

Open Class winners at the Morrow County Fair

Sweepstakes winners in each department received a gift certificate to use at any Morrow County business. Adults received \$25, kids \$15. Winners in each category were as follows:

Fruits: Ed Struthers
Vegetables: Kevin Murray
Flowers: Sherron Woodside
Clothing: Babette Wall
Quilts: Katherine Sparks
Canning: Ruth Beagle
Food: Bonnie Wenberg
Arts: Orissa Burghard
Photography: Jazette Dunn
Crafts: Richard Jones
Kids 3-6: Katie Spivey
Superkids 7-9: Shaylyn Deloach
Juniors 10-13: Onna Deloach
Morrow County Creative Arts Awards were also given in the arts and crafts categories. Winners were:
Art: Orissa Burghard
Crafts: Richard Jones
Several special awards were given in the flowers division. Winners of those awards were:
Best Horticulture, presented by Heppner Garden Club: Gene Jepsen
Best Arrangement, pre-

sented by Heppner Garden Club: Sherron Woodside

Most Blue Ribbons, presented by Heppner Garden Club: Terry Tallman

Jane Rawlins Memorial, presented by Morrow County Fair Board: Morgan Correa

The Wheat League Cake contest featuring Chocolate Zucchini Cake, sponsored by the Morrow County Wheat Growers, was won by Paul Keefer; he will receive \$35. Second place (\$25) was won by Peggy Fishburn and third place (\$15) was won by Betty Christman. This year there were 10 Wheat League Cake contestants.

The Wheat League Harvest Picture contest was won by Eric Jepsen; Tina Palmer came in second. Both will go on to compete in the state-wide contest.

The Mike Armato Bread Baking Contest, sponsored by the Armato family, was won by Lynne Uitto, who will receive \$35 for her un-ending quest for the perfect loaf of bread. Second place was Martha Munkers; she will receive \$15 from the family.

The winner of the Bob's Best Home-Baked Bread Contest this year is Joyce Mason with her Pumpkin

Hazelnut Yeast Bread. For the winning recipe, she received a \$100 gift card redeemable for merchandise through Bob's Red Mill mail order and shipping or shopping and dining experience at the Whole Grain Store and Visitors' Center. Second place received a \$50 gift card; that honor went to Martha Munkers with her Grandma's Oatmeal Bread recipe. Julianne Carlson received a \$25 gift card for her Graham Break recipe.

Makenzie Rose Bosham from Boardman won first place in the adult division by performing Nothing Better to Do by LeAnn Rimes; she received \$75 and will represent Morrow County at the State Fair on Sunday, Sept. 2. Also going to state fair is Michelle Vanessa Schmidt from Hood River; she won in the youth division by tap dancing to Hey Soul Sister. In the adult division, Ajih and D.J. Flip received \$50 for second, and Drew Johnson won \$25 for third place. In the youth division (10-17), second place was Cara Arbogast and Morgan Burch; they received \$10 each. Third place went to Madison Combe; she received \$10.

County Court news

The Morrow County Court met in Heppner on August 22 with Judge Tallman and Commissioners Grieb and Rea in attendance.

The city and citizen comment period for Ione/Lexington was opened, with no one in attendance.

The court reviewed and approved the minutes for August 15. The court also reviewed and approved the account payables in the net total amount of \$107,384.95.

Road Dept.: Sandi Putman reported that part of the crew was working on the removal of some poplar trees in the area of Kunze Lane and Olson Road. One tree had fallen and there were at least four others that were causing concerns.

Soil Water Conservation Dist.: Janet Greenup reported that they need two individuals from the north end of the county to run for open positions on the SWCD Board.

Wolf Depredation Committee: The court reviewed the applications of interest to serve on the Depredation Committee and named Pachy Burns (sheep producer) and Robert Mahoney (cattle producer) to the committee to represent producers. The court also appointed Jean Cassidy as a supporter for coexistence with wolves. There is still an opening for someone else to serve in this capacity. Once the committee is formed, they will name the two business/community representatives for the committee. All applications received will be retained in the event an alternate is needed.

Public Hearing: The public hearing was opened and the court declared that there was no conflict of interest, with one ex parte contact declaration made. Ms. Wolff provided the staff report and the court's questions were answered.

Proponents: Gerald Arnsen, Norman Hutsell and Tom Wolff, representing the Heppner Fire District, spoke in favor of annexing the Blake Ranch and surrounding area into the

Heppner Rural Fire District. **Opponents:** Dan Headding requested that the annexation be continued to see if a contract for fire control could be worked out with the City of Heppner or the Black Mt. Water District. **Rebuttal:** Paul Jolly, president of the Black Mt. Water Dist., stated that the Water Dist. does not have the authority to provide fire protection. Rusty Estes stated that the City of Heppner's Fire Dept. cannot leave the City of Heppner, only the Rural Fire Dept. can respond to fires within the fire district outside of the city limits. Nancy Arnsen stated that all requirements for the annexation had been met and it would benefit all residents of the Blake Ranch. Norman Hutsell stated that he had spoken with the Mayor of Heppner and he was told the city could not provide fire protection outside of the city limits. **Decision:** After the public hearing was closed and qualifications to move forward were verified, the court approved the annexation of the Blake Ranch area. The Order will be prepared and signed at the court's Sept. 5 meeting.

Planning Dept. Report: Carla McLane, Planning Director, provided the court with an update on the status of the LRA \$500,000 preliminary redevelopment grant that was submitted in early August. This grant would assist with the closure of the Army Depot. There will be exceptions to several state planning goals that will need to be addressed. The court discussed who will serve as the fiscal agent for the grant. No decision was made at this time. The status of the JMA with the City of Irrigon was discussed. It was decided to wait for a response from the city before taking any other actions. McLane reported on the agenda for the upcoming meeting with Senator Wyden's staff. McLane stated that she had made contact with Island County, WA (Whidby Island) and had received a very cold reception. McLane will now attempt to see if she

can contact one of their county commissioners and see if they are willing to work with Morrow County for the betterment of all concerned with activities on the Bombing Range. McLane stated that she is working on three different energy projects. McLane then discussed the possibility of contracting with Lori Timmons (previous associate planner) to work on some of the ongoing projects in the planning office. The commissioners stated they would think about the proposal, but no decision will be made until fall tax payments start arriving.

Contracts: The court reviewed and approved a sub-award amendment to the contract with Oregon Health & Science University and the Morrow County Health Dept. for the CaCoon program for the period of 10/1/2012 thru 9/20/2013 in the amount of \$8,062.84. The court discussed the proposed amendment to the Umatilla Basin Water Commission IGA. It was reported that the CTUIR had requested some changes; therefore, no action should be taken at this time.

The court conducted the following business: The court had a general discussion regarding the hiring freeze that was enacted in 2011. It was the court's decision that if a current employee retires or quits, that position cannot be filled without the prior approval of the county court. The court reviewed the legal description and location on maps of two 40-acre parcels that are land-locked. The court then declared the parcels as "surplus" and will notify the assessor to put a value on them so they can be sold at auction.

Various correspondences and upcoming meeting notices were reviewed and discussed.

This information is being provided by Commissioner Leann Rea. Anyone who would like to receive county court minutes, contact Karen Wolff at 541-676-5620.

ROUND-UP PRINCESS

-Continued from PAGE ONE

Up royalty. "I dreamed about it (being on the court) since watching the Round-Up when I was little and watching the girls jump the fence. I always thought it would be a great experience," says Hughes.

Now that she is finally on the court, she says it is everything she dreamed.

"It's really great feeling; we've gotten to jump the fence in practice a few times, and I can't wait till all the people are in the stands," Hughes says. "That's the main reason I did this, and it's going to be the highlight of my summer."

Hughes will ride two different horses for the duration of the Round-Up. One is Sammy, a chestnut mare. The other is Harriet, a sorrel mare. Both are her own horses.

"My family raised both of them, so they've

been around for as long as they've been alive," she says.

While she's certain jumping the fence will be her favorite part of the Round-Up court experience, Hughes says she also enjoyed traveling to rodeos in places like Reno and Cheyenne to represent the Pendleton Round-Up.

"We're very proud of her, she's done a great job representing Pendleton and the area," says mother Angie Hughes. "We've had a lot of fun getting to spend the summer with her."

Other court members are Queen Alex Featherstone and fellow princesses Kymee Braseth, Brittany Doherty and Katie Harris. The court will reign over the 102nd Pendleton Round-Up the second full week in September. Once the final Saturday of the Round-Up wraps up, though, Hughes' duties as Round-Up princess will end and normal



Jessica Hughes

life will continue. She says she will resume classes at BMCC a week after the Round-Up ends, continuing her path toward a degree in elementary education. She hopes to become a kindergarten teacher.

For now, though, she is giving her all to her role as rodeo royalty, an inspiration to future generations who will kindle their own dreams of jumping the fence as a part of one of the most famous rodeos in America.

Community health fair scheduled in Hermiston

FamilyCare Health Plans will host its fifth annual Community Health Fair on Saturday, Aug. 25, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at McKenzie Park in Hermiston.

The free health fair will feature free blood pres-

sure checks from Good Shepherd Medical Center. Additionally, the fun will include food, games, music and prizes for all who attend.

FamilyCare will be honoring the Agape House

for all the hard work and relief they provide in the community, as well as announcing a donation to Agape House to support its efforts to provide goods and services to community members in need.

BMCC offers retirement planning, investment classes

Blue Mountain Community College will offer a series of retirement planning and investment classes in Heppner this fall.

The series is being offered in September and will meet at the Pettyjohn Building at 430 West Linden Way in Heppner. The classes will be held from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on three Mondays in

a row: Investment Basics, September 10; Retirement Basics, September 17; and Retirement Income Planning, September 24.

The courses are intended to help attendees gain the skills to estimate how much money they need to retire, learn how to create retirement goals, review investment basics and more. The

instructor is Rita Van Schoiack, a financial advisor who is owner of Blue Mountain Investment Management.

The classes are free and include a workbook. Advance registration is required. Call Anne Morter at 541-422-7040 or e-mail her at amorter@bluecc.edu. Students may also register online at www.bluecc.edu.

Rhea Creek watershed assessment planned

The Morrow Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) has begun a watershed assessment on upper Rhea Creek.

The assessment includes public and private lands from Ruggs to the top of the watershed in the forested area. Landowner agreements have been mailed to all private landowners requesting permission to collect data or cross private property to collect

data. Granting permission is up to the landowner.

The data being collected includes existing plants—trees, shrubs, grasses, invasives; previously completed practices—fencing, spring developments, culverts, juniper removal; and riparian condition-existing plants, percentage of shade.

This will be a multi-year project with the purpose of assisting Morrow

SWCD to prioritize our focus for grants and other funding opportunities. Collecting this data will also assist private landowners in complying with the Willow Creek Ag Water Quality Management Area Plan originally approved in 2003.

Landowners are encouraged to call Morrow SWCD at 541-676-5452 with questions or concerns.

DA's Report

Morrow County District Attorney Justin Nelson has released the following report:

-Stephen Jeremiah Bowles, 34, was found guilty of two counts each of

theft of services and criminal mischief in the second degree, all Class A misdemeanors. For each count, the sentence of 180 days incarceration was suspended and the defendant given

four years bench probation. Conditions of probation include 60 hours community service and a written apology to the victim. Total fines, fees and assessments were \$2,202.

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If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, help is available and that help is FREE of charge.

If YOU have a family member who suffers from gambling addiction, YOU can also receive FREE treatment even if the gambler is not receiving treatment.

If you are a resident of Morrow County and you wish to take advantage of the services above or desire more information, Please call any of the following numbers to set up a LOCAL appointment or just to talk:

Bobby Harris @ 541-676-9925 or 541-256-0175
Community Counseling Solutions (CCS) @ 541-676-9181
OR 1-877-695-4648 (1-888-MYLIMIT)

WEB SITES

**Heppner
Gazette-Times
541-676-9228**