

Princesses chosen for Morrow County fair and rodeo court

The Morrow County Fair and Rodeo committees and Fair Board chose three princesses at October 26 tryouts to accompany Queen Cindy Davis for 1987.

Kathleen Brazzell is the daughter of Al and Jean Brazzell of Lexington. She is a 17-year-old junior at Heppner High School. Brazzell is active in 4-H cooking, sewing, and horsemanship, and also an active member of the Heppner Methodist church in Heppner.

Rachel Flanagan, daughter of Charles and Arlene Flanagan of Ir-rigon is a 15-year-old sophomore at Riverside High School. She is active in sports, both volleyball and basketball, and was a pennant bearer for the 1986 court. Flanagan is currently training and riding her own horse, Sham.

Judy Jepsen, daughter of John and Jean Jepsen of Lone is a 15-year-old freshman at Lone High School. She was also a pennant bearer last year



Kathleen Brazzell

and is active in sports at Lone High. Jepsen is a member of 4-H cooking, sewing and horsemanship and she and her horse Slick, have gone to the



Rachel Flanagan

state fair the last two years. All three girls excel in personality, talent, and riding ability, said a rodeo committee spokesperson. The



Judy Jepsen

Fair Board felt that the selection of three princess instead of the pre-announced two would benefit Morrow County.

Home Health service to move to hospital

By Avon Melby

Tri-County Home Health Services will locate in Pioneer Memorial Hospital the first of next month.

Members of the boards of the two agencies had been discussing the change for some time and arrived at an agreement last month.

There are advantages for both agencies. It will cut administrative costs for Tri-County, and will provide patients leaving the hospital better access to the home health care. The move is on a trial basis, but will become permanent if it works out as well as anticipated.

A no smoking policy will be enforced at the hospital. One room was set aside for smokers when the last employee contract was signed and was a part of the agreement, but the policy has not been enforced. The board decided there will be no smoking except in that room, by employees or visitors. Patients may smoke in private rooms only on

orders of their doctors. Concern for the future of Pioneer Memorial Hospital was expressed last month by several board members when the subject of the proposed two health care districts in the county was discussed. "It will mean the death of the hospital," County Commissioner Irvin Rauch said. Commissioner Jerry Peck was authorized to get in touch with attorneys for Oregon Association of Hospitals to see how contracts and boundaries could be drawn.

Patient load is down at the hospital but there are bright spots. Administrator John Hempel told the board. Laboratory work has almost doubled over a year ago. Nursing home use is up 33 percent. Outpatient care is up by 17 percent, and emergency room use up by eight percent. Both doctors in the clinic are doing well. They should be well above their guaranteed annual income, he said.

A new telephone system will be installed early this month. Funds for the change were included in the budget and the cost is well below the amount allowed, according to Hempel.

Collection policy of the hospital will be reviewed by the board at its November 20 meeting. It will be decided how long to carry bills. A limit is expected, and may be set at 90 days.

At the request of Board President Marcia Anderson, patients have been surveyed about the care they received and changes they would like to see made. Hempel said it showed the most comments were on the friendly service, and the most needed change was to lower the noise level.

City Council From Pg. 1

Trenching, which is supposed to be done by the county, has not been done at the land fill, Costa told the council. Winter said he would see if he could arrange it, hopefully within the next month. It may be impossible to get through the winter without the work being done.

Police Chief Douglas Rathbun reported the county sheriff's personnel and police had cooperated in constructing a satisfactory firing range at the location of the old city dump.

Just how dangerous pit bull dogs are, was asked by Ployhar. He said there are one or two in town, and expressed concern about safety to children. Chief Rathbun said he wanted something done about people who keep rattlesnakes in the city. There have been a couple of times when the police had to tell people to get rid of them and one tenant moved and left one in an empty house. Kuhn will draw up an ordinance covering vicious dogs and exotic animals and have it for the council to review next week.

Request to keep a horse by Richard Turrell at 460 So. Main and a pony by Gene Pierce at 615 S. Alfalfa Street, were approved.

Mayor Costa announced a meeting at 7 p.m. at the Lexington school November 13 to discuss the issue of two medical districts in the county. The meeting set up by Marnie Anderson, chairman of the Boardman Medical Center board, is open to the public, and Costa encouraged the council to attend.

Ken Key told the council he had received a letter from the county planning department that he was not

allowed to keep pigs on his place in the urban growth boundary. He asked that he be taken out of the "urban growth boundary," that the city give him water and take him in the city, or that he be allowed to have water without coming into the city.

During a meeting jointly with the city planning commission before council meeting Monday, decision to request that area be returned to zoning for farm use had been made. This information will be sent to the county. Key was told, and may help his problem about the pigs.

A meeting to abstract the votes in the general election was set for November 12 at 5:30 p.m. at city hall. Several council members objected to having to meet "for three minutes to accept the vote." The mayor said it was in the city charter, and that there was no way it could be disregarded. Kuhn said telephone conference was considered a legal meeting. Those council members who can are to attend the meeting, others will be phoned if necessary.

Plastics kill wildlife

According to many experts, plastic trash thrown into oceans may be as big a problem, if not bigger, than oil spills. International Wildlife magazine reports that non-biodegradable plastic waste is killing up to one million seabirds, 100,000 sea mammals, and countless fish each year. Part of the problem is that seals, turtles, fish and birds become entangled, and then die, in discarded fishing nets and strapping bands.

Doherty closes law office; McNerny to open practice

Heppner attorney Val Doherty is closing the doors on her law practice, she announced Monday. Morrow County District Attorney Rick McNerny will open a general law practice in January, 1986 in the office building which Doherty is vacating.

Doherty who is now keeping office hours by appointment only says she will wrap up as much of her business as possible by December 1 so that she can take some time off to rest before applying for a position as County Counsel/Deputy District Attorney with Morrow County. "Although I hope to have some time off," she said, "I will fulfill my contract with the county as legal counsel through December."

McNerny who lost the bid for reelection to Jeff Wallace in the May primary election said he is looking forward to being his own boss. "On the other hand, the government provides a fairly secure income, and it will be challenging to build a new practice to that point. I will be working with different people, but am definitely looking forward to working fulltime in Heppner," he said.

McNerny served as district attorney for four years and was employed at a Boardman law office for one year prior to that. He completed undergraduate work in political science at the University of Oregon, and did graduate work in administration at Willamette Univer-

sity. He earned his law degree from the University of Oregon Law School.

Doherty, a 1971 Heppner High School graduate, completed undergraduate work at the University of Oregon with a major in science and psychology. She worked for her dad (Mel Boyer of Gar Aviation) for a year and for Morrow County Mental Health Services for a year before entering law school. After attending Willamette Law School and being sworn in as an attorney, she joined the Winter and Sweeney law firm in Heppner in October, 1981. She is married to Tony Doherty, also a Morrow County native. He is a wheat/cattle rancher.

"The last five years have been an incredible education," she said. "I hope the next five will be as productive. My dad said that I would have to serve my hitch with the county and, as with many things, he was right. It's almost a tradition: Bob Abrams, Herman Winter, Dennis Doherty all took turns working for the county. I know that I will enjoy the work. It has been interesting so far, providing legal advice to the county on a contract basis. If my application is accepted, it will be an opportunity to limit my workload in some respects, but an opportunity to round out my experience. So far, from private practice, my experience has been criminal defense. The government and prosecutorial side is the other half."

Grain growers earnings off for 1986

Earnings were off substantially in 1986, members of the Morrow County Grain Growers cooperative were told at the annual meeting Monday night.

Net savings decreased by over \$408,000 the past year, a slump attributed to the general decline in the agriculture economy, smaller crop and lower wheat prices, Manager Larry Mills said.

The co-op is still in good financial shape, reported accountant Steve Green, with the current assets to current liability ratio 1.2 to 1.

In addition to a drop in sales of over \$9 million, increased administrative costs due to higher insurance rates and bad debt write offs contributed to the poor showing on the bottom line.

Mills said he expects the downturn to last several years until the effects of the conservation reserve program (CRP) are felt, wheat surpluses are reduced, and prices begin to rise.

Mills said the co-op has taken steps to meet the decline in business, including: laying off six people, or 17 percent of the workforce, cutting back on the amount of support for community service and reducing inventory.

"We have a couple of tough years ahead in the farm equipment sector," Mills said. "But if surplus goes down, we will see increased commodity prices. We see an improvement in a couple of years."

He said the co-op has established a parts outlet in Wasco and "that should position us quite well when

the upturn comes."

Mills said that the effects of the CRP, a federal farm program which takes highly erodible farmland out of production and pays farmers not to produce, would be substantial. Morrow County Grain Growers expects grain handling to be down by one million bushels, fuel consumption to be down in the county by 210,000 gallons and total fertilizer sales county-wide to be off \$350,000. "Of course these are not all our sales, but we are going to feel it," he said.

Mills urged the co-op members to shop at home, support their community and support their co-op. "If we are to preserve the life we have in these small communities, we need to work together through the tough times," he said.

Also part of the annual meeting program, was a speech by co-op accountant Green on the effects of the new tax law on agriculture.

Some of the highlights of the new law as it applies to farmers include:

1. repeal of the investment tax credit.
2. lengthening of depreciation schedules.
3. soil conservation costs limited to actual costs, and only those projects approved by ASCS.
4. no deductions for land cleaning associated with installation of center pivot irrigation.
5. repeal of capital gains deduction, and maximum tax of 28 percent.
6. Corporations and partnerships must change from fiscal to calendar year accounting.
7. income averaging repealed.
8. consumer interest deductions phased out over the next three years.

Green also gave some accounting tips on what to do before the end of 1986 to lessen tax bills:

1. buy auto or equipment, because of the change in depreciation schedules.
2. pay bills and take deductions in 1986.
3. prepay any farm expenses possible.
4. plan to sell property by December 31, 1986.

Livestock editor to speak Nov. 21

Nationally known livestock editor Lee Pitts will speak at the Farm-City Banquet which begins at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21. Pitts is executive editor and part owner of Livestock Market Digest and pens a humorous weekly column, "Riding Herd."

Pitts' address at the prime rib banquet will cap a full day of meetings and presentations by the wheat growers, the small woodlands owners, livestock growers, CowBelles, and the Soil and Water Conservation District.

Booths will be on display all day organized around the following themes: farm finance, woodlands management, retraining opportunities, conservation, small business development and farm programs.



Lee Pitts

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Jewelry Fashions, Facts, Fiction

Here's To You

This is the time of year we reflect on the things we are thankful for, on people who have made a difference to us. Every day people come into the store and give us the chance to share in one of the important moments in their lives. Thank you for choosing us to be your family jeweler.

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You, though, are the reason that we continue to be the successful store we are. Because you value the kind of service we provide, because you keep coming back, because you give us the chance to help you decide on just the right jewelry selection, we keep on. We take pride in the quality of our customers. So, here's to you!

We Will Be Closed Tuesday, Nov. 11 for Veteran's Day.

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