

Legion Hall earns grant

The Meyer Memorial Trust has announced 30 grant awards totaling \$6,843,970 to nonprofit groups in Oregon and Clark County, Washington, from October through December, 1998.

The Ione American Legion Post hall, a gathering place for the community and surrounding area, was awarded a \$5,670 Meyer Memorial Trust grant to winterize the hall.

Board Chair Debbie Craig announced that the new grants brought the total funds awarded to more than \$19.3 million in the Trust's current fiscal year, which began April 1. Since it began operating in 1982, the Meyer Trust has provided nearly \$216 million to tax-exempt groups, mostly within the state of Oregon.

General purpose grants ranged from \$5,670 to the Ione American Legion Post to \$1,100,000 to the Oregon Symphony to help expand the rural regional touring program, which includes community performances and educational programs across the state.

Last year the Meyer Trust granted more than \$23 million, and expects to award a similar amount this year, Craig said.

The Meyer Memorial Trust is not connected with Fred Meyer Inc., the retail enterprise.

More information about the Meyer Memorial Trust, including information about applying for a trust grant, is available from the trust's website at <http://www.mmt.org> or by calling the trust at 503/228-5512.

Verlin Denton named CRB citizen of the year

Morrow County Sheriff Verlin Denton has been named the Oregon Citizen Review Board citizen of the year for both Morrow County and the region.



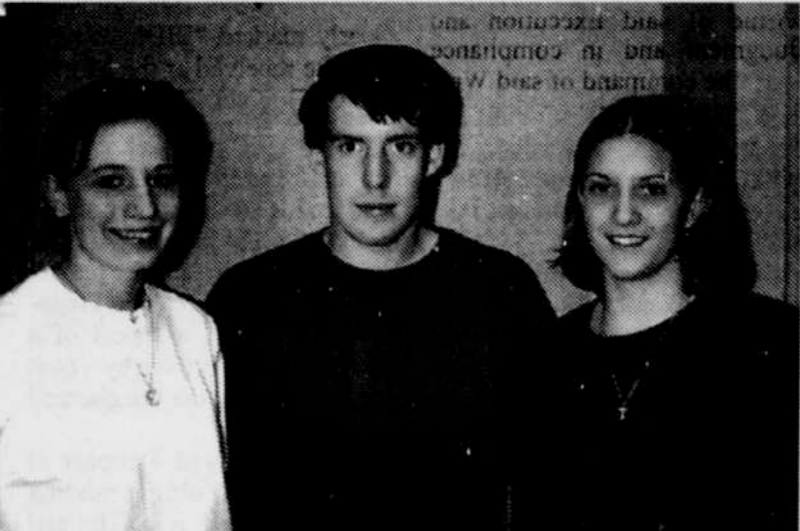
Verlin Denton

Denton has been a member of the Citizen Review Board for over nine years and serves on the Morrow County Multi-disciplinary Team. Prior to serving on the CRB, he served on the Out-of-Home Placement Review Committee for Children's Service Division/Services for Children and Families for several years.

Denton has been an active board member since the inception of CRB in eastern Oregon, serving as board chair for several of his nine years and "rarely missing a review day regardless of his duties as undersheriff of Morrow County," said a CRB news letter. "He believes strongly in the support of children who are involved in the system."

He has also provided transportation for another CRB member who does not drive.

Voice of democracy winners



Amy Papineau (left), Matt Van Liew, Trisha Adams

The Voice of Democracy in-school winners have been announced at Heppner High School.

Trisha Adams won first place, Matt Van Liew, second, and Amy Papineau, third.

Adams went on to win second

in the district.

The Voice of Democracy contest is sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Students submitted audio essays and accompanying written essay script on the theme, "My Service to America."

St. Patrick's Senior Center Bulletin Board

The seniors enjoyed a delicious meal at the center Dec. 9. Members of the Catholic Church served. The Senior Center Board of Directors met at 1 p.m. Blood pressures were taken before the meal. The menu for the Dec. 23 Christmas party will be veggie tray with dip, mini fruit kabobs with crackers, ham/cheese rollups, assorted mini puffs, cheese, meat and crackers, deviled eggs and meatballs in barbecue sauce. Members of the Christian Life Center will serve.

Last week the Kool Kitchen Kids 4-H Club brought in plates of Christmas cookies for the seniors to share. They were delicious and much appreciated.

Saturday a bus load of seniors went to Hermiston to enjoy the Singing Christmas Tree.

Sunday afternoon the Christian Life Center singers filled the halls of the senior apartments with the joyful sounds of Christmas.

Exercises were done Tuesday and Thursday, cards were played Tuesday and Friday afternoons and Bingo, Friday evening. Everyone is invited to join in these activities.

RJ's Steakhouse & Lounge
will be open December 25th
for **Christmas Dinner**
Reservations Only - 989-8359
Prime Rib or
Baked Ham w/Pineapple
and Roast Turkey
w/complimentary glass of wine
and dessert
(Dining room will close to regular dining at 6 p.m.)

Town and Country tickets

Tickets to Heppner's annual Town and Country event are available at the Chamber of Commerce, Klamath First, Bank of Eastern Oregon and Morrow County Grain Growers.

The 1999 event honoring Heppner's citizens and business is scheduled for Thursday, January 14.

A variety of dinner music will be provided and guests will have the privilege of hearing Lucy Meriwether Marks, who entertains audiences at the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center with tales of Meriwether Lewis from a mother's perspective.

Tickets would make a great stocking stuffers, suggested Claudia Hughes, chamber manager.

Ione honors students at sports dessert



Cammie Burrigh was voted the 'Most Inspirational' volleyball player by her teammates and presented an award at the Ione High School sports dessert.



Ione High School football players honored at the IHS sports dessert are (L-R): Adam Neiffer, 'Most Improved'; Mark McElligott, 'Most Inspirational'; and Brad Burrigh, 'Most Valuable Player.'

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: Letters to the Editor must be signed. The Gazette-Times will not publish unsigned letters. Please include your address and phone number on all letters for use by the G-T office. The G-T reserves the right to edit.

Thanks for the memories

To the Editor:
We just wanted to wish the person who stole the lighted wreaths from our front windows a very Merry Christmas. Apparently, you liked them even more than our family did. But who really knows? We only had

them for six days. Who knows how many years of enjoyment you will get from them?

Shame on you for giving our kids this kind of a memory for Christmas.

(s) The Jay Coil Family
Heppner

Four studded tires important

To the Editor:
As a driver in the Pacific Northwest I am concerned about road safety during winter driving conditions. Anyone who has traveled on the Oregon mountain passes in the winter has probably been witness to an accident of one kind or another.

Recently, I came across an article about the importance of having studded tires on all four wheels. This article told about a fatal accident which occurred as a result of the driver having studded tires only on the front wheels of his vehicle.

Following the accident, a Bend attorney filed a claim against the tire dealer. The result is an amazing amount of publicity on the safety benefits of having four studded tires on all front wheel,

four wheel and all wheel drive vehicles. Many tire distributors around the Pacific Northwest now have policies that mandate the sale of four studded tires.

Even though this case has not been in front of the jury, the Northwest community has become much more aware of how important this issue is for safety.

This is an indicator that the civil justice system is alive and well in America and is protecting citizens as it was designed to do.

I am happy to know that the civil justice system has initiated responsible behavior that will protect myself and my family as I drive the winter roads in the Pacific Northwest.

(s) Joseph Durkee
Bend

Chamber lighting contest

The Heppner Chamber of Commerce is once again sponsoring a Christmas Lighting Contest on the evening of December 20. That evening the light judging committee will drive around Heppner looking for the best decorated homes and businesses in town.

The contest categories are "Best Outdoor Lighting Decorations", "Best Indoor Decorations", as viewed from the outside, and "Most Festive Business Lighting Display".

Prize money for the awards will

be \$50 for first place and \$25 for second place in the Outdoor Category; \$25 for first place and \$15 for second place in the Indoor Category; and \$20 for the Most Festive Business Display. Also, just for fun, the best street in town will be named too.

Last year's winners are not eligible for prize money. The Chamber hopes to encourage everyone to get in the Christmas spirit and have town really "sparkling" for the holiday season, said Delanne Ferguson, light judging committee.

Time to select honorees

With Town and Country a month away, it's time to select Man, Woman, Citizen/Educator and Business of the year. Nomination forms are available from the Chamber of Commerce or the office of Kuhn, Spicer and Mills.

Anyone who would like to suggest someone and delegate the application to another, may call the Chamber at 676-5536.

The committee is anxious to have nominations in by December 18, said Claudia Hughes, chamber manager.

Individuals nominated need not be Chamber members.

MCURD cancels

December meeting

The Dec. 17 meeting of the Morrow County Unified Recreation District, scheduled for Riverside High School, has been cancelled. There was no business before the district.

Area churches plan Christmas services

Christmas Church Services

First Christian Church

The First Christian Church in Heppner will hold its children's Christmas program on Sunday, Dec. 20, at 6 p.m. at the church.

The Christmas Eve candlelight service will be held Thursday, Dec. 24, beginning at 7 p.m.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Hope Lutheran Church

Hope Lutheran Church in Heppner has planned its ecumenical children's Sunday school program on Saturday, Dec. 19, at 6:30 p.m.

The program will include the young people of Hope and Valby Lutheran churches and All Saints' Episcopal. Refreshments will be served following the program.

The Christmas Eve candlelight worship with Holy Communion will be held Thursday, Dec. 24, at 6 p.m.

Valby Lutheran Church

The Valby Lutheran children's Sunday school Christmas program will be held Sunday, Dec. 13, at 6 p.m. Refreshments will be served following the program.

The Christmas Eve candlelight worship with Holy Communion is planned for Thursday, Dec. 24, at 9 p.m.

United Church of Christ

The United Church of Christ in Ione will hold its children's Christmas program, "The First Christmas", on Sunday, Dec. 20, at 4 p.m. at the Ione Grange Hall.

A potluck dinner will follow the program and the Ione Youth Group will go Christmas caroling after the potluck.

Everyone is invited to join the celebration.

All Saints Episcopal Church

A Christmas Eve service will be held at All Saints Episcopal Church Dec. 24 at 8 p.m.

Holy Eucharist will be presided over by the Rt. Rev. Rustin Kimsey, bishop of the Diocese of Eastern Oregon.

"We welcome everyone to be with us on this special evening," said a church spokesperson.

Winners picked in Punch Contest

The following winners were drawn out for \$25 gift certificates this week in the Heppner Christmas Punch Contest:

Sandy Matthews won a \$25 gift certificate to Gardner's; Sandy Browning won a gift certificate to Coast to Coast; Luella Taylor to Les Schwab and Missy Lindsay won a \$25 gift certificate to Peterson's Jewelers.

The Christmas Punch Contest runs through Christmas, so remember to pick up your card and then have it punched as you shop the following businesses: Gardner's Men's Wear, Coast to Coast, Les Schwab Tires, Peterson's Jewelers, Lott's Electric, Shoe Box, Central Red Apple Market, Pettyjohn's, Morrow County Grain Growers, Court Street Market, Murray Drugs/ Country Rose and Corbin's Bowl and Diner.

Don't forget that all entries in the contest are entered in the grand prize drawing, were one person will win a total of \$600 in gift certificates from participating businesses.

December 18th - Friday
Giving Tree Dinner. Bring an unwrapped toy and receive a free dinner. Starts at 6 p.m.

December 19th - Saturday
Tom & Jerry Party from 6-9 p.m. Buffet dinner featuring oysters and chicken. Starts at 6 p.m.

BINGO IS BACK! Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

HEPPNER ELKS 358
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

FIREWOOD FOR SALE
\$70 per cord
(individuals only please)
Cut to 16" length,
unless otherwise specified.
Split, delivered & stacked
w/in 2 miles of Heppner.
Delivery will be early in
January, 1999.
Orders taken until
December 30, 1998.
Call 676-5822
or 989-8498
to place orders.
Support the
Heppner High School
Senior Class!

Morrow County Livestock Growers Association
would like to thank the following businesses who donated door prizes
for the Annual Meeting:

Coast to Coast
D & L Auto
Kirk & Robinson
Kyle Robinson
Les Schwab Tire Center
Morrow County Grain Growers
Yaw's Restaurant

NW Farm Supply - Hermiston
Pendleton Grain Growers - Hermiston