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HEPPNER

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Court grants five-year tax exemption to Oregon Ethanol

At the Oct. 16 meeting of the Morrow County Court, Enterprise Zone Manager Greg Sweek and the commissioners continued discussion of the request from Oregon Ethanol for a seven-year tax exemption. After examining the many complexities of the issue, the Court agreed to allow a five-year exemption, if the operation meets the necessary employee numbers and wages. They also agreed to request payment by the company during those years to support the training of personnel who must learn methods of combating alcohol-based fires.

Representatives of the Boardman Kiwanis Club requested tippage fees to help pay cost of a Halloween party, explaining that the first such party, last year, was a success involving 500 children. They explained the planned activities and the budget.

They noted zero events of a criminal or traffic nature last year and said that the high school board works on the party with them. The Court approved a contribution to the effort, which also received support of the chief of police last year.

Judge Terry Tallman reported that an employee of the Behavioral Health Department took a course from a college that claimed to be accredited but which, in fact, was not. One resulting problem results from the policy that requires accreditation in order for the employee to receive an educational expense reimbursement. County Counsel Bill Hanlon, not in attendance, will report on the matter next week.

Emergency Management Director Casey Beard showed the Court the bid specifications designed for the newspaper advertisement in

search of computer software that synchronizes their various radios. Beard said he would be discussing next fiscal year's DEQ budget for the incinerator with that department representative. He ended his report by saying that distribution of pagers should be almost complete by the end of October.

Executive Secretary Andrea Denton reported on the research of the per diem issue for federal expenses. Although a final policy suggestion is not ready, she noted that emulating the state's method would suffice. If federal reimbursement to the employee is less than actual costs, the state pays the difference to the employee. If the reimbursement is greater than the actual costs, the employee pays the state the difference.

Unable to attend the meeting, Public Works Director Burke O'Brien submitted a written report in which he noted the status of the Juniper Canyon project. Most of the culverts have been installed, and the ODOT representative visited the site and was positive in his evaluation of the work.

Commissioner Dan Brosnan reported to the Court, asking that O'Brien be informed, that the Soil and Water Conservation District has pressed for attention to the matter of noncompliance with weed plans.

Actions of the Court:
- approval of a permit to Cascade Natural Gas for a line along Montana Lane in Irrigon;
- reappointment of John Wenholz, Mike Armato, and Butch Smith to the Board of Property Tax Appeals;
- approval of an agreement between the Children and Families Commission and the Health Department for the Healthy Start grant;
- approval of discretionary tippage fees for one-fourth the cost of courthouse-centennial commemorative lapel pins;
- approval of an agreement for respite care between the Behavioral Health Department and Jennie Moyer.

Red Apple honored by Morrow Co. DAT



(l-r) Morrow County Red Cross DAT volunteers Marilyn Perkins and Midge Michael present Bert Houweling, owner of Red Apple Market, with plaque.

At the Red Cross fundraiser held, Oct. 17, Red Apple was presented with a plaque for supporting the Morrow County Service Delivery Area over the past two-and-a-half years of its existence.

Morrow County Disaster Action Team volunteer Midge Michael accepted the award on behalf of Red Apple, as owner Bert Houweling was unable to attend. Michael later delivered the award to Red Apple and Houweling.

J.R. Simplot Company of Hermiston also received a plaque.

The Red Cross fundraiser was successful in raising funds for the local DAT, according to volunteers. The money will help provide relief not only for local emergencies, but also for education and training, equipment and supplies, and other items needed.

Over 70 businesses and individuals helped support the fundraiser with funds and merchandise for the silent auction.

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

Ione Youth Group Burnside Service Trip happenings

Ione Youth Group members and chaperones traveled to Portland on Oct. 11 for a day of service in the Burnside area. The youth divided into three groups, with everyone visiting an agency they hadn't worked at before. A group went to the Salvation Army Harbor Light where they helped in the kitchen, cleaned the storage area, and went on a tour of the facilities. Another group helped deliver meals to senior citizen shut-ins through the Loaves and Fishes organization. They also served a meal on site and helped with the Bingo games afterwards. The third group helped set up and serve lunch at the Blanchet House soup kitchen.

The ham served for lunch at Blanchet House came from pigs raised at the Blanchet Farm. The farm, which is on 60 acres near Carlton, has 600 chickens, pigs, beehives and a vegetable plot that last year produced 250,000 pounds of produce for the soup kitchen. Dormitories on the farm site house 15 women and 37 men who are homeless or recovering from substance abuse.

John DeZell, frequent Heppner St. Patrick's Day visitor and member of the board of Blanchet House, was visiting the soup kitchen when the Ione group arrived. Also, Mike Collins, 1971 Ione High School graduate and now a teacher at Central Catholic High School, was there supervising a group of his students doing volunteer work.

Youth group members spent the afternoon at Central City Concern's Second Chance Store on Northeast Broadway. They watched an introductory video explaining the focus of the agency. The agency's mission is to provide pathways to self-sufficiency through active intervention in poverty and homelessness. They believe in order for a person to successfully achieve self-sufficiency they must not only have access to housing, support services and employment opportunities, but also must be building positive relationships with those who have had common experiences and can offer support. Their programs include the Hooper Inebriate Emergency Response Service and Detox Sobering Program, the four to seven day Subacute Program, the Letty Owens Center for treatment and care services for pregnant or parenting women, the Old Town Clinic providing primary health care to the people of Burnside, a Parole Transition Program, and the Portland Alternative Health Care Outpatient Clinic. They also provide mentoring, business

HHS to hold Veteran's Day ceremony

Heppner High School is celebrating Veteran's Day by honoring all local veterans. The ceremony will be held on Thursday, Nov. 7, at 11:15 a.m. in the high school gym.

Invitations have been sent to all local veterans. If you

Light Parade to be held Dec. 5

Heppner's sixth annual Parade of Lights is planned for Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. in downtown Heppner.

Businesses and individuals are invited to enter the light parade and win cash prizes for first, second and third places. A special Kris Kringle award will be presented for fourth place.

Line-up for entrants will be at Green Feed and Seed at 5 p.m. Dec. 5.



Ione Youth Group at Second Chance second hand store



Jenny Griffith, Ashly Grams and Abby Key at Blanchet House soup kitchen



Meghan McCabe at Loaves and Fishes

enterprise opportunities and housing. The Ione group spent a couple of hours sorting in the clothing room and shopping at the second hand store.

As in past years, the group didn't travel to Burnside empty-handed. Donations were made to various agencies. Clothing donations from Janet Holland were taken to the Salvation Army. Loaves and Fishes received four cases of shaving cream. Shelly Key, Ione pool manager, sponsored two pool parties over the summer, with admission costing one new

pair of socks. Those socks were taken to Outreach Ministry of Burnside.

Making the trip from Ione were Tracy Griffith, Karl Morgan, Jaysi Bennetto, Cayle Krebs, Caitlin Orem, Jamie VandenBrink, Diana McElligott, Andrew Rietmann, Natalie McElligott, Emily Key, Megan McCabe, Johnny Collin, Paul Neiffer, Meghan McCabe, Sara Peck, Barbara Holland, Jenny Griffith, Abby Key and Ashly Grams. Adults supervising the youth were Dale and Karen Holland, Cathy Halvorsen, Debbie Morgan, Shelly Key and Jeri McElligott.

Halloween Food Drive

Ione Youth Group members will be sweeping through Ione and the surrounding area on Thursday, Oct. 31 collecting nonperishable food items. The collected food will be donated to the Heppner Neighborhood Center to help provide holiday baskets to those in need. The youth will be knocking on doors from approximately 6-7 p.m. that evening. Anyone who will not be home, or those living in the country and wanting to make donations, are asked to take their food to Laurel Cannon's home in Ione, where the food will be collected to take to Heppner. For more information, call Jeri McElligott at 422-7257.

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