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HEPPNER



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VOL. 116 NO. 53 8 Pages Wednesday, December 31, 1997 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

HHS seniors plan activities

The Heppner High School Senior Class will sponsor several fund raising activities for their senior trip over the next several months.

This Sunday, Jan. 4, they have planned a Christmas tree pick-up and disposal. (Call Jayme Hansen, 676-5247, or April Sykes, 676-9228 or 676-9939 for pick-up.) A meeting for seniors and their parents will be held that day at 7:00 p.m. in the high school library.

Monday, January 26, following Super Bowl Sunday, the seniors will hold a pop can drive. The students will go door to door, but anyone who wishes to ensure that their cans are picked up may also call the above numbers.

On Friday, January 30, they will hold a spaghetti feed during the Heppner-Weston-McEwen basketball game. The games start with JV girls' play at 3 p.m.

On Friday, Feb. 6, they have planned a special "taco soup" feed during the Heppner-Pilot Rock basketball game. That game also gets underway with JV girls at 3 p.m.

OSU fraternities name pledges

Oregon State University, Corvallis, has announced the names of fraternity pledges. Pledges include Brian Koffler, Heppner, a freshman in university exploratory studies, Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Holland is grand prize punch card winner

Dale Holland, Jr. was the grand prize winner in this year's Christmas Punch contest.

Holland won 13-\$50 gift certificates for a total of \$650 to the following local businesses: Gardner's Men's Wear, Coast to Coast, Les Schwab Tires, Peterson's Jewelers, Yaw's Restaurant, Lott's Electric, Shoe Box, Central Red Apple Market, Green Feed & Seed, Pettyjohn's, Morrow County Grain Growers, Court Street Market and Murray Drugs.

The \$25 gift certificate winners in this the final week of the contest were: Cam Wishart, MCGG; Janet Greenup Court Street Market; Elmer Holtz, Pettyjohn's and LeRoy Cline, Murray's Drug.

Lighting contest winners announced

Jodi Brisbois won the Heppner Chamber of Commerce outdoor lighting first place award and \$50. Frank Skaggs was second in the outdoor category and won \$25.

First place in the indoor category went to Gary Clark, who earned a \$25 prize. Randall Peterson took second place in indoor lighting and \$15.

The festive business lighting display was won by Hair

Expressions. They won \$20.

Last year's outdoor winners were Jeff and Crystal Shank, first, Steve and Luanne Brownfield, second, and Dave and Karen Wildman, third.

Last year's indoor lighting winners were first, Jay and Darcy Coil, and second, Chuck and Donna Moeller.

The festive business lighting award went to the Morrow County Museum last year.

Christmas tree pickup, Jan. 4th

The Heppner High School seniors have planned a Christmas tree pickup this Sunday, Jan. 4, starting at 1 p.m.

Anyone wishing to have a tree picked up and disposed of may call Jayme Hansen, 676-5247, or April Sykes, 676-9228 or 676-9939.

The seniors are asking that anyone having their tree picked up make a donation toward the senior class trip.

A meeting for seniors and their parents will be held the same day, Sunday, January 4, at 7 p.m. at the HHS library.

Bunco party set at St. Pat's Parish

A public card and bunco party will be held at St. Patrick's Parish Hall on Sunday, January 11. Play will begin at 2 p.m.

Admission is \$2 for bridge, pinochle, or bunco. Cash prizes, prizes for low and door prizes will be given.

Men and women are invited to

attend. Refreshments will be served.

"The occasion will be a fine opportunity to fight the after-holidays-winter-blahs," said a church spokesperson.

The event is sponsored by the women of St. Patrick Catholic Church.

Grant Co. ranchers donate cattle

Following the lead of Lisa Schmidt and Michele Tebay of Whitehall, Montana, Grant County ranching families gathered up more than 30 head of cattle for shipment to South Dakota to help rebuild herds decimated by last year's disastrous winter storms. The cattle, gathered at the Prairie City home ranch of Mike and Elaine Smith, came from ranching families throughout the county and as far away as Klamath Falls. Those who could not send cattle made donations of cash to help defray the costs of shipping.

The purpose of this people-to-people program is to help ranching families in the Dakotas get back into production said a news release. In some cases, the cows

helped convince bankers to continue loans on family ranches that might otherwise have been scheduled for foreclosure due to lack of livestock.

According to participant Mike Smith, "We learned that as few as 18 head of cattle can make the difference between having enough collateral to continue a loan, or losing the family ranch." In other cases, the cows helped ranchers begin to rebuild their herds that were lost to the cold wave that engulfed the area.

The idea has caught on and so far the project has shipped more than 500 head of cattle to dozens of families in North and South Dakota. For more information, or to make donations of cattle or cash, contact Tebay at (406) 287-3390.

Adult and Family Services hours set

Adult and Family Services will provide services for the Heppner area on the second Tuesday of each month at the county offices behind Coast to Coast.

Art Beasley will be available in the office from 9 a.m. to noon and by appointment only in the afternoons. If there are no

scheduled appointments, the afternoons will be utilized for home visits and community meetings.

To schedule and appointment of for more information, call Beasley at 1-800-213-8475 ext. 224, 541-564-5653 or 541-567-2253 ext. 224.

Matt Jepsen wins Teenager killed in accident

Matt Jepsen, a 10th grade Heppner student, was recently chosen as the first place winner of the District 8 Voice of Democracy Speech Contest. The contest is sponsored annually by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary.

The theme for this year's contest was "My Voice in Our Democracy". The speeches were aired on KUMA Radio in Pendleton and were evaluated by the contest judges. Jepsen's speech was chosen over those of finalists from Hermiston, Pendleton, Ukiah, Milton-Freewater and Riverside High Schools.

Matt, along with 15 other district winners, will now advance to the state level of competition. He and his parents, Bill and Nancy Jepsen of Heppner, will travel to Newport, February 6 and 7 for the state VFW banquet. The state winners will be announced there. Clarence Martin of Hermiston, the VFW District 8 contest chairman, awarded Matt \$100 for his first place finish in the district. The VFW will also provide \$100 for travel expenses and pay costs for hotel and banquet tickets. In addition, the 16 district finalists will all be treated to a full day of fun and educational activities in the Newport area prior to the final dinner.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary have sponsored this annual audio essay competition for the past 51 years. Each state finalist will receive a five-day trip to Washington, D.C., and will compete for a share of the \$125,500 in national scholarships.



Shad Hisler

The Heppner-Lexington-Ione community is in shock after learning the news of the death of Shad Hisler, 15-year-old son of Susan and Paul Hisler, Jr., Monday, Dec. 29, following a single vehicle rollover accident.

Recitation of the Rosary will be held New Year's Day, Thursday, January 1, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Patrick Church in Heppner. Funeral Mass will be held Friday, January 2, at 11 a.m. at St. Patrick's, with concluding service and burial at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

The accident was discovered around 7:16 p.m. on the Hisler Ranch on Buttercreek. Morrow County Sheriff's Deputy Terry Harper said that the accident is still under investigation, but preliminary results seem to indicate that the vehicle drifted to one side of the road and then was

overcorrected. The pickup then rolled and plunged down a steep embankment. Shad was ejected from the vehicle and suffered "massive internal injuries," according to the sheriff's report. He was discovered at the scene by his father and transported by ambulance to Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

An emergency helicopter was called to PMH and was preparing to transport Shad to a Portland hospital when he died.

Morrow County Sheriff's Office said that neither excessive speed nor alcohol was a factor in the accident.

Shad was a freshman at Heppner High School, where he excelled in sports, including football and basketball.

HHS Principal Ron Anthony said that a team of counselors has been called in to help grieving students cope with their loss. Barbara Hayes, HHS counselor, said that ministers, counselors, Morrow County Behavioral Health staff and an ESD psychologist were to be on hand for students, parents and community members beginning at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, in the HHS library. "I encourage people to come up," said Hayes. "New Year's Eve is going to be a difficult time."

A New Year's Eve dance planned at the high school has been cancelled, as has a potato feed planned for Friday night at the high school.

No decision had been made at presstime as to whether Friday night's home game against Ione and Saturday night's away game versus Riverside will be cancelled.

"Yes, there is a Santa"



Terri Bennetto

If you want a definitive answer as to whether there is a Santa Claus, just ask Terri Bennetto. The lone woman will respond with a joyous "Yes".

Bennetto just received an anonymous letter in the mail containing cash, just in time for Christmas. Other than an Ione postmark, Bennetto hasn't a clue as to who sent the gift.

"It's the best thing that's happened to us," said Bennetto, a single mom raising three kids, Ryan, 16, Cory, 14, and Jaysi, 12.

"It was such a gift of love. It was so incredible, I just think it would be great to recognize whoever sent it." Bennetto has a hand-blown angel ornament that she would like to present to her benefactor.

Bennetto said that the kids bought Christmas gifts with their money and she plans to buy herself some new clothes. Bennetto and her family live around 20 miles out of Ione and the kids have attended Ione Schools for over three years. She had been working in Condon, but last January she was able to get a job at Beecher's in Ione, so she could be closer to attend the kids' games and school activities.

Bennetto added that she has discovered that she wasn't the only person to receive an anonymous gift.

"Slob Sisters" to be featured at banquet



The Slob Sisters

The "Slob Sisters", who have helped "clutterbugs" all over the U.S. to organize their lives, will be the speakers at the Heppner Chamber of Commerce Town and Country Banquet set for Thursday, January 15, at the Heppner Elks Club.

The "Slob Sisters" will be making a return engagement at the banquet, since they were the featured entertainment several years ago.

The real life sisters, Peggy Jones and Pam Young, have appeared in newspapers and on television all over the U.S. The pair offer a whimsical and humorous look at messy homes and give tips on how to organize.

Tickets go on sale at \$15 each this week at the Chamber of

Commerce office, the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Murray Drugs, Klamath First Federal and the Morrow County Grain Growers.

Social hour begins at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7 p.m.

The Chamber annual luncheon will be held Tuesday, Jan. 13, with the theme, "Celebrate Heppner's Success". The luncheon, which is on a different day than the dinner this year, will feature a speaker, installation of officers, special awards and the announcement of the luxury vacation winners.

There will be no afternoon meetings this year.

Those planning to attend the luncheon should RSVP to Chamber at 676-5536. Chamber members and non-members are welcome to attend.


Potato feed cancelled

The Heppner High School Senior Class potato feed scheduled for this Friday, Jan. 2, has been cancelled.

G-T closed Jan. 1

The Gazette-Times office will be closed New Year's Day, Thursday, Jan. 1, but will be open Friday, Jan. 2.

The G-T staff wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday.



**We will be closed Thursday,
January 1st**

HAVE A GREAT NEW YEAR!

MORROW COUNTY GRAIN GROWERS

Lexington 989-8221 1-800-452-7396