

Chamber announce award winners



Bill Kuhn (r) presents Kenny Turner man of year award



Helen Crawford woman of year

Kenny Turner and Helen Crawford were named citizens of the year at the annual Town and Country Banquet held Wednesday, Jan. 11, at the Heppner Elks Club. Barbara Hayes was selected as the citizen-educator and David Allstott and Jerry Gentry of Allstott & Gentry Construction were chosen business of the year. The banquet is sponsored by the Heppner Chamber of Commerce.

Man of the Year Kenny Turner, a Morrow County native, graduated from Oregon State University in 1956. That was also the year that his father died and he took over operation of the family farm. In 1958, he married Jean Ann Swanson.

Conservation has been a long-time priority for Turner and he was a founding father of the local Soil and Water Conservation District. A staunch supporter of high school athletics, Turner was instrumental in erecting a commemorative sign at the the gateway to the community following a state basketball championship game in which one of his daughters participated. Turner also assists the sports programs by paying high school athletes to pull rye in his fields.

Turner is a long time member of the Elks Club and has been organist for the Elks "as long as anyone can remember". He has also been on county road committees and the Port of Morrow Budget Committee.

Turner is active in St. Patrick's Catholic Church and several times has been president of the Holy Name Society. At the annual church Christmas dinner, he dons a Santa suit and plays piano at the close of the dinner.

Turner's latest, longest and perhaps most ambitious project has been the development of the Willow Creek Lake, with a park, a boat launching area and a recreational vehicle camp site. Turner, who has been president of the Willow Creek Park District since its inception, has worked many years and undergone much frustration before his dream of a park and R.V. camp site were realized.

Turner was recognized for



Barbara Hayes accepts educator of the year award from Cara Osmin

his "versatile community commitment" and his "relentless" pursuit of his visions.

Turner and his wife have four grown daughters, Cheryle Rietmann, Lori Seitz, Melissa Lindsay and Sandy Turner, and four grandchildren, Tanner and Evan Rietmann, and Brandon and Reggie Seitz.

Woman of the Year Helen Crawford has a long list of accomplishments. She has been an elementary school teacher, a school bus driver, and a school cafeteria head cook. In addition to her many occupations, she has been a member of the election board; has organized numerous weddings, funerals, showers, social events, receptions and dinners; has worked at the Morrow County fair; is an officer and committee member for the Willow Grange; is a Senior Center transportation board member; has served in all offices and committees of the Lone American Legion Auxiliary Unit 95 and is currently president; has been a member, Sunday school teacher and

deaconess at the Lone United Church of Christ and has been the chairman of the annual church auction and barbecue for "many, many" years; and is president and board member of the St. Patrick Senior Center.

Crawford is credited with being a "do-er, and a positive force who is always contributing energetically to bettering the life of her family, friends and community."

Crawford is the daughter of James and Mary Lindsay, who ranched in the area. She lived most of her life in Lone and Morrow County, except for several years in the 1920s when her family moved to Oregon City and then Silverton. She received a teaching degree at Eastern Oregon State College at LaGrande and taught first and second grades at Lone Elementary School. She helped organize kindergarten there before it was mandated and taught kindergarten for around 13 years. In 1945 she married Earl McCabe, who passed away in 1969. In 1977, she married Arthur "Sam" Crawford, who

passed away in 1983. She has three grandchildren, Christine George and Mark Klinger, both of whom live in Beaverton, and Michael Klinger, who lives with her at the Crawford ranch outside of Lone. Her daughter, Arleta George, has passed away. Her son-in-law, Gary George, lives in Beaverton. She also has many nieces and nephews and many people just call her "Aunt Helen".

Citizen educator of the year Barbara Hayes is employed at Heppner High School. She was hired as a media specialist and then as school counselor.

Hayes was born in California and later moved to Oregon, where she obtained a bachelor's degree in education at Oregon State University. She first taught in the Portland public schools before taking time out for her family, husband, Jim, and their two sons, Jim and Loren. Jim, a helicopter mechanic, is currently stationed at Ft. Wainwright at Fairbanks, Alaska, and Loren is a Navy pilot stationed at Virginia Beach.

Hayes also has experience as a legal secretary. After a stint at the Morrow County Courthouse, she went back to school at Portland State University for graduate work and became a certified media specialist.

In addition to "being devoted" to the high school media center, Hayes has taped numerous plays, sports programs, championships games and graduation ceremonies for the school district and then dubbed the tapes so that parents could have a "living" document of their children's accomplishments. Even though there is no longer the position of media specialist, Hayes still tapes games and fixes glitches in the computer lab at the high school. In her position as school counselor, Hayes keeps a bag of teddy bears for ill students or for those who just need a friend.

Hayes is also a past member of the Morrow County School advisory board and a past member of Soroptimist International Club of Heppner and is currently on the Oregon Trail Library District board.

HEPPNER



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Allstott & Gentry win business of year



Bill Kuhn (l) presents Jerry Gentry and David Allstott business of year award.

The owners of the business of the year, Allstott & Gentry Construction, have been deemed "Heppner's Dynamic Duo". The pair, David Allstott and Jerry Gentry, both born and raised in Heppner, are honored for their "community involvement, professionalism, energy and vision".

Allstott, the son of Clyde and Jackie Allstott, graduated from Heppner High School in 1977. After high school, he went to Skagit Valley Community College on a basketball scholarship. He suffered a shoulder injury and was told he could not continue to play without surgery. He returned to Heppner for the surgery, but did not go back to school. Instead, he

began working as a carpenter with Dick Bigelow and has been in the carpentry business ever since. He got together with his partner when they began working together on the renovation of the St. Patrick's Senior Center.

Allstott has volunteered as a little league T-ball coach, Colt basketball coach and he and Gentry contributed their services to build the high school weight room and playground equipment at Heppner Elementary School.

Allstott served five and a half years on the Heppner Planning Commission and five and a half years on the Heppner City Council. City attorney Bill Kuhn, in presenting the award,

said that Allstott's "construction knowledge and experience were invaluable when building the new city fire hall".

Allstott and his wife, Patti (Saling), have two children, Blake, eight, and Aaron, five.

Gentry, the son of Bill and Patty Gentry, graduated from Heppner High School in 1975. He attended Oregon State University and graduated with a degree in agri-business. After graduation, he went to work for Simplot. He started in the contracting business by doing insulation and window work under a BPA-sponsored weatherization program and worked with Bill Welch building the Heppner Post Office.

Gentry, currently on the Heppner Planning Commission, loves outdoor activities, particularly rodeoing. His passion for the rodeo and a concern for the youth of Heppner got him involved in the "granddaddy" of all community projects, the complete reconstruction of the rodeo grounds, termed "one of the finest small rodeo grounds in the area".

Gentry and his wife, Terri, have a son, Willie, almost two.

Del's Market open for business

Del's Market in Lexington is open for business again, following a Nov. 16 fire, which destroyed the market's roof.

Phyllis Piper, who owns the market along with her husband, Del, said they opened the store on Jan. 3 as a kind of a mini-mart, for now. "It looks pretty good," she said. "We're glad to be back." Phyllis estimates that Del has worked in the store for 33 years.

The store offers beer, pop and movies and is starting to get some grocery items in, she said. Piper said she is now making pizzas and sub sandwiches, but will not be able to offer chicken and jojos for the time being. Wednesday, Jan. 18, they anticipated getting milk. The Post Office, located at the store, opened Jan. 1.

Piper said that the store had a few leaks, but those were in the back of the store during the really hard rain and were "not too bad". She added that as soon as the weather warms up, the store will get a new roof. New store hours are 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays; closed Sundays. The store had previously been open Sunday.

Be careful when roller blading

When using roller blades, watch where you are going, says Heppner Police Chief Doug Rathbun. Bumping into people and causing confusion where you are skating can be dangerous for those walking on the sidewalks and parking areas for yourself. Rathbun says not to go into any

businesses with roller blades on. This is not safe.

As of now, there is no law prohibiting roller blades on the sidewalks, but if there continues to be problems enforcement action will be taken.

"Parents, please pass this information on to your children with roller blades."

Man arrested following chase

A Heppner man, Rodney Thompson, formerly of Walla Walla, WA, was arrested by Heppner Police and the Morrow County Sheriff's Office Tuesday, Jan. 10, for violation of his release agreement. According to Heppner Police

Chief Doug Rathbun, Thompson had been ordered not to have contact with a prior girlfriend.

Thompson plead guilty to Assault IV charges and was sentenced to nine days in jail.

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