

## Gretchen Berretta earns award



English teacher Linda Dutcher (l), presents Gretchen Berretta with certificate

Gretchen Berretta, daughter of Drs. Ed and Jeanne Berretta, is a recipient of the 1993 National Council of Teachers of English Achievement Awards in Writing. She was presented her award in an assembly on Nov. 12.

Over 4,000 juniors were nominated for this prestigious award. Each piece of writing submitted by a nominee was read and evaluated by two judges, one high school and one college English teacher. A third judge, usually the state coordinator for the program, settled differences between evaluations to help produce the final list of students. Approximately 13 percent of all juniors nominated are singled out for

awards. The winners are considered to be among the best student writers in the country.

Heppner High School's 1994 nominee is Jenny Krein. Winners of this contest are announced the fall after the students are nominated.

## Off the Wall By Marilyn Robinson

Oregonians have said loud and clear--no new taxes. And they have consistently asked that government spending be downsized without hurting education or services.

Now get this, \$338,000 tax dollars are to be spent by the Oregon Department of Transportation to replace mailbox supports along rural state highways that don't conform to state safety standards. That much money would patch a number of potholes that are more likely to unseat someone or cause head concussions.

This project will replace mailbox standards along rural highways throughout region five, which covers just east of Arlington to the Idaho border and south to Burns. According to ODOT, mailboxes on wooden posts or ones set on a wooden block could be a safety hazard if hit by a car.

Better a mailbox than a pedestrian, I should hope. Will the counties also have to conform in order to prevent lawsuits? That's rather like the bartender being sued for serving a drink to a driver that causes an accident. Somebody has to be responsible for someone else's actions, right?

Travel on roads with unapproved mailbox construction should perhaps be limited to pickups with radiator guards--just in case those mailboxes, like the deer, jump out in front of unsuspecting automobile drivers. Since ODOT is hiring private contractors for this project they must think that most people aren't capable of digging a hole or pounding a post in the ground to properly set up a mailbox. However if that course of action were pursued it might cost just as much to send everyone a lengthy set of instructions plus an individual assessment of the environmental impact.

Personally I'd rather zero in on a wooden post that would break off if the habit of mucking out mailboxes were the norm. It's not nice to be shafted by a metal post.

Where our mailbox is located there is no safe turn-out spot except in the soft ground of Ken Turner's wheat field. But it's true that through the years, that mailbox and some fences have been mucked out by snowplows, combines and slip and slide drivers. I'm sure that flashing lights or a neon sign could not have prevented those incidents. However without too much grumbling there remains the ability to reset those mailboxes, even if there was no consultation with an authoritative figure.

Once a mailbox is in place it becomes federal property. This is to protect the mail, even those third-class advertisements. And the mail carrier is charged with making sure that all those Christmas catalogs and sale fliers are safely deposited in the correct boxes, even though I would be happy to share with neighbors.

Now I'm thinking of adding to our mail carrier's burden by addressing and writing my lengthy list of Christmas cards and letters. My objective is to mail them in early December. It's not just to make sure that they get delivered in a timely fashion. It's to make others feel guilty who are up against a deadline--my way of spreading the Christmas spirit. But if it's any consolation, I still don't have any Christmas projects started, much less a completed gift giving list.

## R&W Reading program underway

The R & W Reading Program, sponsored by Helen and Tom Riehl of the R & W Drive In of Heppner, has begun at Heppner Elementary and Middle School. This annual reading incentive

## OWGL vice president speaks at meeting

The Morrow County Wheat Growers annual meeting was held at Beecher's Cafe in Lone, Nov. 15.

Doug Drake, Heppner, was re-elected to the position of chairman. Judy Rea, Lone, will serve as vice chairperson and Geri Grieb was chosen as secretary.

In the afternoon business meeting the membership went on record as favoring a state dues increase from \$50 to \$60 per year. A \$90 per year dues was suggested for members with more than \$50,000 gross income.

There was a lengthy discussion concerning a 1995 farm program when Conservation Reserve Program contracts will begin to expire. Farmers must be able to plow in advance or there needs to be a flexible program, Drake said. These suggestions will be taken to the state meeting in Portland later this month.

Tim and Debbie Holtz of Lone won the door prize which was two nights of accommodations at a bed and breakfast in Astoria sponsored by the Bank of Eastern Oregon.

Pam Ezell, Pendleton, director

of membership services for the OWGL discussed a video that had been prepared on farm safety. Accompanying the video is a self and inspection check-off manual on farm safety.

"This could prevent producers from being assessed large fines by OSHA," she said. There is also an Iowa-based organization that is promoting safety awareness for children on farms.

OWGL vice president Norm Goetze, Corvallis, was the dinner speaker.

Goetze voiced concern that the U.S. is losing its share of the world market. However, by having the wheat commission office located in Portland, the Northwest corners a large part of the export shares, he said.

Goetze also spoke on proposed tax packages. So far Oregon has successfully lobbied against proposed tax packages that would create a five percent tax increase on the triple base. He said that the American public believes that commodity programs are a give-away and many don't care about farm income. "Our overzealous environmental friends that have almost shut down the timber industry would rather use the \$1.9 billion spent for commodity programs for other needs," said Goetze.

Society is taking over the management of private land through the clean water act, he continued. "We've got to stop that with a more sensible responsibility." Most farmers and ranchers are the true environmentalists that work to protect the natural resources upon which they depend, he added.

Goetze suggested to join together to stop bad legislation, turn back some of the environmental laws and educate the public that all pesticides and herbicides aren't all bad.

Goetze also cautioned that if combinations of agencies are in store for farm programs, farmers could lose local and state control, along with the appeals process.

## Booster club to sell ornaments

The Heppner High School Booster Club is selling Christmas ornaments featuring the Heppner Mustangs and Fillies logo.

The ornaments will be available at \$5 each at Murray Drugs, Heppner TV and the high school.

## Greg Smith joins GEODC staff



Greg Smith

Greg Smith has joined the staff in the Greater Eastern Oregon Development Commission (GEODC) in Heppner.

Smith, 25, began work on Nov. 1 as an economic project developer. His job will be to structure financing to create employment opportunities for the GEODC's five-county area which includes Morrow, Umatilla, Gilliam, Grant and Wheeler counties. Smith said his job will be to try to help people create new businesses and expand existing ones, through Small

Business Association loans, bank loans, grants and state and federal programs.

Smith is a native Oregonian, the descendant of pioneers who came over the Oregon Trail in 1847 and settled in Multnomah County.

Smith's great, great, great-grandfather, Cincinnatus Bills was the first sheriff of Multnomah County and his great, great, great-grandmother, Anne Elizabeth Bills, constructed the first U.S. flag for the state of Oregon.

Smith grew up in Sandy and graduated from Eastern Oregon State College at LaGrande in 1992 with a bachelor of science degree in liberal studies with a minor in economics. The past year he has been working on his master's degree in business administration at Portland State University.

Smith, his wife, Lisa, and their 2½ year old son, Grant are now living in Heppner. Lisa was employed as a teller with First Interstate Bank in Portland, but has transferred to the Pilot Rock branch. Her family lives in Bend.

## Central donates to charities

In the past year Central Red Apple Market has donated \$6,903 to 16 local charities through the one percent program, reports owner Forrest Burkenbine.

In the program, the market donates to charities one percent

of the grocery receipts that are turned in to the store. Those wishing to donate their receipts may leave them at the store. All receipts are deposited in a bag and given to a different organization each month.

### Pharmacy & Your Health

**Boardman Pharmacy & Hardware**

202 1st. N. W. P.O. Box 170  
Boardman, Oregon 97818  
481-9474 481-7351

**BPH: Over Half of All Men Are Affected**

BPH is an abbreviation for *benign prostatic hyperplasia*, an enlargement of the prostate gland. This condition occurs in at least one-half of all men by the time they reach age 60. The prostate gland lies just below the bladder and surrounds the canal through which urine passes when it is eliminated from the bladder. As men age, the gland enlarges. In some men this enlargement leads to complications. Problems associated with BPH include difficulty starting to urinate and urinary frequency (possibly several times each night). The flow of urine may become slow. Although the symptoms of BPH and cancer of the prostate are similar, these are different conditions.

Treatment of BPH includes surgery to the prostate (transurethral resection), surgical removal of the prostate, and use of prescription medicines. Although *terazosin (Hytrin)* is approved only for treatment of high blood pressure, it has been shown to improve BPH. The drug works by relaxing the muscles that block urine flow.

Finasteride (*Proscar*) shrinks the prostate gland, allowing for better flow of urine. According to a recent article in *Patient Care*, finasteride is safe and is associated with very few side effects. It may take 6 to 12 months before optimum results are achieved with this drug.

**NORENE VETERINARY HOSPITAL**

**OFFICE HOURS**

Mon.	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Tues.	9 a.m. to 5 & 7 to 9 p.m.
Wed.	CLOSED
Thurs.	9 a.m. to 5 & 7 to 9 p.m.
Friday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*Open for EMERGENCIES Sat. & Sun.*  
Phone 676-9656

**Crushed Rock For Sale**

¾" minus  
1" minus  
3" base rock  
Clean Fill Material

Can be picked up at pit or we will deliver  
Pit 6½ miles up from mouth of Lower Rhea Creek,  
Brenner Canyon  
Contact Roger Britt 676-5096

## Don't spend Thanksgiving ALONE

All Saints Episcopal church invites everyone in the community who cannot be with their family, or those who do not have a family to be with us and celebrate Thanksgiving Day.

- Delicious Dinner
- Televised football games
- Table games for adults and ch'ldren
- Rides to the dinner

Come and spend a great day with us as our guests. Call any of these people if you wish to attend:

Bob & Aloha DeSpain 676-5376  
Dean & Mary Eleanor Gilman 676-5559  
Bob & Suzanne Jepsen 676-9850  
Gail Hughes 676-9782  
Geri Martin 676-9970

Ad sponsored by Morrow County Grain Growers

We Print  
**Business Cards**  
Gazette-Times  
676-9228

## Bank of Eastern Oregon

# LOGO CONTEST

**\$500** to the winning entry

Deadline 5 p.m. December 1, 1993

Send or deliver entries to:

E. George Koffler  
Bank of Eastern Oregon  
P.O. Box 39  
Heppner, Oregon 97836

We are looking for a logo that:

1. Is easily distinguishable
2. Easy to read
3. May be traditional (ie. wheat/cattle)
4. May be a 21st century design
5. May be abstract
6. Logo must be able to be trademarked and ownership transferred to Bank of Eastern Oregon
7. The Bank reserves the right to reject all entries

Entries need not be camera ready but should be in color and can be actual size or enlarged.

Arlington • Heppner • Lone  
"Your Home Owned, Independent Bank"  
MEMBER F.D.I.C.