

Essay takes top honors

The following essay was awarded first place in a competition among junior high school students in Morrow County during the recent county Centennial celebration. Contest chairperson Jean Nelson reported that 17 essays were submitted from two of the county's three junior high schools. Essays were judged on quality and relevance to the County's history. (See related story).

An Important Pioneer

By BARNEY LINDSAY

I am proud to be a native of Morrow County and have grown up enjoying the stories my family has told me about their coming to this county when it was nothing but sagebrush and bunchgrass. It seems to me that one presence that influenced the history of the county more than anything else might well be that of the humble animal, the sheep. My great Grandfather Doherty and my great Uncle Barney were shepherds and I have always wanted to be one too.

Sheep, since Bible times, have given man all he needs to make a living, wool for clothing and warmth, meat, milk, and hides that can be turned into many useful items.

Coming from Ireland with little money, my forefathers began their adventure that would lead to permanent homes, good farms, and an inheritance for their children, by working with sheep. They took their first wages in sheep by working for an established sheepman, and then moved on to homestead and buy land in north Morrow County. There they

would winter and lamb and then they would trail the bands of sheep up Butter Creek to the lush summer grass around Starkey in the Blue Mountains. Herders from Ireland would help and the sheep were grazed and cared for the lambs grew mature and fat.

The two week trail down from the mountains to Sand Hollow and little Juniper canyon took place in the fall.

The lambs were marketed and preparations made for wintering and lambing. Early spring saw the shearing crews come and the wool crop marketed. The men were busy the year around and the women helped by caring for the crews. Cooking for lambing and shearing crews, especially without electricity and refrigeration, must have been a big task even for my Grandma who is the world's best cook.

Today at the Morrow County Fair, the legacy of sheep can be clearly seen when some of the finest sheep in the state are shown in the 4-H barns. Nothing is more important to native grandchildren of Morrow County than getting ready for this event.

Sheep are smart, sheep have been a friend to man, and there is no pleasure greater than going to sleep under a big thick Pendleton Wool Friendship blanket. No history of Morrow County is complete without some tribute to the sheep, and I'd like this paper to be a memorial to this important pioneer.

Lexington News

By Delpha Jones 989-8189

The CWA district meeting was held in Boardman Monday at the Greenfield Grange. The meeting was called to order by the Pamaona Chairman Delta Johnson who introduced Verla Larson, district No. 4 Chairman who conducted the meeting. She touched on most of the projects for women in the Grange work, the contests to be held on both the State and National levels. There was much time given to the National session to be held in Eugene in November as to table decorations, etc. A lovely dinner was served at noon from tables decorated with red roses. An unexpected guest, Morton Walverton, state master, and wife Freda, stopped for lunch enroute to their home in Portland. Attending from our area were Dot Halvorsen, Lucile Rietmann, Vera Rietmann, Jean Nelson, Geri Morton, Frances Smouse, and Delpha Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Papineau have been ill at their home this past week.

Norita Marquardt from Portland spent the weekend with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Bill B. Marquardt.

Ralph Burcham underwent major surgery on Tuesday at St. Anthony Hospital in Pendleton. His wife, Dorothy, daughter Kathy Tellechea

Special guests set for Aglow meeting

Heppner Women's Aglow Fellowship will meet Thursday, Feb. 28 at 7:15 p.m. at the Episcopal Church Parish Hall.

Ben and Lila Torres of Hermiston will be ministering. He has a radio teaching ministry and speaks at gull Gospel Business Men's Fellowships and churches in the Northwest.

Women's Aglow Fellowship is a non-denominational organization of Christian women and open to women of all faiths. Men and women are invited to this month's special meeting said a fellowship spokesperson.

Driver examiner now state certified

Gene Murty, Heppner Motor Vehicles office is now a Certified Oregon Driver Examiner, a program to upgrade the standards which examiners must meet on a continuing basis.

The CODE certificate was presented in early February by Harvey Ward, Deputy Administrator of DMV, and Russ Graham, Assistant Administrator for Field Services Branch says a news release from the Motor Vehicles Division.

Geneological Society to meet

A group of persons working toward the formation of a Morrow County Chapter of the National Geneological Society will meet February 21, for a regular monthly meeting at the Morrow County Museum in Heppner at 7:30 p.m.

Betty Tanner, president of the group says "We are really just beginners and invite others who are interested in beginning this type of research and family record building to join us."

HHS announces honor roll

Heppner High School has submitted the following honor roll listing students who earned a 3.33 grade point average or above during the first semester.

Seniors: Monique Allan, Kelli Bergstrom, Michael Bergstrom, Kimberly Hughes, Travis Hyatt, Trisha Mahoney, Nancy Martin, Jodi Mattison, James McConnell, Janelle McElhany, Jodi Padberg, Stephanie Payne (all A's), Wanda Riley, Renee Struthers.

Juniors: Andrea Ball, Reid Duncan, Melissa Gates, Loran Hayes, Tammy Hays, Keith Kennison (all A's), Alex Lindberg, Christa Matlock,

lin (all A's), Marion McMillan, Trina Palmer, Dana Reid, Lana Reid (all A's), Noella Rill (all A's).

Sophomores: Missy Eubanks, Kim George, Trent Harrison (all A's), Theresa Landsay (all A's), Tareena Nash, Jason Palmer (all A's), David Pedro, Missy Schoonover, Sophia Struthers, Clark Wallis, Wayne Wilgers.

Freshmen: Duane Ball, Kathleen Brazel, Ryan Duncan, Mark Fishburn (all A's), Kristen Green, Val Hager, Cathy Martin, Shannon McLaughlin, J.J. Osmin, Dawn Palmer, Dan Struthers, Jim Wornell.



Sitting Pretty . . .

With three fires reported near the end of last week perhaps it's more than just a good idea that Fire Chief Burkenbine has this new mode of transportation for rapid response to the firehall.

Chamber hears from new port manager

The Heppner Chamber of Commerce met for a regular noon meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 19.

The program for this meeting was presented by Steve Lindstrom, the new manager of the Port of Morrow, whose position became effective on February 1. He gave an interesting and detailed description of the physical workings of the port, said a Chamber spokesperson. He also said

that 1,600 people from a wide-spread area including the Tri-Cities are hired by the tenants of the Port.

Lindstrom then told the Chamber of some long-term plans that the Port has, including the use of the air facility between Boardman and the coal-fired plant.

Next week's program will be presented by Susan Herndon from the 4-H exchange program who will show slides from her trip to India.

Sat. fire causes minor damage

A fire at the Chevrolet garage Saturday night caused only minor damage to a motor and minimal smoke damage at the garage said Heppner Fire Chief, Forrie Burkenbine. The fire was apparently caused when an electrical spark

ignited some spilled gasoline while the mechanic was working on a motor. Twenty-two firemen responded to the alarm and we had the fire out "in short order," concluded Burkenbine.

Local woman completes 2 of 5 steps for insurance counselor designation

Nancy Brownfield, office manager of Swanson Insurance Agency in Ione, recently attended, and successfully completed, the Certified Insurance Counselors Agency Management Institute held at the Thunderbird Inn in Portland.

The three-day insurance institutes was one of the five parts of the Certified Insurance Counselors Program offered annually. After the successful completion of all five

institutes, covering all major areas of the insurance field, and five rigorous examinations, Brownfield will be awarded the Certified Insurance Counselor designation by the National Society of Certified Insurance Counselors, the nation's largest provider of professional insurance education.

Brownfield has successfully completed two of the five institutes.

WEED CONTROL SEMINAR

For Area Ranchers

Tuesday, Feb. 26

Noon - 2 p.m.

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