

## CSEPP topic of County Court meeting

By Doris Brosnan

CSEPP coordinator for the Oregon State Police Department, Beverlee Venell, and Emergency Management Director Casey Beard discussed several issues with the Morrow County Court at their October 25 meeting.

Venell assured the court that she understands the county's history and apprehensions and says she hopes that she has demonstrated that OSP is committed to a 180-degree shift and that she has "walked the walk."

She assured the court that the department's superintendent is also committed to building trust.

Commissioner Dan Brosnan voiced his concern over a member of the CSEPP Board acting as coordinator, creating a management model that will not work. Commissioner John Wenzholz said that if he had not seen relationships among participants change and improve, he would also be concerned.

Brosnan countered that he has not yet seen a change in some participants, but Judge Terry Tallman and Wenzholz said that they feel real change is happening. Brosnan continued that he sees "gamesmanship" occurring in the newspapers and fears that this will kill the spirit of cooperation currently existing on the board. Judge Tallman expressed appreciation to Venell for the work she has done, and Brosnan agreed, reiterating that his objections are only to the policy decision that was made.

Wenzholz and Brosnan expressed objections to the membership on the CSEPP Board of the chairman of the Citizens' Advisory Committee, as the position was intended for a member of the general public. Venell explained that that individual will fill the position for only six months, until the county commissioners appoint a citizen at large.

Upon an explanation from Beard, the court approved extension of the personal services contract with SSI for review of the VHF requirements and completion of the communications annex to the Unified Incident Response Plan.

The court also approved the advertising of bids for the pump package for the decontamination vehicle for the Irrigon Fire Department. Beard reported that revised "base-case" plans in the Incident Command System will soon arrive and the agency is scheduling training for the communities. Brosnan pointed out that the Umatilla County Commissioners will also need to be familiarized with the system. Wenzholz reported assurance by Venell that Morrow County employees will not be asked to fill in in Umatilla County. She reported that other resources will be used to bring the Umatilla County staff "up to speed." Wenzholz added his confidence in Venell and interagency cooperation.

Beard reported arrival of the Irrigon Fire Department's pickup and noted that his agency is looking at a surplus step van for a mobile command/communications vehicle for the Boardman Fire Department. He reported that the "budget summit" is complete, with some important items deferred pending additional study and/or funding and with most of Morrow County's budget items intact.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has agreed to an after-hours exercise on May 8, Beard announced, and he said that the distribution of shelter-in-place kits seems to be going well. He reported that the CSEPP Board will soon select a firm to provide it support services, and he has asked Nextel for a revised estimate for installation of indoor antenna systems for schools and fire stations in the impacted zones.

Brosnan asked about the status of the tactical radios, the quality and functionality of which he questions. Beard said that the agency is completing an inventory of who got what from the original Kenwood tactical radios, and they are talking to Columbia Communications about the repeaters and programs for those radios. Beard said that the

radios were never properly programmed and are not standing up well. He noted that they will work for some people with limited-use requirements, but upgrading will be necessary for others. Brosnan observed this as a high priority that needs attention. Beard reported that a meeting on November 1 will address this. Brosnan asked about replacement costs, and the group discussed possible options, including a digital system, and discussed state funding of emergency services.

In further business, county Assessor Greg Sweek reported that both the Tillamook Cheese company and Stanford Chemical have called to complain about paying taxes on land in the enterprise zone. Sweek has explained to both the statute that specifically excludes land in the enterprise zone until construction starts. Tillamook accepted that, but Stanford remained unhappy. Sweek provided the court with spreadsheets to illustrate the changes in taxes, going over changes imposed from 1999 to 2000 for each taxing district. He reviewed depreciated values of gas pipelines and the fact that movement of Kinzua Mill into the enterprise zone caused taxes imposed to go down for some districts. Sweek also went over the assessed value comparison by district, the total value history for the last 10 years, and the 10 year history of who pays those taxes. The group discussed the proposed sale of bombing-range land and the possibility of another generator at the coal-fired plant and the question of whether it would request an extension of the enterprise zone. Sweek noted that the total tax rate in the north end of the county is down about 10 cents and the south end is up about 25 cents.

A Heppner resident appeared to voice concern about county employees who do not stop at the stop sign when leaving the parking lot of the U.S. Forest Service building. The violators, she said, are not stopping before the sidewalk, and she fears that a child will be run over. Noting that she has made this same complaint twice before, she reported that she has kept track of license numbers and turned them over to the city police department. She does not believe that anyone has been cited, which leads her to question why. Judge Tallman explained that he will look into the situation. Commissioner Brosnan suggested speaking to the City Manager about it.

Public Works Director Burke O'Brien reported to the court that an accident on Bombing Range Road damaged pavement, and O'Brien has asked that the sheriff's office advise public works of such occurrences.

Work continues on the Jordan Bridge approach, and O'Brien is working with ODOT on some cost share on the Highway 74 guardrail. The property at Paul Smith Road and Wilson Road in Boardman has been cleaned, O'Brien reported, and the final on-site inspection of Anson Wright Park has resulted in approval and praise by the inspector for the high quality of work, making Anson Wright nicer than parks in the Gorge.

O'Brien discussed with the court the roads seasonally closed to prevent damage during the soft conditions of winter. Enforcement of these closures, including Deadman Hill, Wyland Grade, Healy Road, FreezeOut Ridge, and Spring Hollow, remains a challenge, O'Brien said, and he questioned the issuance of permits for individuals who need access to the roads. O'Brien reported that landowners have requested the closures to save roads, so he expects that they would not mind a permit requirement. The court approved use of such a system.

The question of road maintenance in subdivisions once again surfaced, as residents in one subdivision have requested blading, and the history of the situation was studied. Commissioner Brosnan observed that such work would be difficult to justify. Commissioner Wenzholz added that the subdivisions should not have been approved with public access roads, but the county now has

some responsibility, at the county's convenience, and such work is not possible this year.

Sweek noted that one of the subdivisions has an association that collects money for road maintenance, and O'Brien agreed that the residents should take responsibility. A resident of a subdivision that has requested maintenance has stated that residents there will not form an association.

Everyone agreed that the county must uniformly apply its policy to all of the subdivisions in the same situation and that this year work in the subdivisions will not be done.

O'Brien informed the court of an agreement for maintenance of the County Line Road, drafted but not yet reviewed by county counsels. The agreement would split responsibilities, with Morrow County maintaining the road from January 1 to June 30, and Umatilla County doing so from July 1 to December 31.

Other actions taken by the court included the following:

- approval of a permit to Umatilla Electric Cooperative for an electric line on 4th Street;
- approval of maintenance on an as-requested basis of the Hughes-Hirl Road off Franklin Hill;
- approval of the purchase of a grid roller;
- approval of an agreement with the Software Group for an assessment and taxation software program;
- approval of the executive summary of the Commission on Children and Families Community Mapping Project;
- appointment of Barbara Hayes as representative on the local Public Safety Coordinating Council;
- appointment of Tom Wolff as replacement of George Koffler for one year on the Economic Development Committee;
- approval of a property tax refund;
- approval of Diana Ball as the Veterans/Special Transportation Coordinator;
- approval of the purchase of replacement vehicle for Behavioral Health;
- approval of the purchase of VHF radios by Emergency Management;
- approval of sending federally funded surplus furniture from the Emergency Operations Center to the Irrigon and Boardman fire stations to upgrade their emergency operations centers.

## Marriage Licenses

The Morrow County Clerk's office at the Morrow County Courthouse reports issuing the following marriage licenses:

- Oct. 6: Ruben Andy Davilla, 25, Boardman; and Elvia Citlalli Ayala, 17, Boardman.
- Oct. 20: Weslie T.J. Adams, 21, Umatilla; and Brandy Lee Pearson, 22, Umatilla.
- Salvador Alvarez Martinez, 34, Hermiston; and Maria Rosalva DeLira, 24, Hermiston.
- Oct. 24: Alfredo Velazquez Martinez, 42, Irrigon; and Gina Denise Gamino, 41, Irrigon.
- Oct. 27: Elmer M. Mills, 26, Umatilla; and Sondra Dee Boxell, 20, Umatilla.

## Births

Stephanie Anahi Gonzalez-a daughter Stephanie Anahi was born to Barbara and Juan Gonzalez of Boardman on October 13, 2000 at Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston. The baby weighed 8 lbs. 2 oz.

The children of  
**Eleanor Gonty**  
are having an  
**Open House 85th Birthday Party**  
for their mother on Sunday, November 5th  
2-4 p.m. at St. Patrick's Parish Hall in Heppner  
Everyone is invited & cards, pictures & memories are welcome!  
Coke, coffee & punch will be served  
*No gifts, please*

## Orchestra, chorale plan performance



Myrna Van Cleave

Inland Northwest Musicians presents this season's debut of the Inland Northwest Chorale, which will perform with the Orchestra on Saturday, Nov. 4, at 7 p.m. in the Enterprise High School multipurpose room, and on Sunday, Nov. 5, at 3:15 p.m. in the Heppner Elementary School gym.

The program for both concerts includes The Moldau, by Smetana; The Lark Ascending, by Vaughan Williams; and Fantasia, by Beethoven.

The Lark Ascending, by Ralph Vaughan Williams, is his

## Justice Court Report

The Justice Court office at the courthouse annex building in Heppner reports handling the following business:

- Corbin John Bonneville, 23, Beaverton-Open Container, \$132 fine;
- Robert Alvin Hildrich, 36, Coeur d'Alene, ID.-Violation of the Basic Rule, 82 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$177 fine;
- Mark Alan White, 45, Forest Grove-Carrying a Loaded Weapon on an ATV, \$67 fine;
- Jimmie E. Bevan, Jr., 50, Echo-Failure to Validate Tag, Hunting Prohibited Area (Public Roadway), \$118 fine;
- Donna Marie Pinkerton, 42, Moro-Violation of the Basic Rule, 75 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$177 fine;
- Ryan R. Wilson, 26, Heppner-Hunting Prohibited Area (Roadway), \$75 fine;
- Thomas F. Gossard, 31, Sandy-Failure to Properly Validate Deer Tag, \$59 fine;
- Marvin Gene Funk, 69, Gresham-Carrying a Loaded Weapon on an ATV, \$67 fine;
- Tim R. Matheney, 41, Heppner-Violation of the Basic Rule, 46 mph in a 25 mph zone, Passing in a No-Passing Area (Double Line), \$354 fine;
- Dale Jay Wilson, 22, Hermiston-Violation of the Basic Rule, 79 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$177 fine;
- Kathryn Anne Elithorp, 21, Medford-Violation of the Basic Rule, 77 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$147 fine.

## CBEC declares patronage

The board of directors of Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative, Inc., announces the retirement of \$255,000 in capital patronage credits. This amount represents all of the 1974 and eight percent of the outstanding 1997 capital patronage credits.

Capital patronage credits represent the equity in the member-owned cooperative. With the addition of the \$255,000, the Co-Op has returned \$2,953,000 to its member/owners over the last 27 years.

Most credit holders will receive payment by check. Active credit holders of very small value or in arrears will have payments applied to their account. Multiple account holders will receive a single check for all accounts.

romance tribute to the lyrical sound of the violin.

The Moldau, by Bedrich Smetana, was written in less than three weeks when Smetana was completely deaf. This beautiful and positive work takes the listener on a journey down the Moldau River through the Bohemian countryside.

One special presentation on the program is Fantasia for Piano, Chorus, and Orchestra, by Ludwig van Beethoven. Along with the Chorale, the piece features Myrna Van Cleave of Heppner as piano soloist. Van Cleave's professional and talented performance will touch audiences as it has inspired the Orchestra and Chorale during rehearsals, said a spokesperson for the group. "Preparing for this piece has been exciting because the music is so beautiful," said Van Cleave.

The daughter of missionaries, Van Cleave grew up in Canada

and studied piano through the Royal Conservatory of Music based in Toronto, Ontario. Van Cleave is actively involved teaching piano and with the Willow Creek Symphony. Four of her six children play with her in the Willow Creek Symphony, and the oldest, Darren, played along with her in INWM's first concert this season.

In addition to Van Cleave, local musicians from the Heppner area participating in these concerts are Fanny Fitzgerald; Jamie Leverton; Laura McElligott; Ben and Isaiah Stillman; Kathryn, Emily, and Meaghan Unruh and Jennifer Waldrep.

Tickets are available at the door at \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors. All students are admitted free. Memberships are also available.

For more information, call Loren Unruh at 676-9873 or the INWM office at 938-0645.

## Wool contest set December 2

Oregon's 2000 Make It Yourself with Wool contest will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2 at the Red Lion Hotel in Pendleton.

The contest, which is open to all ages, awards the winners of the junior (ages 13-16) and senior (ages 17-24) division with a trip to compete in the 2001 National Make It Yourself with Wool contest to be held Jan. 25-27, 2001 in Reno.

Judging begins Saturday morning and takes place in two phases; first, contestants must model their garments, then the garment's construction is judged. Final awards are presented following the formal fashion show, beginning at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Participation in the contest promotes creativity, confidence building, presentation skills, sportsmanship and awareness of diversity, plus an appreciation of the beauty and versatility of wool yarns and fabrics, said a press release.

Entry forms should be sent to Oregon's Make It Yourself with Wool Director Maureen Krebs by Friday, Nov. 10. Call 422-7548, or e-mail: eat\_lamb@centurytel.net for entry forms or more information.

The Oregon Sheep Growers Association, the Oregon Sheep Commission and Oregon Women for Ag sponsor the Oregon contest. The cost of the program and prizes are made possible with additional support from private donations. Donations for the 2001 program may be directed to Maureen Krebs, 69956 Hwy 74 Cecil, Ione, OR 97843.

## Extension closed on Thanksgiving

The Oregon State University Extension office in Heppner will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 23, and Friday, Nov. 24, during the Thanksgiving holiday.

The office will reopen on Monday, Nov. 27, at 8 a.m.

Please join friends of  
**John, Shelley, Adam & Riley Wight**  
to celebrate community & friendship & to help ease  
the loss of Wights' home to a recent fire  
at the Heppner Elks Club on  
Tuesday, Nov. 7 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Please bring an unwrapped gift for the home  
and a finger food if possible.  
Everyone is welcome to attend.

**The Pioneer Memorial Clinic  
will be CLOSED  
Friday, November 10th  
to observe Veteran's Day**

**Digital Clocks with Alarms**  
(Night Light available on some models)

Member of America, Inc.  
**Peterson's Jewelers**  
Heppner 676-9200