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Gazette  
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## Coming soon to Ione...



The new Wheatland building under construction on Ione's Main Street.

By Sarah Collier

Ione will soon see a vacant spot filled on Main Street. The Wheatland Building, a three-part structure, is set to open this summer.

Two Ione men, Jim Swanson and Loyal Burns, have partnered to build the new office building that will house three businesses.

Swanson's current business, Wheatland Insurance, which is located next door to the new structure, will move to the first office room. The second room is not yet rented. The third part of the building will be home to, "Sunflower Junction", a business serving a variety of purposes.

Shilo Svetich and Lynn Dee Ramos have collaborated on the shop, which will feature a hair salon, tanning beds and a gift shop, as well as a place to get ice cream and espresso.

Burns, who is the chief builder on the project, had several suggestions for an occupant of the vacant second room. "It would be good for a realtor, an accountant, a lawyer who needs to be here twice a week, or an Internet sales office," he said.

Swanson said, "It would make a nice office for maybe a bookkeeper. We think it would be very attractive to something like that."

The property surrounding the Wheatland building will feature a courtyard with picnic tables as well as a parking lot behind Sunflower Junction, equipped with handicapped spaces.

## Temperament Talk class scheduled

The Morrow County Health Department and Umatilla-Morrow County Head Start are presenting a program to help parents shape the behavior of their children.

"Temperament Talk: A Guide to Understanding Your Child", is a work text coauthored by four La Grande women. The program will use material from this text to "help parents create effective and uniquely individual ways" to raise their children in positive behaviors.

The class will be held May 6 and 8 at 6:30 p.m. at 220 S. Main in the conference room. Childcare will be provided at no cost.

For more information and to register your child for the free childcare, call 676-9150.

## Women's League may be forming

The Willow Creek Country Club Ladies may be starting an evening Women's League. Currently, the Women's Play Day takes place on Tuesday mornings. This does not allow for those working during the day to participate. If there is enough interest, the group will start an evening league that is similar to the Men's League.

For those interested in participating, there will be a meeting on Thursday, May 2, at 6 p.m. at the golf course. Following the meeting, there will be a Scramble for anyone who would like to participate.

Contact Dana Reid with questions at 676-5367 or 676-2101.

## Local educator honored



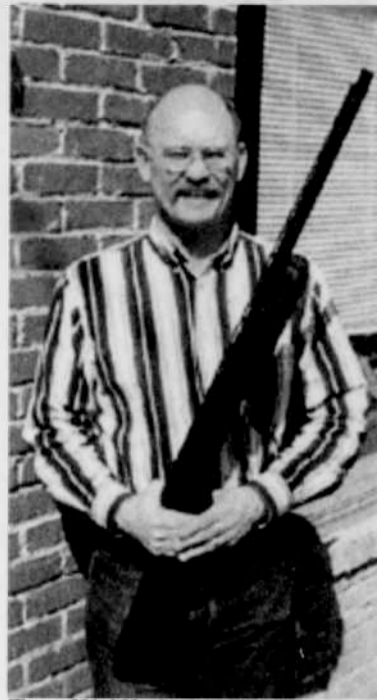
Heppner High School teacher Linda Dutcher helps student Michael McCabe in the classroom.

The National Youth Leadership Forum, in commemoration of National Teacher Appreciation Week, which will take place May 5-11, has recognized the efforts of Linda Dutcher of Heppner High School for encouraging students to pursue their career interests. "Dutcher shows commitment to enhancing the educational experience by nominating Heppner High School students to explore NYLF programs in law, medicine and defense, intelligence and diplomacy," according to a NYLF news release.

"As we celebrate our 10th anniversary this year, the National Youth Leadership Forum is proud of educators like Linda Dutcher because they demonstrate the concern and knowledge necessary to help their students get to where they want to go," said Donna Weldin, executive director of NYLF. "Students who participate in NYLF programs get a jump start in figuring out if a career in medicine, law or national defense are, in fact, what they wish to pursue prior to college, thereby saving time, energy and, ultimately, college tuition."

Students are nominated to participate in NYLF programs based on demonstrated academic achievement and an interest in one of three core fields of study on which NYLF focuses. The young scholars from around the country who attend NYLF are introduced to industry leaders and participate in rigorous reality-based simulations that challenge their problem-solving skills and

## Elks hold turkey hunt/ fisherman's night



Tom Wolff shows the 12-gauge turkey special shotgun he won.

The Heppner Elks held its annual turkey hunter/fisherman's night banquet Thursday, April 18, at the Elk's lodge.

About 75 people attended the catfish and oyster dinner. Grand prize winners were Tom Wolff, who won a 12-gauge Remington turkey special shotgun, and Jay Keithley, who won a top of the line fishing pole.

There were 40 other door prizes given away.

## Garden club to hold plant exchange

The Heppner Garden Club will hold their plant exchange on Saturday, May 4, at St. Patrick's Senior Center from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

For more information, contact Chuck Bailey at 676-5211.



Ione Mayor Betty Gray, along with council members and others from the community, gather around the new water tank above the city of Ione Saturday in celebration of the completion of the new water system.

The city of Ione unveiled its brand new water system Saturday, which will provide more water with a better taste to the city.

In addition to a new blue tank with the city's logo painted on the side, the \$1.2 million project replaced the city's 26 year-old pump, motor and casing at the city well. The old pump and motor have been rebuilt and are on reserve. The well house received a new roof, new concrete steps, and new paint.

Also, new pipeline loops were put in place to increase flows through town. Water now moves into town from more than one direction, making reservoir isolation and pipeline repairs easier.

For water treatment, all water now pumped from the city well is disinfected and aerated to improve taste and smell, particularly hydrogen sulfide gas, the "rotten egg" smell.

In addition, six new fire hydrants were added and have been placed where fire protection needed improvement. Three were placed around the schools and ten more were replaced with pumper ported, breakaway models. In the event of a motor vehicle/hydrant collision, all of these new hydrants will break off and not release water.

The most obvious of the new system is the two new reservoirs. The big one on the hill holds 720,000 gallons and one above the Emert addition holds 50,000. The new combined capacity is 5.25 times greater than the old system.

With the addition of the Emert Addition reservoir, these residents have the convenience of gravity flow and pressure vs. the old pump fed design. The system now operates even when power is out, and they also have increased flow and pressure for irrigation and fire protection.

Those involved with the project included Anderson, Perry and Associates as the engineers. About 45 percent of the funding for the project came from a grant from the USDA Rural Development, and the contractor on the project was Booker Construction of Troutdale. "ICABO donated 6.5 acres to the city for the large tank and we are very grateful for that," said Ione Mayor Betty Gray.

She said the project, which was started four years ago, came in under budget, allowing the city some extras on the project that were not originally planned for. "Overall the whole project worked out very well. We are very proud of our new water system, and it should take care of the needs of Ione citizens for a long time to come," Gray said.

## Willow Valley Service Club plans May events

The Willow Valley Service Club May meetings include business and presentations by the Ministerial Association and about Reiki energy medicine and healing. The club meets for no-host luncheons on Thursdays from 12-1 p.m. at John's Other Place in Heppner.

On Thursday, May 2, vice-president Ginger Keithley will preside and necessary business will be conducted.

Pastor Duane Jones, Ministerial Association president, will discuss this group's purpose and goals within the local communities at the Thursday, May 9 meeting. Pastor Jones has been president of this association for two years. He and his family came to Heppner eight years ago to pastor the Heppner Church of the Nazarene.

Reiki Master Casey Cheek will speak on Reiki energy and medicine and healing on Thursday, May 16. Cheek was employed in the human service industry for 35 years, 15 years in private practice. She and her family moved to Heppner from

Galveston, Texas, last year.

Anyone interested in these meetings may attend.

WVSC service for April was sponsoring the Senior Girls' Luncheon on April 4.

## Rep. Greg Smith earns endorsement of the OEA

The Oregon Education Association has endorsed Rep. Greg Smith (R-Heppner) in his bid for re-election to the Oregon House of Representatives, serving District 57.

The OEA praised Smith for "his extraordinary work in building coalitions between students, parents, teachers and administrators," said a press release.

"I'm honored to receive the support of Oregon's education community," Smith said. "Education continues to be a top priority for me and will be an area of focus in the 72nd Legislative Assembly."

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