

Past comes alive at Frenchtown visit

Members and friends of the Morrow County Historical Society were invited to join in the annual St. Jean Baptiste Day celebration hosted by the private, nonprofit Frenchtown Historic Foundation of the Walla Walla Valley this past weekend.

This commemoration is held at a historic park consisting of Frenchtown cemetery and the Métis constructed cabin that once belonged to "the Prince," younger brother of Cayuse headman Umtippe.

The cabin is thought to be the oldest building in Washington State. The Frenchtown site is comprised of 27 acres, interpretive panels, hiking trails, a picnic shelter, the restored cabin and a cemetery.

Also of historical note is that this is in a portion of the site of the 1855 Battle of Walla Walla.

This year, Sam Pambrun, a descendent of the commandant of Fort Nez Percés, led a tour of the Hudson's Bay Company Farm that had been established in 1821, about 20 miles up the Walla Walla



Sam Pambrun stands beside a marker indicating the location for the HBC Farm. -Contributed photo

River from the original North West Company Fort Nez Percés at modern-day Wallula, WA. This farm provided food for the Fort and horses for two annual "brigades" that traveled to and from HBC trading establishments on the upper Columbia and Snake Rivers and Northern British Columbia.

The present owner of the land where the farm was sited, Tom Williams of Williams Farms, answered questions and explained the ideal geography of the area and the easy access to a year-round water supply

for the crops and animals. He also discussed probable methods of irrigating



Standing near the site of the dam built for irrigating the HBC Farm. -Contributed photo

and farm life there and commerce with the local natives.

Following the tour, a lunch was provided at the picnic shelter at the Frenchtown site.

Music, games, stories of that early historic time, a display of Fur Trade items used and traded, and a demonstration of the tools the French Canadians used to build the cabin and other buildings, transported the participants back to the time of the "Voyagers" and Métis, who came to this "Oregon Country" for the purpose of establishing the fur trade.

Local doe wins Best in Show



KT'S Highway to Hell black otter senior Mini Rex doe owned by Kathy Tellechea and Pam Renfro of Lexington won Best in Show at both Oregon and Washington state conventions held in recent weeks. She competed against more than 3,000 rabbits between the two conventions, and this is the first time the same Mini Rex has won at both state conventions. This doe also won Best Colored Fur at Nationals held in Reno, NV this spring. She was retired from the show team after winning 12 grand champion legs. She was bred to our grand champion black otter buck KT'S Fire and Brimstone. -Contributed photo

Music in the Park July 10

The next concert in Heppner's Music in the Park series will be held this Sunday, July 10, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Heppner City Park. This month, entertainment will be provided by a bluegrass duo known as Slipshod, with Matt Snook on dobro and banjo and Steve Blanchard on guitar and mandolin.

Heppner's summer Music in the Park series is funded through the Morrow County Unified Recreation

District, and facilitated by the Shared Ministry of Hope Lutheran Church and All Saints Episcopal. Food will be available for purchase to help fund the Shared Ministry's efforts to provide clean water to thirsty people around the world.

In the event of rain, the concert will be moved to the All Saints Parish Hall at the corner of Church and Gale (one block from the city park).

Female veterans given a chance to make their voices heard

Two listening sessions planned for Morrow County

Elizabeth Estabrooks, the Women Veterans Coordinator from Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs, will be visiting Morrow County in July and will be holding listening sessions for women who have served in the military.

Listening sessions will take place Tuesday, July 26, from 2:30-4 p.m. at the

Bartholomew Building in Heppner and Wednesday, July 27, from 3-4:30 p.m. at the Port of Morrow Riverfront Center, Boardman.

Estabrooks is interested in hearing from women veterans and finding out the "good, the bad and the ugly" of their experiences with the VA. She says she is looking for answers to

questions like:

-What are your experiences in obtaining services where you are?

-What are the problems you have had with filing a claim, recently or in the past?

-What is the one thing you would do to improve services, if you could?

-How can she help?

All women who have served are invited to come to a listening session to share their thoughts. Anyone who cannot attend the listening session but who would like to share their story, call 971-720-9116 or e-mail elizabeth.estabrooks@state.or.us.

City of Irrigon plans Watermelon Festival

The City of Irrigon will hold its annual Watermelon Festival on Saturday, July 30. Several events are planned throughout the day beginning with breakfast at 6:30 a.m.

Funds raised through this community event go to benefit various areas across the community of Irrigon, including scholar-

ships, Cooley Sports Complex, the senior center, food baskets program, flags for events, and more.

This year an array of donated items will be raffled; buy 50/50 raffle tickets at many of the local businesses or on festival day.

Events and opportunities taking place at the Irrigon Marina Park include

breakfast beginning at 6:30 a.m., a hearty breakfast served for a nominal price. The annual parade kicks off at 10 a.m. and runs down NE Main Avenue. At 11 a.m. is the opening ceremony at the Irrigon Marina Park band stand. The day will include on-going raffle items throughout the day, as

well as an array of games, contests, vendors (local and out-of-town). Multiple food vendors, besides the hometown food shack, will be available.

For more information, contact Renee Couchman at 541-922-1560 or Aaron Palmquist, city manager, at manager@ci.irrigon.or.us.

Chamber Chatter

Sunday, July 10, 5-7 p.m., Heppner's Music in the Park concert in Heppner City Park: The entertainment for this event will be Slipshod's Matt Snook and Steve Blanchard with bluegrass tunes. 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. Food will be available for purchase to raise money for the Shared Ministry's continuing efforts to provide clean water to needy communities around the world. Rain location for concert will be All Saints Parish Hall.

Friday, July 29, 8:30 a.m., eighth annual United Way of Umatilla and Morrow Counties Charity Golf Tournament to be held at Wildhorse Resort and Casino's Championship Golf Course: For the past eight years, the United Way of Umatilla and Morrow counties has hosted this charity golf tournament to help raise funds for our local area United Way partner agencies. Remember, all money donated to your local United Way stays in our area. Call the United Way office at 276-2661 to secure your sponsorship, register

a team or donate items for our raffle.

Saturday, July 30, 6-8 p.m. fourth annual "Bowl-A-Thon" at Desert Lanes in Hermiston, sponsored by Domestic Violence Services: Register your team today; the cost is \$30 per bowler or \$120 for a team of four; includes three lines of bowling and shoes. This event is fun for all ages and there will be great prizes. All proceeds will go toward providing shelter, meals and supportive services to victims of domestic and sexual violence in Umatilla and Morrow counties.

Saturday, July 30, 6:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., City of Irrigon's annual Watermelon Festival: Bring the whole family for great fun and enjoyment on the bank of the beautiful Columbia River. For more information, contact Renee Couchman at 541-922-1560 or Aaron Palmquist, city manager at manager@ci-irrigon.or.us.

Tentatively - August 3-4, ODOT to be chip sealing downtown Main Street in Heppner: More information will be available soon. The dates are tentative, as this is part of the project they will be working on this summer and will depend on how the schedule ends up. ODOT will continue to communicate a status update.

Sunday, August 14, 5-7 p.m., Heppner's Music in the Park concert in Heppner City Park: The entertainment for this event will be Jezebel's Mother, a new configuration of seasoned guitar and vocal musicians Janis Carper and Carolyn Lochert. 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. Food will be available for purchase, to raise money for the Shared Ministry's continuing efforts to provide clean water to needy communities around the world. Rain location for concert will be the Heppner Elementary School gym.

August 17-21, 2016 Morrow County Fair and Rodeo: Mark your calendars now for Morrow County Fair. The theme for this year is "Country Scenes and Children's Dreams." There will be a parade at 10 a.m. on Saturday and lots of activities to take part in or just watch and lots of entertainment. There will be the annual Murray's Wine and Micro-Brew Tasting and FFA Basket Auction on Thursday, August 18, with a dinner available to purchase.

Sunday, Sept. 11, 5-7 p.m., Heppner's Music in the Park concert in Heppner City Park: The entertainment for this event will be in recognition of the 15th Anniversary of 9/11 - The Tailgators with Sharon Porter, Matt Cooper and friends. Rain location for concert will be the Heppner Elementary School Gym.

Saturday, Sept. 17, and Sunday, September 18, the Heppner chamber will be coordinating the fifth annual ride of our local Blue Mountain Century Scenic Bikeway; the ride is limited to 50 riders.

Saturday, October 1, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Morrow County Harvest Festival at the SAGE Center: Come and check out the vendors that will be set up on the mezzanine and all that their homemade, home grown selections. Plan on making a day of it; there will be food vendors and outside activities, plus you can go through the SAGE center exhibits for free throughout the day. If you are looking at participating as a vendor, the application deadline is Friday, Aug. 26. Contact the Chamber for an application form at 541-676-5536 or email at heppnerchamber@centurytel.net. Application forms will also be dropped off at the post office.

Chamber lunch meeting

The next lunch meeting of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce will be an all entities report on Thursday, July 7, at noon in Heppner City Hall conference room.

Cost of lunch is \$10; Mustang Diner will cater. Chamber lunch attendees are asked to RSVP at 541-676-5536 no later than the Tuesday before to guarantee a lunch.

DA's Report

Morrow County District Attorney Justin Nelson has released the following report:

-Travis Lane Thomas, 44, was convicted of Kidnapping I - Constituting Domestic Violence, a Class A Felony, and Sentenced to 90 months prison time with credit for time served, to run concurrent with the following count. The defendant also was sentenced to three years post-prison supervision. In addition, Thomas was convicted of Assault II - Constituting Domestic Violence, a Class B Felony, a sentenced to 70 months prison time with credit for time served, to run concurrent with the previous count. The defendant also was sentenced to three years post-prison supervision. Additional counts of kidnapping, assault, strangulation and menacing were dismissed.

-Shawn Michael Chandler was found guilty of probation violation. Probation was revoked and the

sentenced of six months prison time, with credit for time served, was imposed, with 12 months post-prison supervision, sentence to run concurrent to the sentence on the following case. Fines, fees and assessments totaled \$25.

-Shawn Michael Chandler was found guilty of an additional instance of probation violation. Probation was revoked and the sentenced of six months prison time, with credit for time served, was imposed, with 12 months post-prison supervision, sentence to run concurrent to the sentence on the previous case. Fines, fees and assessments totaled \$25.

-Patrick Hardie, 49, was convicted of Criminal Trespass II, a Class C Misdemeanor, and sentenced to 21 days jail time with credit for time served. An additional account of Criminal Trespass was dismissed. Fines, fees and assessments totaled \$100.

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