

Vic Klinger makes citizen's arrest in bad check trial

A Lexington service station owner, appearing in court Feb. 15 on two bad check charges, attempted to turn the tables by making a citizen's arrest of the oil distributor to whom he had written the bad checks.

According to Morrow County Assistant District Attorney Val Doherty, Victor Klinger, owner of Vic's Lexington Chevron, had been charged with two counts of negotiating a bad check. The checks had been written several days apart to Devin Oil Company, the distributor from whom Klinger gets his gasoline.

As Klinger left the court room, said Doherty, he placed his hand on Glenn Devin, Arlington, owner of Devin Oil, and said he was placing Devin under citizen's arrest. According to Doherty, Judge Ralph Cur-

rin, who was presiding over the bad check case, immediately released Devin on his own recognizance.

Klinger has been involved in a lengthy dispute with Devin Oil, the Morrow County Grain Growers and other card lock operators over the card lock issue. Klinger maintains that card lock operations, in which business account customers may pump their own gas at a lesser rate than is charged at regular service stations, are illegal and are causing him to lose money. A Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge's ruling in a civil card lock case is in the Oregon Court of Appeals.

Doherty said that Klinger's bad check trial had originally been scheduled for Feb. 15. Earlier that week, Klinger filed two motions—one to disqualify the Morrow County district attorney, and another to

postpone his bad check trial until the pending court of appeals civil case is settled.

Curry denied the motion to disqualify the DA on grounds that he has no authority to do so, since the district attorney represents the state. Curry initially allowed the postponement, but later reconsidered his decision, on the grounds that the bad check charge was not related to the civil case now pending in the court of appeals.

"Although the court initially continued the trial date until resolution of civil matters (card lock issue) unrelated to the bad check charge, the court later reconsidered the matter and announced that the trial date will be set in the immediate future," said Morrow County District Attorney Jeff Wallace.

St. Pat's committee names family

The Cornelius McLaughlin family will reign over St. Patrick's weekend in Heppner, March 15, 16 and 17, the St. Patrick's committee has announced.

Settling in the Dixie Canyon area between Pilot Rock and Heppner in 1914, Cornelius and Mary McLaughlin raised 13 children: Kathryn Wright, Dan, Nonie Pointer, Jim, Jack, Hugh, Joe, Virginia Penner, Bob, Herb, Sally Connelly, Mike and Terry, most of whom will be on hand for the weekend festivities. In addition a whole host of grandchildren and great grandchildren will be returning to their Irish roots in Heppner. Kathryn Wright will represent the family and says she wishes to extend an invitation to everyone far and near, to descend upon Heppner and enjoy the fun and hospitality.

First annual lamb cookoff planned for St. Pat's weekend

On Saturday, March 16 during Heppner's 1991 St. Patrick's Day celebration the Oregon Sheep Growers Association will sponsor the first annual Lamb Cook-Off. "The Lamb Cook-Off is sure to win the hearts and palates of the Irish and the Irish-at-heart," said a cookoff promoter.

The contest will be held at Farley Motor Company, 126 E. May Avenue in Heppner. Cooks may bring their entry already prepared or cook on site. Cooking will take place between the hours of 8 and 11 a.m. with judging set to begin at 11 a.m.

Maureen Krebs will be coordinating the event. Completed entry forms and a copy of your recipe must be received by March 2.

The entries will be judged on the basis of: taste, ease of preparation, appeal and appearance. Prizes will be awarded for the best barbecue recipe, conventional recipe, a miscellaneous category and the most outstanding recipe.

Anyone interested in competing should include his or her name, address, phone number, special appliance or equipment needed, whether the entrant will cook on site or bring the entry prepared. The entry form and recipe should be mailed to Maureen Krebs, Cecil Star Rt., Lone, OR 97843. Additional forms are available at the Chamber (Heppner TV) office. For more information contact Krebs at 422-7548.

The Heppner

G-T azette Times

VOL 109 NO. 8 Wednesday, February 20, 1991 Heppner 35¢ 8 Pages

Vision 2000 sets community goals

A group of concerned Heppner citizens are putting their muscle where their mouth is, so to speak, as they work toward a common goal of improving the economic activity of the area. The group revealed its strategic plan to the public in a meeting Feb. 12 in Heppner.

Working with Peter Doherty, rural development consultant with the Oregon Economic Development Department, a local task force which calls itself Vision 2000 is determined to maintain and improve the community through community pride, projects and goals.

The local group began working together a year ago when Heppner was accepted along with 17 other communities, to be part of a state program aimed at enhancing rural communities. The Heppner community was first evaluated in terms of its Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT). The local response team, Vision 2000, met several times over the past year, attended workshops and eventually came up with a vision for Heppner, and goals to achieve that vision.

The group's vision for the community states:

"In the year 2000, as you drive into Heppner, you will find attractive landscaping and a vibrant Main Street lined with trees. Stream banks are clean and natural appearing. This setting will be very inviting to new businesses.

You will also find a new motel and restaurant complex, an industrial park, excellent retirement facilities, modern government offices, and a range of housing opportunities. There is a great selection of tourism amenities including RV parks, camping facilities, and an expanded museum. School facilities and the fairgrounds are attractive and in constant demand.

Proactive leaders are governing the community. Cooperation is evident among the citizens of the county. A positive spirit is noticeable.

The economy is based upon agriculture, timber, retirement, recreation and government. There is an active investment company to develop local projects.

Heppner is a great place to live and do business."

To accomplish their vision, the group—consisting of chairman Ann Spicer, Heppner Economic Development Corporation and the law firm of Kuhn and Spicer; George Koffler, Bank of Eastern Oregon; Claudia Hughes, Heppner Chamber of Commerce manager; Jackie Allstott, First Interstate Bank; Pat Hyatt, Kinzua Corp.; Meg Murray, Murrays Drug; Ray French, County Commissioner; Roger Williams, U.S. Forest Service; Renee Devin, city of Heppner; Fred Lundin, Morrow County OSU Extension; Marsha Sweek, Morrow County Museum; and Fred Toombs, Columbia Basin Electric—set four goals.

Goals were to: "Integrate at least five community organizations in



Peter Doherty of the Oregon Economic Development Dept. and Jackie Allstott, member of the Vision 2000 group.

development efforts within one year; Complete at least five cleanup projects over the next year;

Retain existing jobs and create 35 full of parttime jobs within five years; and

Add 20 overnight accommodations, 15 RV spaces and one restaurant (with conference room) within three years."

The group has accomplished its first goal of gaining involvement from community organizations and plans are underway toward accomplishing their second—to complete at least five cleanup projects within the next year. The first scheduled cleanup will be March 9, prior to the town's St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

Both chairman Ann Spicer and Doherty are in agreement that community pride is the cornerstone to enhancing a community.

Spicer said that funds are available for regional strategies and other state

monies may be available for projects. Anticipated monies for projects, however, will be competed for by all communities in Oregon, excluding the metropolitan Portland area.

Thirty communities in Eastern Oregon with populations over 500 were initially selected for the economic development program. From those 30 communities 18 were selected to participate in the formation of strategic economic development plans. Besides Heppner, the communities include: Enterprise, Joseph, Wallowa, Irrigon, Boardman, Milton-Freewater, Weston, Athena, Condon, Fossil, Mt. Vernon, John Day, Canyon City, Prairie City, Burns, Hines and Lakeview.

The local community response teams-Vision 2000-will meet again March 28 at the Columbia Basin Conference room and with other groups for workshops in April in Pendleton.

Keerseemaker hired in G-T bindery



Penni Keerseemaker has been hired to work in the Gazette-Times bindery department.

Penni is responsible for binding, stapling, folding and numbering in the G-T print shop. She replaces Kay Rene Qualls, who resigned to

become more involved in the family ranching operations.

Penni came to the area in 1984, when her husband, John, was transferred to the U.S. Forest Service office in Heppner. The Keerseemakers have two children, Matt 13, and Jessica, 11.

Mustangs, Fillies head to district playoffs

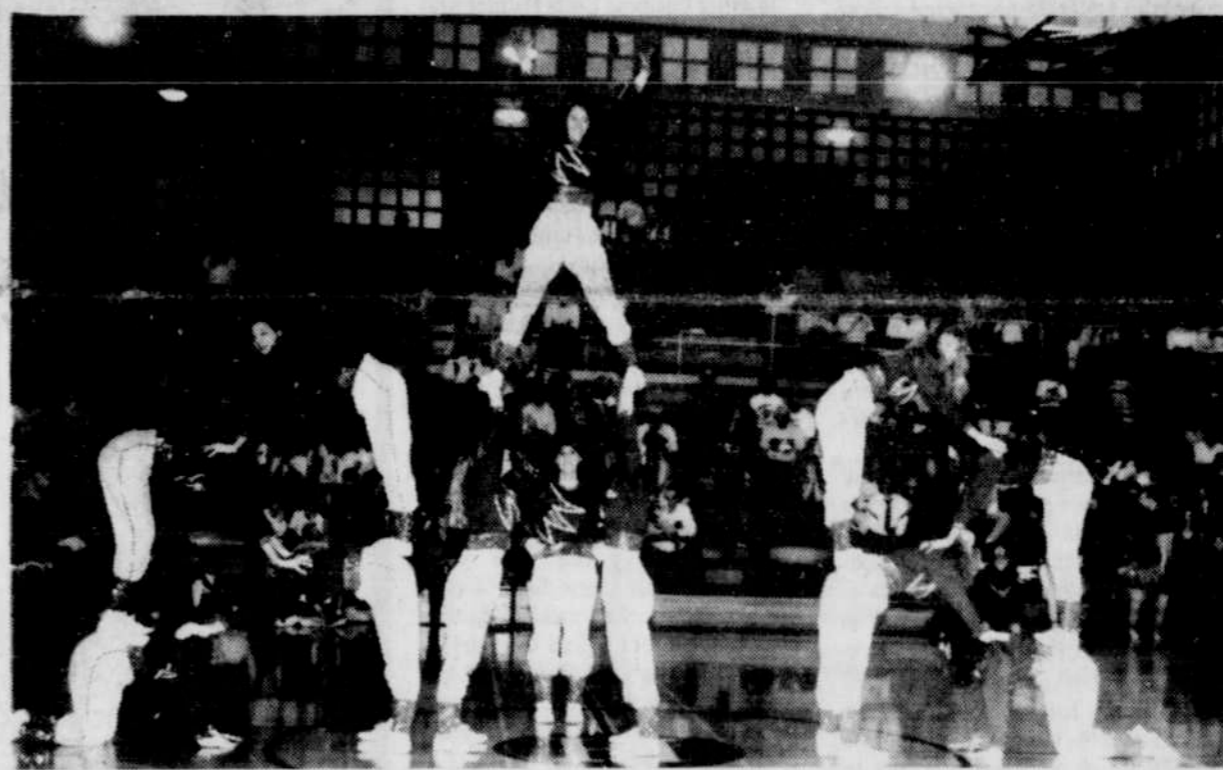


Photo by Joyce Hughes

Heppner High Dance team performs an outstanding routine at Heppner's last home game. The dance team will perform Friday night during the boy's game in Pendleton.

Both the Heppner Mustangs and Fillies will see action in the District 7 tournament in Pendleton Friday and Saturday, February 22 and 23. Two teams from the boys' and girls' bracket will advance to Regional play in LaGrande next weekend.

The Fillies, who finished in second place in league play, face the Stanfield Tigers in a loser-out contest Friday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. If the Fillies win, they will play again Saturday at 1:30 p.m. for the District championship and the top seed into

Regional play. The Mustangs split with the Tigers in league play this year.

The Mustangs will face the Pilot Rock Rockets Friday night at 8:30 p.m. for a spot in the championship game on Saturday night. The Mustangs and Rockets split in their two meetings this year with Pilot Rock winning at home, 66-47 and Heppner winning at home, 79-69.

If the Mustangs win Friday they will play again on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. Should the Mustangs lose, as the league champion they could

challenge the second place team out of the district tournament to a playoff. The game would be played on the Mustangs' home court on Monday or Tuesday of the following week.

Tickets per session are \$3 adults and \$2 students.

The Heppner High dance team will perform at halftime of the boys game Friday night.

ODFW makes payments in lieu of taxes

Morrow County has received \$45.80 as payment in lieu of taxes by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for the 1990-91 tax year in accordance with Oregon Revised Statute 496.340. Under this statute, payments are made to the counties in which property is located. Payments are equal to the amount which would have been levied against the property if it had been assessed to a taxable owner. Values of these properties are determined by the county assessor. Fish hatcheries,

office quarters, fishing access sites or impoundments, or capital improvements are not included under this ORS.

Payments made in lieu of taxes for other counties within the Northeast Region of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife are as follows: Baker County \$1,934.62; Grant County \$6,978.11; Umatilla County \$2,269.63; Union County \$8,108.63; and Wallowa County \$6,895.47.

Arts and crafts club to meet

Morrow County Creative Arts and Crafts regular monthly meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 26, at 1 p.m. at Kate's Pizza.

Members are encouraged to attend to help make plans for the St. Patrick's Day show and sale. The fall Harvest Festival Art Show and Sale will also be discussed. "We need lots of input to make them a success," said club president Mary Ella Moyer.

VISA CARDS

Bank of Eastern Oregon

★Low Interest Rates

One More Reason to have our card

BANK OF Eastern Oregon Member F.D.I.C.
Arlington • Heppner • Lone
"Your Independent Home Owned Bank"