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# A View from the Hill 4-H Ambassadors visit Willow Creek Terrace

By Doris Brosnan

Dancing in the street, an Irish jig, hoots and hollers. Will any, or all, of these forms of jubilation be evident soon at the Willow Creek Terrace? The residents and staff join the multitudes in the community who have never been so eager for signs of green where now blankets of snow maintain a winter landscape. Though they view the accumulation of winter precipitation as a welcome change to the again-drought-threatened region, they will be happy to see green grass again.

Surely, March will bring some long-awaited springtime features. One such yearly event was Carolyn Hall's birthday on the 5<sup>th</sup>. Happy to celebrate another birthday, Carolyn shared her favorite luncheon meal with others amid some festive decorations that also celebrated Mardi Gras.

Later in the week, last Friday, the new Morrow County 4-H Ambassadors came to the Terrace for lunch and visiting. Joe O'Brien, Quinton Orr, Jake Heideman, Stephenie Wendler, Cody Fletcher and Amelia Baker used their visit for training in their public-speaking abilities and then enjoyed casual conversations with residents at the dining tables.

That was the day that a new resident moved to the Terrace. Most everyone was already acquainted with June Crowell, a long-time citizen from Ione. June was welcomed just days after another new resident. Bev Wright, another familiar face, was welcomed to the community on the hill in February. Their perspectives and ideas will be nice additions.

Everyone was extremely saddened when Gladys Van Winkle moved from the Terrace, but they are cheered by the fact that Gladys is only a hop, skip and jump away. She now resides at Pioneer Memorial Hospital and she still thoroughly enjoys visiting with friends.

Gladys may be among the fans who will welcome the opening day of the professional baseball season on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Two weeks before that, on this Thursday, the birthday of the ubiquitous baseball cap will be acknowledged, with residents and staff encouraged to don the caps of favorite teams or caps with logos of companies or products.

This week brings the Wee Bit O' Ireland celebration to Heppner, so residents

watch daily weather reports and reports on the conditions of streets and walkways. If conditions improve, some residents plan to attend Fr. Gerry Condon's drama that will kick off the St. Pat's activities. And depending on the weather, some residents plan to take in the Big Green Parade and the Main Street competitions.

When spring officially arrives next week, thoughts of plants, flowers and produce will surface during discussions. Residents are encouraged to suggest their favorites for the raised flowerbeds behind the Terrace, the beds in the large front yard space and the enclosed vegetable-garden space in the back. Some of the recent strong winds tossed some of the furniture from the front yard, causing some damage, but everyone still looks forward to the warmer days that will invite them to relax there.

While waiting for outdoor weather, everyone has had indoor options to consider. The jigsaw-puzzle table is a great place to spend some free time. The book club continues to entice. The weekly crossword puzzle remains a challenge. Bingo still offers some tense moments and rewards. The National Honor Society members from HHS continue to bring something different to the Friday afternoon activity once a month. At their own



Morrow County 4-H Ambassadors visited Willow Creek Terrace last Friday, helping serve lunch and visiting with the residents. "It is a special thing to be a part of," said 4-H agent Erin Heideman. "George Nairns, director at WCT, is welcoming and gracious, making it a great experience for the ambassadors to work on their conversational and presentation skills." The ambassadors will meet at the senior center in Ukiah in May.

suggestion, siblings Gracie (13) and Sam (9) Smith continue - as they have for several months - their Tuesday morning visits with residents who want to share time over an activity with them.

As promises of warmer weather and less snow are heard in the halls, the residents and staff continue their toasty-warm activities and thank the many volunteers who have taken care of their outdoor surroundings during these challenging days. When administrator George Nairns sent out a plea for help with the shoveling of the parking and walk areas, the response was heart-warming. Darrell Green, Keith and Angie Hanson, Jeff Bailey, Jerry Baker, Ryan Miller, Adam Bergstrom, Jodi Ferguson and Jacob Wallace came to help. Coming more than the

one time were Bob Nairns, Eric Chick, Reno Ferguson and the nice neighbor lady and her children. Seth Moses offered a quick response to a call for removal of ice dams that had formed in areas of the roof. A huge thanks goes out to these individuals who helped to keep the area accessible and safe.

During the challenging times, not one staff member missed work, although they sometimes needed rides to and from the Terrace. Once, the timely passing of Sheriff's Deputy Jerry Roberts resulted in a ride home for one of the staff members. Everyone has been impressed with the dedication of many people and view these as memory-building days, whether they be the present snowy, cold ones or the warmer ones just around the corner.

## Youth summer jobs available



The Heppner Ranger District is recruiting four students between the ages of 15 and 18 for summer employment in the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC). Work can include noxious weed removal, fence removal and construction, trail maintenance, meadow restoration, campground maintenance, slash piling, removal of tubing from tree seedlings and fire line construction around logged units on the Heppner Ranger District.

The program will last eight weeks and will begin June 17. Youth are paid the Oregon minimum wage rate of \$10.50 per hour (effective July 1, 2019, the wage rate will increase to \$11 per hour). No previous experience is required.

To apply, all interested candidates must complete and submit a signed application. Hardcopy applications can be picked up at Forest Service offices in Heppner and Pendleton and at local high schools. Additionally, the application is available online at <https://www.fs.fed.us/sites/default/>

files/ycc-application-english-v2-exp-1-31-2020.pdf. Applications will be accepted beginning March 15 until 2 p.m. on April 15. Completed applications can be emailed to [rebecca.weseman@usda.gov](mailto:rebecca.weseman@usda.gov) or turned in to the Heppner Ranger District office via mail or hand delivery.

Applicants must be at least 15 years old on the selection date of April 15 and not reach the age of 19 during the term of employment in the program, have a social security number, or have made application to obtain one and obtain parental or legal guardian consent to enroll in the program.

Selections will be made based on a review of applications. All applicants will be notified by mail of their selection status no later than April 22.

For more information about the YCC program, please contact the Heppner Ranger District at 541-676-9187. For more information about the Umatilla National Forest please visit [www.fs.usda.gov/umatilla/](http://www.fs.usda.gov/umatilla/).

## Community lunch menu

Nazarene/Christian volunteers will serve lunch on Wednesday, March 20 at St. Patrick's Senior Center. Lunch will be smoked salmon frittata, potatoes O'Brien, mixed vegetables, sliced tomatoes and hot rolls.

Milk is served at each meal. Suggested donation is \$3.50 per meal. Menu is subject to change.



## MARCH is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

With an emphasis on screening and prevention, the colorectal cancer survival rate has increased in the last 20 years. It's also important that you be aware of the symptoms of the disease and share what you're experiencing with a healthcare professional. Don't feel embarrassed. Your life may depend on it and your loved ones will be so happy you spoke up!

Join us at these locations for refreshments and an informative discussion about colorectal cancer, plus instruction on how to use an at-home screening kit

Irrigon Medical Clinic  
March 14 / 4p - 6p

Pioneer Memorial Clinic, Heppner  
March 14 / 2p - 4p

Ione Community Clinic, Ione  
March 14 / 11a - 1p



Have Questions?  
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