

Morrow County has low dropout rate

By Joyce Hensley
Assistant School Superintendent, Chuck Starr, reports that Morrow County has once again shown a low dropout rate, according to a district-wide 1986-87 study.

The study shows Morrow County has a dropout rate of 6.7%, which is considerably more favorable than the Oregon State average of 27.3%. The national average is 27%.

Oregon ranks 29th in the nation. Minnesota has the lowest rate for a state with 14% and Mississippi has the highest with 38.2%, according to Starr.

Inner city schools, or schools within large cities with the enrollment comprising of neighborhood children, have an average of

45.50%.

Commitment on the part of the school faculty is part of the reason for the low dropout rate, according to Starr. "We offer programs with a lot of options for kids who have special interests and we have special programs for kids who are slow learners or have disabilities."

He also feels, because in the Morrow County system there are comparatively smaller number of students per class room, "there is more individual contact with the kids."

"It also reflects the high ideals of our communities. They have high expectations and want their kids to complete their schooling," he added.

Parents of Exceptional students to meet

The first county-wide meeting of parents of exceptional students are invited to attend a gathering to share common interests, problems, and make suggestions for improving the educational program for these youngsters. The meeting will be held

on Thursday, November 12, 6:30 p.m. at the Riverside High School Library.

All parents of exceptional students are encouraged to attend this meeting.



Seniors gather at mealsite

Ruth Bentley, right, chairwoman of Irrigon's Stokes Landing Senior Center Board, receives a check for \$40 from eighth graders, Patricia Wetzel, Boardman, center and Hector Pacheco, Boardman, left. The Columbia Junior High students from librarian Anna Edinger's home room class raised the money at a bake sale, with the students doing their own baking. The check was presented to the senior citizens on the junior high Community Service Project Day.

ICABO SPONSORS TOWN HALL MEETING

Ione Community Agri-Business Organization (ICABO) Will host a Town Hall meeting on Thursday Nov. 19th. at 7:00 p.m. in the Ione School cafeteria.

Morrow County School district's architect, Leon Hamblin, will report on his recommendations made in the Feasibility Study for district building improvements.

A copy of the Feasibility Study; Morrow Co. School District, may be reviewed at the office of Ione High School.

EMT's to meet in Boardman Nov. 20

An organizational meeting for those people interested in Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training has been set for 7:30 p.m. Friday, November 20, at Riverside High School in Boardman.

Attending the meeting will be Bill Fenton, coordinator of EMT classes for the college. If enough interest is shown at the organizational meeting, EMT I classes will begin the following Monday, according to Fenton. Instructor for the proposed class will be Doug Foster of Arlington, an EMT III and certified EMT instructor. Cost for the class will be \$100 plus an additional \$10 lab fee. Specific days and times for the class will be set at the organizational meeting.

Any perspective EMT student, including volunteer firefighters, is encouraged to attend the meeting. For more information, contact Fenton at 276-1260, ext. 288.

UGLY Bartender contest has ended

The U.G.L.Y. Bartender Contest officially ended September 30, and the Oregon Chapter, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, has been busy compiling results.

In Boardman, Chairperson, Ms. Pat Flug announced that the two bars actively involved in the contest raised a total of \$103.

The UGLY Contest included 48 small towns from all over Oregon and SW Washington, with populations from 20 to 15,000. Altogether, 149 bars competed in the contest, raising a grand total of \$35,017.04 to fight multiple sclerosis and provide services to those who have it.

The Oregon Chapter provides services to the more than 2600 people and their families in Oregon who are faced with this major health problem. The Oregon Chapter offers an affiliated clinical center, support groups, informational meetings, MS literature, long-term loans of medical equipment and much more.

The first statewide UGLY Bartender Contest has been a great success, and is expected to return to Boardman next fall.

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Denmark exchange student misses buses

By Joyce Hensley

Being able to get on a bus when he wants to go somewhere is what a Denmark exchange student, attending Riverside High in Boardman, misses most about his homeland.

"It's terrible not to be able to catch a bus. You can't just go shopping," said Jake Fridberg, 17, of Jutland, Denmark.

Having already spent two months of his exchange student year, he is enjoying America. "I'm just having fun learning about things; all that I can."

Jake speaks English well, but as you would expect, with a Danish accent. He has studied four languages. "English is required. I have taken it for five years," he said. "I've had three years of German and one year of French, but Danish is our language."

Jake watches television here, but in Denmark, he would watch only on weekends. "About eight o'clock on week nights I am usually playing table tennis, pool or just listening to music at a youth club I belong to," he said.

In spite of the fact that soccer is the main sport in Denmark, Jake did not play until he came to America. He was a defender on the Riverside Soccer Club team during the last season. "I really prefer badminton. I belong to a badminton club at home," he said.

Schools in Denmark have no athletics in their school systems. There are just sports clubs.

His favorite meal in Denmark is chicken baked by his aunt, with whom he lives.

His favorite meal whipped up by his American host, Rick McNeerney of Boardman is, guess what, hamburgers.

Jake's parents work for govern-



Photo by Joyce Hensley
Jake Fridberg, 17, Denmark exchange student attending Riverside High School in Boardman for a year, sits chatting in a drive-in, something he can't do at home. "We don't have drive-in's, we have mostly family style restaurants," he said. "We do have McDonalds, though."

ment run hospitals. His dad is a hospital porter in Denmark, his mother is a nurse in Norway, and his step-father is a doctor in Norway. Both countries have government sponsored health care.

Automobiles are smaller in Denmark because of the high taxes. Each family is taxed on the dollar value of their car, "300 percent," said Jake. "We have very few American cars. We have mostly Japanese, German, French or Swedish."

The differences he sees in the two countries which are most apparent from a teens aspect are, teen clothing is more fashionable in the city of

Jutland; smoking is allowed in schools, in restricted areas; and there are no drive-ins for teens to meet.

"There are mostly family style restaurants," he said.

"We do have McDonalds," he added.

He met a nice American girl he spends a lot of time with on the phone, but, "if I give you her name she'll slit my throat."

Twinges of homesickness have not set in yet, and he isn't much on corresponding with friends and family back home. "I've received about twenty letters and I've only written five," he admits.

Seniors told to accept help

By Joyce Hensley

"Ask for and accept help," was one of the points brought out at a recent Coping with Caregiving program given at the Irrigon Stokes Landing Senior Center.

Dr. Vicki Schmall, a gerontologist, or a specialist in the scientific study of the physiological and pathological phenomena associated with aging, from Oregon State University, in an open forum type program, presented and expanded on several ways a caregiver can learn to cope with the stress of the day to day problems which arise.

"Set realistic expectations, develop support for yourself, take breaks from caregiving and let go of guilt," were points which Dr. Schmall, a victim of multiple sclerosis herself, addressed.

Publications Dr. Schmall has written on coping with caregiving, aging parents, growing older, and legal concerns and guides concerning

older relatives are available at the Morrow County Extension office in Heppner, according to Birdine Tullis, the Morrow County Extension Program Assistant in Home Economics.

Video cassettes and slide programs, developed by Dr. Schmall under a grant from the Fred Meyer Charitable Trust, are also available through the O.S.U. Extension office.

Carnival held in Boardman Nov. 13

A carnival will be held this Friday, November 13, from 6-8:30 p.m. at Sam Boardman Elementary school. This annual event is sponsored by the Parent's club. There will be children's games and raffles with many door prizes. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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OLCC Alcohol server classes are scheduled

Two OLCC Alcohol Server classes are scheduled for Pendleton and Hermiston during November by Blue Mountain College.

The first session will be offered November 14 in Hermiston at BMCC's Hermiston Center. The session in Pendleton is set for November 21 in Morrow Hall, room 130. Classes run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This eight-hour class is required by the OICC for all people whose job requires the serving of alcoholic beverages. The fee for the course is \$25, which included the textbook.

Due to class size restriction, pre-registration is suggested. For more information, call the college at 276-1260 or 567-1800, in Hermiston.

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