

Boardman • Irrigon News

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Irrigon boy happy after facial reconstructive surgery

By Joyce Hensley

A ten-year-old Irrigon boy is "happy" about looking "more handsome" after receiving facial reconstructive surgery to correct a congenital deformity.

Leroy Munkers, a fourth grader at A. C. Houghton Elementary, is also physically more comfortable. "I feel better, too," he said.

Leroy, son of Dale Munkers, Heppner and Marla Wilson, Irrigon, was born without a bridge in his nose. He had extra thick, bumpy bone deposits on his forehead, his eyes were too far out on the edge of his face, and his top jaw did not grow as fast as the rest of his face.

Because the shape of his head was "different" than the other kids in school, he was teased by his schoolmates.

He was also born with another birth defect, hydrocephalus, or water on the brain.

A surgical team at the University of Oregon Medical School in Portland, including Dr. Henry Kawamoto, a cranial/facial specialist from the University of California, performed the eight hour surgery which resulted in Leroy's "more handsome" looks and causing him to "feel better."

The thick, bumpy bone deposits on Leroy's forehead were shaved. The deposits were then used to build a bridge in his nose, and to reconstruct other parts of his face.

Metal plates were also used to fuse bones together in reshaping the out-



Photo by Joyce Hensley

Leroy Munkers

side of his forehead. Wires were used to fuse the bones and teeth in his upper jaw. His upper jaw was brought out an inch to give him a more normal bite. He will be fitted with braces such as the average person is fitted with to further correct his bite when he is older.

Leroy's eyes were brought closer together.

Unknown to Leroy at the time, doctors in training at the medical

school crowded around the operating table to observe this unique surgery.

Leroy said the doctors were nice, but the surgery was "a little bit scary."

Being interviewed by the media is old hat to Leroy. Since his surgery, he has become somewhat of a celebrity. He has been featured on two television stations and several newspapers.

Leroy, a very normal ten-year-old intellectually, likes school.

"Math is fun," he said. He also likes his teacher.

Further reconstructive surgery will be necessary when he is about 17, according to his grandmother, Lorraine.

The only problem he is having now is, "one eye is lazy," she said. "It may be necessary to put a patch on his good eye to make the lazy eye work."

The actual surgery was financed by the Doernbecker division of the University of Oregon Medical School, but the expenses did pile up during his ten years of medical problems.

The Irrigon community and his schoolmates pitched in and gave his family a hand.

The A. C. Houghton Read-A-Thon donated \$1,000 and Neighborhood Watch, through various fund raising projects, raised \$3,000. "We are very, very grateful," said Leroy's mother, Marla.

"We are doing just fine, now," she added.

Variety of Activities cap off Spirit week

By Mindy Nix

The competition was fierce this week at Riverside as the classes challenged one another for the most points during spirit days.

Students dressed '60's on Wednesday. Many raided mom and dad's wardrobes, searching for remains of the "hippie look." When all heads were counted, the sophomore and junior classes tied for first, with 87.5% of the class members participating.

The hall decorating contest was won by the sophomore class, with their "Sophomore Safari" theme of "Welcome to the Jungle."

Thursday, students dressed as their favorite hero or character, in which the junior class placed first for the most participants. There was quite a variety of costumes, seniors Robert Bates, Vince Daltoso, Hank

Johnson and Dan Peck dressed as DEVO, and lip synced "Whip It" in the commons as students observed their performance. Hank Johnson played the lead singer while others danced to the tune. Faculty members dressed as their favorite hero Riverside's beloved principal, Mr. Daltoso and chanted, "Mr. D., Mr. D., Mr. D."

Thursdays noon activity was the class tug-o-war competition, with the seniors receiving first place; sophomores second; juniors, third and freshmen last.

The Riverside volleyball team played Wahtonka Eagles at home Thursday night. One point was given to each class member attending the games. The sophomores had the most spectators, closely followed by the juniors - only one person short of

tying with the sophomores.

Friday was black, blue and white day, with almost everyone dressing in Riverside's school colors. Friday's noon activity was the car push. Students from each class had to push a car from one part of the parking lot to the other, and try to beat the best time. Sophomores won the car push, with the senior class close behind, juniors placed third and freshmen last.

A pep assembly was held Friday afternoon to get everyone wound up for Riverside's Homecoming game against the Weston-McEwen Tiger-Scots.

A "spirit trophy" was awarded to the sophomore class during Friday's pep assembly for their outstanding display of school spirit.

Lundin attends economics development training

Fred Lundin, Agricultural Agent in Morrow County, attended a regional training on community economic development and home-based business management September 26-30 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The workshop was sponsored by the Western Rural Development Center (WRDC), which promotes social science research and education to benefit rural communities. WRDC is based at Oregon State University, Corvallis and is one of four regional rural development centers funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Lundin was among 100 Extension

agents and specialists and other economic developers from 13 western states and Guam, to hear university experts from across the nation discuss topics like community economic assessment, marketing, business planning, managing cash flow and computer decision making.

"This training shows that the Cooperative Extension Service is working to meet the public's changing educational needs," Lundin said.

Those with questions on home-based business management or community economic development can contact Lundin at the Morrow County Extension office in Heppner or call 676-9642.

Cholesterol, fat and You program offered

Have you gotten the message on Fat and Cholesterol? Coronary heart disease is still a major health problem in the U.S. High level blood cholesterol and fat in the diet are important factors in coronary heart disease. Lone Study Group is offering a public program which will focus on fat and cholesterol in the diet: the latest research results, food types and sources of fat and cholesterol, USDA dietary guidelines and American Heart Association recommendations.

Beverly Craig, Gilliam County Home Economist will present this program Monday, October 17, 7-30 p.m., at St. Williams Catholic Church basement. There will be a brief Lone Study Group meeting at 7 p.m.



This must be the Year of the Skunk, based on the numbers seen so far. One rancher reports trapping eight of the critters already this year.

The skunk is a member of the weasel family. It is omnivorous (eats both plant and animal matter) and nocturnal (sleeps in the day) in habit, and seemingly fearless. Field mice make up a large part of its diet. It is generally beneficial, since only about 5% of its diet is made up of items which are beneficial to man.

Such a discussion of its benefit goes out the window, however, when the skunk sets up residence in your basement. So let's talk about skunk control.

Exclusion is the best control. Place wire mesh, sheet metal, or concrete over all openings. Fences should be three feet high and extend one and a half feet into the ground.

There are no registered repellents for skunks. They seem to have a corner on the market. Moth balls or ammonia soaked cloths will serve as a temporary repellent for small areas, but other methods are needed to permanently solve the problem.

There are no toxicants registered for skunks, but there is one fumigant available. It is a gas cartridge used for fumigating skunk dens.

The best method for getting rid of a skunk which is already in residence is to trap it. You can either buy or build a live trap. The Extension office has plans for two traps. The skunks, once trapped, can be transported for release or killed.

To kill a trapped skunk, slowly lower it into a tank of water to drown it.

One way to reduce skunk activity is to keep garbage areas clean. Grain storage areas, since they attract mice, also attract skunks. Limit mice in barns, bins, etc., and you'll limit skunk activity.

For more information on skunks, contact the Extension Office at the Pettyjohn Building in Heppner.



In ancient Russia, it was believed that a skein of red wool wound about the arms and legs would ward off fevers.

The Mouse Factory Beauty Salon
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In the Service

Airman James B. Clark, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ned Clark of Heppner, has graduated from Air Force basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization and customs and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the community college of the Air Force.

He is a 1988 graduate of Heppner High School.

Airman Loren D. Dieter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan E. Dieter of Boardman, has graduated from Air Force Basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

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He is a 1988 graduate of Riverside High School, Boardman.

Historical society holds annual meeting

By Delpha Jones

The regular yearly meeting of the Morrow County Historical Society was held Sunday October 2 at the Lexington Grange Hall with the chairman Delpha Jones presiding.

The group was welcomed followed by an invocation by Pastor Glen Anderson of the Lexington Baptist Church. Rikka Tews of Lone was the pianist for the day.

The chairman announced the chronicles were ready for sale, and the calendars which were dedicated to those preserving the Old Oregon Trail.

There were a number of door prizes given throughout the meeting. There was a short report on the Century Farm awards, stating that this Society recognizes them each year and the state every 5 years.

George M. Bennett and wife from Hermiston were present and he gave a most interesting talk on the railroads in the 1800s in Morrow County and the communications and demonstration of the telegraph. 1888 was the first telegraph in Morrow County.

The winners of the essay contest on the railroads in Morrow County were announced with Alecia Tarnasky receiving first place, with her essay printed in the Chronicles. Other winners were Shawn Cutsforth and Pete Pearson. The Society expressed appreciation for the work of these students.

Seniors Flea Market is Oct. 14-15

Irrigon seniors are having a Flea Market October 14 & 15 at the Senior Center from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday. There will be new and used items

such as tools, dolls, flower arrangements, pattern books and houseplants. Tacos will be served by the seniors.

State treasurer stumps for French

State Representative Ray French welcomed Oregon State Treasurer, Tony Meeker, to Prineville. At a coffee held at the Cinnabar Restaurant Mr. Meeker congratulated Rep. French on the fine job he has done representing the citizens of District 59.

"I'm proud to have served with Ray at the legislature," said Meeker. "We need more people, like Ray, who know how to help their constituents. Ray is one of the best legislators I have seen. He gets the job done and is an outstanding

spokesman for the people of Central and Eastern Oregon."

"There are a number of issues that are important to the people of this district," said French, "I know what a tough job it is to deal with tough spending issues, and I intend to help set the priorities during the next legislative session."

French is a two-term incumbent for District 59 which covers four counties: Crook, Morrow, Grant and Baker. He is a rancher who has lived all of his life in Eastern Oregon.

BMCC board meets in Heppner

The Blue Mountain Community College board will hold a meeting Wednesday, October 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Heppner High School library.

The board takes turns having their meetings around Umatilla and Mor-

row counties during the year to give people a chance to attend these meetings and see what is happening with the college.

The public is invited to attend this meeting to ask questions and make comments.

and Barbara Bloodsworth.

The Kitchen Band from Stoke's Landing did several fun numbers and were well received by the crowd.

The meeting adjourned with a short board meeting held in the hall. Preceding the meeting a bountiful turkey potluck dinner was held with Sue Vinson and Barbara Bloodsworth in charge.

Dues are \$5 and all are cordially invited to join.

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