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HEPPNER 50¢
Gazette Times

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Time is up for Time Out for Reading

Fifth and sixth grade students of Heppner Elementary gather for a reading party at the school.

As the calendar is turned to February, the popular reading incentive program for grades 5-6 at Heppner Elementary School ends for another year. "Time Out for Reading" began about 14 years ago and is a definite highlight of the school year for the young readers involved.

The key to the program is that students count the amount of minutes they read, rather than the pages or books. Every student has an equal chance of success, no matter what the individual's reading level. Every minute has to be accounted for by an adult, so signatures of bus drivers, babysitters, parents and teachers are found on each reading log kept by the students. Everyone carried a book from class to class in case they could find an extra minute of reading time.

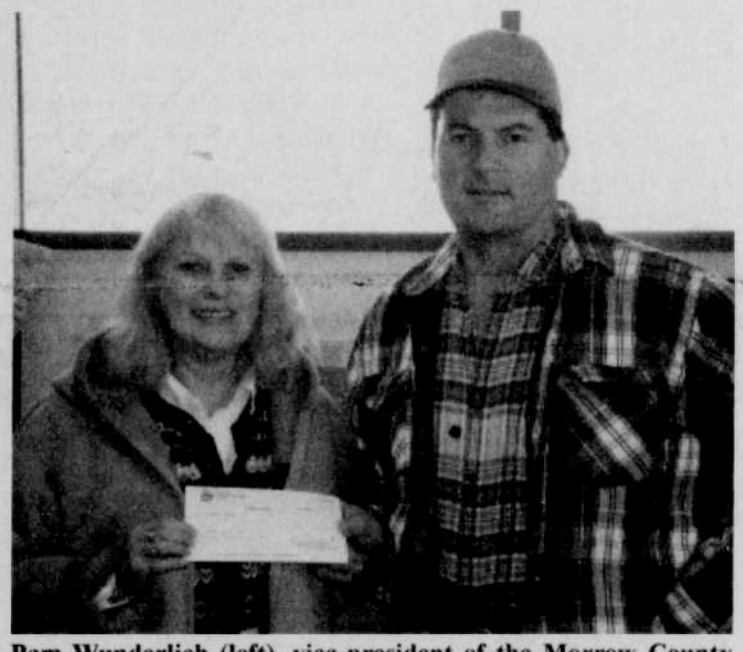
In addition to adding us as many reading minutes as possible, students also work as teams. Each Monday when the minutes are added, the team with the highest average wins a prize. Weekly prizes included pillowcases, cookies, rocks and school supplies. The top team, the Mustangs, received a pizza and pop lunch on Feb. 2.

Another activity held in connection with "Time Out for Reading" is the evening reading party. This year 90 percent of the students attended the party on Jan. 27. The party ended at 9 p.m. for the fifth graders and the sixth graders were invited to spend the night at school. Throughout the evening, students read, won prizes, ate sack dinners, watched "Where the Red Fern Grows" and read some more. Several Heppner High students attended the festivities and a few even stayed the night. After continental breakfast in the morning, everyone headed home.

The minutes were totaled and it was time to award the prizes. During the month of January, young readers in grades 5-6 read 123,098 minutes. That's over 2051 hours. The top ten readers were: Daisy Victorio, 6310; Taighler Dougherty, 5348; Lindsay Cutsforth, 4601; Joe Armato, 4443; Ian Murray, 4244; Amber Gray, 4206; Justin Pranger, 4085; Karlie Crumbliss, 3650; Curtis Martin, 3588; and Sarah Kendrick, 3520. Prize winners chose between large stuffed animals, a CD player, backpacks, OSU and U of O chairs, reading lamps, pillows, bean bag chair and a multitude of others including lots and lots of books.

"Every year a parent will walk up to me on the street and say, 'I can't believe how much the kids are reading. The TV is rarely turned on and we're talking about books,'" said Jannie Allen, coordinator of the event.

Fair Board ready to begin dorm project



Pam Wunderlich (left), vice-president of the Morrow County Livestock Growers, presented Kelwayne Haguewood, chairman of the Fair Board with a check for $2500 for the dorm project.

BEO branch manager Sharon Harrison (left) presents Morrow County Fair Board member Lori Seitz with a check for $5000 for the dorm project.

The Morrow County Fair Board's dormitory/ community building project is now set to begin in Heppner, after the final donations from Bank of Eastern Oregon of $5000 and Morrow County Livestock Growers of $2500. The Fair Board has reached and exceeded its goal of raising $36,700 and is ready to contact the Ford Family Foundation for the matching grant, said Fair Board Chairman Kelwayne Haguewood.

Other recent donations that helped to bring the Board to its total came from the 4-H Leaders' Council ($1000) and Wilkinson Ranches, LLC ($500).

The new building will be located on the Morrow County Fairgrounds and serve as a dormitory for the 4-H and as a community building, for use as a locker room and "Snack Shack" during football games and to house public restrooms and pay showers.

The building which will be 74 feet 2 inches by 25 feet is set to be completed by the middle of August for the Morrow County Fair. Bid openings for the drawing of the plans and construction will begin soon, added Haguewood.

TV raffle winner announced

Doris Brosnan (left) with the FARM Foundation congratulates raffle winner Gladys Alderman of Heppner. The FARM Foundation raffled a 32-inch color TV donated by Cliff Green of Heppner Hardware to raise funds for completion of the Ag Museum Mural Project.

Girl Scout Cookie Sale begins

It's Girl Scout cookie time again. Soon, Girl Scouts in your community will be offering America's favorite cookies for sale as part of their major fund raising event.

Girls will begin taking orders beginning Feb. 1 from friends, family and door-to-door. Cookies may also be purchased on weekends between March 26 and April 17 from Girl Scout booths.

Filing deadline approaching for district elections

On May 17, 2005 an election will be held for the purpose of electing board members to fill the positions and terms for the following Morrow County districts.

All candidates for these positions are required to file a Filing of Candidacy for Special District Nomination form, with the Morrow County Clerk by March 17, 2005. Petitions may be picked up at the Morrow County Clerk's Office or by going to the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.state.or.us and following the following links- Election Division, Manuals and Forms, and then District Election Manual. Use forms SEL 190 and SEL 191. Include SEL 220 if you are filing a Statement of Organization.

A $10 filing fee or 25 signatures of eligible Morrow County voters are required.

The clerk can be reached at: Morrow County Clerk, P.O. Box 338, 100 S. Court Street, Heppner, OR 97836 or by phone at (541) 676-5601.

The positions open are as follows:

Heppner Rural Fire Protection District: Director at large- four year term; Director at large- four year term; Director at large- four year term; and Director at large- two year term;

Heppner Cemetery Maintenance District: Director at large- four year term; Director at large- four year term; and Director at large- two year term;

Heppner Community Education Committee: Position 1- four year term; Position 2- four year term; Position 3- two year term; Position 4- four year term; Position 5- two year term; and Position 6- two year term;

Heppner Water Control District: Director at large- four year term and Director at large- four year term;

Ione Rural Fire Protection District: Director at large- four year term; Director at large- four year term; and Director at large- four year term;

Ione Lexington Cemetery District: Director at large- four year term;

Ione School District: Position 3- four year term; Position 4- four year term; and Position 5- four year term;

Boardman Rural Fire Protection District: Director at large- four year term; Director at large- four year term; and Director at large- four year term;

Boardman Cemetery District: Director at large- four year and Director at large- four year;

Boardman Park & Recreation District: Director at large- four year

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Super Bowl fans miss part of game

Fans of the Super Bowl in Heppner may have missed part of the game Sunday if they were watching through Heppner TV's cable service. Heppner TV receives its programming from Fox 12, which translates out of The Dalles, and due to a loss of satellite feed on Fox 12's end, Heppner TV lost its reception part way through the game along with any other providers receiving programming through the Fox 12 translator, said Tom Rawlins, Heppner TV's technician.

Rawlins also said that the problem had nothing to due to Heppner TV's equipment. Fox 12 was also off again yesterday morning. Fox 12 is working on the problem, added Rawlins.

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through the month of February
Morrow County Grain Growers
Lexington 989-8221 • 1-800-452-7396 For farm equipment, visit our web site at www.mcgg.net