

Around About

By Justine Weatherford

It was too bad, quite sad, that Heppner's basketballers didn't get to go on to state glory, but they certainly provided a series of good evenings of sport for members of their community during the regular season and the playoffs.

Along with the basketball journey, the delightful high school play, the moving and installing of the huge girders on the high Willow Creek Bridge, the Sunday receptions honoring golden-weds Florence and Cornett Green and newly-weds Dee Dee and Kevin Chick, the Monday evening Chamber of Commerce Banquet and the Tuesday evening Tri-County Choral Music Festival at the high school, recent days have surely been activity filled.

So many folks have taken themselves out on Balm Fork to watch the excitement of the bridge and dam construction. Bob Lowe is one of the most regular hillside superintendents—he is often assisted by friend Jack Loyd. As the huge bridge girders were moved through town, many were especially fascinated by the little back-end vehicles and their drivers.

When family members and former neighbors in the Willamette Valley ask me "What do you find to do in Heppner?" I just feel like telling them there are very few dull, unprogrammed days in this lively, busy community. In fact, it is a rather rare day or evening when there are not several meetings or activities scheduled.

Next week will have its bright, green Wednesday when the morning festivities will center around the St. Patrick's Day broadcast and program at Jim Farley's Showroom. A long list of prizes will be up for grabs. After the program there will be a brunch gathering at the Elks Lodge, and then everyone must be getting set to be at St. Patrick's Parish Hall between 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. for the annual, Irish Stew and the special musical entertainment.

"The Great Big Doorstep" was a different sort of play. It also was on a different sort of schedule than most Heppner High dramatic productions for special reasons. The production demanded much work from all associated with it and should have had better community support at its Tuesday and Thursday performances. The leading players did remarkable jobs in portraying the Cajun family, the Crochets.

A small 20-page folder "Oregon Events" (1982, First Printing) reached Heppner within the last month. This may be the first time Morrow County events have been listed in this state publication. It states that on May 30 the Morrow County Pioneer Picnic will be held at the fairgrounds, that on August 21-24 the County Fair and on August 27-29 the Morrow County Rodeo will be held here. It also lists the Boardman Harvest Festival for September 11 and 12. This folder is a publication of the Oregon Department of Transportation and Travel Information office in Salem and is widely circulated. Perhaps the Irish Stew dinner of March 17 could be added to the schedule another year. A few of these pamphlets are available at the Bob Harris Real Estate office on Heppner's Main Street.

The Heppner-Morrow Chamber of Commerce is striving to build better communication between the various areas of this county. The Pot of Gold Banquet last Monday was, hopefully, the first annual banquet at which an outstanding business or governmental speaker would come to address people here. This year's speaker was a close neighbor, Earl Pryor, a Condon rancher who has become well known in the state and nation because of his rise to top positions in wheat organizations.

Many Chamber of Commerce organizations across America have for many years honored outstanding citizens of their communities for their volunteer efforts. The naming of Jerry Peck of Boardman and Theta Lowe of Heppner as first citizens proves that careful work was done by the Honors and Awards Committee. Many citizens turned in suggestions about whom should be honored. Each name was carefully considered. The fact that one winner came from the north end of the county and one from the south was most pleasing.

Most everyone is very delighted with the choice of Jerry and Theta as they are two persons very deserving of county recognition and praise for their hours and years of volunteer service. We sincerely congratulate each of them.



The Morrow County CowBelles will celebrate its 25th anniversary March 20 with a no-host dinner, 6:30 p.m. at the Heppner Elks Lodge. The dinner is open to the public.

Former Morrow County Extension Agent Harold Kerr will serve as Master of Ceremonies and Wayne Leathers, "The county philosopher" is slated as guest speaker. Leathers presently lives in Monument but describes himself as a graduate of Hardman and has traveled extensively throughout the state as a guest speaker.

Charter members of the CowBelles are Lorena Jones, Norma French, Marilyn Robinson, Shirley Rugg, Nadine O'Brien, Rosella Lindsay, Violet Swaggett, Beverly Doherty, Emma White - Cecil (deceased), Myra Peck, Leila Palmer and Dorris Graves.

Throughout the 25 years since its organization, the group has been active in the promotion of the beef industry throughout the county and has actively supported 4-H and Morrow County Fair and Rodeo activities.



Morrow County CowBelles' first officers in 1957, from left to right: Violet Swaggett, Shirley Rugg, Emma White Cecil (deceased), Dorris Graves and Norma French.

CowBelles donate to PMH Aux. in commemoration of 25th ann.



Morrow County CowBelle Treasurer Judy Barber presents Carley Drake, treasurer of the Pioneer Memorial Hospital Auxiliary a \$25 check in commemoration of the CowBelles 25th anniversary.

BMCC slates People's Choice concert Mar. 14

A People's Choice Concert is set for March 14 at Blue Mountain Community College featuring a program selected by members of the wind ensemble and big band groups at the college.

The free concert will begin at 3 p.m. in the Pioneer Hall Theatre. John Weddle, instrumental music instructor, is conductor and music director for the groups.

"We had lots of time to do sight-reading this term," according to Weddle, "so we sifted through the material available to us and chose the pieces to work up for the concert." The college's wind ensemble and big band are college-community groups made up of both students at the college and interested musicians in the college district.

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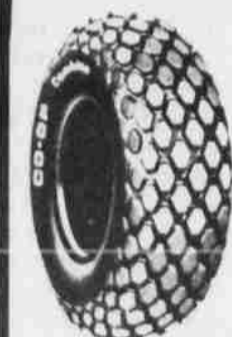
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Grange to feature slide program

Leo Craibtree of Ione will present a slide program featuring Oregon and Washington scenes at Rhea Creek

Grange Hall, March 12. A potluck dinner will precede the slide program at 6:30 p.m.

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