

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's office at the Courthouse reports dispatching the following business during the past week:

Dec. 25: Morrow County Sheriff's office responded to an animal problem in the Irrigon area.

Dec. 26: Morrow County Sheriff's office investigated a complaint of criminal mischief in the Irrigon area.

Dec. 27: During the week of December 21-27, Morrow County Sheriff's office assisted one disabled motorist.

Morrow County Sheriff's Office dispatched the Boardman Ambulance to a residence for illness. One 84-year-old female was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital.

Morrow County Sheriff's office investigated report of burglary in the Heppner area. Burglary occurred between Dec. 24-27. Missing items valued at about \$5,000.00.

Morrow County Sheriff's office investigated possible domestic assault in Boardman area.

Morrow County Sheriff's office investigated a report of a suspicious vehicle in the Lexington area.

Dec. 28: Morrow County dispatched the Boardman ambulance to the Nomad restaurant to pick up two people that were injured in a motor vehicle accident on I-84. Oregon State Police is investigating the accident.

Dec. 29: Morrow County Sheriff's office investigated report of a one vehicle rollover near Boardman. There were no injuries.

Dec. 30: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman Fire Department to a chimney fire on Kincaide St. The fire was put out.

Morrow County Sheriff's office responded to investigate a one vehicle noninjury accident at the 730 Jct.

Dec. 31: Morrow County Sheriff's office stood by to assist County Mental Health.

Morrow County Sheriff's office investigated report of possible intruder at a Heppner area home. All appeared OK.

Jan. 1, 1988: Morrow County Sheriff's office responded and investigated a one vehicle accident on Wilson Road near Bombing Range Rd. No one was injured.

Jan. 2: Morrow County Sheriff's office assisted Boardman Police Department at a scene of a family dispute.

Morrow County Sheriff's office cited Tony Estrada, 18, Irrigon for Assault IV.

Morrow County Sheriff's office arrested Alan Lee Roberts, 25, Echo, on The Dalles warrant for Angling Prohibited Method.

Jan. 3: Morrow County Sheriff's office responded to an animal problem in the Irrigon area.

Morrow County Sheriff's office arrested Henry Duane Wentz, 32, Wasco, on Morrow County warrant, Failure To Appear/Criminal Mischief II. Subject posted bail and was released.

Jan. 4: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched Boardman ambulance to report of an unknown injury in Boardman.

Apply for heating assistance Jan. 8

Appointments are being made for heating assistance at the Neighborhood Center, 676-5024, for January 8. Low income seniors will be served first, then the disabled, due to the budget cut.

DOCTORS ON WEEKEND CALL AT PIONEER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Jan. 2&3 - Dr. Gifford
Jan. 9-17 - Dr. Thiessen
Jan. 23&24 - Dr. Koznek

Dr. Curtis Thiessen will be covering Pioneer Memorial Hospital's Emergency Room during Dr. Wallace Wolff's vacation Jan. 9 through Jan. 16. Dr. Thiessen will also be available for appointments from Jan. 11 - 15. To make an appointment during those days call 676-9133.

Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Chamber Manager

Oliver Wendell Holmes said, "I find the greatest thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving." As the old year ends and 1988 begins, Heppner seems to be moving in the right direction. This is visible in the new businesses, changes on Main Street, the dam and hotel, the willingness to try new things, and renewed enthusiasm. Many thanks to all of the contributors and volunteers in these and other areas.

Heppner Chamber is holding an annual luncheon rather than a dinner this year, to coincide with Town and Country Week and the theme, "Community Involvement". Plan on attending at noon, Elks, Tuesday, January 12. Bring along your spouse or a guest. Business awards will be presented and 1988 Chamber of Commerce officers will be installed.

What a way to kick off 1988 with merchants, park district, SWCD, Small Woodlands, Wheat League, Livestock Growers, CattleWomen, Chamber, etc. all working together on an exciting week of activities. (Note the Town and Country Days schedule elsewhere in the Gazette). Schedule rubbing elbows with friends, neighbors, and new acquaintances January 11-15 in Heppner. Happy New Year!

Obituaries

Al Bunch

A graveside funeral service for Al Bunch was held at the Heppner masonic Cemetery on Saturday, Jan. 2, at 11 a.m.

Bunch, 69, of Heppner, died Tuesday, Dec. 29, 1987, at Elzora Manor Nursing Home in Milton-Freewater.

He was born Nov. 15, 1918, near Winigan, Mo., ninth of 12 children born to Willis and Irva Belzer Bunch.

On April 28, 1942, he married Betty J. Mankin at Couer d'Alene, Idaho.

He served with the Army Air Force during World War II and was honorably discharged in October of 1945.

He and his wife moved to the Heppner area in the late 1940s where they farmed.

Bunch was honored as Conservation Man of the Year in 1952 and in 1983 and was named Livestock Grower of the Year in 1973.

He was a member of Heppner BPOE 358, United Methodist Church, American Legion, and had served with the Lexington Oil Co-op, Morrow County Grain Growers, Morrow County School Board, Morrow County Airport Committee, ASC Committee and was a past chairman of the Morrow County Democratic Committee and a life member of the Oregon Wheat League.

Bunch was an avid bowler and belonged to a radio controlled airplane hobby club. He enjoyed playing the guitar and fiddle.

Survivors include his wife, at Heppner; sons Gerald of Irrigon and Michael of Heppner; daughter Sheron Woodside of Lexington; a brother in Oklahoma and seven brothers and one sister in Missouri; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice, c/o Bank of Eastern Oregon, P.O. Box 39, Heppner, OR 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary, Heppner was in charge of arrangements.

Hospital Notes

Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner reports admitting and discharging the following patients during the past week:

Pauline Robinson, Lexington-admitted December 27; discharged December 29.

The following people were still patients as of press time Tuesday: Missy Schoonover, Lexington-admitted January 3;

Ann Murray, Heppner-admitted January 3;

Eleanor Gonty, Heppner-admitted January 3;

Maurice Groves, Heppner-admitted January 4.

H.H.S. ACTIVITIES

Jan. 12 - FAF Workshop, HHS Library at 7 p.m.

Freshman boys and Varsity Boys and Girls Basketball here vs. Lone at 4:30 p.m.

Jan. 15 - No school. Varsity and J.V. Boys and Girls Basketball at Athena at 3 p.m.

Jan. 16 - Varsity and J.V. Boys and Girls Basketball here vs. Stanfield at 1 p.m.

Homebuddies will meet on Feb. 2

The January meeting of Homebuddies has been cancelled, but will meet Tuesday, February 2. The guest speaker for February will be Mr. Jeff Manley from the Morrow County Mental Health Clinic.

Parents club plans Carnival at Jan. meeting

The Heppner Elementary Parents Club will meet January 12 in the Grade School Multi-Purpose room to plan the February 13 school carnival. All parents who wish to help are invited to attend. For more information call Joan Records, 676-5260.

Chief Rathbun's Tips

What to do if you think your home has been entered.

1. Go to another phone and call police at once.
2. Don't touch anything in your home.
3. Leave everything exactly as you find it.
4. Don't attempt a personal investigation - let police handle it.
5. Give police any information you have.

Board members answer school budget questions

Are our schools competitive? With the limited job opportunities available for high school graduates within this county, we train our graduates for someone else. This is by no means just a local problem as many of our neighboring districts do the same. It is important, therefore, that our graduates be able to compete favorably with graduates from every school system within the state.

The high school dropout rate should be examined as it also affects the job potential of the non-graduate. The drop-out rate statewide is in excess of twenty percent. A student is considered to be a drop-out if he or she does not complete high school within a four year time frame. The student that drops back one year for any reason is still considered a drop-out. A transfer student is not a drop-out if his records have been requested by another school. With these points in mind, Morrow County had a high school drop out rate of 6.7%. Out of 565 students, 38 were lost for some reason. This is a good record, but it is still disturbing as a lot of talent is being lost. Does the size of the school have any bearing on the dropout rate? Our two smallest schools had less than a one percent drop-out rate. The largest school has the highest rate, but still was well below the state average. The answer to the question seems to be "yes," as all our high schools are considered small by state standards.

Once the students graduate what do they do? Sixty-six percent of the 1987 graduates planned to go to college, either a two year or four year school. Sixteen percent planned to enter the Armed Forces. Therefore, a total of 81% of the graduates had plans to acquire some type of advanced training. For schools within our enrollment classification, Morrow County Schools ranked second for students attending Oregon schools of higher education. We may not head the state in this regard, but many districts would be happy to be able to equal our record.

There certainly is no one factor that can be responsible for our excellent educational record. Parents, teachers, and most importantly the attitude of the students make this possible. Our students have a definite advantage in that the staff is dedicated to their jobs and want to see their students excel. Secondly, our citizens have recognized the need to support their school system year after year and should take pride in its accomplishments.

Yes the schools are doing the job we want. As with all things, improvements can be made and will be made. Therefore, your continued support and encouragement is needed to keep the system a leader.

(s) Jerry McElligott
School Board Member
(Editor's Note: School board and advisory committee members periodically will answer questions they repeatedly are asked by voters. To have a school board member answer your question, write: "School Questions", P.O. Box 368, Lexington, Oregon 97839, or call 989-8202.)

NOTICE

Dr. Wolff's office will be closed from Jan 9-17th. Office staff will be available to make appointments. Dr. Wolff will resume regular office hours on Jan. 18th.

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