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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

**Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES**

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Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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David Sykes Publisher
April Hilton-Sykes Editor

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County Court discusses contracting computer services

By Doris Brosnan

Morrow County Assessor Greg Sweek and a representative of Umatilla-Morrow ESD visited with the Morrow County Court at their June 21 meeting about the possibility of contracting the Umatilla-Morrow Education Service District for computer services.

The court heard that ESD presently services the county's emergency management with a staff of 18 technicians with "a wide variety of expertise."

Assessment of the county needs has been accomplished, including a suggested rewiring in the courthouse. ESD has worked with the city of Hermiston for three years, with the representative noted, a considerable savings in telephone charges, which could also be true for Morrow County.

Sweek pointed out that contracting for this computer service would require training county employees in its use.

The court plans to take action on the question next week.

The court began its June 21 meeting with the road report from assistant Public Works Director Burke O'Brien, who attended two meetings the previous week.

At one meeting, he heard discussion on an issue over landlocked water that would require an environmental impact study to ensure that adjacent road work would not pose an environmental threat.

At a three-day avionics course, O'Brien studied airport management and learned of some potential funding sources for the airport projects.

O'Brien also reported that work proceeds on Wilson Road: that he will train staff to use the windshield-rock-chip repair kit; that a soft shoulder gave way under a truck last week, causing it to turn over.

The court approved requests from Morrow County Planning Director Tamra Mabbott for a tape recorder, for printing of the "Heritage Trail Plan" and for a partnership in the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial of Oregon.

The court also agreed to a press release suggested by Mabbott, explaining the transition from the state building-permit system to the program now administered by the county. They then approved the resolution, operating plan, permit forms and fee ordinance for the program.

Representatives of the Morrow County Juvenile, Behavioral Health, Public Health, Extension Service, and Victim's Advocate departments spoke to the court about the allocation of space in the Boardman annex.

Each representative explained requirements for space and signage and agreed that some renovation will meet the needs of all.

Public Health Director Laura McElligott presented and the court approved a contract with the University of Colorado for prenatal-and-early-childhood-nurse-home-visit program services.

McElligott also advised the court of a completed grant application for funding of a reduced-adolescent-pregnancy program.

Weed Manager Dave Pranger discussed with the court some weed enforcement issues. One

case of noncompliance served to focus discussion on the method of enforcing the ordinance.

In other business, the court: -heard a presentation by a Wheatland Insurance representative, explaining the county's workers compensation plan and payment options, which the court then referred to Finance Director Lisanne Currin.

-reviewed and approved the plat maps for the Tradewinds subdivision.

-approved a space-saving policy that will permit destruction of the juvenile records in the Juvenile Department office when involved persons reach the age of 25, though those legal files do remain in the clerk's office.

-renewed the cooperative purchasing agreement with the Oregon State Department of Administrative Services.

-approved an agreement with the city of Irrigon to provide 911 services in exchange for the city's 911 funds from the state, and reviewed the letter from Morrow County Sheriff Verlin Denton regarding the department's towing policies.

-approved transference within two funds and additional resources and appropriations in five funds. The proposal was submitted by Morrow County Finance Director Lisanne Currin.

Commissioner Henholz requested county counsel Bill Hanlon to draft a contract with the Stokes Landing Community Center to allow the county to park one special transportation bus in its garage.

St. Patrick's Senior Center Bulletin Board

The big news next week is that transportation will be provided to Ione's Fourth of July Celebration. On July 2 the senior bus will leave the center at 2:15 p.m. to attend the "Patriotic Pops" concert in the park at 3:15 and will return after the concert. Anyone wanting to go to other events, such as the parade or the fireworks, etc., can come to the office and sign in. People under age 55 are also welcome to go if space is available. Also, some space is still available for the two-day tour to the Oregon Garden July 17 and 18. Call soon, 676-9030. For further information see last week's bulletin board or call the office or 676-9435.

Last Sunday was the first of the once-a-month potluck and games activity. Following an abundant dinner, guests joined in a game of "Songs We Sang" reminiscing by naming song titles and relating experiences they had associated with them. They all enjoyed listening, laughing and learning about each other. This is one of several free activities the center may offer to all ages. Suggestions for such activities are welcome.

Last Friday three tables of pinochle were in play. In addition to the regular Wednesday dinner, a light lunch is served on Thursdays at noon. All are welcome.

CALEDONIAN GAMES

Traditional Scottish Piping,
Dancing and Games

July 8th & 9th -- Athena, OR.

Tri-Cities band,
SKWEEZ the WEEZLE,
a Celtic band,
will play July 7th
at an outdoor concert
starting at 8 p.m.
Cost \$8.

A dinner will also be held
at the city part starting
at 5:30 p.m., Cost \$8.



Inquire at e-mail: calgames@oregontrail.net

Wellness Walk/ Run July 4

The Annual Boardman 5K Wellness Walk/Run will take place on Tuesday, July 4, from 8-10 a.m.

Walkers and runners will start on the Sunset Loop Trail and continue through the Marina Park campground. Participants will continue past Sailboard Beach, to the Captain Al James Historic Barge Tug. The route is level and totally paved. Strollers and wheelchairs are acceptable as are pets on leash.

For the first time, the annual Boardman 5K (3.1 mile) Wellness Walk will also be a fun run for participants who would prefer to run.

The non-competitive event will begin at the Indian Rock, Boardman Marina Park, at 8 a.m.

There is no charge to participate in the Wellness Walk/Run. All participants must sign a waiver/registration form, and check out at the conclusion of the event. Registration forms will be available at the event. Register at the Boardman Marina Park picnic area by the Petroglyph Rocks.

Closed fire season declared

Closed fire season was declared on the John Day Unit within the Central Oregon District of the Oregon Department of Forestry on Monday, June 26.

During closed fire season, open burning is restricted except by permit.

The following requirements for forest operations will be in effect: equipment must be equipped with spark arresters and fire extinguishers; fire tools must be carried; watchman service is required; smoking is prohibited within an operation area.

ODF reminds private landowners who conducted "spring" burning to check their burn areas to make sure the fire is out. Beginning on June 26, any open burning on lands protected by the ODF will require a burning permit.

These restrictions and requirements apply to lands protected by the Oregon Department of Forestry, Central Oregon District, in Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Morrow, Umatilla and Wheeler counties.

Those wishing to obtain a burning permit or more information may contact the a Department of Forestry office at John Day, 541-575-1139; Fossil, 541-763-2575; or Monument, 541-934-2300.

79 kids participate in fishing Derby 2000

A "Kids Fishing Derby" was held on June 11 at the Willow Creek Reservoir near Heppner.

Seventy-nine children participated this year with over half of them catching fish. Many prizes were awarded to age groups: five years and under, six to eight, nine-10, and 11-12 years old for the biggest/most fish caught in the bass, trout and sunfish categories.

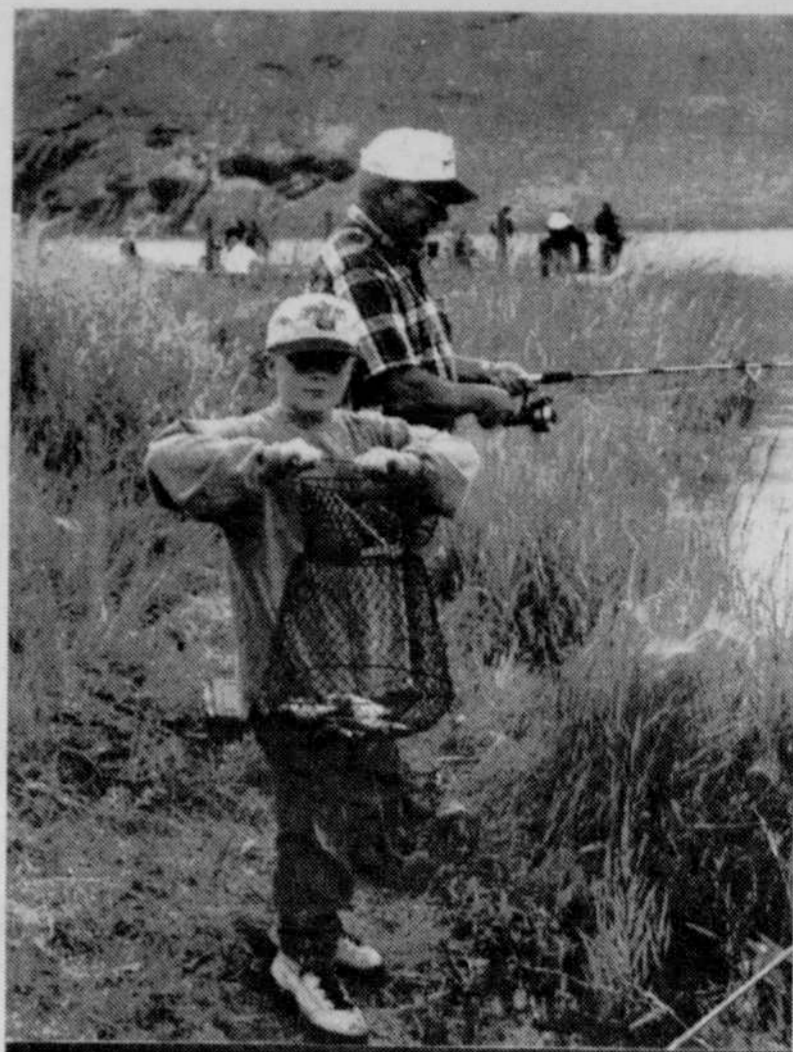
Prizes were also awarded to three age groups who participated in the casting contest.

All kids ages 12 and under and any disabled or disadvantaged kids were encouraged to attend.

There were no classes for differentiation between sexes: all who participated did so on an equal basis, according to a news release.

Refreshments were made available for all participants and volunteers.

Sponsors include: U.S. Forest Service, Heppner Lions Club, Mid Columbia Bass Club, Northwest Steelheaders, Ducks Unlimited and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.



A boy participating in the Kids' Fishing Derby shows off his catch.

DA's Report

Morrow County District Attorney David C. Allen reports the following business:

Martin Sanchez-Olvera, also known as Rafael Alvarez-Mendoza, plead guilty to Delivery of a Controlled Substance and Possession of a Forged Instrument. He was sentenced to 16 months' incarceration with the Oregon Department of Corrections with three years' post-prison supervision and 180 days in the Umatilla County Jail to run concurrently. He was also ordered to pay \$520 in fees and assessments.

Correction

A story in the June 21 Gazette-Times about volunteer George Jefferies did not include two additional people who worked to resurface the Willow Creek Dam trail, according to Jefferies. Peggy Fishburn and Bill Ewing, both Heppner, also volunteered their time to work on the trail.

Marriage Licenses

The Morrow County Clerk's office at the courthouse in Heppner reports issuing the following marriage licenses:

June 16: Murry James Starke, 32, Kennewick, WA.; and Jana Lynn Mounts, 26, Kennewick, WA.

June 20: Christopher Lee Gibson, 20, Irrigon; and Melissa Lynn Stacy, 18, Umatilla.

Partnership meet

The Baker/Morrow Regional Partnership will hold its next meeting on Thursday, June 29 at 1:30 p.m. at the Baker City Hall council chambers in Baker City. The public is invited to attend.

New student trainee at NRCS



Michelle Wanner and Loren Unruh

Michele Wanner, a student at Oregon State University, is a new student employee at the Natural Resource Conservation Service in Heppner for the summer.

Wanner's degree will be in rangeland management with an emphasis in soil science. This summer she will assist

Connie Holmquist and Loren Unruh with CRP and conservation planning. She will also assist Cliff Harris with conservation practices.

Coming from the Salem area, Wanner says she is looking forward to enjoying the warm dry climate.

Pilot walks away from crash

An airplane pilot walked away from a crash of his plane near Three Mile Canyon on the R.D. Offutt Farms around 5:30 p.m. on June 22.

The Pilot, Kevin S. Leyva, 33, Wilbur Washington, was decontaminated at the scene with the assistance of the Boardman Amulance and Boardman Fire Department before being transported to Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston for treatment for chemical contamination.

The scene was secured by the Morrow County Sheriff's Department, Oregon State Police

and Gilliam County Sheriff's Department until the decontamination unit could respond from the Hermiston Fire Department.

Once the scene was evaluated, it was turned over to the FAA, which was to begin a site investigation on June 23, according to the Morrow County Sheriff's Office.

BUSINESS CARDS

Heppner Gazette-Times

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|----------------------|--|---|
| | | | | | | 1 Ione Celebration |
| 2 Ione Celebration | 3 Ione Celebration Golf Journey Garden Club | 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY! Ione Celebration Blues Cruise/Jazz | 5 Mo. Co. Court Elks Bingo | 6 Bval. Serv. Cth | 7 Library Summ. Reading 11-noon | 8 Barrel Races 4H Horse Clinic Alumni Golf |
| 9 Alumni Golf | 10 School Board OIPR Fair Board City Council | 11 Retailers Chamber HCC | 12 Mo. Co. Court Elks Bingo | 13 WCTAL Board | 14 Library Summ. Reading 11-noon Little League All Stars | 15 Little League All Stars Class of '65 |
| 16 Little League All Stars | 17 | 18 Chamber Neigh. Cent. Bld. | 19 HEDC Mo. Co. Court Lions Elks Bingo | 20 | 21 Library Summ. Reading 11-noon Little League All Stars | 22 Horse Show Little League All Stars |
| 23 Little League All Stars | 24 Amer. Legion | 25 Chamber HCC | 26 Mo. Co. Court Chamber Board Elks Bingo | 27 Art Guild | 28 Celebrate Heppner | 29 Livestock Work Day |
| 30 | 31 Housing Auth. Med. Dist. Bld. | | | | | |

COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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NEXT TO HEPPNER HARDWARE ON EAST MAY AVE.

To have your activity listed in the community calendar of events, contact Doris Brosnan at Twice Upon A Time..., 676-5886

JUNE 2000