

HEPPNER

# Gazette imes

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## Morrow County budget down \$500,000

After two failed levies earlier this spring, Morrow County officials offered a budget, which on June 29, passed in every precinct and received an overall 61.1 percent thumbs-up from the voters. However, the county's fiscal headaches have not entirely disappeared.

Morrow County officials announced Monday that the general fund cash carryover from fiscal year 1992-93 is approximately \$500,000 less than expected.

Cash carryover is money which has not been spent by July 1, the close of the fiscal year. The balance, or "carryover" is considered a resource when budgeting for the next year, and

provides the actual operating money for the period between July 1 and November 15, when current year property taxes begin to roll in.

Because of the cash shortfall, Morrow County for the first time in its history, will be borrowing from local banks to carry operations from July 1, 1993 until tax revenues appear in November. Citing several reasons for the budgetary shortfall, county Judge Louis Carlson said that the primary contributing factors are Measure 5 compression and the "ratchet-down" budgeting philosophy that general fund departments have been required to operate under for the past

several years.

Departments have been asked to budget for a no-increase levy. This means that there is very little cash carryover into the new fiscal year, or to put it bluntly, there's no meat left on the bone," Carlson explained.

To balance the shortfall, department heads and agencies have agreed to a spending freeze on all building improvements, spending plan contingency and computer reserves funds, together with a suspension of the program which was designed to share Finley Buttes fees with the five county communities during the next fiscal year. These savings total an estimated \$406,000. "The remaining \$93,196 must

## Area children experience Native American tradition during summer program



Chief Jones and his nephew demonstrate drumming and dancing

Heppner area children became immersed in Indian culture during a two-day Native American encampment at the Heppner City park July 8 and 9. The encampment was part of the Neighborhood Center Summer Project for children.

Chief Jesse Jones, Jr., co-chief of the Confederated

Umatilla Tribes, and his family demonstrated beading, dancing, drumming and story telling.

Chief Jones, who represents the Cayuse Tribe, and his family travel throughout Oregon, Washington and Idaho, sharing and interpreting their culture and correcting misunderstandings and misconceptions about Native Americans. Chief Jones said that the Cayuse traveled extensively and were the first in the region to meet the white man and trade with them. Chief Jones shared stories in the oral tradition that he had learned from his grandmother.

Accompanying Chief Jones, whose native American name is Hoo Uma PiMa, was his wife, Marvella, both Pilot Rock,

nephews Calvin Jones and Wes Jones, his wife, Raeanne and their six children, Levi, 15, Matilda, 11, Patsy, eight, Twila, six, Molly, four and Dixon, two all of Pendleton.

After the group left Heppner, they traveled to the Whitman Mission where they were to show their horses and trappings.

In its second week, the summer project will run until the end of July. Organizer Grace Dake says that over 100 children registered for the project, with daily attendance ranging from over 60 to 81.

Drake says that volunteers are still needed for Tuesday and Thursday, July 20 and 22. Call Lea Calvert 676-5261 or Rosalie Scharen 676-9209 to volunteer.

## John Moffit named BEO Arlington branch manager

John Moffit was recently named branch manager of the Arlington Branch of the Bank of Eastern Oregon. Moffit transferred from the Heppner Branch, where he spent two years as a loan officer.

Moffit is a native of Condon, graduating from high school there in 1987. He graduated from Linfield College in McMinnville in 1991 with a degree in business administration.

Moffit enjoys hunting, fishing and water sports and is a local basketball official.



John Moffit

## Barbecue tickets on sale for Oregon Trail celebration

Advance tickets are now available for the lamb barbecue to be held in conjunction with the Cecil stop of the Oregon Trail Sesquicentennial Wagon Train to be held August 19. Dinner, which will include barbecued lamb, potato salad, baked beans, bread and the new Rocky Trail ice cream, will be served from 5-7 p.m. Advanced tickets are recommended.

The Sesquicentennial Wagon Train is scheduled to be in historic Cecil for two nights. The train is scheduled to arrive in the early afternoon on Wednesday,

August 18. That day will feature a box lunch social prior to the train's arrival, a community potluck, the Cecil family reunion, an Oregon Trail historical talk and square dancing.

Thursday will feature kid's activities, concessions, a pie auction, the lamb barbecue and a dance.

Tickets for the barbecue are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children six and under and \$30 for a family. Tickets are available at Wheatland Insurance, Ione, 422-7410 or at the Heppner Chamber of Commerce 676-5536.

## Carl Martin to retire from OSP

Oregon State Police Senior Trooper Carl Martin, Heppner, has announced his retirement, effective July 31. Martin has been on the force for 24 years.

Lieutenant Mitchell Southwick of the OSP Hermiston office said that it is not known whether an officer will be assigned to the Heppner area. He said, however, that a recommendation has been

made to general headquarters in Salem to replace Martin. If a replacement is made, Southwick said it would be some time before the officer is on duty.

In the meantime, said Southwick, officers from the Hermiston office will respond to the Heppner area and will have a patrol car in the area at times.

## Historical Society seeks Oregon Trail descendents

Are you a descendent of someone who came across the country on the Oregon Trail, if so, please send the following information to Jean Nelson of Lexington or Marsha Sweek at the Morrow County Museum as soon as possible. The Morrow County Historical Society needs to know the full name of the person or persons who came on the trail, where they came from the year they came on the trail, where they came to in Oregon and Morrow County and the names of the Morrow County descendents.

The Morrow County Historical Society hopes to present a certificate to Morrow County residents who are descendents of anyone who came on the trail at their annual meeting the first Sunday in October.

## Carol Atherly to exhibit watercolors

Carol Atherly, a local artist, will have an open house at her studio Sunday, July 18 from 4-7 p.m. to exhibit the 25 watercolor paintings she will take to California next week for a one-man show.

The paintings range in size from 15"x11" to 30"x40". The studio is located on Main St. directly across from the Northwestern Motel. "I hope lots of people will come to browse," Atherly said. "There will be coffee and cookies," she added.

Atherly has been exhibiting in juried shows since 1987, and is a member of the Watercolor Society of Oregon and East Bay Watercolor Society.

## City council to re-let fire truck bids

The Heppner City Council at its Monday night meeting, July 12, rejected all bids received for a fire truck and decided to re-let the bids.

The council said that after examination the bids submitted by Western States Fire Apparatus, Inc., H & W Emergency Vehicles and Oregon Fire Equipment Co., differed too much in features and equipment on the truck.

Also at the meeting Barbara Judd appeared to file a complaint of harassment against Heppner Police Chief Doug Rathbun. Judd maintained that Chief Rathbun harassed her family.

In other business:

-Heppner Police reservist Terri Gallegos, 26, was sworn in by police officer Merle Cowett;

-the council turned down a request for funding of Heppner Elementary School sidewalks;

-the council approved a request from the Morrow County Soil and Water Conservation District for footpath reserve funds for improvements to the Willow Creek Greenway Trail. According to city manager Gary Marks, state law requires that cities set aside monies for greenway trails and paths;

-the council heard a report and request from Cara Osmin concerning Cycle Oregon VI. Osmin and chamber manager Claudia Hughes are co-chairman for the local event. Osmin requested extra picnic tables and garbage cans placed at the city park, sewer dumping for the bicyclist shower water and a street closure on Church Street from Main to Gale

St. to prepare for the cyclists. The council approved the request with a modification on the street closure. A section of Church St. will be closed from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and the state highway from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.;

-the council was commended by Gene Sonstegard, Heppner, for the city's rapid response in cleaning up city property;

-the council held public hearings on several properties around town that required cleaning up;

-heard a report from Cyde Estes, Heppner Planning Commission, detailing a land swap, which would entail exchanging land inside the urban growth boundary, which cannot be used for development, for land outside the urban growth boundary which is feasible for development.

The council heard updates on the fire hall construction project, the city hall roof replacement project and the sewer system improvement project.

The council approved easements for the city of Heppner to allow access to the north side of the new fire hall construction and between the city and Loren Unruh and Michael McGuire;

-the council passed a resolution concerning the city employee's six percent contribution to the PERS retirement program;

-approved a change in the city burning permits. People who hold five-day permits must check with the city on the day they want to burn to see if conditions permit. Permits will be raised from 25 cents to \$1.

## Mike Mills joins partnership with Spicer and Kuhn law firm

Mike Mills, a lawyer at the law office of Kuhn and Spicer, Heppner, has become a partner in the firm effective July 1.

Mills, who is a 1975 graduate of Heppner High School, received a degree in business administration from Oregon State University in 1980. He attended law school at the University of Utah and received his J.D. in 1985.

Prior to beginning employment with Kuhn and Spicer in 1990, Mills was employed with a management consulting firm in Utah and an insurance company in Oregon.

"We're excited about him joining us, because of commitment to both the firm and to the community," said Ann Spicer, owner of the firm along with her husband Bill Kuhn.

Mills is active in Lions Club, Willow Creek Country Club, the Rodeo Committee and the Chamber of Commerce.

He is the son of Larry and Betty Mills, Heppner.



Mike Mills

## Dance planned

A dance will be held at the Heppner American Legion Hall on Friday, July 23, from 8 to 11 p.m.

The dance will feature live music and everyone is welcome to attend.

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