

Four Morrow County residents awarded for Ag



(L-R): Bob and Suzanne Jepsen, Merlyn Robinson and Shirley Rugg

Four Morrow County residents were recently inducted into the Diamond Pioneer Agricultural Achievement Registry at the group's recognition luncheon held at the CH2M Hill Alumni Center on the Oregon State University campus.

The Diamond Pioneer Registry was established in 1983 when the College of Agriculture Sciences observed its 75th anniversary to recognize the significant contributions of friends and colleagues aged 75 or over, who have served agriculture and related areas throughout the years.

The four Morrow County inductees were:

Bob Jepsen, who farmed a dryland wheat and barley farm, totaling 2500 acres, with outstanding yields and excellent soil conservation practices. Jepsen has served as chairman of the Morrow County Extension Advisory

Committee, supervisor of the Heppner Soil and Water Conservation District, president of the Morrow County Wheat League, president of the Oregon Wheat Growers League, chairman of the State Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Committee, national chairman for the Day of Bread and member of the national Wheat Industry Council. Jepsen organized sixth grade tours of Morrow County farms for Portland school children. He was Morrow County Conservation Man of the Year in 1970 and Morrow County Cowbells state winner of the Father of the Year in 1972. He has served as mayor of Heppner for the past 12 years.

Merlyn Robinson grew up on a ranch in Morrow County and at an early age learned how to train horses. She attended Oregon State University, after which she and her

husband Donald, began the Kirk and Robinson top quality registered polled Hereford ranching operation. Robinson has been a member of the Oregon Cattlemen's, the Oregon Cattlewomen's, the Oregon Polled Hereford, the Columbia Empire Polled Hereford and the American Hereford Associations. She has been a 4-H livestock and horse leader since 1970, chairman of the Wranglers and Morrow County Open Class Horse Show, holds a 4-H horse-judging card and has judged many fairs throughout Oregon and Washington. She served on the Morrow County Fair Board from 1979 to 1991. Robinson wrote for the East Oregonian newspaper, Agri-Times Journal, the Columbia Basin Electric Co-Op Ruralight magazine and has written agricultural articles for other publications.

Shirley Rugg grew up on the family ranch near

Heppner and was queen of the Morrow County Rodeo in 1940. In 1949, she and her husband, George, took over a 5200 head sheep operation from her parents; in 1970, she changed the ranch over to a cattle operation. In 1977, Governor Bob Straub appointed Rugg to the Livestock Advisory Board of the Oregon Department of Agriculture Board of Forestry. In 1978, she received the "Trail Boss" award by the Pacific Northwest section society of range management. She has been an active member of the Morrow County Livestock Growers, the Oregon Sheep Growers Association, the National Wool Growers Association, the Appaloosa Club, the Oregon Cattlewomen's and the Oregon Cattlemen's Association.

Suzanne Jepsen grew up in Pendleton where she was a member of the Pendleton Round-Up court. She attended Oregon State University. She served as chaperon of the Morrow County Rodeo Court. She worked as a partner with her husband, Bob, on their wheat farm, driving truck, unloading wheat and feeding the harvest crews. Her favorite jobs were selling seed wheat and keeping the ranch books. She is a member of the Heppner Planning Commission and she is chairman of the board of a group of Heppner citizens who promoted, built and operates the sixteen-apartment Willow Creek Terrace Assisted Living facility in Heppner. This facility overlooks Willow Creek Dam and Lake. The facility is the first community-sponsored and financed assisted living home in Oregon. In 2003, Bob and Suzanne Jepsen were named Heppner's Man and Woman of the Year.

December schedule for Heppner Schools

The Heppner High School drama club will be presenting a production entitled "Lagooned" on Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 8 at 7 p.m. Admission price is \$1.

The Heppner Elementary School Site Council will meet on Dec. 7 at 6:30 p.m. and the HES PT Club will meet at 7:30 p.m.

The HHS Site Council will meet on Dec. 8 at 6 p.m. and the Booster Club will meet at 7 p.m.

The HES Winter Program will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 9 at the HES gym. HHS will hold its Winter Program on Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria.

The Morrow County School Board meeting will be held Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. at HES.

The Community Education Committee meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Dec. 20.

The Heppner Schools Winter Break will begin on Dec. 17, with classes resuming on Jan. 3.

MCHD receives positive audit report

continued from page one

granted federal funds in the neighborhood of \$500,000 to start a migrant clinic in Boardman. However, Glenn says that the clinic already anticipates a budget shortfall. The clinic would serve the general populace and would not be restricted to serving just the migrant population. "The brutal reality is that a lot of people are not very happy about what we're (MCHD) putting in the Boardman community," said Glenn. Board Chair Larry Mills, countered that many people are also unhappy about the amount that is given to Dr. Boss' clinic. Mills also pointed out that while the recent health district levy was defeated by voters in Boardman and Irrigon, it received more votes than anticipated in the Boardman area and "clearly more votes in Irrigon." The board decided to wait to make a decision until the proposed clinic's budget is more firm and need, if any, is determined.

learned that Molly Rhea, R.N., current director of Pioneer Memorial Home Health and Hospice, will also assume the duties of director of nursing services at the hospital. Former director of nursing Tammy Henderson has resigned. She had earlier moved to the Irrigon area. The combination of director of nursing and Home Health and Hospice director positions is expected to save the district between \$40,000 and \$50,000, even with an increase in Rhea's salary. Rhea's office, which had been located downstairs in the clinic/physical therapy office building, has been relocated to the basement of the hospital building. The former Home Health and Hospice office will now be used for meetings and conferences.

voted to move the December meeting to Monday, Jan. 3, because of the Christmas-New Year's holiday.

heard the October financial report which showed a \$66,946 loss for

Symphony and Singers to perform in Long Creek and Ione

The Willow Creek Symphony and Singers (Inland Northwest Musicians Ensembles) will present their first ever performance in Long Creek on Dec. 4, at 7 p.m. The same concert will be presented on Dec. 5 in Ione at 4 p.m. These concerts will be presented without admission charge (a free will offering will be accepted).

The Willow Creek Symphony is a 40-member full orchestra comprised of students and adults. They rehearse on Tuesday evenings from 6-7:30 p.m. in Heppner. An ensemble comprised of students and adults working side by side is a unique and exciting enterprise for everyone involved.

The Willow Creek Singers is a 16-member choral organization. They rehearse on Tuesday evenings from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in Heppner.

Both of these organizations are excellent performing groups in their own right and they also function as the preparatory level of Inland Northwest Musicians activities. Anyone interested in more

the district. Last month the district saw a \$24,319 gain. Mahoney said that MCHD has an average monthly year-to-date loss of \$18,287.

agreed to a cost of living increase to include all employees, except for providers (doctors) who already have a contract with the district and Vander Does, who has been working without a contract. The cost of living increase had been postponed because of the district's financial position prior to the passage of the health district levy. The increase is expected to cost the district around \$35,900 annually.

received a report which showed the following for the month of October: five hospital admissions; 15 observation admissions for \$15,625 in revenue; 439 outpatients; 73 emergency room "encounters"; 1317 lab tests; 127 x-ray procedures; 33 CT scans; 30 EKG tests; one respiratory therapy procedure; 336 provider visits at the Pioneer Memorial Clinic, 201 at the Irrigon Clinic and 104 hospital visits by providers covering the emergency room (\$26,135 in emergency room provider revenue); 150 Home Health visits, including 88 skilled nursing visits, 39 aide visits, seven occupational therapy visits, 15 physical therapy visits and one speech therapy visit; and 903 drug doses provided by the pharmacy for \$32,265 in revenue; 21 ambulance runs for Heppner, 18 for Boardman, and eight for Irrigon, with three flights.

learned that Rusty Estes, formerly maintenance supervisor, has been appointed Emergency Services coordinator, and Carl Lauritsen, formerly EMS coordinator, will assume the duties of maintenance supervisor. Estes, an EMT, is also chief of the Heppner Fire Department. Lauritsen is also a paramedic.

agreed to work out a contract with Vander Does within the next several months.

Heppner Schools to hold holiday programs

The Heppner Elementary School will be presenting its Holiday Program on Thursday, Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the HES gym. All grades will be performing traditional holiday music.

The Heppner High School Holiday Program will be Thursday, Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. at the high school. The choir and the junior high and high school bands will be performing holiday music in varied styles.

information about participation in these groups or concert information should contact Inland Northwest Musicians at (541) 966-6649 or at info@inwm.org.

Any DSL speed.
One price.
\$19.95!
+ FREE DSL modem!

High-Speed DSL Internet from CenturyTel

CenturyTel brings you the freedom to choose your High-Speed DSL Internet. Whether you want to simply surf the Net, or you want it all - movies, music and internet radio - you'll enjoy unlimited access that's up to 50 times faster than a standard dial-up connection*. Sign-up today and choose any speed for only \$19.95 a month for your first 3 months! Plus, we've now reduced the regular monthly price by \$5.

Call today: 1.888.267.6521

- FREE WebBlock
- Always on, reliable access, 24/7
- 5 e-mail accounts
- 5 MB of personal Web space

CENTURYTEL
www.centurytel.com

*The actual downloading speeds, reliability, and level of security are all those dependent upon the Internet, downloading speeds, reliability, and level of security may vary. *Offer ends December 31, 2004. New residential activations only. Year first 3 months service will cost you \$19.95 a month. After your 3 month promotional period, your monthly service fee is according to the plan selected at the beginning of the promotion, \$29.95, \$39.95 or \$49.95. Initial setup fee is waived. However, customer will incur a \$35 setup charge if a downgrade in speed is made. Phone line is required for DSL service and is not included in monthly DSL rates or promotion. Service fees do not include customer premise installation of modem or router kits, if desired by customer. Customer agrees to maintain CenturyTel DSL service for at least 1 year. Early terminations will result in a penalty of up to \$149.95 (excludes initial value of modem). Speed if forwarded to another person, given away, exchanged, transferred, or sold. Limit one offer per customer. Some restrictions apply. Offer good while supplies last. Service and offer not available in all areas. Ask a CenturyTel Representative for details. CenturyTel DSL system requirements: Windows 98, ME, NT, 2000 or XP web. Processor: Pentium III or better, or Min. OS 8.5 or greater with Apple Macintosh: PowerPC, G3, G4 or G5. 32 MB of RAM, 25 MB of free hard-disk space, 256 SVGA monitor, ADSL Modem, Network Interface Card.

**WE PRINT
COMPUTER
FORMS**

Heppner Gazette-Times
676-9228

Order
Magnetic
Door Signs
HERE

Heppner
Gazette-Times
676-9228