

## County Court report

By Doris Brosnan

The Morrow County Court approved an approach permit to Tom Camp Road as public works director Van Arsdale began his report. He then presented the brochure that public works department created to comply with the Department of Environmental Quality recycling requirements.

Van Arsdale reported that the crew finished chip sealing 10 miles on Gooseberry, 12 miles on Rhea Creek and about a half mile on an approach, which they also rebuilt, to the highway off Clarks Canyon. They completed a thin lift of cold mix on five miles of Rhea Creek and blade patched and shaped the shoulders. Water bar signs have been put up on Arbutuck. They will be patching on Gooseberry, the Buttercreek bridge near Pine City and Kunze Road. They will also be moving to work on Patterson Ferry Road and East Wilson Road.

Concerned over the recent flagger fatality, Van Arsdale suggested a more visible presence of the sheriff's department at construction sites.

In discussion of the transfer station, Van Arsdale reported difficulty in getting someone to work weekends for minimum wage. He then clarified from his research that the Lone Cemetery Road is a public access road, with easements granted specifically for a road, though some landowners have declared it private.

Judge Tallman opened a public hearing on the petition to change unnamed County Road # 130 to Jason Lane. No one appeared in opposition or support; the court approved the change.

With the property owner, the court discussed the property on which the Clark's Canyon gravel pit is located, working to clarify several issues surrounding the possible purchase of the property.

The court, upon hearing the comparison of SAIF and CCIS from the county's agent for work compensation insurance, approved continuing coverage with the SAIF Corporation.

Interim zone manager Greg Sweek explained to the court an amendment to his last week's proposal, adding a small parcel not originally included in the Columbia River Enterprise Zone. He further explained the port's desire that some property not be in the zone. The court approved the amendment. Sweek also advised the court that the Willow Creek Valley enterprise zone application was not approved.

Deputy tax collector Cindy Doherty presented some cancellations of personal property taxes for properties that have been destroyed or the taxes are otherwise uncollectible. She also suggested that the court consider a policy of not pursuing foreclosure on personal property in such poor condition that collecting taxes would cost more than the amount of the taxes. She and the assessor explained to the court foreclosure procedures and problems with unattached personal property and personal property attached to real property. The court approved seven orders for cancellation of personal property taxes.

County Clerk Bloodsworth advised the court of the need to purchase a new reading mechanism for the election counting machine and informed them of an additional election for which she did not budget.

Judge Tallman reported that a purchase price for the Docken Building has been agreed upon.

Mental Health Director Gary Oberg reminded the court that the state has changed from an intergovernmental agreement format to a grant format and requested authority to sign the grant funding documents. The court appointed him county grant administrator for the Behavioral Health Department's mental health and developmental disabilities programs. Oberg reported on the proposal for Morrow County's taking over the Grant County mental health programs, explaining advantages to Morrow County and similarities in the counties' demographics. Oberg concluded his report by informing the court that, contrary to some rumors, the Behavioral Health Department did not refuse to respond after a recent fatal accident. Department personnel, he reported, was not called.

The court approved signing the intergovernmental agreement with the state for the prosecution of food stamp fraud cases through the district attorney's office, and they approved extending the contract term with GEODC. They also approved extending the contract with Umatilla County for community corrections. The court agreed to ask county counsel to prepare an order for a sheriff's sale of a piece of county property off Wilson Road. They reviewed and approved the budget resolutions prepared by the finance director and the renewal of reserve accounts.

At the Morrow County Court meeting July 8, Public Works Director Guy Van Arsdale reported finishing with the crushed rock on Valby, with plans to patch the culverts areas next week. He also told the court that there is no more money for chip sealing. Concerning a citizen's request for a fence line placement in a road shoulder, Van Arsdale explained the safety issue and the need to measure out from the road's center. Some crack sealing is scheduled for Columbia, where it enters Boardman, and a small patching is scheduled for Carlson Lane.

Van Arsdale discussed weeds on the A and B lists and weed control at the museum property.

Mental Health Director Gary Oberg advised the court that Grant County has accepted his department's offer to provide services and agreed to pay a percentage of his salary for administrative services. The court approved that department's purchase of two desks and two bookcases and discussed with Oberg the use of a bus to transport 15-20 young people at the north end of the county to a park for an outdoor program.

The court heard from Oberg that the state wants prevention money used for programs and services, less what is required for one coordinator's position, and he reported that EOSH has purchased the another car for the department.

The court heard a history of and an update on the status of the Canola Project, with information on when the registered seed product will be available, attempts to get an Oil Seed Commission and pesticides for minor-use grains. The market for this product, which has enjoyed an "excellent" year, is reportedly huge and world-wide. Most of the rape seed is exported whole to Japan, the country that represents 15/16 of the US canola market. The court also heard of some mustard seed oil applications and of canola seeding methods.

Louis Carlson presented to the court information on the St. Patrick's Senior Mealsite's financial difficulties. CAPECO pays the Senior Center about one-third the site's budget, and the rest of their funds comes from small fund-raisers. Carlson requested that the court consider offering some financial support from discretionary funds, with future support being added to the county budget. The court agreed to consider the matter when Commissioner John Wenzholz has returned.

Personnel Director Andrea Denton updated the court on the price quotes for installation of an elevator lift in the courthouse. The court approved signing the renewal of the intergovernmental agreement with Umatilla County for community corrections. The court heard that concern over the impact of dam removal was high at the Framework Conference in Salem.

### Dunk tank 'dunkees' sought

The Heppner Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with the Columbia Basin Electric Coop, have planned a dunk tank as a Chamber fund-raiser for "Celebrate Heppner," a downtown event planned for July 30.

Anyone who has a favorite candidate to be dunked is invited to submit the proposed victims' names to CBEC by FAX-676-5159, e-mail-cbectomw@oregonvos.net or mail-P.O. Box 398, Heppner, OR 97836.

## Engagement Cutsforth - Fullmer



Kathryn Cutsforth and Edward Fullmer

The parents of Kathryn A Cutsforth of Heppner announce her engagement to Edward E. Fullmer of Butte, Mt.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Keith and Sharon Lewis and Kenneth D. and Carolyn Cutsforth all of Heppner, Or. She is presently employed with Umatilla-Morrow Co. Headstart. She graduated from Burns Union High school and Eastern Oregon University.

The bridegroom-elect is the son of William and Joan Fullmer of Butte, Mt. He is presently employed with Loram Maintenance of Way, Inc. of Hamel, New Mexico. He graduated from Butte High School in Butte, Mt.

The couple will be married on Aug. 28, 1999, at St Patrick's Church in Heppner. They will reside in Heppner.

### Hands on Science scheduled

"My Environment" is the title and theme of the summer Hands on Science classes for younger children. In this class, the children will experience environmental themes in the areas of botany, geology, zoology, daytime astronomy and hydrology. They will separate rocks by their characteristics and test out their writing qualities. The children will also experience guided water play in order to understand this all important liquid.

Any child who is four years old as of December 31, 1998, any five or six year old who is entering kindergarten or first grade in the fall of '99 is eligible to register.

The Morrow County Commission on Children and Families is partially funding this summer program. Because of the grant dollars from the commission, the registration fee is \$8.

The classes will meet Monday through Friday for two and a half hours each day for two weeks. The program will be held at three sites in the county. The Heppner classes will be held in the Heppner Elementary School cafeteria July 19-30 from 9-11:30 a.m. Lone classes will be at the Lone Fire Hall meeting room August 2-13 from 8:30-11 a.m. The Boardman Child Development Center will hold classes on August 2-13 from 9-11:30 a.m.

"These Hands on Science classes are an excellent way for the pre-K-first grade child to experience the excitement and fun of science," said coordinator Sarah Carlson. "Science concepts and skills will be introduced as the children actively participate through inquiry. Observing, measuring, classifying, predicting and hypothesizing will be emphasized in each of the 10 classes. Materials and products of the lessons will be sent home with the participants so that the science experiments and activities can be done again at home.

The program is being made available through the Umatilla-Morrow ESD. Enrollment is limited to 15 children at each site. Preregistration will ensure a place in the class. Registration

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## Gifford - Vanderhoof



Maisie Gifford and Ryan Vanderhoof

Dr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Gifford of Hermiston and Mrs. Linda Miller of Gilchrist announce the engagement of their daughter, Maisie Anne, to Ryan Vanderhoof, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Vanderhoof of Portland. The wedding will take place in August.

There will be a Dunk Tank in Heppner July 30th. Submit names of people you would like to see in the Dunk Tank!

Fax to 676-5159;  
e-mail to cbectomw@oregonvos.net;  
or mail to P.O. Box 398, Heppner, OR 97836



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