

## Off the Wall By Merlyn Robinson

March blew in quickly and violently as the Middle East was blown into history. And hopefully this country's peace-keeping efforts will equal our military strategy. Perhaps the commanders of our armed forces should be running this country instead of the politicians.

While I doubt that the Arab nations can successfully maintain a long-lasting peace agreement, the United States intervention should have an impact on international terrorist activities.

But if we can afford to spend \$32 billion per day to maintain military forces in the Persian Gulf, why can't we afford better efforts towards a healthy economy?

There seems to be more emphasis on helping others than helping ourselves. The low wage scale in some foreign countries and the open-door trade policy leaves many of our industries out in the cold when it comes to producing consumer goods at competitive prices. However the minimum wage level rises even though people are out of work.

The energy security of this country is a critical component for our national security. An alternate renewable fuel source such as ethanol, produced from crops here in our own country, would reduce our dependency on foreign oil. And that production would provide a stable, healthy agriculture—the basis of our nation's economy.

Oil imports in 1990 averaged seven to eight million barrels per day. In the 10 years following the OPEC embargo, the U.S. paid more than one-half trillion dollars for imported oil. Commitments a decade ago for development of alternate energy sources were short-lived after the price of oil declined. Or perhaps the major oil companies have too much influence on national policy decisions.

A nationwide ethanol industry in this country would decrease our dependency on foreign oil. The 900 million gallons of ethanol fuel produced in the Midwest from corn during 1990 reduced U.S. oil imports by about 40 million barrels of crude oil.

Some 50 million tillable fallow acres, now laying idle could be put back in to production. After food, seed, industrial feedstock and exports needs are met, off-grade wheat and corn and cull potatoes could be used for ethanol production. And the by-product after the starch is removed provides a high-energy ration for livestock.

Ethanol as an alternate fuel from renewable resources is also an octane enhancer when added to gasoline. Ethanol runs cleaner and cooler than gasoline. And a 10 percent ethanol blend will reduce carbon monoxide emissions by up to 33 percent. That same blend also lowers hydrocarbon emissions by 40 percent. The result would be a cleaner environment and less pollution in our cities.

A reduction in federal subsidies to big oil companies and a sharp drop in the cost of farm program set aside acres would benefit every taxpayer.

The experts point to the fact that ethanol can be produced cheaper in countries such as Brazil in South America. But it would make more sense to initiate a tax incentive for ethanol use, thus subsidizing our own fuel production and getting the wheels of progress geared up to make America more healthy from the ground up.

A decreased dependence on foreign oil, a more favorable balance of trade, a cleaner environment and a more stable fuel supply make sense.

When agricultural prices are profitable and land prices are healthy, agribusiness flourish and provide job opportunities that enhance retail spending.

## Cardinal club to sponsor drug awareness discussion

The Lone Cardinal Club will sponsor a drug awareness discussion panel, "Preparing for the Drug Free Years," Tuesday, March 12, at 7 p.m. at the Lone High School cafeteria. The community is invited to attend.

The panel will consist of Bob Hensel, adult parole officer for

Umatilla-Morrow County; Laura McElligott, Morrow County Public Health nurse; Sharon Barrick, Riverside High School counselor; and Chuck Adelle, Morrow County Mental Health substance abuse counselor.

Children are welcome to attend. For more information call Jeri McElligott, 422-7257.

## St. Patrick's Senior Center Bulletin Board



The "55 Alive" classroom refresher course for drivers 55 years and older will be held in the dining room March 21 and 22 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Enrollment is still open. Cost is \$8. Anyone interested may call Bill Cox, 676-9497.

There were 107 people at the dinner Feb. 27. Sixteen seniors came from Hermiston and ladies from the Christian Church served.

The menu for March 13 will be the St. Patrick's dinner, beef stew with vegetables, tossed salad, juice, biscuits and pineapple upside down cake. The Catholic ladies will serve.

Friday, March 1, volunteers folded news letters for the Extension Service. Paul and Ralph went to Pendleton to get the commodities for the kitchen on March 4.

On March 5, the menu committee met to make menus for the next three months.

Volunteers are needed to sell tickets for the St. Patrick's quilt made by Quilters and Company. Tickets may be picked up at the center office.

Anyone who would like to volunteer to help with the senior breakfast, or the luncheon during the St. Patrick's celebration, call Daisy Collins, 676-9947, or Helen Gilliam, 676-5336. If you would like to bake a pie for the pie and coffee sale contact Irene Schroeder, 676-9132.

The center is happy to have Marilyn Bergstrom back in town, recuperating well from her surgery.

**Come to MURRAY'S for all your wedding needs!**

See our bridal tables for the following upcoming weddings:

Kimberly Hughes & Greg Dennis  
March 16, 1991

Kelli Ann Fletcher & Tony Currin  
March 22, 1991

We will be **CLOSED UNTIL 12 NOON SATURDAY** because of power outage.

**Murray's Drug INC.**  
217 North Main Heppner 676-9158

## Coe, Hoobing receives YCA Awards



Tricia Coe

Tricia Coe, Heppner, was recently awarded first place winner of the Youth Citizenship Award scholarship sponsored by Soroptimist International Club of Heppner at a noon luncheon. Tricia received a \$150 scholarship. Second place award in the amount of \$100 went to Rachel Hoobing. Special guests were Jan Coe and Stan Hoobing.

Liz Curtis gave an informative program on suicide prevention.



Rachel Hoobing

pointing out various warning signs and how best to help someone suspected to have symptoms of needing help and understanding. She explored general categories that could be the cause of teenage suicides, which is the number three killer of young people today.

Soroptimist members are showing their approval of Vision 2000 goals by participating in the first scheduled cleanup on March 9.

April 4 has been set as the date of the annual luncheon for the senior girls and their mothers. The location and program will be announced later.

## Smokey Bear storytime topic

Smokey the Bear will visit at 10:30 a.m. and all children are welcome. Heppner city library's story time Monday March 11. Storytime begins

## '91 LUMINA V6 SEDAN



**MORE ROOM THAN FORD TAURUS,  
BETTER HIGHWAY MPG THAN HONDA CIVIC Ex!**



\*Both vehicles equipped with opt. 4 spd. automatic transmission.  
\*EPA est. for Lumina V6 with opt. 4 spd. automatic transmission.

## Wright Chevrolet, Inc.

Chevrolet & Oldsmobile

763-4175 -- Fossil

Herb Wright - Bill MacInnes - Bill MacInnes, Jr.

## BMCC offers beginning golf

John Edmundson will be the instructor for a beginning golf class at the Heppner Golf Course on Friday, March 15, March 29, April 12 and April 26. The course taught through Blue Mountain Community College will have a \$10 registration fee to the college and a \$15 green fee paid to the Heppner Golf Course, unless you are already a member. The green fee covers all practice golfing during the course of the class.

Those enrolling should bring their own clubs, but balls will be provided. Registration is at the first class since the bulletins from the college have not yet been distributed. Class size is limited so pre-registration may be advised. For more information contact John Edmundson, 676-9187 days or 676-5177 evenings.

## MORROW COUNTY TRANSFER STATION

Serving the south end of Morrow County

GRAND OPENING

**Sat. & Sun. March 9th and 10th**  
**9 a.m. till 4 p.m.**

**RATES - 30 gal. can or bag - \$2 each**  
**50 - 60 gal. container - \$4**  
**Pickup load - \$10<sup>00</sup>**



Accepting material good for recycling

LOCATED ON HWY 207 - 1 MILE SOUTH OF LEXINGTON

# Radio Shack

## AMERICA'S TECHNOLOGY STORE

DEALER

### MARCH MANAGER'S SALE

**CREATING NEW STANDARDS**  
**RELIABLE QUALITY**

Over 1500 engineers and technicians develop, evaluate and test to our exacting standards.

**Nobody Compares**

**PROMPT SERVICE**

Over 7000 drop-off points nationwide insure dependable service to your satisfaction. Over 1,000,000 spare parts stocked. We service what we sell.

**Nobody Compares**

<p><b>VHS VCR With On-Screen Display</b></p> <p>Has 14-day/6-event timer, 153-channel tuner. #16-522</p> <p><b>Save \$30</b></p> <p><b>269<sup>95</sup></b> Reg. 299.95</p>	<p><b>100-Watt Digital AM/FM Receiver</b></p> <p>24 station presets. #31-3004</p> <p>100 watt/ch. min. rms into 8 ohms from 20-20,000 Hz, with no more than 0.3% THD</p> <p><b>Save \$120</b></p> <p><b>219<sup>95</sup></b> Reg. 339.95</p>
<p><b>3-Way Speaker With Massive 15" Woofer</b></p> <p><b>Save \$110</b></p> <p><b>149<sup>95</sup></b> Each Reg. 259.95</p> <p>160-watt capacity. Oiled walnut finish. #40-4032</p>	<p><b>Catch the Action! 10-Channel Scanner</b></p> <p><b>Cut \$30</b></p> <p><b>99<sup>95</sup></b> Reg. 129.95</p> <p>Hear military, fire, police, lots more. #20-126</p>
<p><b>Compact Dual-Tone Radar Detector</b></p> <p>Drive with confidence! Lamp or tone alert. #22-1621</p> <p><b>Save \$60</b></p> <p><b>79<sup>95</sup></b> Reg. 139.95</p>	<p><b>CB With Channel Switches on Mike</b></p> <p>Never drive alone again! #21-1514</p> <p><b>HALF PRICE!</b></p> <p><b>49<sup>95</sup></b> Reg. 99.95</p>
<p><b>Speed-Dial Telephone</b></p> <p><b>Cut 33%</b></p> <p><b>29<sup>95</sup></b> Reg. 44.95</p> <p>White, #43-581. Almond, #43-582</p>	<p><b>Lightweight AM/FM Headset</b></p> <p><b>30% Off</b></p> <p><b>27<sup>88</sup></b> Reg. 39.95</p> <p>Folds to fit pocket or purse. #12-128</p>
<p><b>Phone Answerer</b></p> <p><b>Cut 17%</b></p> <p><b>49<sup>95</sup></b> Reg. 59.95</p> <p>Digital-voice message. #43-393</p>	
<p><b>High Grade Video Tape</b></p> <p><b>Cut 17%</b></p> <p><b>4<sup>99</sup></b> Reg. 5.99</p> <p>Exceptional clarity. #44-410</p>	

**PETTY JOHN'S** Farm & Builders Supply

424 Lynden Way, Heppner 676-9157 or 676-5001

SWITCHABLE TOUCH-TONE/PULSE phones work on both tone and pulse lines. Therefore, in areas having only pulse (rotary-dial) lines, you can still use services requiring tones, like alternative long-distance systems and computerized services. FCC registered. Not for party lines. We service what we sell.

**Most Major Credit Cards Welcome**