

The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

This week's weather was
not available at presstime -

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Revenue Sharing Comm. reconsiders, awards Neighborhood Center \$7,360

By MARY ANN CERULLO

More than 30 people attended the Morrow County Revenue Sharing Committee's meeting last Friday, which ended with a unanimous vote to fund the Heppner Neighborhood Center with \$7,360.

The original request for the center was \$10,000, which the county turned down jeopardizing a total proposed budget of \$26,240.

The Neighborhood Center has been funded jointly by Blue Mountain Economic De-

velopment Council and Morrow County for approximately ten years.

The meeting began with a number of concerned citizens voicing their opinions and requesting that the committee reconsider its previous decision of withdrawing funds from the center.

Attorney Bill Kuhn presented a petition containing up to 700 signatures on behalf of the center.

"There are 650 to 700 signatures (on the petition) just to show this committee what kind of local support the

center has in the community," Kuhn told the committee members.

A motion to offer funds for the Neighborhood Center was made by Commissioner Dorothy Krebs. In a unanimous vote, the committee agreed to fund the center's operating expenses, excluding the director's salary and out of county travel. This was estimated at a cost of \$7,360.

Funds for the Neighborhood Center will be coming from county contingency funds, not revenue sharing, said Judge

Don McElligott.

"Until we know what we have to do about a place for our prisoners, we should keep the revenue sharing money," said McElligott.

It may be necessary to have matching funds to either build a prison facility here in the county, or to assist Umatilla in building a larger jail which could accommodate Morrow County prisoners, he stated.

The proposed amount of \$7,360 for the center will be presented at the B.M.E.D.C. meeting of the board of directors on February 23.

County Court again discusses Neighborhood Center dispute

By MARY ANN CERULLO

Bob Ehmann, president of the board of directors of Blue Mountain Economic Development Council, met with Morrow County Court February 17 to discuss the Neighborhood Center dispute.

Rick Gay, council executive director, joined Ehmann at Wednesday's meeting of County Court to clarify some disagreements.

"The (Neighborhood) center seems to be important to a certain number of people," stated Judge Don McElligott. "There's a number of personal testimonials here."

Both Ehmann and Gay acknowledged receiving many letters on behalf of the center. According to McElligott, the written reports from B.M.E.D.C. on the Neighborhood Center do not show the overtime hours worked by volunteers or center director

Pat Brindle. The reports also lack other details, he said.

"No reports do not reflect the long hours of hard work that are put in. That's why the testimonials are important," said Rick Gay.

After further discussion it was agreed that some improvements are needed in communication.

The county Revenue Sharing Committee was set to meet at 2 p.m. February 19, which Ehmann agreed to attend. (See related story.)

Commissioner Dorothy Krebs was ill and did not attend the county court meeting, so Ehmann and Gay agreed to visit her at home before returning to Pendleton.

Rick Gay also informed the court that B.M.E.D.C. has received additional funding, giving the go ahead for the weatherization project. "We're looking at about a month to have a crew station-

ed and working here," he said.

In other business, the court accepted the resignation of Richard Knack as county sheriff's deputy, effective February 8.

re-appointed Merle Carlson of Boardman and Max Jones of Irrigon to North Morrow Vector Control.

appointed Jennifer Wilson to the Juvenile Services Commission.

viewed courthouse maintenance person, Donna Bergstrom's new courthouse sign, in place beside the back entrance to the courthouse.

approved the purchase of a two-way radio transmitter for the Sheriff's Department.

heard the weekly road report from Public Works Director Don Briggs.

"Bids for the construction of the county maintenance shop in Lexington will be opened Feb. 24," said Briggs.

Local man charged in auto crash

Wednesday, February 17, David Arthur White, 34 of Boardman was charged with Criminal Mischief I, two counts of Assault in the Third Degree and recklessly Endangering Another Person after he drove through a wall of the Hitchin Post Tavern in Boardman on October 4, 1981.

The charges of Criminal Mischief and Assault were dismissed. White pleaded guilty to the charges of Recklessly Endangering Another. He was sentenced to 90 days in Umatilla County Jail - suspended, a \$750 fine and must make restitution to Oscar Shoemaker, tavern owner.

In other news, District Attorney Ann Spicer reports: Jack Chitty, 26 of Heppner was found guilty in Morrow County Circuit Court on charges of Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants. He was sentenced to 10 days in the Umatilla County Jail - suspended, and a \$310 fine.

A grand jury met Friday, February 19 and returned three indictments. Indicted were:

Leland J. Shippentower, 27 of Pendleton for Driving While Suspended - felony; Raymond V. Curnutt, 24 of Ione - Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle; and

Gary Degerness, 25, Ione - Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle.

Mark Wendell King, 29 of Ione, arrested October 11, 1981 for Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants, was found not guilty by a jury in Morrow County Justice Court on February 11.

New phone books arrive

New phone books for 1982-83 should be delivered to area residents by Thursday, February 25, said a local phone book distributor for Pacific Northwest Bell.

Those who live in rural areas will receive books by mail, she added.

Those who don't receive books by February 25 are asked to phone the business office in Pendleton, 276-5051.

Mustangs wrap up season play with win against Wasco Co.

The Heppner Mustangs wrapped up regular season play last Saturday with a 52-59 win over Wasco - the same team the Mustangs will face in round one of division playoff action opening Friday in Pendleton.

The game was close in the first half, and the Mustangs were down by one point, 25-26 at the half.

but thanks to fine third period play by Mustang guard Don Lott, the Heppner team pulled the game out to manage its 17th win of the season with only one defeat.

"Lott proved the difference in this game," said Mustang Head Coach Dale Holland.

Lott was high scorer for the Mustangs in this contest with 17 points, however, 13 of those came in the third period when the boys in blue needed them most. He also pulled down 12 rebounds in the game. "He did an exceptional job," Holland

added. Also turning in a good performance for the Mustangs, was reserve center Mike Currin, who poured in a season high 15 points and corralled seven rebounds. "Mike played his best game this year," said Holland, "both defensively and offensively."

Currin has replaced the injured Robert Bier, who went out with a knee injury in a game against Pilot Rock, Feb. 5.

Holland said Bier is still questionable for the playoffs, and won't be one hundred percent if he does play. "We've got good balanced scoring and good defense to win the game," said Holland.

Wasco Co. 16 10 8 18 52
Heppner 8 17 21 13 59

Scoring: J. Orr 2; Forrar 10; Currin 15; Connor 2; Lott 17; Holland 11; Murray 2.



photo by Cindi Bergstrom

Mike Currin shoots for two of his season high 15 points

Mustangs to face Wasco in 1st round of tourney

The Heppner Mustangs will face Wasco in the first round of the district 7A basketball tournament this Friday in Pendleton.

The game will be held at the

Pendleton Armory, and will start at 3 p.m.

The Mustangs will take a 17-1 record and third place ranking in the state into the tournament.

Tourney tickets available at HHS

A limited number of tickets for the District 7A Tournament, to be held at the Pendleton Armory on February 26 and 27, are available at Heppner High School.

Cost for the tickets is \$8 for adults and \$5 for students.

There are four sessions at the tournament and charges for each session are \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for students. Tickets for individual sessions must be purchased at the Armory.

Ag. conference slated

By BOB COSTA
Morrow Co. Extension Service

There will be much more than just lectures at Agricultural Conference Days II. This year's conference is scheduled for March 7 - 10 at Oregon State University and is open to all Oregonians interested and/or involved in agriculture.

The first full day of the conference, Monday, March 8, begins with several presentations on the general theme of Agriculture - Our World - Our Nation - Our State.

One afternoon session includes the outlook for agriculture in 1982, and another will cover the use of micro-computers in agriculture.

Day two of the conference gets underway with a general session on high interest rates and agricultural credit, moderated by Manning Becker, OSU Extension farm management specialist. This session will emphasize how agricultural producers can deal with high interest rates and what interest rates may do in the future.

In the afternoon, the seminar on micro-computers will be repeated. In another seminar, Gene Nelson, OSU Extension farm management specialist, will discuss changes in income and estate planning for farmers and

ranchers made by recent revisions in federal tax law.

The final day of the conference will be devoted to a symposium on minimum tillage, moderated by Norm Goetze, OSU Extension agronomist.

"This session will feature conservation-experienced farmers, machinery manufacturers, chemical industry representatives, and public agencies concerned with agricultural production and conservation issues," said Goetze.

"Major emphasis will be given to discussing what kind of minimum tillage operations are best suited to Oregon's agricultural regions," he continued.

Agricultural Conference Days II is jointly sponsored by the Agri-Business Council of Oregon, the Oregon Women for Agriculture and the OSU School of Agriculture.

Those people planning to attend the general sessions, symposium or other programs are asked to pre-register so conference leaders can complete their planning.

Registration forms and complete programs are available at the Morrow County office of the OSU Extension Service in Heppner. Registration forms must be received in Corvallis by Friday, March 5.

Lions Club awards local man recognition for contributions

By MARY ANN CERULLO

The Heppner Lions Club presented Pat Sweeney of Sweeney Mortuary, Heppner, with a plaque last Tuesday, Feb. 16, in recognition of his contribution to the community and the blind.

Sweeney Mortuary in Heppner is now an official Oregon Lions Eye Bank Substation where eye inoculations can be performed.

According to Sweeney, when a person has agreed to become a donor, the removal of the eyes must occur within six hours of death. The eye donation is then transported in dry ice by the state police, allowing only six more hours before arriving at the eye bank in Portland.

In Portland, a cornea transplant will be performed. This means that the window of the eye, the cornea, can be transplanted from one person who no longer needs it to another who desperately does, allowing the blind to see.



Pat Sweeney (R) accepts a plaque from Lion Lonny Watne

photo by Mary Ann Cerullo

Wheat League to sponsor combine seminar Mar. 1

The Morrow County Wheat League, in cooperation with the Oregon Wheat Growers League will sponsor a March 1 seminar on "How to Make a Combine Efficient." The 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seminar will be conducted by Ray Stueckle, at the Lexington Grange Hall.

Stueckle, who spoke at the last state wheat convention, has authored several books and has held hundreds of

combine clinics throughout the U.S. and Canada, said a local spokesperson.

There will be a registration fee of \$10 plus a small charge for a noon dinner prepared by the grange women. All interested farmers and agri-businessmen are invited to call the Oregon Wheat League office in Pendleton 276-7330 for reservations.