

## HEALTH DISTRICT

-Continued from PAGE ONE

fell short of the district's \$600,000 goal and \$83,869 in charity write-offs contributed to the large loss. The district had \$194,911 in total revenue deductions, including the bad debts and \$159,980 in contractual and other adjustments, and \$612,444 in total operating expenses.

Blauer reported that a business arrangement with cardiologist Dr. Tim Hanlon, who earlier had provided cardiac care at Pioneer Memorial Clinic in Heppner, will not be possible, because Hanlon and Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU) have discontinued their relationship. However, Blauer said that he is continuing talks with OHSU, which has a cardiac care clinic in The Dalles. He said that a physician with The Dalles OHSU clinic is planning a visit to Heppner and, says Blauer, will hopefully provide local cardiac care for the district on a once-a-month-basis.

In other business, the board:

-approved purchase of 12 infusion pumps from B. Braun Medical at a cost of around \$35,730. Director of Nursing Services Molly Rhea said that many of the old IV devices have become inoperable and obsolete. She said that the new computerized devices will also minimize the danger of overdose and are consistent with what other providers in the area, as well as life flight crews, are using. The result will be less transition time for patients. The Hospital Foundation has donated \$9,000 toward that purchase.

-heard from Blauer that the district anticipates scheduling electronic records training for staff from August through December. He said that he foresees some double-staffing during that period so that the district has both paper and electronic records during the transition. He said that the federal government, which mandated the switch from paper to electronic records, has backed off on deadlines for the second phase of the requirements because of so much pushback from health care entities.

-heard that the renovation of the sidewalks at Pioneer Memorial Clinic should be completed by the end of the week.

-learned from Blauer that work on the Community Health Improvement Project, a long-term process, is continuing, and around \$40,000 from the state office of rural health is available for an as-yet-to-be-determined project.

-approved reappointment of MCHD medical staff Dr. Ed Berretta, Dr. Betsy Anderson, Dr. Kenneth Wenberg and Dr.

Stefancik, who is affiliated with OHSU, following review of their credential files.

-approved a resolution that amended the proposed budget and adopted the amended budget. Budgeted expenditures/capital purchases include: \$140,000 for scheduled replacement of a new ambulance for Irrigon to be purchased through a flex-lease program; \$15,390 for a Glidescope (which assists in opening airways for patient resuscitation) for Pioneer Memorial Hospital emergency room to be purchased through a combination of a grant, donation and cash; \$250,000 for the Irrigon Clinic expansion through a flex-lease and loan; \$224,847 for electronic health records software and hardware Stage I-through federal electronic health records reimbursement; \$22,700 for financial scanning software-cash on hand; \$11,650 for Forms Express printing software-cash on hand; \$12,300 for concrete restoration at PMC-cash on hand; \$35,730 for 12 infusion pumps-grant/donation/cash; for a total of \$712,617 with \$390,000 to be financed by loans other than bank loans, \$224,847 to be paid by federal electronic records reimbursement funds; \$80,770 to be paid with cash on hand; and \$17,000 to be paid by grants and donations.

-approved a resolution authorizing check signing for Blauer, Rhea, Mahoney and board Chair Larry Mills.

-received the following report for May: Pioneer Memorial Clinic had 450 patient visits with 31 new patients, 45 seen by a nurse and five no-shows; Irrigon Medical Clinic had 167 patient visits with 37 new patients, 43 seen by a nurse and three no-shows; Heppner Ambulance had 18 total page-outs and 15 transports for \$17,087 in revenue; Boardman Ambulance had 19 page-outs and 11 transports for \$12,482 in revenue; Irrigon Ambulance had 19 page-outs with 12 transports for \$12,372 in revenue; there were six flights; Pioneer Memorial Hospital had four admissions, four swing bed admissions, five admitted for observation; one swing nursing facility admission, 444 total outpatients, 73 total emergency room encounters; 1441 lab tests, 104 x-ray procedures, 11 CT scans, 25 EKG tests, five colonoscopy procedures, two endoscopy procedures, two colon/endoscopy procedures, 58 respiratory therapy procedures; Home Health had 86 patient visits; Hospice had no admissions; pharmacy had 761 drug doses for \$39,331 in drug revenue.

## Ione 4-H plans bake sale

The Ione community 4-H club will hold a bake sale this Friday, July 1 from 9 a.m. until noon at the Ione Market. Everyone is invited to stop by, stock up on harvest cookies and support the Ione community 4-H and livestock club.

## WRE students receive percussion instruments



Music specialist Wendy Appleton helps students at Windy River Elementary School unpack their new percussion instruments. -Contributed photo

Eight years is a long time for elementary school students to wait for music instruments, but that's what happened to music students at Windy River Elementary School in Boardman.

The new school opened in 2003 with no music supplies at all. In 2004, band instruments were purchased for 6<sup>th</sup>-grade students, but band was eliminated in 2009. In 2006, 4<sup>th</sup>-grade curriculum music books were purchased, used by both 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>-grade students. No percussion instruments were purchased to support the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>-grade curriculum.

North Morrow Community Foundation cooperates with principals and staff of Irrigon and Boardman Schools to identify cultural, heritage and educational needs and develop solutions. Wendy Appleton, a music specialist split between Sam Boardman and Windy River Elementary Schools, informed the foundation that her students had no classroom instruments

or curriculum materials beyond the 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

An effort to purchase percussion instruments would form the basis for a solid curriculum in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades. Percussion instruments would also provide the means to apply music concepts and skills in grades 4-6, and hopefully build interest for involvement with Jr./Sr. band.

North Morrow Community Foundation applied for partial funding from Morrow County Cultural Coalition and found matching funds from Portland General Electric Foundation and community donors. Xylophones of various sizes and extra mallets were ordered and purchased. Instruments finally arrived at the very end of school.

Students and music specialist Wendy Appleton were thrilled to open boxes and unpack instruments. Plans are already being made to use the instruments at the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year, with ensemble playing a top priority.

## Over the Tee Cup

A beautiful and calm play day greeted the 19 ladies that turned out at Willow Creek Country Club on June 21, gearing up for the 9-Hole Invitational on June 28.

Low gross of the field was held by Pat Edmunson; low net was taken by Karen Thompson and least putts went to Eva Kilkenny and Virginia Grant.

For flight A, Nancy Prophet had low gross, Corol Mitchell had low net, Suzanne Jepsen had longest putt, Karen Thompson had the long drive and Pat Dougherty had KP on #11.

On flight B, Pat Dougherty had low gross, Burul DeBoer had low net, and Jan Paustian had least putts and long drive.

In flight C, Betty Carlson held low gross, Laura Rogers and Suzanne Jepsen had low net, and Carrie Grieb had both the least putts and the longest drive.

Virginia Grant had a chip-in on #18. She also had birdies on #10 and #18. Pat Edmunson and Karen Thompson both had birdies on #10.

## Ione's red, white and blue celebration begins Friday

The city of Ione's 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration will kick off this Friday, July 1. Events include a Bank of Eastern Oregon customer appreciation barbecue, book sale, and a Texas hold 'em and cribbage tournament.

Saturday events are an all-school reunion, a production by the Missoula Children's Theatre and a wine and beer tasting with music by Matt Howard.

On Sunday, participants can have breakfast in Paris, take sides in a rousing game of paintball, participate in a golf tournament, attend an interdenominational church

service or show off in the talent show.

The highlight of the festivities will be Monday, July 4. The big day starts with a fireman's breakfast; 5K walk/run; various kids' events and food vendors; the Red, White and Blue parade and Cruisin' to the Blues car show; and the traditional 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks. A special highlight this year will be a fly-over by the U.S. Navy.

Ione's 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration is sponsored in part by Morrow County Unified Recreation District and Wildhorse Casino.

## Ice Age boulder placed on Heritage Trail



This granite boulder dating back to the Ice Age was found near Kunze Road in Boardman and now graces the Columbia River Heritage Trail. -Contributed photo

An Erratic Ice Age boulder has been engraved and placed near the Morrow County Columbia River Heritage Trail in a Boardman S. Main Street mini park. Columbia River Heritage Trail is a non-motorized, walking and biking path between the Boardman and Irrigon communities.

The granite boulder was removed from a farm pasture south of Kunze Road. Larry West, who grew up in Boardman, purchased the land when he returned from service in Vietnam. Two large granite boulders were embedded at the edge of a small creek. Larry said he cursed the boulders many times when he tried to farm around them. His cattle, however, enjoyed scratching themselves on the edges of the blocks.

West always knew the boulders were special, as they were quite different from the local basalt rocks. He discovered it was originally one gigantic boulder until someone in the past used dynamite to break it up into two smaller boulders. Larry offered to donate the granite boulders to the Boardman Park & Recreation District, for a use to be identified later.

At the same time, new residents and visitors were asking for more information about the pioneer wagon replica in the City of Boardman mini park. The wagon had been placed there as part of an effort in communities along the trail routes to increase awareness of the 1993 Oregon Bicentennial. No interpretive signage was ever developed.

The need for wagon signage and a significant use for the boulders meshed. The Port of Morrow volunteered heavy equipment to extract the boulders from the creek and relocate to a more visible location. North Morrow Community Foundation applied to Morrow County Cultural Coalition for funding to pay an engraver, and Boardman Park & Recreation District oversaw the project.

The engraving, a phrase from the diary of early pioneer and wagon trail leader Joel Palmer, is as follows:

Oregon Trail 1841-1851, Upper Columbia River Route.

1844, September 23: This day we traveled about twenty miles. The first eight miles, the road is heavy traveling; the remaining portion however is much better, with the exception of the last five miles, which proved to be quite rocky. There is an occasional green spot to be found, but the whole distance we traveled since we first struck the river cannot be regarded as more than a barren sandy plain. -Joel Palmer.

For more information and a map of the Heritage Trail, check [www.columbiarivertrail.org](http://www.columbiarivertrail.org).

## Chris Sykes joins Sykes Real Estate

Chris Sykes has joined Sykes Real Estate as a broker.

He received his license last month and will operate out of a new branch office at 25 SW Emigrant in Pendleton. The web site is [pendletonproperty.com](http://pendletonproperty.com) and his email address is [chris@sykesrealestate.net](mailto:chris@sykesrealestate.net).



Chris Sykes

Anyone wishing to contact Sykes can also call him at 541-276-2152 or 541-215-2274.

## Library hosts award-winning storyteller

Join the Heppner library on Friday, July 1 at 2 p.m. for the program "Travelin' Tales" by dynamic storyteller Christopher Leebrick.

Mr. Leebrick has been performing as a storyteller since he was 13. He has shared stories with thousands of children and adults at schools, libraries, concert halls, festivals and campfires.

The program is free and is recommended for ages 5-105. Community members are encouraged to bring the whole family.

**Nella Britt's**  
New CD, "A New Beginning," is out  
& available at Murray's Drug





## BURNING BAN

**Effective July 7, 2011, the Fire Chief of the City of Heppner is imposing a CLOSED SEASON for open burning based on local fire safety concerns. This burning ban is for the City of Heppner. A reminder that open burning also includes a "burn barrel."**

The closed season will remain in effect until further notice this fall as per ORS 478.960.

**COUPON**

## John's Place

## Mark-A-Meal

Either Lunch or Dinner of \$10 or more counts toward a free meal. Use your coupon today!



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