

HEPPNER

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VOL 118 NO. 2 6 Pages Wednesday, January 13, 1999 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

Town & Country banquet Jan. 14

The annual Heppner Chamber of Commerce Town and Country Banquet will be held this Thursday, January 14, at the Heppner Elks Club.

Social hour, hosted by the Morrow County Grain Growers, will begin at 6 p.m. and the prime rib dinner will get underway at 7 p.m.

The entertainment will feature

a portrayal by Merna Debolt of Lucy Meriwether Marks, the mother of explorer Meriwether Lewis

The evening will also include the coronation of the Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Court, presentation of the annual Chamber man, woman, business and educator of the year awards, lifetime achievement awards, musical

entertainment by David Bates and Company and the Sentimentalists, Rick Drake and Brent Dickenson and a gemstone drawing sponsored by Peterson's Jewelers.

Tickets at \$15 each are available at the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Klamath First Federal, Murray Drugs and Morrow County Grain Growers.

Forest Service plans impact statement following court order

Umatilla National Forest Supervisor Jeff Blackwood announced this week that the forest will develop an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Tower Fire Recovery Area, following a court order to stop work within the 50 thousand acre area burned by wildfire in 1996.

This decision comes after the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals issued an order November 5, to Blackwood to "...halt all logging, road building and other ground disturbing activities within the Tower Fire Area ... until further order of the court."

The Court found the environmental analysis completed to date was not sufficient in addressing the combined effects of all scheduled restoration projects. Currently, all timber sales and other ground disturbing activities in the Tower Fire area are enjoined and halted by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals pending completion of an EIS.

The order stems from a lawsuit filed January 22, 1998, by the Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, et al.

The assessment was undertaken to evaluate restoration and timber salvage opportunities following the catastrophic 50,800 Tower fire in August and September, 1996.

The Federal District Court upheld the project decision and salvage sales in Big Tower were sold and awarded in the spring of 1998. As a result of an appeal by Blue Mountain Biodiversity Project to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, the 9th Circuit Court ordered the halt to the project on November 5.

Nineteen million board feet (mmbf) of the 26 mmbf sold have been cut and removed. At the time of the stop order, three of four timber sales were actively being harvested from the Tower Fire area.

Other projects halted by the court order include wildlife and fish habitat improvement, road obliteration, trail maintenance, fuels treatment, grazing, mining,

thinning and hazard tree removal. The order does not prohibit road maintenance, water bar installation, ditch and culvert cleaning or other erosion preventative measures. Nor does the order prohibit recreational use or hunting.

Government attorneys are researching a process by which

the Forest Service can proceed with the restoration activities before completing the Environmental Impact Statement.

Craig Smith-Dixon, North Fork John Day District ranger said, "the court order is clear and our plan is to complete the EIS by next fall."

Volunteers needed

By Doris Brosnan

Heppner thrives, in part, because of volunteers. Many, if not most, of the important events and projects that have kept Heppner such a liveable community have been accomplished by volunteers.

Some people want to volunteer just a little. Some people want to volunteer for small, quick jobs. Some people are interested in bigger projects. Some people want to volunteer on a regular basis. Needs exist for all those people.

Most of the time, when jobs need doing, someone involved will call friends and acquaintances to help. The jobs get done and Heppner benefits.

At least four risks exist: (1) Some volunteers spread their energies and ideas so widely that "burn-out" becomes a problem. (2) New perspectives can be overlooked. (3) Residents new to the area and would-be-good workers miss opportunities to contribute time, energies, and talents to the local projects. (4) Some projects and activities suffer from lack of volunteer support.

This column is an experiment and is for everyone who needs a volunteer or wants to be a volunteer. The purpose of this column is to bring the two together and to acknowledge the good works of Heppner's many volunteers.

Needs can be listed by calling 676-5886.

Looking for volunteers this week: **Neighborhood Center, 676-5024:**

-Someone to offer a craft class

at the center

-Someone to help with sorting and with stocking the food room. **CAPECO, 676-5313:**

-Someone to help set tables on Wednesdays.

-Someone to help with Bingo on Friday evenings. **Library, 676-9964:**

-Teenagers to help with "Story Time" on Tuesday evenings.

-Someone to offer instruction in use of the Internet. **Museum, 676-5524:**

-Someone to organize a volunteer group, so our many jobs have many hands to do them. **Heppner Chamber of Commerce, 676-5536:**

-Volunteers to be Heppner Ambassadors.

Heppner Day Care, 676-5429:

-Someone to help with preschool crafts, snacks, or reading, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 9-11 a.m.

Two volunteers at the library, Paula Spicerkuhn and Lily Calvert, have been helping with the "Story Time" since September and Jim Norene is cleaning the museum's gun collection.

Call 676-5886 if you need a volunteer.

Health district to attend council

The Morrow County Health District Board planned to attend the Boardman City Council meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 13, for an informal workshop regarding medical services provided by the district to the Boardman area.

Creative Care preschool plans Mexican fiesta



Creative Care Preschool children L-R: Stephanie Schuler, Justin Pranger, Mary Rietmann, Zac Orem, Adam Collin and Katy West.

Creative Care Preschool in Ione is planning a Mexican Fiesta at Beecher's Cafe in Ione on Monday, January 18, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

The fiesta will be a major fund raising event for the preschool. Betty Grey is allowing the use of Beecher's Cafe for the fiesta.

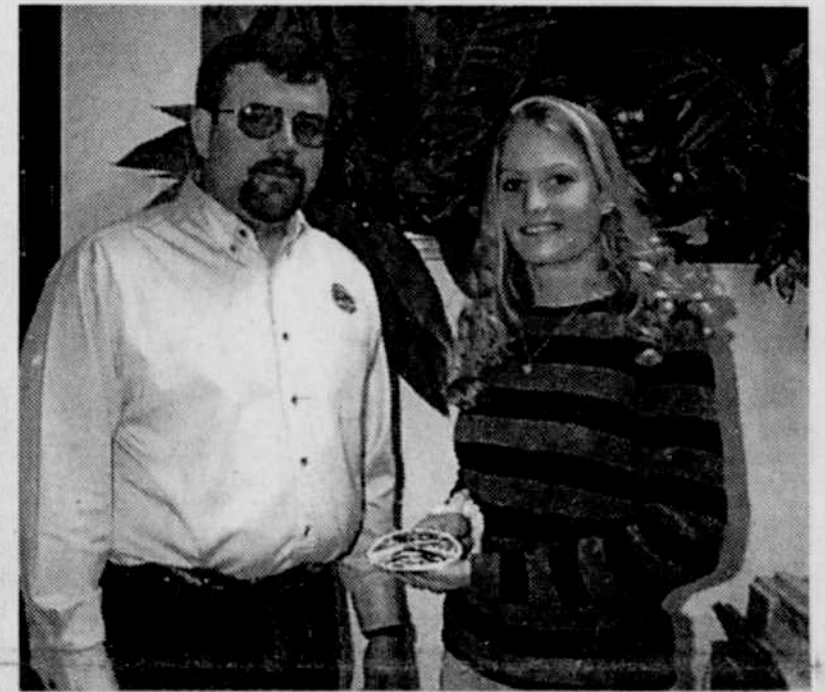
The menu will be authentic, with homemade tortillas, shredded beef and chicken enchiladas, fresh salsa, dessert, and a complimentary Margarita, either regular or non-alcoholic.

Creative Care Preschool is a non-profit early childhood development program serving the needs of over 28 children in the Ione community. Creative Care is dependent solely on parent fees, with no public funding, and they have worked to raise funds through private donations and grant programs. These sources have become more scarce, according to Shelly Rietmann, spokesperson for the preschool. "This fund raiser will be the largest event for the preschool and, if successful, will allow the preschool to continue the high quality the program the families have enjoyed in the past."

Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 for children under 12 and \$25 for a family. Children two years and under will be admitted free.

Adult tickets at the door will be \$10 each. For more information, call 422-7243.

Heppner BEO sponsors buckle



Darrell Raver, branch manager of the Bank of Eastern Oregon Heppner Branch, presents an official court belt buckle on behalf of BEO to Morrow County Rodeo and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Queen Bobbie Rankin.

"I'm looking forward to a good year," says Queen Bobbie. "And I hope to see everyone at the fair and rodeo."

The coronation of the queen and court will be held this Thursday, Jan. 14, at the Town and Country Banquet at the Heppner Elks Club.

Marketing seminar

scheduled

A wheat and commodity marketing seminar will be held on Thursday, Feb. 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Morrow County Extension office conference room in Heppner.

The seminar is designed to help women understand budget management and the commodity market. Instructor Michae Stoltz, OSU regional director, will also explain the basics of "puts" and "calls" and how to use them to more effectively market crops.

Those attending should bring a sack lunch.

For more information or to preregister, call the Extension office at 676-9642.

Class of 1999 plans taco feed

The Heppner High School class of 1999 has planned a taco feed for this Saturday, Jan. 16, from 2:30-6 p.m. in the HHS home ec room during the HHS-Sherman County basketball game. The meal, which includes a taco, beverage and brownie, will be \$3 for adults for a one-taco meal, \$4 for a two-taco meal, \$2.50 for children under 10 and \$15 for a family.

NEWS DEADLINE
5 p.m. Monday

Lexington election under investigation

The city of Lexington is currently under investigation by the Department of Justice concerning an alleged election violation.

The investigation involves a possible election violation for

the positions of the mayor and a city council member.

Council members are Pat Baker, John Renfro, Duane Disque and Marcia Kemp. Bill Sheirbon is mayor.

Heppner has gas

The new Chevron Station under construction in Heppner was scheduled to start pumping gas this Wednesday, Jan. 13, according to Dick Devin, vice president of Devin Oil, Inc.

Devin said the station would open at 10 a.m. for limited operation but added that he had not yet determined the station's regular hours.

He said that he hopes to have the convenience store going by Feb. 1.

Heppner has had no gas

station since the closure of Miller's Mini Mart and Chevron at 294 North Main on Dec. 22. The station was shut down because of the prohibitive costs of federally mandated tank replacement, say owners Dennis and Pennie Miller.

Cal's Service Center at West Main and North Center, kitty corner from Miller's, formerly owned by Cal and Bev Sherman, was sold to Devin Oil and then demolished to allow for tank replacement and construction of a new station and convenience store.

Sentimentalists to perform at banquet

The Arts Council of Morrow County will sponsor the "singing sensations", "The Sentimentalists", as they perform on Thursday, January

14, at the Town & Country banquet.

This group sang during the holidays at the hospital and at the nursing home.

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