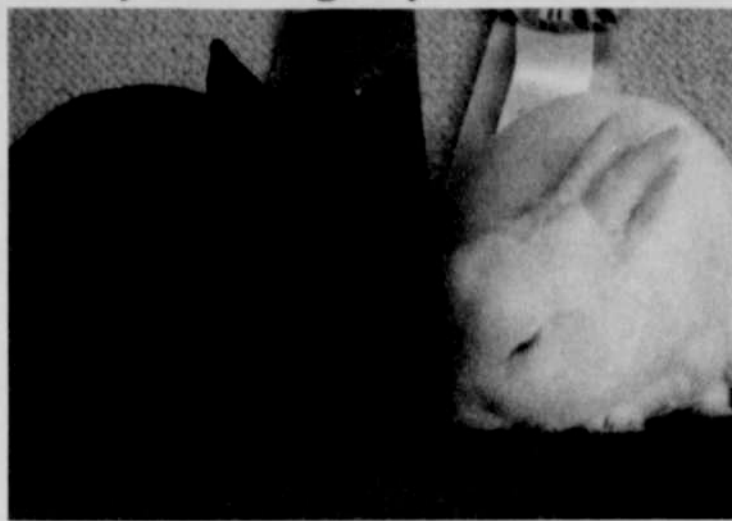


Bunny Barn begins year with wins



KT'S Tarot and KT'S Powder

Kathy Tellechea and Pam Renfro, co-owners of KT'S Bunny Barn in Lexington started the year out on a winning note. With over 250 Mini Rexes entered, KT'S Veranique, a Broken Black junior doe was picked Best of Breed in Show A at the Frozen Friends Rabbit Show in St. Helens on Jan. 29, 2005. In Show B, KT'S Tarot, a senior Black doe and KT'S Powder, a senior White buck were picked Best of Breed and Best Opposite of Breed (in other words, the best Mini Rex doe and buck in the show). KT'S Tarot won Best Fur in each of the shows. Tellechea and Renfro entered 25 rabbits with all 25 placing in fourth place or better in each of the shows.

Tellechea and Renfro ended 2004 with winning the Mini Rex

Fanciers of the Greater Northwest Sweepstakes for the second year in a row. Those awards will be given out in Yakima, WA in April. They also won the Washington State Open Sweepstakes and Fur Award (among all breeds of rabbits) and those will be presented in June at the Washington State Rabbit Convention in Ellensburg. They took third place in Open Sweepstakes and first in Fur for 2004 in the State of Oregon among all breeds of rabbits and will be presented awards in June at the Oregon State Rabbit Convention in Newport. Points are still being calculated at this time for the National Mini Rex Awards to be given out in Belton, TX on April 2.

The next shows on their schedule are Victoria, BC on Feb. 19-20 and Nampa, ID on Feb. 26.

Morrow County Gun Club news

On Sunday, Feb. 13, a cold and windy afternoon, 19 shooters toed the line at Morrow County Gun Club.

In singles (16 yards), Dennis Peck, Rob Ashbeck and Harvey Childers tied at 23 out of 25 hits. Gene Harris followed with 21 hits and Kelwayne Haguewood scored 20. In other categories, Deona Hodges was high lady with 15 out of 25 hits, Joey Whalen, in juniors, hit 13 and Taylor Hodges, in sub-juniors, hit 15 out of 25 shots.

In handicap (20 yards), Peck took first with 22 out of 25 shots, with Roger Mortimer and Jeff Cutsforth coming in second with a tie of 20 hits each. Ashbeck and Childers rounded out the pack with 19 out of 25 hits. Deona Hodges was again high lady with 14 out of 25 hits, Whalen, juniors, with nine and Taylor Hodges, sub-

juniors, with 17 out of 25 hits.

Annie were then shot, with Peck winning two and Childers winning one.

League shooting in the third week is a real horse race. Team Schlichting and Peck is on top with 294 out of 300. Teams Crum and Crum and Ashbeck and Childers tied for second with a score of 286. Teams Mortimer and Cutsforth and Munkers and Haguewood, followed with 283 and 282 respectively.

The next shoot will be held Feb. 20 at 12 p.m.

Rust named to LCSC Dean's List

Brooke Rust, a 2004 graduate Heppner High School, was named to the fall semester Dean's List at Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, ID. To be named to the list, a student must carry a minimum of 12 credits and earn a grade point average of at least 3.25.

Rust is the daughter of Tim and Shannon Rust of Echo.

Heppner and Ione students chosen for Shrine game



Nick Christman Brandon Seitz Tyler Boyer

The selection of players and alternates for the 2005 Oregon Shrine East-West All-Star game was held Saturday, Jan. 29 in Prineville. The game will be held on Saturday, Aug. 6 in Baker City.

Tyler Boyer, a senior at Heppner High School, was chosen to play on the East team. Brandon Seitz, also a HHS senior, was chosen to East alternate team, along with Nick Christman, an Ione High School senior.

Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Exec. Dir.

The Chamber is missing a familiar face that was seen about town and in the Chamber office filling brochure racks, delivering information, answering messages, making labels, processing information, creating brochures and numerous other odd jobs. Tonia Adams is now working for the Morrow County Health District and believe me, she is missed. We're happy that she found a job in the accounting field she was looking for and we appreciated her while she was here.

If anyone out there is interested in filling her shoes at the Heppner Chamber of Commerce, send in a resume to P.O. Box 1232. Tell us about your computer background, your love of Heppner, your ability to organize and other work experience. It's an adventure where you meet many great personalities and do a variety of tasks.

Calls are coming into the Chamber with people eager to visit for the St. Pat's weekend, March 17-20. Those of you groaning at the thought, pat yourselves on the back because you are creating fun for visitors as others have done for you when you travel to events. Paint your snowshoes green and get with the program. I mean really, what are the chances that we can have the weather we had in January again? Well, maybe. Car clubs are eager to come this way. A couple was in from the Tri-Cities this past week that had never been to Heppner. They were so amazed and plan to bring friends and cars back for our celebration and return again in the summer. It makes good sense to market Heppner to the Tri-Cities. We are yet to be discovered, if not during the Irish festivities, then anytime. If we can travel 70 miles up there, then they should leave the rat race and travel 70 miles this direction. Share your marketing ideas.

This week at the Chamber of Commerce weekly luncheon, Cornerstone Gallery will be the featured Third Thursday business. Stop by and check them out on the way down the street. It's a good place to warm up while you shop and have a drink. Alvin Liu has some enthusiastic ideas for growing Heppner business.

Thought for the Week: "One person may not be able to change the world, but one person may be able to change the world for someone." -D. Bates

St. Patrick's Senior Center news

Hope/Valby Parish members are volunteers for the Senior Center meal on Feb. 23. The menu planned for the day is pizza, corn, carrot sticks, fruity jell-o and cherry cobbler.

Plans are underway for the St. Patrick's Day weekend celebrations. Saturday morning breakfast is one of the activities the Senior Center sponsors as a money-making activity.

Twenty-one people made the bus trip to Ukiah last week and had lunch in the new center. The Ukiah Center is located on the hill, one block off Main Street. The group from Heppner nearly doubled the number of people they served that day. Windows on two sides of the building allow for a view of the town and the countryside.

The group traveled a scenic route. The 200-mile round trip took them on stretches of two creek valley and their hay fields, stacks, herds of cows and their little calves; miles through the grassy foothills and the edges of timber near the mountains; small towns, the city, croplands and the wetlands of lower Butter Creek where Canadian geese were resting. The travelers had a view of vast wheat fields and irrigated plots. The drive was a scan of the variety of agricultural enterprises and farmsteads in western Umatilla and Morrow counties. A ride where every field tells its own story of care and stewardship of the land. Passengers were able to reminisce about familiar places. This trip was much more than simply "going out for lunch."

Former Heppner student selected to tour Europe



Kelly Straley

Touring Europe is a dream for many people. It will be a reality this summer for former Heppner student, Kelly Straley. Now a senior at Bandon High School in Bandon, OR, Straley has been invited to join the Oregon Ambassadors of Music for their 2005 tour. Leaving Portland on July 3, the Ambassadors will fly to London to begin a 15-day, seven-country concert tour.

Since 1995, more than 70 students a year have represented Oregon as Ambassadors of Music. These select young musicians from throughout the state were recommended by their music teachers based on musical and leadership ability.

These recommendations are also based on the character of the student as being outstanding representatives of Oregon and United States. Straley will be one of 137 students this year. She will perform as

a soprano in the concert choir and play her flute with the concert band.

Straley was recommended by Bandon High School Choir teacher, John Harding. Harding said, "She works very independently, has a good character and works hard." Straley wants to study music following graduation. She intends to begin at Southwestern Community College in Coos Bay. Then will seek an advanced music degree and teaching certificate from a four-year college. "I haven't decided which one yet," said Straley.

Straley began her love and study of music in Heppner. She started at piano taught by Carley Drake at the age of five. In the fifth grade, she switched to flute and studied with Kari Keown. In addition to Heppner School bands, she also played with the Willow Creek Symphony.

The Straley family moved from Heppner to Bandon in 2001, where Straley has continued her study and enthusiasm for music. At Bandon High School, she has been selected as a member of the exclusive BHS Swing Choir and represented the school in the District Honor Choir. She also plays in the high school concert band, marching band, pep band, and jazz band. Last March, she was chosen as first alternate flute for the state solo competition. In the spring of 2004, Straley was invited to sing at Music in May located at Pacific University in Forest Grove. Last summer, she played flute in the orchestra for the Bandon Playhouse production of Camelot. She also sings and plays for Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Bandon.

"I just get more and more excited, it's really starting to happen," Straley said of her upcoming trip. Fund raising has been the focus for the Straleys' throughout this entire year. Each student enrolled in the tour has to raise almost \$4,000. Straley has received donations from businesses and individuals including the Heppner Elks Lodge. She continues to work hard to raise funds for the trip. "This is a once in lifetime opportunity, I have to do it," says Straley.

Free Colorado blue spruce trees

Ten free Colorado blue spruce trees will be given to each person who joins the National Arbor Day Foundation during February 2005.

The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

Colorado blue spruces have silver blue-green color and a compact conical shape. They can be used as individual ornamentals, an energy-saving windbreak, a privacy screen, or as living Christmas trees.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between March 1 and May 31 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow, or they will be replaced free of charge.

To become a member of the Foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to Ten Free Colorado Blue Spruce Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by Feb. 28, 2005. Or go online to www.arborday.org.

LOCAL BARBECUE EXPERT
Lott's Electric
 369 N. Main St.
 Heppner
 (541) 676-5811

Real Estate
 By DAVID SYKES
 REALTOR

SHOULD YOU ACCEPT FIRST OFFER?

Many people who sell a house encounter the "first offer" dilemma. It can involve a trying decision. Sellers often turn it down, hoping for something better, only to find it turned out to be the best offer they received.

This is where the advice of a real estate agent can be particularly helpful. The agent can tell you how realistic the offer is and whether the deposit that accompanies it represents good faith.

Since there is no way to know how many offers will be received or the order of value, the offer should be judged on

the seller's and agent's knowledge of the house in question and the market. The depth of that knowledge will help protect the seller against the natural reluctance to accept the first offer and against regretting a decision that was not based on sound judgment. Remember, most good offers come early in the selling game. If it's a fair one, why pass it up?

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