

AWANA Club ends year with Grand Prix



Heppner AWANA Commander Dale Bates (back) with AWA-NA Grand Prix speed winners (L-R): Ethan Jepsen (third); Ryder Worden (second) and Lucas Worden (first). -Photo by Andrea Di Salvo



Heppner AWANA Commander Dale Bates (back) with AWA-NA Grand Prix design winners (L-R): Anna Jepsen (third), Germaine Ramos Lopez (second) and Hannah Sumner (first). -Photo by Andrea Di Salvo



Ariana Matzick and Jara Macias take a front seat view as pinewood derby cars fly down the track at the AWANA Grand Prix last Sunday in Heppner. -Photo by Andrea Di Salvo

Heppner AWANA Club concluded its 2024-25 club year with its traditional awards and pinewood derby Grand Prix for members and their families April 6 in Heppner. Fourteen club members, along with leaders, family and friends, packed the house for the event at Heppner's Christian Life Center.

Preschool Cubbie participants were Ethan Jepsen and Ryder Worden. Ethan earned special recognition for finishing his Cubbie Honeycomb book.

Leaders John and Barb Collin handed out awards

to the Sparks members, ages kindergarten through third grade. Receiving recognition for participation were Sparks Adelaide Jepsen, Anna Jepsen, Ariana Matzick, Ashlyn Hendricks, Becca Payton, Jara Macias, Josiah Humphreys, Kinsley Schlaich, Lucas Worden, Marlee Chapa, Mason Stephens, Meadow Walker, Rhyatt Reed, Wesley Brannon and William Brannon.

Receiving book awards and special recognition were Adelaide Jepsen, Anna Jepsen, Ariana Matzick,

Ashlyn Hendricks, Jara Macias, Lucas Worden, Meadow Walker, Marlee Chapa and Mason Stephens.

Anna Jepsen received an award for completing all three Sparks books.

Attendance awards went to Anna Jepsen, Ariana Matzick, Meadow Walker, Adelaide Jepsen and Jara Macias.

Awards for the fourth-through sixth-grade Truth and Training (T&T) members were handed out by leaders Dick and Karen Temple and CJ Archer. Receiving recognition for participation were Aaron Humphreys, Caleb Humphreys, Emmett Bozeman, George Johnson, Germaine Ramos, Hannah Sumner, Ian Macias, Jaxson Nelson, Jaylee Schlaich, Kaiden Martinez, Laurelee Jepsen, Lupe Aguilar and Sofia Di Salvo.

Attendance awards went to George Johnson, Germaine Ramos, Hannah Sumner and Laurelee Jepsen.

Book awards and recognitions went to George Johnson, Germaine Ramos,

Hannah Sumner, Ian Macias, Jaxson Nelson, Kaiden Martinez, Laurelee Jepsen and Sofia Di Salvo.

In the Grand Prix event, Lucas Worden placed first for speed, with brother Ryder Worden taking second and Ethan Jepsen third.

In the design contest, Hannah Sumner took the top spot with her bird complete with feathers. Germaine Ramos Lopez placed second, while Anna Jepsen placed third.

The Heppner AWANA program is the combined effort of local churches to teach children what the Bible is all about. AWANA stands for "Approved Workers Are Not Ashamed," based on II Timothy 2:15. Games, songs and a Bible lesson are included during a typical club meeting. The AWANA program will pick back up in September.

For more information on the Heppner AWANA Club, contact AWANA Heppner secretary Andrea Di Salvo at awana.heppner@gmail.com, 757-285-5792, or via Facebook Messenger.

WCCC Sunday Men's Play

Nineteen participated in Sunday Men's Play at Willow Creek Country Club on April 13. Results are as follows:

Special Events:
 KP 2nd shot 6-15, Dave Pranger; KP #4, Rick Johnston.

Net—1st (tie) Tim Hedman/Kelly Fox, 59; 3rd Terry Snider, 60.

Gross—1st Curt Day, 67; 2nd (tie) Duane Disque/

Barry Munkers, 68.

There is no play next week as we observe Easter. The following week is the Mustang Scramble. Donald Mathews and Joe Armato are in charge of that event.

The next regular Sunday play is scheduled for May 4. Jeff Watkins, Jared Huddleston and Derek Gunderson will be hosting the event.

The Gazette Puzzle Pop

Sharpen your mind with our Gazette Puzzle Pop! Weekly math, word, and local trivia from our five towns—no internet or phones allowed. Answers in next week's edition—grab a pencil and show off!

Number Pattern Puzzle

Level - Expert

Question: Find the next number in the sequence: 1, 2, 7, 34, 103, 104, 623, ...

Wordplay Whiz

Level - Easy

Question: I speak without a mouth and hear without ears. I have no body, but I come alive with the wind. What am I?

Morrow County Trivia Challenge

Level - Moderate

Question 4: What is the highest point in Morrow County, and in which forest is it located?

Answers from April 9nd edition

Number Pattern Puzzle

Answer: 136

Wordplay Riddle

Answer: Cat (becomes Kitten)

Morrow County Trivia

Answer: Samuel H. Boardman

Spring Arrives, Walk Date Set

By Phillip Pacheco

Last year Anne Cross, a Professor of Neurology at Washington University at St. Louis, discovered that people with Multiple Sclerosis may be protected against Alzheimer's Disease.

Cross observed that all her MS patients with suspected cognition issues stopped short of an AD diagnosis. She wondered why.

That's how this recent discovery began. The question remains what genetic and biologic factors protect one from MS or Alzheimer's. Getting to this stage in research takes a long time and plenty of resources.

This spring, the Heppner MS Walk will focus on MS Focus, a non-profit that supports people with MS through home health costs assistance. While donations are being collected, supporters are planning the yearly walk down Main Street to the city park, starting at 10 a.m. on April 26.

Walk organizer Barb Orwick is preparing her fundraising goals for 2025.

"The new discovery will probably not affect me but someday it will directly help those with Alzheimer's," she says.

For most MS patients, she explains, the work to be done is often at home.

"Most people with MS wear braces, use scooters, but there are a lot more electronic support devices out there—but they're costly or out of reach for Eastern Oregonians. MS Focus can bridge the gap."

From Hager Park, supporters will stop by Les Schwab's and Murray's Drug to pick up additional participants before finishing up for a photo shoot at the city park.

Residents can help support MS Focus this month by contacting Barb Orwick at 541-256-0455.

Bring your water bottle and join in for the walk.



Halibut Tent Sale

-April 17th & 18th, 2025-

 <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red; font-size: 1.5em;">\$12.99</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">PER LB</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">CUT AT NO EXTRA CHARGE!!</p>	 <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red; font-size: 1.5em;">\$19.99</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">PER LB</p>	 <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red; font-size: 1.5em;">\$29.99</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">PER LB</p>	 <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red; font-size: 1.5em;">\$19.99</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">PER LB</p>	
 <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red; font-size: 1.5em;">\$16.99</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">PER LB</p>	 <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red; font-size: 1.5em;">\$12.99</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">PER LB</p>	 <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red; font-size: 1.5em;">\$5.99</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">PER LB</p>	 <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red; font-size: 1.5em;">\$5.99</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">PER LB</p>	 <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red; font-size: 1.5em;">\$9.99</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: red;">PER LB</p>
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