

## Street games to be held before parade

Several street relay games will be held on Saturday, Mar. 16 on Main St. while waiting for the Great Green Parade to begin. Registration forms may be downloaded and printed from the Heppner Chamber website at [www.heppner-chamber.com](http://www.heppner-chamber.com) under the Wee Bit O' Ireland heading or picked up at the chamber or city of Heppner offices.

One race to be offered is the O'Planky Team relay race where the teams race on a course beginning at the Shamrock while walking on a plank. All team members that start must arrive at the

finish line. It is permissible for all players to step off the plank to turn around and return to the Shamrock. O'Planky racers are asked to meet at the barricade between Heppner Market Fresh and the senior center at 11:30 a.m. to compete.

The Welly Toss will be held on Willow Street between Murray's Drug and the Artisan Village from 10 a.m. to noon for teams and from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for individuals.

Winners of the street games will be announced during the parade and all are encouraged to participate.

## Flood insurance seminar scheduled

A seminar on the latest reforms to the National Flood Insurance Program is scheduled for March 28 in Eugene. The program is for insurance agents who wish to learn key elements about the National Flood Insurance Program, NIFIP. It is a free seminar, but seating is limited.

Flood insurance is important to property owners in this area as a large portion of South Morrow County lies within the flood plain.

## Community breakfast scheduled

The Heppner United Methodist Church will hold a free community breakfast on Mar. 10 from 8 to 10 a.m. in the church basement. Guests are invited to create their own omelet in a bag.

Any free will offerings in the month of March will go toward building a house in Kenya.

## St. Pat's buttons now for sale

Collector's buttons for the 37th annual Wee Bit o' Ireland celebration are now available for purchase at the Heppner Chamber, Heppner City Hall and Murray's Drug for \$3 each. Each button purchased qualifies for a chance to win a \$100 prize drawn Saturday evening, Mar. 16 at the Tiller's Folly entertainment event at St. Patrick's Parish Hall. Koozies will also be avail-



able for sale for \$3 each. All funds raised go to the St. Patrick's committee.

## Prayer team to meet

The Heppner prayer team will meet Wednesday, March 13 and 20 at 5:30 p.m. at the SDA Church on Minor Street.

The topic for March 13 will be "The Early and Later Rain" and the community prayer focus will be our local volunteer fire fighters.

The topic on March 20 will be "Prayer and Rejoicing" and the community focus will be Heppner and Ione Elementary schools.

For additional information or to submit prayer requests contact the prayer team at [heppnerprayer-team@gmail.com](mailto:heppnerprayer-team@gmail.com).

## Petition started in support of Dr. Wenberg

By David Sykes

A petition drive has been started to urge the Morrow County Health District to retain Dr. Wenberg as an Emergency Room doctor. The petition is in response to the doctor's recent guilty plea to one count of Federal tax evasion. Pat Walker of Heppner is urging people (see this week's letters to the editor) to sign the petition in support of Wenberg. "At some time or another, all of us have made errors in judgement, possibly there were misdeeds, but be they small or large, what we would want is that chance to make things right. Please give Doctor Wenberg that chance," Walker wrote in her letter. "He is a caring, decent man. I am signing the petition and urge all of you to do the same thing," she added.

Wenberg pled guilty Feb. 12, after which Morrow County Health District CEO Bob Houser issued a statement which said in part: "Currently Dr. Wenberg has a medical license to practice in the state of Oregon. If that changes either before or after sentencing, the district would then

have to deal with the effects of that decision. Currently the district is considering its options in this matter." Wenberg has worked for the health district for over 30 years.

Walker did not say in her letter where the petitions would be available to sign, however, she did mail one to the Heppner Gazette-Times and it said signers support the retaining of Dr. Wenberg at Pioneer Memorial Hospital and that Wenberg has "good character while providing excellent medical services to our small community." The petition also asked that he be treated with leniency in "any proceedings regarding the resolutions of his legal issues with our government."

Wenberg faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison, a \$250,000 fine and three years of supervised release. He will be sentenced on June 6 before a U.S. District Court Judge. As part of the plea agreement, Wenberg has agreed to pay restitution to the IRS in the full amount of the tax loss as determined by the court after sentencing.

## 2019 Welly Toss scheduled

The "2019 Boots in the Air" Welly Toss event will be held Saturday, Mar. 16 beginning at 10 a.m. on Willow Street between Murray's Drug and the Artisan Village. Team play will be from 10 a.m. until 12 noon and individual play from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Teams are asked to return registration forms to the chamber office by Monday, Mar. 11. There is no charge for the event for

teams or individuals. Individual age brackets are two to 12, 13 to 17 and adults 18 and over.

All kids will receive a gold coin for playing and there will be a prize for the top man, woman and youth brackets. The number one team will receive a prize plus get their name engraved on the traveling boot award that is currently on display at the chamber office.

## 2019 Wee Bit O' Ireland Schedule of Events

### Thursday, March 14, 2018

9:30 AM-5:30 PM: Vendors Square at the Neighborhood Center on Main Street across from City Park.  
7:00 PM: "The Tale of Two Lives" Play performance at St. Patrick's Catholic Parish Hall, 560 NW Jones. Play written by Father Condon, with original music. Free Admission

### Friday, March 15, 2018

9:00 AM-5:00 PM: Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale at City Hall.  
9:30 AM-5:30 PM: Vendors Square at the Neighborhood Center across from City Park.  
10:00 AM-5:00 PM: Morrow County Creative Arts & Crafts Show in the front room of the Senior Center on Main St.  
1:00-5:00 PM: Morrow County Heritage and Agricultural Museums  
4:00-7:00 PM: Irish Dinner: at St. Patrick's Parish Hall, 560 NW Jones: sponsored by St. Patrick's Altar Society. Irish Potato Soup, Rolls, Homemade Dessert and Beverage, \$8 for adults, \$5 for children 10 and under.  
6:00 PM: 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament at Heppner High School Gym. Sponsored by Boys Basketball Program.  
8:00 PM-12:00 AM: Murray's Irish Beer and Wine Fest, featuring Dan Burns 3D Productions at Mo. Co. Fairgrounds. Food by Breaking Grounds; \$5 cover charge (all ages)

### Saturday, March 16, 2018

Daylight to Dark: Sheep Dog Trials are cancelled due to weather conditions.  
8:00 AM-1:00 PM: Saturday O' Brunch at St. Patrick's Senior Center Dining Room. Serving Pancakes, eggs, bacon and sausage with juice and coffee. \$8 adults \$5 for ages 5 to 11, under 4 is free. Sponsored by Heppner Christian Church and a fundraiser for their local benevolence fund.  
8:30 AM-4:00 PM: Morrow County Creative Arts & Crafts in the front room of the Senior Center on Main St.  
9:00 AM-3:00 PM: Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale: at City Hall.  
9:30 AM-5:30 PM: Vendors Square at the Neighborhood Center across from City Park.  
9:30 AM: Remembrance Walk and 5K Run Meet at United Methodist Church; 183 W Church St. social hour/ registration begins at 8:30 AM.  
10:00 AM: Registration for St Pat's Polar Plunge: at Willow Creek Dam \$20 entry. Plunge at 11:00 AM. Register early at [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com), fundraiser for FuzzBall Pet Rescue.  
10:00-11:30 AM: Irish Coffee Hour upstairs at the Elks Club. Enter the Irish Brogue Contest and win cash prizes.  
10:00 AM-12:30 PM: Welly Toss Held on Willow Street; Team Toss 10-12:30; Children's and Individual Toss from 10:30-12:30.  
10:00 AM-3:00 PM: Basket Raffle in front of the Elks Lodge, fundraiser for "Critters with Attitude".  
10:00 AM-3:00 PM: Cruz-In vehicles will be parked and displayed on Willow Street between Heppner Family Foods and St. Patrick's Senior Center. Entry Registration starts at 9:00 AM.  
10:00 AM: "Corn-Hole Tournament" Teams of 2 & singles tournament.  
In front of BEO. Free Entry Children's games, cotton candy for sale. Sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.  
10:00 AM-3:00 PM: Gold Nugget Treasure Hunt on Main Street between (Baltimore and May St) Look for a "Gold Nugget" with a number on it and take it to the information booth to claim your prize. Limit one per family please! Sponsored by Morrow County Veteran's Services.  
10:00 AM-5:00 PM: Morrow County Heritage and Agricultural Museums  
11:00 AM-2:00 PM: Wranglers BBQ Raffle Fundraiser for Wranglers Riding Club. In front of Peterson's Jewelers.  
11:00-2:00 PM: Irish Goodies & Gear in front of Home Health & Hospice. Fundraiser for Hospice.  
11:15 AM: Leprechaun Run for grades K-6; meet at 11:00 AM in front of the library/museum. Free Entry  
11:30 AM: Bed Race Teams meet at 11:15 near the Cruz-In. Race starts immediately after the Leprechaun Run. Free Entry  
11:30-12:55 PM: O'Planky Team Relay Race Teams meet near the Cruz-in at 11:30. Race starts immediately following Bed Race. Free Entry  
1:00-4:00 PM: Neighborhood Center Bag Sale clothes, shoes, & books. First bag \$15, additional bags are \$10 each. Proceeds help fund the food pantry.  
1:00 PM: THE GREAT GREEN PARADE! DOWNTOWN MAIN STREET! DON'T FORGET TO WEAR GREEN!!  
1:30-5:30 PM: Bouncin' Leprechauns Fun Zone at HES Gym Mountain climbing, bungee run, slides, bouncy house and obstacle course. This event is free for all Preschool through High School aged kids due to funding provided by Morrow County Unified Recreation District and organized and coordinated by Heppner Day Care. Water and snacks available for purchase.  
2:00 PM: Ewe-Do-Bingo Live sheep activity between BEO/AmeriTitle. Sponsored by HHS Girls Basketball; \$5 per square, for a \$300 prize. Bingo squares sold until full or at 2:00 p.m.  
2:00-4:00 PM: CEILI Irish entertainment, upstairs at the Elks Club. Drawing for \$100 Pot O'Gold  
3:00 PM: O'Ducky Race Starts at the bridge in front of the Morrow County Courthouse. Adopt a duck to win prizes from \$10 to \$100. Ducks can be "adopted" at the table in front of Bucknum's. Sponsored by the Colt Football Program.  
6:00-7:20 PM: Local Talent Show at St. Patrick's Parish Hall. Free Admission  
6:00-8:00 PM: Elks Irish Buffet Dinner at the Elks Club. Corned Beef & Cabbage. Entertainment "Wicked Mary" from 9:00 PM to 2:00 AM.  
6:30 PM: "Old Time Fiddlers" Show at the Fairgrounds Dance Hall. Free Admission funded by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District.  
7:30-9:30 PM: "Tillers Folly" at St. Patrick's Parish Hall. Free Admission funded by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District. Dessert by St. Patrick's Altar Society. Drawing for \$100 Pot O'Gold  
9:00 PM-3:00 AM: Wee Hours O'Benefit Breakfast served at the Old Fire Hall/Public Works Building on Willow Street. \$7 per plate; Biscuits & Gravy, Hash browns and Eggs.

### Sunday, March 17, 2018

All Day: Sheep Dog Trials are cancelled due to weather conditions.  
8:00 AM-12:00 PM: Vendors Square at the Neighborhood Center across from City Park.  
Visit Local Churches: Attend the church of your choice. All Visitors Welcome.  
1:00 PM: Road Bowling at Balm Fork Road. Sign up a team of up to four people. Meet at 12:45 PM.  
Park on Balm Fork Road. Sign up at information booth. Teams are limited to 20. \$20.00 for a team of 4.

**Community-Wide Salute to Veterans Dinner**

**Friday March 29th at Stokes Landing - Irrigon Sr. Center**

Doors open at 5pm - Purchase tickets at Boardman & Irrigon City Halls or BEO  
Hosted by Irrigon Sr. Center, Morrow Co Veterans Services & OR Dept of Veterans Affairs

**Goal Setting Meeting**

There will be a goal setting meeting for the Town of Lexington at the Lexington Town Hall on March 7th at 7:00pm. All citizens are welcome and encouraged to attend.

*Come help us Make Lexington Great Again!*

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

**Back By Popular Demand**

**BEER & WINE Fest**

St. Patrick's Weekend  
March 15 8pm - 12am  
MC Fairgrounds  
Dan Burns is coming back!

*Save the Date*

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