

## Coquille attorney appointed DA

Governor Barbara Roberts has appointed Earl R. Woods, Jr. as Morrow County District Attorney. Woods will fill the vacancy created by the election of Jeff Wallace, the current Morrow County District Attorney, to the Umatilla-Morrow District Court. Woods will assume duties as DA on Jan. 4 and will serve the remaining two years on Wallace's four-year term.

Woods, 49, has been in private practice with the firm of Engelgau, Woods & Palmer in Coquille for the past 12 years. He served as district attorney for Coos County from 1976 to 1980 and as assistant district attorney prior to that. He has also been a police officer. Woods received a BA from Western Washington State University in 1968, and a

JD from the University of Oregon School of Law in 1973.

Woods is currently a pro tem hearings officer for the Coos County Planning Department and a major with the Oregon National Guard. He has also served as a volunteer fireman for the past 10 years.

Woods is married and has two children.

## Hospital plans community programs

Pioneer Memorial Hospital administrator Kevin Erich says that the hospital has planned several community activities for the coming year.

In January they plan on holding a seminar on advance directives, which give instructions to families and health care professionals as to a person's health care desires if they are incapacitated and unable to relate their wishes.

In February the hospital plans a stop smoking program and in March a hospital billing seminar is scheduled to help patients understand their hospital bills.

Other possible classes and seminars throughout the year may include a countywide CPR class, a fund-raiser for the Heppner swimming pool fund; a senior fair; a stress management seminar, a cholesterol level screening, a diet seminar, sports physicals, blood pressure checks at the county fair, a weight control program and a wellness program.

## Wallace, Murgu to be sworn in

A swearing in ceremony marking the investiture of Jeff Wallace and Rudy Murgu as district court judges will be held January 4 at 2:30 p.m. at the Hermiston District Court, 243-B East Main Street in Hermiston.

There will also be a separate investiture ceremony for both judges-elect at 10 a.m. on Monday, January 4 in Judge J.F. Olsen's courtroom in Pendleton. The courtroom is located on the second floor of the Umatilla

County Courthouse.

The ceremonies mark the first joint swearing in of two newly-elected judges in memory in the Sixth Judicial District. Senior Judge William Wells will conduct the swearing in at Pendleton. Presiding Judge J.F. Olsen will conduct the ceremonies at Hermiston.

The public is invited to attend. Refreshments will be served after the ceremonies.

## Coal Mine Hill reopened

Action by the Morrow county Court last week officially reopened motorized traffic from Cutsforth park to the top of Coal Mine Hill. This decision was made because of substantial public request for vehicular access to the Umatilla National Forest, said a county spokesperson.

In a conference with State Police Officer, Carl Martin, and the county court, a decision was made that public safety was top priority in winter recreation. With this priority in mind the county court and law enforcement

officials agreed to the following:

- Regular traffic permitted on Coal Mine Hill;
- No winter maintenance from Cutsforth Park and beyond;
- Snowmobiling allowed on Coal Mine Hill as long as snow conditions prevent vehicular traffic from reaching Forest Service Road #21 in a routine manner;
- Signing will be posted at base of Coal Mine Hill indicating no winter road maintenance;
- All traffic, vehicular or recreational should use extreme caution during winter months where there is a possibility of multiple use.

## Drug case started in Morrow County results in big bust

The Morrow County Sheriff's office, working as a member of the Blue Mountain Drug Task Force, was instrumental in a successful drug bust in Hermiston and Umatilla on Dec. 14. The case was initiated in Morrow County.

The bust resulted in the seizure of over 50 weapons, many of which were illegal, fully automatic machine guns, methamphetamines and drug packaging equipment, over \$12,500 in cash, numerous cars, motorcycles and a 48-foot cabin cruiser.

Arrested as a result of the year-long investigation which involved undercover drug purchases and surveillance, were Terry E. Eyler and Harriet A. "Hattie" Crelling, both of Rt. 2, Box 2131 #A, Hermiston. They were charged with various drug and

firearm violations.

In addition to a search of the Eyler and Crelling residence search warrants were also served at the business, "Misfits Creations", at 505-Willamette, Umatilla and at the Umatilla Marina on the 48-foot cabin cruiser "Rumrunner".

Besides the Morrow County Sheriff's Office, the Blue Mountain Drug Task force is made up of officers from the Oregon State Police, Umatilla County Sheriff's Office, the Hermiston Police Department and the Pendleton Police Department. Also involved in the investigation were the D.E.A. State Local Task Force at the Tri-Cities (which includes the Washington State Patrol and the Benton County Sheriff's office), the A.T.F., U.S. Marshall, U.S. Customs, the IRS and the INS Border Patrol.

## Disabled hunt scheduled at Port

A special disabled hunter day will be conducted on Dec. 31 at the Port of Morrow regulated hunt area-north and south units.

Any person who possesses a current Department of Motor Vehicles disabled parking permit and the corresponding piece of picture identification is eligible to hunt. Each disabled hunter may take one hunting guest with him.

The check station for the north unit is north of exit 165 off I-84 on Columbia Avenue. The check station for the south unit is 1/2 mile south of exit 168 on Bombing Range Road.

Check stations will be open 1 1/2 hours before and after shooting time.

All established roads will be considered open roads, but off-road driving will still be prohibited, said a Department of Fish and Wildlife news release. All other regulations pertaining to the areas will still be in effect.

For more information contact: Mark Kirsch, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, 700 Wilson Rd. #B-1, Boardman, OR 97818, 481-2010.

## Sharon Brace wins Silversmith jewelry

Sharon Brace, Heppner, is the winner of the Silversmith jewelry set, donated by Green Feed and Seed, to benefit the People for the Pool.

The jewelry raised \$175 which will be added to the fund to build a new pool in Heppner.

## Transfer site to accept Christmas trees

The county transfer site at Lexington will accept used Christmas trees free of charge from Dec. 26 through January 10.

HEPPNER

# Gazette Times

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## Saskatchewan librarian to direct Oregon Trail Library District

A Saskatchewan librarian, G. Wendell Buck, has been hired as library director for the Oregon Trail Library District, which encompasses both the Boardman and Heppner libraries.

Buck, who has been employed the past year as a technical services librarian for the Wapiti Regional Library at Prince Albert Saskatchewan, was born in Medford and spent his high school years at Portland. He and his wife attended college at Walla Walla.

"I feel like the move to Morrow County is a homecoming after living in Canada for 12 1/2 years and in Illinois a couple years before that," said Buck.

Buck received his bachelor of arts with a major in English and a minor in history at Walla Walla College, in addition to completing requirements for a Washington state secondary education certificate. He earned a master of library and information studies degree from the University of Alberta at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

Buck has been employed as an "original cataloger" at Parkland Regional Library at Lacombe, Alberta, a library technician at Lacombe Composite High School; an assistant librarian at Canadian Union College at College Heights, Alberta; and as teacher-librarian at Broadview Academy at LaFox, Illinois.

Buck and his wife, Judy, have two children, Emily 11, who is in the fifth grade, and Geoffrey,

six, who is in the first grade. "They're eager to move to Oregon and get settled," commented Buck. He added that his wife is a weaver and is "looking forward to discovering what kinds of wool are grown in Eastern Oregon."

"I am very impressed with the work the library board, the friends of the library groups and other volunteers have done in getting the district going," Buck said. "I am looking forward to meeting and working with such energetic and dedicated people."

"I chose librarianship as a career because I am convinced of the value of good library service to the life of a community," he added. "I think that Oregon Trail has an excellent chance to make a solid contribution to the quality of life in Morrow County and I am excited to have a part in that contribution," he added.

Gary Marks, Oregon Trail Library Board vice president commented, "We held some pret-



Wendell Buck

ty high standards from the person we were looking for to manage the district. The board feels fortunate to have found a true professional of Wendell's caliber. I am personally very excited about Wendell and feel the district can expect first class library service in the months and years to come."

The director's office is temporarily located at the Boardman library. Buck plans to be on the job Monday, January 4.

## Lunch with Santa photos available

Lunch with Santa pictures are in. Parents of children who had their pictures taken with Santa may pick up the photographs at the

Bank of Eastern Oregon Heppner branch. The pictures are posted on the bulletin board at the bank.

## Construction proceeds at PMH clinic

A retaining wall has been erected in preparation for construction at the Pioneer Memorial Clinic. Pioneer Memorial

Hospital administrator Kevin Erich says that construction on floor joists is expected by the end of the week, weather permitting.

## Nelsons receive farmer of the year plaque



Morrow County farmers Chuck and Lisa Nelson, Lexington, were named the Oregon Wheat Growers League conservation farmers of the year at the Wheat Growers annual meeting recently. The Nelsons were chosen by a committee of last year's county winners,

who toured the state looking at farms of each of this years winners. The Nelsons received a plaque at the awards presentation. Pictured are Chuck and Lisa Nelson, their two sons and Chuck's mother, Jean Nelson.

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