

THE HEPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

The Heppner Gazette established March 30, 1883. The Heppner Times established November 18, 1897. Consolidated February 15, 1912.



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Subscription Rates: \$4.50 Year. Single Copy 10 Cents. Published Every Thursday and Entered at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon, as Second Class Matter.

Be a Builder, Not a Destroyer

When the Heppner Soil Conservation district won the Good-year award in 1963 as the district of the year in the State of Oregon, it was no hollow honor. The district's record of achievement, printed on a page of the second section of this paper, speaks for itself. It is a record of impressive accomplishment and shows that, through the district, farmers of the county are keenly aware of the need for conservation. They are constantly working to protect our soil and water with the knowledge that this must be done to prevent waste of these resources, to provide maximum prosperity for all the county's residents, and to preserve our land for posterity.

This work comes into focus now as the district is about to have its annual meeting. The accomplishments made are deserving of the hearty applause and wholehearted support of our citizenry, for they are of significance to everyone. All are urged to read the page on conservation in this paper to learn more of what is being done here.

Significance of conservation work throughout the nation is pointed up in an editorial printed in "Better Farming Methods" in November, 1963. One of the creditable achievements of this era is the recognition of the need for conservation, a considerable contrast from prevailing attitudes of just a few decades ago.

The editorial, "Be a Builder, Not a Destroyer," follows:

Americans again can be thankful this November as another harvest season draws to a close. All across our land bins and cribs are bulging and ranges and feedlots are filled with animals—assurance that hunger will not enter our land.

But we should pause in the midst of this plenty and give some hard thought about the way it was created and whether the future will hold such promise.

There are four essentials to life—sunshine, soil, air and water. Man, in his bumbling attempts to "improve" on the order of things, has managed fairly well to foul up the latter three through waste, neglect and just plain thoughtlessness. Of course, if our space efforts are successful we may be able to litter the atmosphere sufficiently so as to lose some of the sun's benefits.

But let's look at the immediate problems. Land abuse has been with us since the first white man arrived. Although we long ago realized land was not an endless resource, too few of us are really making a dedicated effort to conserve it. All must cooperate to see that our precious topsoil is not swept away and forever lost. Time and money spent on saving soil will pay you and those who follow.

Water is also an increasingly precious commodity. Once considered a problem only in arid regions, it is now realized that it is of prime importance in every section of the country.

More effective use must be made of water and it must be conserved if there is to be enough for all. Pollution is a major threat everywhere. Although a move is underway to require industry not to dump wastes into streams, not enough progress has been made. Cities and towns frequently are culprits in water pollution. Inadequate sewage treatment plants spew out garbage which not only poisons the water, but taints the air near the river. One city, in fact, has had to drill wells because, while it could purify the water, it couldn't remove the smell.

Pollution, however, isn't a problem only in densely populated areas. A Forest Service representative told us recently that many streams in the mountain wilderness country have been so fouled the water is no longer safe to drink.

Detergent manufacturers and users must assume a share of the blame, for their products often do not decompose during sewage treatment. A few months ago we witnessed the unpleasant sight of a pile of suds 40 feet high below a dam on a midwestern river.

These same products have created problems for some farmers who depend on irrigation to grow their crops. There is the case of one farmer, and there may be many others, who started his irrigation pump to find it valueless. Detergent waste had entered the underground water system and billowing suds accompanied the water that gushed from the pipe.

Air pollution has spread and is now a problem in at least 17 states. There are signs that other areas will be affected unless every means is utilized to end air contamination. In many areas farmers contribute to the problem by burning crop residues.

What can you do to help correct some of these things? First, make certain you are doing everything possible on your farm to conserve soil and water through the use of approved practices. Then urge your neighbors to do the same. Finally, insist that officials enact and enforce laws to prevent air and water pollution.

These resources, upon which our lives depend, certainly deserve the best treatment and protection we can provide.

Mount Morris, Illinois

Board Action Taken At Open Meeting

Attention has been called to an error in the story of the resignation of Gene Harryman as lone high school principal, printed in this paper two weeks ago. It was stated that the directors accepted the resignation in their executive session that followed the regular meeting.

Director Andy Van Scholck pointed out that the action was not taken in an executive session, but that the board reconvened in open meeting in the circuit courtroom late at night after the closed session and accepted the resignation at that time.

This correction is made in order that accurate facts are presented without wrong inferences. Harryman had submitted his resignation after being presented with a letter by the advisory committee at lone that he do so. He requested that his letter of resignation be made public and said that he could not continue to serve in view of the feelings of the advisory board. The school directors, however, had no other letter or document but his letter of resignation and accepted the resignation at his request.

Martin in Honorary

Melvin E. Martin of lone has been selected for membership at Oregon State University in Alpha Zeta, national agricultural honorary. Selection is based on scholarship, leadership and promise of future achievements. Martin is a junior this year at OSU. He is son of Mr. and Mrs. Fredrick T. Martin, lone.

Discuss Hair Care

The last meeting of the Lively Five Plus Two 4-H club was called to order in regular form, with all members present. Jeanine Hunt and Dixie Pack gave a demonstration on "Hair Care." Refreshments were served.

Christine Munkers, reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Flemming of Kinzua were in Heppner Tuesday visiting with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Cox and family.

Sheriff and Mrs. C. J. D. Bauman and Carl were in Monument Sunday, visiting Sheriff Bauman's sister, Mrs. Helen Brown. Lowell Gribble left Tuesday for Walla Walla, where he is attending four days of business meetings at the Marcus Whitman Hotel.

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

MOTORISTS traveling the highways north from Heppner don't usually expect to encounter the hazard of deer on the roads, but there have been several reports recently of accidents and near-accidents.

Mrs. Bud Peck acquired a dent in the hood of the Peck car when a doe ran onto the highway just north of the Kinzua mill. Ironically, she had stopped to allow others to go across the highway and just started up again when the doe bounded from the roadside. Mrs. Peck was only going 15 to 20 miles per hour, but the animal put quite a wrinkle in the hood.

There apparently is quite a crossing at this point for deer which have adopted the Claude Graham place as a haunt. Heard a report that Al Fetsch collided with another deer at the same spot, and still another unidentified driver had a similar experience recently. The deer that live in the area should be getting pretty well bruised.

We were coming south on the bomb range road late one night recently and had entered the dip and curves a couple miles north of the D. O. Nelson place when we saw something leap on the highway from the lower side. Thought at first it was a coyote and hit the brakes at once. But it was a nice fat doe. She boldly stood right in the middle of the road looking at us coming. By this time our wheels weren't turning, they were laying a couple of black strips on the road. The car stopped just four or five feet from the imperturbable doe, and then she nonchalantly but disdainfully sauntered on across the road.

A PERSON walking down the street in Heppner might overhear another mumbling to himself something like this, "pink dinnerware, ballpoint pen, Jersey cow, King George, band-aid, devil's mask," and so on. If one's curiosity should be aroused to the point that he would stop this mumbling individual to inquire what on earth was going on, the person might reply that he is remembering the names of the 13 original colonies in the order of the date of their founding.

By this time, the questioner would be quite certain that the other person was ready for the bughouse. But he shouldn't be too sure. Upon investigation he would find that the person has been taking the Dale Carnegie course here and has a real motive to his madness.

If it doesn't make sense to you, catch one of the "students" and let him tell you about it. Those who are starting the course are real enthused about it, and they've had a lot of fun at the organizational meetings. There's still time to sign up—another meeting will be Tuesday night at 7:15 in the Heppner elementary multipurpose room.

KEN MAYNARD, who works for the Krebs operation, was in the office the other day to subscribe to Morrow county's only newspaper. He had spent the summer on the Krebs' range in the northern Montana, right at the Canadian border, and we started quizzing him about his experiences.

Ken said that he killed five bears there last year, from May to December, four blacks and one grizzly. The range is at the Blackfoot Indian reservation. Wild horses roam around in abundance, and wild dogs travel in packs like wolves, Maynard said.

The Krebs shipped 18,000 sheep to the range there last May with nine men to take care of them and then hauled them back by train again in December.

It is quite a remarkable operation they have, and certainly would make a wonderful feature story.

IF YOU WOULD like to tickle your grey matter sometime, drop over at the elementary school and look at the bulletin board in the hallway that has colored pictures tacked on it under the heading, "Name that Tune." The little tots in the school think of songs and then draw pictures to illustrate the songs. The pictures are tacked on the board, and the viewer is expected to be able to "name the tune" from the picture.

The other evening we were able to identify "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," "The Star Spangled Banner," and one or two others, but couldn't dope out the rest.

Principal Hillard Brown really has his work cut out for him because when the kids have their work put on the board, they think it is quite obvious what they have drawn and anybody should be able to recognize it. They expect him to come up with the answers right away, and he has to be a Solomon to worm his way out when he

can't "name that tune." They show lively imaginations, though, and it is an interesting display.

WELL, patriotic Barney Malcom made the sacrifice and responded to Sheriff Bauman's plea to attend the Civil Defense shelter management school in Pendleton. He was there for parts of three days, and one requirement was that he spend one night in the "dugout." As we understand it, the "dugout" was a room in the basement of the courthouse. Nineteen others were in the group, one of whom was Bill Crooke, also of Heppner, and they seemed to fare pretty well in this state of "togetherness."

Their subsistence was some carbohydrate candy, some survival crackers and a quart of water each.

The survival training was set up through the State Department of Higher Education, and those taking part also attended 15 hours of classes.

Barney certainly should be commended for stepping up and taking the lead for Civil Defense preparedness. (Incidentally, he picks up some points as a reserve officer for doing so.)

But back in Heppner, Irv Anderson is a bit hurt about the whole thing.

He declares he has a bomb shelter second to none in the state, and they hold a survival training course in a courthouse basement!

Irv's shelter, about which there has been no report for a couple of years, is still in good shape. It's the best place in the world to sleep in summer time, Irv says. If it is 63 degrees when you go to bed, it will be 63 degrees when you get up. No noise, no confusion.

It even makes a good spot for company, Irv declares.

We might add that some guys might find such a shelter convenient for accommodating mothers-in-law on their visits.

(Editor's note: This is another in the series of anecdotes about the late Roscoe Cox, Morrow county outdoorsman, who died last year).

Roscoe was the best hunter I ever knew. One time he came up to the cabin and asked my wife and I to go with him and maybe we could get the big freak buck that had been running there for years.

He took us up under little Baldy on the ridge in the "Devil's Halfacre" where there was a big rock. He placed my wife above the big rock.

"You wait here, we'll run the buck by you and you'll think he is an elk but he'll be a buck and you kill him."

Roscoe and I went over the ridge and Roscoe stopped in an open glade, and he told me to go into the thicket below. I did and I jumped the buck, and out he went. I fired my rifle to let Roscoe know he was coming.

He ran by Roscoe and Roscoe let him go. He headed for the big rock. My wife heard him coming and she thought he was going below the rock. She went below the rock as fast as she could but the buck went above the rock.

Old Roscoe said it would, and my wife didn't get him. The only one that had a chance to kill that buck was Roscoe, but Roscoe didn't shoot and it was just as well. Yes, he knew where the game would go when it ran.

Jury Finds Rogers Innocent of Charge

A justice court jury last Thursday found John Patrick Rogers of Ukiah innocent of a charge of killing a calf elk in a closed area following a day-long trial in the Morrow county courthouse with Justice of the Peace Oliver Creswick presiding.

The verdict was unanimously in favor of the defendant. District Attorney Herman Winter prosecuted the case and Roy Kilpatrick of Canyon City was attorney for the defendant.

A companion case, against Jeff Walker of Heppner, who is charged with aiding in a game violation, was also scheduled for trial following his plea of innocent, but in view of the verdict on the Rogers case, it is probable that District Attorney Winter will dismiss the charge, the justice of the peace said.

Lexington Club Completes Series Of Card Parties

By DELPHA JONES

LEXINGTON — Lexington Bridge club met at the home of Mrs. Eldon Padberg last Wednesday evening. Those present for the evening were Mrs. Johnnie Ledbetter, Mrs. Dean Hunt, Mrs. Lester Cox, Mrs. Bob Davidson, Mrs. Gene Cutsforth, Mrs. Oliver Creswick, Mrs. Don Belenbrock, and the hostess, Mrs. Padberg. High score was won by Mrs. Dean Hunt, second high by Mrs. Don Belenbrock and low by Mrs. Creswick.

This meeting was the end of a series of eight games. After averaging all scores it was found that Mrs. Dean Hunt and Mrs. Don Belenbrock held high scores for the series and Mrs. Gene Cutsforth and Mrs. Johnnie Ledbetter were low for the series. They decided that the highs and lows will soon entertain the middle group of the party.

Mrs. Tad Miller and daughter Michèle and Miss Jeannine Hunt were Walla Walla visitors on Wednesday.

Houseguests of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Martin over the week-end were Mrs. Hugo Leyva and Mrs. Gar Leyva of Medford.

Home Ec club of the Lexington Grange met at the home of Mrs. Edna Turner in Heppner on Wednesday of last week. Plans were made for the Co-op dinner to be held February 11 at the Lexington Grange hall. Those present for the afternoon were Mrs. Annie Smouse, Mrs. Armin Whilon, Mrs. Laura Moyer, Mrs. Nora Turner, Mrs. C. C. Jones, Mrs. Kenneth Smouse and son Carl and Mrs. Ella Burgoyne. Refreshments were served by the hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. Greg Leyva and children were week-end visitors with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Steagall.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Hunt were Portland visitors a couple of days this week.

Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Cutsforth left for New Mexico where they will meet Mr. and Mrs. George Ruggs and will then continue on to Mexico for a sightseeing trip. Mr. and Mrs. Cutsforth, who flew in their plane were late getting started due to the bad weather around the country.

Hank Pointer visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Don Pointer, from his school in Portland over the week-end.

Mrs. A. F. Majeske and Mrs. Alonzo Henderson were Pendleton visitors Wednesday and attended the auxiliary meeting of the Patriarch's Militant of which they are members.

The Lexington Social club met on Sunday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Ledbetter. After a most enjoyable supper games were played with Mrs. C. C. Jones and Roger Campbell winning the highs. Those present for the evening were Mr. and Mrs. Dean Hunt and children, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Campbell and children, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Jones and the host and hostess and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Whilon and sons, Mr. and Mrs. Armin Whilon and Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Jones and son Kenneth motored to Pasco, Wn., Sunday where they attended a wedding reception at the First Methodist church honoring Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Sellards the former Allice Marie Whilon.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wilson and son of Vancouver, Wn. spent the week-end visiting in Lexington and Heppner.

Mrs. Charles Colley entertained with pinocle one afternoon last week. Those present were Mrs. A. F. Majeske, Mrs. Bertha Hunt, Mrs. Florence McMillan and the hostess.

McGirrs Have Son

Mr. and Mrs. Leland McGirr, Jr., of Fox, became parents of a son, David Leland, on January 8. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kelly, Umattila, and paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Leland McGuirr, Sr., of Long Creek. His maternal great-grandmother is Mrs. Lena Kelly, Heppner. David has a two-year-old sister, Kelly.

TO THE EDITOR...

To the Editor: We, as individuals and as representatives of our various communities, wish to protest the sale and exchange of electric utilities on the following basis:

1. We and the people of our communities, who are presently electric power customers of Pacific Power and Light Company, have not applied for membership in, and have not been asked if we wish to become members and customers of, the Columbia Basin Electric Co-operative, Inc., an electrical distributing company in a monopolistic situation and not regulated by the Public Utilities Commission. If we are forced, by the proposed sale and exchange of properties between these companies, to become members of the said cooperative, we will also be forced to assume without our consent, partial responsibility for the repayment of a \$1,800,000.00 indebtedness now owned by the cooperative.

2. The proposed sale and exchange involves extensive and valuable properties, now owned by the Pacific Power and Light Company, that are now on the ad valorem tax rolls of the political subdivisions in which they are situated. This proposed sale and exchange, if allowed, will result in the loss of considerable tax revenues to those subdivisions.

The Board of Directors of the cooperative has declared, by resolution, that they will by cash donation, reimburse the affected political subdivisions for the net amount of that lost revenue for a period of two years. In addition, the president of the Board of Directors and the manager of the cooperative have, publicly and for the record, stated that they would vote in favor of a continuation of this policy.

We protest that any loss of this tax revenue to these subdivisions would constitute a hardship on them, and would be unfair to, and be a hardship on, the other taxpayers in these subdivisions; and that the co-op, regardless of this resolution and public statement, has not given sufficient guarantee that such a loss of revenue will not result.

3. There exists a considerable differential between the rate schedules now used by these two electric utility companies and the differential is such that if the rate schedules of the co-op are applied to the present customers of the Pacific Power and Light Company; the result would be a considerable increase in cost of electric power to the majority of these customers.

The Board of Directors of the co-op have declared, by resolution and by public statement, that they will continue to furnish electric energy and service to these present Pacific Power and Light Company customers at the same revenue rates as those that are now charged by the Pacific Power and Light Company. In addition, the President of the Board of Directors and the manager of the co-op have publicly stated that they will personally continue to favor this policy of rate schedule application.

We protest that this action by the co-op is subject to the discretion of the present and future Boards of Directors of the co-op, and is insufficient to guarantee to the affected present customers of the Pacific Power and Light Company that their econ-

omic interest in the present rates shall continue to be protected; and further, that this action is insufficient to guarantee that the co-op Board of Directors will not at some future date take such action as will increase the present rate schedules, now applicable to these customers, for any purpose other than to (1) defray increased costs of operation, and/or (2) to finance such capital improvements of acquisitions that shall meet the approval of these customers.

4. We submit that we do not in principle oppose the proposed sale and exchange of properties between these utilities. Neither do we wish to register a lack of faith in the actions or intentions of the members of the Columbia Basin Electric Co-operative, Inc. and its Board of Directors.

5. We do ask that (1) the Public Utilities Commission require, as a condition of and prior to their approval of this proposed sale and exchange of properties, that the Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative, Inc. shall take such action as the Commission shall consider necessary to remove or correct the conditions that are the basis of this protest; that (2) the Commission require, if they think necessary, that the Pacific Power and Light Company and the Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative, Inc. jointly apply to the Federal Power Commission for such reasonable extension of the permit granted them by the Federal Power Commission as is necessary for them to eliminate or correct the conditions leading to this protest; and that the Commission grant these utilities, upon their request, such reasonable time as the Commission determines necessary to fulfill these requested requirements.

Very truly yours,
Edwin Asher, member of City Council, City of Fossil
Dr. R. E. Reilly, President, Fossil Community Club
W. H. Steiwer, Sr., Chairman, Wheeler County Budget Committee
James O. Burns, Judge
Gilliam County Court
M. Snell Weatherford
Representing the protestants of the M.S.W. rural communities of Olex, Rock Creek, and Mikkalo.



Coming Events

HEPPNER HIGH BASKETBALL
Heppner vs. Chenoweth.
Heppner High gym.
Friday, January 31.
Jayvee 6:15, Varsity 8:00
A League Game.
Support the Mustangs!

Community Youth Program
Sunday, Feb. 2, 7:00 p.m.
Methodist Church.
Dr. Clifford Wear of Burns
to show slides on Africa.
All youth invited.

We have limited number of calendars—Stop in at our office and ask for one. C. A. Ruggles.

RODEO MEETING
Wednesday, Feb. 5, 8:00 p.m.
Gilliam and Bisbee Bldg.
All board members urged to attend.

SKIING AT ARBUCKLE
36" to 48" dry snow on hill.
Tow operating Saturday, Sunday.
Ski lessons available Saturday.

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