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Gazette  
Times

## Heppner Ranger District office still closed



The doors were still locked at the Heppner District Forest Service Building Tuesday morning as legislators continue wrangling over the federal budget. Meanwhile, the federal government shutdown drags on.

A call to the Heppner office triggers a recording saying that the office will be closed until

further notice "due to lack of funding". Around 30 local workers are affected by the "furlough". The only Forest Service employee believed to be working in the area is a zone law enforcement agent working out of Ukiah.

The Heppner Ranger District office closed December 20. Select workers are only being

allowed into the office once a week to water plants.

At this time Forest Service workers are not being granted unemployment benefits because they may be paid back wages.

The District was not affected by the previous budget deadlock which shut down parts of the government for six days.

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photo by Joyce Hughes

The winning Alumni Tournament team of (l-r) Russell Britt, Doug Devin, Slater Mitchell, Bobby Krein, Jacob Maben and Casey Pedro. The annual tournament was held in Heppne this weekend. Tournament organizers say this might be the last year for the event. (More photos and story on page 4)

## December gets every type of weather



Mark McCabe, four, and his brother, Matt, six, sons of Sonja and John McCabe of Heppner, help clear some of the white stuff that fell in the area Dec. 28.

December weather came in like a lamb and went out like one too, but in between there were a few pretty frosty days. High temperature on Dec. 1

was 60 degrees, with a low of 45. High for Dec. 31 was 53, with a low of 44. Dec. 9 and 10 saw the mercury rise to highs of only 23, with lows of 16 and 19 respectively those days.

There was no snow for Christmas, but an inch of snow fell on Dec. 28, with rain turning to ice on the ground the following day. It was foggy six days out of the 31.

## People for the Pool set annual meeting

People for the Pool, Inc. will hold their annual meeting Thursday, Jan. 11, at 7 p.m. at

the Columbia Basin Electric conference room.

In addition to the annual review and election of officers,

fund raising and grant applications will be discussed.

The public is invited to attend.

## Town and Country Day set for Jan. 11

The tenth annual Town and Country Day has been planned for Thursday, January 11, at the St. Patrick's Parish Hall in Heppner.

The day will get underway with the Soil and Water Conservation District annual meeting set for 10 a.m., followed by a coffee break, sponsored by the Bank of Eastern Oregon.

At 11 a.m. the Small Woodlands Association will hold its annual luncheon.

An Italian luncheon will be catered by Kate's Pizza at noon. Luncheon speaker will be state representative Lynn Lundquist. The Chamber of Commerce will also hold their installation and the annual Hats Off award will be presented during the luncheon.

The Heppner Main Street

Renovation Project will be the topic of an open meeting at 1:45 p.m.. The meeting will be facilitated by Malcolm Johnstone/Liveable Oregon and Don Fine, Oregon Department of Transportation project designer.

Also scheduled at 1:45 p.m. will be "Fish Screening for Irrigation" with Adam Schumacher, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife screens project coordinator.

Following a short break, "The Influence of Shade on Riparian Areas" will be presented by Larry Larsen of Oregon State University. The two agriculture sessions are sponsored by the Wheat League, Soil and Water Conservation District, Morrow County Livestock Growers and the

Small Woodlands Association.

A social hour will begin at 6 p.m. with live 12-string guitar music provided by Malcolm Johnstone. The prime rib dinner, catered by Yaw's Restaurant, is planned for 7 p.m. The dinner will feature a gem door prize donated by Peterson's Jewelers, keynote speaker Sir Trevor Phillipson, k.c.m.g., the coronation of the Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Queen and Court and presentation of the annual man, woman, business and educator of the year awards.

Banquet tickets are available at the Heppner Chamber of Commerce office, the Bank of Eastern Oregon in Heppner and Lone, Murray Drugs and the Morrow County Grain Growers in Lexington.

## HCC to meet

The next meeting of the Heppner Coordinating Council will be Wednesday, Jan. 10 at 7:30 a.m. in the main conference room of the Heppner Ranger District office.

## Weather Report

By City of Heppner

For the month of December			
	High	Low	Precip.
12/1	60	45	.12
12/2	53	38	.02
12/3	50	33	T
12/4	54	36	.03
12/5	43	28	.01
12/6	34	21	.05
12/7	36	29	.00
12/8	45	19	.00
12/9	23	16	.06
12/10	23	19	.12
12/11	45	23	.06
12/12	57	36	.27
12/13	64	34	.00
12/14	53	44	.00
12/15	55	34	.24
12/16	49	32	.00
12/17	48	23	.00
12/18	31	23	.00
12/19	35	29	.00
12/20	37	32	.00
12/21	40	31	.00
12/22	42	25	.00
12/23	32	24	.00
12/24	30	29	.00
12/25	28	22	.00
12/26	26	23	.00
12/27	29	23	.00
12/28	36	22	.03
12/29	35	22	.13
12/30	44	32	.08
12/31	53	44	.36

## Sir Trevor Phillipson to deliver address

Sir Trevor Phillipson has been described, by his good friend Sir Clement Freud (yes, the illustrious grandson of Sigmund) as a "devoutly irreverent and rascalious wag, who as a child was incorrigible, and is no less so as an adult."

This "incorrigible" adult is scheduled to provide the keynote speech for the annual Town and Country Day banquet, planned for Thursday, Jan. 11, beginning at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's Parish Hall.

Phillipson is the recently retired director general of the British Institute of Marketing,

a member of the British Council for International Trade and was a special advisor to Margaret Thatcher on Soviet affairs. He twice ran for Parliament and was "twice outrun".

Phillipson says he "loves the Irish, likes the French and considers the united States to be God's greatest act of providence." He claims to be completely unspoiled by failure and continues to live by his motto, "Vivere est sumisse cachinare". (Life is a bit of giggle.) His topic might be "Remember, professionals built the Titanic, amateurs built the ark".

## South Morrow county has toll calls

Heppner, Lexington and Lone residents will pay a toll for phone calls between the three cities with the new phone service provider, PTI Communications.

According to an unidentified PTI employee, callers between Heppner, Lone and Lexington will be charged six cents per minute unless the caller has an extended-area agreement with PTI. The extended area agreement provides unlimited calls between the cities for a charge of \$2 a month.

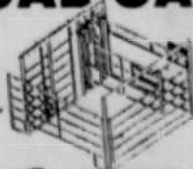
All residents of the three cities have the extended area

agreement automatically as part of their service. One must call PTI if they want the service disconnected.

According to the PTI employee, the previous phone service provider, U.S. West, also had a type of extended area agreement for around \$1.34 a month. The employee said that PTI asked to be able to charge the same amount as U.S. West for that service, but was turned down by government regulators. A PTI supervisor did not return the Gazette-Times' phone call by deadline to confirm that information.

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