

HHS holds annual Veteran's Day Celebration



By Jodessa Chapa

On Thursday, November 12, Heppner High School held the annual Veteran's Day Celebration to honor all of the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces.

The morning began with veterans paying visits to classrooms where they shared their experiences and students asked questions. In each room there were two to three veterans. Many veterans participated in the informal "interviews."

In one classroom were George Griffith and David McCurry. Griffith served in Iwo Jima. He spoke with great emotion, telling us that "(Iwo Jima) was where creation ended." McCurry joined the National Guard in 1990 and he is still on active duty. McCurry served in Bosnia in 2000 and in Afghanistan in 2006-07. He is currently awaiting deployment to Afghanistan again. McCurry spoke about the drug war in Afghanistan and of the very different cultures of Bosnia and Afghanistan.

After an hour of question and answer, the veterans, HHS student body, and faculty headed into the gym for the ceremony.

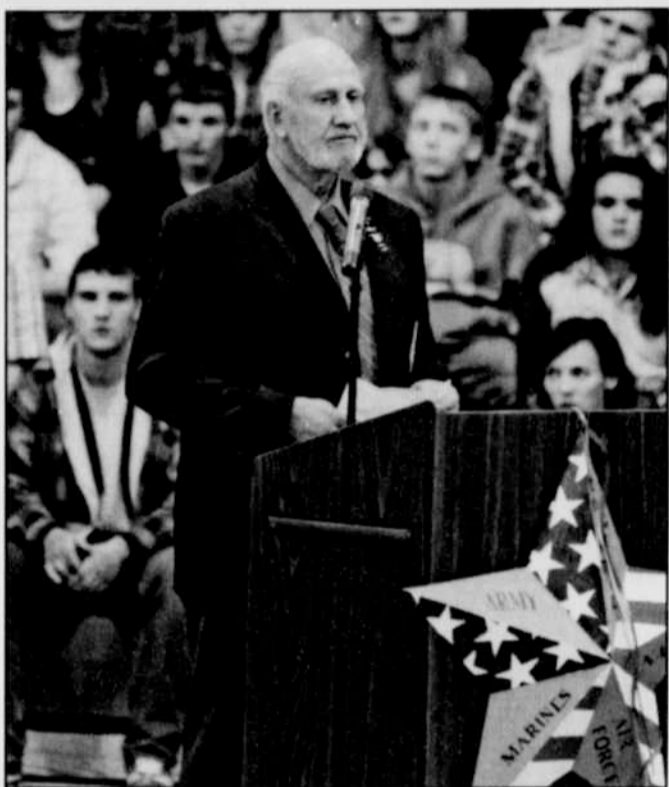
While people seat-

HHS Drama Club Receives Donation

On Nov. 6, 2009, the United Methodist Women held their annual holiday bazaar and luncheon. Along with the bazaar and luncheon, the UMW has added a raffle for the past five years to earn money to donate to local organizations.

Last year the money was split between the St. Patrick's Senior Center and the South Morrow County Neighborhood Center. This year, the UMW decided to donate the raffle money to the Heppner High School Drama Club so that they could continue producing two plays this year since their budget has been cut in half this year.

This year two quilts were donated for the raffle. Phyllis Piper made one quilt, and the late Beth Bryant made the other, which Jo Meligan finished. Both the UMW members and the Heppner High School Drama Club members sold raffle tickets with the drawing for the quilts being held at noon on November 6 at



Top Photo: Area veterans were honored at Heppner High School's annual Veteran's Day Celebration program. Bottom Photo: John "Jumper" Bitters was the guest speaker for the Veteran's Day program. -Photos by Sandy Matthews

ed themselves, the HHS band played a selection of patriotic songs. The entrance of the color guard was followed by the singing of the National Anthem by the HHS choir.

The ceremony continued with a slide show and a speech given by John "Jumper" Bitters. After his speech came the memorial to the veterans we have lost

and a performance of Taps by Drew Johnson and Jordan Hatfield. The ceremony concluded with a group picture and a lunch provided for the veterans and their families.

When asked how she felt about the Veteran's Day ceremony, Jodi Chapa replied, "It's very nice to be recognized by the community for our service."



Heppner Methodist Church minister Jonathan Enz presents drama club advisor Jodi Chapa and the drama club with a check for \$1,015. -Contributed Photo

the bazaar. Meg Murray won the Yo-Yo quilt and Tracy Bunch won Beth's quilt.

Along with selling raffle tickets, seven of the drama club members, Cherisse Lemmon, YoYo Chan Lok Yiu, Gabby Sanchez, Victoria Bosch, Katharine Bach, Laerke Nielsen, Daisy Victorio helped to clean up during and after the lunch. Gibson and Tresslyn McCurry and Devin and Garrett Robinson, members of the church, served the lunch.

Last Saturday at rehearsal for "It's A Wonderful Life, A Live Radio Play," the drama club's first play, Jonathan Enz, Methodist minister, presented the students with a check for \$1,015.

Performances of the Drama Club's first play will be produced on November 30, December 1 and 2. Donation for the second play can be made at the performances of the first play, or can be dropped off at Sweet Productions.

Chamber lunch meeting to host ZeaChem Inc. speaker

This week's chamber lunch meeting guest speaker will be Carrie Atiyeh, director of public af-

fairs for ZeaChem Inc. The meeting will be held on Thursday, November 19, at noon at the Senior Center.

Heppner Family Foods will be the caterer and will be serving chicken Alfredo with noodles, green salad and cookies. The cost for the meal is \$9.

Those planning to attend the lunch meetings are asked to RSVP your attendance by Wednesday so enough food can be provided.

Veterans recognized at Ione School

Led into a crowded gymnasium with American flags waving and students cheering, local military Veterans from Ione were acknowledged for exemplifying the true character of the American spirit- personal courage, love of country and devotion of duty during a special ceremony held at Ione Community School last Thursday in honor of Veteran's Day.

The event held very special meaning for several students at the school while they watched their grandparents file in amongst their classmates and neighbors. ASB President, Mikey Raible, served as master of ceremonies as students recognized community members for their military service.

The assembly was brought to order by the singing of the national anthem by sophomore, Shannon Metcalfe, followed by a Veteran's Day video dedicated to the veteran's of our nation. After a presidential address by Mikey Raible, the elementary students sang 'Grand Ole' Flag' and passed out cards. Students also had the opportunity for a tutorial on flag etiquette by Ladies Auxiliary Legion member, Maureen McElligott and assisted by eighth graders Jason Thompson and Emily Holland. The program ended with the playing of Amazing Grace



Ione School ASB officers hosted a Veteran's Day Assembly on Tuesday, November 10. Top Photo: Kindergartner Maize Hill hugs her grandpa, Paul Tewes. -Contributed Photo Bottom Photo: Students at Ione Community School sing during the Veteran's Day Program presented at the school. -Photo by Andrew Sykes

on the violin by Eric Jepsen and accompanied by his sister, Rebecca Jepsen as Veteran's were excused the walking through a throng of cheering students into a reception in the cafeteria.

"It was a tremendously moving event," said 1st grade teacher, Linda Neiffer "It brought tears to my eyes to watch the Veteran's be escorted in with such reverence."

Morrow County Court weekly meeting held

The Morrow County Court met on November 12 in Irrigon with Judge Tallman and Commission Rea in attendance. Following is a summary of the meeting provided by Leann Rea.

The court reviewed and approved accounts payable in the amount of \$195,829.92.

The court reviewed and approved the minutes of the November 4 and November 5 meetings.

The court met with individuals interested in the formation of the Communication Special District. After some discussion it was decided the two-county district should consist of five zones with elections to be decided by an "at large" vote. With any interested resident of Morrow or Umatilla Counties being eligible to run for a position on the board. A public hearing date and place will

be announced in the near future.

The court conducted the follow business: Reviewed and approved the holiday schedule for the 2010 calendar year. A list of properties that have been taken by the county for non-payment of property taxes was reviewed and declared as "surplus property". The court will have the assessor provide an appraisal of the properties. Then the court will decide upon minimum bid amounts and direct the sheriff to offer the properties at public auction.

The 2009 Certification of Taxes provided by Greg Sweek, county assessor, was reviewed. The county's assessed value is approximately \$1,326,000,000 with a real market value of approximately \$1,605,000,000. Total taxes and special assessments amount to

\$5,433,979.76.

Reviewed and approved a request from the City of Boardman to use excess "Needs & Issues" award dollars to purchase picnic tables. The original application was to fund lighting for the basketball and soccer fields. The lighting project came in under budget, so they requested the change in use.

Miscellaneous correspondences and meeting notices were reviewed. Commissioner Rea provided the court with the latest information regarding the H1N1 case numbers state wide. As of Tuesday, November 10, there have been over 1,000 individuals hospitalized with 33 deaths state wide.

Any one wishing to be placed on the list to receive county minutes can contact Karen Wolff at (541)676-5620.

HES students honored for first quarter perfect attendance

Forty students at Heppner Elementary School received a certificate for perfect attendance for the first quarter of the 2009-10 school year. The students are: Kaden Combe, Zander Fisher, Brett Jewett, ZaBrena Masterson, Roen Waite, Jackson Lehman, Marlee

Mitchell, Tyson Vawser, Suzanneah Cason, Jacob Hines, Mason Lehman, Jason Rea, Charles Cason, Madison Combe, Jacee Curran, Xavier Glover, Madison Jewett, Tina Lozano, Cason Mitchell, Jacob Owen, Leo Waite, Ethan Akers, Carson Brosnan, Tony Delay, Riley

Gorham, Kacie Gray, Kaitlyn Martin, Nichole Shaw, Naleah Stone, Reiah Waite, Sophie Grant, Payton Lehman, Michael Reed, Nalani Stone, Clyde Britt, Kaden Lehman, Josh Dowdy, Emily Pappas, Kolby Currin, and Alyssa Palacios.

Heppner Garden Club to meet

On December 7, at noon, the Heppner Garden Club will hold their regular meeting.

The program will include a light lunch followed by "An old fashioned

Christmas." Members are asked to bring a favorite Christmas poem or short story to share. Songs of the season will be sung, interspersed with the sharing of stories and poems; piano

accompaniment by Dorine Enz.

The special guests will be last year's "Yard of the Month" recipients. The program committee will be the hosts.

Heppner Chamber seeking community volunteers

The Heppner Chamber is looking for some community volun-

teers to help Heppner High School students put the lights on the downtown trees on Monday, Novem-

ber 23, starting at 3:45 p.m. Anyone who would like to help can call the chamber at 676-5536 or just show up.

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