

HEPPNER

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VOL. 112 NO. 48 6 Pages Wednesday, December 1, 1993 Morrow County Heppner, Oregon

School district considers placing grades 7-12 together at all schools

The Morrow County School District is considering the possibility of changes in student grade configuration at schools in Heppner, Irrigon and Boardman. The proposal being examined involves moving grades seven through 12 to a single school site in each community. In Irrigon, all students in grades 7-12 who live in the Irrigon attendance area would attend school at a remodeled Columbia Junior High site. In Boardman the same would be true

at the Riverside High site and in Heppner, 7-12 would attend at the Heppner High site. If these changes are adopted, the new configuration would be implemented in the fall of 1995 according to school superintendent Chuck Starr. The school board is encouraging public input on these potential changes and has scheduled the following public meetings: Tuesday, Dec. 7, Boardman-

Irrigon advisory committee meeting, Riverside High School, Boardman, 7 p.m.; Monday, Dec. 13, Heppner-Lexington advisory committee meeting, Heppner High School, 7 p.m.; Monday, Dec. 20, school board meeting, District Office, Lexington, 7:30 p.m. For further information contact superintendent Chuck Starr 989-8202.

Chamber lighting contest Dec. 19

Heppner Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a Christmas lighting contest for residences and businesses within the city limits. Judging will occur after dark on Sunday, Dec. 19, by Santa's helpers. Awards will be given for first,

second and third places in outdoor lighting; first and second for indoor lighting as viewed from outside; and special recognition to the local business with the most festive lighting display. Judges have the option of judging the following evening should fog roll in.

Financial aid workshop slated

A financial aid workshop for parents of all high school seniors who plan to attend a university, college or other training school after graduation is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 2, at 7 p.m. in the Heppner High School cafeteria. Dana Young, financial aid director for BMCC will present

the workshop. All Heppner and Ione area high school seniors' parents are encouraged to attend. Parents of this year's high school juniors are also invited. For further information contact Barbara Hayes at Heppner High School 676-9138.

Livestock Growers plan annual meeting

The Morrow County Livestock Growers will be holding their annual meeting Dec. 10 at the Elks Lodge in Heppner. The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. Speakers for the afternoon program will be Frank Mader, Shannon Rust, Fred Obermiller, OSU Extension, Pete Talbott and Fred Otley. Retail/Food Service Coordinator, OBC, Wayne Philen, will provide hors d'oeuvres. Dinner will follow with Fred Obermiller being the after dinner speaker. "Fred's talk may not be humorous but it will be a positive enlightenment about the public lands situation that producers face at this time," said a livestock grower spokesperson.

Local firefighters help in Calif. blaze

Fighting the recent fires in the Malibu, California, area was "quite an experience," says Heppner Forest Service fire fighter Mike Correa. Correa was part of a 20-person crew from the Umatilla Ranger District (five from Heppner) who recently spent 11 days in Southern California helping fight the huge brush fires that destroyed homes and burned thousands of acres.

Used to fighting forest fires, Correa said it was quite different in Southern California. "There were fires all around Ventura County. We stayed a lot in San Bernadino." He said that the crew dug fire lines and spent quite a bit of time on standby.

Correa said the crew slept in some strange places. "We once slept on the pavement of a parking lot, and another time we stayed on a horse ranch, right in the arena." He said they also stayed on the beach a couple of nights.

Most of the major firefighting was done by helicopters, which couldn't operate at nighttime, and the ground crews were used mainly to dig fire trails through eight to 10-foot-high brush. "The



Firefighting crew from Umatilla Ranger Distr. Mike Correa is standing in the back row, left.

terrain was real steep, and we saw flames 150 to 200-feet high," Correa said.

He said the people in the area were "real great" to the firefighters, with the restaurants and grocery stores providing "lots of food and drinks. We got lots of compliments from the peo-

ple. They were really happy we were there."

There were lots of media in the area too. Correa said the crew was filmed and interviewed by CNN, Fox and CBS.

Other members of the crew from Heppner were: Larry Aragon, Charlie Grabeel, Craig Gutierrez and Candy Amy.

Chamber seeks nominations

Heppner Chamber of Commerce is looking for nominees for the annual man, woman, business and educator of the year awards. Applications are available at Kuhn, Spicer & Mills Attorney at Law office or at the Chamber office and need to be returned to the chamber office no later than January 3, 1994. To have a form mailed call 676-5536. Those selected will be honored during the annual Town and Country Day, Wednesday, January 12, 1994.

Selection is based on direct community service, civic involvement, philanthropic and church work. Business nominees are considered for community involvement, contributions to employment or economy and innovation in customer relations. These awards serve to recognize those in south Morrow County who step forward to lend a hand, take on leadership roles and go that extra mile. Nominations are not limited to chamber membership.

Lunch with Santa Dec. 12

The Heppner Chamber of Commerce will sponsor Lunch With Santa on Sunday, Dec. 12 from noon until 2:30 p.m. at the Heppner Elks Lodge. Children will be able to have hot dogs, chips and punch from noon until 1 p.m. followed by photos with Santa and watching movie videos. Cost for lunch and photo is \$2.50.

The event allows parents to drop their children off for a few hours and get in some Christmas shopping at local merchants. Merchants will be open from 12 to 4 p.m. for extra shopping opportunities.

Businesses to be open on Sunday

Beginning this week for shopping convenience, local businesses will be open on Sun-

days from 12 to 4 p.m. The Sunday opening will continue until Christmas.

Punch card winners drawn



Les Schwab manager Jon DeBo and bookkeeper Marcy Bacon draw the first week's winners in the Christmas punch contest. Six lucky people won \$25 gift certificates to local businesses.

The punch card contest continues for three more weeks, and shoppers may pick up their punch cards at participating businesses.

This week's winners are: Jim Campbell (Murray Drugs gift certificate), Jim Cooper (Country Rose), Darcy Haun (Peter-

son's), Kathy Carlson (Court St. Market), Kirsten Harrison (Gardner's) and Christal Shank (MCCGG).

Pick up your punch cards at any of these businesses or from Green Feed, Central Market, Les Schwab, Coast to Coast, Pettyjohns, or The Shoe Box.

All entries in the four-week contest will be eligible for the final grand prize drawing of \$600 in gift certificates to be given away to one lucky winner on Dec. 21.

Blood drawing set Dec. 9

A blood drawing will be held at the St. Patrick's Senior Center, 182 N. Main, Heppner, from 1 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9. The drawing is sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service.

Alumni tourney meeting slated

The alumni basketball tournament organizers will hold a meeting on Thursday, December 9 at 7 p.m. at the Columbia Basin Electric Coop board room. Anyone interested in helping with the basketball tournament to be held Dec. 31, Jan. 1 and 2, is urged to attend.

Exploratory swimming pool committee to hold important meeting

The Exploratory Swimming Pool Commission invites the public to attend an important meeting with the commission's swimming pool feasibility study consultant, Tim Rundquist of Rundquist & Hard of Spokane, WA., on Friday, Dec. 3 beginning at 1 p.m. at the Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative board room.

Rundquist will be gathering information and seeking input on expectations and insights related

to a new swimming pool. The commission believes the public's input is important to the pool planning process.

A second meeting will follow on Saturday, Dec. 4 at 10 a.m. at Heppner City Hall at which time the consultant will give a preliminary presentation and feedback session on the pool based on the input given at the Friday meeting. The result of this process will form the basis of the feasibility study. The public is welcome to attend.



It must be Christmas if the Christmas tree is up on Main Street. This year's tree is a 22 year old spruce donated by Clyde and Jackie Allstott. The majestic looking tree was grown from a seedling by Jackie's mother, Christine Schmidt, and given to the Allstotts when it was about a foot-and-a-half tall.