

Summer term ends at BMCC

Summer term is coming to a close at Blue Mountain Community College and several special service departments will either close or change hours until fall term classes begin the end of September.

The Basic Skills and Development Education Department, along with the computer lab will close July 28. The library will be closed August 18 through September 4 and will open on September 5; hours will be 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m. The BMCC Bookstore and McCrae Activity Center are closed through the summer.

Main campus offices including the admissions and advising office, the records/business office, the financial aid office, TALN Project, and the Family Support Act office are open throughout the summer.

Students returning to BMCC are reminded to call the admissions and advising office at 276-1260 ext. 205 to make a registration appointment if they

have not already done so.

Students new to BMCC who plan to take nine credit hours or more must take a placement test before they can make a registration appointment. This includes students transferring from other colleges who have not had college-level writing or math.

The ASSET placement test is given to help counselors and advisors assess student ability in reading, writing and math, ensuring the students take the appropriate classes for their skill level. Regular testing times are Monday and Tuesday, beginning at 11 a.m. Appointments are not necessary. Immediately following the test, results will be assessed by a counselor and registration appointments for fall term will be made.

The test is held in the BMCC admissions and advising office in Pioneer Hall; there is a \$10 per person charge for the testing service.

Well water tests slated at Irrigon

Oregon State University Extension Service is offering a second well water testing opportunity for Columbia Basin rural homeowners on Saturday, July 29, from 1-5 p.m. at the Irrigon Watermelon Festival.

"We were really pleased to be able to test 24 Columbia Basin wells for nitrate levels during the Boardman Fourth of July festivities," says Carol Michael-Bennett, OSU Morrow County Extension agent.

"The nitrate levels of wells tested ranged from 0 to 30 plus parts per million (ppm). It is really interesting to see how much nitrate variation there can be in the same neighborhood. Users of wells with less than 10 ppm are happy to learn no further tests are needed. A level higher than 10 ppm is considered an indicator of an

unhealthy situation. Some wells do need additional testing to determine the reason for high nitrate levels," Michael-Bennett continues. "We would like all domestic well water users in the area to take advantage of the free tests."

The test are coordinated by Rich Topielec, OSU Extension agent, and conducted by Irrigon volunteers Bonnie Clow and Mary Ellen Coleman. The testing process takes only a few minutes and results can be picked up a short time later.

The water sample should be taken the same morning as the test. Free sampling bottles and sampling instructions are available at Irrigon City Hall, 220 North Main, and Boardman Pharmacy, 202 N.W. 1st.

For more information, call the Morrow County Extension office, 676-9642 or 1800 342-3664.

Wellness Walk

Forty-five participants and five dog buddies took part in the Boardman 4th of July Wellness Walk. The route used the new riverside walking path for the first mile of the 5K event.

The paved walk path follows the Columbia River through the Boardman Marina Campground and connects with Marine Avenue by the Captain Al James Tugboat. Benches are strategically placed for resting or viewing.

Austin Freeman, a member of the Palmdale California High School track team, did not take advantage of the benches. Freeman had made a personal challenge to complete the course at least 10 minutes sooner than his dad.

Freeman was the first finisher in the non-competitive event and arrived 12 minutes before the second finisher, his dad. Both Freemans and other participants said, "The walk path is a wonderful addition to the area."

The walk drew participants from Boardman, Welches, Memphis, TN., McCall and Lava Hot Springs, ID., Olympia, Bellevue, Kirkland and Kelso, WA.

Oregon State Fair deadlines listed

The Oregon State Fair awaits your entries for the 1995 Livestock Competition.

The deadline for entries in the beef cattle, dairy goat, sheep, llama and swine divisions is Monday, July 31, by 5 p.m.

All entries for dairy cattle must be received at the livestock office by 5 p.m., Monday, August 7.

The deadline for junior exhibitors showing in either the junior open shows or the open class shows is August 7 at regular entry fees. No entries will be accepted that are postmarked after that date.

Breeding class animals must be purebred and registered.

Leave rodents alone, say experts for the National Pest Control Association

"Don't go looking for mice. If you don't need to be around mice, avoid them," says Dr. Richard Kramer, director of Research, Education and Technical Resources for the National Pest Control Association in Dunn Loring, Virginia.

Deer mice, which are quite abundant in most of North America, are among the rodents known to carry the infection, Hantavirus, in their droppings and urine. The Hantavirus is spreading eastward from its initial detection point in the southwest region of the U.S.

Humans who come into contact with the contaminated material or who breathe the airborne particles in an area where it has dried may be at risk.

Generally, the onset of this disease begins with respiratory flu-like symptoms, followed by nausea and then rapid onset of respiratory distress from the lungs filling with plasma. More than half the cases are fatal. The incubation period in humans can be five to 41 days, but is usually 12-16 days.

Treat all mice as though they are infected, Kramer advises. Do not catch mice just to determine if they are deer mice and are in your area.

One identifying feature of the deer mouse is its tail, which is short and finely haired with a well-defined dark stripe on top and white on the bottom. The deer mouse is grey to brown with a white belly. It has short hind feet and all four feet are white.

Deer mice tend to live together in winter, with several congregating in one nest. They are food-gatherers and store nuts, fruits and insects in burrows. Hawks, owls and other predators catch and eat deer mice.

If you have them in your house, you will want to get rid of them, Kramer says. To remove mice, use common snap traps baited with peanut butter. Place several traps about 10 feet apart throughout the house. When cleaning up, use household cleaners and wear cotton or plastic gloves and a full-face respirator.

Additional suggestions: keep woodpiles at a distance and store food stocks in rodent-proof containers. Place all garbage in rodent-free containers and haul away trash, abandoned vehicles and old tires.

It is best to leave the following precautions to professional exterminators: in buildings with large rodent populations, open doors and windows for at least 30 minutes to ventilate. The professional will hose down the area with water or a water/bleach solution to remove dust or gaseous airborne particles from mouse droppings. He or she will wear a full-face respirator while cleaning.

When removing mice, wear heavy plastic gloves. The professional will place carcasses in plastic bags with enough household disinfectant to wet the mice and dispose of the bags correctly. Before removing gloves, he or she will wash gloved hands in a disinfectant of three tablespoons of bleach per gallon of water and then in soap and water.

Lottery funds granted for local watershed project

Over \$380,000 in grant funds from the Governor's Watershed Enhancement Board (GWEB) will go to 12 watershed restoration and education projects around the state in the next two years.

A \$4,812 grant was awarded for Damon Riparian Enhancement, near Heppner on a Willow Creek tributary.

According to the GWEB, the area has been overgrazed and noxious weeds have invaded the site, inhibiting native grass production. The applicant will plant 500 Caragana seedlings in the riparian area to help improve water quality, water quantity and wildlife habitat, and will fence the area to exclude livestock. PVC pipe will be installed to carry spring water that currently stays in the spring area to a livestock watering trough. The trough will be allowed to overflow into the riparian area to help improve streamside vegetation growth.

In Wasco County, \$56,250 will go toward upland restoration in the Bakeoven Creek watershed. In Lane County, \$6,000 will be used to train teachers about watershed education concepts. In Malheur County, \$27,155 will help fund riparian fencing and juniper control in the Clover Creek watershed. The other funded projects are in Tillamook,

Multnomah, Umatilla, Washington and Douglas counties. Funding for GWEB projects comes from the Oregon State Lottery.

The new projects were awarded funds by GWEB at a meeting in Salem on June 22. The board considered a total of 53 grant applications. "The GWEB process is successful because our funds become a catalyst for getting local folks involved," said Chair Carole Whipple. "And they help draw other funds from lots of different sources, both for community education and to help resolve tough environmental problems." Whipple, a rancher from Elkton, in southern Oregon, is a strong proponent of looking at land management from a watershed perspective. The term "watershed" refers to all the land drained by a single stream or system of connected streams.

Additional GWEB grants will be awarded over the next two years for watershed restoration projects supported by local watershed councils. Selected projects must demonstrate sound watershed enhancement techniques or educate about the concepts of watershed enhancement. GWEB grants are available to individuals, businesses, organizations, government agencies, schools, or other groups.

HWY 206 weight restrictions lifted

The Oregon Department of Transportation lifted the temporary weight restriction that was placed on Oregon 206 between Ruggs and Condon on Tuesday, July 25.

Repairs for the breakup

which caused the need for the weight restriction to be placed on the highway in mid-June were completed on Monday, July 24, approximately five weeks ahead of schedule.

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P185/80R-13	68.75	P175/70R-14 B/W	68.94	P215/60SR-14 B/W	96.09
P185/75R-14	72.28	P185/70R-14 B/W	72.39	P195/60SR-15 B/W	88.72
P195/75R-14	76.14	P195/70R-14 B/W	76.25	P205/60SR-15 B/W	100.06
P205/75R-14	81.19	P205/70R-14 B/W	82.27	P215/60SR-15 B/W	104.41
P215/75R-14	86.42	P205/70R-15 B/W	86.32	P215/60SR-16 B/W	111.07
P195/75R-15	78.85	P205/70R-14	86.40	P225/60SR-16 B/W	116.62
P205/75R-15	84.60	P215/70R-14	91.93	P205/65SR-15 B/W	99.71
P215/75R-15	87.83	P195/70R-15	86.32	P215/65SR-15 B/W	103.87
P225/75R-15	90.13	P205/70R-15	90.66		
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