

BESSIE WETZELL  
U OF ORE  
NEWSPAPER LIB  
EUGENE OR 97403

## School board election questioned

The Morrow County School District is having its attorney examine the facts surrounding the last election, after several local residents complained both to the county clerk, and to the school district, that one of the school board candidates does not live in the zone from which he filed, and won election.

Morrow County Clerk Barbara Bloodsworth says she has had numerous complaints that school board candidate Barney Lindsay does not live in the zone from which he filed and won election.

Bloodsworth stated correctly, however, that it is not the duty of the county clerk to determine either before or after an election if a candidate lives in the correct district.

Lindsay was the only name on the ballot from zone 6, however, a last minute write-in campaign was mounted by John Kilkenny. Lindsay received 1,506 votes to Kilkenny's 78.

Both before and after the election some people have complained to the county clerk and to the school district that Lindsay actually lives in zone 2, and therefore the zone 6 election is invalid.

The dispute arises because the Lindsay family ranch is split by zone 2 and zone 6, and although Barney Lindsay says he sometimes stays at his parents home located in zone 2 on the ranch, his residence is on another part of the ranch, in a trailer located in zone 6.

"My residence since I left home and got out of college has always been at the feedlot (located in zone 6)," Lindsay says.

He says he maintains a phone number at his parents address because that gives him a local number for the Heppner area. Otherwise he would be listed in the Echo section of the phone book,

which would be long distance from Heppner he says. He also says that mail is sent to the main Lindsay farm address and then distributed by his father from there.

According to state election laws the school district will examine the issue, and then decide whether the election is valid at its April 14 meeting. If the election is deemed invalid the board will appoint someone to fill the board position for two years until a regular election is held. If Lindsay is found to be a resident of zone 6 he will assume his board position in June.

## Matt Hughes retires after 46 years in business

Matt Hughes isn't so sure he likes this retirement thing, but he's decided to give it a try.

Hughes, owner of M&R Floor Covering, retired in January after 46 years in the carpet and linoleum installation business. He says that only a couple of people in town have been in business as long as he has, Farra's Shoe Repair Shop and Peterson's Jewelers. Cal Sherman and Pettyjohn's started later, he said.

Hughes leased M&R to Brandi and Mickey Kroske beginning January 1.

Hughes was born in 1930 in Heppner to Grace and Matt Hughes. The elder Matt was born in Ireland, coming to the area when he was only around 17 years old. Grace was born and raised in Heppner. Matt attended high school in Heppner and in 1948 went to work at the mill for a short time. He also worked for the REA and then got a job building a new grain elevator, which still stands in Heppner. One day when he was walking downtown, he was offered a job with Case's Furniture Company, so, at the age of 19 in 1950, he began what would be his lifetime occupation.

In 1951, Matt volunteered for the draft and served in the Army in Japan until 1953, during the Korean War. During the war he was a 90mm gunner with an anti-aircraft outfit. This would be his first time away from home. "When I crawled on that ship to go overseas, it was the first time I'd seen the ocean," says Matt. "By golly, I didn't know anything could get that rough. At least I didn't get sick." Matt says that he was on a ship around 17 days going over and the sea was so rough, and the swells so high sometimes they couldn't even see a ship right next to their own.

After his discharge, he returned to Case's to work. After Mr. Case died, Matt and Ray Ayers bought 49 percent of the business. But about a year later, in 1962, Mrs. Case decided to sell and the store was auctioned off, with Arnie Hedman of Heppner as one of the buyers.

Matt and Ayers then started their own business, M&R Floor Covering and Heating, that year. They installed floor covering, furnaces and air conditioning and sold appliances. Ray moved to Pendleton in 1973, starting his own furnace business. Matt worked by himself until his son, Terry, went to work for him. Terry moved to Prairie City in 1989 and went into the

insurance business.

Back in the early days Matt and his partner did "anything and everything", including carpentry work, wiring, repairs and plumbing. One day Matt was called upon to do a special job and he complied. A woman at a home he was working on called him up and asked him to buy her a purse. And he did. "I was going to her house and she didn't seem to care what kind of purse she had," laughed Matt. "So, I figured if she didn't care, I didn't either. We'd do just about anything in those days."

Matt says that now, laws and regulations prevent such variety. The prices have also changed a bit over the years. Matt says that when he started, linoleum was a lot cheaper than carpet and ranged from \$3.50 to \$8 a square yard. Now it averages between \$16 and \$53 a square yard. Linoleum was originally made of linseed oil and cork; then it was a vinyl mix, with inlaid, which had coloring all the way through; and now it is straight vinyl.

The price of carpeting hasn't changed much, but it's cheaper than linoleum now. Carpeting used to be all woven of wool and installers had to stitch the seams together themselves on the job. Matt said that when he first got into the business, Mr. Case got carpet in 27-inch wide strips and sewed them together. When Matt did the Bank of Eastern Oregon job, the architect insisted that the seams be sewn together. Matt called in extra help and two men spent a whole day sewing. Seams are now mostly done by putting tape on the floor and seaming with a flat iron.

One of the oddest jobs he completed was installing indoor-outdoor carpet in a bathroom--around the tub, on the ceiling, on the walls--everywhere except the fixtures. "It's still there," says Matt. "These people still love it."

Matt has two children, Terry of Prairie City and Theresa Andrews, who lives in Kennewick and works in an abstract office, and four grandchildren.

## Clarence Proctor wins Ewe-Do-Bingo

Clarence Proctor of Lexington won \$300 from the Ewe-Do-Bingo, held during the St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

Proceeds from the event went towards the Willow Creek Water Park's indoor multi-use pool.

HEPPNER



VOL. 116 NO. 12 8 Pages Wednesday, March 19, 1997 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon



Give me five green guy

It's St. Patrick's Day in Heppner, "Ire-gon". A Leprechaun wades into the crowd before Saturday's Irish parade. More St. Patrick's Day photos inside.

## School board meets

The Morrow County School Board, at its regular meeting on Monday, March 10, at the district office in Lexington, adopted 'Option A' for the 1997-98 school year.

Under this option, students will begin school the Tuesday after Labor Day; Christmas break was scheduled from Dec. 22 to Jan. 4; spring break will be March 23-27; and the students' last day will be Tuesday, June 9.

The board approved:  
-resignations of Ted Hendricks, Columbia Middle School assistant custodian; Laurie Cox, Sam Boardman Elementary (SBE) educational assistant; Steve Schaber, Ione Middle School (IMS) extra duty contract assistant track coach; Trina Hellberg, Riverside High School (RHS) assistant volleyball coach; Dean Robinson, Ione High School (IHS) assistant boys' basketball coach;  
-maternity/child care leave for Nancy Swarat from May 19 through June; and Vicky Broden, for the 1997-98 school year;

-employment for Bob French, one-on-one special education assistant at Columbia Middle School (CMS); JoEllen Nelson, SBE educational assistant;  
-extra duty contracts for Cathy McCabe, IHS head

tennis coach; Judy Daniels, CMS assistant track coach; Tom Jensen, RHS assistant softball coach; Gary Olsen, RHS assistant golf coach; Jill Scanlan, RHS assistant tennis coach; John Scanlan, RHS assistant track coach.

In other business, the board:  
-approved a request for the Ione High School Senior Class Disneyland trip;

-heard reports on the progress of construction at RHS and SBE; school funding; academic excellence from various schools; receipt of \$800 associated with OSEA transportation grievances;  
-adopted a Title I Parent Involvement policy;

-accepted the low bid for carpeting for new additions at RHS and SBE from School Specialty, Inc.  
-accepted a first reading of driver education policy.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 14 at the Ione High School cafeteria at 7:30 p.m. A budget committee meeting is slated for April 7 at the district office at 7:30 p.m.

## 3 win \$100

Winners of the Heppner St. Patrick's Day Pot 'O Gold drawing were: Dan Martindale Jr., Hermiston, Lisa Green, Heppner, and Gwyn Healy, also of Heppner. Each person won \$100.

## Yard sale to benefit Braces Lone Booster Club meets

The yard sale to benefit Sharon and Jerry Brace, which was postponed last week because of inclement weather, will be held this Saturday, March 22, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Skagg's, 126 May in Heppner.

## Centennial exchange

By Lonnie Rill

Heppner is about to experience a 17-year long tradition of sending their kids to Portland for a week to learn the ways of Centennial Junior High School. Heppner and Centennial eighth grade students will be exchanged the week of April 26-May 3.

A meeting for 7th and 8th grade students was held Tuesday, March 18.

## HCC to discuss Corral 1000 plan

The Tuesday, March 25 meeting of the Heppner Coordinating Council will be devoted to discussion of the Corral 1000 project. The discussion will be led by Steve Yaw.

The public is welcome to attend this meeting which will be at 7:30 a.m. at the Heppner Ranger District office conference room.

BACKPACK & HAND SPRAYERS  
LAWN CHEMICALS  
NOW AVAILABLE AT  
MORROW COUNTY GRAIN GROWERS

Lexington 989-8221 1-800-452-7396