

Sheriff's dept. releases survey results

Sixty-nine percent of the people polled in a Morrow Co. Sheriff's Dept. survey feel that drunk driving laws are sufficiently enforced by the Sheriff's Dept.

The Morrow County Sheriff's Department learned this and other information after tabulating the results of a survey they went out to Morrow County citizens Oct. 11. The survey was intended "first to determine public feeling about our present performance and, second, to find out what the public feels our priorities should be for the coming budget year," said the department.

"By using a system of survey utilized by other sheriff's departments in the state," said a Morrow Co. Sheriff's Department news release, "we are able to give the department a 95-percent reliability level with a three-percent plus-or-minus error level, based on a minimum return of 40 percent of the surveys. We sampled 3.4 percent of the registered voters in the county. There are 4,138 registered voters in the county and we surveyed 142 of them by selecting every 29th voter." Of those surveyed, 74 or 52 percent responded to the survey.

Following are questions asked of each voter, who agreed, disagreed or voiced no opinion:

Drunk driving laws are sufficiently enforced by the Morrow County Sheriff's department-69% agree, 14% disagree, 17% had no opinion.

The Morrow County Criminal Justice System is well coordinated in the way it deals with crime in the county-60% agree, 20% disagree, 20% had no opinion.

Present law enforcement practices are effective regarding minor property crime-52% agree, 24% disagree, 24% no opinion.

Current traffic enforcement practices of the Sheriff's department are good enough to meet the need for public safety-80% agree, 3% disagree, 10% no opinion.

Morrow County has a youth alcohol abuse problem-84% agree, 3% disagree, 13% no opinion.

Morrow County has a youth drug

program-88% agree, 1% disagree, 11% no opinion.

Reduction of illegal drug traffic should be a major priority for the Sheriff's department-90% agree, 4% disagree, 6% no opinion.

The Sheriff's department should rank calls for service and respond according to the seriousness of the situation-83% agree, 7% disagree, 10% no opinion.

The lack of jail facility in Morrow County (county jail) is a problem which needs a solution-70% agree, 17% disagree, 13% no opinion.

The Morrow County Sheriff's department has sufficient staff to do a good job with its law enforcement responsibilities in the county-39% agree, 32% disagree, 29% no opinion.

Generally, people convicted of serious crimes in Morrow County receive a sufficient penalty for their crime-27% agree, 56% disagree, 17% no opinion.

Seventeen percent of those responding had been a crime victim in 1989. Ninety nine percent reported

the crime to a law enforcement agency.

Of the 52 percent responding 32 were males and 37 were females; 12 were 19-35 years old, 24 were 36-50, 17 were 51-65, 12 were 66 or older and four did not provide a year of birth.

The agency primarily responsible for delivering law enforcement is: Morrow County Sheriff Dept. 58%; Heppner Police Dept. 24%; Boardman Police Dept. 19%; Irrigon Police Dept. 4%; Oregon State Police 9%, some responding put two departments.

The surveys requested that comments or concerns be written at the bottom. "The comments were very favorable and included some excellent suggestions which we intend to follow up on," said Sheriff Drago. "We have received some valuable information and direction for the coming budget year."

The surveys are available for public inspection at the Morrow County Sheriff's Office.

Willow Creek Lake to remain at same level

Lake levels at Willow Creek Dam in Heppner will remain at 2063 mean sea level for the 1990 operating year according to the Portland District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Corps made this decision after considering written and oral comments from a Sept. 13 public meeting at Heppner and comments received from federal and state fisheries agencies. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have both recommended further fisheries studies and a review of existing environmental documents before pool levels are changed.

Heppner officials had asked the Corps to raise the lake level and keep it at a higher level through the summer months to take advantage of recreational opportunities.

The Corps announced in early

November that it was considering three alternative operating lake levels, but that additional environmental assessment might be necessary before action could be taken to raise the lake level.

Local student enrolls at UTI

Heppner resident Ty Zeller has been accepted into the air conditioning technology program at Universal Technical Institute (UTI) in Phoenix, Arizona. Zeller is attending Heppner High School and is scheduled to begin classes at UTI on Nov. 12, 1990.

Nationally accredited, UTI trains students for careers in the automotive, diesel, marine, and air conditioning, refrigeration and heating repair industries. Students graduate with the skills necessary for entry into their chosen field of training.

The Institute has campuses in Phoenix, Arizona, Houston, Texas and Glendale Heights, Illinois (near Chicago). It has graduated nearly 20,000 technicians into the industry since opening in 1965.

'Life Lights' reminder



Shane Palmer (on ladder), Scott Johnston (c) and Jon Kindie string Christmas lights to remind students and teachers not to drink and drive or ride with someone who has been drinking during the holiday. Each light represents a person that has agreed to this.

The HHADD (Heppner High Against Drinking and Driving) Chapter at Heppner High put up "Life Lights" on December 5 as a visual reminder not to drink and

drive during the holiday season. A light was put up for each student and staff member who pledged not to drink and drive or ride with someone who has been drinking.

Artifactory a success



Visitors to the artifactory craft fair Dec. 2 make their own Christmas wreaths with assistance from the Garden club members.

55/Alive classes offered again

By Beth Stephens
55/Alive Driving Class will be offered at Stokes Landing Senior Center January 11 and 12. To register call 922-3348.

Irrigon man convicted

An Irrigon man was convicted of sodomy following a one-day jury trial in Heppner Thursday, Nov. 30, according to Morrow County District Attorney Jeff M. Wallace.

Lowell Hinton, 55, was convicted of first-degree sodomy by a Morrow County Circuit Court jury which returned its verdict late Thursday afternoon. Circuit Court Judge Robert Abrams ordered a presentence investigation, and continued the matter for sentencing until January 9.

Hinton also faces sentencing on January 9 for an earlier sodomy conviction in Morrow County Circuit Court.

Pastor returns from trip to Philippines

A missionary trip, sponsored by Heppner Christian Missionary Fellowship, recently returned after four weeks in the Philippine Islands. People from California, Texas, Canada and Oregon served on this team. The Rev. Lynda Crane, pastor of Heppner Christian Missionary Fellowship, Dorothy Maudlin and Ruby Steers represented Heppner.

"Intensive ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ was shared in prisons, in street services, in crusades, in Bible schools, in church services and in a three-day teaching seminar for Philippine pastors," says Pastor Crane. "Several thousand lives were touched by this missionary effort."

In the past 3 1/2 years Heppner Christian Missionary Fellowship has sent teams to Africa, Russia, Israel, Iceland, Malaysia, Mexico and the Philippine Islands. Future plans call for teams going to foreign mission fields monthly, to the United States weekly and to local areas daily. All ministries are welcome to join these efforts, says the Rev. Crane.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS

Anyone who would like to help decorate Christmas trees at the hospital and nursing home come to hospital activity room Monday Dec. 11, 1:30 p.m. and ask for Tonya Jones

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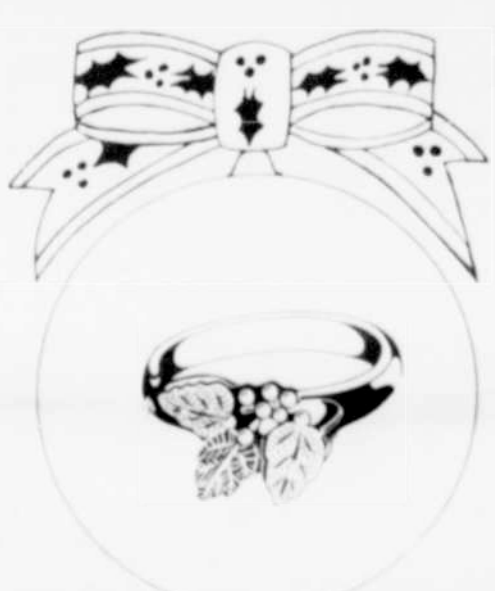
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Left: Jean Bennett and John Hanna were just a few people attending the artifactory sponsored by the Heppner Soroptimist Club. The annual event grossed around \$1,100 this year. Members say they expect to earn \$500 after expenses. Chairperson for this year's event was Marianne Kahl.

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