

HEPPNER

# Gazette Times

50¢

VOL. 118 NO. 45 8 Pages Wednesday, November 10, 1999 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

## Lexington Fire Dept. Auxiliary to form

Members of the Lexington community discussed the organization of a fire department auxiliary at the October meeting of the Lexington Fire Department.

The purpose and goals of the auxiliary will be fund raising for the fire department, fire safety, and public awareness programs and training.

The auxiliary hopes to see smoke detection devices in every home in the community with regularly scheduled battery and maintenance checks.

One of the immediate fund raisers includes placing jars throughout the community to raise contributions. Future fund raisers are planned to purchase needed equipment such as firemen's clothing, decking material, scba's (self contained breathing apparatus), new truck tires and other items. The following are planned fund raising projects: chili supper, bake sales, raffles and others.

Immediate upcoming events for the auxiliary are to sponsor the old 1948 Ford Fire Truck (still works) in the Heppner City of Lights parade December 2.

Volunteers are needed to help "spiff up" the truck and get it outfitted for the parade with lights, signs, ribbons and tinsel. A generator has been located but the group needs a place to wax, polish and decorate the fire truck. Also planned for the same evening is a hot chocolate/coffee bar with a free cinnamon roll by Marcia Kemp.

Meetings are planned for twice a month, with the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 11, at 7 p.m. at town hall. Future meeting will involve forming bylaws and election of officers of the auxiliary.

"Membership is open to all and everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate," said Kemp. "There are no dues just your energy and ideas. The auxiliary is a community project that will benefit everyone in Lexington."

For further information contact Luella Taylor 989-8508 or Marcia Kemp 989-8178.

"Please come join us and work for the betterment of the town of Lexington," added Kemp.

## SWCD, Weed Board to meet

A special board meeting of the Morrow SWCD/Weed Advisory Board will be held Monday, November 15, at 3 p.m. at the Pettyjohn Office Building Conference room in Heppner to address unfinished business from the previous meeting.

The public is invited to attend.

**NEWS DEADLINE**  
5 p.m. Monday

## Heppner woman works to establish radio station

For several months now Monika Hunter, has been working on this idea of establishing a radio station in Heppner, finding a location, seeking people to help out and looking for funds. As of late, says Hunter, many things are starting to materialize.

The radio station "KNOW" will have a fund raising dance at Heppner High School on November 18, featuring the talented local music group Final Warning. The dance starts at 7:30 p.m. and ends at 11 p.m. Admission will be \$3.

"Come help out with the radio station promotion dance and if you're lucky you can win a door prize too," says Hunter.

A survey designed to provide feedback on the radio station has

been dispersed throughout the community and will arrive with the Columbia Basin Electric bill.

Hunter asks that people take a small amount of time to fill it out and mail it back or turn it in at numerous locations, such as Beecher's, the Ione Post Office, the Cenex store in Lexington, and Heppner's Central Market, Murray Drugs or the Post Office.

"Your input is important to us," said Hunter. "The radio station will only be as good as the community will make it. If you would like to get involved there are many things you can do."

The next radio station planning committee meeting will be November 30. Involvement from the public is invited, donations of expertise, office furniture, etc., can be used.

## North Lex Livestock donates to fairgrounds



North lex Livestock Club lays turf at the Wilkinson arena

North Lex Livestock 4-H Club recently received a grant which was used to purchase turf and sprinklers for Morrow County Fairgrounds.

On October 17, 15 club members and helpers laid the new 6000 square foot lawn outside the new Wilkinson Area according to club President Adrienne Swanson.

"Our club junior leader Shelby Krebs and Morrow County Extension Agent Bill Broderick

wrote a request to Oregon State 4-H Foundation and we were all thrilled to learn that we had received a grant for community beautification," said Swanson.

Those participating were: Shelby Krebs, Adrienne Swanson, Karl Morgan, Emily Key, Abby Key, Molly Barrow, Sara Barrow, Diana McElligott, Salli McElligott, Jim Swanson, Virgil Morgan, Tim Key, Steve Peck, Charity McElligott and Wilbur Jackson.

## St. Patrick mini carnival slated

"Name That Saint" is just one of many games that will be featured at the St. Patrick Church mini-carnival on November 14.

Fun for the young is the purpose of the fish pond, basketball shoot and mini-golf. Young and old may enjoy the cake walk and Bingo. While participating in the many games,

everyone may also enjoy a hot dog lunch and punch and coffee.

The mini-carnival will start at noon on Sunday and last until 2 p.m.

Featured at this year's event will be the raffle for a special-made pine cabinet crafted by Kathy Britt of Lexington.

The community is invited to "join the fun" at St. Pat's parish hall this Sunday.

## Show of support prompts Lex. mayor not to resign

Lexington Mayor John Renfro retracted his earlier resignation announcement, and said Monday he would now stay on the job.

Renfro last month said he would resign from the job after he learned some people were intending to start a recall petition against him.

Renfro changed his mind after hearing supportive comments from many Lexington residents.

Monday a letter signed by 100 town residents in support of Renfro was presented at the council meeting.

"There were people who wanted me to vacate the position," Renfro said Monday. "What I didn't know was how many people wanted me to stay."

Renfro had disagreements with several members of the fire department, and also his handling of filling a vacant council position seat. Monday he extended a hand and asked his opponents to consider a fresh start.

"There are negative feelings," he said, "but I hope you can step over that and work on the issues that affect all of us. Let's put the past behind us."

Renfro then appointed Glenn Anderson to fill the vacant council seat. (Anderson recently won an advisory vote taken in Lexington on who people wanted on the council.)

The council then spent some time discussing the town's finances, which apparently have been in disarray for some time.

Budgeting procedures were apparently not followed correctly in the past, and the council Monday began taking action to correct the problems, which included illegal transferring of funds between accounts, incomplete and late review data to the town's accounting firm, and overspending the town's general fund by \$8,693.

The eight thousand dollars will have to be "paid back" to the town's general fund, according to state of Oregon officials.

The council also decided to assign each councilperson to a town department: water, TV, fire department, general fund and streets. The assignments will in part place tighter financial controls on the city's expenditures.

It was also announced that a fire department auxiliary will be formed to help with fire department funding, fire safety, training, smoke detector program, public relations and to get funds to purchase fire department equipment. The auxiliary plans to maybe hold a chili supper and bake sales to raise the money. The auxiliary membership is open to everyone and there are no dues.

At this time no one has volunteered to be fire chief.

It was also learned that Lexington Machine Works would donate scrap metal to be sold for the city coffers. Another resident offered to transport the scrap metal to Portland for sale.

In other cost control measures, the council voted to cut the town's maintenance worker back to 20 hours per week for the months of Dec., Jan. and Feb.

It was also learned that a certain Lexington citizen has filed a complaint with the Oregon Secretary of State's office, saying that the recently concluded advisory questionnaire resembled a ballot and looked like a ballot, and it was not a legal election.

## Willow Grange plans turkey dinner

Willows Grange has planned their turkey dinner for Sunday, Nov. 14, from 12:30-2 p.m.

Cost is adults, \$6; children six-12, \$3.50; and preschool children, free.

## Fishin' is good for two Heppner men



Ernie McCabe with monster King Chinook

This is the big one that didn't get away--the ultimate tall "tale," but with photographic proof.

Ernie McCabe of Heppner caught a 45 inch, 36-1/2 pound

King Chinook salmon on October 23.

McCabe took 35 minutes to land the monster between Boardman and Irrigon on the Columbia River.



Morrow County Commissioner Dan Brosnan shows the 400lb Blue Marlin he caught in Cabo San Lucas Mexico Nov. 1. The fish took two hours to land.

## Veterans Day observance

A Veteran's Day Observance has been planned for Veterans Day, the 11th day, 11th month, 11th hour, on Thursday, November 11, beginning at 11 a.m. at Hager Park in Heppner and culminating in a fly over.

The American Legion will present the color guard and Fr. Gerry Condon will deliver the invocation. Bob Taylor of VFW will raise the flag and Sonia McCabe will sing the National Anthem. Heppner Mayor Jerry Breazeale will lead the pledge of allegiance.

Speakers include veterans, James Norene, Warren McCoy and

Charles Davidson. Louis Carlson will read the names; Darren Van Cleave will play taps and Pastor Dick Metz will deliver the benediction.

The community is invited to attend.

## Arts & Crafts club to meet

The Morrow County Arts and Crafts Club will meet Thursday, November 18, at 1 p.m. at Cal's in Heppner.

**WINTER OVERHAUL SERVICE SPECIAL**

**10% OFF Parts & Labor in our shop or**

**NO PAYMENT for 6 months (Nov. 1, 1999-Feb. 28, 2000)**

Call for details!

**MORROW COUNTY GRAIN GROWERS**

Lexington 989-8221 • 1-800-452-7396 For farm equipment, visit our web site at [www.mcg.net](http://www.mcg.net)