

## Community grant funds available

Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group (WCVEDG) has funds available to be used for community and public enhancement for south Morrow County. Applicant organizations must be a local organization, club, special district or a governmental entity who resides in the south Morrow County service area (as defined by the WCVEDG service area map). The requestor must have at least 50 percent of funding (may include in-kind and cash contributions from local

and regional sources) for the total project budget committed before applying. Exceptions may apply at the discretion of the board.

A grant application has been developed for use in applying for funding through this grant. Completed grant requests will be accepted starting on Friday, March 9, through Friday, April 13. The review and decision of grants awarded will be decided by the WCVEDG board and the winners communicated.

To receive a grant application form

and an "Eligibility and Exclusions" information sheet, contact Sheryll Bates at 541-676-5536, or email to [heppnerchamber@centurytel.net](mailto:heppnerchamber@centurytel.net). Forms may also be picked up at Heppner, Ione and Lexington city hall offices. All completed grant applications will need to be forwarded to Sheryll at the Chamber office. Grants can be emailed, mailed, hand delivered or faxed to 541-676-5656, but must be received in the Chamber office no later than Friday, April 13 to be eligible for consideration in the grant review and decision process.

## St. Pat's Parish plans potato soup supper during St. Patrick's celebration

Everyone is invited to enjoy the fellowship and homemade Irish Potato Soup (with bacon) made by St. Patrick's Altar Society on Friday evening, March 16, at St. Patrick's Church during Heppner's Wee Bit O'Ireland Celebration.

The meal also includes a potato roll, a slice of homemade pie and a beverage.

Since this is a Lenten Friday, the bishop of the church's diocese granted a special dispensation for Catholics to consume the potato soup with bacon on that day.

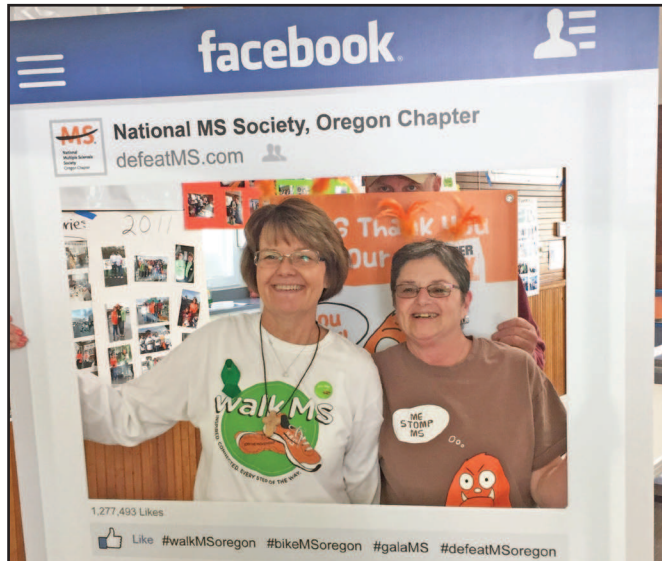


Maya Payne (far right) serves homemade Irish potato soup to eagerly awaiting (left to right) Addison Coe, Isabel Payne and Jayden Macias at St. Patrick's Parish. Photo by Kay Proctor

Prices are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children age 10 and under. Dinner will be

served from 4-8 p.m. at the parish hall behind the church at 525 Gale St.

## Together We Are Stronger



Merilee McDowell (L) and Barb Orwick, Contributed photo

Eastern Oregon Walk MS, headed up by Merilee McDowell and Barb Orwick, both of Heppner, has been held in Heppner for the past 20 years. After such a long stint as chairpersons of the event, Merilee and Barb have decided to pass the torch to Emily Nash, formerly of Pendleton and now of LaGrande. Emily also has MS.

They are asking everyone to join the Eastern Oregon Walk MS on Saturday, April 21, beginning at 10 a.m. at Roy Raley Park, 1205 S.W. Court Ave. in Pendleton. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. with the walk getting underway at 10 a.m. Pre-register on the web at [walkms.org](http://walkms.org) or contact Tracy Leeper, NMSS Walk Manager, at 503-445-8342, [tracy.leeper@nmss.org](mailto:tracy.leeper@nmss.org). If you are unable to attend the day of the scheduled walk, you can still help the cause by registering as a VIRTUAL WALKER and turn in funds raised to All Saints Episcopal church.

Merilee and Barb have arranged for a bus to travel from Heppner to the walk in Pendleton. The bus will leave at 7:30 a.m. that day from All Saints Episcopal Church, 140 Church St. in

Heppner, and will return at 2 p.m. from Roy Raley Park. The park is located at 1205 S.W. Court Ave. in Pendleton. One-mile and three-mile routes from the park have been planned. The route is online.

People who would like to walk with the All Saints Hope for a Cure Team at the Pendleton walk should contact, Team Captain, Merilee McDowell, 541-571-5853, or they may sign up on line.

Anyone who is unable to participate in Pendleton, but who would still like to be a part of EO Walk MS activity may also call Sharon Inskip of Heppner at Pettyjohn's in Heppner, 541-676-9157, or email her at [skiboxL@yahoo.com](mailto:skiboxL@yahoo.com).

"The hope is to have as much support for them as we have had in Heppner," said Merilee. Donations still go to the NMSS Society, which is the same as in the past. The funds raised, help those with MS & their families and further research. "Together we've become a powerful force. With every step we take, we're that much closer to ending MS forever. "Together We Are Stronger," said Merilee.

## Local scholarships now open

The South Morrow County Scholarship Committee will accept scholarship applications from March 1 through April 5 by 4 p.m. In Heppner, they may be turned into Ginger Bowman at Heppner High School and in Ione, Cathy McCabe at Ione High School or a counselor.

Criteria for a South Morrow County Scholarship is as follows: the committee will award scholarships to a college-bound Heppner High School or Ione High School Senior based on academic achievement, community involvement and financial need. Students must be continuing their education at a community college, trade

school, or four-year college or university. Applications will be accepted and awarded by the South Morrow County Scholarship Inc., Board of Directors using their "common local scholarship application" and must include a transcript and principal/counselor evaluation form.

The South Morrow County Scholarship Trust Committee, on behalf of the Del LaRue family, will accept scholarship applications from March 1 through April 5 at 4 p.m. Completed applications may be turned into Cathy McCabe.

The Coach Del LaRue Scholarship criteria is as follows: the Coach Del

LaRue Scholarship was developed in memory of Del LaRue, a long-time teacher and coach at Ione High School. LaRue had a passion for coaching basketball and track and loved seeing students set and achieve their goals. After retiring from teaching, he continued to coach track for 12 additional years. During this time he helped many student athletes achieve their goals and was honored as national Track Coach of the Year.

This fund awards one \$1,000 scholarship to a college-bound Ione High School senior based on demonstrated academic achievement and community involvement, with pref-

erence given to students who have participated in the Ione High School track program.

Students must be continuing their education at a community college, trade school, or four-year college or university. Applicants must have a minimum 3.0 accumulated GPA, have attended Ione High School all four years of high school and shown involvement in community activities.

Applications will be accepted and awarded by the South Morrow County Scholarship Inc. Board of Directors using their common local scholarship application and must include a transcript.

## Student writers' workshop open to young authors

Writers in grades three through 12 are invited to register for the annual Student Writers' Workshop (SWW) March 10 at Eastern Oregon University.

The SWW invites young writers, alongside their teachers and parents, to participate in a Saturday of workshops to produce various kinds of writing. When workshops wrap up at about 3 p.m., participants can share their writing in an open mic session. Young writers can then choose to revise and submit their work for inclusion in an anthology.

Registration is open now and costs \$30 for each student. The fee covers the opening session, workshops and lunch in the EOU cafeteria. Teachers and chaperones attend for free. Continuing

professional development units and graduate credit are available for teachers. Since 1992, the Student Writers' Workshop has served over 3,650 students at EOU, about 150 attendees each year. Attendees expand their experience with creative writing, work alongside students and teachers for whom writing is a passion, and learn to see themselves as published writers through contributing to an anthology.

Support for this event comes from Eastern Oregon University and Soroptimist International of La Grande.

For more information or to register, visit [eou.edu/engwrite/student-writers-workshop](http://eou.edu/engwrite/student-writers-workshop) or contact Nancy Knowles at 541-962-3795 or [nknowles@eou.edu](mailto:nknowles@eou.edu).

## FFA receives grant

Riverside Jr/Sr High School is a winner of the Grow Communities program. Morrow County farmer Joe Taylor directed a \$2,500 grant to Riverside's FFA program as part of the America's Farmers Grow Communities program, sponsored by the Monsanto Fund.

As part of their mission, Riverside FFA will use the funds to attend the Oregon State FFA Convention as well as upcoming FFA competitions. "We would like to thank Joe Taylor for this donation to

our program. We are in the second year of our FFA program at Riverside and these funds will be a tremendous help in continuing to build the program," said David Norton, Riverside principal.

Each year, the Grow Communities program, which is sponsored by the Monsanto Fund, provides farmers the opportunity to support nonprofit organizations important to them in their local communities by enrolling for a chance to direct a \$2,500 donation to a nonprofit of their choice. The program

## CHAMBER UPDATE

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running all over north to south," he told the chamber.

Wolff also reported on the updating the co-op is completing with the substations in its service district, saying that the lines around the coverage area "are in pretty good shape. Now its time to work on the substations." He said the one at Fossil was first to be replaced as it was 56 years old, so sold the co-op was not even able to buy insurance on it. The cost was \$400,000. Next up would be Sandhollow, Wolff said, and it would be \$550,000. After that would be Olex and then the Ruggs to Ione substation, which would also help Heppner by adding redundancy to that power loop.

He said the co-op has also purchased a \$600,000 portable substation that can be moved in quickly in the event a fixed substation goes down, which would allow the co-op to get that area up and running fairly

quickly. He said there is a back-log of substations from the manufacturers, and it now can take up to two years to get a new replacement substation.

Wolff also talked about the new irrigation pipeline installed down Willow Creek to Lexington. The project has been ramrodded by Heppner rancher Brian Thompson and will save irrigators along the creek quite a bit of money in irrigation pump costs. Wolff said once completed there will be 15 pumps coming out of the creek and three out of deep irrigation wells along the eight-mile stretch of pipe, which, he says, in order to maintain pressure starts at 37 inches diameter and then drops to 23 inches when it gets to Lexington. The co-op also laid some underground conduit in the trench from the mill site to the Heppner golf course. He said the co-op will have use of the conduit for some future use.

## Class on "Love and Respect" scheduled

A 10-week class on love and respect, entitled "The Love She Most Desires and the Respect He Desperately Needs" will be held at the Heppner Christian Church, 290 Gale St., starting Sunday, March 18, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

The class will in-

clude videos, a book and supportive interaction. Cost is \$10 for the book. Child care will be provided. Those needing child care are asked to sign up prior to the class to ensure that there is enough help.

For more information, call Ray, 831-578-6451

Please Join Us For a Birthday Celebration In Honor Of

**Rita Rose Bowman**  
"Nana"

Sat., March 10, 2018  
At 4:00 PM  
at Heppner Elks Club

**90!**

A light meal will be served.  
The presence or your company is the only gift required

YOU'RE INVITED...

**Columbia River Pharmacy**  
**OPEN HOUSE**

Join us as we celebrate the Grand opening of our new pharmacy in Boardman part of Columbia River Health!  
Bring your family and friends for food, drinks, raffles, and special prizes

**Saturday April, 7th, 2018**  
**10:00 am - 5:00 pm**

**220 S. Main St. Boardman, OR. 97818**

Visit us at [www.crhhs.net](http://www.crhhs.net) and follow us on Facebook and Instagram

**Columbia River Health**  
Improving the quality of life for all people in our community.

has given more than \$29 million to farming communities since its inception, including more than \$3 million in 2018. The recipient organizations reflect the makeup and character of rural America, including emergency response organizations, schools, youth agriculture programs, food banks and many others.

"Farmers play a pivotal role in rural communities, and through their commitment to the Grow Communities program, we are able to provide the mon-

etary support these nonprofit organizations need to make an impact," said Al Mitchell, Monsanto Fund president. "We're proud to play a part in helping these rural communities grow and thrive."

To see if a nonprofit in your local community is a 2018 America's Farmers Grow Communities recipient, visit [www.GrowCommunities.com](http://www.GrowCommunities.com). You can also learn more about the Grow Communities program by checking out [Facebook.com/AmericasFarmers](https://www.facebook.com/AmericasFarmers).

**VALBY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**VALBY ROAD**  
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**CHURCH SERVICES 1ST & 3RD SUNDAYS 10:00 AM**

AVAILABLE FOR:  
**WEDDINGS ♦ FUNERALS**  
**FAMILY EVENTS**

**OLD COUNTRY CHURCH ALL ARE WELCOME**