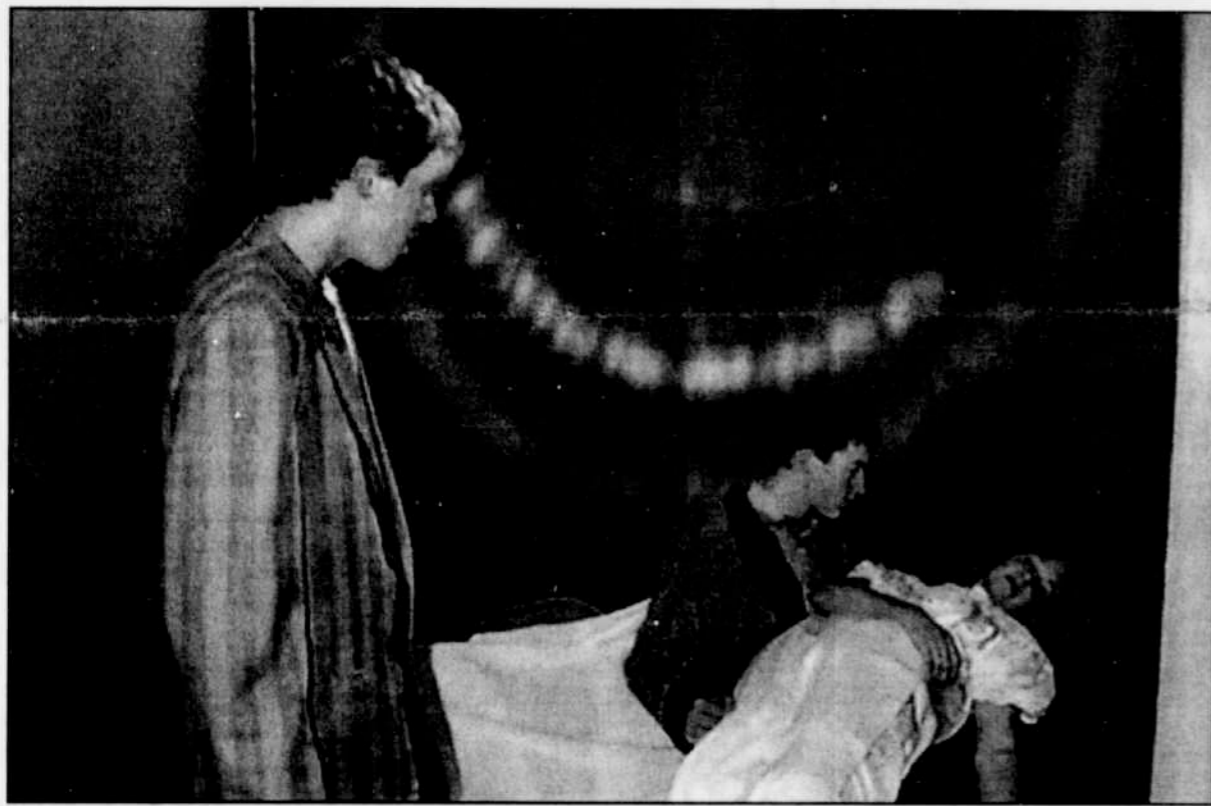


HEPPNER



50¢

"Night Chills" to be presented at Lone High School



Jeremiah McElligott, Erin Crowell and Cory Bennetto

By Nova Rietmann

"Night Chills", a triad of plays based on stories by Edgar Allen Poe, will be performed by the Lone High School Drama Club, Saturday, November 22, at 7 p.m. The three plays are entitled: "The Fall of the House of Usher", "Murders in the Rue Morgue" and "The Tell-Tale Heart", directed by Jim Raible, assisted by Kara Miller, Lela Gribskov and Nova Rietmann. Admission is \$2 for adults \$1 for students and senior citizens and children

Entry forms out for Parade of Lights

An entry form to enter the first Heppner Parade of Lights is included in this week's issue of the Gazette.

The parade, which will be held the night of Dec. 4, is open to all individuals or businesses who can decorate a vehicle and maybe win a cash prize.

The Christmas decorated vehicles will drive down Heppner main street, and the parade will begin at 6 p.m.

There is no charge to enter the parade and anyone who is interested should contact Bob Kahl at Van Marter and Kahl Insurance in Heppner.

Completed parade entry forms can be dropped off at Van Marter and Kahl, Murray Drugs, or The Heppner Gazette-Times.

Other activities planned for Dec. 4 include holiday snacks at local businesses, a visit from Santa Clause, lighting of the downtown Christmas trees, and Christmas singing and music.

Everyone is invited to come downtown for the activities.

are free. In the "Fall of the House of Usher", Rodrick Usher (Cory Bennetto) is watching his sister Madeline (Erin Crowell) die and, being sick himself, begins to feel the need to settle his estate and calls on his friend Andrew (Jeremiah McElligott) to come and help him. Madeline unfortunately falls to her death and the house of Usher is slowly fading away. Other members of the cast include Nikki McElligott, Brandi Brantley and Katie Bacon.

In "Murders in the Rue Morgue" Madame L'Espanye (Niki Sullivan) and her daughter Camille (Sybil Krebs) are brutally murdered in their

apartment. Chief Detective Monsieur Dupin (Nathan Rietmann) and his assistant Robert Roche (Kory Morgan) try to solve the case. Others include Kara Miller, Camie Burright, Ryan Bennetto and Cory Bennetto.

The "Tale-Tell Heart" features two traveling hardware sales women Jess and Lorna (Nova Rietmann and Charissa Gates) who have been asked to stay the night at a locals home. Jess finds

gold in the cellar of the house and plans to kill the owner (Miranda McElligott). Others include Allison Halvorsen, Shelby Krebs and Cory Bennetto.

Because of content, the play may not be suitable for young children to watch.

All Saints hosts Thanksgiving dinner

All Saints Episcopal Church is again hosting a traditional Thanksgiving dinner on Thursday, Thanksgiving Day, November 27, at the church parish hall.

Dinner will be served at 1 p.m. but the hosts invite guests to come early and stay late for visiting and companionship.

There will be games for all those who are interested and T.V. for those who want to watch the football game.

"This is truly a community event with many from the community contributing food and time," said a church spokesperson.

The Bank of Eastern Oregon has furnished the turkeys for the last seven years. Members of All Saints and other congregations bring salads, desserts, etc. If those who come as guests would

like to bring something, it would be welcomed, but it is not necessary for them to do so in order to participate, said the spokesperson.

"There is no charge and all are welcome to come share in thankfulness for God's blessings," they said. Those who plan on attending are asked to call 676-5376 or 676-9970.

Artifactory

The annual Christmas Artifactory crafts sale, sponsored by Soroptimist International of Heppner, will be held early this year. The Artifactory will be held Saturday, November 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Morrow County Fairgrounds and will feature 40 tables of crafts, wood items, handmade ornaments baked goods and furniture.

Heppner ES Site CBEC passes along savings Council meets

The first Heppner Elementary/Middle School Site Council meeting was held October 6.

New board members introduced were Cindy Doherty, Lorrie Fox, Sharon Morris, and Jean Strange. Officers for the year were elected as follows: president, Kay Chinen, publicity, Kelly Boyer, distributor, Sandy Mathews, and secretary, Jean Strange.

The council met again for its November 3 meeting. Topics discussed were updates on vision screening, which was completed by site council members and parent volunteers. Future discussions on levels testing will be made in the spring when state wide assessment test scores have been compiled. Tests and test grading schedules will help clarify HES student placement compared with the rest of Oregon's educational system, said a council spokesperson.

The next Site Council meeting will be held the first Monday in December at 6:30 p.m.

Legion, Auxiliary plan meeting

American Legion and Auxiliary members will meet Monday, Nov. 24, at 6:30 p.m. at the Methodist Church basement in Heppner for their Thanksgiving potluck. Turkey will be furnished. Members are asked to bring the trimmings.

Unit 87 reached their membership goal by Oct. 15. Four new members were welcomed into the organization.

It was reported that the food sale was very successful and proceeds were sent to The Dalles veterans' home.

Gifts are being collected for the Christmas gift shop. People donating gifts are asked to bring them to the potluck or leave at Clayton Sweek's home.

A poppy wreath was placed at the mini-park in memory of our veterans on Nov. 11. Many Legion and Auxiliary members attended the "very impressive" Veterans' Day commemoration.

By Merlyn Robinson

The status of electrical cooperative industries was the focus of the 53rd annual meeting of the Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative (CBEC), which was held in Condon on Nov. 6.

Co-op customers also experienced a welcome rate reduction during this past year. That reduction became possible after Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) lowered the cost of wholesale power, hence a savings of \$360,000 was passed along to all customer classes.

And in spite of a past season of weather-related maintenance problems, the co-op experienced a significant profit margin this past year. The board of directors authorized a retirement of \$350,000 in-capital credits to patrons-the largest amount to be retired in CBEC history.

But beyond CBEC's present wholesale power rate contract with BPA that expires in 2001, the future of rural cooperatives could see drastic changes. Change in the form of deregulation is sweeping this industry.

Legislation to deregulate the industry in Oregon was defeated this past session. "But the issue isn't going to go away," said speaker Sandra Flicker, the public affairs director for Oregon Rural Electric Cooperatives Association, Salem.

"It's all about money," said Flicker. Retail electrical customers would be able to shop around and choose a power supplier

which would be delivered by a local utility. Since the Northwest has the lowest hydro-electric power rates in the nation, the large industries could purchase this power at reduced rates.

Those in favor of status quo for local co-ops over investor-owned utilities cite local personalized service, dependability and local control over rates versus more government regulations at both the distribution and transmission levels.

The impact of deregulation on CBEC could reduce revenues which are used for maintenance and administrative costs should customers choose alternative power suppliers. About 50 percent of CBEC revenue is derived from residential accounts with irrigation, commercial and industrial usage providing the other half.

Nevertheless, an improvement to provide stability to the system will be implemented, said manager Fred Toombs. The co-op has negotiated with BPA to obtain an additional point of delivery at the north end of the system near Arlington. This will increase electrical dependability in the event that the current point of delivery near Boardman should fail.

Directors re-elected to the board for three year terms were Bill Jaegar, Condon, and Herb Wright, Fossil. Jim Hayes, Heppner, was also re-elected for a one year term. Entertainment and door prizes highlighted the dinner meeting.

Tax statements in the mail

The 1997-98 tax statements for Morrow County are finally headed to the mail. They will be delivered to the Post Office on November 21. The statements are late this year due to the implementation of Measure 50. Taxpayers will have until December 15 to pay and still receive the three percent discount.

Tax bills are down for most taxpayers, according to a news release from the Morrow County Assessor's Office. This is due to Measure 50, which rolled assessed values back to their 1995 value less 10 percent and reduced operating levies for most taxing districts. Measure 50 also

created permanent tax rates for all taxing districts. In the future, operating taxes for a district will be calculated by multiplying their permanent rate by the district's assessed value.

Taxpayers within the city of Heppner will see an increase on their tax statements. Heppner tax bills increased due to a general increase in real market value of all types of property. Unlike the rest of the county, Heppner is still under Measure 5 compression for local government taxes. This means that the \$10 local government tax rate limit, times the real market value, determines the operating taxes for the property, said the MCAO.

Total tax bills for properties located within the state fire district may be higher. This is due to the increase in the fire patrol assessment portion of the tax statement, which is certified by the state. The property tax portion of the statement is lower.

The appeal deadline has been extended to 46 days past December 15, which would be January 30, 1998. Taxpayers concerned about their values or how their taxes were computed should contact the Morrow County Assessor's Office. Appeal forms are available from the Morrow County Clerk.

Christmas Punch starts this week

It's time for the annual Christmas punch.

Shoppers can now pick up their punch cards at participating businesses, have their cards punched when they shop, and then enter to win \$1400 in gift certificates to be given away.

There will be five lucky \$25 winners each week until Christmas, and all card entries will be included in the grand prize drawing for \$700 in gift certificates to be given away to one extra lucky person on Dec. 29.

Pick up your punch cards at these participating businesses: Gardner's, Coast to Coast, Les Schwab, Peterson's Jewelers, Yaw's Restaurant, Lott's Electric, Shoe Box, Central Market, Green Feed, Pettyjohn's, MCGG, Bucknum's Tavern, Court Street Market, Murray Drugs and Country Rose.

BEO "Christmas Cash" has first taker



Faith Healy, Heppner, the first person to take advantage of the Christmas Cash program offered through the Bank of Eastern Oregon, prepares to spend a little bit of that cash at Lott's Electric.

Symphony to perform Saturday

The Arts Council of Morrow County will present the Oregon East Symphony and Chorale "Vistas, Visions and Voices" on Saturday, November 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the Heppner old middle school gymnasium.

The concert will be held at the newly-constructed acoustical shell.

Admission is free.

The concert is funded by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District.

Greens Workshop to be held Dec. 6

Heppner Garden Club will offer their annual holiday greens workshop Saturday, December 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Morrow county Fair annex building.

The club supplies free greens and cones to anyone wanting to make wreaths, swags or other designs. Club members will help to show how to make these

designs.

Wire rings, wrapping wire, ribbon bows and miscellaneous decorations will also be available at low cost, said a club spokesperson.

Those wishing to purchase wreaths or swags made by garden club members should place their order by calling 676-9446 by Saturday, November 22.

We Will Be Closed Thanksgiving
Thursday, November 27th
Have a Happy Holiday!

MORROW COUNTY GRAIN GROWERS
Lexington 989-8221 1-800-452-7396