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HEPPNER

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VOL. 121 NO. 25 10 Pages Wednesday, June 19, 2002 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

## 2002 Watershed Field Day held

The third Watershed Field Day in Morrow County was held May 8-9 on Duane Neiffer's property near Ione. The Natural Resource Systems Consortium in Umatilla and Morrow County sponsors the field day, which provides students with quality "hands-on" experiences that tie into existing science, agriculture and natural resource classes or units.

Approximately 140 students attended on the first day and 155 on the second, including grades 4-12. Schools that participated were Hermiston's Armand Larive Junior High and Highland Hills Elementary, Monument School, AC Houghton Elementary and Columbia Middle School from Irrigon, Boardman's Riverside High School, and Heppner and Ione schools.

"Hands-on" stations included soil development, plant and wheat identification, mapping, macro-invertebrates, and water quality and stream-bank restoration.

"A project like this takes support from many agencies, teachers, students, parents and schools. The "hands-on" experience for the students is very important in teaching them about conservation of our soil and water and how that affects all of us," stated a Morrow SWCD spokesperson.

Plant identification was taught by Dawn Callow's science class at Columbia Middle School: Gabe Hansen, Jace Jones, Amanda Walker, Shelley Orcutt, SheaLynn Slover, Heidi Vangorder. "The students did a great job teaching the station and then shared with students at Columbia MS what they had learned," commented Dawn Callow.

Not only do Gary Hunt and Duane Neiffer work as presenters for the macro-invertebrate and mapping stations, they also have had the opportunity to watch their classes participate as group leaders and work as presenters throughout the last three years. They stated, "As we live in rural areas this field day gives our students an actual hands-on experience about watershed education. They actually do research on Willow Creek and learn how the watershed is affected by different



One "hands on" station featured planting trees.



Students observe macro-invertebrates.

land management practices. This is much more meaningful than learning it from a text."

The Ione students who helped with presenters were: Brad Burright, Cyndi Heagy, Salli McElligott, Colin McElligott, Adam Neiffer, Adam McCabe, Kristina Powell, Cameron Krebs, Andrew Rietmann, Cayle Krebs, Jeff Hunt, Paul Neiffer, Til Tullis.

The group leaders from Ione were: Aaron Tworek, Jaysi Bennetto, Cody Bergstrom, Macarena Esposito, Tracy Griffith, Brian Gutierrez, Karl Morgan, Caitlin Orem, Koby Rea, Ashley Roberts, Jamie VandenBrink, Brian Bunch, Eva Chitty, Johnny Collin, Brittany Day, Billy Gates, Emily Key, Megan McCabe, Meghan McCabe, Natalie McElligott, Billy Ross, Curtis Thompson, Cyd Tullis. Many of these students

have helped for the last three years.

Steve Brownfield's field biology class in Heppner works with Morrow SWCD throughout the year placing Stow-a-ways in Willow Creek in three strategic areas. The data loggers are removed each fall and the class downloads the recorded water temperature information. The following biology class students also helped at the field day teaching the students how to measure water quality parameters including pH, turbidity, conductivity, temperature and dissolved oxygen levels at the water quality station: Paula Spicerkuhn, Shelley Rietmann, Lacy Matteson, Daniel Jepsen, Stefan Matheny, Sam Van Liew, Molly Turrell, Doug Orwick and

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## Local businesses and organizations fund 'free swim days'



Swimmers enjoy a refreshing swim on a hot, summer day.

Local organizations and businesses have teamed up to fund free Monday swim days at the Willow Creek Water Park. The Elks Lodge funded free swim on this past Monday, June 17.

In addition to the regular pool hours, adult swim time is now open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:10-6:00 p.m. The cost is \$2 or \$1 with a season pass.

## Art for all at the Morrow County Fair

With the fair coming up in August, those planning the Morrow County fair hope that everyone who paints is busy preparing work to bring in on August 12 from 1-8 p.m.

There are 11 categories in which to enter in Amateur Art. Watercolor has two divisions and oil has five. These first 11 categories are for artist's own design or from a photo they have taken or set up. Lot 12, broken into 4 divisions, is for classes and copies: any painting done in a workshop or a copy of another artist's painting must be entered in this category. For everyone with the ability to make a nice piece of sculpture by hand and with tools, there is Lot 13. In these 13 categories, anyone from ages 18-100+ can enter.

The Youth division, ages 14-17, has the same categories as above plus Lot 15, computer art. They will be judged in this age group only so all high school students will be judged on an individual basis by an artist judge. The fair board encourages lots of competition.

The Professional category is for art teachers, artists who sell at art shows and galleries and anyone who sells or does art for an income, such as illustrating for books. All the same categories as with Amateur are available.

The theme of the fair this year is "Discover the Centennial Spirit" and those who aren't sure what sort of piece to do are encouraged to pursue something with this theme.

All work will hang on old barn boards to provide equal judging. Entrants are asked to put wire on the back of their entries to ensure stable hanging.

Morrow County Creative Arts and Crafts will give a special award based on points for ribbons. Murray's Drug will provide an award to the individual who paints "Ann's Favorite Painting."

Everyone is invited to come take a look at the talent displayed by other Morrow County community members.

For questions or more information, or to inquire about art categories that are not listed in the premium book, please call Shirley McNary at 422-7569 or Betty Mills at 676-5546.



Merry Brannon, pool manager, receives a \$1,000 gift from Darrell Raver of the Bank of Eastern Oregon. The funds will help to cover free Monday swim days this summer.



Exalted Ruler Marty Brannon presents pool manager, Merry Brannon, with a \$250 check to fund Monday's free swim day.

## Hospice program accepts patients

By Molly Rhea

A long-held vision is finally reaching fruition for the staff at Pioneer Memorial home health. The agency has recently been given the go-ahead to begin accepting patients to their newly established hospice program.

To be eligible for hospice care, a person must be terminally ill and agree to palliative care, treatment to enhance comfort and improve quality of life, as opposed to treatment directed toward the underlying disease.

Hospice's goal is to provide support and care for persons in the last phases of an incurable terminal disease so that they may live as fully and as comfortably as possible. The hospice staff provides training and support to the patient's caregivers through the dying process and continues to offer bereavement following the death of the patient. The hospice philosophy is to affirm life, while neither hastening nor postponing death.

At first glance, having the availability of the hospice benefit may not seem much different to some from what Pioneer Memorial home health already provides. However, there are many differences, some subtle and some not so subtle.

Hospice emphasizes caring for the whole person: their mental, emotional and spiritual

states as well as taking care of their physical needs. The hospice team consists of the patient's physician, nurses, social worker, and a spiritual counselor or clergy. If needed, the patient may also receive physical, speech and occupational therapy, as well as help with personal care, which is provided by home health aides.

Volunteers are an important part of hospice. Volunteers can be used in many capacities such as, helping in the office and as couriers, aiding in fund raising, providing caregiver respite and direct patient care.

Medicare, Medicaid and most private insurance companies reimburse hospice on a per diem basis. Out of the daily payment (per diem), hospice provides all the disciplines listed above and any needed medical equipment, as well as furnishing the medications being used for the terminal condition.

Pioneer Memorial Hospice (PMH) staff feels Heppner is very fortunate to have Carolyn Willey in the community. She has volunteered to be the volunteer coordinator, as well as function as the hospice's chaplain and bereavement coordinator. Willey took early retirement from Florida Suncoast Hospice, one of the largest hospices in the nation, to care for her mother, Lynn Bibby, during the last two years

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