

HEPPNER

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Heppner Mustang girls head to state competition

The Heppner Mustang girls' basketball team, who finished third in the District 7 2A basketball tournament, will play at Oakridge on Wednesday, Feb. 23 in the first round of the US Bank/Les Schwab Tire/OSAA Class 2A state basketball tournament.

If the girls win on Wednesday, they will need another win on Saturday, Feb. 26 to advance to the final eight in Pendleton on March 2-5.

Cardinal boys and girls head to state

Both the Lone Cardinals' boys' team and the girls' team will be playing in the 1A state playoffs. Both teams will host games at Lone this coming weekend.

The boys will play on Friday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. against Country Christian from Molalla. The winner of the game will advance to Baker City, while the loser will be out.

The girls will play on Saturday, Feb. 26 at 5 p.m. against Powder Valley from North Powder. The winner will advance to Baker City, with the loser out.

Baseball clinic to be held

The Spring Break HHS Baseball Clinic will be held March 23-24, from 4-6 p.m., at the Heppner High School baseball field. The clinic is open to children ages 9-13 and will be conducted by HHS baseball coaches and players.

Participants will receive instruction in hitting, bunting and fielding. There will also be pitcher and catcher instruction.

There is a \$15 entry fee per person, which also includes a Heppner Mustang baseball shirt. Entry fee help is available. Participants need to sign-up by March 10 at Heppner TV or by calling Rick Johnston at 676-5562.

Ione man dies of self-inflicted gunshot wound

An Ione man, identified as Joe Key, 67, died as a result of a self-inflicted gunshot wound on Friday, Feb. 18.

Morrow County Sheriff's Office received a report of the incident at 3:20 p.m. Upon deputy arrival and medical examiner investigation, Key was pronounced dead at the scene at 3:31 p.m., according Morrow County Sheriff Ken Matlack.

Martin returns to Iraq

Chief Warrant Officer John Martin, son of Carl and Geri Martin of Heppner, a member of the US Marine Corps, has been sent on his third tour of duty to Iraq with his unit from Yuma, AZ.

For those wishing to send cards to Martin, his address is: CWO John Martin USMC, MWSS 371 HQ UT Unit 43041, FPO AP 96426-3041.

School superintendent proposes district reorganization

Morrow County School Superintendent Mark Burrows, at the district's regular meeting rescheduled for Feb. 15, proposed a far-reaching reorganization of the district by reinstating the district's assistant superintendent position and eliminating the maintenance director's position, currently held by Howard Sheets.

Burrows told the board that his extensive workload does not permit him to accomplish all he would like to do and said that hiring an assistant superintendent would help him accomplish the goals the board has set, but would not result in an increase of the administrative budget.

Instead of retaining a maintenance director, Burrows proposed that the district hire three facilities coordinators, one for Boardman, one for Irrigon and one for Heppner-Lexington, which he believes would be more effective. The board approved the first readings of job descriptions for an assistant superintendent and a facilities coordinator.

Burrows also announced that two assistant principals will retire on June 30, Mike Stuart at Riverside High School and Bill DeBoard at Irrigon.

In other business, the board:

-heard a brief report from board member Barney Lindsay, who traveled to Salem Feb. 14 (the reason for rescheduling the regular meeting) to speak with state legislators concerning school funding and developing a rapport between the legislators and eastern Oregon concerns. Board Chair John Renfro said that the board wants to be apprised of what's going on in Salem and would like to make the legislators aware of the concerns of the "hinterlands."

-discussed the future of education service districts, which could be reduced by the state from 20 currently to as few as eight. Currently the Morrow-Umatilla ESD serves the Morrow County School District. The board agreed to proceed for now as if no changes had been discussed.

-heard a report from Rhonda Lorenz, MCSD deputy clerk, concerning refinancing the district's bonds, which could save the district as much as \$750,000 over a 23-year period. Lorenz told the board that it may be possible to refinance the bonds from the current five percent interest rate to

around 3.7 percent, which would result in large savings for the district. She said she would know more later about the possibility of the change.

-learned from Burrows that the district roofing projects are moving along with the A.C. Houghton Elementary School project around 95 percent completed, the Riverside High School project half completed, the Heppner Elementary project around one third completed and the Heppner High School project scheduled to begin around Feb. 21.

-learned about a state bill which would change high school graduation requirements. The board also discussed changing diplomas district-wide with the possibility of having a basic, a standard and an honors diploma, depending on credits achieved. Board member Ken Matlack questioned whether having an advanced diploma would help a student get into college. Burrows responded that some colleges require more math, which would be required under an advanced diploma.

-learned that alternative education student numbers are up, since the

A view from the hill



Ione K-4th grade students from Mrs. Stone's class perform for the residents.

By Doris Brosnan

Residents of Willow Creek Terrace view the volunteers and frequent visitors to their home as members of their extended family. Tuesdays' pinochle games would not be the same without Joe Burleson and Arnie Appleton and can anyone call Bingo on Mondays like Duane Jones of the Nazarene Church? Each Thursday reading of the local paper, the Heppner Gazette Times, is eagerly anticipated, whether read by Suzanne Jepsen, Melissa Monaco or Sherron Woodside. Also Mary Ann Elguezabal, of St. Patrick's parish, can be counted on to bring a friend on Fridays for some type of parlor game. The Sentimentalists, Peg Willis and her fiddle students, and the Old-Time Fiddlers keep memories alive and toes tapping. Eve Ironhawk, Al Riney, Jim and Monica Swanson and Bob DeSpain also frequently visit and contribute to the daily pleasures at the Terrace.

A look at some of the pleasures experienced in February: Residents made Valentines for one another, staff and volunteers. On that special day, Ione students

from grades kindergarten through fourth and the high school choir, under the direction of Mrs. Michelle Stone, shared love songs and hand-made Valentines with the residents. Some of those students are great-grandchildren of residents Melba Quackenbush, Irene Swanson, Nina Harshman and Eva Griffith. The staff made Valentine's cookies to share with the visitors. On Feb. 8, the local Book Worms group held its monthly meeting at the Terrace, the same day that several residents attended the All Saints Shrove Tuesday pancake supper.

Two birthdays will see out the month of February at the Terrace. Kathleen Hisler celebrated her 97th birthday on the Feb. 21. Melba Quackenbush will celebrate being 95 on the Feb. 28.

Hisler was born to Frank and Marie Monahan near Condon, on Rock Creek. She was the oldest of a family of three girls and

one boy. At age 5, Hisler moved with her family to Heppner. "I played in the middle of the dam," she likes to jest, for the family moved to a ranch located where the Willow Creek Dam now sits.

Hisler attended St. Joseph Academy in Pendleton, from which she graduated in 1927. The boarding school received many students from busy ranch families whose children would otherwise have needed to be transported many miles daily to public schools.

A year after graduation, she married Paul Hisler, a local boy. The couple lived most of their 72 years together on Little Butter Creek, where they raised two daughters and a son. Hisler spent her days as wife and mother meeting the demands typical of the cattle and farming industry. Today, she can be counted on by family, friends and curious visitors to remember the names and events that have created the history of this

area during her lifetime. Often, when locals are discussing the past and not certain of details, someone will say, "Go ask Kathleen. She will know."

Daughters, Joan and Francine, and son, Paul, told Hisler to expect them for an intimate family celebration on the Feb. 21.

Melba Quackenbush will celebrate one week later. She was one of eight children born to Matt and Grace Hughes and she also had three older half-siblings, so the home at Madison Butte was a full and busy one. The family had moved there from Portland, where Quackenbush was born, and she attended the Madison Butte School.

After graduation, Quackenbush worked in the Heppner telephone office. She married Roy Quackenbush when she was 20, and the couple had one child, Phyllis.

The Quackenbushes owned a grocery store in Heppner and Melba enjoyed

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