

## United Way fund raising drive gets underway

Boeing Air Industrial Co. of Boardman recently made a \$300 corporate donation to United Way of Morrow County. A new contributor, Boeing joins other county businesses and residents in making the local groups annual fund drive a success. "Last year \$16,000 was raised and distributed within Morrow county," said Heppner board member Patti Allstott. "We're hoping to exceed that figure this year," she said. "What I like about United Way and the reason I donate my time as a board member is because all the

funds raised in the county stay here and benefit people in our county. Another important factor is that 96 percent of all funds raised are distributed. With a completely volunteer staff, all but 4 percent which is used for fund raising, is disbursed," Allstott said. Morrow Co. United Way contributes to 17 agencies, organizations and centers within the county and also aids individuals in need through a unique "disaster relief" program. Anyone wanting more information about United Way can contact Allstott at 676-5216 or Cathi Bauska 481-7047.

## Topic Club hears of Air Life plan

Robanai Disque, a nurse at Pioneer Memorial Hospital and a volunteer for Air Life of Oregon, told the members of the Lone Topic Club about Air Life at the meeting at the Catholic Church on Oct. 24. Robanai stated that Air Life is a medical transport system with one helicopter and one airplane with headquarters at Bend. It operates within a radius of 200 miles and can be at the Heppner hospital in 45 minutes to one hour, depending on which plane is needed. Membership in the organization costs \$40 annually and covers the whole family. According to Disque Air Life plan is very good insurance, because if an individual had to pay for the service it would probably cost \$3500 to \$4000 for transport to a medical facility outside the area, said Disque.

Cost of transport by Air Life is usually covered 80 to 100 percent by insurance such as Medicare, workman's comp and private companies. Since Air Life's inception five years ago it has carried out 13,000 missions. Anyone interested in membership may contact the hospital for the forms. Christy Crowell, club librarian, reported that grades three, four and five at the Lone Elementary School are participating in a reading program sponsored by the Trail Blazers and have been visiting the library for books each week. This will last into November. Other business for the day included a report on the money making project which was a great success. Linda Tullis was a guest for the day. Hostesses were Rose Baker and Eunice McElligott.

## Armistice Day

What's this about a holiday, not yet come?

No, this is about a holiday yet to be celebrated. It's time for an armistice between North and South Morrow County. Yes, here I go again, suing for peace. I see the battle still raging and it still destroys our ability to function effectively.

Example: Last Monday night at the School Board meeting a delegation from Boardman and Irrigon pitched for a girls softball team at Riverside. It takes board action to set up the budget process. Interscholastic competition might cost as much as \$10,000. The delegation presented a list of some 25 girls interested in participation, a petition signed by a hundred or more folks, a budget estimate and information from the athletic association.

During the discussion there was a comment from the crowd to the effect that if the program were introduced at Riverside it would have to be installed at Heppner High as well.

Example: Last spring computer labs were installed in Morrow County schools. Fifteen computers were installed at Riverside High School. And at Heppner, 15 computers were installed, but only 13 at Ione.

Both examples have drawn comments about fairness. Some comments indicate a belief that fairness has to do with treating both ends of the county the same, without regard to population. Fifteen computers at Riverside and 15 at Heppner is fair even though there are nearly twice as many students at Riverside.

Other comments about fairness indicate that things should be apportioned on a population basis without regard to other factors. Sixty-two percent of the school students attend school in Northern Morrow County. Therefore 62% of school services should be provided in the North.

As I see it, neither position is wholly correct. But both positions are widely held.

It's time to declare the Armistice. And here's how. Each end of the County should designate 100 hosts for its Armistice Day. Maybe the respective Chambers of Commerce can do that. There should also be 100 guests from each end.

Then on some day next spring, set by County Judge Louis Carlson, called Morrow County Armistice Day, the guests from each end of the County go visit the hosts at the other. One on one, starting with breakfast. The visit will last all day, until after a group dinner in the evening. Each guest/host combination will do what the host normally does during the day. And each combination will have a chance to eat, work and play together, and to know and understand each other very well.

After Armistice Day, there will be 400 people in Morrow County who will know someone in the other end of the county very well. Well enough to have a new friend or know that they do not. There's an old Indian saying about walking in my shoes all day.

My guess is that if this program were carried out, it would double the number of folks who would be on first name basis with someone in the same county just 40 miles away. Ask yourself, "Do I know someone in the other end of this county well enough to know what the inside of his home is like, what he does for a living, what kind of friends he has and how he thinks about every day affairs?" Not just one? Well, that's the problem.

We can all deal with those folks we know. It's those aliens that we cook up some kind of prejudice for.

How about Judge? Chambers of Commerce? Will we have an Armistice Day next spring or will we just go on fighting amongst ourselves?



## Weddings



## Watne — Rieger

Toni Watne and Mark Rieger were married July 28 at the Nazarene Church in John Day. The bride's brother-in-law, Bob Armstrong, performed the ceremony.

Toni, a former Heppner resident, is the daughter of Don and Jeanne Jones of John Day. Mark is the son of Millie Belshaw of John Day and Ed Rieger of Vancouver, WA.

Vicki Birkby, formerly of Heppner, was honor attendant. Clent Catron of Portland was best man. The bride's children, Jamie Watne and Aaron Watne, served as flower girl and ring bearer. Lauri Armstrong, sister of the bride, was soloist.

After a honeymoon trip to the Caribbean and Walt Disney World, the couple are living in Beaverton.

## Off the Wall

By Merlyn Robinson

'It was the best of times. It was the worst of times' as ghouly-city restless spirits staged an orgy in the lively ghost town of Hardman during black night hours the Friday and Saturday before Halloween.

Scare tactics brought shrieks from about 300 visitors, both young and old, as they experienced hobgoblin-inspired frights in 'a-maze-ing' black-lined spooky corridors of Hardman Community Hall's haunted house.

Skeletons tried to escape from coffins and graves shook as phantom piano player's hands rendered eerie music and blood appeared to drip from a severed - but very talkative head served up on a platter. Savage-looking gorillas violently shook the bars of cages while werewolves and vampires threatened unsuspecting victims. Chains rattled and agitated souls moaned, especially those that were unable to rise above cobweb-festooned graves.

A small but ferocious-looking black spider looked especially hungry, while green-faced witches with long fingernails drooled over possible quarry.

In this third production year, the small band of Hardman community devotees staged an extravaganza that would be a credit to a large city. And some very young cast players gave award winning performances.

Visitors drove many miles to participate in a hair-raising fun-filled evening. Even Ione's volleyball team, returning from a game at Monmouth, talked their coach, Jocelyn Jones, into letting them all experience the horrors of this spooky affair.

Though the setting was designed to take one's breath away, it didn't daunt appetites as spook shack cauldrons produced dozens of vampire and bat burgers along with fly fries, werewolf tacos, witches brew, swamp coffee and ghouly desserts.

Candy treats for children and games such as apple bobbing kept small monsters entertained. Mildred Hendricks, Ione, won the adult costume prize with her witch's get-up, accentuated by gruesome fake nose and fiercely painted face. Flower blossom Elizabeth Allen, Ione, and pirate Adam Stockum, Heppner, were pointed out by a bony finger as the best Halloween children characters. The door prize, a treasure chest full of toys, was won by Mike Saling, Heppner, who may or may not share them with his grandchildren.

The pioneer spirit of a community that almost became extinct has definitely been recaptured by energetic people who have ties with the area as well as newcomers to the scene.

"I came here 11 years ago to escape the rat race of the big city (Portland)," said Jere LeDoux, who is now a permanent resident. The Ray Livingston family from Kennebec found a home in Hardman for weekend retreats.

Restoration of this old Hardman hall has been a slow but rewarding process, according to Ronnie Lovgren, Lexington. Hours of donated labor refurbished the main hall and the adjoining dining and kitchen areas. The group is hoping to finish the upstairs to be used as a museum. Fund raisers such as this party and other events provide money for costly materials, she said.

The Hardman haunted house party was a refreshing down-home experience at a time when Congress is playing trick or treat with a \$250 billion package of tax increases and spending cuts. And if the proposed \$13.6 billion spending reduction in the farm bill is implemented over the next five years it could mean a slow economic decline through the loss of farms and the grass-roots livelihoods of people dedicated to our agricultural-based land.

Too bad that the ingenious people, like zealous Hardman enthusiasts with a flair for unique entertainment, coupled with a common sense approach, aren't the ones making the decisions that will affect everyone.

## Breeding named coordinator

The new coordinator at the Neighborhood Center of South Morrow County is Joyce Breeding. Joyce, who begins her work as center coordinator on Thursday, November 1, is no stranger to the center. She has spent many hours at the center as a volunteer helper one afternoon a week, worked on rummage sales, served on the board of directors, and has done a variety of things on the center's behalf.

There are still openings for volunteers on Monday and Tuesday as well as Friday afternoon. Anyone having two to four hours a week to volunteer to a local charity organization would be greatly appreciated. The Neighborhood Center is always looking for VIPs (Volunteers Interested in People). Please call the center (676-5024) if you are interested in helping.

**FIBER SHOW**  
Morrow County Museum  
October 24 - November 18  
**BY MY HAND**  
Artist's Reception  
Friday, November 2  
7-9 pm  
critique by Judith Hedburg-Duff  
7:30 pm  
sponsored by the following guilds:  
OREGON TRAIL FIBER-COUNTRY FIBRE-THREADBENDERS  
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## Tapes new at library

This fall there is something new at Heppner Public Library. Along with many of the newest hard back best sellers there are a number of popular books on tape.

Ranging all the way from Gilbert & Sullivan to Dick Francis, these tapes are excellent entertainment for those occasions when your hands are busy but your ears are not. A trip to Portland is made much more pleasant by "The Mayor of Casterbridge," by Thomas Hardy. A chore like ironing goes faster with a good mystery or romance to accompany it.

Although at present the library's collection of books on tape is small, the number is growing. Many of these books have been donated by library patrons and the library will continue to purchase others if they prove popular.

Whether you are interested in a book on tape or in something with pages to keep you company by the wood stove, stop in and see what the Heppner Public Library has to offer. There are substantial collections of mysteries, romance and science fiction available and current best sellers are featured.

If you have questions about a specific book or subject call 676-9964 or drop in Monday through Thursday and Saturday from 1:30 to 5 p.m. except Wednesday, with the hours are 1:30 to 7 p.m. The library is closed Sundays and Fridays.

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