

The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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Gazette staff shares weekly holiday feature

Starting this week and continuing through New Year's Day, the Gazette-Times staff will be sharing a special holiday feature.

Look on page 3 for this week's feature.

Tri-County Health agency recipient of HEW grant

The Tri-County Home Health Agency, a program whose "primary purpose is to provide skilled nursing and physical therapy in a home setting, and cut down on hospital and nursing costs," has received an expansion

grant from the Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare, according to local director Sheridan Tarnasky.

Tarnasky, who is the daughter of Irene Laughlin, former administrator of Pioneer Memorial Hospital, says the grant will enable expansion of services and purchase of supplies and equipment to improve patient care.

Some of the priorities specified in the grant include hiring of a registered nurse for the lone-Lexington-Heppner area, hiring of a physical therapist and purchase of centrifuges and a portable EKG (electrocardiogram) machine.

The local agency, which covers Morrow, Wheeler and Gilliam counties, has, up until now, relied entirely on patient



Sheridan Tarnasky

reimbursement for services and private donations. "Up until now," said Tarnasky,

"we've had to charge all the patients the same. With the grant we will be able to implement a sliding scale."

Tarnasky, who credits the East Central Oregon Association of Counties, her secretary, Sandy Rill, and community support for help in obtaining the grant, says the grant will expire Sept. 30, 1981. The program, however, is certified on a yearly basis and will be up for re-certification in July, 1981. Tri-County Home Health, however, has met all requirements for state and federal certification, all three years of its existence.

The program started out three years ago with the help of a grant, but, says Tarnasky, has operated entirely on its own the past two years. During its three years of

operation, the program has expanded from 33 patient visits a month in 1978, to 90 in 1979, to an average of 130 a month in 1980.

Tarnasky not only serves as program administrator for all three counties, but has also been the staff nurse for the Heppner-Lone-Lexington area. The grant would allow hiring of another RN to cover that area.

The agency presently has a nurse in Condon, Fossil, Boardman-Irrigon, Arlington and Mitchell.

"Most of our patients are home-bound," said Tarnasky, "and all of our Medicare patients are. We try to keep people in their homes, where they want to be. We try to teach people to take care of their own." Most of the agency's clients, (80 percent),

are geriatric or cancer patients, although in special circumstances agency staff visit babies and young people.

"We're trying to take up where the medical profession leaves off," she added. "Of course all of our home health care is under medical supervision."

"One of our biggest roles is teaching. It's a slow process, but it's working. It's a good program."

A joint meeting of the agency's five-member board of directors and the seven-member advisory group will be held at the agency office on Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m. The office is located behind the First National Bank in Heppner. The public is welcome to attend.

Town-wide sale marks Christmas season opening



Marge (L) and Leroy Gardner, and Andrea Campbell show some of the merchandise Christmas shoppers can find at Gardner's Mens Wear during the town-wide Christmas Opening this Saturday, Nov. 29 in Heppner.

Several activities are planned for Saturday to mark the opening of the Christmas season. Santa Claus will be in town on Saturday to take requests from the youngsters. Santa will set up his "office" between Cole's House of Fashion and Abrams & Kuhn's office starting at 2 p.m. Little ones can sit on his lap and talk to him at this time.

Also of interest for the kids will be free rides on a horse-drawn cart. Floyd Hutchinson will be next to the Heppner TV office on Main street to give rides for the youngsters on Saturday.

New physician in process of moving to Heppner

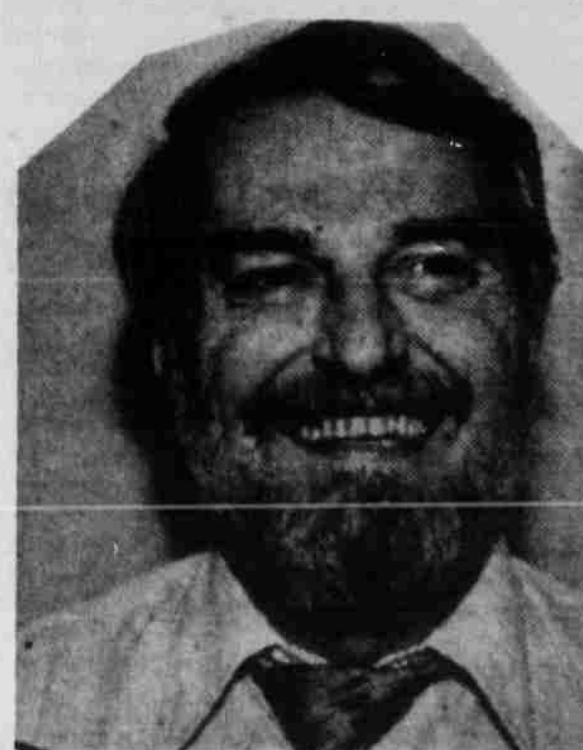
Elton J. "Tim" McCoy, a Newport physician who is planning on establishing a practice in Heppner, is expected to visit Heppner sometime this weekend before beginning a three-week course in obstetrics (maternity care, child-birth) on Monday in Portland.

McCoy, who is expected to begin practice in Heppner around the first of the year, his wife, Mary, and their 17-month old son are now in the process of moving to the area, said Pioneer Memorial Hospital Administrator A.K. "Lucky" Felt.

Dr. McCoy has made arrangements to lease space in the Pioneer Memorial Hospital, where he will practice as an independent family physician, said Felt.

McCoy won an appointment to Annapolis as a young man and served as a Naval officer. He was introduced to the Northwest when stationed at the Sand Point, Idaho, Naval base. He subsequently attained a Ph.D. at the University of Texas Medical Branch and instructed students in physiology.

In 1975 McCoy received his



Elton J. "Tim" McCoy, M.D.

degree in medicine from Temple University at Philadelphia, Penn. After a year of internship in the department of medicine at St. Vincent's Hospital in Portland, he spent 16 months in family practice training at Boise, Id.

In January 1978, McCoy opened a private family practice at Newport where their son was born. He and his wife, who has a background of teaching in secondary education, say they are looking forward to living in Heppner.

Local Navyman completes basic

Navy Engineman Fireman Recruit Evan R. Troxell, son of Robert D. Troxell of Lexington, has completed the basic engineman course.

During the course at the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill., students received instruction on the use of basic

hand tools and machine shop equipment. They studied the theory and construction of internal combustion engines,

plus the operation, maintenance and repair of small diesel engines, distilling plants, air compressors and auxiliary

boilers. The students were also introduced to the types of duty watches that enginemen stand aboard ships.

A 1979 graduate of Spray High School, Spray, Troxell joined the Navy in May, 1980.

PMH dining room has new look



The Pioneer Memorial Hospital downstairs dining and activity room has a new look--thanks to the efforts of many loyal supporters.

First of all, a beautiful bright floor has been put in the room. The hospital auxiliary funded the project with money generated by their fund-raising activities.

Another room brightener, a full wall mural, was purchased by some of the hospital employees. Some of the younger employees made up a fair booth and fair parade

float. The prize money was used to finance the mural.

To top it off, the nursing home crew, on their own time, gave the walls a new coat of paint.

The result is a nice bright attractive room for the long-term patients to enjoy.

In a hospital news release, the patients and employees at Pioneer Memorial Hospital say they "wish to take this opportunity to express their appreciation" to all who participated in the project.

Sports page 9

Senior Advisory Council meets at Irrigon; Sue Jepsen announces resignation

by Justine Weatherford

Members of the Morrow County Senior Citizen Advisory Council, staff members from the Pendleton office of the Area Agency on Aging, representatives from the three county mealsites and several guests attended the bi-monthly meeting at the Irrigon mealsite in the Irrigon Lions' Club Building on Monday afternoon, Nov. 24.

Council President, Doris Gollyhorn, Ione, presided at the meeting where various reports were presented and

considered. Sue Jepsen, director of the tri-county Home-maker Program, reported that the program was running smoothly and many are being assisted.

As she concluded her report, area director Rollin Reynolds, announced that this was Mrs. Jepsen's final report as she will leave the area staff at the end of this month. Sue has also been working with the area nutrition project, and after Dec. 1, Sue Comrie, Pendleton, will take over that responsibility as supervisor of the 18 mealsites in the five counties of the area which are

regularly inspected.

Representatives from the Irrigon, Ione and Heppner mealsites reported that each county mealsite has shown a small attendance increase. They told of special programs such as slide shows and appearances by children's groups.

A special election of a delegate and alternate to attend a March state meeting saw Sue Jepsen chosen delegate and Mary Nikander chosen alternate delegate.

Director Reynolds said a few problems may surface as new regulations are announced, such as the need for ramps at mealsites, which may be a problem for the basement site at Ione.

He introduced Nelle Shumate of the Eastern Oregon Project Independence Services for the Blind who said she is eager to locate blind or deaf-blind of any age whom she wants to help in several ways. She can be contacted through the Pendleton area office.

As the meeting concluded, it was announced that the next bi-monthly council meeting on Jan. 21 will be held at the Ione mealsite.

\$140 in gift certificates for kids' coloring contest

It's free--and kids could win a \$20, \$10 or \$5 gift certificate good at any participating Heppner business.

It's a Christmas coloring contest for area children and it begins this week. \$140 in gift certificates will be given away.

To enter, just stop by any of the stores listed below, pick up your free poster, take it home, color it and return it to any participating store by Friday, Dec. 5. One entry is allowed for each child.

The colored posters will be judged by residents of the Pioneer Memorial nursing home in Heppner. Nursing home residents will pick first, second and third place winners from each of four age groups: 3 and 4 years, 5 and 6 years, 7 and 8 years, and 9 through 12 years.

The kids' artwork will be displayed in participating store

windows for everyone to see over the Christmas holiday.

Pick up your coloring contest from these participating merchants:

CENTRAL MARKET
COAST TO COAST
COLE'S HOUSE OF FASHION
GARDNER'S MEN'S WEAR
KROLL'S DEPARTMENT STORE
LEBUSH SHOPPE
MURRAY'S DRUG
PETERSON'S JEWELRY
SHOE BOX

Winners will be contacted Dec. 8 and their names will appear in the Gazette-Times Dec. 11.