

Heppner Daycare completes projects with help of donations



Top Left Photo: Pictured are Corey Sweeney, Bob Hubbard, Lil Boyce, Peggy Connor, Merry Chandler, Katie Wilson, Ashley Geier, Ann Jones & Keeley Nairns. Lil Boyce contributed approximately \$400 to the Heppner Daycare in memory of her son Rick Boyce. Corey Sweeney put in time and money to make the new "Heppner Day Care" sign which replaces the old "Teddy Bear Workshop" sign from the first opening day of the daycare in the late 1980s.

Bottom Left Photo: Pictured are C.J. Kindle, Caige Chandler, Mekayla Kindle, Merry Chandler, Keeley Nairns, Katie Wilson, Ann Jones, Becky Kindle, Ashley Geier, and Tom Norton. The old sign was made into a bench by Bob DeSpain, a.k.a. Bob the Builder, in memory of previous preschool teacher Sue Norton.

Top Right Photo: Pictured are Ann Jones, Merry Chandler, Ashley Geier, Keeley Nairns, Katie Wilson and Jordan Jones. The back door cement to the "Colt Club" room were donated and placed by J&G Services owned and operated by Frank Jones. His wife, Ann, is assistant director at the Heppner Daycare.

Bottom Right Photo: Pictured are: C.J. Kindle, Ann Jones, Keeley Nairns, Jessica Peterson, Katie Wilson, Ashley Geier, Merry Chandler, Mekayla Kindle, and Caige Chandler. A new fence was built with materials purchased and donated by Devin Oil. Matt Scrivner donated his time to help build the fence.

"We at Heppner Day care are a non-profit organization that depend heavily on support from state and county funds to operate," said Amy Kollman of Heppner. "With the cuts to funding at the state and county levels, which support small centers like ours, we are feeling the pinch as are many small non-profit businesses. In light of the budget cuts and to continue with the structured and fun learning at the center we happily accept donations, either monetary or supplies for the crafts and learning projects our children participate in at the center. Remember your donations are tax deductible. If you would like to support Heppner Day Care and need more information contact Merry Chandler at 541-676-5429." -Photos by April Sykes

Public meeting set to discuss proposed fuels reduction activities near Penland Lake

The Heppner Ranger District of the Umatilla National Forest will host its fourth collaborative public meeting on Thursday, October 28, to discuss proposed fuel reduction and forest stand density projects in

the Potamus Fuels Reduction Project area located southeast of Heppner near Penland Lake.

In 2001, the Morrow County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) identified the Pen-

land Lake Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) area as a priority for fuels reduction projects to lessen the impact of wildfire on lives, property, and the landscape.

Two meetings and a field trip were held over

the past year to help identify public interest and project ideas. "We felt it was important to discuss and coordinate wildfire risk reduction strategies across land ownerships, so prior to developing the proposed action, we visited with the public and partner agencies in a collaborative process," said Todd Buchholz, District Ranger.

This next meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Thursday, October 28, at the Heppner Ranger District Office, 117 South Main Street, Heppner. Discussion topics will include: meet the new ranger; update on past collaborative efforts; review of proposed fuels reduction activities; needs for access and egress routes into the Penland Lake recreation area; Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) of 2003; and timelines to complete the planning process and proposed project implementation.

For more information about the public meeting or the fuels reduction assessment, contact Brian Spradlin (Environmental Coordinator) at the Heppner Ranger District 541-676-2127.

MEDICAL SERVICES

-Continued from Page ONE with the Navy could possibly include their purchase of a new ambulance for the health district.

Also in his report, Estes said that MCHD EMS is in the process of switching over to computerized ambulance run sheets.

In other business, the board:

-learned from CEO Michael Blauer that new physician's assistant, John Adair, is in the final process of receiving authorization to practice in Oregon. He will be based in the Irrigon Medical Clinic.

-learned from Blauer that the district is still working on transferring paper records to electronic. He said that he anticipates making a decision on purchasing a system within the next couple months. He said that he expects that the district will be reimbursed for around 95 percent of reimbursable costs, in the neighborhood of "a couple hundred thousand." "I hope to be making good progress by this time next year," he said, adding that the timeline is still well within federal requirements.

-heard from Blauer that the USDA paperwork required for funding of purchase of a CT scanner has been completed and he and board Chair Larry Mills have signed off on that. The process has been completed through Columbia Basin Electric in Heppner. Blauer also said that the district has applied for a \$90,000 grant towards purchase of the scanner and should find out by November 18 whether the district will receive the monies.

-learned from Molly Rhea, director of nursing services, that there are currently four people in long-term care at Pioneer Memorial Hospital. She said that another two patients are in the swing bed program and one of those may transfer into long-term care. Blauer said that some changes to exit doors are being explored in order to make the facility more secure for ambulatory long-term care patients.

-approved policy revisions presented by Rhea, concerning patient emergency care and medical screening and disclosure of intoxicant information.

-approved a three-year contract with Content Betsy Anderson, a physician employed with the district. Anderson did not ask for a pay increase, but instead requested more vacation days. The board agreed to add four days to Anderson's current 20

days of vacation with no additional monetary compensation.

-learned from Blauer that the previous OHSU med student who had been working at the hospital has completed his month-long rotation and a new student is on board, again for a month-long stint.

-approved credentialing for Dr. Cambier.

-held an executive session concerning renewal of a physician's contract.

-received the following report: Pioneer Memorial Clinic had 452 patient visits for September with 28 new patients, 53 seen by a nurse and eight no-shows; Irrigon Medical Clinic had 182 patients in September with 23 new patients, 33 seen by a nurse and 10 no-shows; Heppner Ambulance had 20 total page-outs with 15 transports for \$14,842 in revenue; Boardman Ambulance had 32 page-outs with 19 transports for \$21,553 in revenue; Irrigon Ambulance had 22 total page-outs with 12 transports for \$12,724 in revenue; there were four flights during the month; Pioneer Memorial Hospital had five admissions, two swing bed admissions, 10 admitted for observation, one admitted for respite care, 496 outpatients, 68 total emergency room encounters, 1508 lab tests, 103 x-ray procedures, 30 CT scans, 17 EKG tests, seven colonoscopy procedures, four endoscopy procedures, 16 respiratory therapy procedures; Home Health had 147 patient visits; Hospice had 83 patient days; and pharmacy had 849 drug doses for \$70,293 in drug revenue.

-received a profit loss statement from Chief Financial Officer Nicole Mahoney showing revenue up slightly over last month with \$563,666 in gross patient revenue, \$59,046 in revenue deductions, \$94,733 in tax revenue and \$1,311 in other operating revenue for \$600,665 in total operating revenue. The district showed \$613,014 in operating expenses for September including \$333,060 in salaries and wages, \$84,188 in employee benefits and taxes, \$52,413 in supplies and minor equipment, \$38,198 in purchased services, \$32,287 in depreciation and \$26,392 in professional fees for the top six expenditures. The district had a \$10,930 non-operating gain for a \$1,418 loss for the month and a \$27,417 average monthly year-to-date loss. The district lost \$47,950 in August.

Tumbling classes being held

Tumbling classes for children ages 3-11 are being held at the Morrow County Fair Grounds on Fridays. For more information call 541-989-8514.

IHS cheerleaders to hold costume Halloween party

Ione High School cheerleaders will hold a costume Halloween party on Saturday, October 30, from 2-5 p.m. at the Ione School cafeteria.

The party is for children ages 2-11. Admission is two cans of canned food.

For more information contact Misti Stefani at 541-422-7142 or any high school cheerleader.

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