

Concentrate on bringing new jobs to County, Ag agent says

We need to focus our efforts on bringing new jobs to the area, Morrow County Ag Agent Fred Lundin told the Morrow County Court Wednesday. He presented the results of a survey compiled by the Survey Research Center at Oregon State University to learn directly from a random sample of county residents their perceptions of the seriousness of the farm crisis in the county, how it will affect them personally, and the alternatives for helping families who may lose their farms in the next two years.

The sampling of 236 randomly selected telephone households indicates that people are definitely aware of a farm crisis and believe that the strength of the county's agriculture could not sustain the impact of the farm recession indefinitely.

The survey was made before the impact of the Crop Reduction pro-

gram was felt and since the CRP has helped rescue some farmers, Lundin said, the 20% farm foreclosure rate predicted in the survey may be a bit high, Lundin said. But we're still talking about the possible loss of 40 primary jobs in south Morrow County. We can't afford to have that many families leave the area, he said. We have barely enough people now to provide services.

Few responding to the survey thought that the mental health of the community would be affected by a great number of farm foreclosures, Lundin said. That is only the way they perceive the issue now, and is probably the only inaccuracy which stands out in the study. If 20% of local farms are to cease to be, the impact on the community would be as great as the loss of the hospital and nursing home in Heppner.

The Extension service is concerned not only with agriculture and home economics, but also with 4-H and youth and community development, and with anything which directly affects farmers, Lundin said. It is easy to think of new jobs and retraining in terms of continued expansion at Kinzua, but other possibilities need to be considered.

He asked the Court for a listing of industrially zoned land which he could use to attract businesses. He

also asked if the county could guarantee services at reduced rates for large industries and was told that was a matter to discuss with respective cities.

Commissioner Jerry Peck reminded Lundin that although the school district had trouble passing a budget this year, he could argue the superiority of the system to educate and turn out good citizens.

The Court agreed to help fund a brochure outlining the many benefits of Morrow County to present to industries which might want to locate here.

Judge Don McElligott told Lundin that the Job Training and Partnership Act provides training programs with businesses and pays half of the trainees wages.

The survey cost \$4,500 and was paid for by the County Court-\$2,000, the Chamber of Commerce-\$500, the OSU Rural Area Development Center-\$1,000, and the Extension Service (state funds)-\$1,000.

A brief summary of the report follows:

Morrow County residents surveyed were employed, retired, homemakers and unemployed. Seventy-five percent said the farm crisis and farm failures would affect them personally. Thirty-nine percent

said their work is directly or indirectly related to agriculture. Farm foreclosures would affect their job security. Twenty-eight percent said the population and income loss would affect their ability to sell goods and services. Fifteen percent said foreclosures would increase the price of goods and services or affect availability of goods and services in the county.

The employment data in the survey indicated that 78 percent of county households have one person either working for wages or self-employed. Two adults are employed in 42 percent of all households. Both spouses are employed in 52 percent of the married or living together households of Morrow County.

Respondents to the survey approved a prevention approach to solving employment problems brought on by the farm crisis. Job training opportunities and attracting new industries were ideas suggested. Better marketing, better management skills, more lenient lending practices by financial institutions and training programs for off-farm employment for farm operators, spouses, or employees were suggested solutions.

Commercial and retail sales is the leading industry in Morrow County, with 28 percent of the employed population working in that field, the

survey says. Agriculture is second, employing 18 percent of the work force. Education/government ranks third, claiming 16 percent of the work force. Food processing employs 15 percent, followed by agri-business (8 percent), forestry/lumber (7 percent), health and related fields (5 percent), and construction (5 percent).

In other business, the Court signed an agreement with Ralph Skoubo to extend the county shop in Irregon by two bays for a cost of \$2950. December 31 is the expected completion date.

heard from County Architect Bob Smith that the interior petitions and walls are up at the North Morrow Courthouse Annex addition. The court approved \$350 for carpet in the annex foyer and \$675 for paint on the building's exterior. The contract for the addition was let October 14 and it is expected to be completed by December 24.

authorized purchase of one more folding table for the Extension Service meeting room.

approved an application for a \$1912 tax refund to Trailer Train Corp of Chicago.

held an executive session concerning legal problems with property acquisition.

authorized District Attorney-elect Jeff Wallace to advertise for the

Deputy District Attorney/Counsel position.

set December 4 at 7:30 p.m. for a public hearing on the proposed exchange of roads between the county and the forest service.

set December 9, 7:30 p.m. at Riverside High School in Boardman to begin public hearings concerning a petition asking the Court to form two medical districts in the county.

The Court will appoint Judge-elect Louis Carlson Hearings Officer so he will receive testimony on which he, with the other commissioners, will have to act.

heard a request from Margo Sherer, county treasurer and tax collector, for an additional sort of data on an existing computer program so that necessary data would be available for budgeting purposes.

approved purchase of a \$6900 letter quality laser printer for the main floor of the Courthouse.

approved dropping a maintenance contract on six older computer terminals at the Courthouse.

took no action on a request from County Assessor Greg Sweek for two additional \$770 computer terminals, one for his back office, and one for the Sheriff's Office. Both departments, Sweek said, could find money in their budgets for the terminals.

approved payment of all claims.

Mayor Costa attends cities conference

Cara Costa, mayor of Heppner was in Eugene last week for the League of Oregon Cities' 61st Annual Conference, where over 1500 Oregon city officials attended work sessions and training seminars designed to help officials effectively run their municipalities, and provided a forum to share common concerns and problem-solving ideas.

The annual review of policies by the League's Resolution Committee was concluded during the meeting. Major policies adopted included resolutions on the use of state lottery proceeds, the Hanford nuclear reservation and prison overcrowding. The group also established policies in response to the November 4 ballot measure election results and on federal tax reform.

DARTH VADER IS COMING!

GIFTS
Early Shoppers' Specials
Housewares

- Microwaves
- Blenders
- Coffee Makers
- Mixers

Coast to Coast
We're here to help you.



Carrying it in

Christian youth collected \$2,650.88 worth of food to be used for Thanksgiving baskets which the Heppner Neighborhood Center will distribute to needy

families November 24-25. The 60 boxes of canned goods and other staple food items weighed 2644 pounds.

Diabetes campaign scheduled

The 1986 Residential American Diabetes Campaign in Ione will be November 21-22.

"There are 12 million Americans who have diabetes and another 600,000 will be diagnosed this year," stated Jackie Bergstrom, local volunteer chairman. Even more staggering is the fact that 5 million Americans have diabetes and don't know it.

During our campaign this year, we will be conducting a brief survey to assist the American Diabetes Association in finding these undetected diabetics and also let persons with diabetes know that help is available in Oregon. The Oregon Affiliate offers many programs and materials that can assist in the proper management and control of their disease. "I urge everyone to support the efforts of the A.D.A. by supporting this year's campaign."

Know the warning signs of diabetes:



The koala bear may spend several weeks in a single tree.

-Insulin-dependent diabetes most frequent in children and young adults, is characterized by the sudden appearance of:
-Constant urination
-Abnormal thirst
-Unusual hunger
-The rapid loss of weight

-Irritability
-Obvious weakness and fatigue
-Nausea and vomiting
These symptoms appear suddenly. See a doctor immediately.

Non-insulin-dependent diabetes usually occurs after the age of 30. It may include any of the previously mentioned signs or:

-Drowsiness
-Itching
-A family history of diabetes
-Blurred vision
-Excessive weight
-Tingling numbness in feet
-Easy fatigue
-Skin infections and slow healing
Any one of these signals can mean diabetes. See your doctor at once.



Cleaning the creek

Heppner Lions Club members Rusty Estes, Dave Tharp and Bob Kahl load brush and tree limbs cleaned from Willow Creek adjacent to Hager Park.

Each year the Lions clean a portion of the creek of vegetation and debris.

NOTICE

Dr. Wallace Wolff will be gone November 25 through December 7.

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, we are pleased and honored that the City of Heppner will host annual meetings on Friday, November 21, 1986 of the following:

- Morrow County Wheat Growers' League
- Small Woodlands Association
- Morrow County Livestock Growers' Assoc.
- Morrow County Cowbells' Association
- Morrow County Soil & Water Conservation Assoc.; and

WHEREAS, We gratefully acknowledge the influence for good accomplished by these organizations through their many and varied programs; and

WHEREAS, we are pleased that the following groups will also be participating in the day's activities:

- Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce
- Oregon State University Extension Service
- Blue Mountain Community College
- East Central Oregon Assoc. of Counties
- Morrow County U.S. Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service
- Tri-County Health (Morrow-Gilliam-Wheeler)
- Intercity Coordinators of Heppner

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of Heppner, I do hereby proclaim the week of November 17-23, 1986 as

TOWN AND COUNTRY WEEK

FURTHER, I urge all citizens to join in a reaffirmation of gratitude to be able to live in an area which is rich in friendship and harmony.

11/14/86 *Cara L. Costa*
Dated Mayor, City of Heppner

New Arctic Cat Snowmobiles

- 2 only - '87 Cougars\$3,549**
- 1 - '86 EL Tigre 60004,059**

Used Snowmobiles

- 2 - 1985 Polaris Indy Trails '2,450**
- 1 with only 165 actual miles
- 1 with only 189 actual miles
- 1 - 1985 Arctic Cat EL Tigre 6000 '3,250**
- 945 miles - Perfect Condition
- 1 - 1986 Polaris SS '2,395**
- Only 347 actual miles - Perfect
- 1 - 1976 Arctic Cat EL Tigre 5000 '750**
- Has new rings & seals - Excellent
- 1 - 1984 Polaris Star '1,350**
- Has run less than 100 miles

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FREE HEARING EXAMINATION

And HEARING AID SERVICE

Date: Tuesday, November 25, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Location: Gonty's, Heppner, Oregon
Phone: 676-9264

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\$100 Off Regular Price
of any Argosy HS, SHADD, or Custom Canal Aids
Limit one coupon per customer
Expires 11-30-86

Sunday Special
Any Large Pizza
(on the menu)
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