

HELPING HAND

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This year, the committee elected to donate the funds to Morrow County Health District for equipment vital to emergency services in South Morrow County—a portable video laryngoscope for the ambulance and a blood and IV fluid warmer and pressure infuser for Pioneer Memorial Hospital. The FHF Committee gave the hospital \$4,600 toward the purchase of the equipment.

The common element in the equipment is time—both items increase the speed at which staff can care for patients in emergency situations.

“Thanks to Friends Helping Friends we’ve upgraded how we get fluids in patients so rapidly and how in the ambulance we can intubate patients and get air into them much faster,” said PMH Purchasing Agent Pennie Miller, who is also one of the hospital’s EMTs.

Miller and former PMH Chief Nursing Officer Molly Rhea were instrumental



Pioneer Memorial Hospital Purchasing Agent Pennie Miller stands with the new 3M Ranger fluid warmer and pressure infuser the hospital purchased with funds donated through the annual Remembrance Walk/Run. -Photo by Andrea Di Salvo

version of a larger glidescope currently used in the PMH emergency room, used to place an air tube down a patient’s throat. It’s an improvement over what had been used on the ambulances because it provides a video to aid in placement, making the process simpler and faster. Paramedic Tina Davidson will be the primary user of the laryngoscope, because only paramedics are allowed to use the device. However, Miller said the ease of use will most likely allow the paramedic to intubate without assistance, which wasn’t possible before, leaving other EMTs free to see to a patient’s other emergency needs.

“The intubation will definitely have the ability to save lives,” Rhea told the Gazette earlier this year, noting that many of the district’s ambulance transports are some distance from the hospital, which makes treatment on the ambulance crucial. “And it’s easier on the patient,” she added.

The KingVision video laryngoscope arrived last week and will be ready for use in the health district’s new ambulance this week.

The fluid warmer and infuser, which can be used

separately or together, are both crucial in trauma situations. In fact, Miller said that the fluid warmer is necessary for the hospital’s trauma certification, while the fluid pressure infuser is “good standard trauma care.”

“One of the things we’re always trying to do with a trauma patient is warm them. For one reason or another, they’re often very cold, and the blood we use is coming straight from the fridge,” Rhea told the Gazette previously. “When we put cold fluids into people, we’re not doing them any favors.”

The pressure infuser gets fluid—whether blood or IV fluids—into patients quickly, at a rate of one liter every two minutes. The hospital already had a piece of equipment to speed fluid delivery, but Miller and Davidson compared the speed to a dripping faucet versus a running faucet—and in a trauma situation, quick delivery of fluids can often save a life.

In fact, the fluid warmer and infuser arrived some time ago, Miller said, and she and Davidson said both were used for the first time in a multi-system trauma

case seen at the Pioneer Memorial Emergency room two weeks ago.

“This made a huge difference in (the patient’s) recovery, I’m sure,” Miller said. “They (Friends Helping Friends) helped save a life the other day.”

While funds from this year’s walk have only begun to help save lives, the Friends Helping Friends Committee says it isn’t too early to start thinking about where funds from next year’s Remembrance Walk should be directed. The committee usually meets early in January to select a cause and begin planning the yearly fundraiser, which they say doesn’t leave much time before the 5k event in mid-March. The committee is open to suggestions and will consider anything to do with health care, senior citizens, or anything that would make a difference to people of all ages in the local communities.

“It’s not too early for us already to be pondering as a community what would be good,” says FHF member Susan Hisler. “We’re always looking for something out there that would be a great cause that we haven’t even thought about.”

Ione summer reading passes the finish line

The Ione Public Library had a successful summer reading program, with 37 elementary-age children participating across six unique weekly sessions.

The program had the statewide theme “On Your Mark, Get Set, Read,” which likened the mental benefits of reading to the physical benefits of exercise. Activities during the program included reading, sports, games and crafts. The Ione Legion Hall allowed the library to use their facilities for group activities.

Special presenters came during several of the sessions. At the program sign-up session, the Trav-

eling Lantern Theater performed “Vladimir Goes for the Gold,” a play about the ancient Olympic Games. At the first full session, the University of Oregon’s Museum of Natural and Cultural History provided hands-on, informative stations about ice-age animals. To finish off the program, Penny’s Puppet Productions performed an engaging and heartwarming musical play.

The program was organized by library staff and Lea Mathieu; leaders during the programs included Oskar Peterson, Allisa David, Jim Raible and Tara Proudfoot. Refreshments were provided by members of the Ione Topic Club.

Boardman produce stand reopens

The Boardman Produce Stand reopened last week under new management. Bob Walchli Farms is renting the stand to offer local produce for sale. The stand offers a wide variety of fruits, vegetables, berries and more.

The Boardman Produce Stand Project was initiated by the Boardman Community Development Association (BCDA), with financial assistance provided by Morrow County.

The BCDA Board says it is proud of Morrow County’s rich agricultural history and believes the produce stand will complement Boardman’s existing business community and the SAGE Center, an interactive agricultural visitor center.

The stand is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. It is located near the City Splash Pad on the corner of NE Front Street and NE Third.

Riverside ranked as one of best high schools in the nation

Boardman—The Morrow County School District (MCSD) has announced that Riverside Junior/Senior High School in Boardman was named as one of the U.S. News Best High Schools in 2016. The school was awarded a Bronze Medal.

The 2016 Best High Schools rankings awarded the top 6,517 public high schools in the country with gold, silver or bronze medals, based on student performance on state assessments and how well the school

prepares students for college.

“Our district is proud of Riverside on being awarded this distinction. Whenever a school is recognized as highly successful, it is a testament to its dedicated teachers, staff and students and a celebration of our K-12 learning system,” said Dirk Dirksen, superintendent of MCSD.

The U.S. News rankings include data on more than 21,000 public schools in 50 states and the District of Columbia.

IONE SCHOOL BOARD

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to welcome Crum, as well. In addition, the ISD Board also elected Lisa Rietmann and Tricia Rollins to serve as the board chair and vice chair respectively. Two standing committees were appointed, with the members of the Buildings and Grounds Committee being Joe McElligott and

Bill Jepsen, and the members of the Negotiations Committee being Tricia Rollins and Rob Crum.

The board also learned that all of the district’s faucets and drinking fountains were tested for lead and none were positive for levels that pose any health concern; that summer maintenance projects are on

schedule for the start of school; that sports physicals can now be scheduled with the Ione Community Clinic; and heard updates on the final report for the Ford Foundation Grant and the development of a new job description for the Student Support Person.

Plans for a board retreat

in September and options for filling the vacant music teacher position were also discussed.

The next meeting of the Ione School Board will be on Aug. 30 with a work session starting at 3:30 p.m. and the regular board meeting at 4:30 p.m. in the Ione school library.

JULY WEATHER

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temperature exceeded 90 degrees. Precipitation totaled 0.60 inches during July, which was 0.27 inches above normal. Measurable precipitation of at least .01 inch was received on four

days with the heaviest, 0.36 inches, reported on the ninth.

Precipitation this year has reached 7.28 inches, which is 1.71 inches below normal. Since October, the water-year precipitation at Heppner has been 11.12

inches, which is 1.93 inches below normal.

The outlook for August from NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center calls for near-to above-normal temperatures and below-normal precipitation. Normal highs for Heppner during August

are 85.5 degrees and normal lows are 53.5 degrees. The 30-year normal precipitation is 0.39 inches.

The National Weather Service is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,

Slottee scholarship available

The South Morrow County Scholarship Committee will accept applications for the Beth Slottee Memorial Scholarship.

It is available to students entering their junior or senior year or graduate school at an accredited college.

Students must be majoring or minoring in music, but if no applicants are available, it may be awarded to a student majoring or

minoring in education.

Scholarship application can be found on the Heppner High School website, <http://www.hhs.morrow.k12.or.us>, under the College/Career tab and the Common Local Scholarship Application link.

Applications may be turned into Ginger Bowman at HHS by Sept. 15. For more information, contact Brandi Sweeney at 541-256-0358.

FREE

LAST SEEN: LURKING IN YOUR HOME, UNDER THE SINK, IN THE GARAGE IN THE BASEMENTS.

THESE HAZARDOUS WASTE ITEMS ARE DANGEROUS. THEY CAN HARM STREAMS, WILDLIFE, DRINKING WATER AND WE NEED TO KEEP THEM OUT OF OUR LANDFILL. MORROW COUNTY IS HOLDING A FREE HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENT SO YOU MAY TAKE SOME OF THESE ITEMS.

For more information, please call Morrow County Public Works at 541-989-9500 or email: mcpublicwork@co.morrow.or.us

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ACCEPTED DURING THE EVENT:

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