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Elks scholarship winners named



TERRY McELLI GOTT

Terry McElligott, Ione High School Senior and Tim Skow, Heppner High School, were selected as the top scholars in the local Elks National Foundation for the Most Valuable student in both scholarship and leadership.

Both students are seniors and will graduate from high school this summer. Both students have a high grade point average.

Terry, 17, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L.J. McElligott, Ione, is a member of the National Honor Society, president of the Girls Athletic Association, member of the student council and served as

class secretary last year. She has been varsity cheer leader for the past two years. Terry organized the youth choir at St. William's Catholic Church and the group besides singing for the church also sings for the patients at Pioneer Memorial Hospital and performs on occasion at St. Patrick's Church, Heppner.

Terry plans to attend Carroll College, MT, majoring in dental hygiene.

Tim Skow, 17, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Skow, Heppner.

Tim was born in Spokane, WA, and moved to Skagway



TIM SKOW

AK, at the age of 7. He attended elementary schools and his first year of high school in Alaska and moved to Heppner in his sophomore year. His interest in sports grew while attending Heppner High School and he has lettered in basketball and baseball for the past two years.

A member of the National Honor Society, Tim plans to continue his studies at Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA, majoring in political science. After obtaining his degree in law, Tim would like to enter politics. "By the time I am old enough to enter

politics all of the dirty lines should be clean," said Tim, "and then politics should present an interesting field."

The contest sponsored by the local Elks was held on a local level with the students eligible to compete in the district contest Feb. 29, The Dalles.

This is the first scholarship awarded these students and \$300 will be sent to the college of their choosing.

Other winners in the contest were Lori Dunlop and David Campbell, who placed second and Kimmee Hagewood and Steve Jones, third.

First step taken

Voters to resolve dog problems

Are the residents of Heppner for or against the establishment of a dog facility by Morrow County? This issue will be placed on the primary ballot allowing residents to express their opinion by voting on the dog situation in Heppner.

This action was the first step taken by the City Council, following a special meeting Monday night. Approximately 28 interested city residents attended the meeting to voice their opinion of the controversial subject.

Most of those present expressed the desire for the city and county to cooperate in solving the matter. Speakers informed the common council that although they resided outside the city limits their children attended the elementary school and they were concerned that their children would be bitten by the animals that frequently follow the children to school.

Racheal Dick, Elementary teacher said, "The first graders have no fear of dogs and when the animals start fighting the children rush to their pets rescue and I am afraid that some of the children will be bitten." The filth created by the dogs is something else, "it's time we started doing something about this problem."

Don Cole, principal of the elementary school said, "The focal point of the problem is the school." Elaborating on the subject, he continued, "The dogs follow the youngsters to school. Once the youngsters are in class the

dogs wait for the children to appear during recess. Numerous phone calls have been made to the owners of the pets to remove their pets from the school property all to no avail. Letters have also been sent to pet owners, however they refuse to keep their dogs at home. Cole admitted explaining to pet owners the schools responsibility in the event a child should be bitten, still they refuse to keep their pets at home. He admitted that some students had been bitten by the dogs and there are usually 18-20 dogs per day on school property. When the dogs start fighting, that is when children are bitten."

Bob Willsingham asked the council, "If the city doesn't do anything about the present situation can the citizens band together and do something about the situation?"

Vern Wilson said, "Other communities, both cities and counties have gotten together and taken care of their dog problem, eventually we will have to do something here, so we might just as well get started."

Forrie Burkenbine related to the council that dogs create a problem at his store.

Following added discussion Mayor Jerry Sweeney notified the delegation that the city will file a petition with the county clerk to have the issue placed on the primary ballot. If the issue is approved by the voters the responsibility of constructing a facility to keep the animals for the required five days will be up to the county. "It is the obligation of Morrow County to build the

pound and the city will be obligated to pick up the animals. The fee for the dog licenses are set by state statute as are the fines levied against the owners," said Mayor Sweeney.

Police Chief Dean Gilman said, "Presently there are laws regarding dogs chasing livestock and dogs biting people. However, the law states that any dog picked up by any officer will be impounded for a period of five days in a sanitary shelter." Knowing the subject would come up again this year, as it has in the past, Chief Gilman contacted Dr. Norene and asked if he would keep the stray animals in his kennels for the required 5-day period. Dr. Norene refused saying that the dogs are diseased and a possible source of distemper and he would not keep them in his kennel.

Although Chief Gilman admitted he knew some of the owners of the dogs creating the problem, he was unable to prove the dogs ownership.

Chief Gilman said he could issue a citation against a dog owner if a citizen would file a formal complaint against the dog owner, and it could be proven the dog was destroying property or had bitten someone. He also stated that the present law requiring dog owners to have their pets inoculated against rabies prior to obtaining a dog license has resulted in fewer people obtaining licenses for their pets. "With this situation it is almost impossible to find the owner of the stray dogs,"

said Chief Gilman.

Mayor Jerry Sweeney said, "We will have to live with this problem until May, then it will be up to the voters of the community."

In other action to come before the council:

The council delayed any further action on increased fuel deliveries to the community until written specifications are obtained from the State Fire Marshall and the DEQ. The action was delayed until the regular meeting of the common council, March 1.

Approved the hiring of personnel for the swimming pool for the summer months. Those selected were Kathleen Kennison, manager; Steve Jones, senior life guard; Molly Pierce, junior life guard; Don McEwen, basketboy; Laurie McCabe, alternate. The alternate was chosen in the event one of the other persons is unable to fulfill his duties.

Mr. Sherer, art instructor for Heppner High School, requested the city allow his art students to paint the city garbage cans in a bicentennial theme. The council approved the request.

Epsilon Sigma Alpha, Alpha Theta Chapter has asked permission to paint the city's fire hydrants. Any organization wishing to participate in the project is asked to contact the city recorder for permission to decorate the hydrants. A \$50 Savings Bond will be presented to the artist demonstrating the most creative and unusual design.

Sen. Hatfield at conference

Rex Allison, Weyerhaeuser Co., North Bend, OR, President of the Oregon Logging Conference, announced that the keynote speaker for their 38th Annual Session, Eugene, will be Sen. Mark O. Hatfield. He will speak at 11 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 26.

The theme for the 38th Annual Conference is Desirable Direction—"Land-Labor-Logs." The meeting will be held Feb. 26-28 and will again

feature a large display of logging equipment. The display will be open to the public on Saturday, Feb. 28. Attendance is expected to exceed 2,100.

Panel sessions on "Will the real forest manager please stand up," "Logs—How do we measure up," "The vital link," and "Better Ideas in Logging," are scheduled for Thursday and Friday, Feb. 26-27.

County Fair Commission meets

Development of the 1976 merit rating workbook for evaluating county fairs is the main item on the agenda for a March 11-12 meeting of Oregon's County Fair Commission at Valley River Inn, Eugene.

A 6 p.m. dinner meeting that will continue into the evening has been scheduled for March 11. The March 12 session will convene at 9 a.m.

The workbook serves as a guide in the evaluation of the fairs. A point system is used in the evaluations, with the number of points earned determining the amount each fair receives from the County

Fair Commission account.

Money in this account is the commission's share of the state's parimutuel racing take. In the past the commission has received 10 per cent of those racing monies. Effective Jan. 1, 1976, its share was lowered to eight percent—however, 20 more racing days have been scheduled in 1976 than in 1975.

In 1975 the commission received a total of \$393,109.12 as its share of the parimutuel racing take and \$374,000 of this was distributed to the counties. Administration costs of the commission are listed at \$16,773.43 for 1975.

Tax exemptions

Disabled war veterans and veterans' widows must apply for their annual Oregon property tax exemptions by April 1, the Department of Veterans' Affairs cautioned. Application is filed with the county assessor.

H.C. Saalfeld, Veterans' Affairs director, said the exemption amounts to \$7,500 of the true cash value of the property. Entitled are war veterans 40 per cent or more disabled, and unremarried widows of war veterans.

Saalfeld said this is not an automatic exemption. Even though an exemption was

granted last year, the property owner must file a new application to be considered for the exemption this year.

If the taxpayer still has property tax to pay on his residence after the veterans' exemption, and has an income of less than \$15,000 a year, he may be eligible for a refund under the homeowners and renters property tax refund program. Application for this benefit must be filed by April 15 with the Department of Revenue, Salem. The state income tax packet contains a refund application form.



ARCTIC GAS—Pacific Gas and Electric Company and its affiliate, Pacific Gas Transmission Company, plan to bring natural gas from Prudhoe Bay to northern California through the proposed Arctic Gas pipeline (dashed line) and additions to their existing pipeline from Canada (solid line). PGandE and PGT told the Federal Power Commission they also could deliver gas to the Northwest and southern California.

Chamber holds business meeting

A regular business meeting was conducted by President Larry Mills, at the Chamber of Commerce Monday.

Mills read the audience a letter from Pacific Gas Transmission Company, stating they were seeking the backing of various Chamber of Commerce for the proposed Arctic Gas Line. They requested the various Chambers write to their congressmen and senators asking that the project be expedited.

Presently the Pacific Gas Transmission Co. is paying \$132,000 in taxes to Morrow County for the existing right-of-way through the county. When the proposed project is completed, the taxes paid to the county should double. The new pipeline will be installed on the existing right-of-way. The chamber approved the motion to support the project.

Randall Peterson, chairman of the Heppner merchants committee, reported the merchants had agreed to place Christmas lights on the existing tree in front of the museum and library, rather than place lights on a Christmas tree in Main St.

Peterson spoke of a Sidewalk Sale planned for the second week in July and also of a Moonlight Sale, sometime during March.

Float chairman Jim Wishart, reported the present float is in need of some repairs. Tom Sherer, art instructor has asked permission, from the Chamber to have his students design a float with this year's theme.

He also spoke of the festival in John Day and asked if the two communities might exchange floats, together with some of the participants. Pre-

sident Mills asked Wishart to pursue the matter further and report back to the Chamber.

Oscar Peterson reported on the sale of the book, "Homesteads and Heritages" and told the new members the books were available at the banks, the library and museum.

Jim Bier, principal of Heppner High School reported on the activities of the basketball teams and the playoff games. Today and Friday the District Tournament will be held in Pendleton. Included in the tournament are the boys varsity in the Columbia Basin League, the Girls varsity and also the teams competing in the Big Sky Conference. Season tickets for the two days of tournament play are \$8 for adults and \$4 for students.

Winners of the District tourney will compete in the

State Tournament, March 4-6.

Lindsay Kincaid spoke to the members about the formation of a Babe Ruth Team for the Heppner, Ione and Lexington area. Ages of the youths eligible to play are between the ages of 13-15. A youth cannot be 13 before Aug. 1 nor can he be 16 before the same date.

If a team from this area is formed, they will compete with the Hermiston Babe Ruth League. They will play three nights per week, with all games being double headers. The games will last seven innings or a two hour time limit. In the event of a tie, the game will be played until the tie is broken, depending on the duration of the game, and if need be the game will be continued at a later date.

The season lasts for one month, from the day after

Memorial Day until the Fourth of July.

Boys chosen for the All star team must be 14-15 years of age. Boys 13 years of age have their own All Star team, as well as their own league. The 13 year olds will play a double header on Friday nights. The older youths will play Monday through Wednesday nights with one of the games played on the home field.

Kincaid said the team is in need of support from the local merchants and asked if there was a possibility of using some of the high school's equipment for the home games. Needed are bats, helmets and a complete catcher's uniform.

He also told the merchants their advertising signs at the Little League field had been damaged and the cost of repairing the signs would prove costly.

Conservation program 1976

The 1976 Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP) has been approved for Morrow County, according to David McLeod, Executive Director of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office.

This program provides cost-sharing of 75 per cent of eligible costs of performing conservation and pollution abatement practices. Some of these practices are: diversion ditches, gradient terraces; reorganizing irrigation systems; livestock water facilities; grass seeding to stabilize the soil; forest tree planting;

forest thinning; and plantings for wildlife habitat.

The ACP is administered through the Morrow County ASC Committee in the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) office in Heppner. Office hours are 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Applications for cost-shares must be made prior to starting any practice, to be eligible.

Program details and practice information is available in the ASCS office, or may be obtained by calling 678-9250," said McLeod.

Hopefully the Little League games will be played in Hager Park, next season.

The following letter was sent to Mayor Jerry Sweeney and read at the Chamber of Commerce:

Dear Mayor,

I am in the third grade. I want to know if you can send me a picture of your city and information. What's your name? How old are you? I am 8. Do you have a dog? I do. His name is Little Bit. He is nice. Do you work? I don't. Are you nice or mean? Do you got a horse or a cow? Thank you. The end.

Sincerely yours,
Scott Jess
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