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HEPPNER

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Ione Youth Group held fall meeting



Sheena Christman tells about her trip to India



Ione Youth Group Footstep Awards for Outstanding Service (2001-2002) recipients (l-r): Natalie McElligott, Caitlin Orem, Johnny Collin, Jamie VandenBrink and Barbara Holland

Ione Youth Group members gathered for a fall meeting at the United Church of Christ on Sept. 19. The evening started with an Italian soda and pizza dinner. Ione High School senior Sheena Christman spoke about her trip to India over the summer. Christman spent several months teaching English in an orphanage and sightseeing. She shared photos and souvenirs from the trip.

Youth group leaders Cathy Halvorsen and Jeri McElligott passed out Footstep Awards. The awards are given every fall to members who fully participated in the group the previous year. The recipients helped with several projects, including the fall food drive, selling and delivering Christmas trees, and making a trip to Burnside to serve the poor. They were also involved in the group's follow up projects to the Burnside trip.

Ione Youth Group members will be making a one-day service trip to Burnside St. in Portland on Friday, Oct. 11. Along with serving lunch at several agencies, they will be spending the afternoon working at Central City Concerns.

The youth group will be selling Christmas trees again this year as a fund raiser.

HHS cheerleaders to hold service auction

The Heppner High School cheerleaders are holding a service auction, Friday, Oct. 11, during halftime at the Weston-McEwen football game. The game is set to start at 7 p.m.

The girls will be auctioned off to provide the winner with an eight-hour workday. A mystery person will also be auctioned.

Sign-ups available for Livestock Compensation Program

The Morrow County Farm Service Agency is taking sign-ups for the Livestock Compensation Program for cattle, sheep, goats and buffalo who have been impacted by severe drought conditions and have very limited risk management tools available. Livestock producers in counties that have received primary disaster designation due to drought in 2001 and/or 2002 are eligible. Approximately \$752 million nationwide is being made available for this program that will assist livestock producers in those areas most affected by the drought.

In the immediate area, Morrow and Gilliam counties are eligible for this program because of their drought designation for the past two years. Umatilla County will be eligible far this program soon.

Producers will certify the number of eligible animals owned as of June 9, 2002. The animals must have been owned for 90 days or more before and/or after June 1, 2002. Payment will be determined by multiplying the number of eligible animals by the respective payment rate. Currently there has been no deadline for sign-up announced. Payments should be available shortly after a producer signs up.

Call or stop by the Farm Service Agency Office in Heppner for more information or to sign up.

Scholarship available for students interested in livestock

Students pursuing careers in agriculture are encouraged to apply for scholarships sponsored by Agriliance, Land O' Lakes Feed and Croplan Genetics. High school seniors from throughout the country who will enroll in a two- or four-year agronomy or livestock curriculum in the fall of 2003 are eligible to apply. Fifty \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded.

continued page two

Airport projects underway

by Doris Brosnan

In a brief, morning meeting of the Morrow County Court on Oct. 2, the commissioners heard a report from public works executive assistant Karen Wolff. She updated them on the airport projects, including the repair of the center stripe on the runway and the near-finished "footprint" for the new hangars. She also reported that the two county parks had been well used on the previous weekend, and elk-season reservations were strong at

Cutsforth but slow at Anson Wright. Wolff ended her report by noting the first snowfall at Cutsforth Park, on Monday, Sept. 30.

The commissioners discussed the following topics before having to adjourn in order to reach a meeting in the north end of the county: the Enterprise Zone with Assessor Greg Sweek; the Finley Buttes payments to the county with accounting clerk Tawney Miles; \$500,000 approved by the state to the county from the sale of BIAC property; and the question of the

easement along the previous railroad line with District Attorney Dave Allen.

Actions of the Court:

-after a public hearing, the approval of the annexation for the Heppner Rural Fire District, with another hearing date to be set;

-approval of one deed for railroad property to an owner of adjacent property and the sale of the remaining 11.12 acres of railroad property to another owner of contiguous property;

-approval of a contract with David Allen for county counsel work.

Ione to celebrate homecoming

Ione High School will celebrate homecoming the week of October 14-18. On Monday, October 14, the JV volleyball team will host the Heppner "C" team at 6 p.m. On Tuesday, October 15, everyone is encouraged to dress up for "character day" and a pie-eating contest will take place during the lunch break. On Wednesday, October 16, the dress for the day will be "Trucker Day", and a car-stuffing contest will be held during lunch. Thursday, October 17, will feature "Cardinal Pride" day and the Powder Puff Football game will start promptly at 6 p.m., with the Macho Man Volleyball game beginning at 7 p.m. The evening will conclude with the bonfire starting at 8 p.m.

The varsity volleyball game will see Ione taking on the Arlington Honkers on Friday, October 18, beginning at 5 p.m. The varsity boys' football game will begin at 7 p.m. The evening will conclude with the homecoming dance, featuring music by Dan Burns, beginning at 10 p.m. and running until 12 a.m. at the Ione Legion Hall.

On the homecoming court this year are senior princesses Caitlin Orem, Jaysi Bennetto and Jamie VandenBrink; senior princes Cody Bergstrom, Til Tullis and Karl Morgan; junior princess Megan E. McCabe; junior Prince Paul Neiffer; sophomore princess Amanda Emery; sophomore prince Austin Arballo; freshman princess Ashly Grams; and freshman prince Kelly Thompson.

Beautification Commission to discuss BMX park

The regular monthly meeting of the City of Heppner Beautification Commission will be held at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 10.

Staff reports on ongoing city activities will be given by public works director Craig Canham, city manager Jerry Breazeale and Mayor Bob Jepsen. Also, Garden Club President Chuck Bailey will

update the commission on the club's various projects.

The main item of discussion will be proposals for a vegetative screen of trees and shrubs between the BMX facility and the street at Hager Park. Bill Ewing, a local forestry education specialist, will be at the meeting to share his ideas about how to accomplish an effective and attractive separation between Hager St. and the BMX park.

HHS cheerleaders have spirit



HHS varsity cheerleaders (left to right): Liz Orwick, Tylynn Smith and Sara Barrow

The Heppner High School cheerleading squad, represented by Tylynn Smith and Sara Barrow, won the spirit award and spirit stick at a cheerleading camp, hosted by

Power Athletics in late June at Lewis and Clark University.

This award is voted on by the campers and given to a team who shows "true team spirit and comradeship".

Greg Smith named "Outstanding Freshman Legislator"

State Representative Greg Smith was recently named "Outstanding Freshman Legislator" by the Oregon Rural Health Association which represents clinics, hospitals and health care professionals throughout rural Oregon.

"As a freshman member of the legislature, Representative Greg Smith has taken a sincere interest in the well being of small rural clinics," said Ed Patterson of the Oregon Rural Health Care Association. "Rep. Smith has been active and outspoken in support of the smallest and most fragile health care providers."

"I'm honored to receive this award," said Rep. Smith. "Rural Oregon is dear to my heart. It's my home, and I have worked hard to make sure that the people of rural Oregon are not

forgotten."

Faced with a budget cut of \$1.2 million for safety net clinics in the fifth special session last month, Rep. Smith succeeded in dedicating funds to the Certified Rural Health Clinics, according to a news release. The funding was originally part of the legislature's 2001-03 budget, but had not been released by the Department of Human Services (DHS). Because of Rep. Smith's work, DHS must release those funds by January 1, 2003, the release said.

"It's sad that I had to use the force of legislation to release funds that were already supposed to have gone to our rural clinics," said Smith. "However, I was proud to do so. Oregon's rural clinics are already struggling to provide critical care to tens of thousands of Oregonians."

Heppner walking tour to be held

Mitchell Nelson Group, a consulting firm selected to develop a Downtown Development Plan for Heppner, will host a community walking tour through downtown Heppner on Tuesday, Oct. 15. The tour is being coordinated to collect input and knowledge from the community on plans for Heppner's downtown area. Persons interested in participating are requested to meet at the Forest Service Conference Room, 117 N. Main Street, at 3:30 p.m. From there, the group will be leaving for an informational walk through of the downtown area.

The walking tour marks the first meeting in an eight-month study.

The purpose of the Downtown Development Plan Project is to update and integrate the Heppner Transportation System Plan (TSP) with recent planning efforts. The objective of the City of Heppner, along with the Oregon Department of Transportation, is to update the TSP and complete revisions to the existing city code to implement the Downtown Development Plan. The project will explore alternatives for developing downtown side streets and plans for enhancing connections between downtown areas and adjacent parks and neighborhoods. Incorporating these ideas into the TSP will also be reviewed, as well as plans for a possible greenway along the creek and recommendations for downtown parking. The city will amend its TSP to apply highway segment designations, as appropriate; and to foster compact development patterns along the highway within the urban growth boundary.

The project will complete the efforts that have been started within the community. City staff and volunteers have been exploring these issues and have been working to locate businesses into the downtown area. One component of the project is to develop a downtown commercial zone that will protect the historic character of the downtown, while at the same time encourage economic development. Another is to enhance the pedestrian linkages between the downtown and the rest of the community.

Community members are encouraged to share their ideas about the downtown area, parking and the connection from the downtown to the neighborhood areas.

Those unable to attend but would like to share ideas are asked to contact the project manager, Joyce Jackson, by mail, phone or email at Mitchell Nelson Group, 71 SW Oak Street Suite 100, Portland, Oregon 97204; phone (503) 944-2158 and email jlj@mngi.com.

Voting ballots to be mailed out

Ballots for the Nov. 5 elections will be mailed out Friday, Oct. 18. The last day to register for voting is Tuesday, Oct. 15.

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