

The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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10 PAGES

20 CENTS

HEPPNER, OREGON

Weather

	High	Low	Precip
Mon., May 18	61	49	.45
Tues., May 19	64	49	.45
Wed., May 20	68	49	tr.
Thurs., May 21	65	44	...
Fri., May 22	71	45	...
Sat., May 23	80	57	.08
Sun., May 24	75	52	1.78
Mon., May 25	66	41	.02

HHS graduates 50 seniors at commencement exercises Friday Ione seniors honored at commencement exercises



The Heppner High School class of 1981, amid colors of burgundy and silver and with the motto of "Tomorrows are Today's Waiting to Happen," participated in graduation exercises Friday night at the high school gym.

Senior Margaret Kincaid delivered the invocation, Jim Ackley the commencement address, and senior John Bier the benediction to 50 graduating seniors, their teachers, families and well-wishers.

Heppner High Principal Jim Bier presented awards, school board member Pauline Winter

presented diplomas and school Superintendent Matt Doherty and counselor Michele Portmann made the class presentation. The featured musical selection was "The Best of Times," by the CLASS OF '81. The Heppner High School Band provided processional and recessional music.

Honored as valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, were Paula Palmer and Brett Sherer.

Grand marshals were Karen Kenny and Dorian Forrar; candle lighters were Elizabeth

Zita and John Murray; program girls were Cindi Bergstrom and Polly Fortenberry; and ushers were Robert Bier, Cliff Dougherty, Don Kindsfather, Earl Hammond, Lee Rice and Don Lott.

Honored guests were Alan Beck and Jerry DeFord.

IHS awards night

Ione High School academic awards night will be this Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the IHS cafeteria.

Everyone is welcome to attend.



By DELLA HEIDEMAN

1981 graduating seniors were honored at the Ione High School graduation commencement exercises Thursday evening, May 21, in the Ione Gymnasium.

Class salutatorian Lisa Meyers and class valedictorian Shawn LaRue gave personal addresses to the class and audience, followed by a commencement address by Brother Raphael Wilson, C.S.C., Ph.D., president of the University of Portland.

Hundreds of family members and friends were present to witness the presentation of awards and scholarships to the class members, including presentation of the Carl Troedson Scholarship to Duane Fetisch, Shawn LaRue and Teena Lindstrom. A special award was presented to Mr. Harold Snider for his outstanding service on the local school board for the past five years.

Students also receiving special awards or scholarships included John Smith and

Ralph Morter, receiving the Warren Williams Vocational Scholarship; Shawn LaRue, receiving the Cardinal Club Scholarship; John Smith receiving the Blue Mountain Community College Scholarship; Shawn LaRue and Lisa Meyers receiving the Elks Scholarships; and Shawn LaRue receiving the Pacific University Presidential Honors at Entrance Scholarship.

The Oregon Scholar Award was presented to Shawn LaRue and the Century Three Award to Lisa Meyers. Also presented during Thursday evening's commencement services was a special award to retiring bus driver Dot

Photo by Michelle LaRue

Halvorsen for her service to the schools from 1973 through 1981.

The culmination of these students' many years of study in the Ione schools took place with the presentation of diplomas by Jerry McElligott, followed by the benediction, presented by Teena Lindstrom. In the cafeteria, following commencement, the class formed a receiving line for the many congratulations offered by families and friends present, and punch, coffee and cookies prepared and donated for the event by the members of the Cardinal Club. The Ione Band played for the evening.

County voters approve BMCC budget

Morrow County voters approved Blue Mountain Community College's request for an operating levy by a 136-vote margin in last Tuesday's election, the county clerk reports.

The college, which also includes Umatilla County in its district, had its budget approved 6,344 to 4,333 overall.

A breakdown of Morrow County voting on the BMCC budget is as follows:

Boardman - 131 yes, 56 no.

Ione - 118 yes, 79 no.
Irrigon - 107 yes, 143 no.
Lexington - 87 yes, 66 no.
Heppner-Hardman - 363 yes, 326 no.
Total county vote on BMCC - 806 yes, 670 no.

Voter turnout heaviest in Heppner, lightest in Boardman, says clerk

The county-wide voter turnout for the budget election last week was heaviest in Heppner and lightest in Boardman, according to figures supplied by the Morrow County clerk's office.

In the Heppner-Hardman precinct 48 percent of the registered voters came out to

the polls. In Boardman only 19 percent of the registered voters came out.

The heavy turnout in Heppner may have been due to a ballot question seeking voter approval of the construction of the Willow Creek dam, which was included along with budget requests on the ballots.

The dam ballot was strictly advisory, however, it was a hotly debated question in the Heppner area.

Other precinct turnout according to the clerk was as follows: Ione - 45.5 percent, Irrigon - 24 percent, and Lexington - 37 percent.

Martin resigns

By MARY ANN CERULLO

Morrow County Court came to order last Wednesday, May 20, to accept the resignation of Mary Martin from the Juvenile Services Commission. Martin has reportedly moved out of the county and is currently living in western Oregon.

Judge Don McElligott next read a letter from the Department of Transportation concerning the discontinuation of the FAS (Federal Aid Secondary Roads) program because of a shrinking budget.

The court was assured that Morrow County is still a top priority in the FAS program for the completion of Bombing Range Road. FAS is expected to back the project with \$355,000, with Morrow County providing \$300,000 in matching funds.

Morrow County Court discusses budget cuts

By MARY ANN CERULLO

With the defeat of the Morrow County budget levy last Tuesday, May 19, Morrow County Court called a budget meeting last Wednesday afternoon.

Judge Don McElligott reported that the purpose of the meeting was to reorganize the budget, do some cutting, and then schedule another election for June 30.

Drastic cuts in the purchase of new office machines and machinery maintenance were discussed, as well as salary adjustments, personnel and county road work and equipment.

The following proposals were made for the June 30 ballot. A final decision was not scheduled until after press time.

The county budget and the

Pioneer Memorial Hospital levy will be listed separately as 'A' ballots. Also included will be seven 'B' ballots.

The seven 'B' ballots will be: salary for a transport civil deputy plus one vehicle; funding for a planning associate; the Extension Service budget plus salary for a Soil and Water Conservation secretary; the museum budget; the mental health program; funding for a Water Master; and the three-year serial road levy which will be cut by one million per year from the May 19 'B' ballot.

"If the levy is defeated again in this election, we'll just have to hold another election after that, and all to the taxpayers' expense," stated Judge McElligott.

According to Barbara Bloodworth, county clerk, the current cost to taxpayers is \$1,468.48 per election.

Annexations not filed

Irrigon hasn't filed its annexations with the Secretary of State, Morrow County Court learned last Wednesday.

This means Irrigon may be levying taxes illegally, says Roger Lang, State Highway Division.

"Irrigon better file immediately or they're going to be in the jackpot," said Judge Don McElligott.

Deane Seeger of the Planning Department assured the court that the state would most likely be cooperative with Irrigon's problem.

Planning commission OKs pool solar heating system

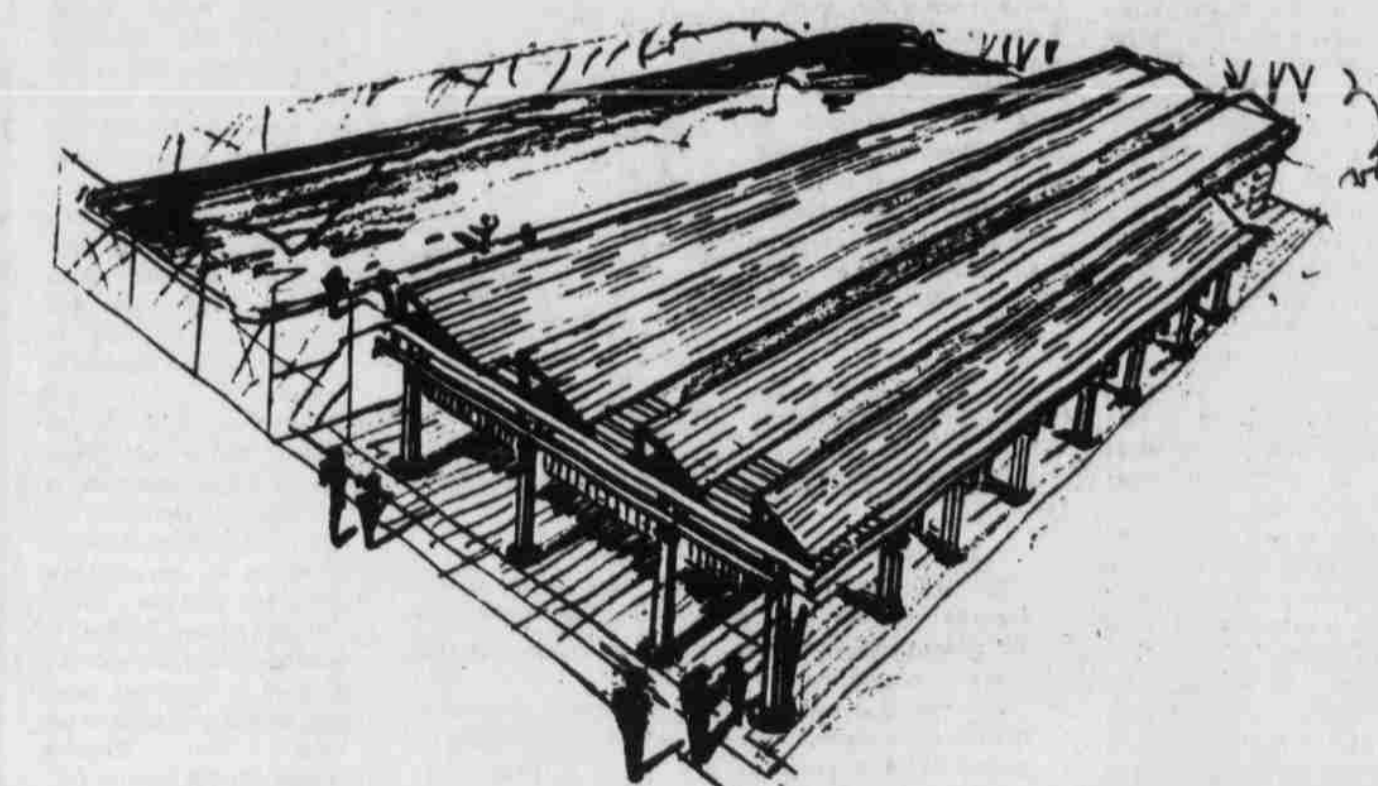
By MARY ANN CERULLO

The Heppner Planning Commission gave its OK Monday for construction of a solar heating system at the Heppner swimming pool.

The solar system would consist of four rows of solar panels installed on top of the bath house next to the pool. Designer and activist behind the solar project, Ron Forrar, says research has shown that the pool could be heated to over 80 degrees with the solar system, and would save the city over \$2,000 per year in fuel bills necessary to heat the water with the present oil system.

Forrar had originally planned to install some of the rubberized panels on the bath house, and some on scaffolding at an angle out from the pool. However, the planning commission did not agree it was the correct way for installation, so Forrar came back Monday night with revised plans showing the panels, three 91-foot long and one 67-foot long, located on top of the bath house next to the pool.

Forrar estimates the solar system will cost over \$20,000, not including installation labor, to erect.



Artist's conception of proposed solar panel system for Heppner swimming pool

He says some state funding will be available, but is asking for donations from the community. He says some funds for the project have already come in.

The Heppner Lions Club has made a commitment to raise

the funds for the project. The members are currently aiming toward raising \$2,500 through private donations, as well as activities such as a public auction, a 4th of July fireworks stand, and a raffle. Columbia Basin has donated

the work to drill fifteen 16-inch diameter holes, three feet deep to hold support beams for the solar reflectors.

The Lions have received a tentative OK to have four CETA students and an instructor work on the project, says

Lions member George Koffler.

The CETA students will work for eight weeks until the second week in August. The project's ground breaking ceremony is scheduled for Monday, June 22.

Sr. Advisory Committee meets, elects officers

By JUSTINE WEATHERFORD

Chairman Doris Gollyhorn, Ione, called the meeting of the Morrow County Senior Citizen's Advisory Committee to order at 1:30 p.m., Monday, May 18, in the board room of the Columbia Basin Electric Co-op, Heppner.

Staff people attending were Rollin Reynolds, Pendleton, director of senior programs for the Area Agency on Aging; Dorothy Krebs, Ione, chairman of the board of directors of ECOAC and representative of the Morrow County court for senior activities; Ruby Kirk, Weston, homemaker supervisor for ECOAC; Clarence Franke, Mitchell, supervisor of homemaker services in Morrow, Wheeler and Gilliam counties; and Lynnea Sargent, senior services supervisor of Morrow County. Twelve senior citizen representatives who make up the county advisory committee conducted the meeting.

Reynolds explained "It was never planned that any of the 17 mealsites in the five-county area would be closed." He said that it was determined that the Heppner site needed to be moved and that the six reasons for this move were explained in a Feb. 20 letter to the Director of the BMEDC (Blue Mountain Economic Development Council) which directs the Heppner Neighborhood Center.

Seniors present asked that this letter be read to them and that it be published in the minutes of the day's meeting. Questions were directed to Reynolds and Mrs. Krebs who explained that the new county supervisor's salary is being paid by Morrow County from revenue sharing funds and that this salary is guaranteed even if the county budget request might be defeated.

Homemaker supervisors

Kirk and Franke reported that the Homemaker Program funded by OPI (Oregon Project Independence) is helping many older and handicapped persons stay in their homes and is saving taxpayers a great deal of money besides making life more pleasant for those who otherwise would be forced into institutions.

The transportation report showed that the Morrow senior bus is gaining usage. Ione seniors have made trips to the John Eubank's mountain cabin and to the Maryhill Museum, both of which were very enjoyable. The bus was used, along with a commercial bus, for the Morrow Historical Society trip to Baker and Sumpter. Dot Halvorsen was praised for contributing her time and skill as bus driver. Currently the bus is bringing Ione people to Heppner every other Wednesday for appointments and shopping. More trips will be planned for south-county seniors soon.

Morrow County Senior Services Supervisor Lynnea Sargent will announce plans for the resumption of senior meals in South Morrow as soon as arrangements are completed.

The report of the committee on nominations which had been read at the April meeting of the advisory committee was read again and director Reynolds took the chair to conduct the election. The only nominees for chairman and vice-chairman, Doris Gollyhorn and Justine Weatherford, were re-elected. Theta Lowe, who has served the group for seven years as secretary, declined to continue in that office, and the election of a new secretary was tabled until the next meeting of the advisory committee which is set for Wed., July 15, in Heppner.