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VOL. 115 NO. 43 10 Pages Wednesday, October 23, 1996, Morrow County Heppner, Oregon

Local teacher killed in car accident



Beth Slottee, music teacher at HHS, HES and lone

Elizabeth 'Beth' Slottee, a first year music teacher at the Heppner and lone schools, was killed instantly in an automobile accident Thursday, Oct. 17, around 12:30 p.m. According to a news release from Chuck Starr, Morrow County School District Superintendent, Slottee, 22, was between Lexington and lone when her car crossed into the oncoming lane and was struck broadside by a Washington car headed toward Lexington. Slottee taught

music classes a half day in Heppner and and half day in lone.

The driver of the other vehicle, Micahel Harwell, 53, Arlington, WA, was not seriously injured. He was treated at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner and released.

The Heppner Fire Department, Lexington EMTs and the Heppner ambulance were all dispatched to the scene by the Morrow County Sheriff's Office.

According to police, Slottee was not wearing a seat belt. A school district news release said that evidence seemed to indicate that Slottee's attention was diverted from her driving to care for her cat. The car drifted onto the gravel on the right side of the road and when Slottee overcorrected, veered into the oncoming lane. The cat was also killed instantly in the collision. According to the release, Slottee had her cat in the car with her because she had planned to leave after work in lone to visit her parents who lived in Salt Lake City.

School officials arranged for a 'safe room' to help grieving students and teachers deal with the tragedy. A Umatilla-

Morrow Education Service District team planned to be in the schools in Heppner and lone on Monday to help students and staff.

"It's a tragedy," commented Starr. "It's a tragedy that she had to lose her life. She was off to a tremendous start as a new music teacher. She had a great future ahead of her."

A memorial service is planned on Wednesday, October 23, at 4:30 p.m. at the Heppner High School cafeteria. The Rev. Lea Mathieu, lone United Church of Christ, will conduct the service. Students and staff were invited to participate in the service with remembrances

of Slottee. A service was held Tuesday, October 22, at Gerlinger Hall at the University of Oregon, where she received her bachelor of arts degree in music education in 1995. She received her teaching certificate this August.

Slottee is survived by her parents, Steve and Susan Slottee, and a sister, Chris, of Salt Lake.

A Beth Slottee Memorial Music Scholarship fund has been set up with the South Morrow County Scholarship Trust in care of the Bank of Eastern Oregon, P.O. Box 309, Heppner.

Merchants plan scavenger hunt, pumpkin contest

A scavenger hunt for "Scary Things" and a Pumpkin-Decorating contest will be two special events during Heppner's two hours of "Moonlight Madness" on Wednesday, Oct. 30 from 5-7 p.m. Participating merchants will also offer special in-store buys. Advertisements of some of their sale items are found in this issue of the Gazette-Times.

Scavenger hunt entry forms are found in today's paper and will be available in participating businesses during "Moonlight Madness." Each participating business will have one of the "scary things" that are listed on the entry form somewhere in its store. "Hunters" must find those items and write the name of each one next to the name of the business that features it. Each business will provide a box for completed entry forms.

Each participating business will provide a prize for the scavenger hunt. Winners of these prizes will be drawn from completed and correct entry forms. One lucky winner will receive \$100-worth of gift certificates that can be used in any of the participating businesses.

Winners, limited to one per family, will be notified by telephone, and a list of winners will be posted on the Heppner Chamber of Commerce door.

The Pumpkin-Decorating contest is open to participants from 5 to 7 P.M. During those hours, the following businesses will accept and display jack-o-lantern entries for the listed age brackets: 4 and 5 year-olds - Coast to Coast; 6 and 7 - Central Market; 8 and 9 - Gardner's Men's Wear; 10 and 11 - Lott's electric; 12 and 13 - The Shoe Box; 14 through 18 - Murray Drugs; 19 and 20 - Pettyjohn's Supply; and 21 and older -

Yaw's.

Methods of decorating the jack-o-lanterns are open, but four and five year olds are restricted from carving. Entries will not be accepted before 5 p.m. Each pumpkin needs to be accompanied with a tag that contains the name, age, and phone number of the jack-o-lantern's artist.

Business owners will select jack-o-lantern winners from the entries at their stores. The winner from each age bracket will be notified by telephone and will win a \$10 gift certificate redeemable in any of the Heppner participating businesses.

MCGG annual meeting on Nov. 4

The Morrow County Grain Growers' annual membership meeting will be held Monday, Nov. 4 at the Morrow County Fairgrounds in Heppner. Dinner will be served by the Willows Grange at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting will include reports from company officers, a review of the company's financial statement and the election of directors.

Free babysitting will be provided for those attending with small children.

Market Report

Compliments of the Morrow County Grain Growers

Tuesday, Oct. 22	
Soft White	
Oct.-Dec.	\$4.25
Jan.	\$4.22
Barley	
Oct.-Jan.	\$115

School board hears testing results

Michael Keown, Morrow County School District Assistant Superintendent, presented an overview of the 1996 Oregon Assessment and Stanford Achievement test results for Morrow County School students at the Morrow County School Board meeting held Monday, Oct. 14, at Heppner High School.

In the statewide assessment tests, students were assessed in reading, math and writing in grades three, five, eight and 10.

In grade three, all Morrow County schools scored below the state average of 206 in reading with the exception of lone which scored 211. Heppner students scored 206, A.C. Houghton, 202, and Sam Boardman, 203.

In math, lone third graders again surpassed the state average of 201 with a 206. Heppner third graders were right at the state average with 201, with A.C. Houghton at 199 and Sam Boardman, 198.

According to state performance levels, a third grader has only basic (partial mastery) of the subject if he scores 189 or below in reading and 190 or below in math. For proficient (solid levels of achievement) third graders must score 190-208 in reading and 191-209 in math. For advanced (very high, superior levels of achievement) third graders must score 209 or above in reading and 210 or above in math.

In grade five, lone students were above the state average of 216 in reading with a 218. Heppner students scored 215, with A.C. Houghton and Boardman, both 213.

In math, district fifth graders were all below the state average of 214, with Heppner, 211, lone, 213, A.C. Houghton, 208 and Sam Boardman, 210.

In grade five, basic is 203 and below in reading and 206 and below in math; proficient-204-222 in reading and 207-225 in math; advanced-223 and above in reading and 226 and above in math.

In grade eight Heppner students equaled the state average in reading with a 229, lone students averaged 227 and Columbia Junior High, 223.

In math, Heppner students surpassed the state average of 231 with a 234, lone had an average of 229 and Columbia, 227.

In grade eight, basic is 215 and below in reading and 220 and below in math; proficient-216-234 in reading and 221-239 in math; advanced-235 and above in reading and 240 and above in math.

lone 10th graders were five points above the state average of 236 in reading with a 241. Heppner students had a score of 230 and Riverside High school, 234.

In math lone 10th graders were five points above the state average of 232 with a score of 237. Riverside and Heppner students followed with 230 and 229, respectively.

In grade 10 basic is 220 and below in reading and 225 and below in math; proficient-221-239 reading, 226-244 math; advanced-240 and above reading and 245 and above math.

Also as a part of the statewide assessment, students in grades three, eight and 10 were assessed in writing in six areas on a scale of one to six and their scores were viewed against a comparison group range.

According to Keown, the state board is "currently preparing to set new standards of performance for the Certificate of Initial Mastery at grade 10 and for the benchmark grades leading to the certificate (grades three, five and eight). When those new standards are adopted," said Keown, schools will be issued new reports showing the percentage of students who do not yet meet, meet or exceed the new standard at each grade level."

With the previous standards, students were deemed proficient in reading with a score of 180 at 2nd grade, 190-3rd, 197-4th, 204-5th, 208-6th, 212-7th, 216-8th, 219-9th, 221-10th, 223-11th and 225-12th.

The previous standards for advanced mastery in reading were 199,209,216, 223, 227, 231, 235, 238, 240, 242 and 244 in grades two through 12.

In mathematics, proficiency standards were 181, 191, 199, 207, 212, 217, 221, 224, 227, 229 and 229 in grades two-12; with advanced standards 200, 210, 217, 226, 231, 236, 240, 243, 246, 248, and 250 in grades two through 12.

With the new standards for reading and mathematics, students will meet the standard with 191-2nd grade; 201-3rd, 208-4th, 215-5th, 221-6th, 226-7th, 231-8th, 236-9th, 241-10th, 244-11th and 246-12th; and will exceed the standard with 206, 216, 223, 230,234, 238, 241, 246, 251, 254 and 256 in grades two through 12, respectively.

School board member John Rietmann expressed concern about the new standards. "I'm really concerned that students who progress, continue along the same lines, are not going to

meet the standard in the 10th grade. I'm disturbed that we're setting these kids up for failure."

"I believe the majority of our kids will be meeting the standards," said Morrow County School District Superintendent Chuck Starr. "But the problem is that we have a whole bunch who aren't (going to meet the standards)."

Starr said that he was concerned that some students would say "what's the use?" and drop out of school if they are unable to meet state standards.

Keown said that students will still be able to receive diplomas. However, Starr added that the state "fully intends" to replace diplomas with the CIM (Certificate of Initial Mastery) and the CAM (Certificate of Advanced Mastery) by 2002.

In other business, the school board:

-accepted resignations from Maryanne Anthony from PE/laundry assistant position at Riverside High School (RHS); Pam Docken from secretarial position at RHS; Janet Rhoades from three-hour assistant cook position at Columbia Middle School (CMS).

-approved employment for Marchell Downey, transfer from Title I educational assistant to PE/laundry assistant at RHS; Ken Morris, assistant custodian at RHS; extra duty contracts for Thad Killingbeck from head junior high girls' basketball coach at CMS to assistant boys' basketball coach at RHS; Mark Bird, annual advisor at lone High School; Beth Slottee, instrumental music performance at lone and Heppner.

-accepted donation of a training table from Rob Meakins to Columbia Middle School.

-learned of board and advisory positions expiring as of June 30, 1997-Board of Directors-Dwayne Carroll-zone 2; Bill Doherty-zone 6; and Scott Bauska-zone 7; Heppner-Lexington Advisory-

Virginia Nairns-position 2; Mark Rietmann-position 4; Steve Hill-position 6 and positions 1 and 7-vacant; lone-Lexington Advisory-Hank Pointer-position 2; Jim McElligott-position 3; and Valery Doherty-position 4; Boardman-Irrigon Advisory-Dean Mason-position 1; Kathy Neal-position 3; Pat McNamee-position 6; and position 4-vacant.

The filing deadline for the positions is January 9, 1997, with the election March 11, 1997.

-heard a school update presented by Chuck Starr;

-heard a report on damage to the district's technology van which was struck by a car driven by a student..

-heard first readings on a budget calendar for the 1997-98 budget, safety policy, purchasing-specific considerations policy; and a resolution establishing a contract review board;

-heard announcements of the end of the first nine weeks on Oct. 31; parent-teacher conferences the evening of Nov. 7 and the morning of Nov. 8; the Veteran's Day holiday Nov. 11; and the next meeting on Nov. 12 at the district office at 7:30 p.m.

Wear light at night

Local residents are reminded to wear light colored clothes when walking at night time.

There have been two reports to the Gazette-Times recently of close calls when drivers did not see a pedestrian walking at night dressed in black clothing.

November 1 - February 28

10% OFF

PARTS & LABOR SHOP

Morrow County Grain Growers

Lexington 989-8221 1-800-452-7396