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HEPPNER

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Gazette Times

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**ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE:
MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.**

Heppner to contract with county for law enforcement

At the Morrow County Court meeting March 27, Sheriff Verlin Denton reported that city of Heppner officials have notified him that the city does want to contract with the county for law enforcement services, beginning on July 1. He answered questions from the Court about the specifics of the agreement and terms of the contract that he and city officials are working on.

Assessor Greg Sweek showed the Court an appraisal of the Boeing land. They discussed the bases for the land, improvements and lease values. He reported on the tax collections, at 89.6 percent this year, and noted that Coyote Springs will go onto the tax rolls this year but will be off next year for five years.

Judge Terry Tallman opened a public hearing concerning a budget resolution that would increase the appropriation line in the road equipment reserve budget to allow for the purchase of the crusher. The Court approved the resolution.

Budget officer Lisanne Currin answered questions from Commissioner Dan Brosnan, who noted rock-crushing revenues in the public works budget generated from crushing for the State of Oregon. Currin said she believes that a state statute precludes the county from generating a profit from crushing. She added that previous county courts determined that they did not want to compete with private enterprise.

Public works director Burke O'Brien offered a Valby project update and reported that the crew had sanded roads, cut and removed a treetop from over Rand Road and are blading Ridge Road. He also relayed the report from weed enforcement officer Dave Pranger that 95 percent of paved-road spraying has been completed and gravel-road spraying is to begin on April 1. O'Brien added that mowing is also helping with weed control and he described some nozzles that work well for spraying the gravel piles. He also reported that the department is working on budget and has addressed control of electrical usage at the Irrigon shop.

O'Brien informed the Court of an available used hydraulic unit that would upgrade the county's chip spreader. The Court approved purchase of the unit with funds from the department's maintenance budget. He presented the one bid received for the county's purchase of a D-8, and the Court requested him to check it against the bid specifications.

O'Brien also reported on a meeting with the economic development specialist and an engineer to develop a "footprint" design for the ATV park.

Other actions of the Court:

- approval of three permits: a permit to lay fiber lines along Bombing Range Road to Lindsay Feedlot Road; modification of an earlier permit for an approach to Olsen Road, moving the approach from the west side to the east side; and adjustment on another permit for Grieb Wood Road, moving the access from the north to the south side;

- approval of the purchase of replacement computer monitors for the assessor's office and sheriff's office, a desk and a filing cabinet for the assessor's office, a laser printer for the accounting department and a comb binding set for the behavioral health department;

- examination of the allocation of vehicles to the various departments;
- appointment of Mary Arbogast to the Commission on Children and Families;

- agreement on the re-write of the Northeast Area Commission on Transportation Plan.

Ad, news deadline 5 p.m. Monday

The deadline for advertising for the Gazette-Times has been moved up to Monday at 5 p.m., which is also the deadline for news. People should have their news and ads into the newspaper office by 5 p.m. Monday for that week's newspaper

Wranglers set first playday

The first playday for the Wranglers Riding Club will be Sunday, April 21, at the Wranglers grounds. A potluck will be held at noon with events starting at 1 p.m.

All ages and new members are welcome to attend. Dues are \$25 for a family or \$15 for a single.

For more information, call Lori Seitz, 989-8477.

Costumes sought for school play

Actors at Heppner High School are seeking animal costumes to borrow for a May production of "The Magician's Nephew", based on the sixth book in the "Chronicles of Narnia" by C.S. Lewis. In the play, Asian, a mighty lion, creates the plants and talking animals of Narnia. "Any animal costume that would fit a junior high or high school student would be greatly appreciated," said director Lea Mathieu.

Loaned costumes may be dropped off at the high school, or call Mathieu at 676-9138 and she will arrange for pick-up. All costumes will be cleaned before they are returned.

Actors playing talking animals include Tyler Henderson as Asian, Clementine Guyot, Jesse Gutierrez, Shelley Rietmann and Tracy Baker. In addition, a dozen high school and junior high students play non-talking animals.

"The Magician's Nephew" will be presented on Saturday, May 4, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, May 5, at 3 p.m. at the Heppner High School.

MS Walk planned April 20

The Heppner MS Walk will be held on Saturday, April 20, beginning at 9 a.m. at All Saint's Episcopal Church. "If you are unable to walk we can always use volunteers", says walk chairman Merilee McDowell.

For those who would like to volunteer, call McDowell at 676-5238. To sign up to walk, pick up a brochure at a local business and start collecting pledges, or call 1-800-FIGHT MS. "Let's all get out and walk for the cure," said McDowell.

TV shoot to aid lone Fourth celebration

A 1000-yard TV shoot will be held Saturday, April 13, at the Frank Halvorsen Farm in Ione. People are invited to bring their long-range rifles and support the lone Fourth of July festivities. All proceeds will go toward children's prizes at the lone Fourth of July celebration.

Registration is from 10-11 a.m. Shooting begins at 11 a.m. sharp.

A \$100 prize will be awarded for hitting and breaking a TV tube. If more than one person breaks the TV tube, then a shoot-off will commence after everyone shoots. Only one person will win the \$100 prize. Cost to enter is a \$20 registration fee.

An all-you-can eat lunch will be provided for a suggested donation of \$5 each. The menu includes doughnuts and pastries, hot dogs, hot dogs with sauerkraut, hot dogs with chili, chips, iced tea, hot chocolate, coffee, water and candy bars.

Those planning to attend may want to bring sun glasses, spotting scope, folding chairs, coat, broken 27-inch TV with good tube. Organizers ask that those attending do not bring their dogs.

To get to the Halvorsen farm, drive three miles up Gooseberry Road, turn right on Halvorsen Lane, travel west four miles and watch for signs.

Send registration forms to Terry Mewhinney, P.O. Box 204, Ione, OR 97843, or call Mewhinney for more information, 541-422-7259.

Math contest set

The annual Morrow County School District Elementary/Middle School math contest will be held on Thursday, April 11, at 6:30 p.m. at A.C. Houghton Elementary School in Irrigon.

Johnna Shimp-Jones, Talented and Gifted Program coordinator, is in charge of local arrangements at ACH.

The public is welcome to observe the contest. Refreshments will be served at the end of the competition.

Local boy to be honored at Blazers game

Brent Eckman, Lexington, who donated proceeds from his Halloween candy to help the Matheny family, will be recognized for his actions by the Blazers/Bank of America at a Blazers game in Portland on April 6.

Brent was nominated for the award by Mary Haguewood, his teacher at Heppner Elementary School.

Ducks Unlimited Banquet Friday

The 15th annual Ducks Unlimited Banquet and Auction will be held this Friday, April 5, at the Heppner Elks Club. A social time begins at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. and the auction and raffles at 8 p.m.

The prime rib dinner will be \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. Kids are welcome to attend.

Senior Girls' Luncheon Thursday

The annual Senior Girls' Luncheon, to honor Heppner and Ione seniors and their guests will be held this Thursday, April 4, from noon to 1 p.m. at All Saints Episcopal Church.

The luncheon, sponsored by the Willow Valley Service Club and catered by All Saints Episcopal women, is by invitation only.

Easter in Heppner



Little ones enjoyed the Easter egg hunt and visit with the Easter Bunny Saturday, March 30, at the Heppner City Park.



Easter ears everywhere

Photo by Bonnie Bennett

The Oregon Trail Library District-Heppner branch preschool story time had an Easter theme on Wednesday, March 20. Participants listened to bunny stories, make rabbit ear hats and enjoyed an Easter egg hunt at the city park. The preschool story time is held on Wednesdays from 11:15 a.m. to 12 p.m. A different topic, complete with stories and crafts, is covered every week.

**It's Your Last Chance
For Savings During Our
Big Oil Sale! Sale ends Saturday, April 6th**
Morrow County Grain Growers
Lexington 989-8221 • 1-800-452-7396 For farm equipment, visit our web site at www.mcg.org

