

## Rural Oregon Day draws citizens to Salem

By Doris Brosnan

"Rural Oregon Day" at the Oregon legislature brought over 130 citizens to Salem to lend their voices to the rally for attention to rural issues during this legislative session.

The Heppner Chamber of Commerce sponsored transportation to the event and the contingent of 14 chamber members represented more than 10 percent of the number gathered at the Capitol.

The representatives were Chamber President Sharon Harrison; Vice President Jerry Breazeale; Director Claudia Hughes; outgoing Board Member Tom Sly; Board Members Lindsey Ward, Julie Proctor and Cliff Green; and members Dan Brosnan, Doris Brosnan and Cindi Doherty. Jim Hayes drove to Salem and Diana Ball drove on the return. Treasurer Barbara Hayes met the group in Salem, arriving from a previous meeting in Redmond.

Joining others from around the state for a morning rally, the Heppner participants heard various speakers briefly acknowledge rural issues confronting the legislature this year. Offering encouragement and taking questions were Senate President Derfler, Speaker of the House Simmons, Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee Knopf, Secretary of State Bradbury and Senator from District 28 Ted Ferrioli.

Quickly apparent was the commonality among the rural areas represented, suggested through questions about telecommunications, economic development, forest payments in lieu of taxes, deregulation of electricity and health care.

The Willow Creek Valley representatives had prearranged meetings with some key individuals in this year's legislative session so that they could have one-on-one opportunities to express their specific concerns and suggest some solutions. Individually and in small groups they found the legislators receptive, even when pressured for time because of other commitments. One such interview had to take place while walking down a hall to a committee meeting, which the Heppner participants then sat in

Senator Beyer, chair of the Senate Economic Development and Labor Committee, and Representative Knopp, chair of the House Labor Committee, were asked to examine the impact on small rural communities of having to meet the requirements of the prevailing wage laws.

Senator Starr, chair of the Senate Committee on Education, heard of state testing problems, rural-school funding issues and disparity among programs. To Senator George, chair of the Senate Transportation Committee and Representative Starr, chair of the House Transportation Committee, a Heppner citizen offered proof of disparity in funding and the impact it has.

Representative Jenson, from nearby Pendleton and chair of the House Committee on Streams and Recreation and Representative Kropf, chair of the House Committee on Agriculture, were asked to address issues involving the confined animal feed operations and EPA inspections, the disbursement of the federal Craig-Wyden bill funds and use of the Columbia River.

With the Willow Creek area legislators, Senator Ferrioli and Representative Greg Smith, individuals pressed their concerns about several issues, including rural health care, funding for county fairs, telecommunication needs and economic development.

Members of the Chamber-sponsored trip returned with a lobbyist's suggestion for themselves and others. Anyone with a question or concern should write to the legislators from this district. Actual, postal mail is apt to receive the most acute attention, though e-mail also serves a similar purpose, the lobbyist advised.

The Heppner Chamber of Commerce sponsors a monthly conference call with the legislators, another opportunity to address important issues. Information on this activity is available from Claudia Hughes at the Chamber Office, 676-5536, and from President Sharon Harrison at Klamath First Federal Savings and Loan, 676-5407.

## County court hears deferred compensation plans

By Doris Brosnan

At the Morrow County Court meeting on Jan. 17, representatives of the Bank of Eastern Oregon and the Valic company presented to the court deferred compensation plans for the county. Each explained the benefits of their company's plan.

Public Works Director Burke O'Brien informed the court that he had reviewed and recommends approval of the request to vacate the Desert Lane easement in the West Glenn subdivision. A petition has been signed by all affected landowners, who have alternate access, and the planning director has concurred with his recommendation. The court agreed to draft an order granting the petition to vacate the easement.

O'Brien reported that the crew has completed ditch improvement above Bell Canyon Bridge, which is now open and plowing and sanding.

O'Brien and Dave Pranger discussed the spring spraying program. Certification of another road crew member would offer help to Pranger during the optimum spraying season. Pranger pointed out that he helps with road projects during his "off" season and that during his peak season some help and a backup person would be useful.

The court agreed to his request.

Other action of the court included the following:

- approval of purchasing a PC work station and eight chairs for Morrow County Behavioral Health;
- approval of a permit to Centurytel on Marine Drive;
- approval of a permit for access for a new residence on Washington Avenue;
- approval of a permit for access on Toms Camp Road;
- approval, contingent upon county counsel's approval, of initiating the annexation process for the Boardman Rural Fire Protection District;
- decision to publish notice of the availability and value of Lot 10 Block 7 in Hillview Estates;
- approval of a minimum bid for a sheriff's sale of Lot 7 off Wilson and Paul Smith Roads;
- reappointment of Karen Cooley to the Commission on Children and Families;
- appointment of the assessor as the tax collector;
- approval of paying annual RC&D dues and reappointment of Morrow County Commissioner Dan Brosnan as the county's representative to that board;
- approval of a laser printer, children's table set and locking storage cabinet for the victims' advocate.

## Cardinal Booster Club discusses Basketball Bonanza

Cardinal Booster Club members, at their Jan. 8 meeting, evaluated the Basketball Bonanza tournament.

It was agreed everything went well, including the hospitality room sponsored by Beecher's Cafe, Wheatland Insurance and the Bank of Eastern Oregon.

Athletic Director Dean Robinson announced that the Lone Basketball Bonanza will be November 30 through December 1 next fall. Participating teams will be Enterprise, Weston McEwen and Sherman County. On December 7-8 the Cardinals will travel to Enterprise for their tournament. Lone will sponsor the Morrow County Tournament December 14-15 with Heppner, Lone, Umatilla, Riverside girls and Mac-High boys participating.

The Lone Cardinal sign by the tennis court has been taken down and will be refinished by Mr. Stuart's shop class.

The club voted to have a pizza feed during the Dufur game on Saturday, Feb. 3. Pizza and salad will be served.

Monica Swanson reported on the work in the gym. Jan and Bob Beitel and Tim Wright were commended for the quality work they did. Jan and Bob's Signs donated \$600 worth of work to the project. The wall mats should arrive by January 16. The flag was cleaned at a cost of \$10. Monica purchased a 12" dowel to hang the flag on and the shop

class has agreed to make a holder.

The club agreed to hire Jan and Bob's Signs to make 12 state championship boards, which will appear like flags, to hang on the gym wall at a cost of \$40 each. Three of the boards will represent the Dairy Farmers of Oregon academic state championships. A committee will later decide how to publicize the OSAA Cup for excellence the school received for the 1999-2000 year.

It was agreed to have a sign made listing the Big Sky Conference teams, which will be hung on the south wall.

The purchase of new rubber protectors for the bottoms of the backboards was approved at a cost of \$295 plus freight.

It was announced Betty Gray paid for the material to make the new scorer's table and Dan Anderson donated his time to make it. John Marick, school custodian, was commended for his help and cooperation in completing the gym work.

Dale Holland requested the club contribute to the eight-man all-star football game. Each school in the state with an eight-man team was asked to donate \$100 to help defray costs. The club agreed to donate the \$100.

The next meeting of the Cardinal Booster Club will be Monday, Feb. 5, at 7 p.m. at the high school library.

## BMCC play features local residents

Two local residents will be performing in the Blue Mountain Community College production of Shakespeare's comedy "As You Like It".

Bryan King, a 1995 Riverside High School graduate, will play the role of Orlando, who falls in love with Rosalind, Duke Senior's daughter.

Heppner resident Rollie Marshall plays Duke Senior who has been banished to the Forest of

Arden by his evil brother.

Marshall said, "The production has been fun to be a part of and the cast is made up of some very talented actors. It is a funny and entertaining play and the audience will leave the theater with smiles on their faces."

The play runs Jan. 26 and 27 and Feb 2 and 3, beginning at 8 p.m., with a Sunday matinee starting at 3 p.m. on Jan 28. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Prices are \$8 for adults, \$5 for seniors and \$4 for students.

For more information call the ticket office at 278-5953.

## MCGC News

By Sandi Day

It was a chilly Sunday morning, but it didn't keep the shooters away from the Morrow County Gun Club at their weekly meeting in Lexington.

Club president Curt Day and Harvey Childers led the way at the 16-yard line with a 24 of 25 score, followed by Mark Schlichting, Kelwayne Haguewood, Brian Haguewood and Jeff Cutsforth with 23 each, and Bob Krein and Tony Greenup with 22 of 25.

In the handicap event, Jeff Cutsforth and Harvey Childers were first with 23; second went to Curt Day and Bob Krein, each with 22; and third went to Mark Schlichting with a 21.

In the ladies' 16-yard shoot, Deona Hodges took first, Shelley Ashbeck was second, Sandi Day, third, and Angela Munkers, fourth.

At the 20-yard line Deona Hodges was again first, followed by Sandi Day, second, Shelley Ashbeck, third, and Angela Munkers, fourth.

There were three Annie Oakley shoots, with Kelwayne Haguewood taking the first pot, Bob Krein winning the second and Barry Munkers winning the final shoot.

The MCGC will shoot again on Sunday, Jan. 28, at 10 a.m. so they can be done in time for the Super Bowl.

## New instructor in charge at Heppner Taekwon Do



Taekwon Do instructor Lee McCarl works with students during a session at the Heppner Taekwon Do school in Heppner.

Lee McCarl is the new instructor at the Taekwon Do school in Heppner.

McCarl, who had been a student of former instructor Gary Oberg for about four years, has been teaching in Irrigon for around two years and in Heppner for the last several months.

Assistant instructors include Matt Browning, a black belt, and Patti Pappas, a brown belt.

Other black belts are Jim

Raible and Bill Morris, interim instructor.

Classes are held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. for kids, and 7-8 p.m. for adults.

## Weight restriction set on bridge

Morrow County Public Works has placed a 10 ton weight restriction on the Balm Fork Bridge. This restriction will remain in force until further notice.

If there are any questions regarding this change, call Morrow County Public Works, 989-9500.

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