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Volunteers help family in need



Christine and Mark White

Help was truly heaven sent and just in the nick of time for a Heppner couple.

Mark and Christine White, who live at 340 Water Street in Heppner, recently received notice from the city of Heppner that their yard had to be cleaned.

Some "angels" from the Whites' church, the Lexington Baptist Church and volunteers from their vacation Bible school program came to the Whites' aid.

The problem was that Mark's bad heart and other health problems preclude him from any kind of physical activity.

"I had gotten a notice (to clean up the yard) the week before," said Mark. "I didn't know what I was going to do. I can only work for two-three minutes and then I'm wiped out."

"He's made four trips to the hospital this summer and yet someone complained," said Christine. "He had congestive heart failure last October and he almost died from that. What we learned is that it (the order to clean up their property) has to do with someone making a complaint. A lot of people don't get called in."

Mark says that small arteries in the bottom of his heart are blocked, too small for a by-pass and too small for angioplasty. The couple says he also has asthma, severe degenerative disc disease, severe degenerative spinal disease, a herniated disc, vertebrae out of alignment, muscle spasms, bad knees, a bad hip, arthritis in both ankles and both feet.

"Other than than I'm in great shape," laughs Mark, who keeps up his spirits with jokes. "You got to have a sense of humor."

The couple is without very many means. Mark, 50, a disabled veteran who served in

the Navy, receives Social Security retirement and veterans' disability. His wife, Christine, stays home to help care for him.

The Whites are also without a vehicle since their car broke down in Rufus. "I was supposed to go to the VA (hospital) on the third, but it blew a radiator," says Mark. Christine doesn't drive.

The Whites, who married 10 years ago, moved to Lexington in 1995 and then stayed at the Blue Spruce Apartments apartments before purchasing their home in Heppner in February of 1996. To purchase the home, Mark had inherited enough money from his parents, who wanted him to be able to own his own home.

The volunteers cleaned up the Whites' yard, hauled stuff away and stacked wood that generous people had dumped in the yard for the Whites to use this winter.

"The wood was all donated by people, too," said Christine. "They dumped it off, but some of it was too big for me to carry and he's not able."

"My blood pressure was too high for even a walk to town," added Mark.

According to city hall, the procedure for declaring a property a nuisance and ordering its cleanup is as follows:

1. Someone complains to a city employee, city council person or police officer.

2. Heppner Police Chief Doug Rathbun looks at the property and videotapes it for review by the city council.

3. City council views the tape and holds a hearing; then, if they so move, they declare the property a nuisance and order its cleanup.

4. The property owners receive notification of the resolution and are given a specified amount of time to either clean up the

property or make sufficient advances to clean up the property.

5. If the council's orders are not obeyed within the time period, the council may order the property made safe or cleaned up at the expense of the property owner. The owner will be notified of the costs of abating the nuisance.

5. If the costs are not paid within 30 days, the city can place a lien on the property to collect the costs.

A spokesperson at city hall says that only three times has the city billed owners for property cleanup and only once has a property been liened.

Fair board seeks chaperon

The Morrow County Fair Board is seeking someone to serve as court chaperon for the 2001 Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Court.

The duties begin in early October with the coordination and selection of the official outfits prior to the Queen's Coronation in early January 2001. The chaperon also will select the court pennant bearers.

The parade duties begin in March and end in mid-September. Other functions include speaking engagements, radio interviews, luncheons, fair and rodeo activities and coordination of publicity with area papers.

Applications may be picked up at the fair office in Heppner or call 676-9474. Application deadline is Thursday, Sept. 7.

For more information contact LaRae Kindle at 676-9474.

Emmett Evans wins Morrow County all-around

All rodeo photos by Judy Barber



Kyle Lockett of Ivanhoe, CA (left) was the winner of this year's Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo All-Around saddle donated by Gardner's Mens Wear. The saddle was presented by Rich Boyer (right) maker of the saddle, Mary Ann Munkers and the OTRP court. (More rodeo pictures page 5)



Blake Knowles (right) of Heppner took home the Morrow County Amateur Calf Roping saddle at this year's Morrow County Rodeo. Presenting the saddle was the OTRP court and Alexis Doutré. The saddle was donated by the Kinzua Resources. (More rodeo pictures page 5)

Emmett Evans won the All Around Cowboy award at the Morrow County Rodeo held Sunday, August 20, in Heppner.

Evans won the buckle donated by Les Schwab Tire Center of Heppner.

Evans took first place in the first and second go-rounds in team roping along with Jim Ward of Heppner. He and Ward ended up second in team roping averages. He also took second in steer wrestling.

Other Morrow County Rodeo results are as follows:

Team Roping: First Go, First-

Evans and Ward, Second-Cliff Dougherty and Cindy Leasy, Third-Ryan Matteson and Blake Knowles; Second Go: First-Evans and Ward, Second-Ward and Steve Currin, Third-Tom Martin and Steve Miller; Average: First-Steve Miller and Tom Martin, Second-Evans and Ward, Third-Blake Knowles and Ryan Matteson. Header's buckle was by Pettyjohn's Farm and Builders; heeler's buckle was by Heritage Land Company.

Top Eight Contestants to Short Go Finals: First-Steve Currin and Justin Matteson; Second-Ryan Matteson and Blake Knowles.

Open Calf Roping: First-Dave Cannon; Second-Jerry Gentry. Neil Beamer Memorial Spurs donated by the Beamer Family.

Steer Wrestling: First-Ryan Matteson; Second-Emmett Evans. Buckle was by the Turner Ranch.

Amateur Calf Roping: First Go: First-Justin Matteson, Second-Bob Mahoney; Second

Go: First-Ryan Matteson, Second-Blake Knowles; Average: First-Blake Knowles, Second-Shad Bishop.

Breakaway Roping: First-Josie Evans; Second-Angela Munkers; Third-Tiffanie Munkers. Breast Collar by Green Feed and Seed.

Calf Riding, nine-13: First/Second-Madison Bailey and Brandon Davis; Third-Willy Gentry. Shad Hisler Memorial Buckle by the Paul Hisler, Jr., Family.

Cow Riding: First-Zack Acock; Second-Jared Penturf. Buckle by Heppner Hardware.

Goat Tying, girls 14 and over: First-Angela Munkers; Second-Tiffanie Munkers. Buckle by Gar Aviation, Kelly and John Boyer.

Goat Tying, boys and girls nine-13: First-Amy Jepsen;

Second-Madison Bailey. Buckle by Dick Temple, DVM.

Mutton Bustin', 60 lbs. or less: First-Justin Yocom, Second/Third-Taighlor Dougherty, Colby Green.

Senior Barrels, 18 and over: First-Lexi Matteson; Second-Josie Evans; Third-Sarah Greenup. Watch by Peterson's Jewelry.

Junior Barrels, 13-17 years: First-Lacy Matteson; Second-Kelsey Greenup. Buckle by the Healy Family.

Pee Wee Barrels, 12 and under: First-Whitley Reece; Second-Lane Bailey; Third-Amy Jepsen. Buckle by Wrangler's Riding Club.

Businessman's Sheep Dressing Contest: Green Feed and Seed. Plaque by the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Committee.

Scholarship deadline set

South Morrow County Scholarship Trust has announced a deadline of Thursday, Sept. 14, for applications for the Elizabeth Slottee Memorial Scholarship and the Lexington Voter Precinct Scholarship.

The Slottee Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to a junior, senior or graduate student at an accredited college. The scholarship is awarded to a student majoring or minoring in music. If no applicants are found, the award can be given to a student who has been accepted into a school of education. The scholarship amount will be

determined by the earnings of the donations from the community and the Slottee family which totals more than \$10,000.

The Lexington Voter Precinct Scholarship is for \$500 and will be awarded to a college sophomore, junior or senior living in the Lexington voters precinct. Applications in disc format may be picked up at Klamath First Federal in Heppner.

Anyone who needs a disc mailed, should call Sharon Harrison at (541) 676-9164 days or (541) 989-8496 evenings.



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