

HEPPNER



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Gazette
Times

School board decides against conducting 4-day week survey

The Morrow County School Board, at its regular meeting Dec. 14, decided not to conduct another survey concerning the four-day school week.

In other business the board:
-heard a report from superintendent Chuck Starr concerning the following board and advisory committee positions which will be up for election in March:
school board-Zone 1-now held by Gary Frederickson, Zone 3-now held by John Rietmann, Zone 4-now held by Russ Morgan, and Zone 5-now held by Scott Johnson;

advisory committee positions-Boardman-Irrigon position 2, now vacant, position 5, now held by Kate Close, Irrigon, Heppner-Lexington position 3, now held by Marcia Kemp, Lexington, position 5, now held by Greg Smith, Heppner, and position 6, now held by Steve Hill, Ione-Lexington position 1, now held by Anita Orem, Ione, position 4, now vacant, Lexington, and position 5, now held by George Miller, Cecil.

The filing deadline for all positions is Thursday, January 7.

-approved as a second reading and adopted revisions to Series 3000 Policies concerning licensed personnel.

-appointed a 14-member superintendent screening committee consisting of Advisory Committee representatives-Dean Mason, Boardman, Pat McNamee, Irrigon, Kelly Merrill, Heppner, Hank Pointer, Ione; teachers-Linda Jones, Ione Elementary School, Karen Cooley A.C. Houghton Elementary School, Irrigon; classified employees-Sharon Sample, Columbia Middle School, Martha Munkers, Heppner High School; administrators-Dick Allen, Ione Schools, Ron Anthony, HHS; administrative secretary, Julie Ashbeck; and school board members Scott Johnson, Scott Bauska and Barney Lindsay.

-accepted as completed the additions to HES and HHS by Ramsay-Gerding Construction Company and authorized the release of \$78,334 in retainage funds plus accrued interest on the projects.

-heard a report on the Benchmark Booster Days programs at the schools to assist students in passing the state mandated benchmarks in math and language arts.

-approved employment of Julie Weikel, temporary contract to serve as a science teacher at Columbia Middle

School from January 4 through the balance of the school year, Len Bodeen, temporary contract as CMS art teacher from Nov. 30 through the balance of the school year, and Ken Eckman, HHS assistant boys' basketball coach for the 1998-99 season.

-accepted donations of \$6,500 worth of paint from Coast to Coast for the vocational agriculture program; and \$1,349 from an anonymous donor for the purchase of new boys' basketball uniforms for Ione High School.

-heard a petition for a boundary change which would allow certain property in Olex be moved from the Morrow County School District to the Arlington School District.

-heard a curriculum report on

"Grade Machine."

-heard an update from Starr on school funding, the Governor's Investment Budget, the legislature's recommendation and what it will take to maintain current services.

-heard a delegation expressing appreciation for Starr's work as superintendent.

-heard principals' reports and reports on academic excellence.

-held an executive session during which they reviewed the expulsion of a student and discussed licensed negotiations.

-heard the following announcements-January 4-school resumes, January 7-March election filing deadline, Jan. 11-next school board meeting, Heppner Elementary School, 7:30 p.m.

Lady Elks host giving tree



Linda Kenny displays the toys donated at the Christmas giving tree dinner held Dec. 18 and sponsored by the Lady Elks

Health district to meet Jan. 4

The regular meeting of the Morrow County Health District will be held Monday, January 4, at 7 p.m. at Irrigon City Hall.

The agenda will include: a resolution to hire Peter Stoloff, an attorney who will assist the district in litigation of a contract with Accent for billing services; a resolution to borrow \$7,000 on a credit line for computer equipment for the Irrigon Clinic; a report on the

December clinic patient totals; ambulance runs for December; an update on the Irrigon computer system; an update on

the main chemistry analyzer; an update on the proposed purchase of a Cat Scan; a joint conference; and an executive session which will include discussion of contracts and personnel.

Daycare children open donated gifts



The children at Heppner Daycare opened gifts donated by patrons of Murray Drugs on Wednesday, Dec. 23, at the center.

Several weeks ago John and Ann Murray donated space at

their drugstore for a giving tree.

The response exceeded expectations, with gifts from toys to kitchen goods placed under the tree. These things will remain at the center for use by the staff and children.

"Once again the support for the children's center from the community and Murrays is overwhelming," said Heppner Daycare director Merry Brannon.

Johanne Wood wins punch grand prize



Johanne Wood

Johanne Wood of Heppner was the grand prize winner in the annual Christmas Punch contest. She wins \$600 in gift certificates to participating businesses.

Twenty five dollar gift certificate winners this week include: Paul Arbogast for MCGG; Frank Skaggs to Murray's Drug; Burke O'Brien to Court St. Market, and Mary Kay Bellamy to Corbin's Bowl.

Town & Country Banquet

Attendees at the Chamber of Commerce annual Town and Country Banquet scheduled for Thursday, January 14, at the Heppner Elks, are "in for a treat," says Chamber manager Claudia Hughes.

A variety of music will be provided by local artists to appeal to everyone's taste during the dinner hour. Featured speaker Myrna Debolt will take the audience back in time as they hear all about Meriweather Lewis from "his mother." "With the Lewis and Clark Journey celebration in the planning stage this should get everyone in the mood," said a Chamber spokesperson.

Peterson's Jewelers will again donate a gem for the drawing. The Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Queen and Court will be crowned and the annual man, woman, educator and business of the year awards will be presented.

Tickets for the prime rib banquet are available at Klamath First Federal, Bank of Eastern Oregon, the Chamber of Commerce, Morrow County Grain Growers and Murray Drugs.



Marge Church of Central Market draws the winning card in the Heppner Punch Card Contest.

Chamber luncheon scheduled Jan. 12

The Chamber of Commerce's annual luncheon will be Tuesday, January 12, at noon at the All Saints' Episcopal Parish Hall.

Board members and officers will be installed, the Hats Off

award given and a speaker of note will entertain Chamber members.

Attendees are asked to call the Chamber office, 676-5536, if they plan to attend. Lunch will be catered.

Lights must come down

A Chamber of Commerce spokesperson reminds volunteers who put the lights on the Main Street trees that the lights must be removed no later than January 6.

People may sack up the working lights and take them to the Chamber office to be stored for next Christmas or they have the option of storing them at their homes so they will be on

hand to decorate the same tree in 1999.

If for some reason people are unable to remove their lights, they are asked to contact Suzanne Jepsen or Claudia Hughes who will make other arrangements.

"For these many volunteers, Heppner is grateful," said Hughes.

Verrall no longer member of Crime Prevention Committee

Lyle Verrall, a Heppner man involved in an altercation with a young person last week, is no longer a member of the Heppner Crime Prevention Committee, Committee Chairman Dar Merrill told the Gazette Monday.

Verrall, who helped organize and was one of the original ten members of the Crime Prevention Committee, resigned for personal reasons in August after attending "one committee meeting and one Neighborhood watch meeting," Merrill said. The Gazette erroneously reported that Verrall was still a member of the committee.

According to witnesses last Tuesday Verrall attempted to assault an 18-year-old with a baseball bat. Witnesses said Verrall attempted to hit the young man with a bat through the window of a pickup, and then used the bat to smash the grill and break the headlight on the pickup. The incident was reported to police.

"The Committee has, from the very start...advocated non-violence," Merrill added.

MCGG will be closed January 1st
& open January 2nd from 7 a.m. until 12 noon

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MORROW COUNTY GRAIN GROWERS

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