

Bessie Wetzell
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HEPPNER

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VOL. 122 NO. 40 10 Pages Wednesday, October 1, 2003 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

Health district plans discussion on possible tax levy

The Morrow County Health District Board, at their regular meeting in Boardman Monday night, discussed issues concerning a proposed tax levy which, if passed, would enable the district to continue operation without significant cuts in programs.

The board plans to discuss the particulars of the proposed levy with Mike Bell, CPA, at their meeting planned for Oct. 20. The board has yet to decide the cost of the levy, which services it will continue to offer if the levy passes and what services will be cut if the levy fails. The district operates Pioneer Memorial Hospital and Nursing Home and Pioneer Memorial Clinic in Heppner, the Irrigon Clinic, ambulance services throughout the county and also subsidizes a private medical clinic in Boardman.

In other business, the board:

-received the profit/loss statement for August which showed a \$36,181 loss for the month and a \$62,048 loss for the year. The district showed \$371,055 in total operating revenue and \$412,881 in total operating expenses for the month.

-received the following statistics: Pioneer Memorial Clinic-390 patient visits for the month, with 20 new patients and an additional 35 patients seen by a nurse; Irrigon Clinic-243 patient visits, with 42 new patients and an additional 20 patients seen by a nurse; Pioneer Memorial Hospital-18 patients, 1170 lab tests; 119 x-ray procedures, 32 CT scans, 24 EKG tests, 20 respiratory therapy; Home Health-135 visits; Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home average daily census-13; Heppner Ambulance-25 total runs; Boardman Ambulance-26 total runs; Irrigon Ambulance-eight total runs; Flights-four.

-received the following statistics from Dr. Robert Boss, owner of the Boardman Health Care Center-237 patient visits for Physician's Assistant Rich Hamblin, 226 patient visits for Dr. Robert Boss.

-approved a resolution regarding a profit sharing retirement plan.

-learned that the Irrigon Clinic is located in a residential zone rather than a commercial zone. The board heard that the county has

agreed to take care of the paperwork involved in changing the zone to commercial, since the county annex offices in Irrigon, near the Clinic, are also zoned residential.

-learned of a possible medical program that would benefit migrant workers, which the Morrow County Health Department (not Morrow County Health District) is exploring. Morrow County Health District is not yet sure of the extent of its involvement.

Quilt Raffle to benefit diabetes



Gwen Healy, with grandson Brent Eckman displays quilt made by Healy.

A quilt raffle is being held to help benefit Juvenile Diabetes Research. The quilt being raffled was made by Gwen Healy, of Heppner, who's grandson, Brent Eckman, of Lexington, has juvenile diabetes.

The winning raffle ticket will be drawn on Sunday, Oct. 12 during the Walk to Cure Diabetes held in Hillsboro, at the Hillsboro Stadium.

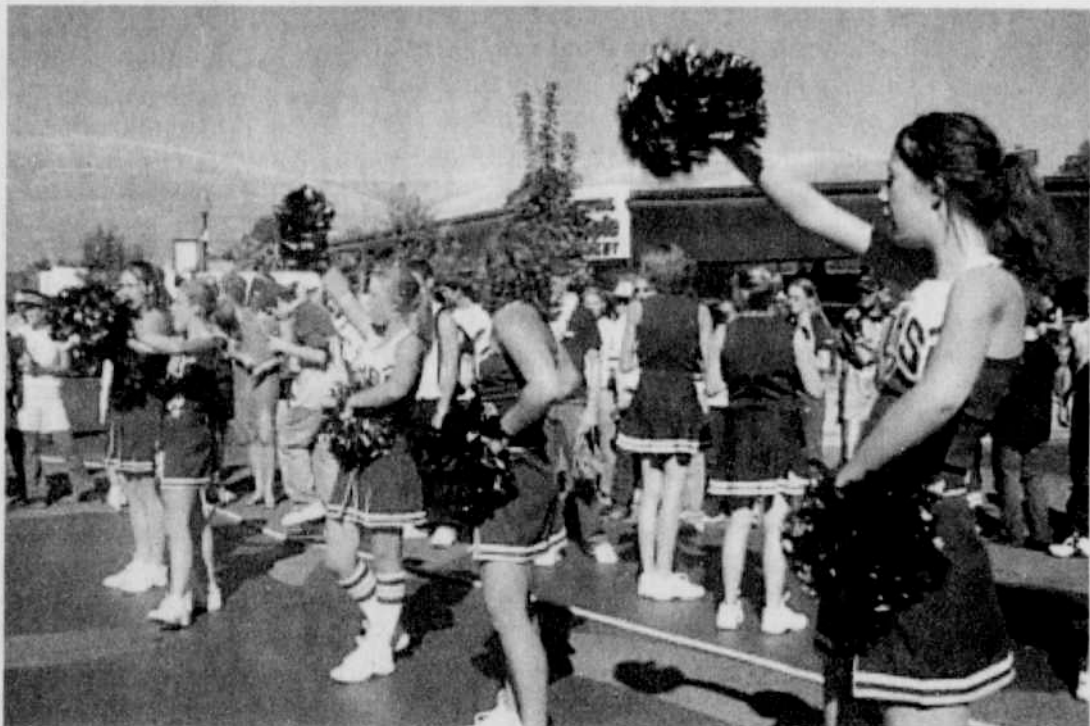
Tickets cost \$2 and can be purchased from Heppner TV, Holloman's, Judy Eckman at Morrow County Grain Growers and Gwen Healy at 676-9929.

Large crowd attends Ione Education foundation dinner and auction



About 260 people attended Saturday's Education Foundation dinner and auction in Ione. It was estimated that about \$23,000 was raised from the dinner and auction and the sale of personalized bricks for the new plaza at the Ione school. An order form for the bricks is located on page 3 of this week's Gazette-Times. Above the Shenanigans perform for the dinner crowd.

Heppner celebrates Homecoming



Heppner High School cheerleaders perform during the Homecoming Parade held on Thursday, Sept. 25.



HHS 2003 Homecoming Court

photo by Teresa Hughes

Heppner High School held their homecoming football game and dance on Friday, Sept. 26. (Back Row L-R): Jr. Princess Chelsea Britt, with father, Rusty Britt, Sr. Princess Chantea Macaulay, with father, Bill Green, Queen Tiffany Piper, with father, David Piper, Sr. Princess Brooke Rust, with father, Tim Rust and Jr. Princess Madison Bailey, with father, Ken Bailey; (Front Row L-R): Jr. Prince Jode Coil, Sr. Prince Chuy Elguezabal, King Justin Botefuhr, Sr. Prince Brian Haguewood, Jr. Prince Tyler Boyer, Crown Bearer Ross Cutsforth and Flower Girl Paige Grieb.

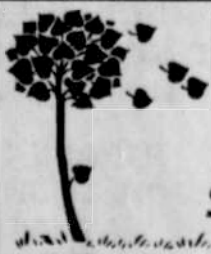
Flu Clinics coming to Morrow County

The Morrow County Health Department will be holding flu clinics in Heppner, Ione, Irrigon and Boardman from Oct. 2-Oct. 15. The charge for flu shots is \$12, which can be billed to Medicare and all health insurances.

Clinics will be held: in Heppner- Oct. 2, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m., at the Public Health Office, 120 Main St. (above Heppner Hardware); and Oct. 8, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at St. Pat's Senior Center, 525 N. Gale St; in Ione- Oct. 15, 4-7 p.m., at Ione City Hall, 385 W. 2nd St.; in Irrigon- Oct. 6, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., at Stokes Landing Senior Center, 195 NW Opal Place; in Boardman- Oct. 7, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m., at the Public Health Office, 101 Boardman Ave.

School board discusses superintendent's job performance

The Morrow County School Board met in executive session Monday night in Boardman to discuss some issues concerning superintendent Dr. Jack Crippen's job performance. The board agreed to continue discussion at their Oct. 13 meeting, beginning at 2 p.m.



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