

Morrow County Court weekly meeting held

The Morrow County Court met on August 18 in Boardman with Judge Tallman and Commissioner Rea in attendance. Following is a summary of the meeting provided by Leann Rea.

The court reviewed and approved the minutes from the August 11 meeting.

The court reviewed and approved retirement taxes and Morrow County Rodeo payments in the amount of \$2,626. Also reviewed and approved the account payables in the net total amount of \$119,800.46.

Road Report

Willow Creek

Road: The crew is continuing with crack sealing on Willow Creek Road, they have completed filling in the small cracks from Heppner Junction to Cutsforth Park. On Tuesday the 16th the machine to fill the wide cracks arrived. The crew is currently filling the wide cracks from Blake Ranch Road to Cutsforth

Park. This project should be completed by the end of next week providing the weather cooperates. **Blake Ranch Road:** The crew continues working along the Blake Ranch Road clearing brush and smaller trees. Pilot Knob Construction did some drilling and blasting on two rock bluffs and will finish with the third and last blasting project on Wednesday the 18th. The rock from the bluffs is being hauled to fill in some of the lower spots where culverts will be installed after raising the road approximately three feet. **Paint Striping:** The crew worked on the striping of the county roads until the paint in stock was exhausted. Eleven totes of yellow paint should be arriving in the next few days. Once the paint is received the striping will be finished. There seems to be a shortage of paint pigment and resin, thus causing a considerable back log on paint orders. The court was provided with a list of

the roads that have been completed, the roads in process and the roads that still need to be paint striped. **Crusher:** The crusher at the OHV pit continues to crush rock.

Contracts

Reviewed and authorized Judge Tallman to sign Amendment #4 for the intergovernmental agreement MOR0911 with the Oregon Commission on Children and Families 2009-2011. This amendment was necessary because of state budget cuts.

Parole and Probation

Parole and Probation Supervisor, Dan Robbins, requested that the court establish the positions of Parole and Probation Officer and Work Crew Supervisor. The court approved the creation of these positions and then reviewed and approved the job descriptions and pay scale for the positions.

The court conducted the following business: The court appointed John

Renfro to complete Justin Nelson's term on the County Planning Commission. Mr. Renfro's term will expire on December 31, 2011. The court learned that the previous offer to purchase the property at Blake Ranch had been withdrawn. The court then reviewed two new offers to purchase the property and after some discussion decided to sell the property to Dewey Harvey of Heppner in the amount of \$25,000. The court reviewed the first draft of the Procurement Policy and instructed County Counsel to continue working on the Policy and then establish a meeting with all Department Heads to discuss how this will impact their acquisitions.

Various correspondences and upcoming meeting notices were reviewed and discussed.

If you would like to be placed on the list to receive county minutes, please contact Karen Wolff at (541)676-5620.

A view from the hill

By Doris Brosnan

Change continues to visit Willow Creek Terrace - sometimes bringing sadness, sometimes delight, sometimes surprises. The community views this as a part of life - on the Hill or in the valley.

Residents and staff were saddened by the passing of Dot Halverson and Dallas Craber, two vibrant personalities who are greatly missed.

Always delightful is the addition of new faces and personalities, so "delightful" describes other recent changes at the Terrace. Grace Brown moved to Heppner from Caldwell, ID, nearer to her granddaughter, Nicole Mahoney. Grace, who is 90, notes that she is adjusting to having other people available to help her instead of having to do everything for herself. Carolyn Morgan has moved to the Terrace from Eugene. Carolyn says that she is the mother of seven children and now lives close to daughter Wendy Appleton.

Residents may have been surprised on the morning of Lori White's first culinary efforts in the kitchen. After working at the Terrace for almost five years, Lori accepted the opportunity to step into the cook's position a few weeks ago, and she reports that she is really liking the job which includes work on menus, as well as preparation of meals.

Carolyn says that the food at the Terrace has been good, and Velma Wight and Helen Crawford note the same, but they add that going to the St. Patrick's Senior Meal Site each Wednesday is also enjoyable. The outing affords them an opportunity to dine with other friends they enjoy seeing and visiting at least once a week.

Four residents joined the July 12 outing to Music in the Park. Six residents attended the Morrow County Fair during National Smile Week. And during that same week, one resident had a special reason to smile: Ginger Wilkinson celebrated her birthday on August 3. Friends and neighbors appreciated the opportunity to join her and wish her the best.

On National Dog Day, canine Makia brought smiles to faces on the Hill, coming with Patti Smith for a visit with residents and resident pooches, Barney (Bud Batty's companion) and Patches (co-resident with Dorothy O'Dell). One might wonder who or what might come for a visit next month on Lazy Moms Day or Wonderful Weirdoes Day.

Some other special days in September will include Kiss-a-Bald-Head Day, Labor Day, NFL season's start, Patriot Day, Grandparents Day, Line Dance Day, Ballroom Dancing Week, as well as others that will bring laughter, serious conversations, special food treats, and some interesting activities to the Terrace.

The residents know that more surprises are in store at the Hill because two more apartments are available for new neighbors. Anyone interested in information about the facility is encouraged to call 676-0004. When those apartments become "home" to someone, the Terrace will again have seventeen residents able to enjoy the monthly variety of events.

Senior Companion Program seeking volunteers

The Senior Companion Program, sponsored by Community Counseling Solutions, Inc., is looking for volunteers.

The goal of the Senior Companion Program is to provide part-time volunteer opportunities to low-income older persons who serve others needing special assistance. The program primarily serves seniors who are lonely and isolated, those recently released from a hospital or nursing home, those with long-term illnesses, and those who have drug or alcohol problems.

All Senior Companion volunteers serve others through a volunteer station (site) which is usually an agency that provides services to seniors. The volunteer station, in turn, assigns volunteers to individuals needing help in their homes. Stations include nursing homes, assisted living facilities, SPD

(Seniors & Persons with Disabilities) organizations, senior centers, and adult foster care homes. In some instances, volunteers also travel to private homes to provide companionship and care.

Volunteer activities can include social interactions, talking with, listening, light housekeeping, reading, transportation, writing letters, or simply being a friend. Volunteers do not, though, take the place of medical support personnel, nor do they perform heavy lifting. Support and assistance is given to enable a person to remain self-sufficient in a home environment. Senior Companions are encouraged to give 20 - 40 hours per week (minimum of 15 hours per week).

Senior Companion volunteers receive a stipend of \$2.65 per hour for each hour of service. The stipend

is non-taxable and is not considered income when computing income for other federal/state program eligibilities. In addition, volunteers receive transportation assistance to and from volunteer sites, orientation, in-service training, and insurance coverage, and recognition while serving as a volunteer. A typical monthly stipend is \$265 for 100 hours of service.

The Senior Companion Program staff provides orientation and training to each volunteer. Orientation consists of 20 hours of pre-service training, including reading material, video presentations, assistance from the project director and staff at the volunteer site, and on-the-job training. In-service meetings for volunteers are held monthly to provide additional training and information on subjects of interest meant to increase their skill

level as volunteers.

To become a Senior Companion volunteer, one must: be at least 55 years of age; be in good health and able to pass a physical exam; pass a background check; and pass a criminal history review. Volunteers must also meet an income guideline as follows: 1 person household - \$1805 monthly; 2 person household - \$2429 monthly; 3 person household - \$3052 monthly; and 4 person household - \$3675 monthly.

The Senior Companion Program is funded by the Corporation for National Service. The program is a member agency of the Umatilla/Morrow County United Way.

For more information about the program contact John Brenne, project director of Senior Companion Program, at 541-276-4474.

Attention Morrow County School District Employees and Oregon Prescription Drug Program Clients

We are pleased to announce Murray's Drug is now able to process your Rx claims online for the ODS-OPDP network!

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Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office reports handling the following business:

April 14 cont.: -MCSO received report of an abandoned vehicle on an Irrigon subject's property. The subject wanted it removed. A deputy responded and while talking to the subject, they found documents they were looking for.

-MCSO received report of attempted fraud from a mail scam in Irrigon.

-MCSO, Irrigon Fire Department received report of a fire out of control in an open field behind an Irrigon residence. The reporter said the fire jumped the fence. MCSO and Irrigon Fire responded.

-MCSO received report from a Mid-Columbia Bus driver that while she was picking kids up from school at Heppner High School, she witnessed a parent/teacher letting her kid hang on to the outside of the vehicle and then she drove about 50 ft. The reporter said she didn't want to get anyone in trouble, but advised the driver should be spoken to about how unsafe it is to do that.

-MCSO arrested Michael Leroy Burk, 70, for DUII. He was cited for Violation of the Basic Rule, 71 mph in a 55 mph zone and for DUII with a bac of .15. The subject was to appear at

-Continued on Page FIVE

Kinzua Lunch group plans next meeting

The next Kinzua Lunch group meeting will be a potluck at Ernie and Ada Schell's in Twickenham on September 10.

Annual youth trap shoot held



Top Photo: Participants take their turn shooting during the annual Columbia Plateau Pheasants Forever and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife youth shoot. **Bottom Photo:** Mike Bennett teaches youth to reload shotgun shells. -Contributed Photos

Columbia Plateau Pheasants Forever and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife held their annual youth shoot on August 14. The event was held at the Lexington Gun Club outside of Lexington with 13 youth attending.

There were four age groups that the kids participated in. For the 10 & under group, Samuel Moore of Hermiston won first place and Keegan Gibbs took second. In the 11-12 year old age group, Will Lucher won first place, and later gave the adults a run for their money in the shooting games. Age 13-14 was won by Treston Maben by a margin of two over Andrew Hatfield, the second place finisher. The 15-17 age group winner was Ryan Bennett with Trent Cannon finishing second. Columbia Plateau Pheasants Forever also raffled off a Remington .22 rifle which was won by Garrett Gibbs.

Following a barbecue lunch, the youth were given a short class on reloading shotgun shells by Mike Bennett, the youth coordinator for Pheasants Forever. Each kid was given an opportunity to reload a shell and see how the process worked.

Shells for the shoot were provided by ODF&W and targets by Columbia Plateau Pheasants Forever. Lexington Gun Club donated a location for the event to take place.

Host an Exchange Student Today!



Hanna from Norway, 16 yrs.
Likes skiing, swimming, dancing and art. Hanna hopes to join a drama club while in the USA.

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Enrich your family with another culture. Now you can host a high school exchange student (girl or boy) from France, Germany, Scandinavia, Spain, England, Japan, Brazil, Italy or other countries. Becoming a host to a young international visitor is an experience of a lifetime!



Klaus from Germany, 17 yrs.
Loves camping and playing soccer. Klaus' dream has been to spend a school year in the USA.



Cathy Halvorsen 541-422-7107

1-800-733-2773

www.asse.com or email to hostinfo@asse.com

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ASSE International Student Exchange Program is a public benefit, non-profit organization.

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