

Home health gives elderly needed care

The President of the United States and the Congress have proclaimed November 26 to Dec. 2 as National Home Care Week to pay tribute to the "thousands of dedicated individuals throughout America whose efforts allow more than five million elderly, infirm, disabled or dying to receive skilled health and social services in the comfort and privacy of their own homes."

Molly Rhea, RN, Pioneer Memorial Home Health Coordinator says, "there is a movement in this country to find less expensive and more humane ways to provide health care to our growing elderly population, as well as children and young people who are temporarily or chronically ill or disabled. Lawmakers are finally discovering what we have known all along: home care supports the dignity and independence of our most vulnerable by keeping them out of hospitals and nursing homes for as long as possible. It keeps families together and offers a compassionate and low cost way to care for our loved ones. In an era of skyrocketing health care costs, home care offers an excellent alternative to institutional care both because it is less expensive and because it encourages the self reliance and cooperative effort upon which this nation is founded."

Rhea says that Pioneer Memorial Home Health serves people of all ages, but mainly those of Medicare age. Funding for home health services is provided primarily through Medicare and private insurance. Medicare patients qualify for services if they are homebound on doctor's orders. Rhea says that some receive home care for several years, but others are cared for on a short-term basis.

"It's really important for us



Home Health coordinator Molly Rhea, RN, takes Harlan McCurdy's blood pressure. McCurdy, a home health patient was visited daily for two weeks and every other day for an additional week following surgery.

physicians," said Dr. Jeanne Berretta, Heppner Physician, "because they provide physician-extending services. It's really helpful for terminal patients who don't want to go to a nursing home, but want to stay at home."

"With patients coming to the hospital sicker and leaving the hospital earlier because of Medicare regulations," said Ernest Wick, Pioneer Memorial Hospital administrator, "there is a need for care in the home." Wick says that under the Medicare system, the government reimburses at a fixed rate, depending on diagnosis.

Pioneer Memorial Home Health began as Tri-County Home Health an independent organization established in 1977 under a federal grant. Pioneer Memorial Hospital took

over the home health services in 1987.

Rhea, who has been Home Health coordinator since March of 1986, is assisted by RNs Robana Disque and Phyllis Hansell; a physical therapist, Barbara Fallon of The Dalles; and a home health aide, Robin Hassing of Arlington. A home health aide assists the patient with bathing and personal care, light housekeeping and cooking special diets.

"The theme for National Home Care Week is 'When it Comes to Health Care, There's No Place Like Home,'" says Rhea. "We think that says it all."

Persons wishing additional information on home care should contact Pioneer Memorial Home Health Service at 676-5133 or stop by their office at Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

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Bears needed for foster kids



Judy Eckman (L) and Jackie Allstott with teddy bears donated to United Way from the Heppner Soroptimist.

Jackie Allstott, representing the Heppner Soroptimist club presents Judy Eckman United Way of Morrow County teddy bears for the Children's Services Foster Bear Care program.

Teddy bears are given to foster children of Morrow County as an introduction to foster care.

Huggable size, new condition teddy bears are needed, however.

Anyone who can donate a bear may drop it off at First Interstate Bank in Heppner; 450 W. St in Lexington; Lone Hardware Shop in Ione; The CSD office in Boardman and Last Chance Fruit Stand in Irrigon.

Coloring contest entries due Fri

Soroptimist coloring contest entries are due this Friday, Dec. 8.

The contest is open to children ages pre-school through fourth grade. Entries may be picked up at Murrays Drug or Heppner Elementary School and may be returned there or to Joyce Hughes at the Gazette-Times.

Contest winners will be notified and will be invited to the Soroptimist meeting on Dec. 14. Cash prizes will be awarded.

Parents club to meet Thursday

The Parents club will meet Thursday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. at the Heppner Elementary School cafeteria to plan for the school carnival to be held in February. This is the Parents Club big money maker and it is important for people interested in helping with this project to come to the meeting. For more information contact Joyce Hughes.

Search still on for 1st citizens

Heppner Chamber of Commerce encourages interested persons to nominate individuals for the honor of Man and Woman of the Year. Nomination forms are available at the Chamber of Commerce office, Coast to Coast, Heppner Gazette-Times and Murray Drug. Selection will be based upon the nominee's community and civic activities and service. Forms are due in the Heppner Chamber office by December 26. Awards will be given at the Town and Country Banquet, Friday, Jan. 19.

Also awarded will be a Teacher Community Service Recognition award. Chamber desires the opportunity to commend teachers for their community activities beyond the classroom. Anyone may nominate.

The Business of the Year award is awarded on the basis of: community involvement, improvement and investment, involvement in community and customer relations programs. This award will be presented at the annual Chamber of Commerce luncheon Jan. 16 to kick off Town and Country Week.

Contact Chamber Manager Claudia Hughes if you have questions.

Residents donate 52 pints in blood drawing



Lori Straley checks Robin Jones' temperature in preparation for the blood drawing.

Area residents donated 52 pints of blood at the Red Cross Blood Drive Dec. 5, two pints over the quota of 50, said chairman Lori Straley.

"It went really well," said Straley, "very smoothly." Assisting Straley were 15 local

volunteers, including five members of the Heppner High School Honor Society in addition to Red Cross workers based in Yakima, WA. Patricia Valentine, Red Cross charge nurse, was in charge of operations.

Lunch with Santa, movie offered for kids Sunday

Children are invited to have lunch with Santa and enjoy a movie this Sunday, Dec. 10, from 12 to 3 p.m.

while their parents get in a little Christmas shopping in downtown Heppner.

Livestock growers meet Dec. 8

Morrow County Livestock Growers President Ned Clark and Morrow CattleWomen President Tami Rietmann welcome all interested persons to the annual meeting, dinner and dance, Friday, December 8, at the Heppner Elks Club.

Lunch with Santa, sponsored by the Heppner Chamber of Commerce, will be held at the Heppner Elks Lodge at the cost of \$1 per child. Lunch will be served from 12 to 1 and the movie will begin at 1 p.m. A photo of your child with Santa will be offered at an additional cost of \$1.

Market Report

Complements of the Morrow County Grain Growers

Tuesday, Dec. 5
Soft White

Dec.	\$4.59	\$4.60
Jan.	\$4.60	\$4.61
Feb.	\$4.62	\$4.63
March		\$4.64

Dec.	\$112 T
Jan.	\$113 T
Feb.	\$114 T
March	\$114 T
Plk	\$97 1/2
New Crop	\$4.07

Weather Report

By City of Heppner

Nov. 28 - Dec. 4			
	High	Low	Prec
Tues.	47	20	.0
Wed.	32	21	.0
Thurs.	36	26	.0
Fri.	31	28	.0
Sat.	35	28	.0
Sun.	61	38	.02
Mon.	64	38	.42

Chamber sponsors Christmas activities



Chamber Manager Claudia Hughes presents a check to Helen Dyer, Georgia Lynch and Merna Toll on behalf of the Senior Center to buy lights to decorate with.

"Heppner Chamber is involved in many pre-Christmas activities," says Claudia Hughes, Chamber manager. Members like to see Heppner decked out for the Christmas season and Chamber supports this by

donating lights for the decorations. In addition to providing hundreds of new lights this year, Chamber has donated \$50 toward the purchase of mini-lights for the St. Patrick's Senior Center windows. Hughes en-

courages other organizations to help light up the St. Patrick's Center.

Lunch with Santa is again on the Chamber agenda for December 10. Children can join Mr. and Mrs. Santa for lunch, photo, and a movie while mom and dad do some Christmas shopping. Chamber member David Sykes will chair this event beginning at 12 noon at the Heppner Elks.

The outdoor lighting contest, sponsored by Heppner Chamber, will be judged Sunday, December 17. First place is a \$50 gift certificate, 2nd place \$25 certificate and 3rd place \$10 gift certificate to be redeemed at any Chamber member business in Heppner or Lexington. The most festive business window will receive a \$15 gift certificate.

Music adds to the spirit of Christmas. Chamber looks forward to viewing a 12 p.m. band concert performed by Bob Isted and the school bands, Tuesday, December 12, on Main Street between the Shoe Box and Post Office. The Chamber luncheon will follow at 12:20. The following Tuesday, December 19, vocal groups from the schools under the direction of Kitty Bredemeier and Bob Isted will entertain during Chamber.

Chamber appreciates membership. It enables the organization to do more for the business community. The Heppner Chamber wishes one and all a happy holiday season.

Man receives sentence

An Irrigon man was sentenced to two years in prison Friday after his probation was revoked in Morrow County Circuit Court, according to Morrow County District Attorney, Jeff M. Wallace.

Jim Stark 20, had been on probation following his 1988 convictions on multiple burglary, theft and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle charges. While on probation, Stark was convicted of second-degree theft. As a result of the new theft conviction, his probation was revoked by Circuit Court Judge Pro Tem

Ralph Currin, and he was ordered to serve the two-year prison sentence which had previously been suspended.

Stark was also ordered to serve 90 days in jail on the second degree theft conviction.

Port to meet

The Port of Morrow Commission will meet Wednesday, Dec. 13 at 3 p.m. at the Port of Morrow Office, No. 1 Marine Drive, Boardman.

Tree permits available

Christmas tree permits are now available at the Heppner Ranger District and Millers Chevron Mini-Mart. The permits are \$2 each and may be purchased during the week from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Ranger District or at Millers from 6:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Sunday.

All woodcutting areas are now closed for this year.

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