

TSA competes in winter competition



Pictured front: Trevor Nichols, Madison Palmer, Saul Lopez, Jacob Haugen, Roen Waite, Aden Lathrop and Dailen Shultz. Back: Cody Fletcher, Joe Sherman, Jacob Finch, Daemon Worden, Ty Boor, Cameron Proudfoot, Jaime Cavan-Harris, Serena Humphreys, Karver Wilkins and Thomas Bales. Not pictured: Hanna Finch and Advisor Dave Fowler. -Contributed photo.

The Heppner High School Technology Student Association (TSA) Chapter recently competed in the Oregon TSA Winter Competition at BMCC in Boardman.

Architectural Design involved researching, designing and building a model for a lodge to house National Park Rangers. Out of 13 entries, the first place team was Madison Palmer, Jacob Finch and Daemon Worden; second place team

was Ty Boor and Cameron Proudfoot, third place team: Trevor Nichols, Joe Sherman and Cody Fletcher.

CAD 3D was creating detailed computer aided drawings of mechanical parts. Third place: Roen Waite. Promotional Design was producing graphic marketing projects to promote a business. Second place: Serena Humphreys.

A spokesperson told the Gazette, "Everyone did

a great job representing Heppner. Our next competition is the state conference in April." The state contest will include VEX Robotics, Technology Problem Solving, Dragster Design and Fashion Design and Technology. In May there will be a Virtual event for the Technology Bowl. Four Heppner students will be attending the National TSA Conference in June located in Dallas, TX.

Quilt sale to benefit impoverished Kenyans

Quilt sale Saturday, March 12, Heppner United Methodist Church

By April Hilton-Sykes

"How can we help a broken world to be made whole? Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Movement, in the late 1700's."

And that is exactly what Cara Osmin, with the help of the Heppner United Methodist Church and the people of Heppner and Morrow County, are going to do this July. She, "along with the Heppner United Methodist Church's pastor, Rev. Jim Monroe, and nine others are going to a small, impoverished rural village in Northern Kenya, planning to do all the good she can in two weeks and change the lives of a lot of people."

"How?" asks Pastor Monroe. This is what he said:

"1. In one week, with Cara's help, a new home will be built for a family of orphaned children, giving them and a vetted elder guardian housing, education, medical care and a place to live made of wood - rather than made of cardboard and plastic wrap. Neither plumbing nor electricity are possible in such an isolated area, but the home will be turnkey ready in four days.

2.Help provide relief for up to 2,000 children from hookworms, roundworms, ringworms, tapeworms and other internal parasites for six months (when another team will visit those same children's schools and repeat the treatment - one simple tablet per child).

3.Provide support for a mission hospital of 250 beds that serves almost one million people. This will involve painting wards, helping with hospital construction projects, and simply visiting patients and giving words of encouragement and hope.

4.Spending a day with medical staff from the hos-



Cara Osmin shows one of the quilts she has made.

pital as they go to an isolated rural village and see up to 1000 people, some of whom have never seen a doctor or nurse (or probably even an American) and need medical care, ranging from HIV testing and medication to treatment for malaria. She may also help distribute reading glasses. These will be men, women and children who cannot afford a trip to the hospital.

5.Work with children in a high mountain village who live in an orphanage. Some are old enough to go to school, but some are just a few months old and need as much cuddling as they can get. Plus, she will probably paint a room or two.

6.And if all that is not enough, Cara will visit a variety of small, isolated schools and deliver school supplies, a soccer ball or two, and let the children of Kenya know they have friends and people who care half a world away.

"In a world currently savaged by war and armed conflicts, it will be several weeks of doing all the good she can in all the ways she can to as many people as she can. You can bet that when she comes back home, the lives she touched in Kenya will know there is a place called Heppner and Morrow County; a place where people care.

Like any such effort, funds are needed to help make these good things happen. Cara, and every other team member, is covering her own personal expenses. But the costs of the various projects and making them happen are raised through fundraising activities," says Pastor Monroe.

"If you want to help make a difference in the lives of children and those who care for them in an oft forgotten corner of the world, here is what you can do:

Saturday, March 12, at the Heppner United Methodist Church, the quilt sale will start at 8 a.m. "Cara Osmin is an accomplished

quilter and is selling quilts to fund the projects listed above. Come, buy a quilt, and be a part of the good that is going to happen in Kenya in July," says Pastor Monroe.

"Sunday, April 3, at 12 noon, also at the Heppner United Methodist Church, Stanley Gitari, the Kenyan coordinator of most of the projects noted above, and a senior staff member of the Maua Methodist Hospital in Kenya, will be in town to share about the hospital, the projects and the difference they have made over the years in the lives of those he serves."

"Stanley Gitari is a graduate of the hospital's nursing school, as well as a distinguished alumni of Oklahoma City University where he received his BA in nursing. He also has a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Ghana. Passing up lucrative job offers in both the US and in Nairobi, Mr. Gitari has spent his career life serving the people of his home area. When once asked why he didn't opt for making a whole lot more money than a rural, mission hospital can pay, Mr. Gitari answered, 'How could I face myself each day if I did not do what was right for my neighbors and friends.'"

"So, again in a world where we daily see the bombings and ruins of war, help make a difference for the good. Come March 12 and April 3 and see what you can do to create a world for the better."

"And if you are unable to attend either event, but still want to help change lives, then a check can be made out to The Heppner United Methodist Church, with the notation at the bottom "Kenya Team Fund", and mailed to: The Heppner United Methodist Church, PO Box 733, Heppner, OR 97836.

"All such gifts are tax deductible, but, more importantly, they help build a better world," concluded Pastor Monroe.

County allocates \$100,000 for Mormon Cricket control

By David Sykes

County Commissioners last week allocated \$100,000, if needed, for control of a Mormon Cricket infestation currently advancing toward Morrow County from the west.

Extension Agent Larry Lutchter requested the funds saying the money would be spent on chemical spraying and maybe some bait. "I come with hat in hand for financial support," Lutchter told the commissioners in requesting the funds. To be ready he asked that he and Gilliam County Agent Jordan Maley be able to "pull the trigger" when funds are needed to begin spraying. "Funds will be used for the cost of chemicals and application and maybe some bait as well. Everything needs to be ready to go," Lutchter said. The money would be enough to treat up to 10,000 acres he said.

The spraying and treatment will be done inside Morrow County if needed to try and contain a cricket infestation that Gilliam County has been fighting for years now. The crickets have been slowly advancing eastward and when the weather warms up eggs will start hatching and the two agents will then be able to see how much they are into Morrow County and where spraying would be needed. The crickets must be sprayed when young for the spray to be effective. When the crickets age then the Dimilin spray is no longer effective, and they must switch to the less effective Sevin bait.

Morrow County has a multi-million-dollar agricultural industry to protect from the potential destruction from the insects, which will feed on range land vegetation as well as cultivated crops. The crickets could be especially damaging if they migrate into the irrigated and organic croplands of northern Morrow County but can be a threat anywhere.

Morrow County has a couple of large landowners where the crickets could become a problem. The Nature Conservancy has about 350 acres in the county and the US Navy operates the 48,000-acre bombing range here. Lutchter says he has approached both about possible cricket control on these large parcels. Lutchter says he has "opened dis-



County Commissioners last week voted unanimously for cricket control funding

cussion to both the Navy and the Nature Conservancy" and he said they may be open to "some kind of treatment. That's huge and I think you have a shot at getting some cooperation from the Navy as well," he said. He was told to come up with a proposal on control. Lutchter said there may be some people who wonder why, if the cricket problem has been around so long, it has not been brought under control. "Might be some people who think this problem has been around for 6-7 years

and we have been treating them and why hasn't this problem gone away? And that is a concern of mine," he said. "I have been told that once the eggs have been laid they can remain viable in the soil for seven years so some of those eggs may hatch in year one and some in year three," he said of the difficulty of treating the infestation. "I think this would be absolutely reasonable to evaluate this on a year-to-year basis and make sure we are spending our money wisely," he said of the funds allocation.

Mustangs help cheer on other teams at 2A state tournament



G-T intern reporter, Blake Carter (also inset), leads the Union Bobcats students in cheering for their team.

While in Pendleton you often see great basketball games played all weekend long where along with those great teams are great student sections. These student sections show their school pride and cheer their team to victory. Often other schools will join student sections to create a cheering squad that engulfs an entire section of bleachers. Heppner was just one of many

teams that joined that tradition by cheering on Bandon and Union during the girls 2A state tournament.

The Mustangs boys' basketball team helped cheer on the newly crowned 2A girls' basketball state champion, Union Bobcats during both their semifinal and championship games. While at the tournament

Heppner senior Blake Carter was seen leading the signature "roller coaster" routine. Carter imitated all the twists and turns of a roller coaster as the entire section mimicked his movements. Along with Carter were the rest of the Mustangs basketball team, and students from other local schools.

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