

The Heppner

Morrow County's Home-Owned Newspaper

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Pre-School celebrates St. Patrick's Day



Heppner Pre-School celebrated St. Patrick's Day by making hats and also celebrated 50 days of Pre-school together last Friday.

County levy to be voted on March 28

Registered voters will have a chance to vote on Morrow County's one year special levy next Tuesday, March 28. Also up for voter's approval will be the County Medical Levy on a separate ballot. Tuesday's vote will be a walk-in as opposed to a mail-in ballot according to Barbara Bloodworth, County Clerk.

At issue on the County ballot will be the approval of a \$3,838,338 levy which Judge Carlson reports is within the magical 6% limitation of last year's levy. If last year's levy had been approved as a current tax base, it would not have been necessary to request voter approval on this budget. Fiscal year 1989-90's tax rate will be an estimated \$5.87 per \$1,000 valuation. Put another way, taxes on a \$40,000 home would amount to \$234.80. The tax rate is determined by dividing a district's levy by the assessed value.

Holding the proposed levy down to 5.5% above last year's levy is a credit to all departments and agencies requesting tax supporting dollars. Even though no increase would have been more desirable, Carlson said there are several

reasons for the 5.5% increase next year. For one, it will be necessary to put on a special deputy sheriff for drug related activities in Morrow County. Last year, voters turned down the levy that would have provided for this position. Since that time, residents of Boardman and South Morrow County attempted to raise private dollars to fund the special Deputy Sheriff. Carlson said that the position will be funded as part of our new levy because of overwhelming requests for this service.

Another reason for the 5.5% increase will be the reinstatement of an appraiser position. This position was stricken from last year's budget to reduce the levy. To be fair to taxpayers, property values and appraisals should follow current market trends. All appraisals must be in a six year rotation to maintain this equity. At the present time, Morrow County is about one year out of cycle. Since this discovery, the State Department of Revenue has made it clear to County officials that all property appraisals must be kept current or face the possibility of state intervention at the County's expense.

Greg Sweek, County Assessor, said that our county valuation declined from this year's \$768,676,580, to an estimated \$760,000,000 next year. This will be an estimated loss of valuation of \$8,676,580. One of the major reasons for this is the appeal by utility properties such as the PGE coal fired plant and Union Pacific Railroad. These two utilities have appealed their valuation to the Oregon Tax Court. Until the case is settled, only the uncontested or lower value is allowed to be used on the assessment roll. PGE and all other utilities pay taxes based upon net earnings of the company and not on the depreciated value of the property.

The Morrow County Medical Fund is also part of the levy, although on a separate ballot. The proposed \$400,000 levy reflects a \$112 dollar decrease from this year's medical levy. Although the medical budget is up by 24%, projected revenues generated by the facilities will require a lesser tax subsidy for the operation of Morrow County Medical facilities.

School board officially ratifies teachers contract at Monday meeting

At a meeting at Columbia Junior High in Irrigon Monday night, the Morrow County School Board ratified a three year contract with county teachers thereby ending the teachers strike. It also ended the state of emergency declared by the district during the strike. The new contract

goes now to Maureen McElligott, president of the teacher's union, for her signature on the final draft.

A letter of resignation was received from Joe Stevens, who is resigning from the school board as he has taken a job out of the district. The board accepted the resignation

of Karen Howe, math teacher at Heppner High School, and recommended the suspension of her Oregon teaching certificate for failure to provide 60 days notice of her resignation.

Probationary teachers contracts were renewed for the 1989-90 school year.

Plan A was approved for the 1989-90 school calendar. School will begin on August 29.

Don't forget to vote
Combined Boardman 01 & 02.....Greenfield Grange
June 24.....Ione City Hall
Combined Irrigon 05 & 06.....North Morrow Annex
Lexington 07.....Mormon Church
Combined Hardman/Heppner
03,08,09,10,11.....Pettyjohn Building

The Lost Leprechaun
By Josh Sharp
Once upon a time I was walking home and I saw a leprechaun. He was lost. He was worried. I helped him find his home. We looked all over town. We finally found it.

Bed Race-a good time for all

The Irish Bed Race was a good time for all, contestants and spectators. The race coordinated by Ken and Kaedene Bailey, had five bed entries. The beds were decorated and manned by five contestants each. The object of the race is to have one person in the bed and four others pushing it two blocks where the person riding gets out, changes nightshirts with another person and pushes the bed back up the street.

Winners of the race were Les Schwab first, Adams Bread team second, and First Interstate third. The all-woman United Way team was Best of Show. A calcutta was held on the race and Ina Moeller was the winner of the \$100.



Harley Sager looks over the D and L Repair's entry for the bed race.

Reconciliation day in Heppner churches

The South Morrow County Ministerial Association calls for Reconciliation Day on Easter Sunday, March 26 at every church in our community. Your presence at worship on that day will indicate your desire for healing and reconciliation. If you are unable to be present this day, please communicate your desire to your pastor for reconciliation.

Mrs. Lea Calvert's second grade class composed St. Patrick's Day short stories for St. Patrick's Day. They are located throughout the paper for your enjoyment.

My Lucky Day
By Paul Lauritsen
Once upon a time there was a full moon. A leprechaun was counting his gold. Then a dog came and I saved that little leprechaun and I got some gold.

22 year old mother indicted by Grand Jury

A 22-year old Heppner woman was indicted by the Morrow County Grand Jury in connection with the discovery of the bodies of two infants in Morrow County.

Paula Anderson was charged with one count of Murder, one count of Abuse of Corpse, and one count of Concealing the Birth of an Infant in connection with the discovery of the body of an apparent full-term infant

found in an apartment in Heppner on February 15, 1989.

Ms. Anderson was also charged by separate indictment with one count of Murder, one count of Abuse of Corpse, and one count of Concealing the Birth of an Infant in connection with the discovery of the body of an apparent full-term infant found in a residence in Ione on March 2, 1989.

Ms. Anderson has been lodged in the Benton-Franklin County Jail and held without bail on those charges and was arraigned in Morrow County Circuit Court on Monday, March 20.

Entry of plea is Friday, March 24 at 8:30 a.m. Anderson is a 1985 graduate of Ione High School.

Steelman wins at Dog Trials



Cliff Steelman, this year's winner of the St. Patrick's Day Celebration sheep dog trials, with his dogs Lass and Nip.

This year's winner of the St. Patrick's Day sheep dog trials was Cliff Steelman of Walla Walla.

Steelman is no stranger to Heppner and our St. Patrick's Celebration. He gave the first sheep dog demonstration before there was a contest, and has attended every trial since then. He and his wife Gwen own and operate a restaurant in Walla Walla, and he says he attends about 16 trials a year in Canada, Oregon and Washington.

When asked how Heppner's trials measure up, Steelman says "the field is small and the sheep are

challenging." But he especially likes Heppner. "The town accepts us with

open arms, we really like it here." The dogs used in the trials are registered Border Collies, and take two to three years to train, says Steelman. He says he works with his dogs five days per week to train them and keep them in shape for competition. He also breeds and sells the pups.

On why he does sheep dog competitions, "I enjoy working with animals, both the sheep and the dogs, and I like the people who compete," he says.

Movie to be shown at Jr. high March 23

Bored? Looking for something exciting to do? Attend the movie "Snowball Express" Thursday, March 23 at 1 p.m. at the junior high

gym. The charge is \$1 per person, preschool accompanied by an adult is free.

Good turnout for Dog Trials

Twenty dog trialers participated with 34 dogs at the annual Sheep Dog Trials Saturday and Sunday at the St. Patrick's Day celebration in Heppner. William and Sandra Rill chairmen, reported they had the largest attendance ever to watch the trials, held at the fairgrounds both days.

Winners of the Open Class were first place Cliff Steelman and Lass; second Cliff Steelman and Nip; third place Virgil Brown and Patch; fourth Garry Ericsson and Hangin Tree Scott; and fifth place Kathy Brunetto and S-Nan.

Winners in the Pro-Novice class were first, Michele Wertz and taff; second Garry Ericsson and Hangin Tree Ann and third place Judy Norris and Spot.

Winners in the Novice-Novice were Chuck Purview and Beau, first; Ken Truesdell and Laddie, second and Ken Truesdell and Blue third.

Weather Report

By City of Heppner

March 14 - 20			
	High	Low	Prec Snow
Tues.	50	32	.01
Weds.	54	38	.01
Thurs.	43	32	.22
Fri.	54	42	.01
Sat.	51	37	.11
Sun.	53	31	.01
Mon.	64	44	.04

Market Report

Components of the Morrow County Grain Growers

Tuesday, March 21	
Soft White	
March	\$4.82
April	\$4.81/\$4.79
May	\$4.77/\$4.70
June	\$4.65/\$4.55
July	\$4.50/\$4.48
August	\$4.46
Barley	
Mar.-Apr	\$118 T
Pik	99%
New Crop	\$112 T

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