

District Seven Extension meeting held in Heppner



Dr. Lois Goering, Oregon State University program leader for Extension Home Economics, spoke at the Oregon Homemakers' Extension Council District No. 7 meeting on April 4 at the St. Patrick's Senior Center in Heppner.

Dr. Goering, Corvallis, spoke on the work of Extension and the drastic effect Measure 5 could have on Extension. She urged the group in attendance to write their legislators, expressing their concern with regard to the Extension program. Dr. Goering also spoke on the upcoming national Extension Homemakers' conference to be held in Portland, Aug. 24 to 29.

Also speaking was Helen

Cochrane of LaGrande, past district director for District 7, which includes Union, Umatilla and Morrow Counties. Cochrane spoke on hosting the national conference this summer.

Besides Isabelle Jones, president of the Morrow County Extension unit, Morrow County Judge Louis Carlson was also on hand to welcome visitors, comment on points of interest in Morrow County and relate plans for the future. Children from Heppner Elementary second grade class and Cub Scouts entertained with several musical numbers.

Thirty women from Morrow County attended the meeting, 12 from Umatilla County and five from Union County.

Off the Wall

By Merlyn Robinson

My soapbox has a worn spot caused by too much stomping up and down. I know I should shed some pounds. But I'm using the excuse that I'm saving up for hard times ahead or for insulation when someone lashes me with words I've written or supposedly written.

Before my soapbox is reduced to kindling, I'll use the words of journalist Ed Glenn. Though I'm sure they are not his last words, he profoundly said, "Sometimes you have to pay for information that you already know."

So I guess that's why the County Court decided to pay \$15,000 to a so-called expert for a multiple-use study of the fairgrounds.

Dumb me! I thought that the reason taxpayers funded the planning department was to engineer county projects and to help citizens jump through all the land-use regulation hoops.

But then things don't always go as planned. I remember when the fair board paid a surveyor to engineer sewer lines across the rodeo field. As it turned out, that costly survey was way off the mark and the graduating depth of that lengthy pipeline was engineered by the volunteer work of fair board member Harold Peck.

According to state statutes, a fair board has complete jurisdiction over fairground properties and policies. However the County Court's position seems to be that it is county property and all state moneys for fairs deposited in county coffers are subject to county regulation.

Since the County Court has the power to hire or fire board members, it does give them a bit of a whip hand. But common sense or courtesy would have dictated a consultation with volunteer-time board members before making a management decision, even though it was taxpayers money, not fair board funds that was used for this study.

Without a notion of how financing could cover the cost of a redesign of the fairgrounds, to me it didn't seem likely that buildings, fences and other properties could be inexpensively rearranged. But it has been a well-known fact that antiquated lights that are primarily used for football need replacing.

However maybe there are thousands of untapped dollars laying around after \$6,500 of donations are used to replace the city pool filter system.

As a volunteer citizens' group had previously ascertained the rodeo field isn't large enough to accommodate separate areas for football, rodeo and a regulation-size baseball field.

Times change and ball fans complain about the disadvantages of a cow pasture-type scenario at the fairgrounds, similar to Pendleton's Round-Up arena. But from little league to town teams it hasn't hurt anyone's pocketbook to play on green grass that is mowed and watered at the fair board's expense.

When I attended the local prestigious institution of learning, there was no green grass, not even a lawn surrounding the one school building. Baseball was played on the then bumpy lower field down by the creek. But the major injuries suffered were when someone took a header while running down the steep slope past the old gym. And I still have scars on knees to prove that. We often pitched rocks off the field, but I don't remember many sprained ankles. But I do recall soggy wet shoes sloshing into classrooms after having retrieved balls out of Willow Creek.

Sports now take up more time than school homework and leave little time for families to pursue other interests. But staying fit and becoming a star player might be more rewarding than a formal education. Someone might become a professional ball player with a salary that far exceeds that of a corporate manager or doctor.

People wanting to school horses, practice barrel racing or use the dirt areas of the rodeo field for 4-H horse practice can usually depend on about two weeks in August when they don't have to dodge baseballs.

Even though the field was donated by the Gentry family for rodeos, the horse interests now take a backseat for field usage.

But then, what the heck. It's time to play ball. Batter Up. And horse 4-H'ers have gotten used to their mounts stumbling over rocks, dodging holes and slipping on cow pucky in our feed lot during practice sessions. It's time to get on our high horses and go for it.

EMTs plan breakfast during run

The South Morrow Ambulance EMT Association is planning a breakfast this Saturday, April 27 at the Heppner Elks Lodge, during the Rolling Hills Run.

Beginning at 8 a.m. the breakfast will continue until the final runners cross the finish line at Les Schwab. Cost for the breakfast is \$3.50 for

adults, \$2 for children and \$10 for a family of four or more. Children five years and under will be admitted free. Door prizes will be given away every hour.

The breakfast is open to the public. Proceeds will help purchase needed equipment for the EMTs.

Peonies Garden Bug topic

The Lexington Garden Bugs met at the home of Margie Ball for their April meeting. Yearbooks for next year were given out.

A lesson on peonies was presented by Delta Huber. Peonies are one of the few flowers that have been grown since ancient times. They are slow to get established, but have

been known to last for over 50 years. They are one of the few flowers that should not be planted on the east side of a house. They are also treasured by flower arrangers for their beautiful foliage, which stays green and attractive all summer.

The May meeting will be at the home of Delta Huber.

Neighborhood Center plans rummage sale, potato giveaway

The Neighborhood Center has planned a rummage sale on Satur-

day, April 27, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. featuring all kinds of clothing, household merchandise and toys.

There will be a special sale throughout the day and a grab box sale.

A potato give-away will be held at the center on a donation basis April 29 beginning at 1 p.m.

Bear Cubs working hard



Photo by Joyce Hughes

The Bear Cubs have been working hard in the Cub Scout program.

Top photo L-R Chris Bowman and Matthew Van Liew are assigning beads to their Den Doodle. The beads represent attendance, being in uniform and working in their Bear Books.

Bottom Photo L-R: Jeff Waterland and Travis Winters work on their Pine Wood Derby Cars. The Pine Wood Derby is an annual event sponsored by Pack 661 and will be held April 26, 6:30 p.m. in the Junior High Gym. Trophies will be awarded in each division. The top division winners advances to higher competition held in Hermiston in May. Each scout is given a piece of wood and makes it into a car using certain specifications. The cars are then raced down a ramp in different heats. First one to the finish line is the winner. The public is welcome to attend.



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Kindergarten registration set

On Wednesday, May 8, Heppner Elementary will be holding its "Kindergarten Registration Day". Children need to be five years old by September 1, 1991 to enroll in kindergarten.

This year will be different than in past years. Children will have a group visit with the kindergarten teacher, Ms. Webber. This session will last a half hour, during which time the parent will fill out registration forms. There will be no speech, hearing or medical screenings as

before.

Parents need to bring their child's birth certificate, immunization record and social security number. These are very important, said a school spokesperson.

"This is a great chance for your child to become acquainted with the classroom and the teacher before coming to school," they added. "It's also a chance to get your questions answered. Please call the school office at 676-9128 to make an appointment."

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Ione students involved in safety program

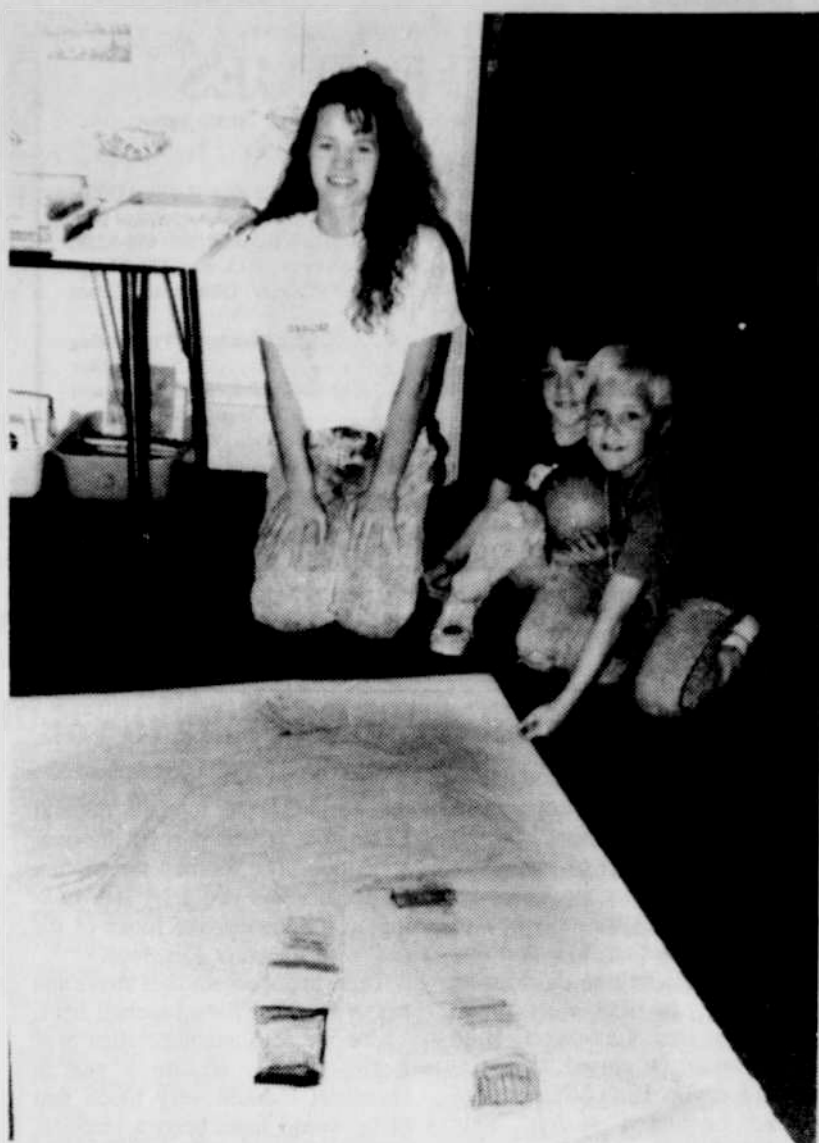


Photo by Pam Minster

Crystal Minster (left) OSSUM leader works with Adam McCabe and Colin McElligott on a safety poster.

By Anne Morter

Ione students have become involved in the OSSUM Pipeline program.

OSSUM, which stands for Oregon Students Safety On The Move, includes students in grades K-12 and involves young people leading discussions and serving as role models for other young people. The program covers the areas of traffic safety and accident prevention and is designed to foster the ability of future leaders to take charge.

The OSSUM Pipeline team consists of 7th grader, Becky Wagenblast, 8th graders Kim Bedor-tha and Jessica Stefani, freshman Heidi Orem, sophomores Erika Bergstrom and Crystal Minster and juniors Brandi Ball, Nancy Morter and Chisana Warren. Advisors are Barbara Collins and Dean Robinson. Members of the team will travel from classroom to classroom to disperse information to the students.

PAUPERS NIGHT
(destitute income tax payers)
Sat. April 27
Spaghetti Feed - 6 p.m. till 8 p.m.
\$3.00 per person - Music 9-?
Wear your grubbies

LADIES NIGHT - May 9
Thanks to all blood donors who gave on Monday

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