

HEPPNER



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## Heppner Chamber of Commerce announces Town and Country annual awards

The Heppner Chamber of Commerce man, woman, educator and business of the year awards were announced at the annual Town and Country Banquet, held Thursday, Jan. 15, at the Heppner Elks Club.

Skip Matthews was named the man of the year, Janet Greenup, woman of the year, Barbara Stefani-Peterson, citizen-educator of the year, and the Dick and Virginia Wilkinson ranch, the business of the year.



Virginia and Dick Wilkinson

says no when asked to help, but she usually doesn't need to be asked because she volunteers. Her time is freely given, which is amazing because she is raising a large family and time is her most precious commodity. A willingness to part with her most precious possession is another sign of her selflessness.

Greenup was born and raised in Heppner, graduating from Heppner High School. She is active in St. Patrick's church activities, including serving as parish hall coordinator, on the Altar Society and as a Sunday school teacher.

Greenup has been active in the Heppner Wranglers riding club for 20 years, serving positions ranging from president to fence mender. She has been active in youth activities and has volunteered for work crews for the new ball fields and the new swimming pool. She has volunteered for the Heppner Water Control district for over 10 years and is currently treasurer.

Greenup is employed as manager of the Soil and Water Conservation District.

She and her husband, Greg, have four daughters, Amy, Sarah, Kathleen and Kelsey.

Oregon. Stefani-Peterson taught health, physical education, home economics, language arts and coached at Lone and Heppner from 1972 to 1985. From 1987 to 1989 she served as counselor at Nyssa Middle School. From 1989 to the present, she has been a counselor and Heppner and Lone schools and coached in the athletic program.

She received a bachelor of science degree from Portland State University in 1971 and did graduate work leading to her standard license and personnel services license from PSU and the College of Idaho.

She has two daughters, Danielle and Jessica.

Area ranchers Dick and Virginia Wilkinson, 1997 recipients of the Heppner Chamber business of the year award, have long been involved in agriculture.

The couple recently donated \$30,000 to help construct a new multipurpose arena at the Morrow County Fairgrounds in Heppner. Their gift brought the fund raising efforts for the project up to 60 percent of their goal.

The Wilkinsons were selected the 1997 Morrow County Conservation Farm of the Year and in 1994 were named the "Landowner of the Year" by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife "in recognition of the outstanding contributions to the fish and wildlife resources of Oregon". The Wilkinsons have long been supportive of allowing hunters on their property.

Dick, born and raised on the land he still farms, served around 20 years on both the Columbia Basin Electric Board of Directors and the Federal Land Bank. He was a member of the Rural Fire District Board and the Game Commission. He is a charter member of the Heppner High School FFA Chapter and still serves on their advisory board.

Virginia, originally from Florida, has been involved in agriculture since their marriage in 1950. She helped for many years during fair. She was also State Worthy Grand Matron of the Eastern Star, heading up the state organization which had 32,000 members at the time. While raising two daughters, she also worked with the Rainbow Girls.

## Recycling bins available again

City of Heppner manager Gary Marks has announced that a recycle bin is once again available to the public in Heppner.

The bin is located at the city gravel yard on Riverside Avenue, north of Morgan Street. The public is invited to deposit their newspaper, glass and tin at the recycle bin.

The bin is provided by Finley Buttes Landfill and the site has been made available by the city.



Skip Matthews

Skip Matthews, Heppner, is the chairman of the Willow Creek Park District, and was very instrumental in the Willow Creek Waterpark Project, which culminated in the opening of a new swimming pool in Heppner this past summer. He is a current member of the Heppner City Council and the Heppner Coordinating Council.

Prior to his service on the park district, Matthews served on the swimming pool exploratory commission for around three years.

Awards presenter Bill Kuhn noted that Matthews "is a person of seemingly inexhaustible energy, unending resourcefulness, unshakable good nature and vast vision." He added that Matthews, "when seeing a community need, large or small, throws all his efforts into accomplishing a project to meet the need and is relentless until the project is done. He has the skills, organization and personality to shepherd major community projects from start to finish. He is an invaluable resource and shining example."

Originally from Newberg, Matthews, 41, graduated from Oregon State University in 1981 with a bachelor of science degree in agriculture.

He first came to Heppner in 1986 and began working for the Farm Service Agency in 1987.

He and his wife, Sandi, have two children, Whitney, seven, and Donald, four.



Barbara Stefani-Peterson

Citizen educator of the year Barbara Stefani-Peterson, lone, is a counselor at Lone and Heppner schools. She has become very involved with the students at the two schools, coaching basketball, volleyball and track over the years and serving as advisor for many school activities.

Stefani-Peterson, 48, is advisor for Red Ribbon Week, an anti-drug and alcohol activity, Oregon Together, which provides alcohol and drug free activities for youth, OSSOM (Oregon State Students on the Move) and STARS (Students Today Aren't Ready for Sex). She is also coordinator for the Heppner Elementary Multi-Disciplinary Team, a member of the county Multi-Disciplinary Team, advisor to the Lone Student Council, counselor for the Heppner eighth grade exchange with the Centennial Middle School in Gresham, a member of the Crisis Team and a "Prevention" team member on the state and national level, having recently gone to Washington, D.C. to represent

Janet Greenup

Janet Greenup, 42, was honored for her "willingness to see a job that needs doing and quietly getting it done, even if it means doing it herself," said Kuhn. "She is extremely self motivated and that serves us well when she tackles community projects. She never

## Guy VanArsdale to run for county judge



Guy VanArsdale

A fifth candidate has tossed his hat into the ring for the Morrow County Judge position. Guy VanArsdale, Lexington, filed for the position Tuesday, Jan. 20.

VanArsdale joins Bill Doherty, Keith Lewis and Rollie Marshall, all of whom who filed on the Republican ticket, and Greg Sweek, who filed as a Democrat.

VanArsdale, 58, originally from Stockton, California, first came to eastern Oregon in 1959 to visit his father in Joseph. That year he began working for Boise Cascade, where he worked for about three years before getting a job in road construction. He came to Morrow County around 1963 with Roadways, Inc., to build the Coalmine Hill-Ditch Creek Road system. During this time he met Milo Prindle, the wood superintendent at Kinzua, who offered him a job. He didn't accept the position, but, with his oldest son starting school, he decided to stay in the area. He had wanted to settle in a small eastern Oregon town and decided "this was it". He later accepted a position with Kinzua, working in their road construction and logging department from 1967 until it was phased out in 1979.

After Kinzua phased out that department, VanArsdale bought their equipment and formed VanArsdale Construction Company and VanArsdale Air Service.

Guy and his wife of 14 years, Barbara, have since turned over the construction business to his son, Mike. The elder VanArdsdales still operate the air service, which provides forest fire reconnaissance and charter flights.

In 1995, VanArsdale accepted a job as the Morrow County Public Works director/road master. The department is responsible for all roads in Morrow County, all

county buildings, parks, solid waste, the weed control program and the airport. He also handles the budgets for those entities.

VanArsdale says that he feels that his business experience and state governments will benefit him if he is elected judge. He has also worked in community service programs with young people, which he says he has really enjoyed and will help him, since the county judge is also the juvenile judge. He says that during the last three years as public works director he has had a policy of helping the public work with the county processes in a timely and positive way, a policy which he would continue as judge.

"Our present judge has put together a very good selection of department heads," said VanArsdale. "I don't foresee changing any of that right off the bat. If feel they're doing a very good job and want to continue with the system he has put together."

VanArsdale says that his major concerns, if he is elected judge, would include the Army Depot disposal of chemical agents, the potential for decline in jobs in the Willow Creek area communities and the increase in population in the county's Columbia River communities.

VanArsdale said that he would step down from his position as public works director/road master if elected to the judge's position.

## Wheat seminar set for Jan. 29

The Morrow County Columbia Wheat Seminar will be held Thursday, January 29, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Lone grange.

The morning program will be a taped presentation of the January 27 Columbia Basin teleconference.

Lunch will be served by the ladies of the Grange and will require pre-registration.

The afternoon program will include presentations from representatives of DEQ,

Columbia Basin Agriculture Research Center and OSU Extension faculty.

Pesticide credits will be available for the afternoon session only. Cost is \$10 for the day, including lunch or \$5 for the afternoon session.

Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP Lunch by Friday, January 23. For reservations or information call the Morrow County Extension office, 541-676-9642 or 1-800-342-3664.

## BEO donates to "Jaws of Life" Fund



Heppner Fire Chief Rusty Estes is pictured above accepting a check for \$1,000 from Bank of Eastern Oregon President George Koffler.

The bank donated the money toward a new "Jaws of Life" the Heppner Volunteer Fire Dept. is planning to purchase.

Estes says it will cost around \$7,000 to replace their old "Jaws of Life" which is 20 years old and outdated. Estes added that the department has raised about half the funds required and is still accepting donations.

## WC Symphony to hold concert

The Willow Creek Symphony will hold its winter concert on Saturday, Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. at the Heppner Middle School gymnasium.

This free concert will include

vocal, string and harp soloists. The orchestra will be playing a variety of music, including pieces composed by Glenn Miller, Bryan Adams and Mozart.

The public is invited to attend and enjoy an evening of music.

## WASCO GRAND OPENING

Saturday, Jan. 24th ~ 8 a.m.-12 noon  
Breakfast • Equipment Reps • Door Prizes  
71025 Old Highway 97 Loop, Wasco

And Come To The Lexington Customer Appreciation Day, Saturday Feb. 7th!

MORROW COUNTY GRAIN GROWERS

Lexington 989-8221 1-800-452-7396