

The Official Newspaper
of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

**Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES**

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Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Exec. Director

"Head for the hills of Heppner." That seems to be the current travel motivation as traffic continues to come this direction in a steady stream. I often wonder, is it really about the hunt? We are Oregon's hunt country, but let's think about what visitors are hunting. Don't you believe that, rather than the deer, or in addition to the deer, they are "hunting clear blue skies, crisp air, photo opportunities, hiking adventure, starry skies, travel on a variety of two-wheel and four-wheel modes of transportation, an opportunity to rough it, as well as small town ambiance?"

For many years some of us have been a part of Eastern Oregon Visitor Association, which encompasses nine to eleven counties. Dedication to this partnership and driving hundreds of miles has resulted in both putting Morrow County on the map in a number of positive ways and opening up some excellent marketing opportunities. During the past couple of years we became a region within EOVA and began to focus more on projects with Umatilla County. One such successful endeavor has been The Bite of Oregon.

The two counties have decided to move on as a new region ...Oregon's Rugged Country. Other adjoining counties will be welcome to join as we promote the unique qualities of this rugged country.

Rugged you might wonder. For sure. This area has rugged ranchers and farmers, rugged business people, rugged hills and trails, a rugged history, rugged scenic byways, rugged survival skills, rugged rimrock, and rugged ideas for the future. The going is not always smooth and easy, which makes it all the more exciting to be here. It takes rugged individuals to visit and stay. We value wide-open rugged spaces.

Soon the Morrow County Tourism Committee meetings will be re-activated. Persons interested in marketing Morrow County in Oregon's Rugged Country are invited to share their ideas for improving the economy of our area by growing tourism in Heppner and countywide. It's exciting, it's fun, and we invite you to the table. If your business stands to grow from visitors, then we want to hear from you. Growing business is what Chamber is in business to do.

Thought for the week: "I have just as much right to be wrong as I do to be right!" (But, we'd all like to be right.)

Obituaries

Sylvia E. Crenshaw

Mrs. Sylvia Crenshaw, 88, of Hermiston, Oregon, formerly of Scio, died Thursday, October 6, 2005, at Hermiston.

Funeral service was held Monday, October 10, at Fisher Funeral Home in Albany. Burial was at the Franklin Butte Cemetery in Scio.

She was born March 18, 1917, at Corvallis, Oregon, the daughter of Frank and Eunice Shimanek Bartu. She was raised and attended school at Scio.

On August 4, 1935, she married C.W. Crenshaw at Scio. The couple lived at Lebanon and West Fir before settling at Scio where they lived for over 50 years. She enjoyed working on their family farm. The couple moved to Hermiston in 2001.

Mrs. Crenshaw enjoyed music, genealogy, and spending time with her family.

Survivors include her husband, C.W. Crenshaw of Hermiston; son Larry Crenshaw and his wife Ruth of Scio; daughters Kathy Morgan of Scio, and Sue Proudfoot and husband Paul of Ione, grandchildren, Bruce Crenshaw, Marcy Crenshaw, Deanna Classen, Steve Buell, Laurie Wiebel, Jason Proudfoot, Megan Proudfoot-Adams, and several great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister Audrey.

Memorial contributions for those who wish may be made to the Scio Historical Society.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner and Fisher Funeral Home of Albany are in charge of arrangements.

Garry Tullis

Gary Tullis, Hermiston, died on October 5, 2005, at the Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston, Oregon at the age of 85 years.

Mr. Tullis was born on November 18, 1919, in Pendleton, Oregon. He was a longtime farmer in Ione, Oregon until recently moving to Hermiston.

He dearly loved farming and spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren: Ryon, Til and Cydney Tullis.

He is survived by his wife, Birdine Tullis; sons, Tim and Mark Tullis; brothers, Tom and John Tullis; and sister, Charlotte Roberts.

A private family service will be held.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.

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Heppner Gazette-Times 676-9228

Teachers stress value of FFA for youth

Condon FFA teacher Erin Heideman, along with FFA teachers from Hermiston High School, made a presentation to the Morrow County School Board at their regular meeting at Riverside High School Monday night, stressing the value of the FFA program for youth. The MCSD is investigating the possibility of a program at Heppner High School. A program is already in existence at the new Irrigon High School.

Heideman and the other teachers said that the FFA program incorporates math, computer skills, public speaking, public relations, marketing, advertising and numerous other skills that are a necessity in today's world. They stressed that the program is no longer limited to raising animals to market, but is nearly unlimited in its focus. They also emphasized that the program gives students the skills that create self-confidence and lead to success in college and in the work place. Another benefit, they said, is the large number of scholarships available for FFA students.

Schools must have a vo-ag program in place to be able to implement a FFA program.

The board also heard a presentation from assistant superintendent Wade Smith who reported on DART (District Assessment Resource Team) training pertaining to the statewide testing. Smith emphasized that Morrow County "Teachers are not teaching to tests, but rather teaching to standards." He outlined a plan to "get a buy-in for kids" by creating a testing environment which is amenable to improving the student's scores.

English Language Learner director Joel Chavez discussed increasing Hispanic children's participation in organized athletic activities. He said that the district is encouraging children to get a competitive edge at a young age, to increase participation and success in those activities in later school years. He said that a growing number of Hispanic children are participating in athletic programs.

Smith and Superintendent Mark Burrows reported that the district could expect good school report cards, which will be released by the state soon. They said that Heppner Elementary School received a strong rating, Heppner High School, satisfactory, A.C. Houghton Elementary in Irrigon, strong, and Sam Boardman Elementary School, strong, Riverside High School and Windy River Elementary in Boardman, and Irrigon High School and Irrigon Elementary were exempt from the rating because they were either new schools or

had undergone a transition. The administration stressed that once a school achieves a high rating, "it's tough to maintain improvement."

Burrows also outlined a new format for the district's financial report, which, he says, should be easier to read.

In other business, the board:

- Revised the district's policy on recognition of religious beliefs and customs. They eliminated the phrase, "The several holidays throughout the year which have a religious and secular basis should be observed in the public schools." Also eliminated, concerning the use of religious symbols permitted as teaching aids and temporary in nature, were the phrases, "such as a cross, Menorah, crescent, Star of David, crèche, symbols of Native American religions or other symbols," and "These holidays include Christmas, Easter, Passover, Hanukkah and Thanksgiving." Burrows said that the district didn't want to exclude other religions and religious symbols. He said the district needed to update the policy, adding, "We are clearly behind."

- Changed the district's policy on home-schooled students. Previously the policy had been, "The Board reaffirms its prerogative not to accept home instruction course credit toward graduation requirements." The policy was changed to read, "The Board reaffirms its prerogative to evaluate for credit and grade marking before accepting home instruction course credit toward graduation requirements." Also added was a section concerning applicable fees for home-schooled students concerning participation in interscholastic activities.

- Eliminated the phrase "because of erratic attendance or behavioral problems" with respect to the district's alternative education program. Burrows said the district didn't want to label students who attend alternative school for a variety of reasons.

- Changed the policy for students with disabilities concerning eligibility with respect to age. Instead of "Students ages kindergarten through 21", the new policy will read, "Students age kindergarten through students who have not had their 22nd birthday on or before the first day of school for students."

- Concerning senior trips/post graduation parties eliminated the phrase, "While fund raising and the "parties" themselves will be separate from the school and not considered a school sponsored activity, the school will help facilitate and communicate their organization." The policy already says, "The district does not promote or sanction senior trips. Any student-parent group proposing such a trip will be advised that both the fund raising and the trip itself will be separate from the school and will not be considered as a school activity. The district supports the practice of student-parent organization of alcohol/drug free post-graduation parties for seniors."

With the revision, groups seeking to use

classrooms or other school facilities to plan senior trips or for fund raising for those trips must apply for a facility use permit, just as any other group. However, principals said they would probably go ahead and allow information concerning those trips or fund raising activities to continue to be distributed at the school.

- Updated and revised policy concerning CIM standards, alternative instruction programs, curriculum supervision and curriculum development.

- Rescinded current policy concerning early return to work and adopted a new policy.

- Adopted policy concerning the sale and rental of equipment to students.

- Approved a request for a sabbatical for half-time teacher Lea Mathieu.

- Heard a Wellness Policy Report from Linda Kenny and approved a recommendation to appoint a Wellness Policy Task Force.

- Accepted resignation from Judy Daniels, Irrigon Junior High School head track coach.

- Approved employment for: Theresa Rushing, Heppner High School assistant cook; Sarah Anne Kendrick, A.C. Houghton Elementary part-time ed assistant; Lance Eads, an addition two hours at Heppner Elementary for art instruction on temporary contract to be paid for by Heppner Adopt-A-Teacher.

- Approved a transfer for Virginia Garcia from Irrigon Elementary School English as a Second Language Ed assistant to Windy River Elementary ESL Ed assistant, replacing Beck Sanchez.

- Approved extra duty contracts for: Kevin Gilbertson, Riverside High School assistant boys' basketball coach; Jim Doherty, RHS head girls' basketball coach; Kathie Goad, fall and spring drama advisor; Rick Drake, fall and spring drama advisor; Carol Johnson, RHS assistant girls' basketball coach; and Marianne Smith, Heppner High School head track coach.

- Approved a resolution concerning the election of Oregon School Board Association officers and directors.

- Approved attendance variances for several students.

- Appointed Candy Green and Archie Padberg to Heppner Community Education Committee positions.

- Held two executive sessions concerning personnel.

- Heard the following announcements: Heppner CEC meeting, October 17, HHS, 7 p.m.; Boardman CEC meeting, October 18, SBE, 7 p.m.; Irrigon CEC meeting, October 19, ACH, 7 p.m.; OSBA fall regional meeting, Blue Mountain Community College, October 26, 6 p.m.; Board work session, Polycom, district office and Irrigon Elementary, October 27, 7 p.m. (this meeting is open to the public); End of first nine weeks, October 27; Veteran's Day holiday, November 11; OSBA annual convention, November 11-13, Portland Marriott; next board meeting, November 14, district office, 7 p.m.

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Following are people who petitioned for the recall of Jean Brazell, Lexington Council Position #4:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Kathy Tellechea | Dwyla Yocom |
| Clarence Haynes | Kay Alldritt |
| Janice Clark | E.O. Williams |
| Darwin Nicklas | Lori McCabe |
| John Renfro | David Williams |
| Grace Baker | Joe Yocom |
| Elaine Miller | Marcia Kemp |
| Edward Baker | George Seiler |
| Robert Reaney | Myrna Sieler |
| Morris McCarl | Dorothy O'dell |
| Pamela Renfro | John Edwards |
| Jennifer Peck | Dorothy Edwards |
| Gary Kemp | Gary Lent |
| Kelly Boyer | Luella Taylor |
| Clarence Buchanan | |

Ad paid for by Betty Christman



The Rumors Are True!
DEBBIE MORGAN IS TURNING 50!
Yes folks, she may not look it, but it's happening!
Please join us for an informal gathering to celebrate her ride over the hill:
Sunday, October 16 from 2 p.m. until ???
at Taylor's Lounge in Ione
Appetizers and cake will be provided
All are welcome, so bring the family!
No gifts please... just your presence