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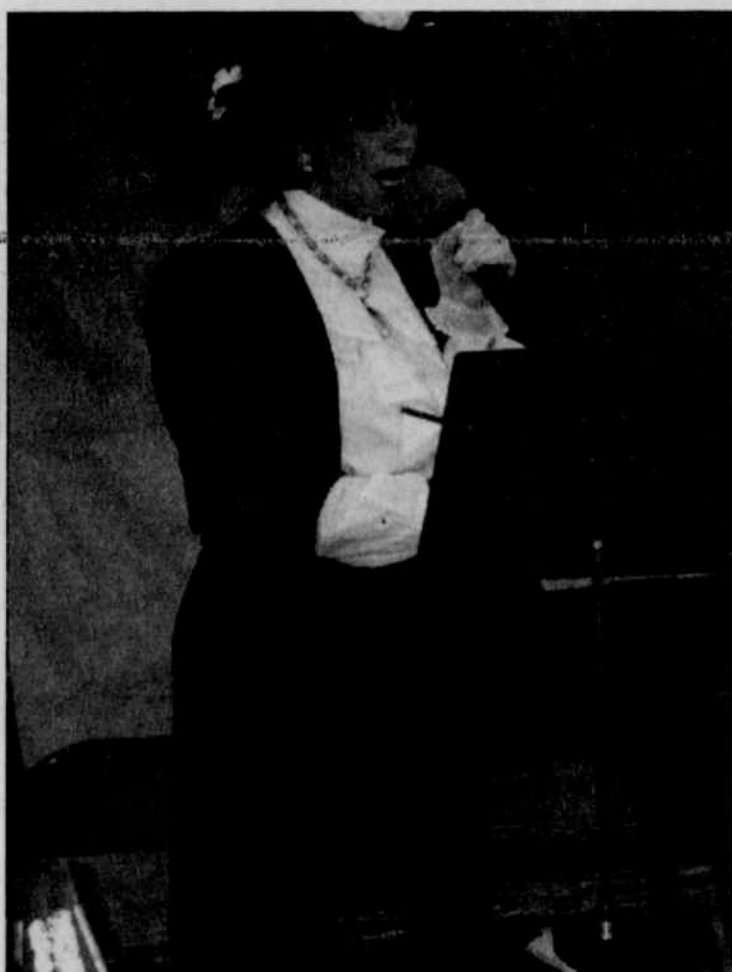
VOL. 124 NO. 31 8 Pages Wednesday, August 3, 2005 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

Fourth annual Dinner at the Cemetery highlights Roberts Opera House



Ron McDonald (playing NC Zan), formerly of Heppner, sang "Danny Boy" to the crowd at the Dinner at the Cemetery.

The fourth annual Dinner at the Cemetery, held July 30, highlighted the Roberts Opera House and Roberts Hall during the 1903-1905 period. Showcasing the popular entertainment of the early 1900s, the evening was filled with numerous musical performances and a wealth of historic information.



Sarah Carlson, of Ione, played Anna Matilda Minert Natter and dazzled the crowd with both her singing and orchestra performances.

Health district loses \$105,000 in June; prepares for new digital x-ray system

The Morrow County Health District learned at its regular meeting July 25 that the district lost over \$105,000 for the month of June. The average monthly year-to-date loss was \$36,341. The district had over \$250,000 in operating revenue in June with an additional \$7,961 in non-operating gain, and had over \$363,000 in operating expenses. CEO Victor Vander Does said that July was looking better financially.

The district is in the process of upgrading the x-ray equipment from a film system to a digital system. The changeover will cost \$85,000 for the x-ray

machine, \$30-35,000 for remodeling the facilities to accommodate the new system, \$25,000 for PAC (the storage system, software, back up and support) and \$51,000 for the CR (computerized radiography) digitizer. The new system will be purchased through a three-year flex lease. Chief Financial Officer Nicole Mahoney said that the new system will save the district around \$1,400 per month on x-ray film. She also said she was able to reduce the cost of the computer system by \$4,000 by negotiating with the company's sales representative. Vander Does said that they hope to have

the new system installed by September. It will allow physicians to send the x-ray results to medical facilities virtually anywhere via the web. The district will also employ a backup system.

A new x-ray technician, Melissa Pedersen, formerly Cutsforth, is now on the job. She replaces former tech, Gaylin Fickel, who moved out of the area. Although licensing has been completed for a new physician's assistant to be employed with the district, Vander Does has not yet heard when, or if, the new PA will begin.

Also at the meeting, new members, John Murray,

Talent show brings new creativity to Celebrate Heppner



Ella McCormack, dancing to "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun," took first in the 6-12 year old category.

The first annual Heppner Idol Talent Show was a new feature of this year's Celebrate Historic Heppner festivities. There were three categories, 6-12 years old, 13-17 years old and 18 and older. Cornerstone Gallery and Murray Drugs Inc., donated gift certificates for a free drink to all participants.

In the 6-12 category, Ella McCormack took first with a dance to "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun." She received a \$50 cash prize sponsored by Wheatland Insurance.

In the 13-17 category, Drion Donner and

Whitney Smith took first place with a western swing dance. They received a \$50 cash prize sponsored by Wheatland Insurance. Albany West took second with "baby shark." She received a \$25 gift certificate sponsored by The Video Store.

In the 18 and older category, Sarah Whatley took first place with her singing talent. She received a \$50 cash prize sponsored by The Hughes Ranch. Sam Van Doorn, also singing, took second. She received a \$25 gift certificate sponsored by The Video Store.

Nazarene Church holding school supply drive

The Heppner Nazarene Church is holding a school supplies drive during the month of August. Donations can be dropped off weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the church. School starts Aug. 29.

The Heppner Elementary School supply list includes:

All K-6 grade students will be expected to have a pair of clean gym shoes for PE. These shoes will be left at school.

Kindergarten: (all supplies are used from a common supply table, so please do not label) 1 pink pearl eraser; 4 glue sticks; 1 8-count box of crayons; 1 set markers; 1 dozen pencils; 8 ounce bottle of glue; 1 box Kleenex; paint shirt-labeled/ name; PE shoes (Velcro-kept at school); and a backpack. No tablets, trapper keepers or notebooks.

1st grade: 2 pink pearl erasers; 2 glue sticks; 1 16-count box of crayons; 2 dozen pencils; 1 bottle of glue; 1 box Kleenex; 1 box (5 inches by 8 inches); backpack/duffle bag; and a water bottle. No tablets,

continued page two

No recall filed for Lexington Council members

No one had filed a petition with the Morrow County Clerk to recall any members of the Lexington City Council as of Tuesday morning, Aug. 2. However, according to the Morrow County Clerk's Office, a recall petition for Town of Lexington officials must be filed with the Lexington city recorder, who serves as the filing official. The county clerk, who serves as the election official, is responsible for determining the number of signatures required, signature verification and conducting the recall election.

No petitions have been filed with the city of Lexington as of Aug. 2, according to Nicki Clement, city recorder.

An effort to recall council member Jean Brazell is now reportedly underway, according to a Lexington citizen. The G-T was earlier told that recall efforts were also underway for another council member and the mayor.

The council has encountered difficulties between feuding personalities on the council and has had other problems with its water system.

Weekend break-in at Murray's

Murray Drugs on Main Street in Heppner was broken into and pain medication was taken from the pharmacy, some time between 6:15 p.m., Sunday, July 31 and 7 a.m., Monday, Aug. 1, said Ann Murray, owner.

According to the Morrow County Sheriff's Office the suspect used force to enter the building. "It looked like a quick in and quick out," said Sheriff Ken Matlack.

Pain medication was the only item taken from the store, which carries a variety of items, including liquor.

This is the first time in 20 years that the business has been broken into, said Murray. In the 30 years before she and her husband, John, took over, the business had only been broken into nine times.

Local men to celebrate 80 years

Five men, all Ionians in their youth, will celebrate becoming octogenarians this year. They will be at an open house to visit with friends on Aug. 7 at the Lone Legion Hall from 2-5 p.m.

In recent years, the group and their wives try to get together at least once a year to visit and reminisce.

All are World War II vets. They represent four branches of the Armed Services. Jim Barnett served twice in the Navy. He was drafted before he graduated from high school and later as a reserve was called again to the Korean War. (He got seasick this time.) Ernie McCabe was also a navy man. George Griffith was a Marine, Bob Hoskins was a paratrooper and Don Peterson was a SeaBee.

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MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.



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