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Seniors want center included in hotel project

The Senior Citizen Center Board appeared before the County Court last Wednesday to ask if the Court would let them use \$41,000 to remodel the first floor of the proposed Senior Housing Project at the Heppner Hotel as a senior citizen center rather than to build a building for the center.

"Let me clarify that the \$41,000 belongs to the senior citizens, not to the county," Morrow County Judge Don McElligott said. "The county gave it to the senior citizen center board."

"We have been offered a spot on the first floor of the Heppner Hotel," if the city of Heppner is able to obtain a necessary loan from the state housing division to build a senior citizen housing project there, Jane Rawlins, chairman of the senior citizens board told the court.

"We have decided to explore all the possible locations we can," she said. "because many of the seniors wanted to locate on Main Street."

The senior board is considering other Main Street locations in addition to the one in the Heppner Hotel building. No commitment has been made yet.

"The seniors could help the Hotel project along by paying for the cost of the development of their area (4,900 square feet on the first floor)," Rawlins said.

The money from the senior citizens would reduce the size of the loan the city of Heppner is applying for with the State Housing Division, Dr. Wallace Wolff said.

The city already has a \$500,000 federal block grant to use for renovation of the Heppner Hotel as a senior citizen housing facility. The city could lose the grant, however, if it does not get money to fund the balance of the project fairly soon.

"The first thing we're concerned about is getting a senior citizen center," Judge Don McElligott

Use of the first floor of the housing project as a senior citizen's center is in line with the type of use the agency requires for restoring old buildings, Wolff continued. Senior Center use of the first floor also would mean 20 instead of 24 rental

units which would reduce income from the property, but the architect has pointed out that reconstruction would be less expensive.

"Our help may make the difference," Rawlins said of the housing project's succeeding. "We've been working to try to develop a Senior Center at a price we can afford," she added.

"There is no final agreement yet," she emphasized. The City of Heppner will be the owner of the housing facility and it's our understanding now that if we buy in, we could have a long term contract. We would need assurance from the city that, if for some reason their project should fail, we could continue to use the senior center portion of the building.

"The first thing we're concerned about is getting a senior citizen center," Judge McElligott reassured the senior citizen center board. "You need to remember, though, that the money which the Court gave you is federal revenue sharing money and carries revenue sharing restrictions; it cannot be used for lobbying or as matching funds for other federal grants. For your safety, the court recommends that you explore some questions which need

4-H offers opportunity

Morrow County 4-H'ers are among more than 4.3 million young people across the country who will participate in the week-long celebration using the theme, "4-H For Youth, For America."

"In celebrating National 4-H Week, we recognize that 4-H is truly a people development program," said Birdine Tullis of the Morrow County Office of the Extension Service. "4-H helps young people develop skills that will be useful in the real world. It helps them discover their strengths and weaknesses. It exposes them to activities in a variety of career fields. And, most importantly, 4-H'ers learn and have fun doing it and families can add to the fun by learning and growing together."

"Learning doesn't stop with the 4-H member and family. Volunteer

research, he said.

The Court and County Counsel advised the senior citizen board to hire their own attorney, independent of the city's and the housing division's legal counsel, who could advise them of the advantages and disadvantages of a lease or limited partnership agreement with the City of Heppner.

The Court agreed that they would rewrite the ordinance which gave the senior citizens the \$41,000 so that they could use it to remodel or renovate an existing building rather than just for building a new facility as long as the senior citizen board had assurance from all parties involved that they would not lose the money which they put into the project.

Sue Jepsen, another member of the senior center board told the court that senior centers in other areas of the state have been located in buildings which also have other functions.

Administrative Assistant to the County Court LoRayne Bowman reiterated, "It's a great concept, and a good location. The Court is concerned that you have something in the end."

leaders learn new skills while sharing their expertise with young people," Tullis said. Through a network of volunteer leaders, state land-grant universities, state and local governments and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 4-H has been able to stimulate youth to develop life skills.

In Morrow County, some 45 adult volunteer leaders work with 250 boys and girls from the fourth to the 12th grade. Programs are conducted in 3,150 counties nationwide. In addition, some 82 countries around the world reach approximately five million young people in programs similar to 4-H.

Youth interested in membership may call OSU Extension Service Office in Morrow County. Phone 676-9642, or write to Box 397, Heppner, Oregon.

County Court asked to form two health districts

Morrow County Court last Wednesday accepted a petition asking two health districts be formed in Morrow County. "We will research it to see what we need to do," Morrow County Judge Don McElligott told Dr. Steve Zielinski and Don Eppenbach who presented the petition. (Eppenbach is vice-chairman of the North Morrow Medical Clinic Board and Dr. Zielinski is a physician at the North Morrow Medical Center.)

Each district would be run by a board of five directors elected from within the district. The districts would be divided at the Willamette Baseline with the North Morrow Medical Clinic and Boardman ambulance designated as the agencies responsible for delivering care in district No. 1. Area south of the baseline would receive care from Pioneer Memorial Hospital and the Heppner ambulance. The Morrow County Public Health Nurse would continue to serve both ends of the county. After the districts are formed, a tax base for each district would be determined based solely upon the territory within that district. Each district would vote to approve its own tax base.

Forming two districts would literally kill Pioneer Memorial Hospital, Commissioner Irv Rauch pointed out. The hospital's tax base would be reduced by 80%, he said.

The population center is now in the north end of the county the judge Don McElligott said. "If the district works, it will be because the people who use the facilities will be the ones paying for them," Administrative

Assistant LoRayne Bowman added.

The Morrow County Court cannot form 2 health districts without approval of all cities within the county. The county would need to hold public hearings to determine if the districts would be supported.

The issue cannot go on the Nov. 4 ballot County Clerk Barbara Bloodworth pointed out, because an initiative petition has not been filed with her office. "It was never our intention to put the issue directly on the ballot," Zielinski told the court. "We were trying to go through the responsible county agency." The needs in the north end of the county are different from the needs in the south end and we must do something to provide for those needs, he said.

We may be a bit premature, the judge emphasized. But there are over 600 people who signed the petition who are looking for something to happen.

In other business, the court: -consulted with County Architect Bob Smith about repairing gutters on the N.W. side of the courthouse building which are leaking in a few places letting rain drip through and stain the rock.

-approved Jack Streg's resignation from the North Morrow Medical Clinic Board.

-appointed the Rev. Steven Rowe and Winifred Salman to fill two vacancies on the North Morrow Medical Clinic Board. The Court received applications from six "well qualified" candidates the judge said. The two appointees were selected by secret ballot of the three commissioners.

-consulted with Harlan Gurlock from the LaGrande office of the State Highway Division concerning traffic flow problems where the state highway intersects First St., a county road in Irrigon.

-heard a complaint about traffic traveling to fast on Second St. W. in Irrigon. The county cannot set a speed limit, the judge pointed out. "We have a petition to set a 25 mph limit on several county roads," McElligott said. "The best we can do now is make recommendations to the State Speed Control Board."

-approved a contract with the Umatilla City Jail (a 72-hour holding facility) to house county prisoners at a cost of \$40 per day per prisoner.

-approved a waterway project on Willow Creek since no adverse comment had been received. A portion of a creek bank on the Louis Carlson ranch was eroding and Carlson had asked to rip rap the corner.

-read a request from County Accountant Cindee Henderson to consider some changes for the county computer program.

-agreed to draw up a return deed for property which the Heppner Senior Citizen Center Board was given. The County Court gave the board a conditional lease for property next to the Morrow County fairgrounds. The Court later discovered that they had not followed proper procedure and asked that the property be returned. The Senior Citizen Center Board voted to return the property, but asked if the Court could take care of the legal procedure, since it was their error which made it necessary.

Volunteers add much to 4-H

One of the most rewarding things you can do for tomorrow's leaders is to serve as a 4-H adult volunteer today. "Volunteers not only give leadership to 4-H experiences for youth, they keep the program relevant to local community needs and interest," according to Birdine Tullis, of the OSU Extension Service. Today, 4-H adult volunteers work with members from fourth to 12th grades. These volunteers share their skills and experience by assisting young people in a variety of 4-H projects and activities.

Volunteers do not have to be experts in specialized subject matter areas, according to Tullis. They can rely on the Extension Service at OSU to provide them with training, educational materials and resources to use in the 4-H program.

The 4-H volunteer corps is 600,000 strong nationwide. Volunteers are the backbone of a basic and cost-effective system

which delivers practical educational experiences to some 4.3 million 4-H members in the United States. The time, travel, and support volunteers contribute is valued at \$1 billion annually.

"The 4-H program provides many opportunities for growth and stimulation for adults, and helps them attain enjoyment and self fulfillment."

In Morrow County, volunteers are needed to serve in both agricultural and home ec projects. In all areas of the county, the need for clothing and foods project leaders is especially great this fall. Livestock leaders are also needed in Heppner and Ione.

Help prepare the young people in your community for tomorrow by joining the ranks of 4-H volunteers. For more information about how to become involved, contact Birdine Tullis of the OSU Extension Service, 676-9642.

CBC's annual meeting

The Columbia Basin Electric Coop Board of Directors set November 6 as the date for the co-op's annual meeting in Heppner. Further plans for the meeting will be announced at a later date.

The Board of Directors met September 25 in Heppner.

Four positions are up for election at the meeting. The nominating committee's report will be published in October, CBE Manager Fred Toombs said.

A survey form will be included in customers' September bills. Customers are asked to answer the questions and return the survey forms to the co-op. The staff and board want to obtain customer input in several areas, he concluded.

Heppner Lions plan to build foot bridge

The Heppner Lions Club will hold a work party this Saturday, October 4 to build a new foot bridge across Willow Creek behind the bowling alley.

All Lions Club members are urged to come and help with this needed project, says President David Sykes.

The group will meet at 8 a.m. Saturday behind the bowling alley.



Tasty dishes

Fall classes for BMCC have started. One of the new classes being offered is oriental cooking with Marcia Anderson as instructor.

Above (left to right) Joan Hughes, Judy Barber and Linda Panter try their hands at oriental dishes Monday night.

Accident victim hospitalized

A Heppner man was in stable condition Tuesday after being hit by a car last Friday while crossing the street in front of the post office in Heppner.

Vern Wilson, 240 Skyline Dr., Heppner, suffered a fractured pelvis when he was hit by a car driven by Archie Becholdt, Pendleton. Wilson was crossing the street in

front of the post office at around 11 a.m. when the accident occurred. He was taken by ambulance to Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston, where he underwent surgery Friday to stabilize a broken pelvic bone.

Heppner Police Chief Doug Rathbun said Tuesday that the accident is still under investigation.

Parents club sponsors school budget meeting

The public is invited to attend a special meeting Tuesday, October 21 for a discussion on the Morrow County school budget and serial levy to be voted on Nov. 4.

The meeting, which starts at 7:30 p.m., will be held at the Heppner Elementary Multi-purpose room, and will feature an open forum with

questions and answers about the serial levy for Morrow County Schools.

There will be representatives from the school superintendent's office and from the school board to answer questions, says LaRae Kindle and Kay Procter of the Heppner Parent's Club.

BMCC offers management course

Does it seem like you can never get organized, and there's never time to get everything done? Then you need to enroll in BMCC's "Time and Life Management: the busy person's survival course," offered in Heppner by the college this fall.

Taught by Deborah Lee and Julie Reese, the first class will focus on tips on such things as time management, setting goals and priorities, and scheduling. The second session will be the efficient home. Topics will include work simplification, storage, meal planning, house cleaning techniques, and delegation techniques.

The class will be divided into two sessions. The first is Oct. 7 and the second Oct. 14. Cost for both is \$10, or you can take only one for \$5.

A third class "Handling the Holidays" will be offered November 5. Special holiday menu planning and recipe sharing will be highlighted. Holiday stress busters will be suggested and family holiday traditions will be discussed. Cost is \$5.

For more information and to register for the classes contact BMCC local coordinator Marie Lane, 676-5039.

Weather Report

By City of Heppner

September 23 - September 29			
	High	Low	Precip
Tues.	66	46	.33
Wed.	57	35	0
Thurs.	64	40	.01
Fri.	60	41	TR
Sat.	59	43	.11
Sun.	60	45	.06
Mon.	54	44	.23

Market Report

Complements of the Morrow County Grain Growers

Tuesday, September 30	
Soft White	
Oct.	\$2.76/\$2.78
Nov.	\$2.84/\$2.82
Dec.	\$2.84/\$2.86
Jan.	\$2.88/\$2.90
Barley	
Oct. and Nov.	\$79
Dec.	\$78
Jan.	\$77
PIK	
Generic 113% cash certificates	