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VOL. 117 NO. 30 8 Pages Wednesday, July 29, 1998 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

Heppner Celebration planned Friday, July 31



Volunteers paint the shamrock at the corner of Willow and Main streets in preparation for the Heppner celebration planned for Friday, July 31.



(L-R) Claudia Hughes, Sharon Harrison, Trish Sweeney and Cliff Green

MCHD to hire two doctors, dentist

The Morrow County Health District is finalizing negotiations with two doctors and one dentist for the Heppner area, according to Scot Jacobson, human resources director.

Dr. Clyde Burnham, currently of Salem, will start work with the district this Friday, July 31, under a three-year contract. Dr. Burnham, a family practitioner, will practice at Pioneer Memorial Hospital and Clinic in Heppner and will also help out at the Boardman clinic.

Dr. Kenneth Wenberg, who has

been working full-time in a private contract with the district, since the resignation of Dr. Ernie Atkins, will now become a permanent employee of the district. Dr. Wenberg, a family practitioner with an emphasis in emergency medicine, is in the process of relocating in Heppner with his family, according to Jacobson.

The district is also in the process of final negotiations with Dr. Duane Cartwright of Portland, who plans to practice at the Heppner Dental Clinic.

The Heppner celebration planned for this Friday, July 31, in downtown Heppner will feature raffle drawings throughout the event.

Raffle items include a night's lodging at Bridge Creek Flora Bed and Breakfast, donated by Lyn Jensen; a green and white umbrella, donated by the St. Patrick's Committee; a bicycle, donated by Coast to Coast; three Beanie Babies, Princess Di bear, Valentino bear and Curly bear, donated by Pat and Trish Sweeney, Sweeney Mortuary; and a \$15 certificate for Country Rose coffee, donate by the Church of the Nazarene.

The days activities will also include a sidewalk sale of local merchants from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., kids' activities, including a chalk drawing contest, coin toss and tricycle races, music and dancing, Main Street dedication, specials at local restaurants, cake provided by the city of Heppner, a sports bottle available for purchase through the Chamber of Commerce, which includes a free Pepsi drink fill-up, and the "Kiss the Pig" contest.

Farmer escapes fire

Dick Ruhl, Lexington, was surrounded by fire while in his combine last weekend.

Ruhl was forced to jump out of the combine to get away.

Columbia Tri-County runner-up at state



Columbia Tri-County state runner-up team in 14 year old Babe Ruth state tournament. Pictured with district championship trophy and district sportsmanship trophy: front row (L-R)-Brandon Ybarra, John Elwinger, Kelly Paulus, Shane Slover, bat boy Chris Stone, Michael McCabe, Stephan Matheny, Jared Mitchell; back row (L-R)-coach Sam Bellamy, manager Stan Carnine, Lawrence Montez, Todd Shaeffer, Chris Carnine, Travis Bellamy, Randy Carnine, Chris Ewins, Mario Martinez, Andrew Stone, coach Steve Shaeffer.

By Sam Bellamy

After claiming the District 6 championship, the 14 year olds Babe Ruth team from Columbia Tri-County battled their way through the loser's bracket to get to the state championship game against Salem. This tournament was also played in The Dalles.

Salem won the game to take the state title. Salem dominated the scoring in all four games they played and will represent Oregon well in the regional tournament in Grants Pass, said Sam Bellamy, coach of the Columbia Tri-County (CT-C) team.

Columbia Tri-County opened its first game against Franklin of Portland and pounded out 20 hits to defeat Franklin, 18-9.

The second game put CT-C against Salem. A very solid pitching performance and a battery of hitters found CT-C defeated in five innings, 12-2.

On Monday, in their first game of the loser's bracket, CT-C took on Lake Oswego, winning 15-12 in a slugfest.

Tuesday, the CT-C team playing Newberg in 105 degree F. heat. Columbia Tri-County defeated them by a score of 10-0 in five innings.

The semi-final game saw CT-C matched up against Pendleton for a third time in both tournaments. Pendleton was defeated in a close 8-5 victory. "I believe the difference in the game was our ability to stay focused and withstand the heat," said coach Bellamy. "The kids held up and continued to hustle in 100-plus

degree temperatures."

This put CT-C into the championship game on Thursday at 4 p.m. The game saw Salem jump out to a 4-0 lead in the first inning, but CT-C never gave up and chipped away until they had a 6-5 lead going into the sixth inning.

With two outs and behind by one run, a rushed throw to first base went wild and allowed Salem to take a four-run lead. From there, Salem pounded to ball and received some walks and opened up the score. The final score was 17-6.

Jared Mitchell went five strong innings against Salem and was the

surprise pitcher for CT-C in the tournament. Todd Shaeffer had a stand-up triple and Travis Bellamy had a bases-loaded double to give CT-C a short-lived lead in the sixth inning.

"Our defense played almost flawlessly in the championship game. Salem is just a great hitting ball club and can slap the ball to any field as well as out of the park. They also made two great plays that snuffed four runs from us," said Bellamy.

Both teams were highly congratulated for their hustle and sportsmanship by the tournament directors.

Volunteers needed for snack shack

Volunteers are needed to operate the 4-H Snack Shack during fair week, August 19-22.

The Morrow County 4-H Leader's Council runs the Snack Shack to fund activities throughout the 4-H year. Each community in the county is responsible for a certain day during fair as follows: Wednesday-Irrigon, Runnisha McNamee, manager; Thursday-Boardman, Glaya Baker, manager; Friday, Heppner/Lexington, Janet Greenup, manager; and Saturday-Ione, Shelly Key, manager.

Parents of 4-H'ers and 4-H members 14 and over are asked to contact the Extension Office, 676-9642, 1-800-342-3664 or charle.cundell@orst.edu to sign up to help.

Tippage fee award winners announced

Morrow County Court has announced the tippage fee project awards, according to Morrow County Economic Development director Rick Minster. The awards were made July 6.

The Morrow County Economic Development Committee awarded \$20,000 to the county for a consultant to assess the impacts of the Army Depot chemical weapons incineration to the county. Minster said that the court is trying to put together a cooperative effort with Umatilla County and the state of Oregon. The goal is to obtain impact fees for the county from the government incineration program.

Two \$15,000 grants were awarded, one to the city of Boardman for the Boardman Northside Project, a landscaping and signage project for the city, and the other to the Irrigon Fire Department for fire hall expansion.

A \$10,000 grant was made to the city of Irrigon for a wastewater study.

The Willow Creek Valley Assisted Living Facility received \$8,812 for consulting fees for a

feasibility study.

The Morrow County Economic Development Department, headed up by Minster, received \$7,500 for a "Willow Creek Valley Economic Diversification" project. The money is earmarked as matching funds to obtain an Oregon Economic Development Department grant to study economic diversification for the communities along Willow Creek.

The Irrigon Park District-Step Access Project was awarded \$7,000 for a river bank stabilization project which will provide access to the Irrigon waterfront.

Lexington and Ione together received \$7,000 for a dual wastewater study.

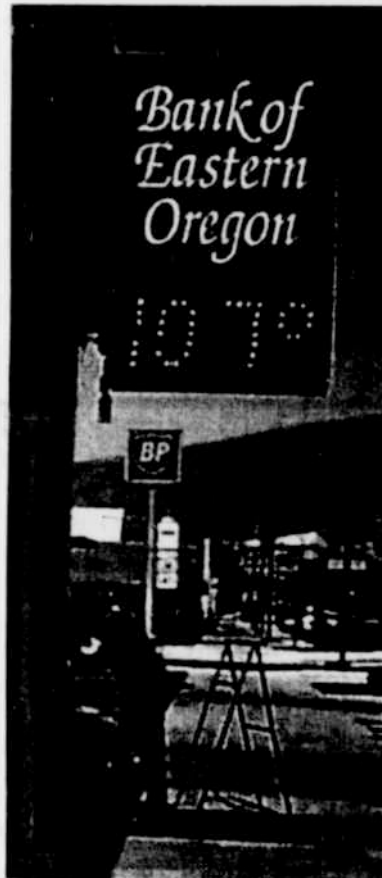
A member of each Morrow County community belongs to the Economic Development Committee. Committee members include: George Koffler, Heppner; Dennis Stefani, Ione; Duane Disque, Lexington; Mark Calbick, Irrigon; Kathy McGowan, Boardman; and the Morrow County Court.

Ministerial Association plans food sale

The South Morrow County Ministerial Association will have a food sale at the Heppner Post

Office beginning at 9 a.m. on Friday, July 31, in conjunction with the "Celebrate Heppner" activities.

It's hot!



South Morrow County has suffered a heat wave the past several days with temperatures climbing to the triple digits. The heat and thunderstorms resulted in fires which plagued area farms and forests. The Bank of Eastern Oregon thermometer showed 107 degrees Monday. According to the weatherman, temperatures are expected to cool somewhat by Wednesday.

Sign up for talent show

The Morrow County Fair will hold a talent show at this year's fair, which will be held August 19-23.

Cash prizes will be awarded in three age categories as follows: 12 years and under-first place-\$30, second place-\$20, third place-\$10; 12-18 years-first place-\$75, second place-\$50, third place-\$25; 18 years and over-first-\$100, second-\$75, and third-\$50.

One grand prize winner will be selected to go to the state fair to represent Morrow County. The fair will pay up to \$200 for expenses at state fair.

Call CJ Johnson, 676-9209, for more information.

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