

## NWS to hold free weather spotter training in Heppner

*Wants residents to keep eyes on skies; weather spotter network will help track storms*

Volunteers are being sought to participate in the latest weather spotter training on April 20 in Heppner. Weather spotters trained by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) are key volunteers who assist the meteorologists by providing up-to-date information about storm activity.

"Spotters relay their reports to the Weather Service

as they see it. This information is used by forecasters to track storms and alert the public to dangerous weather situations. Time and time again, reports from trained weather spotters have saved countless lives, especially during heavy rain, thunderstorms and wind storms," states the NWS website.

The Skywarn weather spotter training is free and will be held at Heppner City

Hall, located at 140 NW Gale Street, beginning at 6 p.m. The training is being co-sponsored by Morrow County Emergency Management.

This two-hour course will include information about the National Weather Service, tornadoes, thunderstorms, flash floods, dust storms, high winds and winter storms. Students who complete the course will receive a training certificate.

More information about the training is available by contacting Dennis Hull at 541-969-7136 or [dennis.hull@noaa.gov](mailto:dennis.hull@noaa.gov). Additional information is also available at the National Weather Service website at [weather.gov/Pendleton](http://weather.gov/Pendleton).

## Heppner goes green for St. Pat's



This past weekend marked the 33<sup>rd</sup> Wee Bit O' Ireland Celebration in Heppner. The Monagle clan, pictured top, was this year's Great Green Parade grand marshal. Other weekend events included the Friends Helping Friends Remembrance Walk (above) and the Irish boxing smoker (right). For more photo highlights of the weekend, turn to PAGE THREE. -Photos by David Sykes, Sandy Matthews and Mallorie Jones



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## Dog trial coordinator dies

Tragedy added a dark note to the Wee Bit O' Ireland festivities over the weekend.

Saturday, March 14, shortly before 7:30 p.m., Heppner Ambulance responded to a call regarding a possible stroke victim at Route 74 restaurant in Ione.

The victim was later identified as Karen Mohny, 53, of Waitsburg, WA. Mohny was the coordinator of the Heppner sheep dog trials. After being transported by ambulance and stabilized at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner, she was transported by air to Harborview Medical Center, Seattle.

Mohny died Sunday evening, March 15, at Harborview. Cause of death was reportedly an aneurism.

## New gurneys make transport safer for patients, medics



Morrow County Health District has purchased new Stryker gurneys for every ambulance in Morrow County, reports Emergency Medical Services Coordinator Rusty Estes. The new gurneys are hydraulic with a 700-pound lift capacity. Estes says the purchase will make ambulance transports safer both for patients and the EMTs loading them onto the ambulance; medics and drivers say they are excited to have the new gurneys. The purchase was made possible by funding from CREZ (Columbia River Enterprise Zone), Wildhorse Foundation, and the MCHD Board. Pictured (L-R): Boardman paramedic Devon Pulvino, EMS Coordinator Rusty Estes, Boardman paramedic Del Turner and Irrigon paramedic Kelly Shelton. -Contributed photo

## SAGE Center invites area residents to new PGE exhibit

*Portland General Electric exhibit showcases Northwest electricity generation, distribution*

BOARDMAN—Area residents are invited to the SAGE Center to celebrate the center's newest interactive exhibit, sponsored by Portland General.

An open house will be held Thursday, April 2, from 6-7:30 p.m. at the SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road, Boardman.

The utility and visitor

center have been working for more than a year to make the exhibit a reality, showing the variety of ways PGE generates electricity and how that energy is distributed to customers.

The exhibit was fully funded by PGE and installed Jan. 7.

Visitors can learn how electricity demand is bal-

anced through multiple modes of generation, the energy required to run just one household outlet, and how electricity is distributed to customers.

Those planning on attending are asked to RSVP to Rachel DeRosia at [Rachel.Derosia@pgn.com](mailto:Rachel.Derosia@pgn.com) by Friday, March 27.

## Area pastors invited to submit Easter messages

Easter is April 5. The Heppner Gazette-Times invites area pastors to submit Easter messages to be pub-

lished in the paper's April 1 edition. The deadline is Friday, March 27, at 5 p.m. Messages can be

dropped off at the Gazette office, emailed to [editor@rapidsolve.net](mailto:editor@rapidsolve.net), or faxed to 541-676-9211.

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