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HEPPNER



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Gazette  
Times

VOL. 116 NO. 48 8 Pages Wednesday, November 26, 1997 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

## City logo repoured



Workers pour cement Tuesday for half of the city of Heppner logo on Main Street. The original west side of the logo, at the intersection of Main and Willow streets, had to be demolished and repoured because of substandard strength test results.

## The 'Messiah' planned Dec. 19

The Arts Council of Morrow County announces that "The Punch Card Winners drawn

Twenty five dollar gift certificate winners in the first week of the Heppner Christmas Punch are as follows:

Chris Whalen won a \$25 gift certificate to Gardner's Men's wear. Marlene Pointer won a gift certificate to Les Schwab. Glo Wright won a certificate to Peterson's Jewelers. Joe McElligott won a gift certificate to Yaws, and Tom Gall won a \$25 gift certificate to Coast to Coast. The winners can pick up their gift certificates at the businesses.

There will be a new set of five winners next week, and remember all punch cards go into the final grand prize drawing of \$700 in gift certificates to be given away Dec. 29.

Anyone can enter, just pick up your punch card whenever you shop at any of the participating businesses, and for every five dollars in purchases at any participating business, get your card punched.



Gayle Gutierrez

## Treasurer implements investment policy

The concert is funded by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District and the Meyer Memorial Trust.

Anyone from north Morrow County interested in riding to the concert on the bus may call Joyce Graff, 422-7191.

Morrow County Treasurer Gayle Gutierrez has announced that she has implemented the first investment policy for the county in the county's history.

Gutierrez said she spent several months researching, writing and revising the policy before submitting it to the Oregon Short Term Fund Board for approval. The board, which is part of the State Treasury, commented that the policy was "overall an excellent policy".

The Morrow County Court approved the policy at their Oct. 22 meeting.

Gutierrez commented that writing the investment policy was her major campaign promise and invites everyone to stop by her office for a copy of the policy.

## Strategies meeting held We're number one!

A meeting of the North Central Oregon Regional Strategies, staffed by the Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation, will meet Friday, Dec. 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Service Creek Trading Post, 20 miles south of Fossil on Hwy... 19.

## Rec. district meeting canceled

The Morrow County Unified Recreation District meeting scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 20 at Riverside High School in Boardman was cancelled because no business was scheduled to come before the board. The next meeting will be Thursday, Dec. 18.

According to a chart published Nov. 19 in "The Oregonian", property taxpayers in the city of Heppner have the highest tax rate in the state.

Morrow County Assessor Greg Sweek confirmed that Heppner taxpayers fork out \$28.13 per thousand assessed valuation.

Taxpayers in the original city of Boardman, according to Sweek, pay \$19.21 per thousand; Boardman phased-in, annexed area, which includes the port area and the generating plant-\$14.57 per thousand; Irrigon, \$17.70; Lone, \$18.68; Lexington, \$15.83; and unincorporated areas in Morrow County, ranging from \$12-\$14 per thousand, depending on which districts are applicable.

The city with the next highest rate, according to "The Oregonian", is Huntington in Baker County with \$25.20. The lowest is Cave Junction in

Josephine County with \$9.21 per thousand.

Rates for neighboring cities include: Echo-\$21.85, Athena-\$17.43, Helix-\$17.44, Hermiston-\$19.89, Milton-Freewater-\$16.96, Pendleton-\$19.21, Pilot Rock-\$16.02, Stanfield-\$17.87, Ukiah-\$9.79, Umatilla-\$18.17 and Weston-\$16.74, all Umatilla County; Fossil-\$20.26, Mitchell-\$17.46 and Spray-\$21.42, all Wheeler County; Arlington-\$18.46 and Condon-\$19.72, both Gilliam County; Grass Valley-\$19.43, Moro-\$23.83, Rufus-\$18.57, Wasco-\$18.75, all Sherman County; John Day-\$17.30, Prairie City-\$18.78, Monument-\$16.72, Mount Vernon-\$16.87, Dayville-\$13.69, Canyon City-\$19.77 and Long Creek-\$16.27, all Grant County; Dufur-\$19.89, The Dalles-\$21.10, both Wasco County

## Ione students hold food drive



Ione Youth Group members gather food for the Heppner Neighborhood center.

If judged by the number of middle and high school students who showed up to help, the annual food drive in Ione was a major success.

Twenty-five Ione Youth Group members and helpers gathered at the United Church of Christ Nov. 8 to collect food in the Ione area. "I couldn't believe the response," said youth group leader Jeri McElligott. "We had all the food collected and delivered to Jannie

Allen's home in about 45 minutes. That has to be a record."

Allen was responsible for helping her Sunday school class pass out flyers promoting the food drive. She also delivered the food to the Heppner Neighborhood Center where it will be used for holiday baskets for the needy.

High school students collecting food were Jake McElligott, Jenny Sullivan, Kara Miller, Nathan Rietmann, Brenda Burright, Niki

Sullivan, Katie Tworek, Jessica Krebs, Lela Gribskov, Mark McElligott, Erin Crowell, Nikki McElligott, Camie Burright, Miranda McElligott, Adrienne Swanson, Allison Halvorsen, Charissa Gates, Corey Morgan, Shelby Krebs, Jeremiah McElligott and William McElligott.

Middle school students helping were Salli, Colin, Diana and Natalie McElligott.

## Heppner Parade of Lights Dec. 4

### \$200 goes to best in parade

A \$200 first prize, \$100 second prize and a \$50 third prize are being offered to the best

## Waterpark plans temporary closure

Willow Creek Waterpark will close for the holiday season, starting Monday, December 1, until January 16 to allow for final construction and winter maintenance, according to Willow Creek Park District Chairman Skip Matthews.

Mathews said that the inscribed bricks to be installed at the pool have arrived and will be installed during that time. He added that a substance will be put on the floors to make them less slick.

Park district bookkeeper Sue Baker said that the pool was running somewhat short on funds because of late property tax monies and more start up costs than anticipated. However, both Baker and Matthews said that the pool will be back up and running by January 16 at which time a new swimming season will be underway.

A 1998 schedule, with prices and procedures, is expected to be available in mid-December.

Baker said that the pool's electric bill of around \$5,000 a month was anticipated and is considered "normal". Matthews said that the waterpark hopes to purchase, hopefully through a grant, two covers for the pool—a dirt cover for the winter at around \$8,000 which will help preserve the pool's bottom and an insulated blanket, between \$10-\$12,000, to retain the heat, thereby reducing electric costs.

entries in the Heppner Parade of Lights Thursday, Dec. 4.

If you would like to enter a decorated vehicle or float just use the entry form in this week's paper and have your vehicle or float at Green Feed store on the evening of Dec. 4 at 5:30p.m. The parade starts at 6p.m. and the public is invited downtown to view the parade. Anyone who needs more information about entering the parade may contact

Bob Kahl at Van Marter and Kahl Insurance in Heppner.

Other activities also slated for that day include: Santa Claus at Murray's Drug from 3:30 to 5:30 (photos will be available); public decoration of the city Christmas Tree at 4:30p.m.; 6:30 p.m. Christmas tree lighting downtown as well as snacks offered by local businesses, and live Christmas music on the street.

## Crick cleanup nets \$2,500



Heppner Lions Club Treasurer Steve Rhea (right) and Janet Greenup, Heppner Water Control District, present a check for \$2,500 to the Heppner High School Wildhorse Club, represented by HHS senior Josh Roy. The Lions, Water Control District and Wildhorse Club worked in conjunction with the Corps of Engineers in keeping Willow Creek clean and free of debris.

## Log truck loses load downtown

A log truck tipped over and lost its load Monday, Nov. 24, at 5:32 p.m. near the bowling alley in Heppner. According to Heppner Police Chief Doug Rathbun and Mike Sweek, officer on the scene, the reach on the truck's trailer broke as it was making a left turn onto Chase Street.

The truck driver, Walt Johnson of Bend, was not injured in the accident.

Police said that the logs were transferred onto a loader from Kinzua, the truck was tipped back and the driver drove the truck away following the accident.

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