

Proposals seek change in Bombing Range designation

The Department of the Navy has received two proposals for conversion of 6,400 acres of land in the Boardman Bombing Range to agricultural usage.

The Navy is preparing an environmental assessment for the proposed change. An informational workshop has been scheduled by the Navy for Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. at the council chambers of the Town Square Building on Main St in Boardman to describe the proposed changes and to hear comments and concerns.

The 6,400 acre parcel of land is currently part of a 21,000 acre tract leased for cattle grazing. The primary use of the land as a buffer for the Naval Weapons Systems Training Facility will continue, a Navy news release stated.

One proposal involves irrigation of crops with diluted disposal

water from food processors in the area. One of the proponents currently waters 1,800 of adjacent land with diluted water from industrial processing facilities and says that the potential to attract additional food processors into Morrow County would be enhanced by the ability to offer disposal of waste water by irrigation. The waste water would be diluted by fresh water from the Columbia.

A second proposal for the land was offered by a local farmer to expand an existing agricultural operation. The farmer currently raises potatoes, alfalfa, small grain crops and corn on around 1,000 acres in the area. The water necessary for irrigation would be obtained from the Columbia River and piped to the land.

A change in land use designation would allow the Navy to lease the property as cropland at an increased annual revenue.

Harvest of dead timber could begin next year

Maximum harvest of dead timber could begin next year on the east end of the Heppner Ranger District. About 40 people attended a public hearing at the Heppner Ranger District office Nov. 12 to learn more about the proposed alternatives and the impact to the area if the preferred plan is approved.

This special project would be exempt from appeal as an amendment to the Federal Forest plan. However, litigation could still axe the project, according to Heppner forest ranger Delanne Ferguson.

Public comment in writing will be accepted at the Heppner Ranger District office until Nov. 23. A decision in February, 1993, will determine if 53 million board feet of lumber will be harvested from dead and dying trees on about 4,868 acres of this 81,000 acre project in Morrow and Grant counties. This salvage harvest also includes 543 acres of diseased old growth timber.

Once underway, the appearance of these mountainous areas will be altered, but a brown, dying landscape is not visually attractive, Forest Service officials say. And any delay in dead tree harvest will result in a significant loss of wood fiber for sawlogs, firewood and chips. Loss of timber-related jobs would affect the county's economy and recreational monies could also be lost as people travel to more appealing areas, they say.

"I think that locally most people recognize this as an all-out effort to put our forest back in a healthy condition," ranger Ferguson stated.

But an effort to restore forest health by combating the spruce budworm epidemic through cutting, burning and reforestation will impact forest users along with other issues that are involved.

If the dead trees cannot be harvested, the Forest Service claims that timber stands will continue to be reduced. The present condition of the forest could lead to a catastrophic wildfire that would cause significant loss of young managed stands, the destruction of wildlife habitat and an increase in soil erosion, con-

tributing to watershed depletion.

Open areas for firebreaks would be increased from 60 to 100 acres. A higher level of trees would be left in sub-watershed areas. Small patches of timber would be left within larger harvest units for wildlife habitat. No harvesting would be allowed within four wildlife security areas totalling 11,292 acres.

Efforts will be made to minimize the impact to 10 major streams in the area that are known to support juvenile salmon and steelhead spawning. But the impact to forest users, particularly during the fall hunting seasons, will be significant. Smoke from underburning could be unpleasant for the summer-long users of the Penland Lake development. And plans to improve the visual corridor of the Blue Mountain By-Way forest road could disrupt the

tranquility of this scenic mountain driveway. But the removal of dead trees is to reduce public safety hazards along with open roads, trails, dispersed campsites and other recreational areas, according to the Forest Service.

Permit holds of two grazing allotments within the area will be subject to grazing limitations consistent with forest management objectives and subsequent recovery plans. In the long term, there will be more forage and less hazardous downfall obstructions.

Reforestation from natural propagation will be supplemented by planting selective tree species. Stand recovery is projected to provide marginal cover in about 70 years. Systemic insecticide will be injected into some Douglas Fir trees. Damage control from noxious weeds and animals is also part of the plan.

Garden Club hosts nursing home party

The Heppner Garden Club gave a party for residents of the Pioneer Memorial Hospital Nursing Home on Nov. 17.

Rosalie Scharen played several selections of music pertaining to flowers on her violin. She had the residents guess what flowers were referred to in each piece played.

Angel food cake, coffee and punch were served by the hostesses, Eleanor Gonty, Bebe Munkers and Verna Brinda.

Ornamental gourds and plants furnished by Janel Lacey and Jane Rawlins were handed out by garden club member Dorothy Jackson.

Speaker on AIDS plans program

Duane Crumb, a nationally known speaker on AIDS, has planned a program geared especially for youth at Heppner High School on Wednesday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

That afternoon Crumb will speak at an assembly at the high school. For more information call 565-5581 or 676-5581.

Wedding reception slated for Goodboys

An open house wedding reception in honor of Sherry and Marc Goodboy will be held Saturday, Nov. 28, at 2 p.m. at the home of the bride's parents, Merle and Judy Cowett of Heppner. The couple were married November 24.

Episcopal church plan Thanksgiving dinner

All Saints Episcopal Church will again give thanks to the Lord by having their annual dinner on Thanksgiving Day. The dinner will be served at 1 p.m.

As in the past, everyone is invited to attend and the church sends a special invitation to those who might otherwise be alone or away from their families and friends. Turkey will be prepared

by church members. Guests may bring salads, desserts or any special dish they may wish to bring. "We invite the community to join us in a celebration of Thanksgiving for our many blessings," said a church spokesperson.

For more information call the church office 676-9970 or Bob DeSpain 676-5376.

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Lutheran churches plan services

Hope and Valby Lutheran Churches will celebrate

Thanksgiving services on Wednesday and Thursday respectively. Pastor Stan Hoobing will preach on the theme of "Thank You, God" is not the End of the Conversation", based on scripture reading of I Timothy 2:1-4.

Thanksgiving services at Hope will be on Wednesday, Nov. 25 beginning at 7:30 p.m. Worship service at Valby will be on Thursday, Nov. 26 at 9:30 a.m.

The season of Advent will begin on Sunday, Nov. 29 with worship service at Valby beginning at 9 a.m. and at 11 a.m. at Hope. Pastor Hoobing will preach on "A New Year's

Resolution", taken from St. Matthew 24:37-44.

Both congregations will hold mid-week advent services on the theme of "Yet In Thy Dark Streets Shineth". This will be a series of three services which will look at the Biblical cities of Jerusalem, site of sacrifice and forgiveness, where an aged priest entering the temple will confront the angel Gabriel, Nazareth and Bethlehem. Mid-week services will be held at Valby on Wednesdays and at Hope on Thursdays. Both services begin at 7:30 p.m.

Visitors and friends are welcome to attend all worship services.

Rhea Creek Study Group learns of Asian influence

By Delpha Jones

The Rhea Creek study group met Wednesday night at the home of Mildred Wright with Mary Wright as co-hostess.

The lesson given by the ladies was on early Asian influence in Eastern Oregon. In mid-19th century the Chinese began migrating to the U.S., bringing with them new ideas in culture and foods. They also came hoping to work and get rich to return to their families in China. They did many jobs and worked much cheaper than caucasians. They were soon involved in building railroads, dams and gold mining. Many Chinese lived in the towns of John Day, Sumpter, Baker City, Pendleton and other western cities. They were very influential in the building of the "El Dorado dotch" in the Blue Mountains. They also brought with them dif-

ferent kinds of vegetables and fruits and an entirely new way to prepare them. Some of the produce they encouraged people to eat were eggs, rice dishes and soybeans.

Unfortunately they also introduced opium to many of the people and cities had what they called opium dens, which were a disgrace to the area. Many of the whites as well as the Chinese became addicted.

Interesting too was the fact that they brought a new form of medicine, doctoring with herbs and other oriental techniques. There were Chinese doctors and clinics in nearly all the cities, such as John Day, Bend and Walla Walla.

Following the meeting a lovely lunch was served with several Chinese dishes. Eight members and one guest were present.

St. Patrick's Senior Center Bulletin Board



A large group attended the senior Thanksgiving dinner Nov. 18. There were 136 people present including 12 guests and 12 take out dinners. Members of the Episcopal Church served. Vern Batty won the meal ticket, Father Frank Hebert the door prize and Ada York of Condon received the guest prize.

The menu for the senior dinner Dec. 2 will be oven-fried chicken, baked beans, coleslaw, carrot sticks, muffins and fruit mix. Members of the Christian Church will serve.

The transportation budget meeting was held in the senior center office Nov. 20. Dates to remember: Mondays 10:30-11:30 a.m. Bible study; 1-4 p.m. quilting. The quilters are working on a felt Christmas tree skirt. Tuesday and Thursday 10-10:30 a.m. exercise; Wednesday noon senior dinner.

Carol Mitchell will be in the senior center office Friday Nov. 27.

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