

## Catholic youth attend retreat



L-R Back row: Caitlin Orem, Diana McElligott, Natalie McElligott, Aaron Tworek, Brian Hagewood, Chuy Elguezabal, Richard Campbell, Christian Moller. Middle row: Salli McElligott, Marcy Miller, Julie Proctor, Taylor McElligott. Front row: Luke Murray, Alyssa Rietmann, Meghan McCabe, Megan Healy, Paula Spicerkuhn, Fr. Gerry Condon.

The youth of St. Patrick's and St. Williams gathered on Saturday for a retreat in preparation for their reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation, as this is one of the requirements to receive the sacrament. They

will also attend special classes, read the Gospel of St. Mark and perform 10 hours of charitable service.

The retreat was conducted by Fr. Gerry Condon, assisted by Kathy Cutsforth-Fullmer. The theme was, "Getting to know

Jesus, a human and divine person." Individual groups studied the life of Jesus as a teacher, miracle worker and prophet.

Lunch was served by Kathy Cutsforth-Fullmer.

## Heppner-Lexington Advisory Committee makes recommendation

The Heppner/Lexington Advisory Committee, at a special meeting Nov. 6, approved a final recommendation to the school board concerning an engineer's inspection and report concerning Heppner Elementary School facilities.

The special meeting, held at HES, was scheduled due to the lack of quorum at the regularly scheduled meeting on Nov. 1.

The committee discussed the findings in the engineer's report.

Tear down the old junior high and the gymnasium buildings.

Gymnasium has some structural problems and does need to come down rather than put money into this building.

Junior high building is found to be sound. Suggests that if the school was to be used again that some major renovation must be done.

Other options discussed for the use of the junior building: city hall, city library, BMCC as well as other offices. Possibly donate the building to the city of Heppner.

Strong feelings in the area to keep this building.

Important to keep the old gym while the new one is being built. The space is needed for many school and community activities. This building is widely used.

The Advisory Committee approved a recommendation to the board that the gymnasium at the Heppner Elementary School site be replaced with a new structure. This structure would include: a gym, auditorium, cafeteria and music room, placed

adjacent to the main HES building located at the south end. They further recommended that the district pursue the rerouting of Stansbury Street around the campus; or create a cul-de-sac for bus loading and unloading.

The committee recommended that the following changes be made to their recommendations to the school board:

-Remove from the list - "New roof - Heppner Junior High - Old Gym"; and place - "New Structure" as number 4 on the

list.

The city of Heppner has been notified that the city has been selected for the Oregon Downtown Development Association Special Identity and Marketing project.

This project will be used as a demonstration project to show how a small city facing tough economic times can pull itself up and restore economic vitality.

"We are pleased to be selected for this important project which has the enthusiastic support of local businesses, the Heppner Chamber of Commerce and the City of Heppner," said Heppner city manager Jerry Breazeale.

The purpose of this project is to have the local community establish an identity for the city that can be embraced by the citizens and business community and which will attract interest from the rest of the world, said Breazeale. "For the community

"Priority and Project list." The "Priority and Project" list would include 10 items.

The committee also voted to recommend that the district "pursue connecting the whole district (each school) to wide area networking (fiber optics) to increase educational opportunities for all students and staff."

All other business was tabled until the next regular meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

## Heppner selected for marketing project

to agree on a marketable identity will be a tall order since there are bound to be many divergent ideas," he said.

The Oregon Downtown Development Association will be responsible for facilitating the process and has contracted with the firm of R/H/A/S for professional expertise to bring the project together.

"Key to the success of the project is the involvement of the local businesses and community at large," added Breazeale. "We are fortunate that every Main Street business we approached agreed to contribute volunteer time to make this a win for the city of Heppner and to help show other small cities what they can do to restore economic viability."

"Now the work begins. In order to bring this project to a successful completion by the February time line means that we will all need to get involved and do our share," said Breazeale. "It is critical that citizens stay abreast of developments and attend meetings to express their opinions. We will do our best to do our part in keeping you informed. Together we can bring Heppner back to the thriving community it has always been."

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## County discusses squirrel listing

By Doris Brosnan

At the November 1 meeting of Morrow County Court, Judge Terry Tallman reported on a meeting with the Governor's staff regarding the Washington Ground Squirrel listing.

Included in the meeting were observations about the impacts an Ione-Boardman road would have had, and Tallman brought up the question of the state's mitigation or help in taxing the involved property once the related exchange and sale of bombing-range property is complete. He also addressed the need of the dairies to access PGE and state roads. The Governor's Office has appointed a liaison on this topic.

Commissioner Dan Brosnan asked if the results of the meeting will affect the county's ability to get an avigation easement from the Navy or if the county would need one if the land were turned over to the Nature Conservancy. Tallman will address this question with the liaison.

In answer to a question from Public Works Director Burke O'Brien, Tallman reported that a final location of a road was only briefly discussed.

County Planning Director Tamra Mabbott and Emergency Management Director Casey Beard discussed with the court a variety of Army Depot issues. Brosnan noted the receipt of a letter from DEQ in support of funding for an environmental specialist position and Tallman said that he would call the Army representative to discuss that letter. Mabbott suggested asking, also, about the draft budget she has sent to the Army. All agreed they would prefer that funds be issued directly to the county, rather than having the county use an invoice system.

Mabbott also recommended that a specific commissioner be assigned to take over these related tasks to assure follow-through.

Tallman mentioned that a dunnage-incinerator meeting occurred without notification to the county. Hearing of the meeting beforehand, Tallman attended. Now, the representative of the Umatilla Tribes wants to meet with the commissioners and Mabbott suggested discussing with that individual the "notice of deficiency." She said that some of the permit monitoring issues would be CSEPP-related and has lately amounted to about one-half to two-thirds of her weekly time. She added that the permit issues could easily amount to full-time work.

The group discussed the environmental specialist position, funding for which the county continues pressing the Army. Qualifications for the position and possible options were noted, and the discussion continued to focus on issues of dunnage and secondary waste, J Block, and the status of the coalition of states seeking impact aid.

Mabbott observed that the county was not adequately included in the original permit process and Beard added that the whole permit could be brought back into question because of health and dunnage issues. Mabbott suggested that a technical expert could develop a list of deficiencies for the court to consider, with attempting to stop the process a possibility.

In answer to Brosnan, Beard noted that DEQ could force an inventory of J Block, and Mabbott offered that the county could file under the Freedom of Information Act.

Brosnan questioned the Army's request for 54 igloos, when the projected waste would not fill

that number, and suggested that the county take this concern to the DEQ representative.

Beard reported that Senator Ted Ferrioli has asked if he can assist legislatively in this process. Ferrioli has mentioned the possibility of litigation through the State Attorney General's Office. Mabbott observed that the county might get a legislative counsel opinion. Mabbott reported that her reading of the rule about state agency coordination leaves her unable to understand why DEQ believes that it is in compliance.

Brosnan, when asked about taking on the permit- and environmental-issues work, noted the need for one point of contact to avoid confusion and he cautioned that the work would mean he would not be available for additional responsibilities for some months. Mabbott assured her availability to help on land-use issues, Beard on other CSEPP issues, and administrative assistant Andrea Denton on contracting issues. Commissioner John Wenzholz agreed to help with the other assignments on which Brosnan has been working. Brosnan also observed that he will need to understand many legal issues, and county counsel's CSEPP funding could provide help with those. Brosnan agreed to take the lead and to report back to the court on November 22.

Tallman said that the court will make no decision on joining the coalition now and Wenzholz said that the court still needs to set a limit on the expenditures. Brosnan agreed that the court first needs answers to some questions, even if it decides that it wants to join.

Tallman noted a thirty-day "opt-out" option and a governing group to watchdog the expenditures. Wenzholz added that he is concerned over the number of participants affecting the cost-per-participant.

Public Works Director Burke O'Brien reported that the crew is preparing equipment for snow plowing, repairing Laurel Lane, doing some finishing work on the approach to Rhea Creek and Highway 74. Paving at the Rhea Creek project will follow the placement of the guardrails, and, O'Brien noted, paving depends upon the weather. The representative of the state has assured O'Brien of help in some way with the guardrail.

O'Brien told the court of compliments on the Wilson Lane work and on the work at Rhea Creek. He shared a draft of the proposed shared-maintenance cost agreement with Umatilla County for the County Line Road. Wenzholz asked about inclusion of another portion of that road and O'Brien will check its status.

He also reported that two employees have completed asbestos training, in compliance with the state's requirements for the transfer station, and another employee will also get training. O'Brien reported on the sale of some vehicles at auction and reported ongoing problems with another vehicle. He completed his report by inviting the commissioners to view a video he presented of the new Anson Wright Park sites.

Other actions of the Court included the following:

- approval of a permit to CenturyTel for installation of a cable along Strawberry Lane;
- approval of the agreement among the local, county, state, and federal entities for the CSEPP Governing Board.
- approval of some replacement back-up tapes for the Assessor's office.

## Weather Report

By the City of Heppner

For the month of October

	High	Low	Precip.
10/1	77	59	.39
10/2	70	38	.03
10/3	63	35	.00
10/4	62	37	.00
10/5	64	35	.00
10/6	62	32	.00
10/7	63	35	.00
10/8	69	39	.00
10/9	74	44	.00
10/10	64	45	.33
10/11	51	47	.85
10/12	56	47	.01
10/13	62	49	.00
10/14	65	38	.00
10/15	63	35	.00
10/16	61	37	.00
10/17	73	38	.00
10/18	76	49	.02
10/19	66	40	.00
10/20	67	45	T
10/21	66	41	.55
10/22	55	31	.00
10/23	55	30	.01
10/24	57	32	.00
10/25	59	32	.00
10/26	53	36	.00
10/27	54	42	.00
10/28	64	44	.13
10/29	56	37	.01

## Fair & Rodeo tryouts planned

The Morrow County Fair Board has scheduled the date of Sunday, Dec. 10, for tryouts for the Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Court.

The court is open to all girls who will be 16 but no older than 21 by August 1, 2001.

For further information and applications, contact LaRae Kindle at the Fair Office, 676-9474, or Christina Wall.

## Creative Care teacher hired

Diane R. Stuart has been hired as the new teacher at Creative Care Preschool in Ione.

Stuart has 10 years' experience working as an elementary school educational assistant, has worked at a children's summer camp and also as a Sunday School teacher.

She is married to Mike Stuart, Ione Schools' principal.

Creative Care has part-time preschool classes for three and four-year-olds. There are still a few openings in each class.

For more information, contact board chairperson Lisa Rietmann, 422-7181, or secretary Lea Mathieu, 422-7215.

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Thanksgiving is Thursday, November 23.

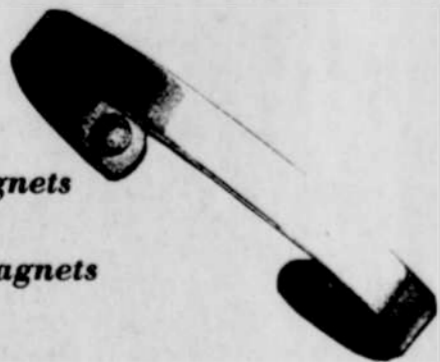
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