

The Heppner

Morrow County's Home-Owned Newspaper

G-T azette Times

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Board arranges for doctor coverage at Pioneer

Dr. Wallace Wolff has generously offered to increase his hospital coverage for as long as possible, rather than reduce his practice as he had planned, hospital board member Frank Pearson said Friday. Without his generous offer for physician coverage at the hospital, Board Chairman Marcia Anderson said, the hospital would not be able to stay open.

Heppner's other two doctors, Dr. Clare Koznek and Dr. Curtis Thiessen have announced plans to close their practice here. Koznek has already left Heppner and Thiessen has announced that he will end his practice June 22.

One Pendleton area doctor and one from John Day have said they will provide weekend physician coverage at the hospital, at least through June, the board said. The hospital pays \$410 per day for temporary doctor coverage.

The board signed a contract with Physicians International, a doctor-search firm, and authorized a payment of \$8,000 from the hospital budget to retain their services. The firm will require two payments of \$6,000 in addition to the retainer. A similar firm located Dr. Thiessen. The contract with Physicians International requires that they find a doctor

who will stay in Heppner for at least one year.

"We're caught in the middle, Bill Alsdurf, vice president of St. Anthony Hospital and a non-voting member of the Pioneer hospital board said. "If there's no doctor, there's no hospital, and if there's no hospital, it's more difficult to get a doctor." The physician search firm was even reluctant to send a contract, he said, because they knew the search would be difficult and they do have a legal commitment to get a doctor for Heppner. There is no time

limit on the contract and the wait may be a year or more.

The board said that they had also considered the possibility of a doctor coming to Heppner to see patients on a temporary basis one or two days a week.

Chamber of Commerce President George Koffler and Bill Kuhn asked the board to remember the community's needs and not to look at money limitations. They offered the Chamber's support to the board's efforts to find another doctor, and help with fundraising events to help meet

the hospital's needs.

Pioneer Hospital Board, said that making the agency a department of the hospital would be a good public relations move and might mean additional patient referrals following hospital stays at Pioneer Memorial Hospital. He recommended the existing Tri-County Home Health Board be kept to advise the County Medical Board which will take over responsibility of the hospital board July 1.

Since the agency moved its offices to the hospital several months ago, the number of home visits has increased from 60 to 100 per month, Rill said.

Bill Alsdurf, vice president of St. Anthony Hospital and advisor to the

hospital board last week paved the way for Tri-County Home Health to become a department of the hospital.

The move to a hospital-based agency would mean a larger percentage reimbursement from Medicare and could make the difference between meeting and not meeting our budget, Sandi Rill, administrator for Tri-County Home Health said.

The agency provides nursing care for homebound patients, usually after a hospital stay. Nurses are paid a fee on a per-visit basis, she said.

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Class of 1987 graduated from area schools

Graduation ceremonies were held at Heppner and Lone high schools last week. Forty seniors were graduated from Heppner and six from Lone.

Heppner graduates received the following scholarships and awards at commencement exercises:

Blue Mountain Community College Tuition Waiver-Dorothy Hays and Clark Wallis.

Blue Mountain Community College David and Marisa Nelson Award-Matt Wilson.

Charles Kyd Award-Theresa Lindsay.

Heppner American Legion Post-Theresa Lindsay.

American Legion (state award)-Theresa Lindsay.

Kinzua Corporation Award-Theresa Lindsay.

Oregon Scholar-Theresa Lindsay.

Jim Barratt Award-Missy Eubanks and Wayne Wilgers.

Stokey Memorial-David Pedro.

Columbia Basin Conference-Missy Eubanks and Wayne Wilgers.

Lions Vocational-Scott Dougherty.

Dr. and Christy Carpenter-Stacey Kennedy.

Soroptimist Academic-Ashley Conklin.

Oregon School Employees Assoc.-Kellie Brannon.

Morrow County 4-H Leaders-Theresa Lindsay.

Heppner Day Care Center-Jacklyn Robinson and Staci Toll.



Pradit Thongdy receives diploma from school Board member Bob Mahoney at Heppner Commencement Services.

CJD Bauman Criminal Justice-Wayne Wilgers.

Michele Portman Improvement Award-David Pedro.

Trend College-Tina Davidson.

Linfield Art/Faculty-Sofi Struthers.

University of Portland Academic-Theresa Lindsay.

Heppner Booster Club-Missy Eubanks, Trent Harrison, Theresa

Lindsay, and Jason Palmer.

Lone graduates received the following scholarships and awards at commencement exercises:

The lone American Legion post and auxiliary scholarships were presented to Patty McElligott.

Candi Rudisill also received a scholarship from the Morrow County Education Association.

The Cardinal Club scholarship

was presented to Deena Hams.

Patty McElligott received an Oregon Scholar Award from the State Dept. of Education for having a grade point average among the top five percent of the state's graduates. School awards for best senior athlete were presented to Chris Rea and Deena Hams.

Abandoned house burns to ground

An abandoned house in Lexington caught fire and burned to the ground Friday, night May 29. Lexington Fire Chief Bill Sheirbon said the house, located on the corner of "F" and West streets is owned by the Rourke family. Cause of the fire, he said, is unknown, but was not electrically caused because no power was connected to the house.

The house was fully engulfed in flames when the fire department arrived just after 10:30 p.m. and some damage was done to a power line, but no outages resulted, the fire chief said. Five fire department members and many townspeople helped with the firefighting and cleanup which took most of the night, Sheirbon said.

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The Cardinal Club scholarship

New council members take office

By Avon Melby

Two new members were appointed to Heppner city council Monday by Mayor Cara Costa. With approval of the council, Angie Pedro and Chuck Holt were sworn in by the mayor.

They will replace John Hempel, and Bob Ployhar who have resigned. Hempel moved from the area, Ployhar said he did not want to continue on the council. Hempel's term was for two years, Ployhar's was for four years. No decision was made on which one of the new council members will serve the two and the four year terms the mayor said.

In further re-organization Wilbur Jackson was elected chairman of the council. His main duty is to serve as chairman in the absence of the mayor. Costa said, she had only missed one council meeting in the two and a half years she has been mayor.

Ken Key appeared to tell the council he had not been able to get the water turned on to serve his property on cemetery hill. He said he thought last month he had cleared all obstacles, but when he paid for the turnon two weeks ago, he was told he had to sign an agreement and he

added costs.

In addition to the recruiting fee, the board must consider that Dr.

Koznek owns the equipment at the clinic, but has offered to lease or sell it, Anderson said.

The hospital expects to have an ending fund balance \$100,000 over what was budgeted for this year. The money from excess revenues is not budgeted for this year, so cannot be used for expenses without doing a supplemental budget, Alsdurf pointed out.

of the conditional use will be contingent on the county completing the promised upgrading of that area-providing more parking spaces and other conditions required by neighbors.

Bids to provide gasoline to the city were opened with Devin Oil Co. providing the lowest bid; regular at 79.8¢ and unleaded at 80¢. Only other bidder was Cal's Mobile Ser-

vice at 87.9¢ both leaded and unleaded, which he said was 15¢ per gallon off full service pump price. Bid was awarded low bidder, Devin. Service is to go into effect July 1.

A resolution transferring funds within the 1986-87 year budget was approved. City Administrator Marshall Lovgren said some budgets were under funded and some had funds left over at year end. There was no change in the totals allowed in the budget which goes out the end of the month. City Planning Commission Chairman Nancy Lankford said the planning commission wanted to explain its responsibilities to the new council members to see if closer cooperation in serving citizens could be worked out. She noted that on instances where the planners had spent a lot of time studying all the angles, and finally made recommendations to the council, the council had not followed the recommendation. She said minutes of planning meetings will be sent to each council member, delegates of the planners will attend council meetings, and it was hoped at least one member of the council will attend each planning meeting. "We want to cut the number of times people have to go from one to the other to get their problems solved," she said. Chloe Pearson, another member of the commission, said "Our purpose is to make your job easier." She said the number of visits of those wanting permits should be cut.

City Foreman Winter expressed a desire that at least one council member accompany him in reviewing streets to determine priorities for making repairs. He said "No matter which ones I choose to do I get complaints from citizens."

Three TV channels temporarily out

Last week's power outage caused a surge of electricity that ruined \$8000 worth of equipment, Judie Laughlin of Heppner TV announced this week. The equipment has been sent off for repairs, but customers may expect a three-four week wait before reception is up to par again, she said. Three channels, 9, 11, and 19 will be down until all equipment has been repaired and replaced.

Council approves proposed hotel contract information

By Avon Melby

A proposed contract with an architect for the remodeling of the Heppner Hotel into a Senior Citizen housing project and Senior Center was approved by Heppner City Council Monday.

City Attorney Bill Kuhn said the contract information would be sent to architects who expressed interest in bidding on the job, with bids to go out probably by June 10.

"I expect a lot of bids," he said. Word has gotten around that the city is doing the job with \$500,000 of federal money and close to \$300,000 borrowed funds. Several have already indicated interest and will be sent the information sheets.

Electrical outage explained

More than one event was responsible for area power outages last week.

Tuesday's outage began when the top of a pole one mile west of Lexington burned, Columbia Basin Electric Co-op Manager Fred Toombs said. The top of the burning pole dropped and broke the next pole on the line. Columbia Basin crews had the line repaired and restored electricity to the area for three minutes at 4 p.m.

Restoring the power caused a breaker in the Boardman substation to catch fire and disintegrate, Toombs said. It took a considerable length of time to put the fire out before Bonneville Power Administration crews could begin to repair damage, he said. The balance of Tuesday night until 9 a.m. Wednesday, BPA crews repaired and checked the substation so nothing else would be destroyed by restoring power.

Thursday evening, the outage was the result of a fault on the line of undetermined origin, the manager continued. The breaker, which had been used as a bypass breaker while the one destroyed earlier in the week was being repaired, opened and would not close on demand. Columbia Basin crews repaired the problem and restored electricity in less than two hours.

Saturday afternoon, the system was shut down for three and a half minutes to change voltage levels on a transformer, Toombs said. "Hopefully these problems will be eliminated with completion of the new transmission line. We will have to ask customers to bear with us during lengthy planned outages while the line is under construction," he said.

Weather Report

by City of Heppner

May 19 - 25

High Low Prec.

Tues. 61 34 .0

Wed. 64 35 .0

Thurs. 68 40 .0

Fri. 73 45 .0

Sat. 76 52 .14

Sun. 69 51 .07

Mon. 72 47 .04

May 26 - June 1

High Low Prec.

Tues. 65 44 .06

Wed. 64 41 .05

Thurs. 68 41 .0

Fri. 78 51 .Tr

Sat. 65 52 .18

Sun. 62 37 .07

Mon. 64 38 .0

Market Report

Complements of the Morrow County Grain Growers

Tuesday, June 2

Soft White

June 1/2 half 53.01

Please call for new crop quotes

Barley 90

July 91

Aug and Sept 93

Hard Red Winter

Ordinaries 53.02

PIK

Generic Certificates 104 1/2 % cash



Robert Adams (at lectern) welcomes guests to the lone Commencement service.