



Don't Pout
You're finally
21
Happy Birthday
Tim

The Morrow County Transfer Station will be closed Saturday, December 25, 1993; but will be open Sunday, December 26.

It will be open Saturday, January 1, and Sunday, January 2, 1994.

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Off the Wall By Meryn Robinson

The tree is trimmed and the stockings are hung, right? After precariously using a frosty step ladder to string lights on a tree, then the darn things wouldn't work. So I gave up on outside decorations. But each year Heppner residents add to the beauty of the season with many outstanding lighted displays for everyone to admire.

Hopefully, Heppner merchants are doing well as I see shoppers buying practical necessities for gifts as well as purchasing toys and games. This not only helps the local economy but that of our country. However the U.S. economy isn't suffering from anything that a 20 to 25 percent reduction in federal spending wouldn't fix, according to economist Bill Helming, of Shawnee, Kansas.

Economics drives politics, Helming stresses. Things will only change when things get tough enough, he says in a recent article. Unfortunately he also predicts an economic depression during the 1998-2005 period.

Helming suggests putting the power back into the hands of the people by establishing a consumption tax and abolishing income taxation. Under that system he predicts tax rates would decline from 40 to 89 percent at the corporate and consumer levels.

He also claims that due to a broader tax base this system would raise 30 percent more revenue than today's system. If it were combined with a cut of 20 to 25 percent in government spending Helming predicts that we could pay off the national debt in about 20 years.

The system that Helming advocates would collect taxes through businesses, associations, institutions and the self-employed. In other words, taxes would be collected from the purchase of all products, goods, real estate, equipment, machinery and services. The power of taxation would be given back to the people based on what they purchased, leased or consumed.

Helming states that our present taxing system discourages people from working hard, being productive, industrious, creative and innovative. He claims that changing to a consumption tax would create jobs, stimulate economic growth and increase international competitiveness.

Obviously, much like a sales tax, those that spend the most would pay the most under that system. But he calls the current system counterproductive by taxing any individual or company on profits. He also says that interest income, dividends, estates, inheritances, capital gains and gifts or donations shouldn't be taxed. And he advocates eliminating every tax including social security taxes which would then be subsidized by a two-level business and consumer consumption tax.

Right or wrong, it's an interesting concept--our present system is definitely not working. As we hang up new calendars we also have to prepare income tax calculations not always based on pure profit. No matter that the homeowner's roof leaks or the landlord has to raise the rent to meet those expenses, most taxes are deducted before the worker gets his paycheck.

As we prepare our Christmas goodies, Helming's ideas are definitely food for thought. Since interest rates are at an all time low, maybe stashing some cash in our Christmas sock isn't a bad idea if Helming's predictions are on target.

McCabes, Petersons win contest

Ernie and Mary Jean McCabe, 355 Water St., took first place in this year's annual Chamber of Commerce outdoor lighting contest and Randall and Marlene Peterson, 195 N. Gale, were first place winners in the indoor category.

Les Schwab received special recognition for the festive business lighting display.

Greg and Brenda Sweeney, 660 Barratt Blvd., were second in the outdoor category and Jay and Kelly Jo Keithley, 475 Linden Way, received the third place award.

Ilene Laughlin, Gilmore St. took second in the indoor awards.

Prizes were as follows: outdoor, first-\$50; second-\$25; third-\$15; indoor, first-\$20; second-\$10; business-\$15.

Honorable mention went to Glen and Joyce Ward, Don and Judy Kenison and Ron and Jodi Brisbois.

Last year's outdoor winners were: first-Gary and Barb Watkins; second-Mark and Sandi Patton, third-Kent and Carol Goodyear. Last year's first place indoor award went to Joyce Hughes and second was Nelson and Lois Connor. The business award last year went to the Penland House.

Gun club to close

The Morrow County Gun Club will be closed over the Christmas and New Year's holidays. Reopening is set for noon on Sunday, January 9.

Chamber Chatter
By Claudia Hughes, chamber manager

Dear Santa:

There were quite a few things I had in mind to ask you for on this Christmas...more time for others, elimination of crime, violence and destruction, realizing the value of all human beings even though we're all different, peace and love, food for everyone, providing all parents with parenting skills and the ability to love their children, and good health. Most of us probably would have much the same list, but I got to thinking, Santa, many of the problems of the world would be solved if we just lived by the Ten Laws delivered to us many years ago and kept in mind...that Christmas morn. years ago when Christ was born. (I think, Santa, that lists like this are going to require some help from the BIG GUY who's much higher up than the north pole). Maybe you could just drop the Ten Commandments down each chimney and ask everyone's cooperation in making a better world.

We appreciate you sending your helpers who judged the Christmas lights, Santa. It was a very hard decision, I was told. Many Heppner residents 'decked the halls'.

There will not be any chamber Tuesday, Dec. 28. Members should give themselves that hour for lunch with a spouse, for reading, for just enjoying the season, or even making New Year's resolutions. Those who were not at Chamber to receive their member plaques may pick them up at the chamber office next year. Santa was on hand to deliver them during lunch. They were printed by Pam Sagely. Volunteers are a special gift. Remember to nominate them for

the Town and Country awards. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each and everyone. Good luck Santa.

Pharmacy & Your Health

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What To Do About Sensitive Teeth

It is estimated that 40 million Americans suffer from tooth or dental hypersensitivity. Potential causes include recession of the gums, dental braces, trauma to the teeth, and excessive brushing with a hard bristle brush. Women have more problems with hypersensitivity than do men. This difference is thought to be due to the fact that women tend to have better tooth brushing habits. All tooth pain is not due to hypersensitivity. Therefore, it is best to have your dentist examine your teeth to rule out other causes of tooth pain.

Cold (ice, cold drinks, etc.) produces more pain than does heat. An air blast directly to the teeth also may elicit a sensitivity response, as may directly touching or scratching the teeth or drinking a sweet or sour drink. The pain of dental hypersensitivity is different than that of most tooth aches, in that it tends to be continual.

Avoid highly abrasive toothpastes such as those promoted for whitening the teeth. A desensitizing toothpaste often is recommended by dentists. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved 5% potassium nitrate (an ingredient in *Denquel*, *Mint Sensodyne*, and *Promise* and other products) as a category I desensitizing dentifrice. Brush twice daily with these products using a soft bristle brush.

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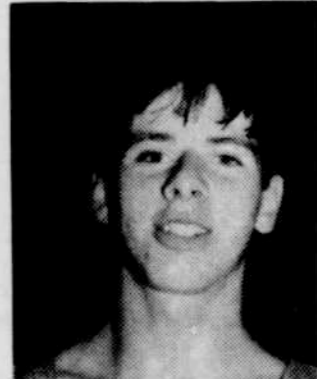
¾" minus
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Can be picked up at pit or we will deliver. Pit 6½ miles up from mouth of Lower Rhea Creek, Brenner Canyon. Contact Roger Britt 676-5096

Inspirational Player of the Week

Dec. 13-18

Ad sponsored by Kinzua Corporation



Austin Coiner



Sara Greenup

The Heppner Booster Club is proud to announce an Inspirational Player of the Week Award. This award features a boy and girl athlete at Heppner High School who has demonstrated a positive attitude, desire, dedication and extra effort. Players are selected by the coaches from the prior weeks game(s) and practices. The ad is sponsored by different businesses each week.

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