

## Friends Helping Friends sponsors shamrock memory walk



Last year's Remembrance Walk participants. -File photo

By Doris Brosnan

Readers are encouraged to mark their calendars for the Shamrock Remembrance Walk sponsored by Friends Helping Friends, which will be returning on Saturday of the St. Patrick's celebration in Heppner.

This will mark the 17th year of this event, originally started to honor a friend, Donna Schonbachler, who lost her battle with cancer. Continuing from that first event, the mission of the group has been to support the area's senior citizens and their health care, supporting their well-being and ability to continue living at home, so that families can be together.

Since that first year, the number of contributors to the effort has grown, and those individuals have had FHF add shamrocks that honor their loved ones who have also passed, so the Shamrock Walk has grown with these personalized shamrocks. Anyone wishing to personalize a

shamrock in a loved one's name can contact Susan Hisler at 541-676-5878. The shamrocks will go up on Friday, March 14, at 10 a.m., and Susan Hisler will welcome help.

All the money raised at the event stays here, at "home," to make a difference. The list of entities that have benefited is long and growing and includes Willow Creek Assisted Living, St. Patrick's Senior Center, South Morrow County Emergency Services, Pioneer Memorial Hospital Emergency Room, Home Health and Hospice, South Morrow County Fire and Ambulance, and numerous individuals in crisis or faced with medically-related expenses.

Friends Helping Friends was organized by a group of five women: Patty Matheny, Susan Hisler, Kathi Dickenson, Peggy Fishburn and Janelle Ellis. New members have continued to add new ideas and enthusiasm: Sandy Mat-

thews, Kirsten Harrison, Shelley McCabe, Mary Haguewood and newest member, Sandra Ward Rice.

On Saturday, March 15, Peggy Fishburn will open the Methodist Church basement doors at 8 a.m. and the social hour will officially begin with tasty treat made by committee members. Registration can begin then at \$5 per person. (Children walking with adults are free.) A commemorative wristband is given to each participant.

The well-marked walk will start at 9:30 at the church, and an individual may choose to walk the entire route or just a section of it. The 5K run will also begin at 9:30.

Individuals who will not be walking are invited to come to the church to visit before participants leave. Donations will be gratefully accepted at the social hour or can be mailed to Kathi Dickenson at Box 566, Heppner 97836.

## Zachary Brown & Landon McMahon crowned district champions



(L-R) Landon McMahon and Zachary Brown. -Contributed photo.

At this year's District Wrestling Championship, Zachary Brown and Landon McMahon of Heppner claimed district titles with impressive performances. Their hard work and dedication through-

out the season paid off as they secured victories.

Additionally, Jaime Cavan qualified for the State Wrestling Tournament, earning the opportunity to compete at the next level.

## Catholic men plan Shrove Tuesday meeting

The men of St. Patrick's and St. William's Catholic parishes will meet on Shrove Tuesday, March 4.

The evening will start with a 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. William's Catholic Church in Ione.

Afterward, a no-host social period, dinner and meeting will follow at the Broken Spoke in Lexington, where space has been reserved.

## Pesticide Test Training

The Morrow County (OSU) Extension Office (54173 HWY 74, Heppner) will offer a six-hour training session for individuals who plan to take ODA's private pesticide applicator test. Three hours of training will take place from 9 AM to noon on Tuesday March 4th. Another three hours of training will occur from 9 AM to noon on Tuesday, March 11th. Participants will get an overall review of relevant topics. There will also be a 150-question practice test. Material covered in the practice test should help with the "real thing." Pesticide (ODA) credits are not offered with this course as it is intended for participants who do not currently have a license. Contact Larry Lutcher (541.969.0580) or Brett Milligan (541.676.9642) with questions. RSVPs appreciated as seating is limited.

## Morrow

### SWCD to meet

Morrow SWCD will meet Tuesday, March 4th beginning at 6pm at the Ag Service Center in Heppner. To join via Zoom or conference call, please contact the SWCD beforehand at 541-676-5452. Meetings of the Morrow SWCD are open to the public.

## Merkley invites folks to join the 2025 Oregon Treasures Quest

Washington, D.C. — Oregon's U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley is thrilled to announce his 2025 Oregon Treasures Quest—a compilation of many beautiful and exciting spots to explore in every county of the state.

«Oregon is the most spectacular place. As I explore our plentiful hiking trails with my family and visit each of our 36 counties every year to hold town hall conversations, I reflect on the rewarding spots in our state. From our stunning and sprawling coast, mountains, forests, grasslands, and everything in between, every nook and cranny of Oregon has something special to offer,» Merkley said.

«We certainly need to keep working hard together to take on complex issues facing Oregon and America, but it's important to take breaks and restore our soul to meet these challenges. I put together the 2025 Oregon Treasures Quest book not only to highlight the beauty and adventures in our state, but also as a fun way to recharge and reconnect. A wonderful way to do that is to hit the road and explore the familiar favorites and

hidden gems in our own backyards.

«It is a great honor to represent the people of Oregon in the U.S. Senate. I hope folks will enjoy visiting every county of the state as much as I have.»

In 2024, hundreds of people participated in Senator Merkley's first Oregon Treasures Quest Challenge. This updated book, now in its second year, will help Oregonians and beyond find and enjoy even more sites.

To participate in the

challenge, folks need to visit at least 10 different counties in the state by November 1, 2025, and submit selfies with the sites in the background. If participants visit sites in at least 10 different counties, they will win an invitation to the 2025 Oregon Treasures Quest Party, to be held near the end of the year, likely mid-November.

Visit the Oregon Treasures Quest website for more information about the challenge and how to submit entries.

## Cursillo gathering March 3

Make a friend, be a friend and bring a friend to Christ.

That's the idea behind the Cursillo meeting planned for Monday, March 3, as members and visitors gather for an evening of fellowship as brothers and sisters in Christ.

The evening will begin at 6 p.m. when the group gathers for a spaghetti dinner at Hopeful Saints Church.

Anyone who is interested or curious about the Cursillo Movement is welcome to join. The meal is provided by the Heppner area 4th Day Group, and there will be plenty for

everyone.

Members will be sharing information about Cursillo and this year's upcoming weekend. Applications will also be available for people who want to work on the team.

Hopeful Saints Church is located at 140 Church Street, Heppner. For further information, contact Diana Sharp, 509-781-1028, or George Nairns, 541-571-6519.

Cursillo is an ecumenical community of faith, love and hope that supports individuals in their search for discovery and renewal in Christ.

## Shrove Tuesday pancake supper March 4

The Hopeful Saints Church in Heppner will hold a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper March 4 from 5-7 p.m. The cost will be \$4 for students, \$5 for adults or \$15 per family.

All proceeds from the pancake supper are used locally to help those in need. Needs may include assistance with heat, gas, electricity, water or medications.

Hopeful Saints Church is located at 460 N. Gale St. in Heppner.

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