

Ione Site Council hears of enrollment increase

By Debbie Radie

The Ione Site Council, at their Feb. 14 meeting, learned that enrollment at Ione is up five students over the previous year.

The council heard an update on the school bond project. On January 24, the advisory committee agreed to go forward with the architects' plan called concept 4. The final accepted proposal has been taken to the school board for approval. The architects are now taking specific information about details like shelves and storage, etc.

The site committee discussed the location of the weight room, art room, track and tennis courts.

The superintendent finalists will visit the schools in the district Feb. 19-21. The candidates are Duane Yechea, current principal at Riverside High School in Boardman, Jack Crispin from Tillamook and Steve Zimmerman from Arizona.

Middle and high school grades are now available to parents via the Internet. Teachers are required to post grades every two weeks. Parents must come personally to the school office to get an ID number and PIN number.

Teacher Darlene Marquardt reported that her computer students are currently doing a unit on video production. They have written their own scripts for a dramatic production and are currently in rehearsal. They expect to have the project done by the end of February. As part of their project they had to review the web sites of quite a few other schools around the nation that currently have projects or entire year-long classes devoted to video production. Later in the year, the middle school technology students will have a chapter on video production to complete. Marquardt still has to make some connections with local cable TV and other resources to follow through on the wider scale project that has been discussed at site council.

The site council reviewed projections from the superintendent about cash carryover amounts up through 2004/05. The figures show that by 2003/04 the carryover will be less than needed and by the following year there will be a million dollar deficit. A graph showed what would happen with some proposed district staff cuts. It would extend the crossover deficit a bit longer.

Assistant Superintendent Mike Keown has completed the first step in the school-wide planning, including the goals that the council has worked on in previous meetings, which were to increase reading, math and attendance rates in the entire school.

The council discussed how to reduce unexcused absences.

The staff will continue looking at data, refine the goals and begin working on how to implement the strategies. The school has "drivers manuals" (instructional guides) for K-12 which tell where a

child should be at a given point in his education.

Principal Mike Stuart has learned more information about the testing of students K-3. This testing method will help teachers assess needs of students before they are tested for benchmarks. The test is produced by Oregon State University.

Ione Schools again earned the exceptional schools rating and will be presented a flag in honor of this achievement from the state. Only three schools in Umatilla-Morrow ESD district earned that award, Ione, Heppner and Stanfield Elementary.

Adam Neiffer won first place in the local Elks Scholarship contest, Colin McElligott was third in boys and Christina Powell was second for girls. The first-place winner qualifies for district competition for additional scholarship money.

Coach Del LaRue was awarded coach of the year and was recognized by the Portland Trail Blazers at a Blazer game. His name will go up in lights and he won a \$500 cash award which he has said he is going to award to the track program at Ione.

Brad Burright was chosen as an alternate to the Shrine Football team. It is an honor because mostly 2A, 3A and 4A students are selected for this annual event in August.

This year's Heppner Elk Lodge Eye Poster Contest winners were from Ione. Kevin Fowler won first place and a \$100 savings bond. His drawing will be submitted in a future contest. Second place and a \$75 savings bond went to Shannon Clay. Lindsay Sjurset won third place and a \$50 savings bond.

4-H News Power Puppies plan fund raiser

The Power Puppy 4-H club is organizing a fund raiser for the weekend of March 9 at the Morrow County Fairgrounds in Heppner. Club members will take dogs from the area for obedience training and will work with their owners on training. The charge will be \$25 per dog, per day.

The club has also planned a CGC dog trial for April 13. A CGC dog trial is an AKC event giving dogs (and their handlers) the opportunity to show that they are "Canine Good Citizens". Club members are hoping by then that Governor Kitzhaber will have signed their proclamation making April 13 CGC Day in Oregon. The cost of the CGC Trial will be \$25 per dog. Dogs do not have to be purebred or registered with the AKC to compete. The show will be judged by Bonnie Clow of Irrigon and AKC certificates will be awarded to all participants receiving a qualifying score.

The proceeds from the fund raiser will go to buy agility equipment for the Power Puppy 4-H club.

The club is also looking for more members. All 4-H-aged children are welcome to attend with their dogs. The only requirements is that dogs be up to date on their immunizations and owners will need a choke chain and six-foot lead for their dogs.

Currently the club is meeting at the fairgrounds at 4:30 pm on alternating Mondays. The next meeting will be March 2. Once school is out and the weather improves, meeting will be held in Lexington at the school to accommodate kids from the north end of the county who might want to participate.

Questions may be directed to Patty McNary at 422-7343.

County Court discusses solid waste ordinance

By Doris Brosnan

Morrow County Judge Terry Tallman and Commissioner Dan Brosnan were present at the February 13 meeting of the Morrow County Court to discuss the solid waste ordinance with several entities. Economic development coordinator, Martin Davis, provided background information about the current "ambiguous" ordinance. He added that he had contacted DEQ in search of funding for a new plan and rewrite of the ordinance. In answer to a question from Don Bramhill of DEQ, planning director, Tamra Mabbott, said there was not a plan that supported the writing of the original ordinance. Brosnan said that the waste generated outside the county is more the issue than that generated within the county, and added that the county needs a clear description of the process, a mechanism that allows a person to read and understand the process. Tallman added that both past and present court members have voiced concern over the ambiguity of the present ordinance. Bramhill explained that the DEQ have awarded grants for writing solid waste plans but do so on a cycle, and awards will not be offered for a year. DEQ could offer some assistance with the application. Mabbott, noted that some pending issues "need attention sooner." Environmental engineer, John Straughan, suggested that the "where" is not a question, the kind of waste the county will accept is the issue. Brosnan added that also at issue is the waste being shipped through the county. Mabbott gave as an example the wastes barged and offloaded at the Port of Morrow for shipment for Arlington. In

answer to a question from Dean Large of Finley Buttes Landfill and Waste Connections, the Court said hazardous waste is not the only issue. Large offered some information about the permitting for movement of hazardous waste. Bramhill provided more information on the processes used by some other counties and DEQ's permitting requirements. He also answered questions about the funding cycle. The Court will continue examination of the ordinance issue.

Mabbott requested that she be allowed to retain a land-use attorney for review of a complicated land partition she is processing. The Court agreed that circumstances supported seeking an outside review, giving confidence to the planning commission in making the best decision possible.

Public works director, Burke O'Brien, reported that the Valby Road project near completion as the surface gravel is put on.

Judge Tallman opened a public hearing on the proposed vacation of Third Street West. Two property owners appeared for discussion but did not oppose the action. Tallman closed the hearing, and the Court approved the vacation with an adjustment from 30 feet wide to 60 feet wide.

Other actions of the Court include the following:

- approval of a permit to Umatilla Electric for line under Olson Road;
- approval of a letter of intent to install an "All Weather Observation Station" at the Lexington Airport;
- approval of an amended new education policy.

Mustang JV girls come up short against Rockets

By Rick Paullus

A late surge by the Pilot Rock Rockets carried them past the Heppner Mustang JV girls, 42-38, in Pilot Rock on Tuesday, Feb. 12. The Mustangs' record dropped to 13 and 5 with the loss. The Mustangs took a 7-6 lead after one, and got five points each from Brooke Rust and Stefanie Hanson, plus three from Chelsea Britt in the second quarter, but the Rockets came back to take a 21-20 lead at halftime.

Rust had six points in the third quarter as the Mustangs went ahead 32-23, but the Rockets rallied to get within 32-31 going into the fourth quarter. The Rockets outscored the Mustangs, 11-6, in the fourth to get the narrow win.

Rust led the Mustangs with 13 points, eight rebounds, three

blocked shots and two steals, with Hanson adding seven points, four rebounds and three steals. Britt had six points, nine rebounds and three steals. Madison Bailey had six points, three steals and two assists. Chantea Macaulay had four rebounds, Nikki Sisk had three steals and Linsey Mitchell had two steals.

Statistics
Heppner: 7 13 12 6 - 38
Pilot Rock: 6 15 10 11 - 42

Heppner-Brooke Rust 6 1-3 13, Stefanie Hanson 2 3-4 7, Madison Bailey 3 0-2 6, Chelsea Britt 2 2-4 6, Nikki Sisk 1 0-0 2, Tiffany Piper 1 0-0 2, Linsey Mitchell 1 0-0 2, Chantea Macaulay. 16 6-13 38. Three-pointers: none.

Pilot Rock-Robles 8 3-5 19, Kirk 3 3-3 9, Ward 3 0-2 7, Perrine 3 0-3 6, Gorbett 0 1-2 1, Haase, Vanderpool, Westberg, Ulrich. 17 7-15 42. Three-pointers: Ward.

Heppner girls' bowling team advances to state

The Heppner girls bowling team competed in the district tournament held Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 16-17, at Shamrock Lanes in Heppner and ended up taking second. The team, which was recently assembled, will now advance to the state tournament in Medford March 9-10.

"It was really unique," said Terry Lupinacci, owner of Shamrock Lanes. "They were having trouble getting a team together at first and then were asked to try (to assemble a team) again just to fill a void. They practiced all last week and took second. They're pretty excited."

The team, composed of Molly Turrell, Jessica Wainwright, Jessica Woodward, Ashley Collette, Lindsey Hodges and Dawn DeBoer, lost their first

game against Umatilla by 29 points, but won the second by 33, for four-pin win. They next went up against Hermiston and lost to them, but still came in second, which advanced them on to state. Lupinacci said that Hermiston has had a long-standing team and took second at state last year. Four girls' teams and six boys' teams competed at the district tournament.

Boys competing at the tournament were Kelly Paullus, Jody Maddem, A.J. Hendricks, Ben Turrell, Aaron Lueck and Dan Fortner.

Garden Club honored for community involvement



Garden Club President Chuck Bailey

The Heppner Garden Club was recently honored for its active, visible stance in the community. Heppner Mayor Bob Jepsen has issued a proclamation declaring February as Heppner Garden Club month and calling upon residents of the city to honor the club and the programs they serve.

The proclamation recognized the club for creating floral beauty in "showy yards and public places all over town"; gathering evergreens to create decorations for the holidays; purchasing and planting flowers, plants and trees to enhance Heppner's public areas; sponsoring a horticulture scholarship; providing decorations for dinner meetings; filling welcome baskets for newcomers; honoring yard of the month recipients; and participating in the Morrow County Fair flower shows, among other activities.

According to Heppner Garden Club President Chuck Bailey, the club's community involvement is no accident. "The Garden Club had a stigma to overcome—of women in big hats in the back yard sipping mint juleps," laughed Bailey. "We're overcoming that stigma real fast."

"You've got to get out and meet people," added Bailey, "and let them know what you're doing and get publicity for the club."

Bailey says that he and other club members have worked to become more visible and have partnered with other groups and businesses to sponsor community-wide programs. Because of their proactive stance, Green Feed and Seed now co-sponsors the yard of the month program along with the Garden Club. Heppner TV provides free TV spots for the club and the city offers a \$5 water bill discount for yard of the month recipients.

The Garden Club has quite a few other programs in the works as well. They maintain containers of flowers at the mini-park next to the Post Office and decorate the spot for the St. Patrick's Celebration. They also have a Blue Star Marker at the veteran's park at the entrance to town, plant and maintain a "beautiful mass of marigolds" at the turnaround at the Heppner City Park and an "eye catching sight of floral beauty" at the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo, plant trees and rose bushes around town as memorials to deceased Garden Club members, put on an annual plant exchange for the public and are planning a rose garden for the community near the confluence of Hinton and Willow creeks. Through donations, the club helps sponsor the Willamette National Cemetery and the Leach Gardens, both in Portland, the Eagle Point Cemetery, World Gardening and the Blue Star Marker. The Heppner club is a member of the Oregon Gardens located in Silverton. They also raise money through their holiday greens

workshop to provide horticulture scholarships to local graduating seniors, welcome baskets to new teachers and members of the clergy, and donate to other causes locally, such as the Dave Matheny fund.

Bailey says that the club has put a new emphasis on outings and has sponsored trips for its members, including one to the Oregon Gardens last July. He is also in the process of working on three grants for the club.

According to Bailey, the local Garden Club originally started in Ione, but over the years gravitated to Heppner. The Heppner club is included in the Blue Mountain District 10, which also encompasses clubs in Hermiston, Stanfield, Umatilla, Boardman and Irrigon, which are included in the Oregon Federation of State Garden Clubs Pacific Region and the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.

Besides President Bailey, officers are Vice President Joann Burleson, Secretary Eleanor Gonty and Treasurer Bebe Munkers. Other members include Gladys Alderman, Betty Bailey, Verna Brinda, Joe Burleson, Daisy Collins, Peggy Connor, Ida Farra, Margaret Flaherty, Frances Freel, Mary Goheen, Dorothy and Wilbur Jackson, Bert Johannes, Caroline Keck, Donna Morgan, Jeanette and Archie Padberg, Carolyn Paris, Kay Proctor, Merlyn Robinson, Jerri Sly, Marjorie Spangler and Jan Stroeber. "Were getting a few guys interested, too," says Bailey.

Because the group is so active, organization is key and numerous committees have been established for a variety of activities. Committees include: Yearbook-C. Bailey and Munkers; Main Street Mini Park-Keck, Stroeber, C. Bailey, Munkers and the Jacksons; Garden Week-the Baileys; Table Decorations-Burleson, Keck, Johannes, Padberg, Collins, D. Jackson; State and District Projects-C. Bailey; Junior Poster and Essay Contest-Brinda, Munkers; Scholarship-Goheen, Collins, Munkers, Brinda; Plant Exchange, C. Bailey, Johannes, Collins, Padberg; Sunshine Greeting Cards-Gonty; St. Patrick's Decorations-D. Jackson, Munkers, Alderman, Connor; Christmas "Greens" Workshop-Flaherty, Collins, the Jacksons and the membership; Welcome Baskets-Connor, Alderman, Padberg; Scrapbook-Brinda, Keck, Freel; Membership-Flaherty; Conservation-Johannes, Farra; Publicity-Robinson, C. Bailey.

The February meeting was a Valentine party held in honor of yard of the month recipients with the program "Culture of Roses" by Mary Goheen. Hosts were Verna Brinda and Dorothy Jackson. The next meeting will be held on March 4 at 7 p.m. at the St. Patrick's Senior Center in Heppner with Daisy Collins and Mary Goheen as hosts. The program will include "Planting" by Corinne Miles and "Earth Chestnut" by Wilbur and Dorothy Jackson. The April meeting and District 10 director visitation will be held on April 1 at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center with a potluck supper. Hosts will be Eleanor Gonty, Gladys Alderman and Merlyn Robinson. The plant exchange will be held on May 4. On May 6 at 7 p.m. at the Senior Center hosts will be Jan Stroeber and Joann Burleson. The May program will be "Houseplants and Their Ailments" by Sherrie Kopacz from the Hermiston Nursery. Topic for the June meeting, planned for June 3 at 7 p.m. at the Senior Center, will be "Bugs and Insects" and "Beaver Dams" by Dan Dunnett. Hosts will be Peggy Connor and Jeanette Padberg. The state Garden Club conventions will be held June 17-19 in Salem.

Scholarship recipients

The Oregon Student Assistance Commission has announced OSAC scholarship recipients for the 2001-2002 year.

Area students receiving scholarships include Tim Dickenson, Heppner, health occupation, Oregon State University, Ford Scholar; Marcella Monahan, Heppner, nursing, Blue Mountain Community College, Ford Restart; Miranda McElligott, Ione, Macalaster College, Robert Byrd Honors and the Maryan McElligott Scholarship; Sheree Steiner, sports medicine, Central Washington University, Umatilla Electric Cooperative scholarship; Christena Butler, education, BMCC, Umatilla Electric Cooperative.

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"Morrow County Moods" - A Quilt Block Contest deadline is extended from Feb. 8th to Feb. 25th

The contest is co-sponsored by two Heppner merchants: Fabrics, Etc. - 676-5241 and Quilter's Round-Up - 676-8282

Entry forms and contest rules may be picked up at either business

All skill levels are encouraged to enter...
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Heppner Gazette-Times
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February 23 - Saturday

105th ANNUAL & LADIES TEA

Registration starts at 10 a.m.
Ladies Tea will be held at 1:30 p.m.
Lodge will be at 2 p.m. Dinner will be at 6 p.m.
Music by Lindy Gravelle will start at 9 p.m.
For Elks members and out-of-town guests only.



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