



# the HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES

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## Bailey takes home Morrow County Amateur Calf Roping saddle



This year's Amateur Calf Roping Saddle winner, at the Morrow County Rodeo was Ken Bailey, far left. More Rodeo winner pictures on page 8

## Health District launches Boardman Mobile Immediate Care Clinic

Morrow County Health District has launched an immediate care clinic in Boardman. The clinic, to open in October, will offer non-emergency immediate care and occupational health services.

"Realizing the growing need for access to immediate care and occupational health services in Morrow County, the Morrow County Health District is launching a new clinic in Boardman," announced MCHD Chief Executive Officer Emily Roberts.

The clinic, called Boardman Immediate Care, which will have two clinical exam rooms and X-ray and laboratory services, will be housed in a custom-designed, mobile motor coach, which will be parked adjacent to MCHD's office building at 101 Kinkade Rd. in Boardman. The coach is set to be delivered Friday, Sept. 2. The clinic is scheduled to open Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 9 a.m. and will be open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day of the week.

"The need for immediate care services has been rising in Boardman," said Roberts. "Boardman Immediate Care's services will be convenient, affordable and accessible, and they'll be a vital component of our health care services that keep residents of Morrow County safe and healthy."

Immediate care includes a range of non-emergency medical and occupational health services. "Patients can be seen for minor illnesses and injuries, skin rashes, irritation or infection, sprains, strains and muscle tears, scrapes or cuts, minor workplace injuries, drug screening and more," said Roberts.

"Anyone needing immediate care or occupational health services can access care at Boardman Immediate Care," said Roberts. "MCHD accepts all major insurance plans and is committed to providing financial assistance to people who have health care needs and are uninsured, underinsured, ineligible for a government program, or otherwise unable to pay for medically necessary care."

"We are excited to launch this clinic to meet the rising health care needs of the people of Boardman and Morrow County," Roberts said. "We know, too, that business and industry in this region rely on a healthy workforce. Our clinic will help ensure that local employees get the care and services they need."

For more information about Boardman Immediate Care, visit [www.morrowcountyhealthdistrict.org](http://www.morrowcountyhealthdistrict.org). Morrow County Health District is a nonprofit Oregon Special District that offers healthcare services throughout Morrow County, including home health and hospice, primary care, ambulance service, emergency department, hospital and extended care. Visit [www.morrowcounty-healthdistrict.org](http://www.morrowcounty-healthdistrict.org).



## County agrees to settle employment claim

No name, no amount, no details

At a special meeting held last week Morrow County commissioners agreed to sign an undisclosed settlement agreement with a nameless former employee to settle an undisclosed employment complaint filed against the county. When asked to name the person being paid, how much money they would receive, and what the complaint was about, county officials refused to give out that information.

At the special meeting August 22 commissioners first held a closed-door executive session to discuss the settlement terms before opening the meeting for a vote. County Council Justin Nelson recommended a motion to commissioners saying the county would "Approve what was negotiated by the (county's) labor council to settle all employee related claims of a Morrow County employee and give authority to the chair (Commissioner Jim Doherty) or another individual to sign the related deal once it has been drafted, and with the terms already know (to the commissioners)." Commissioners Don Russell and Melissa Lindsay voted to accept the undisclosed settlement with the unnamed person, while Doherty voted no.

Later when asked for comment on the settlement terms approved by commissioners in the closed-door executive session, and to name the recipient

of the payment, Lindsay did not respond to the Gazette-Times' request while Russell and Doherty did respond but said they would not name the person, the settlement amount or make any further comment.

Subsequently this week the Heppner Gazette-Times submitted a formal public records request to Nelson and the county human resource officer asking for documents believed to be public record and relevant to the settlement. "Morrow County is in receipt of your public records request," Nelson responded. He said currently the county's human resource attorney is out of the country," but said he believed the attorney would be checking his emails. "So we will touch base with him to see how quickly he can assist (in responding to the request)," Nelson added. An attorney specializing in public records who has been contacted by the Gazette-Times said: "If the County claims records exemptions, the County needs to identify them, specifically, and initially provide everything else in the file(s). The burden is on the County, not the Gazette-Times to justify any withheld records," the attorney said.

If the county does not comply with the request for public records the Gazette-Times can file an appeal with County District Attorney Justin Nelson.

## 9-11 Memorial event to honor first responders who lost lives

The Heppner, Lexington and Ione fire departments will hold their second annual September 11 Memorial Event on Saturday, September 10, at the Morrow County Fairgrounds.

The fire departments are honoring the first responders who lost their lives in the attack of the World Trade Center on September 11. Local Fire Departments will be climbing stairs in full gear to honor the fallen.

The community is invited for a pancake breakfast, a community stair climb, family activities and a silent auction. All proceeds go to the South Morrow County Fire Departments, Heppner, Lexington, Ione. "Bring your friends and family. It is going to be a great day," said a spokesperson.



Stair climb event symbol



### HUNTERS!

The Heppner Gazette-Times wants to see pictures of your trophy animals from this hunting season. Stop by to have your picture taken, email them to [editor@rapidserve.net](mailto:editor@rapidserve.net) or text cell phone photos to 541-980-6674.

## 2022 Chronicles available for purchase at bank and Murray

The 2022 Morrow County Chronicles have arrived and available for purchase at Murray Drugs in Heppner, and the Ione, Heppner, Boardman, and Irrigon branches of the Bank of Eastern Oregon. Cost is \$7. The 11 articles, Cecil Post Office and Store 1867", "Alice Wicklander Tatone", "The Oregon Trail-Willow



**First Morrow County Amateur Calf Roping Saddle awarded to W.O (Oscar) George in 1950** from the Heppner Gazette-Times

Creek Crossing", "Part 2 of the Sam Ensley and His Family Story, A Real Pioneer", "She's Wild; Let's Go!" The Heppner Rodeo", "Memories of Red Leonard", Remembrances of Bill and Jane Rawlins",



**Shannon Wicklund shows 2022 issue of the Morrow County Chronicles available at Murray's Drug Store in Heppner.**

Photo by Kay Proctor

The Life and Legacy of Dr. John E. Rawlins", "Lexington Jackrabbits", "Green's Feed Store", "Mr. Michael "Mick" Tolar" all written by talented authors. Several photos are from private collections.

Morrow County Historical Society has past issues of the Chronicles available for purchase. Please contact Kay Proctor at [kayproctor@gmail.com](mailto:kayproctor@gmail.com)

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