

Index available for Morrow County chronicles

By Doris Brosnan

For anyone searching for information about a Morrow County family, a specific member of such a family, a historical event or the name of a particular area location, the Morrow County Chronicles can prove to be a valuable resource.

Names included in the 28 issues of the Chronicles have now been listed in a comprehensive index, available at the Morrow County Museum, the Oregon Trail libraries and, soon, the county's and libraries' websites.

Complete sets of the Chronicles can be accessed for research at the museum and the libraries, where personnel can, if required, assist with use of the index. All but the first two issues (which may soon be reprinted) of the Chronicles can be purchased at the museum.

The Chronicles articles are products of many writers, oftentimes relatives of featured persons, or sometimes researchers interested in particular topics. Some articles are personal accounts. Consequently,

index users should keep in mind a few facts:

-Names of persons, places and events are listed in the index as they appear in the Chronicles.

-Some names have been spelled in more than one way by multiple writers—i.e. Lawrence, Lawrence; Paiute, Piute; Matteson Butte, Madison Butte—or contain typing errors, so if a search of one spelling does not garner results, attempting other possible spellings might work.

-A person will be listed by last name first; a married woman may be listed with her maiden name and married name(s); thus, some listings will contain names in different sequences—i.e. Adkins, Emma (Mrs. Columbus Rhea); Rhea, Emma Adkins—Mrs. Columbus.

-Some people have been included in the Chronicles articles under complete first names, nicknames, and/or initials—i.e. William, William Pickett, Will, Bill, W.P.—and are listed in the index in these ways.

-Sometimes, a family name is a listing without a

first name or is listed with a "Mr." or "Mrs."

For each entry, the index lists the volume number(s), publication year(s), and page number(s) in which the name can be found. Of course, the index is intended to be complete and accurate, but errors and omissions might have occurred during compilation, so users are encouraged to contact the museum, 541-676-5524, the libraries' personnel or Doris Brosnan, 541-676-5382, with corrections or additions.

The Morrow County Historical Society also encourages readers to become contributors to the Chronicles. Many topics, including families, have yet to be included in the annual historical collection. Persons, places and events gain permanence in the local heritage and provide valuable information for future generations when reported in print. Everyone with topic suggestions or willing to write an article can inform Betty or Louis Carlson, Andrea Nelson, or Don or Donna Eppenbach.

Get acquainted with Heppner's senior center

By Doris Brosnan

The welcome mat is out at one of Heppner's most-used facilities, and visitors will immediately notice the sprucing up recently accomplished in the dining room.

The project began with a call from the "Mustang Mop-Up" group, asking if the St. Patrick's Senior Center needed help with anything on May 17, Heppner High School's day of assisting community members with odds and ends of jobs. The added woman power offered by Petra Payne, Tessa and Tayllor Gould, Natalie Rauch and Hanna Lovgren presented the perfect opportunity to paint the walls, which had not been repainted since the 1988 development of the Heppner Senior Citizens Center, a.k.a. St. Pat's.

After the school helpers had to leave, work continued, as Judy Buschke (who donated the paint), Kathy Turner, Nancy Goshnauer, Mona Patterson and Joyce Kay Hollomon finished up the green walls and started on the white trim. On June 2, Buschke guessed, the job might be completed. It will include repair of the north wall, which suffers from moisture damage, with dri-lock covered with beadboard donated by Hollomon.

To fully appreciate the difference this effort has made in the dining room, one must see the combination of the wall color with the uncommon tile colors changed during the 2008 repair-remodel project. It has, for certain, accomplished senior center board chair Buschke's purpose: "To liven it up!"

Opportunities to visit the room are many each week.

The center's dining room is the weekly site for the Wednesday lunch sponsored by CAPECO (Community Action Program East-Central Oregon). The meal, cooked by John and Nancy Gochnauer and served by volunteers from the local churches, is open to the public. For individuals 60 years of age and older, the suggested donation for the meal is \$3.50. For diners under 60, the price is \$6. Serving begins at 11:30.

The room is used on Tuesday afternoons for the Bingo sessions sponsored by the senior center. The public is invited to play, for 25 cents per card, beginning at 2 p.m.

On Thursdays, the Heppner Chamber of Commerce holds its lunch meetings in the room. These meetings offer attendees information about the large variety of activities and businesses that



The St. Patrick's Senior Center dining room is the site of many local events, including chamber of commerce meetings, the weekly Wednesday CAPECO lunch and this fast-paced game of Tuesday bingo. -Photo by Andrea Di Salvo

affect the area's economy. To reserve a spot for the \$9 lunch prepared on a rotating basis by one of the local eateries, an individual needs to contact the chamber office, 676-5536, at least one day in advance.

Other uses of the center's dining room include blood drives—one of which was held on June 4—birthday parties, funeral dinners, some St. Pat's Weekend events and reunions. Soon, for instance, a car club will be driving to Heppner and using the center for its main meeting. To reserve the dining room, call the office, 676-9030.

Additional use is made of the center's front lounge, and it, too, can be reserved by calling the office. Presently, the lounge hosts a group who play Bridge on Tuesday afternoons, Cribbage players on Thursday afternoons, and a dominoes group on Fridays. Also, the Garden Club meets in the lounge, as does the Lions Club.

The center's office, which also features a small library, is open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. until noon and from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. It is staffed by volunteers who sometimes wear more than one hat. They might help with inquiries by providing phone numbers for government and private agencies that provide various services, or by directing someone to programs for seniors and individuals with special needs. They schedule rides to appointments for people

who call for rides on the Special Transportation bus, a government-sponsored service available to everyone, although senior citizens do have priority. They answer questions about the center and the apartments.

The senior center board is responsible for these "downstairs" areas and activities in the historical hotel building. The Heppner Housing Authority is responsible for the maintaining and renting of the nineteen apartments in the building.

Presently, all apartments are occupied. As the development and later remodeling of the building required borrowed money and grant money, certain compliance restrictions dictate some policies. The Housing Authority must maintain thirteen of the apartments for individuals of low-to-moderate income. Six of the apartments are rented at "market rate" with no income restrictions. Three apartments are handicap-accessible.

The in-house manager, Kathy Turner, reports that individuals are "certainly welcome to ask that their names be added to a waiting list" for the apartments. Turner's number is 676-5380.

An easy drop-in spot on Main Street, St. Patrick's Senior Center is a great location for these many social activities and a great place for anyone wanting to pause and relax. Visitors are welcome.

Residents should consider local air ambulance options



Article provided by the Morrow County Health District.

Due to Morrow County's location, air ambulance services often play an important role in the care of emergency patients. Recently, Airlink, one of the air ambulance providers that services our area, announced an important change to their membership program. Of particular note is the fact that Airlink's membership program ceased offering reciprocity as of June 1, 2012. This reciprocity has been a great benefit for our area, as it has allowed membership in Airlink to cover the costs of using another agency's service. Now that Airlink will no longer participate in the reciprocity offered by other providers in our area, an Airlink member who is transported by another air transport service will be responsible for any outstanding costs. Life Flight and Northwest MedStar, the other medical air transport providers that service Morrow County, are continuing to offer reciprocity between their two organizations.

In order to ensure coverage for all of the air transport companies in our area, Airlink members can consider purchasing additional coverage through

another company. Airlink members may also consider not renewing their Airlink membership and transitioning to a membership with a different air ambulance provider. Life Flight is expanding its services in northeast Oregon and provides air transportation throughout northern Oregon. Northwest Medstar's services are based in Washington, and Airlink is based in central Oregon. Morrow County residents should base their coverage decision on their personal needs and preferences; however, it is worth noting that, at this point, Life Flight has the most comprehensive coverage in our service area.

It is also important to note that health insurance plans, and government coverage such as Medicare, will often pay a portion

of the costs for necessary medical air transport; however, any costs not covered by insurance or an air ambulance membership are typically the responsibility of the patient. Individuals should be familiar with the air transport coverage provided by their health insurance when considering their air ambulance membership needs.

If you have a preference regarding the air transport provider you would like to use during a medical emergency, please let the physician and medical staff know at that time. The Morrow County Health District staff will make every effort possible to meet your request, although our ability to do so will depend on the availability of your air ambulance provider.

Local man gets hole in one

Heppner man John Edmundson got a hole in one on May 31 at Willow Creek Country Club; he accomplished the feat on hole #4. This is Edmundson's eighth hole in one on his home course.

Livestock growers board to meet

The Morrow County Livestock Growers board of directors will meet on Wednesday, June 13, at 7 p.m. at the OSU Extension office. The main items for discussion are the buyer's lunch, fair updates and fairground improvement options. Call 541-676-9642 with questions.

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