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## Work underway on new Chevron station



### Work begins on new Chevron station

Work is underway on a new Chevron station at the site of the former Cal's Service Center, at the corner of north Main and Center in Heppner.

Dick Devin, vice president of Devin Oil, Inc., says that the station will be "all new from the ground up," including new pumps, a new building and convenience store and a new canopy. The convenience store, which will feature some fast food items as well as convenience items, will also have a drive-through window.

Devin says that the gas station should be completed by Dec. 22 to satisfy government regulations and he hopes to have the mini-mart completed by mid January.

Devin Oil, Inc., purchased the station in September from Cal and Bev Sherman who had operated Cal's Service Center there for 30 years.

According to the Oregon State Department of Environmental Quality, gas station owners and operators were given 10 years, until Dec. 22 of this year, to upgrade or replace old underground gas tanks. Upgrading an underground tank usually requires replacing or lining the existing tank and adding equipment to prevent leaks and spills. According to DEQ the upgrades start at around \$50,000 and most also involve at least some soil or groundwater cleanup, so costs could exceed \$100,000.

The state awarded some

grants to tank owners, but a station could get a grant only if it was the only station in a city or was located five or more miles from the next gasoline station and "there was an economic need," according to DEQ.

In Morrow County, only three stations have qualified for grants, according to DEQ-Lexington Service in Lexington, Brown's Auto and Truck Stop in Irrigon and Ione Key Gas Service in Ione.

DEQ says that many gas stations have closed since 1988 and 1,100 of Oregon's 1,600 remaining gas stations with underground tanks have upgraded or replaced tanks. They say that several hundred stations are still working to meet the deadline and another 200-300 may quit selling gas rather than make the mandated changes.

DEQ says that the changes are needed because failing underground tanks "pose a serious long term threat to the nation's drinking water supply and sometimes are immediate threats to public safety." DEQ says that before 1986, bare steel tanks, which are "highly vulnerable to corrosion," were commonly used to store gasoline and there have been leaks or recurring spills at more than two-thirds of the old tank systems. DEQ says in one year, a pin-size hole in an underground storage tank can leak more than 400 gallons of fuel.

According to DEQ, "gasoline contamination has fouled or

threatens to pollute many water wells in Oregon, usually in rural areas and very low levels of gasoline constituents in drinking water can cause cancer."

Pennie and Dennis Miller, owners of Miller's Mini Mart and Chevron at 294 North Main in Heppner say that they plan to close the station January 1.

## Schools plan holiday programs

South Morrow County Schools have scheduled their Christmas music programs.

The holiday program will be held at Heppner Elementary School on Wednesday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m. for kindergarten through sixth grade.

The Heppner High School concert will be held on Thursday, Dec. 17, at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria.

The Ione winter concert for grades K-12 will be held Tuesday, Dec. 22, at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria.

The concerts will include both band and choral music.

## G-T closed for Thanksgiving

The Gazette-Times office will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 26 and 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The G-T staff wishes you a safe and happy holiday.

## Joint concert planned Dec. 6

A joint concert with the South Morrow Community Choir and the Willow Creek Symphony will be held on Sunday, Dec. 6, at the Heppner Middle School gym beginning at 3 p.m. The two groups have joined forces to provide an afternoon of music.

The choir is directed by Debbie Wryn and Ralph Werner is the director of the symphony. Both groups are funded by the Arts Council of Morrow County through the Morrow County Unified Recreation District.

The choir has prepared several selections that are widely varied, including an old Ukrainian carol, a well-known piece entitled "Carol of the Bells." Sacred selections include a rendition of "Joy To The World" with "Go Tell It On The Mountain."

The concert also includes humorous pieces that remind us to lighten up and enjoy the holiday season. One is a "boogie" style and the other is aptly titled, "Twas the Night After Christmas."

The Willow Creek Symphony will perform Christmas selections under the direction of Ralph Werner. Selections include the favorites, "O Come All Ye Faithful" and "Angels We Have Heard on High." "Sleigh Ride" will feature the percussion section and "Trepak" from the Nutcracker Suite will include a harp part performed by Amy Jepsen. The symphony will also play "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer."

At the end of the program both groups will again combine for one selection. This year's piece is Irving Berlin's "White Christmas." Ralph Werner will play tuba and Debbie Wryn will direct.

A reception will be held after the concert. Everyone is invited to attend. There is no admission charge.

## Santa to appear in Boardman

Santa Claus will arrive at the Boardman Community Tree Lighting Ceremony, Wednesday, Dec. 2, in a one-horse open buggy. The Community Tree Lighting will begin at 5:30 p.m., at the corner of Main and Boardman Avenue. The Community Tree is on Riverside High School grounds, right by the school sign.

Musical entertainment will be provided by members of the Boardman Community Church, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and children from Boardman Child Development Center. The tree, decorated by community volunteers, will be glowing and Santa will arrive in a horse and buggy.

Of course Santa will have a wink and candy for everyone that has been nice (or naughty). After the ceremony, everyone is invited to walk across Boardman Avenue to the C & D Drive In for cookies, hot chocolate and conversation.

The Community Tree is one block north of the I-84 Boardman Main Street exit #164.

## Time to light up Heppner

It's time to light up Heppner's Main Street trees. Tree owners and anyone wishing to help are invited to meet at the Chamber of Commerce office on Tuesday, December 1, between 3:30-6 p.m.

Lights will be available for those not keeping them from last year. Hot chocolate will be served.

Wondering about the bricks? The company is running behind; Heppner is on hold. "One day they may just appear," says a Chamber spokesperson.

## Santa makes annual visit to Artifactory



Kendra Rayburn of Heppner shares a moment with Santa at the Artifactory arts and crafts fair held this year on Saturday, Nov. 21, at the Morrow County Fairgrounds in Heppner. The annual event is sponsored by Soroptimist International of Heppner.

## Holiday events planned

The December calendar includes numerous local holiday events.

Activities include:

Thursday, Dec. 3: 2-7 p.m.-downtown open house; 3:30-5:30 p.m.-pictures with Santa at St. Patrick's Senior Center with Sandy Matthews, photographer; 4-7 p.m.-chili and baked potato feed, sponsored by the Heppner High School Senior Class at St. Patrick's Senior Center; 5-6 p.m.-live nativity, courtesy of the Lutheran Church, next to the Shoe Box; 5 p.m.-Heppner band students perform at Les Schwab; 5:30 p.m.-Heppner vocal students perform at downtown Christmas tree; 6 p.m.-Holiday Parade of Lights; 6:30 p.m.-light up

Heppner.

Saturday, Dec. 5: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.-Holiday greens workshop sponsored by the Heppner Garden Club, Morrow County Fairgrounds.

Sunday, Dec. 6: 3 p.m.-Community Choir and Willow Creek Youth Symphony, Heppner Middle School gym.

Wednesday, Dec. 16: 7 p.m.-Heppner Elementary School holiday concert.

Thursday, Dec. 17: 7 p.m.-Heppner High School holiday concert.

Sunday, Dec. 20: Heppner business and residential lighting contest judged.

Tuesday, Dec. 22: 7 p.m. Ione Schools winter concert.

## Heppner TV adds channels

Coming soon to Heppner Cable television will be two new movie channels, ENCORE and American Movie Classics.

To receive the new, commercial free movie channels be sure to program your sets to channels #29 and #30.

ENCORE'S programming lineup includes hit movies from the 60s, 70s and 80s. Thirty movies are scheduled each month and are shown every two hours, commercial free. ENCORE is scheduled to air on televisions the week of November 23.

American Movie Classics

brings classic entertainment including one of the greatest collections of classic movies ever made. AMC shows favorites from the 30s through the 70s. All films are shown uncut, uncolored and without commercial interruptions. AMC is scheduled to air sometime in December.

Recently, Heppner TV added The History Channel and Fox Sports Northwest to channels #27 and #28. Be sure to keep up on all the new additions to the television programming.

For more questions, call Heppner TV at 676-9663.

## Randy Lott gets hole in one

Randy Lott of Heppner carded a one shot on the 170 yard hole #2 recently at the Willow Creek Country Club. Stub Lewis, Howard Bryant and Edward Hiemstra were his playing partners. After "thrashing around in the leaves looking for Lott's ball", Lewis said, "Maybe it went in the hole."

This was Lott's fourth hole-in-one; the others were all on hole #4. "Pure luck," said Lott, "since Fred Couples has only had two with all his talent."

Lott has been lucky this year. He also won the Diamondback mountain bike donated by Jeff Edmundson Construction for the youth golf program.

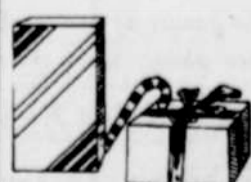
## Day care has waiting list

Heppner DayCare and Pre-school announce they have a full attendance of 24 children a day and currently have a waiting list. The DayCare asks parents to call ahead of time before bringing children in, at 676-5429. If a child is

scheduled but will not be coming in, parents are asked to call and cancel, or be charged \$5 for the space which might have been used for another child. For questions, call Merry Brannon at 676-5429.

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