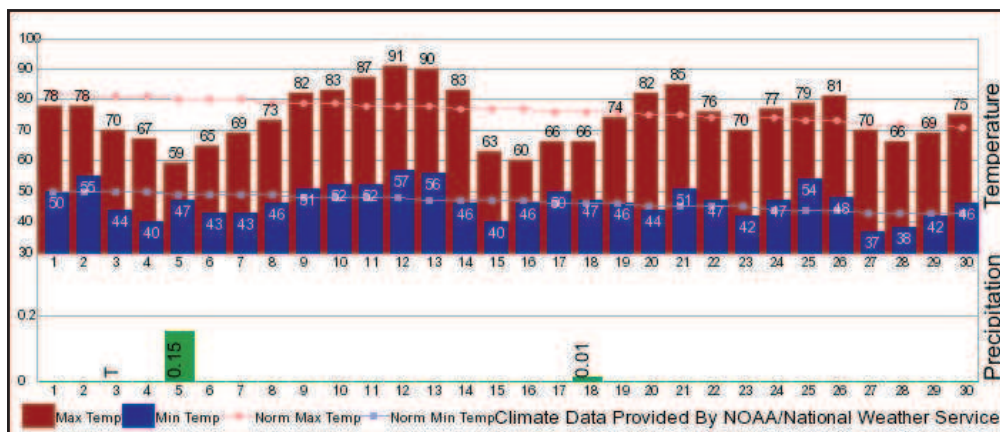


Gazette Times

VOL. 134 NO. 38 8 Pages Wednesday, October 7, 2015 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

Dry, warm conditions expected to continue



While it may not have seemed like it, the national Weather Service in Pendleton reports that September temperatures averaged slightly colder than normal in the Heppner area. However, the outlook for this month still calls for above-normal temperatures. Rainfall remains below normal. The average temperature for September was 60.7 degrees which was 0.9 degrees below normal. High temperatures averaged 74.5 degrees, which was 2.1 degrees below normal. The highest was 91 degrees on the 12th. Low

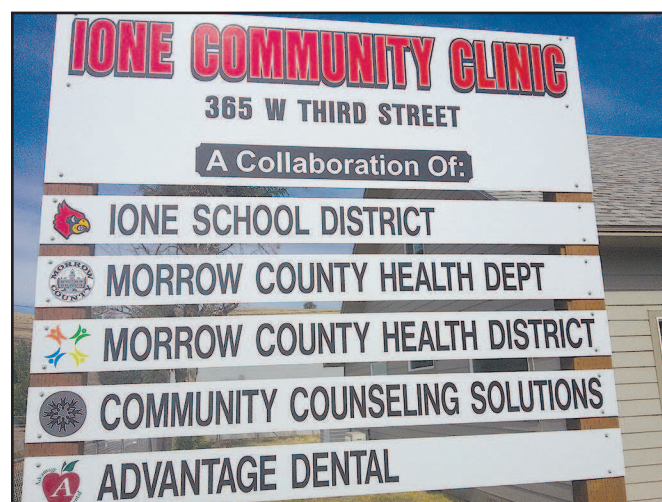
temperatures averaged 46.9 degrees, which was 0.3 degrees above normal. The lowest was 37 degrees, on the 27th. On one day, the temperature exceeded 90 degrees. Precipitation totaled 0.16 inches during September, which was 0.40 inches below normal. Measurable precipitation of at least .01 inch was received on two days with the heaviest, 0.15 inches, reported on the fifth. Precipitation this year has reached 4.89 inches, which is 5.05 inches below normal. Since October, the water-year precipitation

at Heppner has been 8.93 inches, which is 5.07 inches below normal. The highest wind gust in September was 35 mph, which occurred on the 13th. The outlook for October from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for above-normal temperatures and near-normal precipitation. Normal highs for Heppner fall from 71 degrees at the start of October to 58 degrees at the end of October. Normal lows fall from 42 degrees to 35 degrees. The 30-year normal precipitation is 1.14 inches.

Ione clinic open for business

The Ione Community Clinic is now open for business and recently had its grand opening. The clinic is a collaboration between the Ione School District, Morrow County Health Department, Morrow County Health District, Community Counseling Solutions and Advantage Dental, all of who will be offering services through the clinic.

The health district part of the clinic will be open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will offer family medicine, health assessments, physicals, well-child/well-baby checks, urgent care, immunizations, lab services and dental screenings. Referrals and other services are available per patient need. The clinic is now accepting new patients and people can make



The Ione Community Clinic is now open for business on 3rd Street across from the Ione school. The clinic will provide services that range from psychiatric counseling to immunizations. —Contributed photo

appointments by calling 541-422-7128. Walk-ins are welcome.

The Morrow County Health Department will be there every Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will offer immunizations,

health screening assessment, client-specific health education, and referrals and other resources services as needed.

Community Counseling Solutions will offer individual, group and family therapy, problem gambling counseling, alcohol and drug treatment, 24/7 crisis intervention services, psychiatric consultation, medication management, residential and acute psychiatric services and developmental disabilities case management. To make an appointment, call 541-422-7128 or 541-676-9161.

Advantage Dental will also be offering services through the Ione Clinic including dental screenings, risk assessments, fluoride varnish treatments, oral hygiene instructions, nutritional counseling, case management and toothbrush kits.

At this time these services will be offered only to Ione school students and pregnant women. Advantage dental will be at the clinic on the first Wednesday of each month from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and walk-ins are welcome. Those wishing to use the services may call the clinic or Advantage Dental at 888-468-0022.



(Top L-R) Clinic coordinator Cydney McElligott, Community Counseling Solutions manager Stephanie Hisler and medical assistant Shelly Rietmann stand in one of the clinic's exam rooms. Above: Vicky Kent, NP, and Karma Evell, medical assistant. —Photos by David Sykes

Valby Cemetery handed over to cemetery district

Valby Lutheran Church members have turned over management of the rural Valby Cemetery to the Ione Lexington Cemetery District, district members announced this week.

According to Valby member Betty Carlson, who has been spearheading the transfer with husband Louis Carlson, the decision came because of a declining population in the Valby area, which led to concerns over perpetual care of the historical cemetery.

"There are not the people in the area that there used to be, so the people who took care of the cemetery are few and far between," Carlson said. "So it was the decision of the church to turn the cemetery over to the district."

"They knew that the Ione Lexington district had cemeteries out in that area, near Valby, and knew we



(L-R) Valby Lutheran Church members Louis and Betty Carlson with Ione Lexington Cemetery District representatives Maureen McElligott, Marilyn Childers and Ed Baker. The church turned over the cemetery's deed to the district at the district's September meeting. —Contributed photo

would deal with the perpetual care and keeping the cemetery up," added ILCD Chairperson Maureen McElligott.

Carlson said that all the farms in the Valby area already pay into the district but, until now, church members had chosen to maintain the cemetery themselves.

The Valby cemetery has a close connection with Valby Lutheran Church. The church and cemetery date back to a gathering of Lutheran immigrants on April 19, 1886. That was

when Andrew Petterson offered to donate five acres of land for a church and the planning of an adjoining cemetery. A vote was taken to accept the land donation and to incorporate as "Swedish Lutheran Valby Congregation." Church members had been maintaining the cemetery ever since. Valby members even built an information kiosk for the cemetery more than a decade ago and have worked to keep it updated.

With roots running that deep, it turned out to be a

complicated process to divide the cemetery from the church—complicated enough that they had to consult with an attorney. Carlson said they first had to hire the Morrow County Surveyor to survey the five acres and divide it so part remained with the cemetery and part with the church.

They also had to go to the road department to discuss easements, as well as going before the county planning commission to see if the five acres could be separated. And, of course, there was the process of getting permission from all the families who have relatives buried in the cemetery.

"That in itself was a project," Carlson said.

The process was completed in September, when —See VALBY CEMETERY/ PAGE TWO

Ballots go out next week for Nov. 3 election

Ballots go out Wednesday, Oct. 14, for the Nov. 3 general election. The last day for voters to register for the election is Oct. 13.

All ballots are due by 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 3, and must be received, not simply postmarked, on that day. For voter convenience, 24-hour drop boxes will be available in Heppner and Lexington. Locations are as follows:

Heppner: Courthouse parking lot (24 hours) or the Morrow County Clerk's Office, Room 102 inside the courthouse. Open 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m., M-F and Election Day (Nov. 3) from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m.

Lexington: 365 West Hwy 74 (Public Works Parking lot). Turn off Hwy. 74 onto Tom Street and left into the public works parking lot. Open 24 hours.

Sen. Hansell files for reelection

Salem, OR — Last week, Sen. Bill Hansell (R-Athena) filed papers with the Oregon Secretary of State for his reelection campaign.

"It has been my honor and privilege to serve the great people of our area, I am very excited at the prospect of continuing to represent the citizens of District 29," Hansell said. "We were able to get a lot accomplished during my first term as senator and I am anxious to continue fighting for rural Oregonians, small businesses, and the farmers and ranchers that make our region of the state great."

Among Hansell's first-term accomplishments are a water funding package for

the Umatilla Basin, protection of Milton-Freewater from a forced annexation, a land transfer to the city of Pendleton, new incentives to bring medical personnel to rural Oregon, the right to rodeo, and a wolf plan, to name a few.

Senate District 29 begins at the Hells Canyon and stretches to Highway 197 in Wasco County.

The district includes six full counties (Wallowa, Union, Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam, and Sherman) and half of a seventh (Wasco).

Sen. Hansell was first elected as senator in 2012 and served as a Umatilla County Commissioner for 30 years prior to that.

The Heppner Gazette-Times wants to see pictures of your trophy animals from this hunting season. Stop by to have your picture taken, drop off photos, mail them to PO Box 337 in Heppner, email them to editor@rapidserve.net or text cell phone photos to 541-980-6674.

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