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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

**Heppner  
GAZETTE-TIMES**

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Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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## Historical Society Board meets

By Delpha Jones

Morrow County Historical Society board of directors met at the Bloodworth home on Sunday. Dinner was enjoyed prior to the meeting which was called to order by the chairman.

A report was heard from Louis Carlson on the repairing of what is called Groshens Springs near the rodeo grounds. Some of the past history of this springs has been lost and anyone having any knowledge is asked to contact Carlson or Wilbur Jackson.

There was also a discussion on the small cemetery on Rhea Creek which needs a fence built to protect the stones. Anyone who knows anything about this cemetery is asked to call either Ruth McCabe or Delpha Jones. They hope to find out who owns the ground, so that some work can be done by the society to protect the stones.

The Mason building in Ione was another topic and those in attendance discussed how it could be placed into a national register. The report is that it was at one time the Ione school. Board members discussed their wish to keep it up and do some repair work.

The "Chronicles" needs new members and the following were

appointed to help with this project: Doris Brosnan, Jean Nelson, Kathryn Hoskins, Ruth McCabe, Dorris Graves, Ruth Bently and Chester Wilson.

Don Eppenbaugh gave a report on the Lewis and Clark Heritage Foundation. Lewis and Clark passed through the county and plans are underway for a celebration.

Plans are being made to visit The Dalles Interpretation Center and the one at Wildhorse. Barbara Bloodworth is the chairman for the annual Historical trip and notices will soon be out explaining the trip. Anyone interested should call either Barbara Bloodworth, Ruth McCabe or Delpha Jones.

The next directors meeting will be at Ruth McCabe's home and the June meeting, under the direction of Don and Donna Eppenbaugh, will be in the Irrigon area.

A late Christmas exchange was enjoyed following the meeting. Those present were Don and Donna Eppenbaugh from Irrigon, Kathryn Hoskins, Ruth McCabe, Jean Nelson, Diane and Lindsay Kincaid, Dave and Fran Barnett, Cecil and Delpha Jones, Louis and Betty Carlson, and the host and hostess, Jim and Barbara Bloodworth.

## St. Patrick's Senior Center Bulletin Board

Eighty meals were served in the Senior Center dining room January 19 and 18 meals were taken out. The Christian Missionary Fellowship members served. Ed Hunt and Clarence Buchanan helped do the dishes. Blood pressures were taken before the meal.

The menu for Feb. 2 will be hamburger pie, mashed potatoes, green beans, tossed salad, rolls and cookies. Members of the First Christian Church will serve. Hearing aid service will be given and blood pressures taken before the meal. Lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m..

Exercises are held in the rec. room Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10-10:30 a.m. Cards are played Tuesdays and Fridays from 1-4 p.m. Bingo is played every Tuesday evening from 7-9 p.m.. Two tables of pinochle were played Friday afternoon. The video "Alaska's Great Wilderness Denali" was shown Wednesday afternoon and the movie "Maverick" was shown Thursday afternoon. There's always a jigsaw puzzle in progress. All seniors are invited to join in these activities, or just come in to visit.

The Red Cross blood drawing is Thursday January 28. Everyone is invited to come give the gift of life.

Remember the champagne Valentine dinner Feb. 14. Reservations may be made by calling the Senior Center office, 676-9030, by Feb. 11.

## CSEPP, OEM conduct joint test

Umatilla County CSEPP and Oregon Emergency Management conducted a joint test of the CSEPP Alert & Notification System on January 14.

The test consisted of a person pushing the "C-34" button on the Whelen console at the Umatilla County Emergency Center in Pendleton.

The live test was successful, in that button "C-34" activated the intended reader board with the correct test message when the "send" button was pushed, according to a CSEPP news release.

In the course of doing this test, two associated issues were identified, according to the release:

-the "Crash Phone" that was used for notifications just before the test was done did not get rings at the Hermiston Safety Center or the Heppner EOC. The "All-Call" line is the primary system, and the "Crash Phone" is a secondary notification system. Personnel are working with US West and will have that problem corrected right away, they said.

The second matter was that the "Chemical Message Light" for

button "C-10" on the Whelen console came on during the procedure. This light was cleared before the "Send" button was pushed. The fact that the light came on raises the possibility that the "Chemical Event Warning" (Sirens and Reader Boards) could have been activated if the "Send" button had been pushed while that light was on, according to the release.

The two issues that were identified during the tests will be reviewed and addressed immediately.

This should be the final step in making all four consoles fully operational, concluded the release.

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## 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. The G-T is not responsible for accuracy of statements made in letters.

### St. Pats, Rodeo Committee can't agree on motorcross

To the Editor:  
Dear St. Patrick's Day Committee,

The Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Committee was contacted by your committee to limit the Motorcross Race, which we sponsor, to a four-hour event this year.

After discussion, the OTRP Committee will not be participating with the Motorcross Race this year. Our committee felt that the following reasons for this decision should be noted to you and your committee:

a) The setup/preparation time allotted for this event to take place in our rodeo arena is two days. The equipment, earth and safe track setup are all taken into consideration.

b) Our advertising to the racers in other communities and sponsorships for our event requires considerable lead time. Our committee has increased its racers every year and is building this event. Our desire is not to discourage participation, but build the interest and offer classes to all ages groups.

c) The committee does not wish to spoil the dinners and other scheduled events or take away from any downtown activities. We realize the importance of success, however OTRP committee feels that certain groups and crowd participants attending the Motorcross Race would not ordinarily be involved with those downtown functions. Furthermore, nothing prohibits them from leaving our races early.

d) OTRP Committee promoted and sponsors the Motorcross Race for the underage minors/teenagers and racers thereby keeping them occupied and otherwise out of trouble in our community during the St. Patrick's Day event. And we have drawn people from outside our community to participate during the weekend and thereby increase the numbers of attendees at all functions.

e) Many people stay in the Heppner area as a result of our Motorcross Race.

f) OTRP Committee wants to contribute positively to our community in anyway that we can. However, we need to know how we can participate without upsetting the St. Patrick's Day Committee or the downtown merchants.

g) OTRP Committee has contributed financially to your committee. Our all-volunteer committee works very hard to contribute to our community.

The OTRP Committee wishes your comments and concerns regarding the Motorcross Race and its importance to the community. Please call the St. Patrick's Day Committee or write OTRP Committee, P.O. Box 113, Heppner, OR.

(s) Ken Bailey,  
Chairman OTRP Motorcross

### Hay growers meeting set

A Umatilla-Morrow Hay Growers meeting has been planned for Friday, February 25, from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the OSU Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center.

The agenda includes: Fertility Recommendations for Alfalfa and Hay by Don Horneck, with Agri-Check; Interpreting Forage Nutritional Analysis by Mike Mehren, Wiomun Feeds, Hermiston; Columbia River Processing-Opportunities for Area Forage Producers by Mike Gamroth, OSU animal science, Corvallis; Alfalfa Insect Problems and Control Options, tentatively by Glen Fisher, Extension entomologist, OSU entomology department, Corvallis; Selection of Alfalfa Varieties for the Lower Columbia Basin by Don Miller, Agripro-ABI Alfalfa, Nampa, ID; and Hay Growers Associations by Mylen Bohle, OSU Extension, Prineville.

To the Editor:  
To The Oregon Trail Pro-Rodeo Committee,  
From The St. Patrick's Committee.

The St. Patrick's Committee regrets that they were unable to come to a compromise with the Rodeo Committee on the length and time of the St. Paddy's Motor Cross, therefore resulting in the Rodeo Committee's decision to discontinue it during the 2000 celebration.

The good news is that its success far exceeded all expectations. As we understand it from the conversation with Ken Bailey and Ken Eckman, the event will continue to grow and it is not their desire to have to limit entries. We understand it is a weekend of work for the Rodeo Committee and it certainly should be worth their while. Growth is good and often, as in your case, proves that an event can stand on its own.

The St. Patrick's Committee wishes the Rodeo Committee continued success. We hope that by rescheduling it for April Fool's weekend or another weekend in the spring both entities will have more volunteers and more of us will be able to attend your event. With it scheduled on another weekend, it will not have to be limited time-wise and the noise factor will not interfere with the Irish entertainment provided during the Wee Bit O'Ireland evening event. We would be glad to list the new date in the St. Patrick's brochure if we know immediately.

Our committee has appreciated your efforts to provide an activity for youth and we still need that in the afternoon. We would welcome ideas from you or other organizations on this. The goal of the St. Patrick's Committee continues to be to provide as many opportunities as possible for all organizations in Heppner to improve their finances, while working with the overall cultural Irish theme of the celebration and working within the scheduling boundaries.

The committee would be receptive to revisiting this. They are not adverse to change. Possibly if the auction could be changed to Friday night in 2001, the motorcross could be held on Sunday. Join us in keeping the lines of communication open and let's work together toward the success of all events in Heppner.

We would like to meet with the Rodeo Committee at your convenience to explain the make-up of the St. Patrick's committee so that the Rodeo Committee is aware that we are not a committee of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce; however, the Chamber believes in and promotes all events and would certainly do so for an April Fool's Day Motorcross. Please keep us advised.  
(s) Claudia Hughes and Cara Osmin  
Co-chairpersons of the Heppner St. Patrick's Committee

**In Memory of  
Mary Ann Peck**

The family of Mary Ann would like to thank each and every one for the lovely cards, flowers and those who brought food. To all who made memorial contributions, thank you. Thank you to Pastor Larry Nelson for officiating at the ceremony, and the ladies of Peace Lutheran for serving coffee and cake afterward. We kept the ceremony small and simple the way Mary Ann would have liked it. God bless you.

*Bud Peck, Terry Peck, Bob Peck  
Frances Amos & Grandchildren*

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### McCain will target needed reforms

To the Editor:

Regarding the ethanol subsidy a few years ago when I served on the Umatilla/Morrow County Regional Strategies Committee for economic development, we had a meeting with the man running the ethanol program for J.R. Simplot. He advised that it was nowhere near cost effective. We dropped any further consideration of a like program. Simplot's made use of potato waste from his vast holdings.

To me, using waste by-products of foodstuffs makes much more sense than using food stuffs like corn.

For some time, I have hoped that any excess food production that cannot be aggressively sold be used for domestic welfare purposes as well as foreign aid. Why not send food instead of guns? Transportation as well as distribution could be handled, but no effort has been made to do this. We could benefit far more in world opinion from this generosity than the current political monkeying that sends money to corrupt foreign leaders instead of help for starving people.

That I don't support the ethanol program that smacks too much like corporate welfare (gas and oil too) is not to say I don't understand the real need for farm policy reform. There are deliberate roadblocks to prevent family farms and ranches from marketing their products with a price structure that

allows them to sustain their operation and live too. All segments of family farm production are in serious trouble-no product is exempt. If these farms are allowed to demise and international corporations are allowed to dominate all markets with no competition, you would soon be looking at higher food prices and many independent farmers reduced to serfdom, or off to the city. None of this is desirable.

We are at a crisis point where we need to get the corporate special interests out of our nation's business and form a visionary farm policy. John McCain's proposal to end oil, gas and ethanol subsidies is a first step, and a good one, as he proposes using the huge sums saved on education.

Many programs are lumped under the heading of farm subsidies. This includes the school lunch program which no one proposes doing away with. But when such things are looked at by the public in odds against farm subsidies, the public has no idea of what is involved. We have to trust our leaders to look after the public interest. Money from special interests corrupts or muddies their view.

Please vote for a leader, John McCain, who will target the needed reforms. He's proved he's tough-minded enough to withstand most anything.

(s) Meg Murray  
Ione

## Obituary

### William A. Huff

William Arnold "Bill" Huff, 72, of Lonerock, died Wednesday, January 19, 2000, at his nephew's home in The Dalles.

Recitation of the Rosary was Friday, January 21, 2000 at St. John Catholic Church in Condon. Funeral Mass was held Saturday, January 22 at the church with concluding service and burial following at St. Joseph Cemetery in Condon.

Mr. Huff was born May 7, 1927, at Walla Walla, Washington, to Andrew and Delphine Nibbler Huff. The family lived at Heppner where he attended school for three years before moving with his family to Hillsboro where he completed school.

He served with the U.S. Navy during World War II. Following his discharge in 1948, he attended and graduated from Pacific University at Forest Grove.

On May 1, 1952, he married Nola Nelson at Hillsboro.

He taught school at John Day, Milton-Freewater, Helix, and for 18 years at the 509-J School District on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation at Madras, retiring in 1987.

In 1992, he and his wife moved to Lonerock.

He was a member of St. John Catholic Church, the Oregon Education Association and the American Legion.

Mr. Huff enjoyed camping, hunting and fishing.

Survivors include his wife, Nola Huff of Lonerock; son, Bill Huff of Bend; daughters, Patricia Ann Ray in North Carolina, and Tonja Marie Brown of Madras; brothers, Andrew of Hillsboro, John of Gold Beach, and Ted of Clovis, New Mexico; sisters, Helen Kingsbury of Hillsboro, Margaret Dieringer of Oregon City, and Agnes Whitman of Elgin;

two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a sister, Frances Nelson, and a brother, Albert Huff.

Memorial contributions may be made to the VA Hospital Cancer Research Center, P.O. Box 1034, Portland, Oregon 97207.

Sweeney Mortuary of Condon was in charge of arrangements.

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