

Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Chamber Manager

The Chamber of Commerce welcomes another new member. Kay Fowler, of Hair Expressions. Our barbers are members but Hair Expressions is the first beauty shop to join the Chamber. Welcome, Kay.

Ready to tour? The annual Chamber tour is scheduled for Thursday, June 24. The tour will include the Umatilla Army Depot, lunch and Potlatch Corporation. The bus will depart at 9 a.m. from the Chamber off and return at 3:30 p.m. Please call the Chamber office, 676-5536, for further details and to reserve a space on the bus. Members and guests are welcome to attend.

The 4th of July is drawing near and with it the lone and Boardman celebrations. Are there some people who like to have fun and who would be willing to drive the Paddy Wagon with a couple of leprechauns eager to celebrate the holiday? Please call the Chamber office, 676-5536, if you would like to volunteer to drive the Paddy Wagon and/or be a leprechaun in the 4th of July parade. Make it a family affair... call to volunteer.

The community continues to wait patiently for the final decisions to be made on the mill site by the "powers that be". Patience is difficult, but there is no way to market a site or buildings to anyone until that knowledge is in hand. Once we know what we are working with, then a response team, plans for marketing and round table discussions will be forthcoming. In the meantime, tell some of your old classmates, your friends, people with connections to keep their eyes open for hometown solutions.

It is equally important that the public be aware of the results of the Willow Creek Valley diversification study and the Heppner strategic plan, so watch the paper, on the web, and on Channel 3 for information sharing dates in June.

Thought for the week: "Accept that some days you're the pigeon and some days you're the statue."

Lions club celebrates 25th anniversary

The Heppner Lions Club celebrated their 25th anniversary on June 10 at the Morrow County Fairgrounds with an informal barbecue. The key note speaker was International Director Ed Gear. New members were installed by District Governor Bob Guerrant. Vice Governor Elect Carol Tate inducted new members.

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Senior immunization campaign underway

An important senior health campaign, "It's Worth A Shot," aims to raise awareness about pneumococcal disease and the importance of being immunized.

"Pneumococcal infection kills thousands every year and most of these are people aged 65 or older," says Jennifer Kelly, public health nurse at the Oregon Health Division. "Because of this, we are urging Oregonians over 65 to protect themselves by getting vaccinated."

Pneumococcal disease is an infection of the lungs, blood or brain. Although it strikes most often in winter and spring, it can occur during any season. The vaccine may be given any time of the year.

Pneumococcal vaccine is a once-in-a-lifetime shot for most people age 65 and older, according to Kelly. "Seniors should ask their health care provider about receiving the immunization. It's a safe, effective way to prevent pneumococcal disease," she

states. The vaccination is covered by Medicare, Part B.

The vaccine is also recommended at any age for people who suffer from chronic diseases, such as diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease or lung disease. A second shot may be necessary after five years or at age 65.

People may get this vaccination at Morrow County Health Departments in Boardman on Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m.-12 noon and 1-4 p.m. at the Health Dept. office; in Heppner on Thursdays, 8:30 a.m.-12 noon and 1-4:30 p.m. at the Family Service Center (Health Dept. office); and in Irrigon on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, 9:30 a.m.-12 noon and 1-4:30 p.m. at the Irrigon Medical Clinic.

"It's Worth A Shot" is sponsored by the Oregon Health Division and the Oregon Adult Immunization Coalition. Morrow County Health Dept. will provide posters and brochures to area clinics and senior centers.

Booster club to sponsor basketball board

The Cardinal Booster Club met Monday, June 7, at Ione High School. President Debbie Radie will hire a contractor to do the carpentry work on the 1980 district basketball board.

The money for painting the gym was cut by the budget committee. Members agreed to go ahead with other gym improvements such as moving the flag, making state championship flags and redoing the district championship boards.

The 4th of July t-shirts have been ordered and paid for. Both children's and adult's sizes will be available at Wheatland Insurance the week before the fourth. The shirts will be sold at the golf tournament July 3.

It was announced Jessica Krebs won the Cardinal Booster Club scholarship. The \$300 award is based on academic achievement, written communication skills, participation and leadership in school activities, and community involvement.

Coach Dennis Stefani announced an upcoming boys' basketball tournament June 18 and 19, with eight teams participating. The tournament will run from 2-9 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday. The club agreed to provide concessions, with Betty Gray and Jeri McElligott in charge. Scott Burright will try to get bottled water donated.

Club members voted to buy new football ropes at a cost of \$350.

Stefani showed the club a sample booster jacket that can be made for Ione fans. They will be available for sport team participants at cost and the club agreed to make them available to boosters, by order only, at a slight charge. Both stencil and embroidery styles will be offered. Stefani has ordered three dozen adjustable hats to

sell. They are imprinted with "Cardinals- Big Sky Conference" on the front. Club members will sell the hats for \$15 each.

The teacher reception will be the first fall booster club meeting. Because of Labor Day, the meeting was scheduled for Monday, September 13, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will include a potluck in the school cafeteria. Site council members will be voted on and new officers for the booster club elected.

Twelve members were present at the meeting.

The next meeting of the Cardinal Booster Club will be Monday, July 12, at 7 p.m. at the high school.

Morrow County Court report

By Doris Brosnan

The Morrow County Court approved the purchase by the sheriff's office of two road spike systems.

Public Works director Van Arsdale reported as follows: The base portion of Valby Road is completed and the crew is now adding crushed rock. Upper Rhea Creek from Brenner Canyon to Ruggs is being oiled and blade patched. The crew will move to a small portion of Willow Creek not finished last year and then on to work on Patterson Ferry and preparation work on Wilson Road.

The court discussed the road plan and the question of signs at the Port of Morrow; approved a permit for CenturyTel to bury line along Redding Road; and agreed with Van Arsdale that an engineering plan for a proposed irrigation pipe under Lexington Grange Road should be examined before possible approval. The judge requested another "trucks entering" sign at the highway entrance from Finley Buttes.

Van Arsdale and planning director Tamra Mabbott addressed the court regarding their efforts to develop a policy to cover requests for improvement, maintenance or accepting jurisdiction of public roads.

The court discussed the historical significance of roads noted in the 1986 memorandum of understanding with the U.S. Forest Service and voiced concern that the roads remain open. Further discussion with the federal agency of a supplemental memorandum with changes will ensue. The court also discussed the Ione-Boardman Road, including questions related to PGE, Boeing and the squirrel populations.

The court had questions of county counsel Bill Hanlon relating to the multi-purpose building at the fairgrounds concerning the need for prevailing wage rates for individual phases of the project and the siding and roofing

donations, as well as a donation for that labor.

The court approved a contract for the electrical work at the building and referred the bids for the arena sprinklers to the Fair Board. Board Chair Bellamy will pursue a resolution to the question of water pressure and building occupancy. Contractor Jerry Gentry clarified some issues about the work his company is doing at the fair building and the donation that covers that work. He reported that the building has now been approved by the engineer as structurally sound.

Representatives of the Soil and Water Conservation District, Janet Greenup and Jim McElligott, weed manager Dave Pranger, Marnie Anderson and Ed Tamasky of Boardman Chip Company discussed with the court a proposal to add weeds to the county's "A List" in the Weed Control Ordinance.

Reported was that spotted knapweed seems concentrated in the Rock Creek area, where landowners have been working to control it. Whitetop might be rated a number-one priority and spotted knapweed, number two. Perennial pepperwood is reported to be bad in the north end. Hounds tongue, which is poisonous to cattle and easily transported by animals, is reported around the county but not in large quantities. Three weeds on the "A List" are not in Morrow County and two are being addressed through the weed plans, Pranger reported.

In support of better education, Anderson noted that several farmers have been surprised to learn that only one of the knapweeds is targeted by the Weed Board. Pranger reported that they are not enforcing control of any weeds on the "B List." They discussed weeds that are being grown for medicinal or for other economic purposes. Anderson pointed out forms of control other than chemical, such as mechanical and biological.

They agreed that enforcement

must be consistent, that there is a concern among landowners about this and that lack of enforcement will dilute the program. There was concern about placing weeds, like endemic knapweed, on the list but not being able to enforce control. The court approved placing perennial pepperweed, hounds tongue and whitetop on the "A List" and agreed that educational efforts need to be stepped up. Pranger will talk with the Irrigon City Council about adopting a local weed control ordinance. The court also approved another weed-spraying contract with the railroad.

After discussion with assessor and interim zone manager Greg Sweek, the court approved an amendment to the boundaries of the Columbia River Enterprise Zone to include the .0625 area.

Sweek also reported notification from the Oregon Economic Development Division that withdrawal from the Greater Umatilla Enterprise Zone will mean that a site targeted for the aluminum plant will be out of the zone unless it is included in the Columbia River Zone through a boundary change. He reported, too, on a meeting with the Tillamook Dairy.

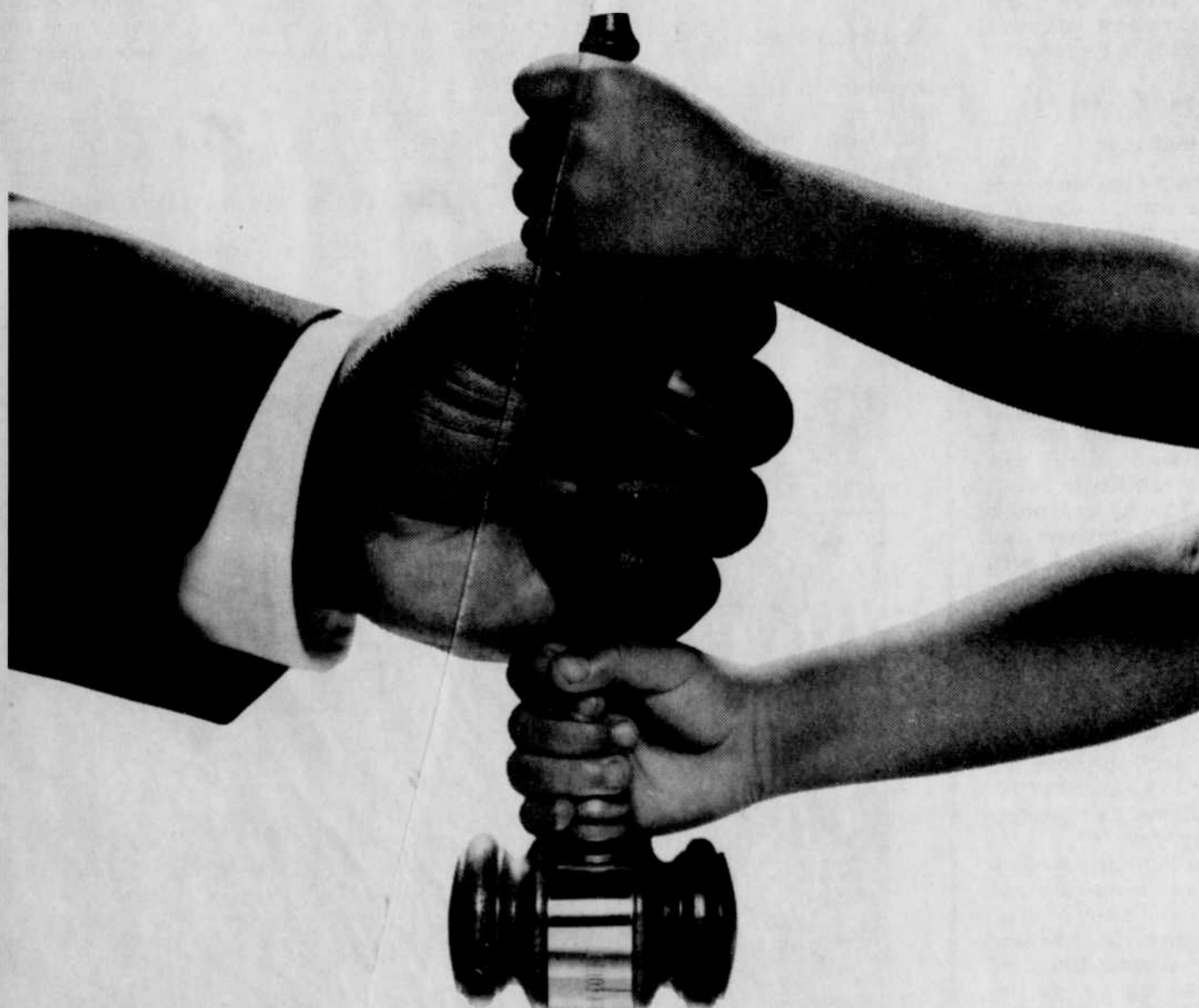
Emergency Management Director Beard, in an update on CSEPP, reported that 100 radios have arrived, and he now waits for authorization from the state to transfer funds for the contract with SSI to test them. The court approved authorization for the electrical and acoustic testing of 10 emergency alert receivers.

Beard shared information concerning the need to replace county radios, which will be obsolete in 2005 when we will lose our frequency and have to go to a narrow band width. The need for more frequencies could be filled with an 800 MHZ system and provide better capabilities, but Morrow County is one of two sites in the country that did not get such a system.

Beard also reported on the CSEPP budget matters and informed the court that the Army

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