisi church in Milton-Freewater. In coming to Heppner, he replaced Rev. Patrick J. Gaire, who went on to reside in Baker and went on writing the history of the Catholic church in Oregon.

Fr. Beard was a capable builder, so was a perfect fit to lead the continued construction of the large hall that has been so useful over the years. In fact, Fr. Beard and the parishioners of St.



Current St. Patrick's priest Fr. Papa and former parish priest Fr. Condon stand in front of the St. Patrick's Catholic church parish hall. The parish hall, which has served as a community center for events both sacred and secular over the years, is in need of numerous repairs. -Contributed photo

Patrick's church were so efficient that the completion and dedication of the new hall happened on Feb. 21, 1960, only six months after it began.

This building has and continues to be used weekly for teaching Catholic Catechism to local youth...not to mention its use by Heppner High School baccalaureates, eighth-grade graduations, school dances, FFA and 4-H events, wedding receptions, baby showers, funeral dinners, community dinners, plays, pageants, programs, Bank of Eastern Oregon stockholder meetings, Columbia Basin annual meetings, Livestock and Growers functions, and many more organizations and events.

Unfortunately, after 55 years, the parish hall is in need of some large repairs. One of the largest problems the church is facing is a new heating system. The furnace is original and has been repaired many times; however, it is now time for a new one. This item alone is going to cost around \$30,000.

Also on the list of problems are the fact that the parish hall roof leaks, the carpet needs to be replaced either with carpet or some other type of flooring, the wall on the south side of the building has major water damage—as well as the ceiling in the kitchen as a result of the leaky roof—the restrooms need some repairs, and some of the

windows will need to be replaced.

Church members say they welcome the organizations that have used the parish hall in the past to continue to do so.

"It is our goal to provide this venue to the community," says a church spokesperson. "We ask for the community's help in supporting our fundraisers as we complete our mission of restoring this facility back to its original condition."

Some of the fundraisers in the planning stages will be dinners throughout the year, the first one being Jan. 31, followed by a Valentine's dinner similar to last year's. Some of the dinners will have a talent show or some other live entertainment. The ladies of St. Patrick's will be putting together a community cookbook and are looking for contributions to that project; there will be more information to come. Also planned are a pie sale, as well as a "Butter Braid" breakfast roll sale, both of which will soon be accepting orders in advance. There will also be a quilt raffle later in the year.

If anyone would like to donate, St. Patrick's has set up a fund at the Bank of Eastern Oregon, P.O. Box 39, Heppner, under "St. Patrick Parish Hall Restoration."

Questions, contact Rita VanScholack at 541-676-5226.

Heppner takes fourth at Rumble

The Heppner wrestling team competed in Boardman at the Riverside Rumble on Saturday.

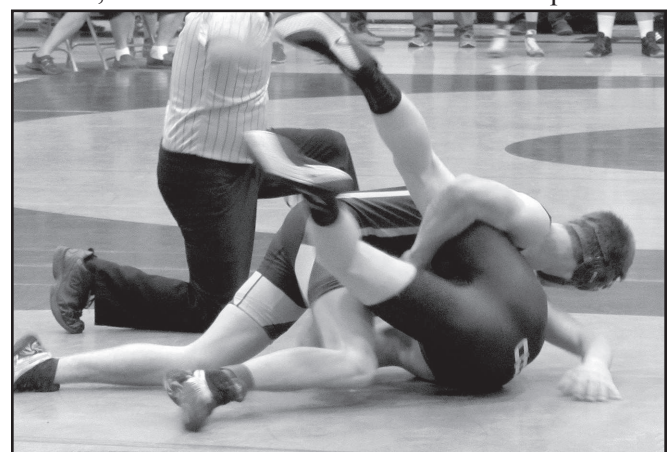
Heppner finished fourth out of eight teams and higher than the other small schools at the tournament.

Seven of the eight Mustangs competing finished in the top three of their bracket, and three were in

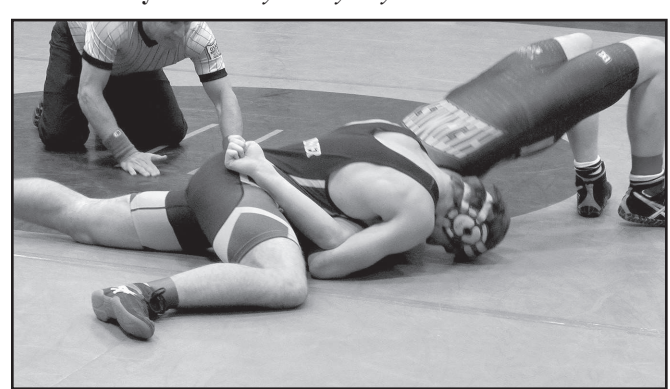
the championship bout.

Ryan Smith won the 113-pound weight class and Cord Flynn won the 182-pound weight class. John Propheter finished second at 220 pounds.

Placing third for Heppner were Jesse Boyd at 138 pounds, Will Lutchter at 145 pounds, Tim Jaca at 160 pounds and Jorgen Andersen at 160 pounds.



Above: Jesse Boyd took home the third-place medal in the 138-lb bracket from the Riverside Rumble over the weekend. Below: Cord Flynn was one of two Mustangs, along with Ryan Smith, who finished first at the Riverside Rumble in Boardman last Saturday. -Photo by Kandy Boyd



Colt wrestling to begin this week

The Heppner Mustang wrestling program is starting its annual Colt Wrestling this week.

The practices will begin on Wednesday, Jan. 14, in the high school cafeteria. Practices will be held on five Wednesdays and Mondays through Jan. 24, followed by tournaments conducted on Monday, Feb. 2, and Wednesday, Feb. 4.

This year the Colt program will be split into two age groups. The first will be ages four years through third grade and will start at 5:30 p.m. and end at 6:15 p.m. each Monday or Wednesday. The older group will be fourth through sixth-grade wres-

tlers; they will start at 6:15 p.m. and end at 7 p.m. each Monday and Wednesday. The tournaments will be held at the same times as practices.

The cost will be the same as last year, with discounts for families with more than one wrestler. The high school and junior high school coaches and wrestlers will be the clinicians. Each participant will get a Heppner Wrestling t-shirt.

Registration will be held at the practices and forms will be provided. First-year junior high coach Dieter Waite is the contact person for questions. He can be reached by email at waited@morrows.k12.or.us.

Donation fund set up for local man diagnosed with cancer

Local man Ron Howe, owner of Heppner's Howe's About Pizza, was recently diagnosed with cancer and will be undergoing chemotherapy treatments in Walla Walla, WA.

An account has been set up at the Bank of Eastern Oregon to help offset medical-related expenses for the family. Donations may be made to "Ron's Medical Account" at a Bank of EO branch.

This article was taken from a February 1960 issue of The Gazette Times:

Catholics Dedicate New Parish Hall

The new St. Patrick's parish hall was dedicated Sunday afternoon by the most Rev Francis Leipzig, Bishop of Baker. There were 17 visiting priests including two from the Spokane diocese, and 10 Sisters of St. Francis from Pendleton present.

The Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus from the Pendleton council formed an honor guard for the Bishop.

Following the blessing of the building, a potluck dinner was held for visiting clergy, sisters, parishioners and guests. About 400 persons signed

the guest book.

Msgr Michael McMahon of The Dalles introduced the priests and called on former pastors, Rev Francis McCormack of Ontario, and Rev Patrick Gaire, Baker for short talks.

Bishop Leipzig spoke on the purpose of the new hall and brought out the need for religious instruction for the children and how the hall would assist priests and parents in taking care of this need. He stressed the parents' obligation to bring up their children so that they might return them to God.



Catholic dignitaries from all over eastern Oregon gathered to dedicate the St. Patrick's parish hall on Feb. 21, 1960, as was reported in an issue of the Gazette that month. -G-T file photo

Phone and Internet Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

The Oregon Public Utility Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink's basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$12.48-\$16.55 per month and business services are \$20.31-\$27.25 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

CenturyLink participates in a government benefit program (Lifeline) to make residential telephone service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers are those that meet eligibility standards as defined by the FCC and state commissions. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless telephone. A household is defined for the purposes of the Lifeline program as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline service is not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain Lifeline telephone service can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from the program.

Lifeline eligible subscribers may also qualify for reliable home high-speed Internet service up to 1.5Mbps for \$9.95* per month for the first 12 months of service. Please call 1-800-257-3212 or visit centurylink.com/internetbasics for more information.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, please call 1-855-954-6546 or visit centurylink.com/lifeline with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline program.

*CenturyLink Internet Basics Program - Residential customers only who qualify based on meeting income level or program participation eligibility requirements, and requires remaining eligible for the entire offer period. First bill will include charges for the first full month of service billed in advance, prorated charges for service from the date of installation to bill date, and one-time charges and fees described above. Qualifying customers may keep this program for a maximum of 60 months after service activation provided customer still qualifies during that time. Listed High-Speed Internet rate of \$9.95/mo. applies for first 12 months of service (after which the rate reverts to \$14.95/mo. for the next 48 months of service), and requires a 12-month term agreement. Customer must either lease a modem/router from CenturyLink for an additional monthly charge or independently purchase a modem/router, and a one-time High-Speed Internet activation fee applies. A one-time professional installation charge (if selected by customer) and a one-time shipping and handling fee applies to customer's modem/router. **General** - Services not available everywhere. Have not have subscribed to CenturyLink Internet service within the last 90 days and are not a current CenturyLink customer. CenturyLink may change or cancel services or substitute similar services at its sole discretion without notice. Offer, plans, and stated rates are subject to change and may vary by service area. Deposit may be required. Additional restrictions apply. **Terms and Conditions** - All products and services listed are governed by tariffs, terms of service, or terms and conditions posted at centurylink.com. **Taxes, Fees, and Surcharges** - Applicable taxes, fees, and surcharges include a carrier Universal Service charge, carrier cost recovery surcharges, state and local fees that vary by area and certain in-state surcharges. Cost recovery fees are not taxes or government-required charges for use. Taxes, fees, and surcharges apply based on standard monthly, not promotional, rates.



New weed webpage up and running


A new webpage is now available for Morrow County residents and anyone else wishing to learn more about noxious weeds.

Noxious weeds are identified by state and county officials to be harmful to public health, crops, livestock, land and property, and mandated for control and/or eradication. Helpful links to the county noxious weed list are now available, including pictures and de-

scriptions. Additional links to the Oregon Department of Agriculture noxious weed website, as well as information on biological controls for noxious weeds, are available as well. Press releases with information about new weeds and contact information to report new sightings will also be linked to the website.

Visit the new website at morrowscountyoregon.com/publicworks/weedcontrol/.

Get Your Yearly Mammogram!



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