

**Local students participate in Honor Band concert Winter Sport Dessert held at Ione High School**



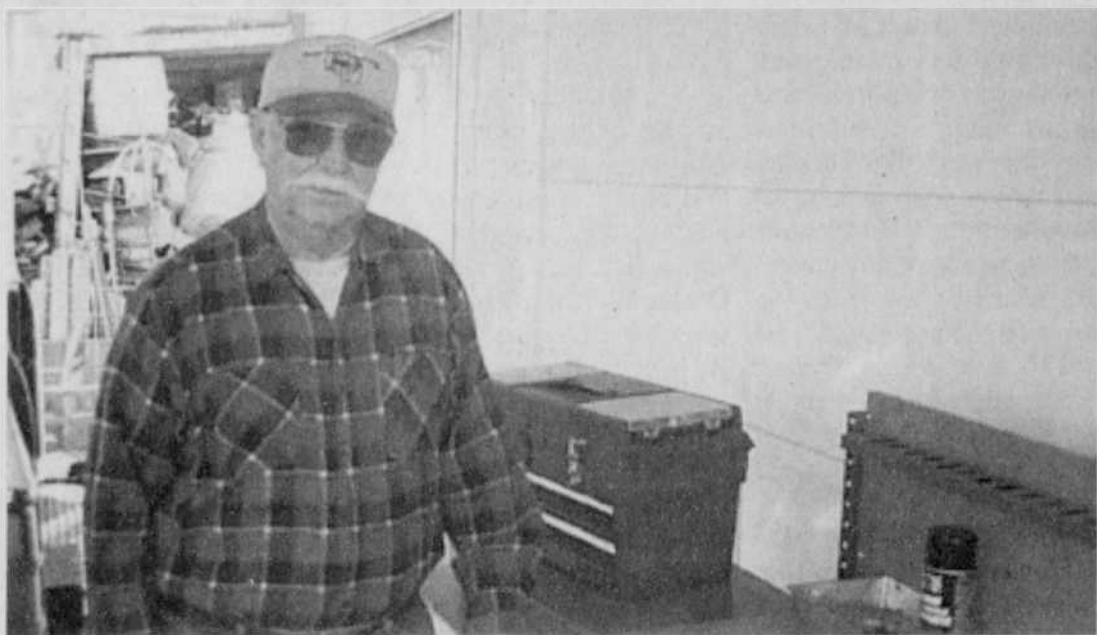
Heppner Jr/Sr High students participated in Mid-Columbia Honor Band 2004. (Front Row L-R): Teacher Wendy Appleton and Grant Smith; (Back Row L-R): Peter Geer, Colton Helfrecht and Kelsey Wolff. Not Pictured: Joe Pranger.

Five students from Heppner participated in the Mid-Columbia Honor Band 2004 concert at Goldendale High School in Goldendale, WA on March 15. Grant Smith, grade seven, played the alto clarinet. Peter Geer, grade 10, played the tuba. Colton Helfrecht, grade 10, played percussion. Kelsey Wolff, grade eight, played the clarinet. Joe Pranger, grade seven, played the tenor sax.



(L-R): Kim Morris, Most Improved; Eva Chitty, Most Inspirational; Natalie McElligott, Most Valuable Player; Emily Key and Sara Peck, Miss Hustle.

**Small engine repair opens in Heppner**



Dick Paris at his workbench. Heppner resident Dick Paris has opened a new business in Heppner- Dick's Small Engine Repair.

After taking some classes in small engine repair, Paris has decided to open a shop from his home in which he will be able to work on lawn mowers, weed eaters and "just about anything with one cylinder."

Paris said that even though he is in retirement now, he was a fire fighter at the

Depot for 20 years and worked general maintenance for the county for five years, he is hoping to stay busy and active.

To make an appointment with Dick's Small Engine Repair call 676-5852.

**St. Patrick's Senior Center news**

My first word in this writing is one of apology. I am the one responsible for confusion of dates and sequence of volunteers who serve at the weekly noon meal. My inquiries for a new list made no connection with the proper source until recently. I continued to announce the sequence I used for last year. I am truly sorry for the confusion.

I want to publicly welcome aboard the people from Willow Creek Baptist Church who have joined the roster of groups who serve. Each group lends a particular aura to the occasion. Recently, the clergy person from one group was not present at 11:30 a.m., when flag salute, table blessing and announcements are given. The group of volunteers for the day came to the microphone and together blessed the occasion and the meal with a traditional blessing. It was a gracious moment.

On Wednesday, March 31, volunteers from the Christian Life Center will offer their hospitality to those attending. The menu is hot turkey sandwich, mashed

potatoes and gravy, peas, fruit, bread and pumpkin pie cake.

Joe Birlleson was welcomed as the newest member of the Board of Directors at the March 17 meeting. He and JoAnne, his wife, have lived in Heppner five years. They came to make Heppner their retirement home - to get out of the rain, he said. They came from Canby and were involved in the chicken business for 30 years. They purchased the young chicks, then contracted them to farmers in the region for feeding and bringing to maturity for sale as fryers. They supplied fryers, up to 150,000 per week, to Peterson's Fryer Farms in Tacoma, WA. Later (1982-92), he had a food distribution business which delivered processed foods east to La Grande, south to Klamath Falls, and north to Bellingham, WA. He served three years on the State Fryer Commission when Mark Hatfield was governor; later he served on the Clackamas County Fryer Board.

"We like Heppner," he said. "We like being involved. Heppner is like Canby used to be, 40 years ago."

There will be a Memorial Day dinner on Sunday, May 30, at 2 p.m., at the Center. More details will be forthcoming.



(L-R): Arthur Ekstrom, Most Improved; Kelly Thompson, Mr. Hustle and Coach LaRue Award; Tyler Raible, Mr. Defense; Tyler Brown, Most Valuable Player; Nick Christman, Cardinal Heart; not pictured - Billy Gates, Most Inspirational.

Winter sports awards were handed out at a dessert Wednesday evening, March 10 at the Ione High School cafeteria. Jim Swanson opened the evening by introducing his junior varsity team and giving awards to John Walton- Mr. Hustle, Dan Long- Most Improved and Cody Kiesling- Most Inspirational. The JV boys won seven of their last eight games, three in overtime.

Boys' varsity players were recognized for their accomplishments by Coach Dennis Stefani. Team leaders were Kelly Thompson- steals (71 total or 1.6/game), Tyler Brown- assists (120 total or 4.8/game), rebounds (211 total or 8.4/game) and points (347 total or 13.9/game), Arthur Ekstrom- field goal percentage (52.9 percent), John Walton- free throw percentage (66.7 percent) and Tyler Raible blocked shots (34) and taking the charge (5).

Team awards, voted on by the players, went to Kelly Thompson- Mr. Hustle, Tyler Raible- Mr. Defense, Arthur Ekstrom- Most Improved, Billy Gates- Most Inspirational, Nick Christman- Cardinal Heart and Tyler Brown- Most Valuable Player. Coach Stefani started a new award for self-discipline and conscientiousness on the floor and in the classroom. The Coach LaRue Award went to Kelly Thompson.

Charity McElligott gave pins to cheerleaders Eva Chitty and Alyssa Rietmann.

She introduced her junior varsity team who had a winning 15-3 season record.

Coach Ryan Rudolf recognized the varsity girls and gave awards, voted on by teammates, to Eva Chitty- Most Inspirational, Sara Peck and Emily Key- Miss Hustle, Kim Morris- Most Improved and Natalie McElligott- Most Valuable Player. McElligott led the team in points (441 total or 17/game), rebounds (197 or 7.6/game), assists (53 or 2/

game), steals (116 or 4.5/game), field goal percentage (45 percent) and free throw percentage (66 percent). Barbara Holland had the most blocked shots (31 or 1.3/game).

All-Stars announced were: boys- Tyler Brown and Nick Christman, Second Team All District; and girls- Natalie McElligott, First Team All District, and Emily Key and Sara Peck, Honorable Mention All District.

**Morrow County Cultural Plan completed**

The Oregon Cultural Trust has received the completed Morrow County Cultural Plan designed for building participation in local arts, heritage and humanities.

The Plan was developed by the Morrow County Cultural Planning Committee, which has a membership of twenty-three local residents representing a diversity of people including artists, educators, tribal and Hispanic representatives, community leaders and others demonstrating leadership in heritage, humanities and other cultural interests.

The purpose of the program is to support and fund a grassroots approach to building community cultural participation. The program's focus is on local planning to shape the priorities of local cultural enhancement. It is intended to increase public participation in all that is culture through a balance of preservation of the past and an investment in the future. It encourages people to actively

participate in and enjoy the cultural resources in their communities and fosters the development of a unique cultural identity.

The Plan identifies local priorities, specific strategies and benchmarks to measure success. Once the Plan is approved, the Cultural Coalition will be eligible to receive grant funds to implement the Cultural Plan from the Oregon Cultural Trust. "The completion of the Plan is an important first step toward our goal of identifying and celebrating our own unique cultural diversity here in Morrow County," said Morrow County Judge Terry Tallman and ex officio member of the Cultural Planning Committee, which was appointed by the Oregon Cultural Trust Board.

Billie Jean Morris, Director of the Boardman Chamber of Commerce said, "This provides a clear way for our County to identify and to build public participation in culture. It is a way to better understand the heritage of Morrow County. The Cultural Trust funds will help Morrow County achieve its goals and strategies outlined in the plan."

*Wrangler*

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**Friends and Family of Tim and Mindy Davidson**

Please help us to celebrate the union of Tim and Mindy Davidson. (They were married January 30, 2004, but waited until Grandma and Grandpa Watkins were home to celebrate.)

Join us at the Elks Club in Heppner from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. on April 3rd

Music, food and fun are on the agenda! Dress is casual, so just come and have a good time!

**Bank of Eastern Oregon**  
would like to invite you to a Farewell & Welcome Party!

~ Farewell to Richard Wood ~  
(who transferred to the new Burns branch of BEO)

~ Welcome to Ed Rollins ~  
(the new BEO loan officer for Ione and Arlington)

Saturday, April 3 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Potluck at the Ione Legion Hall

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