



Chamber to host Community Awards event on Feb. 8

Heppner Chamber's annual Town and Country Community Awards event will be held Thursday, Feb. 8 starting at 6 p.m. There will be a no host bar operated by Bucknum's, with dinner to start at 6:30 p.m. and the awards program to follow. Alvin Liu with Gateway Café will be catering the dinner and will be serving prime rib with au jus, creamy garlic mashed potatoes, green beans in garlic sauce, garden fresh salad and a dinner roll with

butter, dessert and a beverage. Gold sponsors are Invenery, LLC dba Willow Creek Energy and Bronze sponsors are Community Counseling Solutions, Northwest Farm Credit Services and Portland General Electric. Tickets are \$25 per person until the week of the event when they will increase to \$30 per person. Tickets are available at Bank of Eastern Oregon, chamber office, City of

Heppner, Community Bank and Murray's. Checks may be made out to the Heppner Chamber of Commerce. This year we will recognize and celebrate the Man of the Year, Woman of the Year, Business of the Year, Youth, Citizen-Educator of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Award. Contact the Heppner Chamber of Commerce at 541-676-5536 for more information or to reserve tickets.

St. Patrick's Remembrance Walk/Run to be held Mar. 17



Community members turned out in force to participate in the Remembrance Walk/Run in 2017. -File Photo

A Decade of Memories will be the theme for this year's Remembrance Walk/5K Run on Mar. 17. Friends Helping Friends are again hosting the event that will begin at 9:30 a.m., with a social hour and registration taking place at 8:30 a.m. at Heppner United Methodist Church. The fee to participate in the walk or run will still be \$5 per person, with children free.

In the past decade, nearly \$50,000 has been donated to the community through this event, including Pioneer Memorial Home Health and Hospice, Willow Creek Terrace, Pioneer Memorial Hospital, Heppner Day Care, Heppner St. Patrick's Committee, Heppner Elks Club Ladies, Morrow County Fire and Ambulance and South EMTs, Asher Schonbachler

benefit and the Heppner United Methodist Church. Friends Helping Friends will donate the proceeds from this year's event to St. Patrick's apartments and senior center for much needed repairs and improvements, which include a new roof, HVAC and fire suppression in the historical building. The senior center includes 19 apartments along with the

meal site location where meals are served each Wednesday as well as flushot clinics, blood drives, Bingo, bazaars, receptions, meetings, parties and many other community events. A committee member reported some of the sponsors who have donated money and door prizes this year include Community Bank, Community Counseling Solutions, Columbia

Basin Electric, MCGG, Wildhorse Resort and Casino and Windwave Communications. Participants who pre-register will be included in the door prize drawings for a Wildhorse Resort and Casino package, multiple gas cards, a Willow Creek Waterpark pass, Arbonne cosmetics, a Hamley's Steakhouse gift certificate and many more items.

Donations and registrations may be sent to FHF, c/o Kathi Dickenson, P.O. Box 566, Heppner, OR 97836 or by contacting Susan Hisler at 541-676-5878. Flyers and registration forms are also available at Murray's Drugs or Dickenson Chiropractic.

Ione FFA members to represent local district at state competition



Pictured (L-R): Morgan Orem, Emily Taylor, Larysa Burrignt and Eva Martin.

The Ione FFA chapter competed at the district FFA convention Jan. 25 in Hermiston and several members placed high enough to represent the district at the state level. Morgan Orem and Sonia Medina will represent the district at the sectional job interview career development event; Morgan, Jake Heideman and Grace Ogden will advance their portfolios to state and Morgan will represent the district at the state coop-

erative quiz. Ione FFA members that placed at the district meet are: First place, beginning job interview- Eva Martin; first place, advanced job interview- Morgan Orem; second place, advanced job interview- Sonia Medina; first place, beginning portfolio- Grace Ogden; fourth place, beginning portfolio- Eva Martin; fifth place, beginning portfolio- Larysa Burrignt; first place, advanced portfolio-

lio- Morgan Orem; second place, advanced portfolio- Jake Heideman; fifth place, advanced portfolio- Emily Taylor; third place, secretary's book- Emily Rose Taylor; third place, treasurer's book- Sarah Knop; two state degree candidates- Emily Taylor and Austin Morter; diversified crop production proficiency- Emily Taylor; diversified ag production proficiency- Austin Morter. Ione judges who assisted with scoring resumes

and cover letters as well as formal interviews and applications were Mr. Brent Martin, Dr. and Mrs. Bill & Nancy Jepsen, Senator Bill Hansell, Mrs. Alison Ogden, Mr. Bob Rosselle and Mrs. Jill Martin. The FFA district consists of Pendleton, Hermiston, Stanfield, Pilot Rock, Athena, Milton-Freewater, Dufur, Heppner, Irrigon, Boardman and Ione.

Ione teacher arrested

Ione Community Charter School music teacher, Bryan Bates, 24, of Ione was arrested by Morrow County Sheriff's Office and accused of sexual abuse of a student on Jan. 24.

According to the statement from the Morrow County Sheriff's Office, the incident occurred on school

property and involved a 16-year-old female student. Bates was lodged in the Umatilla County Jail with bail set at \$25,000. MCSO reported that they arrested Bates on one count of official misconduct, two counts of harassment and two counts of third-degree sexual abuse. The investigation is continuing at this time. According to Ione Superintendent Jon Peterson, Bates was placed on administrative leave.

Morrow County Planning Commission seeking volunteer

Morrow County is looking for a volunteer to represent Heppner on the Morrow County Planning Commission. Planning commissioners serve four-year terms, with this appointment filling a term ending Dec. 31, 2019. The planning commission generally meets once a month, alternating meeting locations between Heppner and Boardman. Duties of the planning commission include approving land use actions, maintaining the county's subdivision and zoning ordinances and working with the Morrow

County Board of Commissioners to manage the county's land use comprehensive plan. For more information, visit the county website at www.co.morrow.or.us/pc or call Carla McLane at 541-922-4624. Parties residing in Morrow County who are interested in taking a more active part in land use planning in the county are encouraged to submit a letter of interest to the Morrow County Planning Department, P.O. Box 40, Irrigon, OR 97844 by the close of business Friday, Feb. 9.

South county economic development information to be shared

Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group would like to invite interested parties to their annual hosted luncheon on Thursday, Feb. 15 from 12-1 p.m. in the senior cen-

ter dining room. Gary Neal, Port of Morrow, will be the speaker and will share information on economic development in south Morrow County. The lunch, served by

Alvin Liu of Gateway Café, is free and will consist of BBQ ribs, BBQ chicken, BBQ beans, potato salad, dessert and a beverage. RSVP is required and must be received no later than

Tuesday, Feb. 13. Contact the chamber at 541-676-5536 to RSVP or for additional information.

ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE: MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.

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