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HEPPNER, OREGON



Rick Curtis looks at the big engine in the new ambulance while hospital administrator Bob Brynes investigates the patient compartment.

On display today

Two new ambulances arrive

Two new \$26,750 ambulances have arrived in Morrow County and they will soon be in operation.

The ambulances will be put on public display from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. today in front of Murray's Rexall Drug, according to Bob Brynes, hospital administrator.

"The ambulances will not be in service until the radios come for them," Brynes said. "There may be a delay and if it is expected to be very long we may transfer the radios from the old ambulances to the new ones."

The ambulances arrived late last week. One will go to north Morrow County and the other one will stay in Heppner at the Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

Brynes said the old ambulance, which was made possible by a donation in 1966 from Amanda Duvall, will probably be given to Lone to use for transporting patients.

The Heppner ambulance will cover from south Morrow County north to the bombing range.

"The old one (ambulance) served its purpose but the patient was constricted in the back," Brynes said.

The new ambulances have modern life-saving devices like the \$5,500 jaws-of-life extrication machine which can tear apart a car to get to a patient. They also have the mobile intensive care unit package.

Southern ambulances built the new vehicles. The ambulances are certified by an independent, nationally recognized testing laboratory to meet or exceed Federal Ambulance Specifications. Southern is a leader in ambulance manufacturing.

The two ambulances are identical. They have a 460 cubic inch engine, power steering and brakes, dual 20-gallon gas tanks, air conditioning, all steel framing, heavy undercoating, sirens, intercoms, heavy duty construction, stretchers, spine boards, oxygen systems, humidifier, masks and much, much more.

Brynes said an ambulance can only go about 10 m.p.h. over the speed limit so the speed of the ambulance is not as important as the emergency medical techniques that are used on the patient.

Some of the people who will be using the new ambulances are voluntary E.M.T.'s. Volunteers must have 81 hours of certification and 30 extra hours at level one training.

"We have 17 active volunteers who work one or two days a month," Betty Curnutt, president of the E.M.T.'s said. "Certified E.M.T.'s who don't have jobs in that area can keep active so they will be more valuable to an employer when they do get a job. The state is also more likely to recertify an E.M.T. who remains active."

"There are many industries in our area, like Kinzua and the coal fire plant, who hire E.M.T.'s," Curnutt said. Paul Sumner is the vice-president of the organization and Maxine Schmidt is the secretary. Louella Taylor is the treasurer.

Committee to choose new county judge tonight

The Morrow County Central Democratic Committee will meet tonight in the courthouse to consider candidates for the county judge vacancy left by Judge D.O. Nelson.

Committee Chairman Paul Jones said the committee decided not to release the names of any of the candidates until after one person has been decided on. The committee, after the public meeting tonight, will meet in private to decide on one person to be the new judge. The committee will contact the governor's office tomorrow morning and give them the recommendation.

Jones did admit that an sheriff's name did come up and also Jones himself has shown an interest in the position. Daniel A. Creamer, of Irrigon, has contacted the governor's office showing interest in the job. Creamer is a retired Columbia River ship captain but he has not

officially announced his candidacy yet.

"A lot of candidates have shown interest," Jones said. "I have no doubt the committee will pick out a good candidate."

Jones said a story printed in the East Oregonian newspaper was incorrect when it said the committee would pick out three candidates and give those names to the governor and let him make the choice.

"We will consider all the names and it may be difficult but we will choose only one person," Jones said. "If we didn't, it would let the governor off the hook and he could choose anyone he wanted to."

Jones said he was concerned because someone had told him Governor Vic Atiyeh was going to pick whomever he wants to no matter whom the committee chooses.

Shirley Woodrow, who is the governor's assistant, said she

had told Jones the governor would not pick the Democratic committee's choice automatically.

"We are very anxious to select someone acceptable to all the people," Woodrow said. "We are going to get as much information as possible from as many different sources as possible. Names will be considered from other citizens in the county besides the (Democratic) committee. We will evaluate his (Jones') people but the selection will not be automatic."

Woodrow said she asked Jones and the committee to consider a qualified woman for the job.

The final decision will be made when Governor Atiyeh returns from the Far East in mid-October.

"The governor does not have anyone special in mind for the job right now," Woodrow said.

In the past, according to

Woodrow, Governor Atiyeh has asked for a bar poll from lawyers in the county to get their opinions on whom he should appoint to fill judicial positions. The governor, coincidentally, has always selected the leading candidate of the bar poll.

But since the Morrow County judgeship does not require that the person be a lawyer, a bar poll will not be taken. The other judicial appointments Governor Atiyeh has made have all required that the candidates be lawyers.

Woodrow also said the judge Atiyeh selects will almost definitely be a Democrat.

"The statute is clear that the new judge must come from the same party as the departing judge," Woodrow said. "In order to make a change, there would be a court challenge so in all probability, the new judge will be a Democrat."

Farmer wants neighbors ousted for creating illegal subdivision

J.W. and Juanita Aylett said in a telephone interview with the Gazette-Times that they are unhappy with their neighbors in Boardman but unlike most situations, the Ayletts will not have to move but all of their neighbors may have to.

It all began five years ago when Arnold Bratt sold three lots he owned next to the Aylett's farm. These people then sold some of that land and more and more people moved in the area. A small residential district was built up that was illegal because the property owners did not go through the governmental channels to create a legal subdivision.

The area is zoned for farming, not residential, use. The landowners did not comply with the 1972 Morrow County Zoning Ordinance when they created this illegal subdivision in 1975. They also did not comply with the state or county subdivision laws.

The Ayletts, who own a farm next to the illegal residential area, are unhappy because their neighbors don't have legal access to their homes so they cut across the Aylett's property.

"Sure they bother me," J.W. Aylett said. "It is an illegal subdivision. They go across my property without my permission and their kids play around the high voltage area."

"I want the people removed. If I had some pigs in the city I would have to get rid of them because they are illegal."

J.W. Aylett added, that "There is no way I am going to grant access across my property for them and there can be no compromise that I know of."

In order to get the people moved, the Ayletts have filed a suit against Morrow County and they won.

The Ayletts filed a complaint with the county circuit court saying zone approvals or sign offs should not have been issued by Morrow County to permit the construction of improvement upon lots within the illegal subdivision and therefore the permits should be revoked, canceled and annulled.

Circuit Court Judge Warner S. Wasley, of La Grande, was in Heppner trial court last week and he has served to the county a peremptory writ of mandamus stating the county must revoke the permits.

Yesterday, the county court was expected to carry out the order by Judge Wasley. The only alternative would be to appeal Judge Wasley's decision and Morrow County District Attorney Dennis Doherty did not think that was going to happen. Doherty is representing Morrow County in the suit.

County Court Judge D.O. Nelson said some of the people are "innocent" and they honestly did not know they were creating an illegal subdivision while some others were not as innocent.

Nelson said, years ago some of the people asked for a "way of necessity" across the Aylett's property but it was not granted. He said he did not know if the Ayletts would grant access now.

"We need voluntary cooperation but if we don't get it, we might have to move all the people off the land," Nelson said.

District Attorney Doherty said the eight owners adjacent to the Aylett farm went around the planning commission and created some problems for the Ayletts.

"They live in a critical groundwater area and the residential area is taking water from the Aylett farm that is rightfully theirs," Doherty said.

Morrow County Planning Director Deane Seager said he is contemplating a plan of action once he finds out what the responsibilities are going to be for the Planning Commission.

"In similar cases I have been exposed to, common sense is the only way to work it out," Seager said. "We cannot remove the people. We just have to work out the differences."

Seager said his role will be as a mediator and diplomat. He said they will have to remove the illegalities of the subdivision.

"There are a lot of avenues open," Seager said. "But I don't want to give anyone false hopes or get anyone riled up. We are going to be as fair as possible to everyone."

Seager said growth in the area and laws unknown to people cause the problem. He said a course on planning should be taught at the senior level in high school so people will know laws.

He added that the law provides means to change a variance to allow such a subdivision to be legal when going through the proper channels of government but he does not know yet if that is possible in this particular case.

He said a major problem is getting legal access to the area but only the only way of access to the area is through the Aylett's property.

Hearings scheduled on title insurance rates

The Oregon Insurance Division has scheduled seven public hearings including one in Pendleton on Oct. 29 on proposed rates to be charged by title insurance companies for services to the real estate industry.

W.W. Fritz, insurance commissioner, said the title insurance companies plan to file for a rate increase. He said he would not favor an increase unless they reduce their expenses.

Fritz said the title insurance companies have been providing the real estate industry with free services costing between \$2 million and \$3 million a year.

The free services include legal deeds and descriptions, maps, tax data, zoning data, types of improvements, and other real estate sales data.

Willow Creek Dam approved by Carter

The Willow Creek Dam project has been approved by President Jimmy Carter.

The total cost of the dam is estimated at \$26 million by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Heppner High School celebrates Homecoming

Homecoming is in full swing this week at Heppner High School and the highlight of the week is the football game tomorrow night against Umatilla.

Today from 12:45 to 1:15 the women at Heppner High will show their abilities on the football field in a powderpuff game. A tug-of-war will follow from 1:15 to 1:30. A picnic at the courthouse at 6 p.m., desserts for the high school men after lunch, a faculty pep assembly and a football mother's assembly have also been scheduled for today.

Tomorrow is blue and gold day at school and there will be

neers. Carter's signature on the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill guarantees that about \$3.2 million will be available for the dam. This money is added to the \$500,000 which was

already allocated for the project this year.

Heppner Mayor Jerry Sweeney said, "This guarantees construction of the dam."

Sweeney said the Corps of Engineers will re-delineate the flood zone following construction making it possible for buildings to be located where they would not have been allowed without the dam.

Much of Heppner's residential and business district is in

a non-building area because of flooding. Even repairs and upkeep are not allowed on buildings in the flood zone.

Purchase of land and building a new city reservoir is scheduled to be the first phase of construction.

Morrow County Princess forms due soon

Morrow County has two fair and rodeo princesses and now is the time to think about trying to become one.

Any girl 16 years of age or a junior in high school is eligible to be a part of the Morrow County Royalty.

Entry forms are available at any high school in the county. Contestants will then bring the application and a parent to the West of Willow Restaurant in Heppner Oct. 9 at 8 p.m.

More information may be obtained by calling Faye Seitz at 676-5396.

Wagon Wheel Cafe robbed

Dick L. Rice, owner of the Wagon Wheel Cafe and Lounge, reported a robbery, Oct. 1.

Rice said \$584 was taken from his cafe, which is located at 624 North Main in Heppner, sometime between 2:30 a.m. and 5 a.m. Monday morning.

The Morrow County Sheriff's Department is investigating the theft.