

Bookworms celebrate 70th birthday

The Bookworms met October 27 at the Morrow County Museum to celebrate their 70th birthday.

The club was organized in 1928 by 12 ladies who enjoyed reading. At that time the city library was located at the site now occupied by the city police. Some of the members served as librarians. School teachers brought their classes to the library for story hour. There was no furniture, so the Bookworms wove strips of newspaper into mats for the children to sit upon.

The club sponsored "Library Stunt Night" at the Star Theater for the benefit of the library. Some interesting programs were held--piano solos, quartets, skits and plays. The money raised was used to buy books for the library.

In the early years, the same book was discussed at each meeting. Because they could only obtain one or two copies at a time, the books were passed around among the members and each had only a day or two to read that book. Some amusing stories are told about the ladies ironing and reading, bathing and reading, cooking and reading--all in order to get the book to the next member. Now, each member makes her own selection for reviewing. The club meets twice a month, September

through May.

In 1960, when the Heppner Library opened at the present site, the Bookworms sponsored a silver tea. Over the years the club donated many memorial books to the library as well as to other worthy groups--Hillcrest School for Girls, Veterans Hospital in Walla Walla, Pioneer Memorial Hospital and Salvation Army, among others.

The Heppner Gazette-Times for October 12, 1933, has the following item on the front page: "The Bookworms club celebrated their fifth anniversary with a birthday party following the regular meeting held at the home of Mrs. Lucy Rodgers Tuesday evening. A large cake with five candles was cut and served to the guests. Individual nosegays at each place carried out the party idea. Members present were Mrs. Charles Smith, Miss Madge Coppock, Mrs. J. T. Lumley, Mrs. E. F. Bloom, Mrs. Spencer Crawford, Mrs. Paul Gemmill, Mrs. J. O. Turner, Mrs. A. A. McAtee, Miss Leta Humphreys, Miss Lulu Hager, Mrs. H. C. Case and Mrs. Rodgers." (Madge Coppock Thomson, who passed away in 1997, was still an active member.)

At their 70th birthday party, the current twelve members wore 1920's costumes and the museum staff displayed 1920's memorabilia.



Bookworm Club members dressed in period clothing in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the club. L-R are: front row-Sylvia McDaniel, Lucille Peck, Marian Brosnan, Helen Currin and Florence Green; back row-Joyce Dinkins, Bethal Heinrichs, Kathryn Hoskins, Lorena Jones, Patricia Rauch and Marj Gardner. Not pictured is Mary Goheen.

Commission approves community proposals

The Morrow County Commission on Children and Families approved three Community Development proposals on October 13 during its monthly meeting in Irrigon.

Grants totaling \$500 each were distributed to Heppner Campus Life to help with the purchase of a used van to transport youth to activities and to the Muay Thai (kickboxing) school in Heppner to help defray the costs of equipment utilized by underprivileged youth. An additional \$395 was granted to the Heppner Neighborhood Watch program to purchase signs for the community.

The Community Development Fund was established for anticipated yet unidentified community needs and to leverage other funds and resources into services, advocacy and unique application

projects for the children, youth and families of Morrow County, said Dar Merrill, director, Morrow County Commission on Children and Families.

Approximately \$1,500 is available each quarter and the maximum grant is \$500. Examples of reasonable Community Development Fund requests include seasonal program needs; small capital expenditures (except for private property); service program staff training; one time events and pilot projects.

Next quarter's proposals will be reviewed on December 8 during the monthly commission meeting but must be received by the commission office by November 30 to be considered.

Applications are available at the commission office at 120 South Main in Heppner or by calling 676-9675.

Emergency management addition underway

The Morrow County Emergency Management office in Heppner is in the process of expansion.

MCEM director Casey Beard said that they hope to have the exterior portion of the 2,224 square foot expansion completed by early December and the whole project substantially completed by late February or early March.

The addition will consist of a 1,388 square foot upper level which will house the operations room and an 836 square foot lower level which will be used for storage.

Beard said that the expansion is Phase II of the CSEPP plan. Phase I was remodeling of the old Forest Service building to house MCEM and the Morrow County Sheriff's Office. The cost of Phase II, which has been in the planning stages for several years, is estimated at \$250,000-\$300,000. Beard says that the monies for the project come from CSEPP through a complicated funneling down system--CSEPP appropriates the money to the Army, which appropriates the funds to FEMA, which then gives it to the state, which, then, in turn, gives it to the county. "We were finally able to get funding," he said. Beard said that Morrow County provided excavation and demolition work in preparation for construction in lieu of matching funds.

The operations room will house the computer equipment with automated work stations and will include state-of-the-art display screens to show where the plume is projected in the disposal of chemical weapons at the Umatilla Army Depot, maps to show the location of pieces of response equipment, radios and an advanced telephone system. "The goal of the project is to get all the key people concentrated in one space to facilitate communication," said Beard. "We'll be able to get optimum use of the equipment and we'll be able to better support the people who really need it--the ones who are out in the field."

Contractor for the project is Knerr Construction of Hermiston, who were contractors for the first phase of the project.

The exterior of the building will look like stucco and will be colored to blend in with existing trim. Beard said the material will be more efficient as insulation and more cost effective for the life of the building than brick used on the exterior of the original building. "It should be a very good facility and hopefully it will be cost effective and something that the community will be well-served by," added Beard.

He said that he does not expect that additional staff will be hired, at least initially.

Ione youth group plans drive

The Ione Youth Group will go door to door in Ione Halloween night to collect nonperishable food items for the Neighborhood Center.

People living out of town, or

anyone who will not be home that evening but would like to donate, may leave their food items at Jannie Allen's house.

Call Jeri McElligott at 422-7257 for more information.



Kathryn Hoskins (right) models her sister's 1928 wedding dress; Marj Gardner models the Marcelle, a hair-do popular in 1928.

Ripkas new Angus Association members

Gerald and Judith Ripka, Ione, are new members of the American Angus Association, reports Dick Spader, executive vice president of the national organization with headquarters in St. Joseph, Missouri.

The American Angus Association, with over 3,000 active adult and junior members, is the largest beef cattle registry association in the world, according to an American Angus Association news release. Its computerized records include detailed information on over 12 million registered Angus.

The association records ancestral information and keeps records of production on individual animals for its members. These permanent records help members select and mate the best animals in their herds to produce high quality, efficient breeding cattle which are then recorded with the American Angus Association. Most of these registered Angus are used by the U.S. farmers and ranchers who raise high quality beef for U.S. consumption, said the release.

Helfrechts buy Green Feed & Seed



Jamie and Ronda Helfrecht and children (L-R) KayLee, Colton and Keenan.

Kay and Mike Proctor, owners of Green Feed and Seed, have sold the store to Ronda and Jamie Helfrecht, who moved to Heppner in July.

Ronda, 36, grew up in Heppner and graduated from Heppner High School in 1981. Her mother is Darlene Lovgren. Ronda attended Linn-Benton Community College and was employed with the Umatilla-Morrow Educational Service District as an audiometric technician.

Jamie, also 36, is originally from the Pendleton area. He graduated from Blue Mountain Community College and has been employed as a maintenance supervisor for Blue Mountain Asphalt for

eight years. The couple have lived in Pendleton for the past 10 years.

The Helfrechts have three children, Colton, 10, who is a fifth grader at Heppner Elementary School; KayLee, seven, a second grader at HES; and Keenan, two.

Ronda says that Lee Ansotegui will stay on at the store to take care of the CRP seed sales and Mike Proctor will do custom leather work with drop-off and pick-up at the store. She says that Kay Proctor will help out with the nursery in

the spring.

The Helfrechts also plan to resume saw sharpening at Green Feed.

Kay Proctor says that she has no particular plans for the time being with the exception of painting her house. Mike Proctor is employed with Oregon Hay in Boardman.

The Proctors have three children, Josie, a freshman at Blue Mountain Community College, Julie, a freshman at Heppner High School, and Roy, a fifth grader at Heppner elementary School.

HHS plans costume dance

The Heppner High School Senior Class has planned a Halloween costume dance on Thursday, October 29, from 9

p.m. to midnight in the HHS cafeteria. Students must be dressed in costume to be admitted.

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Heppner area topic of brochure

A recently printed "Cycling Paradise: the Heppner Wheat Country" brochure seems to be attracting some attention around the state. The glossy, full-color flier features Heppner as the hub of many bicycling routes in Morrow, Gilliam, Wheeler, and Umatilla counties. It offers a highway map that features suggested trips and specific, written directions for the trips.

"Truly a local product, the pamphlet is the result of much collaboration," said Claudia Hughes, director of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce. "Interim district attorney, Bill Hanlon, is a bicycling enthusiast. During his work in Morrow County, he traveled many hundreds of miles on the roads of the counties and shared with Doris Brosnan at Twice upon a time... his delight in the superb biking conditions these roads offer." Hanlon suggested that Heppner has a wonderful commodity to offer cycling devotees, as the highways are little-traveled and offer a variety of terrain and scenery, and the weather conditions are usually optimum, said Hughes.

Brosnan passed on Hanlon's observations to Hughes and then created some commentary to accompany Hanlon's mapping of his bicycling trips. A snapshot by Ruth McCabe was selected for the front of the flier. A sample flier resulted, and, with the encouragement from the Chamber and Heppner Economic Development Corporation, Brosnan and Hughes began their fund-raising efforts. Several businesses in the counties supported the publication financially, as did the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Klamath First Federal Bank, Morrow County Grain Growers and Morrow County Court. When Scott Cimmiyotti of Scott's Cycle and Sports Shop saw the brochure sample, he, too, helped with the costs, Hughes said.

"Cycling Paradise: the Heppner Wheat Country" has been mailed to many bicycle shops in Eastern Oregon, the Tri-Cities area, and Western Oregon. Locally, copies are available at Klamath First Bank, the Chamber of Commerce office, and Twice upon a time....

In the Service

Navy Airman Joseph R. Baker, son of Robin Baker of Ione and Robert Baker of Cecil, recently participated in a remembrance ceremony for Prisoners of War and Missing in Action (POW/MIA) while on a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific Ocean and Arabian Gulf aboard the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln, home ported in Everett, Wash.

Baker's ship paused in the Arabian Gulf to pay tribute to the men and women who have given their lives in the service of their country. In addition, an announcement to all crew members was given by Baker's commanding officer on the flight deck to fulfill the promise to our nation's POWs and MIAs and their families, that they are not forgotten.

Carriers, like USS Abraham Lincoln, are forward deployed around the world to maintain a U.S. presence and provide rapid response in times of crisis, said the Fleet Home Town News Center. "They serve as a highly visible deterrent to would-be aggressors and, if deterrence fails, offer the most versatile and powerful weapons available," continued the release.

The 1996 graduate of Ione High School joined the Navy in June 1996.