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HEPPNER 50¢
Gazette Times

VOL. 125 NO. 39 10 Pages Wednesday, September 27, 2006 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

The Ione Education Foundation held its annula fundraiser Saturday night. A variety of school memorabilia and other donated items were auctioned off. Dustin Padberg, (above left) along with Howard Mullins helped auction the items. The crowd (below) enjoyed a prime rib dinner with shrimp and crab.

Health district phone system outdated; progress made in clinic scheduling

Morrow County Health District CEO Victor Vander Does told the board Monday night that the district needs to update its outdated phone system. Vander Does said that the district has received three bids, one for $104,000, one for $84,000 and one for $40,000, but added that the bids may not be for comparable packages. He told the board that he would investigate further and report back to the board.

Vander Does also told the board that Pioneer Memorial Clinic has had some progress in scheduling appointments for those who had been placed on a waiting list. Vander Does said that out of 39 patients, 20 had been scheduled for appointments and some others contacted did not reschedule at that time.

In other business, the board:

-learned that Pioneer Memorial Hospital's alarm system is in need of replacement. Vander Does said that the system could be replaced for around $40,000.

-learned from Vander Does that the district is exploring different malpractice insurance carriers. The board discussed the $5000 credit for doctors practicing in rural areas, which has become a topic in the news of late.

-learned that the state is compiling administrative rules for swing bed programs, which could possibly enable MCHD to establish a long-term care program at Pioneer Memorial Hospital. "That would be fairly good news for us," said Vander Does. "In the long term in the community, it would be a great deal," said MCHD Chair Larry Mills. The swing-bed program could provide enough reimbursement to make a long-term facility viable. MCHD had to shut down its nursing home because

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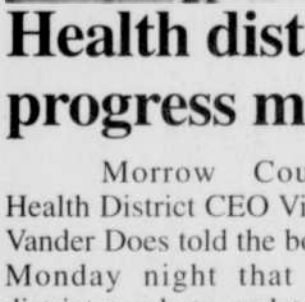

Trimble Guidance Field Day
Thursday, October 5th starting at 10 a.m.
at Dick Snider's on Social Ridge
Factory representatives will be on hand
Lunch will be provided

Morrow County Grain Growers
Lexington 989-8221 • 1-800-452-7396 For farm equipment, visit our web site at www.mcgg.net

Community members help at Ag Work Day

Nathan Kennedy drives a piece of equipment that helps create a path between the HHS barn and the greenhouse.

Several community members gathered together on Friday, Sept. 22 to hold a workday for the Ag program at Heppner High School. Volunteers worked on the greenhouse and barn and worked on creating a path between the two.

Beth Dickenson, the new VoAg teacher at HHS, organized the project. Dickenson hopes to get the barn and greenhouse back into good repair to facilitate programs in her VoAg classes and help with FFA projects.

Mackenzie Hughes (left) and her mom, Angie, help with painting during the HHS Ag Work Day.

Cliff Green helps put the HHS greenhouse together.

General Election nearing

The General Election this year will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 7. Those wishing to vote in this election need to register by Tuesday, Oct. 17. Ballots will be mailed out on Friday, Oct. 20. In the state of Oregon, all voting is done by mail.

On the national and state levels, citizens will be voting for U.S. Representative, Governor, State Representative, Judge of the Oregon Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals and Judge of the Circuit Court. There are also 10 measures on the ballot. Two of the most controversial measures are:

Ballot Measure 42, prohibiting insurance companies from using a credit score or "credit worthiness" in calculating rates or premiums; and

Ballot Measure 43, requiring 48-hour notice to unemancipated minor's parent before providing an abortion. The measure would also authorize lawsuits and physician discipline.

Countywide, positions for county commissioner and three director positions for the Morrow County Soil and Water Conservation District will be voted on.

In the City of Heppner, voters will be electing a new mayor and three councilpersons.

In the Town of Lexington, voters will be electing a mayor and four councilpersons.

In the City of Ione, there is a contested race for mayor, with Mark Bruno and Betty Gray running for the positions. Voters will also be electing three councilpersons. There is also a local measure on the ballot regarding a three-year local option tax for general operating expenses.

In the City of Irrigon, voters will be electing two councilpersons.

In the City of Boardman, voters will be electing one councilperson.

Enrollment up for Morrow County Schools

The Morrow County School District reported total enrollment of 2281 on Sept. 6 of this year, up 29 compared to Sept. 6 of last year, and total attendance of 2171, up 32 over last year.

This year's enrollment figures included: A.C.Houghton Elementary School, Irrigon, (pre-kindergarten through fourth grade)-343 students this year, 337 last year; Irrigon High School (grades seven through 12)-338 this year, 307 last year (grades seven-11); Heppner Elementary School (grades k-six)-195 this year, 194 last year; Heppner High School (grades seven-12)-231 this year, 233 last year; Irrigon Elementary School (grades five-seven)-126 this year, 133 last year (grades five-six); Riverside High School, Boardman (grades seven-12)-406 this year, 460 last year (included Irrigon seniors last year); Sam Boardman Elementary School (grades k-three)-354 this year, 427 last year (grades k-four); Windy River Elementary School, Boardman (grades four-six)-246 this year 156 last year (grades five-six).

Attendance on Sept. 6 of this year was: ACH-323, IHS-322, HES-185, HHS-221, IES-119, RHS-404, SBE-329 and WRE-226. Attendance on Sept. 6 of last year was: ACH-316, IHS-281, HES-188, HHS-223, IES-128, RHS-444, SBE-393 and WRE-148.

Morrow County Sheriff investigates car accident

Emergency crews responded to Gale Street in Heppner on Sept. 24, around 8 p.m., in response to a report that a motor vehicle had struck a bridge.

The driver, Carrie Martin, 28, of Heppner, was transported by Morrow County Ambulance to Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner. She was kept overnight and was released Monday morning, Sept. 25, stated the Morrow County Sheriff's Office.

The passenger, William Looney, 31, of Heppner, refused treatment and transport at the scene.

According to the Sheriff's Office, witnesses stated that the vehicle had last been seen north-bound on Gale Street traveling at a high rate of speed just prior to the accident. The investigation is ongoing.

ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE:
MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.