

HEPPNER

Gazette times

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VOL. 118 NO. 4 8 Pages Wednesday, January 27, 1999 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

County Court denies Boardman health district withdrawal

The Morrow County Court, at a public hearing within a regular meeting in Boardman on January 20, denied a petition for territory in the city of Boardman to be withdrawn from the Morrow County Health District.

Commissioners John Wenzholz, Irrigon, and Dan Brosnan, Heppner, voted to deny the petition. Judge Terry Tallman, Boardman, abstained from voting, declaring a possible conflict of interest since his wife works as a Home Health nurse for the district.

According to court notes, the commissioners denied the petition on the basis of Oregon Revised Statutes concerning the proceedings for annexation and withdrawal of territory from a district. According to ORS, if services are being provided, there is no basis for granting a petition for withdrawal.

Gene Allen, Boardman, a supporter of the petition, said that he didn't think the court had any alternative under the statute but to deny the petition. Allen added that he believed the district's clinic should not be in competition with private enterprise. He also expressed concern over the district's financial situation.

The Morrow County Health District operates a clinic in Boardman, as does Dr. Robert Boss. Dr. Boss previously had a contract with the district, but went into private practice there when he and the district could not agree on the terms of a contract.

The district also came under fire over concerns for its solvency. David Hirai, Boardman, said he was concerned about the management of the hospital and its reliance on property tax dollars for support and added that private enterprise could offer the same services much more efficiently.

Ed Glenn, Boardman, also a supporter of the petition, said that he believes that only the voters of the district should make the decision concerning withdrawal. He said that he felt the court should put a proposal before the voters which adjusts the boundary of the territory to be withdrawn. He suggested the area within the boundaries of the Boardman Park and Recreation District and added that he thought the Coal Fired Plant should remain within the district.

Bill Hanlon, Morrow County counsel, said that a change in boundaries would not change the threshold question as to whether services are provided to the

territory.

Glenn also said that an argument that has been presented that the Morrow County Sheriff's and Morrow County Public Health Department's (separate from the Morrow County Health District) taxes are also disproportionate is without merit because they are proportionately tax supported. The sheriff's department and the public health department are funded county-wide, but are believed to provide more services in the Boardman-Irrigon area than in south Morrow County.

Sheila Dahlman, Morrow County Health District interim CEO, said that the district is concentrating on diminishing its losses. She cited increases in inpatient numbers for the Boardman clinic and said that 35 percent of the home health services are provided to the Boardman area. Dahlman also said that a plan for the district to purchase a CAT scan, which has come under criticism, is another way of expanding potential revenue sources.

Mike Bell, a consultant hired to examine the district's financial

situation, said that the district has cut its losses in half, from around \$40,000 to about \$20,000 a month. He also said that the district is not insolvent. He said that auditors are required to state insolvency; they have not done so, and he concurs with that.

Bell said that there are no plans to increase taxes for the district and he does not think that is needed. According to Morrow County Assessor Greg Sweek, in 1998, the district received \$567,203.93 in taxes. The district's total budget for 1998-99 is around \$7.4 million.

Sweek said that the district's tax rate is .6050 cents per thousand of assessed value. A homeowner with a \$50,000 home paid \$30.25 in taxes to the district in 1998. A homeowner with a \$100,000 home paid \$60.50. A business owner with a \$500,000 business paid \$302.50. A business owner or farmer with a \$1 million business or farm paid \$605; \$2 million, \$1,210.

In making his decision, Wenzholz said that services were being provided to the district, and added that whether or not the services are adequate is not the court's decision to make.

Ione resident injured in snowmobile accident

Dana Heideman, Ione resident, and past coach of the Ione Lady Cardinals, was seriously injured in a snowmobile accident Saturday, January 23, while riding up Coalmine Hill. The accident occurred around 2 p.m., less than a quarter of a mile from the parking area at Cutsforth Park, on that portion of the road currently closed to vehicle traffic.

Heideman was just beginning a snowmobile ride with a friend, Gary Rea, and son, Aaron Heideman, when he hit a large gravel pile or berm deposited in the middle of the roadway at the end of the construction season.

Heideman and his snowmobile reportedly hit the obstacle and became airborne, resulting in a crash that totaled the machine and required Heideman's transport by ambulance to Heppner's Pioneer Memorial Hospital. He was later transported to Oregon Health Sciences University via air, where he is currently in the trauma intensive care unit.

His injuries include a shattered left ankle, fractured pelvis, compressed discs in his lower spine, several broken vertebrae, separated sternum (from his ribs) and associated bruises and

contusions. Heideman underwent five hours of surgery on Sunday morning to plate, pin and screw the bones back into place and he is scheduled for additional surgery on his hip injuries later this week.

Family and friends may send cards, balloons or artificial flowers to: "Patient Dana Heideman" Oregon Health Sciences University Hospital, 3181 S.W. Sam Jackson Park Road, Portland, Oregon 97201. Identify the mail with the term "Patient" to ensure delivery even after he is moved from the trauma ICU later this week.

His wife Tonya is staying in the Portland area, and reports that doctors indicate he could be in the hospital three weeks or more, followed by a long home recovery and physical therapy regimen.

"Area snowmobilers are encouraged to take great caution in the construction area heading up Coalmine Hill, paying particular attention to obstacles such as the one hit by Heideman," said a news release from a family member.

NEWS DEADLINE
5 p.m. Monday

Josilyn Evans to preside over Round-UP

By Marilyn Robinson

Abundant achievements, beauty and brains, plus cowgirl competency are some of the ABC attributes credited to seven South Morrow County young ladies who are spotlighted in their 1999 royalty roles.

These seven highly qualified individuals have important positions as ambassadors in royalty courts representing the Pendleton Round-Up, The Arlington Rodeo and the Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo.

Reigning as this year's queen of the prestigious Pendleton Round-Up, to be held Sept. 15-18, is Josilyn Evans, the 20-year old daughter of Monte and Becky Evans, Heppner area ranchers.

Josilyn is a 1996 Heppner High School graduate and this spring she will receive a degree in agriculture production at Blue Mountain Community College.

Round-Up participation is a part of Josilyn's heritage. Her great grandfather, Ruff Raymond, was a 30-year member of the Round-Up band and a Happy Canyon director for six years. His wife, Gladys, also participated in the Happy Canyon pageant. Josilyn's grandfather, Royal Raymond, served 10 years as a Round-Up board member with two years as president. He also contributed 20 years to helping with Round-Up activities and playing in the band, Royal's wife, Wilma, was also an actor in Happy Canyon scenes. Other Raymond family members have also continued to help with Round-up activities.

Josilyn follows in the footsteps of her mother, Becky, the 1973 Round-Up Queen. Numerous aunts and cousins of Josilyn's are past court members of this historic show. Josilyn has never missed a Round-Up and in recent years she has served as a pennant bearer and a princess.

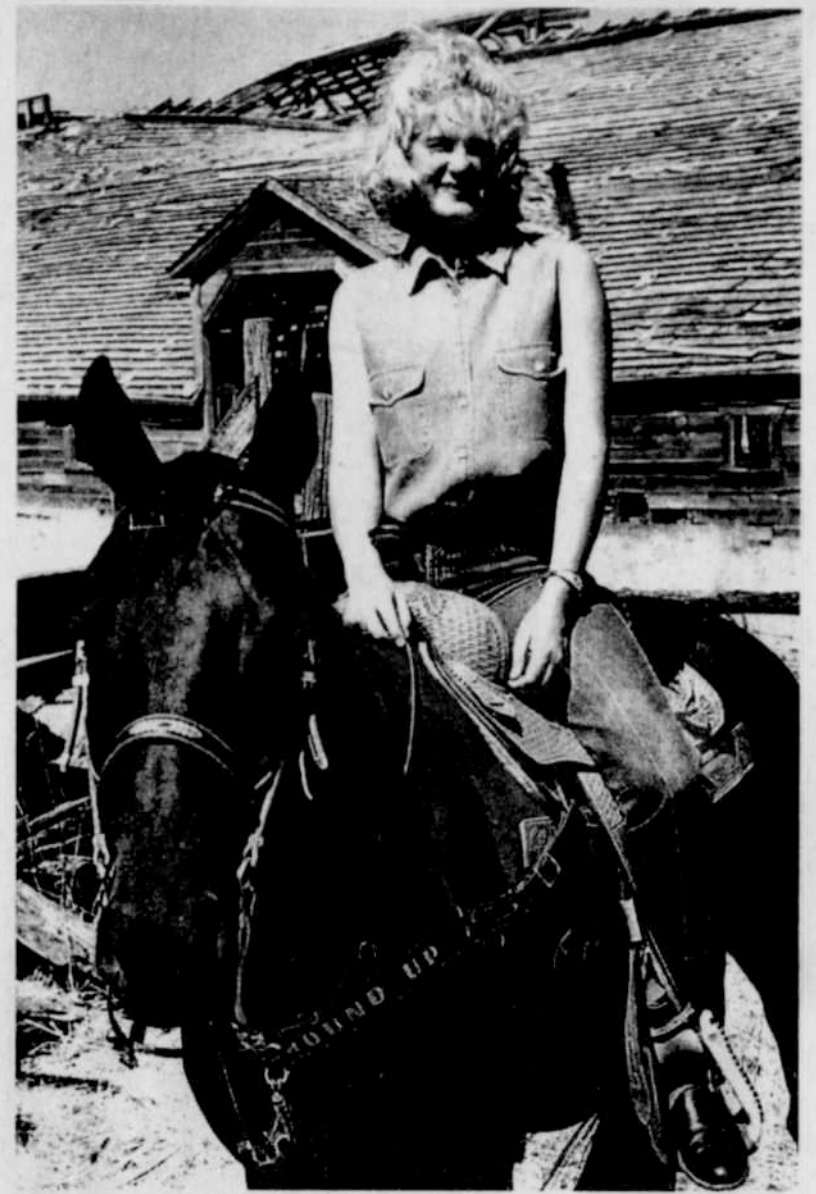
Her father, Monte, is a former contestant and gold card holder and for years has helped with arena events. Josilyn's other grandfather, Don Evans, assisted with the Westward Ho parade for six years.

A well-rounded lifestyle is one that Josilyn has created with zeal and determination. Since she was a little girl with a long blond ponytail, she has pursued livestock and horse projects in 4-H. She has received the Morrow County beef production award, proficiency awards and many championships. She has captured the junior and senior showmanship honors and, in 1994 won the all-around showmanship honors. Reserve and grand champion steers have been shown by Josilyn who vividly remembers being drug through the muck while breaking steers to lead. Her horse awards include a bevy of ribbons and trophies for top awards at halter, performance, trail and hunt seat over fences.

Besides competing at horse shows, this working cowgirl has spent long hours in the saddle schooling her own horses and helping her father and others by rounding up and working cattle. Her expertise not only is an advantage for Round-Up court appearances on horseback but she plans to spend free time training other young horses this summer. From the days when she first competed in Wrangler play days and local rodeos, Josilyn has been active in college rodeos where she competes in barrel racing and break-away roping.

During her high school years, Josilyn was the Heppner FFA Chapter vice president and received the green hand and chapter farmer degrees. She participated on the high school judging team and went on to become a participant on the college livestock judging team.

Class offices and club activities as well as sports helped fill Josilyn's high school years, along with community service participation. She is a four-year, three-letter athlete. Besides



Josilyn Evans

basketball and volleyball. Josilyn won district track sprint titles twice and participated at state meets three times.

Citizenship honors were bestowed on Josilyn for her volunteer work. As a former camp counselor she relates well with younger children. On the more glamorous side, Josilyn was chosen as a princess for the high school prom and the homecoming courts. She was also a princess of the Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail

Pro Rodeo in 1994.

Josilyn is a down-to-earth person who isn't afraid of getting grubby, whether it's working with animals or fighting fire as a former Forest Service summer employee. Her poise and outgoing personality shine through in any given situation. Whether she's dressed in jeans or her official court attire, as a model ambassador for the Pendleton Round-Up as well as Eastern Oregon, Josilyn says, "Let 'er buck!"

Ione youth to be honored

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon will celebrate the people and ministry of ecumenism in Oregon-including the work of the Ione Ecumenical Youth Group-at its annual community celebration Thursday, Feb. 4, at Valley Community Presbyterian Church, 8060 SW Brentwood, Portland.

The youth group will receive the annual Ecumenical Service Award in recognition of its work in serving the Ione community. Since 1989 the group of high school youth have gathered in a forum to meet and discuss religious issues as well as conduct service projects.

Group members help seniors, sponsor programs on issues ranging from Native American religion to domestic violence, conduct a canned food drive and assist with community-wide events.

Three other awards will be presented: Portland housing advocate Peter Paulson will receive the Vollum Ecumenical Humanitarian Award; the Revs. Paul and Cathy Quackenbush of

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church in West Linn will receive the Two Pauls Award; and the Pathways of Faith in Florence will receive the Ecumenist of the Year Award.

The celebration will include an ecumenical prayer service at 6 p.m., with dinner and awards to follow at 7 p.m.

Members of Oregon's church, civic and service communities and EMO supporters are invited to celebrate EMO's mission, which include theological dialogue and education, community ministry and public policy advocacy.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon is a statewide association of Christian denominations including Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox bodies "committed to unity, justice and improving the quality of life for all Oregonians," according to an EMO news release.

Tickets for EMO's celebration and awards dinner are available from the EMO office for \$25 each. For information or reservations call (503) 221-1054.

Volunteers needed

By Doris Brosnan

Obviously, helping hands are eager in Heppner, judging by responses to the previous requests for volunteers. Some of the people who listed needs were surprised by how quickly they received calls.

This week, the following are looking for volunteers:

-Prevention/Early Intervention (Marilyn), 676-9161: Domestic Violence Crisis volunteers.

-Heppner Elementary School, 676-9128: Adult volunteers.

-St. Patrick's Day Auction, 676-5886: Volunteers to solicit donations.

-Behavioral Health (Kim), 676-9161: Adult volunteers for "Special Friends" of elementary students.

-Commission on Children and Families, 676-9675: Volunteers

for the Accountability Board.

-Heppner Day Care, 676-5429: Volunteers to help with preschool crafts, snacks and/or reading.

-St. Patrick's Senior Center, 676-5405: Volunteers to help in the office.

The Neighborhood Center depends on volunteers such as Helen Jeffries, Sharon Brace, and Jack Little, who volunteer many hours weekly.

Barbara Gilbert and Marilyn Perkins are especially devoted workers at the Heppner Day Care.

Jerry Hamer volunteers at the Senior Meal Site every Wednesday to do their dishes.

St. Patrick's Senior Center appreciates their office volunteers.

If you need a volunteer, call 676-5886.

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