

Kids now need fishing license at age 12 Chamber Chatter

As families venture to the outdoors this spring, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife reminds parents that youths between the ages of 12 and 17 now need a license if they plan to hunt, fish or shellfish.

Although fishing now requires a license two years earlier than in the past – at age 12 instead of age 14 – the cost of the license is less than it was in years past. Now a combination youth hunting/fishing/shellfishing license costs \$10. For \$5 more, youngsters can also purchase a tag that will allow them to catch salmon, steelhead, sturgeon and halibut. The \$15 combined cost of a youth license and tag in 2016 compares to a cost of \$41.75 last year, a cost reduction of 64 percent.

The youth license was developed to simplify the youth license requirements for hunting and fishing. “There was way too much complexity involved for parents to get hunting and fishing licenses for their kids,” said Rick Hargrave,



-Contributed photo

administrator of ODFW’s Information and Education Division. “We removed those barriers and came up with a single, significantly discounted, youth combination license for kids 12-17.”

Under the new fee structure, a single license permits youth license holders to take part in all three activities – hunting, fishing and shellfishing. Previously, a separate license

was required for each of these activities.

“We believe this an amazing value and a meaningful investment in getting kids and families out and connected with nature,” said Hargrave.

There is no distinction in the fee structure between resident and nonresident youths – they pay the same for hunting/fishing licenses and tags.

BMCC celebrates open education week

Blue Mountain Community College, through the ongoing work of faculty and staff, is participating in Open Education efforts in Oregon. March 7-11 is National Open Education Week, and BMCC announces that the use of Open Educational Resources at the college has saved students nearly \$225,000 between spring 2015 and winter 2016. Nearly \$40,000 of that comes from tuition savings for students taking BMCC courses as dual credit while in high school. Hundreds of insti-

tutions from around the globe, including BMCC, are involved in the Open Education Consortium and are committed to providing “free and open resources that encourage a curious, thinking and learning society through the use of a vast pool of openly shared educational resources.

Much of the student savings from the use of OERs comes from textbooks. When faculty utilize openly shared resources through the Open Education Consortium, students

don’t have to purchase a full textbook, many of which can cost upwards of \$200 each. Classes at BMCC that utilize OERs range from anthropology, sciences and math to business and music.

Six BMCC faculty members: Stan Beach, math/computer science, Sascha McKeon, Michelle Miller and Kristen Oja, sciences, Gary Parker and Greg Schulberg, math/computer science, recently received grants from OpenOregon to support their ongoing work with OERs.

2016 St. Patrick’s “Wee Bit O’ Ireland Celebration” Pin is available for purchase: Purchase your button for \$3 at Heppner City Hall, Murray’s Drug, and Community and get put into a drawing for \$100 (to be drawn during CEILI and Saturday night entertainment with “Cross Strung”). The buttons promote our Sheep Dog Trials event which takes place on Saturday, March 19th and Sunday, March 20th (from dawn to dark) at Thompson’s Ranch 3 miles NW of Heppner on Bunker Hill Road, off of Hwy 74, between mile posts 41 and 42.

Thursdays, March 3 through April 14th – 2:30-4 p.m. - Powerful Tools for Caregivers Class: This class will be held at the St. Patrick’s Senior Center Dining Room at 190 N. Main St. To register for the class, contact Helena Wolfe at 541-561-5443 or hwolfe@capeco-works.org. This class includes the free book “The Caregiver Helpbook”.

Thursday, March 10th – Morrow County Extension Office invite community members to a portion of the interview process for the 4-H Outreach Program Coordinator Position: The community will get to “meet and greet” with the candidates and be involved in offering feedback on the candidates’ presentation on 4-H curriculum. Thursday, March 10 4:15 – 5 p.m. – Brandi Orem. Everyone is invited to attend the pre-

sentations at the Morrow County Extension Office Conference Room, 54173 Hwy 74. Contact 541-676-9642 for questions.

Thursday, March 10th 9:30 a.m. – Veterans Coffee and Chat at Willow Creek Diner: Veterans are invited to attend the Coffee and Chat; RSVP to Morrow County Veterans Services at 541-922-6420.

Sunday, March 13th – Daylight Savings Time Begins: Don’t forget to “Spring Forward” and change your clocks before you go to bed Saturday night or you might be an hour early on Sunday.

Sunday, March 13th – 3 p.m. and Thursday, March 17th – 7:30 p.m. – Father Condon’s annual play “Intrigue at Glendalough”: This community play, written by Father Condon with local cast members, will be held at the Ione Community School at 3 p.m. on March 13 and on Thursday, March 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the St. Patrick’s Parish Hall. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted.

Sunday, March 13th – 4 p.m. – Willow Creek Symphony to perform at Heppner Elementary School: Admission is free but donations are accepted. A reception will follow the performance.

Thursday, March 17 – Sunday, March 20th – 34th Annual Wee Bit O’ Ireland Celebration: Mark your calendars for this fun filled weekend and plan on participating in the great events

the community organizes to celebrate their Irish heritage. Contact the Chamber office at 541-676-5536 for more information. The full schedule will be out soon. Entry Forms for Parade, Cruz-in, Welly Toss, Road Bowling are now available at the Chamber office.

Friday, March 18th – 2 p.m. – Judge Alba Bartholomew Building Dedication: Come and be part of the new county building dedication. Judge Bartholomew was the county judge in 1903 and shouldered much of the burden of recovery from the tragic Heppner flood; refreshments to follow dedication. Also, Gary Kopperud will be at the courthouse from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. to be available to talk about the clock and restoration process. He will bring a 1764 Mozart watch and 1797 Irish chain-driven pocket watch for people to check out

Saturday, April 1st – 8-11 a.m. – Dispose of household hazardous waste: Start collecting household hazardous waste that is stored under the sink, in the basement or garage. Look for the labels that say “Warning” and “Danger”. Turn in your mercury thermometers (thermometers with a red or blue liquid do not contain mercury) and receive a free, safe, digital thermometer in exchange. You can drop these off at the Lexington Road Department – 365 W. Hwy 74, Lexington. For more information call 541-989-9500.

Acoustic group, CrossStrung to entertain during St. Pat’s



CrossStrung

CrossStrung, the main entertainment for Heppner’s St. Patrick’s festivities, will perform Saturday night, March 19, at the St. Patrick’s Parish Hall from 7:30-9:30 p.m., following a local children’s talent show from 6-7:20 p.m. Dessert will be sold by the St. Patrick’s Altar Society and a silent pie auction will be held during the event.

CrossStrung” is one of Utah’s most exciting acoustic groups, according to a news release. “Five musicians, 12 instruments, tight harmonies, hot instrumentals, and, on occasion, three of them can be seen playing on the same instrument at the same time.” This family band enjoys performing a variety of

music including Celtic, bluegrass, folk, country, and gospel, adding their own unique style. Their show is “energetic and fun,” said the release.

As winners of the “National Family Talent Search” they opened for the Hughes Brothers in Branson, MO. They have won several individual and band competitions. Family band members Sarah and her husband, Dan, have played for thousands at folk festivals in more than 14 different countries around the world. “Sarah has been to Ireland and Canada to study celtic guitar and has won many guitar and mandolin competitions. Dan and Leah are both hot fiddle champions and dazzle audi-

ences with their lightening fast fingers. Emma is an amazing singer and bass player and is the heartbeat of the group. Sheri, known to the kids as “mom”, plays guitar, and bodhran. She also brings her love for Canadian step dancing to the stage with her daughters.”

The “Old Time Fiddlers Show” will perform at the fairgrounds hall, starting at 6:30 p.m.

There is no admission charge for any of the evening entertainment; it is funded by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District. Everyone is invited to “come out and spend the evening with some great entertainment which is guaranteed to have you clapping your hands and stomping your feet.”

Drivers’ safety classes offered

Blue Mountain Community College and AARP have teamed up to offer two drivers’ safety courses in Morrow County in the next couple of months.

The first session will be on Monday, March 14, in Boardman at BMCC, 300 NE Front Street. The next session will be on Friday, April 22, in Ione at the Ione Community Church. Both classes begin at 8:45 a.m. and wrap up at ap-

proximately 4 p.m. Cost is \$20 for non-members of AARP and \$15 for AARP members.

The AARP Driver Safety Program is the nation’s first and largest course for drivers age 50 and older. When people take the course, they will learn valuable 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.

Those interested are asked to call to reserve your space in the class. Contact BMCC Morrow County at 541-481-2099 or email at amorter@bluecc.edu. You may also contact the instructor directly—Lou Bisson at 541-989-8141. Minimum enrollment must be met to hold this class so pre-registration is required.

WE PRINT!

**BUSINESS CARDS
LETTERHEAD
BROCHURES
FLYERS
AND MORE!**

The Heppner
Gazette-Times
188 W. Willow
Call Dave Today
(541) 676-9228

New! RECENT Arrivals

MERCHANDISE ARRIVING DAILY

**PURSES - GIFT WARE
HOUSEWARES & MORE**

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

**50% OFF
ST. PATS
HOODIES,
TEES AND
IRISH
GIFTWARE**

Murray's Drug, INC.

217 North Main St., Heppner • Phone 676-9158 • Floral 676-9426
Serving Morrow, Wheeler & Gilliam counties Since 1959

**ADVERTISING
Made Easy**

HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES
Call Megan at 541-676-9228
to get started today!