

The mail pouch

EDITOR:

Since the letter I wrote to the editor of this paper appeared in the March 25 edition, I have received two anonymous letters containing various articles concerning the humane treatment of animals, birds and even whales. I would like to put a stop to this before it gets out of hand. So to the senders of these letters let me say this.

Please do not waste your time and money sending me any literature that is in any way connected with such radical anti-hunting groups as the Friends of Animals or Fund for Animals Inc. My reasons are as follows: The Fund for Animals is headed by Cleveland Amory, the TV critic who inspired CBS to do the fiasco entitled "The Guns of Autumn." Or at least he is claiming credit. CBS insists that his role was minor. Amory had publicized his own role in a New York Times advertisement and in mailgrams to anti-hunting supporters before the Sept. 5 show. He solicited contributions in both for his fund for Animals, Inc., with the claim that the CBS program was "based" on his book and his organization needed money to keep up its anti-hunting campaign. At that, CBS boomed over. This was taken directly from the pages of the NRA, an organization I find much more reliable than Amory's. Stunts like this and others I could mention make me really wonder about any organization that could be actually headed by such a man.

The Friends of Animals are not only anti-hunting but anti-rodeo as well. These "animal lovers" are responsible for a four-year delay in a hunt to thin out a starvation point overpopulation of deer in the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in New Jersey. By the time the courts finally decided that the hunt was indeed necessary the herd had grown from 200 to 650. The hunters and conservationists found not only starving deer but deer that had died of disease and those that being too weak to run had been torn apart by packs of stray dogs. The suffering and agony brought on by these "well intentioned" friends of animals I find appalling. This was a government organized and authorized hunt by carefully screened hunters by the way, and the refuge was created and funded by sportsmen and wildlife conservationists, long before many of these ultra preservationists ever thought of helping our "furry friends." Again this is just one of the many endeavors to "help" preserve our wildlife by the Friends of Animals.

Another fact I find very interesting about these two groups and the four other ones who make up the list of being the most aggressively anti-hunting is that in 1973, the last year of record, these six tax-exempt organizations enjoyed a total income of \$14,413,000, and disbursed \$5,362,000. Very interesting indeed! You can find this information on page 21, of the February issue of the American Rifleman.

The four other groups are: 1. The American Humane Education Society (not to be confused with the American Humane Society); 2. The Animal Protection Institute; 3. Defenders of Wildlife; 4. The Humane Society of the U.S. (another group that is not to be confused with the American Humane Society.)

While I will accept some literature from some of these groups, I am quite capable of writing to them myself, so again do not feel compelled to take it upon yourselves to send it to me. As a matter of fact I have a very low opinion of people who send anything of this nature through the mail unsigned and unrequested.

I do not appreciate "cute" doggie and kitty poems either, so please don't waste them on me.

I have my own opinion on spaying and neutering too, so don't bother sending yours. Incidentally, my cat has been spayed for the past nine years, long before I ever heard of most of you spaying and neutering zealots!

Perhaps you people that send such literature through the mail unsigned have your reasons. But please don't bother to send them to me. I am not interested.

Before ending this, I would like to comment on the letter sent in by Lois Winchester. First of all I would like to call attention to what must be a misprint in the first paragraph of her letter, she referred to her dogs as being tied.

I would also like to congratulate Mrs. Winchester on her years of good health and wish her many more. But hope that not everyone will adopt such a complacent attitude. I shudder to think what might have happened if years ago when such diseases as small pox and diphtheria were running rampant that people would have assumed because they had never been victims that there was no need to take steps to combat these killers. I am also quite certain that if I told the parents of the next child that is bitten by a stray dog that we have four children and they have never had so much as a nibble, they would definitely not be impressed!

Heppner is a growing community, with all the growing pains that rapid expansion brings about. The dog problem is just one of those "pains." An increase in adult and juvenile crime still another. And on and on we go. It is my opinion that all of these problems are worthy of equal time and consideration. Why cloud the dog problem issue with petty grievances about the children in ones neighborhood? I am in no way condoning these acts of vandalism, but fail to see how they constitute a deterioration of parental responsibility. I am also tired of hearing how bad the youth of today are. In the two years that we have lived in Heppner I have had the privilege of meeting quite a few of the kids that attend the elementary and junior high grades. I can say without reservations that they are the finest group of young people that I have ever met. There are some that I've gotten to know well enough to say, I'd be proud to call you my own. Parents of Heppner, my compliments! My compliments also to the Heppner School District, it is without a doubt the finest. Not only are the standards of education high, but also the instructions they receive in ethics and morality.

KAY WALSLINGHAM
Heppner

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Candidates speak

GAIL HUGHES

Gail Hughes has spent the major part of her life in Eastern Oregon. Educated in Milton-Freewater, she married Allen Hughes, a Morrow County rancher, in 1953, and has lived in this county since that time. She and Allen have three daughters. Patricia, the oldest a sophomore at Eastern Oregon State College, LaGrande; Carolyn and Jennifer are students at Heppner Elementary School.

In addition to her family and ranch responsibilities, she is employed part time at First National Bank. She is involved in the activities of the Morrow County CowBelles, of which she is immediate past president and is an active member of All Saints Episcopal Church. There she has contributed much time toward youth education and as a church organist. She is treasurer of the Episcopal Church Women.

Gail has served on the Heppner Advisory Board to the long range planning committee for the Morrow County School Board. This has increased her awareness in the needs and processes of education in our county. She would like to see the youths of this county provided with the essentials of education that will prepare them for responsible adulthood, with or without higher education. If elect-

ed to the board, Gail will have an open ear to the needs and desires of the community she will represent, and will present their requests fairly to the board for action.

PAULINE WINTER

During the five years that I have served on the Board of Directors of Morrow County Schools, the Board has been to face some of the greatest changes to affect small school districts in Oregon in many years.

Mandatory collective bargaining and teacher tenure have been two of the greatest changes. Within Morrow County the growth experienced in the Boardman-Irrigon area as a result of the opening of desert farm lands has been especially difficult because of the uncertainty of the time schedule of the new developments.

In the years ahead I see the continued growth in both north and south Morrow County demand that the Board plan for buildings and an educational system unforeseen ten years ago. Vocational and career education are two areas where, again, change has been mandated.

I would like to be a part of the planning team that tackles this job.

JERRY DOUGHERTY

Jerry Dougherty was born and raised in Morrow County. He is a graduate of Heppner High School and has been involved in farming since his graduation.

He said, "I have children who will be in the school system for the next 12 years." He wants to get involved to better understand the problems of the school system.

The annual Mothers Club salad supper was held at the home of Teresa Maxam, Monday night.

Members and their guests enjoyed a variety of salads and pleasant conversation. A short meeting was held after the supper where other Mother's Club activities were planned.

JEAN BENNETT

"I would like to continue and improve the high level of education that is presently being offered in the Morrow County Schools," said Jean Bennett.

Bennett would like to provide accordingly for the growth of the county and use sound judgement in all decisions.

Jean is the wife of Don Bennett, a rancher and is the mother of three daughters.

She was born and raised in Morrow County and is a graduate of Heppner High School.

MONTE STOOKEY

Monte Stookey moved to Heppner in August 1973 with Kinzua Corporation as construction supervisor for their new plywood dry end facilities. At the present time Stookey is the plywood manager for Kinzua Corporation at Heppner, over the log yard, plywood greenend and plywood dryend facilities.

Stookey and his wife Sharon Lee have six children, Mike 15, Kenny 13, Andy 12, Marcie 8, Kim 4 and "Little Mike" 4. As a family they enjoy the outdoors. When playing time can be found in the mountains they enjoy hiking, hunting, fishing, gold mining or just loafing.

In 1955 Monte graduated from Baker High School, Baker, OR., and went into the U.S. Navy for four years. Later he attended C.O.C.C. in Bend, Oregon, majoring in business management.

A person who feels a responsibility to his community, Stookey is running for election on the Morrow County School Board, with one major thought in mind. "Although I feel a good athletic program makes a strong school, we must not overlook reading, writing and arithmetic."

MOLLY BECKET

Molly Becket graduated from Heppner High School six years ago; attended Oregon State University and has worked for the last three years. She feels she could give the school board a younger point of view into the school system.

She is interested in the local school system and feels the students in this area are not being given the academic opportunities that they deserve as too much pressure is being put on the social aspects of high school.

"Our school system is small enough to enable education professionals to give the students the chance to obtain a higher degree of education to allow them to enter the field of their choice," said Becket.

BIDS RECEIVED

Bids will be received by the Oregon Transportation Commission Thursday, April 29 for 19 projects estimated to cost \$7,900,000. These projects include:

Morrow County: This project involves 10,000 cubic yards of crushed aggregate in stockpiles on the Heppner Rock Production Section located approximately eight miles southwest of Heppner on the Wasco-Heppner Highway. Completion date is set for July 31, 1978.

RSVP AWARDS

Morrow County members of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program have been busily serving their community and at the same time building up their volunteer hours toward pins and certificates that are awarded each quarter.

As of March 1, the following people have accumulated hours of volunteer service for these awards: Doris Cutting, Heppner, the 100 hour pin; Alena Anderson, Eva Robinson, Irene Swanson of Heppner, and Margie Shade and Elva Sanders of Irrigon, the 50 hours certificate of appreciation. "Al" Ricker, Earl Sanders of Irrigon, the 20 hour certificate.

All the RSVP Volunteers are greatly appreciated by the people and organizations they serve, but more are needed in many places around Morrow County. If anyone reading this would like to become a volunteer, please contact RSVP through your Neighborhood Center or at 276-3311 in Pendleton.

FOOD SALE

There will be a food sale Friday, April 16 at the Degree of Honor Lodge Hall. The bake sale is being held to help defray the costs of the members who will be attending the State Convention, April 23-24, Portland.

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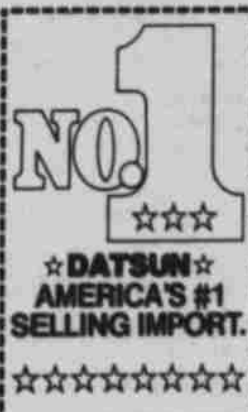
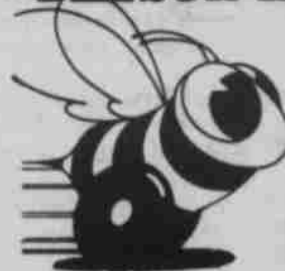
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