

Gazette Times

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Ione High School Class of 1931 holds reunion



Photo by Joyce Hughes

Class of 1931 front row left to right: Veda Eubanks Brenner, Margaret Crawford Morgan, Geneva Pettyjohn Palmer, Helen Smouse Martin.

Back row: Louis Buschke, Milton Morgan, Barton Clark, Norman Swanson, John Eubanks.

By Anne Morter

The Ione High School Class of 1931 met for its 60th anniversary last Wednesday, May 15, at Beecher's Cafe. Nine of the 11 living class members were in attendance.

Class members present were: Geneva Pettyjohn Palmer, Helen Smouse Martin, Veda Eubanks

Brenner, Margaret Crawford Morgan, Milton Morgan, John Eubanks, Louis Buschke, Norman Swanson, and Barton Clark.

The majority of the class of 1931 still live in the area but Veda Brenner came from Madras, Norman Swanson from Portland and Helen

Martin came from Moro. Two classmates, Virgil Ested of San Diego and Ordie Farrens of Boise, were unable to attend.

After a prime rib dinner, a class meeting and a photo session, friends from the area were invited to reminisce and visit.

Sparks to speak at picnic

Many folks certainly agree that the recent conflict "Desert Storm" brought out the greatest surge of patriotism for the good old U.S.A. since World War II. Every business flew the flag, yellow ribbons were on shrubbery, servicemen's names were posted in prominent places and printers were busy making signs saying "We support our troops."

While all of this was going on many were wondering about the role of the U.S. Army Ammunition Depot in North Morrow County. Were they actually shipping out bombs, rockets, ammunition and other weapons into the Persian Gulf?

While most citizens are aware of the ominous presence of the Umatilla Army Depot, few know much about what really happens behind those barbed wire enclosures, and are there actually bombs and ammunition in those 1001 igloos-and furthermore, just what is in the infamous "K Block"? Are there really chemical agents similar to those that our troops were prepared for in the desert storm war?

These and many other questions will be answered at the Pioneer Memorial Picnic to be held this Sunday May 26, at the Morrow County Fair Grounds. Lt. Col. Larry

Sparks, commander of the Umatilla Army Depot will be the guest speaker. Col. Sparks will give a 20-minute presentation on information that has not been previously available to the public. In addition to the previously classified information, Col. Sparks will be discussing the realignment of the depot, the incineration program for chemical agents stored at the facility and other subjects not previously discussed because of security reasons.

This will be an excellent opportunity for local citizens to appreciate the role of the army depot since this may be the last chance to hear the commander since he has been reassigned to another base in July.

Sparks will make his presentation shortly after 1 p.m. in the Fair Pavilion Sunday afternoon May 26. The Lexington Grange is this year's host for the Pioneer Memorial Day picnic. A ham dinner will be featured and proceeds will be used for the grange activities. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children.

Everyone is invited to attend to become better informed and to pay special tribute to those who served in the Persian Gulf and to remember those comrades in arms that never returned from the battlefields on our behalf.

Greenup wins Schwab pig

Greg Greenup of Heppner won the Les Schwab "Hog Wild Days" pig on display at the Heppner Les

Schwab store. Greenup guessed closest to the pig's weight of 223.9 pounds.

Heppner High elects ASB officers



Photo by Joyce Hughes

Newly elected officers for the associated student body of Heppner High for the 1991-'92 school year are: Front row L-R: Donita Sharp, secretary; Nina Tucker, presi-

dent; Alecia Tarnasky, Vice president. Back row-Austin Coiner, publicity; Scott Coe, business manager and Kim Johnston, treasurer.

City sewer rates raise proposed

Sewer rates for many residences and businesses in Heppner may go up by 37 percent, city officials announced recently.

The increase is necessary to comply with a 1989 Environmental Protection Agency grant stipulating the city sewer system be self supporting, according to city officials. In the past the sewer fund has taken money from the general fund for operation.

If the new fee schedule is adopted, most residents will see their monthly bill increase from \$15 to \$19.80. The city also raised the sewer fee from \$6 to \$15 in 1989, using the money to pay for voter approved bonds, which financed improvements to the city sewer system.

The EPA grant was part of that improvement financing package, and now city officials say the EPA requires the city's sewer department be self supporting.

City attorney Bill Kuhn stated earlier the increase is necessary because of the effects of Ballot Measure five, which cuts back the amount of property taxes the city is to receive.

G-T to close for Memorial Day

The Gazette-Times office will be closed Monday, May 27, for Memorial Day.

News deadline for the May 29 Gazette-Times is Friday, May 24, at 5 p.m. Ad deadline is Tuesday, May 28, at noon.

School budget rejected

Voters rejected a new tax base for Morrow County schools Tuesday, by a margin of 971 yes to 1118 no.

The tax base, which would have given schools \$9,086,618 to spend without a vote of the people, was turned down in Heppner, Lexington and Irrigon. It passed in Boardman

and Ione.

The district's present tax base is \$1,053,928, and provides less than 10 percent of the district's operating money, according to school officials.

The vote, which was conducted through mail-in ballot, produced 51 percent voter participation.

Cogeneration plant moves closer at port

The Port of Morrow and Powerlink Corp. have filed a notice of intent with the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council seeking approval to build a cogeneration project in North Central Oregon.

Fueled by natural gas, the cogeneration project will be built at the Port of Morrow Industrial Park near Boardman. It will provide 250,000 to 500,000 pounds per hour of steam to existing food processing operations and future businesses.

In addition, the plant will generate 300,000 kilowatts to 500,000 kilowatts of electricity for sale to consumers in the Pacific Northwest.

"This is the right project, at the right location, at the right time," said John R. Zanol, Powerlink president. "The project will produce steam at an extremely competitive rate and provide a reliable source of electricity for the Pacific Northwest."

Gary Neal, manager of the Port of Morrow, says he expects industrial steam from the cogeneration project will cost 20 percent less than from

existing sources.

"Lower cost steam will entice new industry to the area and improve the competitive position of the existing food processing operations," Neal said. "The new industry this project attracts ultimately could provide 1,000 new jobs in our area," he added.

Zanol and Neal also said the ports industrial park is an ideal location as it is close to major natural gas pipelines and electrical transmission lines.

Filing of a notice of intent is the first step in working with the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to obtain a site certificate from EFSC. Following an application for a site certificate, ODOE and EFSC will examine all aspects of the project and hold public hearings.

The project could be in operation as early as 1994, and will cost more than \$200 million to build.

Powerlink is the wholly-owned independent energy subsidiary of Portland General Corp.



Photo by Joyce Hughes

These first graders from Pat Edmundson's class get a first hand look at how a printing press operates during a recent tour of the Heppner Gazette-Times newspaper. Press operator Penni Keersemaeker tells the kids how things work. Barbara Collins' third grade class from Ione also visited the G-T for a tour this week.

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