

Juniper Canyon project completed



The ribbon cutting shows Judge Terry Tallman (second from right) and Tom Carman (far right), Region 5 ODOT Representative cutting the ribbon with the Road Crew in the background and a MCGG loaded grain truck behind them. The people holding the ribbon are the landowners whose land helped in the completion of the project. They are Gene Doherty (far left), Irv Rauch (second from left) and Bob Kilkenny (third from left).

The Juniper Canyon Road project has finally been completed and a ribbon cutting ceremony was held June 24.

The Juniper Canyon Road project was an OTIA Modernization project to realign the road through the

Juniper Canyon area. \$500,000 in OTIA funds was combined with an additional estimated \$300,000 in local funding. Morrow County coordinated the project, which began in 2002.

Landowners, Gene Doherty, Irv Rauch and Bob

Kilkenny gave Morrow County the land necessary for the right-of-way realignment. "Without their support, the project would not be the success it is now," stated a Morrow County Public Works press release.

Lea Mathieu elected to BMCC board

The Blue Mountain Community College Board of Education met Wednesday, July 16 on the Pendleton campus. Three newly elected board members were sworn in. Lea Mathieu was elected to represent Morrow County. She replaces Nancy Snider who had served on the College Board for 17 years. Joan Weaver was elected to replace Dr. Eloise Dielman from Baker County; and Steve Taylor replaced Vince Crawford to represent Umatilla County, and Phillip Houk was re-elected for his fifth term. Houk was also elected board chairman for the 2003-04 academic year and Royal Hansen will serve as vice-chair. Mathieu will be the board's OCCA representative and Houk will continue as liaison to the BMCC Foundation. John Turner was introduced as the new Provost, replacing Margaret Saylor who served as interim when Cynthia Hilden left the College on medical leave.

Kevin Kimball, VP of Business & Operations, updated the board on the State's cash flow problems and their possible implications to the college. Kimball reported the one Boardman sign had been vandalized and he discussed plans to update the College's external road signs on the Pendleton campus. The PERS issue remains complicated. BMCC budgeted for a 17.64 percent contribution, but the PERS board voted on June 30 to only assess 10.24 percent this year. The difference in the General Fund will be put in a reserve account to offset future PERS increases.

President Kirkland shared the results of the Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness survey given spring term. Over 2900 students reported satisfaction with both their part-time and full-time instructors. In response to a question raised at the June board meeting

suggesting administrators take a pay cut, the President reported that there were no salary increase last year for administrators, nor will there be any this year. A customized training partnership with City of Pendleton, Port of Umatilla, and Keystone will launch a New Employee Boot Camp this month. St. Anthony Hospital was recognized for their contribution of a part-time athletic trainer and annual support of the Nursing program. According to the President, St. Anthony has saved the college about \$25,000.

The board voted in favor of supporting the City of Pendleton's Urban Renew Plan. Even though it will cost the college in tax receipts, the benefit to local economic development takes priority. The board reviewed two proposals for Earthquake and Flood Insurance and in light of economic hardship, decided not to purchase this insurance coverage.

Wee Bit O' ...

By Claudia Hughes

'Tis sure that the likes o' March weather might be a welcome respite to the heat of late. St. Patrick's Committee Chairpersons met for an appreciation dinner July 17 at John's Other Place with "shades of the Irish flag" incorporated into dinner.

All in attendance shared a brief recap and evaluation of 2003, in addition to new ideas for 2004. The drinking fountain in memory of the Irish settlers finally became a reality in 2003. The Cruz-In resulted in visits by many classic and antique car groups this summer. The word is out that Heppner is the place to visit. There's nowhere else one can drive over the biggest shamrock in the world. Is there?

Some of the attendees tried out some new Irish jokes, but none quite qualified for the annual Irish brogue contest. However, all shared some good laughs.

Plans are already underway for the 2004 Celebration. Letters have gone out for advertising in the brochure and confirmation of

the various annual events. Beginning in September, the Board will be meeting once a month. Contacts are being made for the 2004 Saturday night entertainment, with The Trail Band "in the running" thanks to funding from the Morrow County Unified Recreation District.

New ideas ranging from a new "Irish Musical" to a Leprechaun Express are surfacing. There are new faces coming forward with some great ideas. The Willow Creek Valley has much musical talent, which the committee hopes to share in a creative way.

Irish Families? Now, would ye be Irish? Have we honored all of the original Irish settlers? Is it time to move on? Have we missed some? We know there are families here who had Irish ancestors elsewhere and came to Heppner much later. The committee would like to hear their history. Drop us a postcard (P.O. Box 1232). Please send ideas, nominees, and suggestions for an Irish family and for button design. The committee is anxious to firm up all the details and get publicity out early, so they can pause for the winter holidays

and Town and Country. Help us out.

Leprechauns may be calling soon to invite St. Patrick's Committee Board of Directors participation. Give a call to Claudia Hughes or Cara Osmin if you have ideas for new activities, an interest in being a part of Heppner's Annual Celebration, or suggestions for Board Members committed to attending brief meetings each month. 'Tis sure most already are involved, but new faces are needed and most welcome. The Irish and the "Irish at heart" have a rollicking good time. Join "us" please.

Show-n-Shine pre-registration still available

For those car enthusiasts who enjoy a "good" car show, you can still pre-register for the 8th Annual Show-n-Shine Car Show. The show will be held Saturday, Aug. 2, 2003, in Prairie City, OR.

For more information or to pre-register, call (541) 820-3510 or visit, www.highdesertnet.com/~kruzers.

Heppner to host 81st annual OTRP

4-H receives grant from PGE

When we think of America, we think of freedom, heritage and a way of life. Heppner, Oregon: A town with a rich heritage in the "All American Spirit" of rodeos is home to the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo. It will be celebrating its 81st year on Aug. 15-17. Heppner is one of Eastern Oregon's best kept secrets. It is a small town in Eastern Oregon that is quiet and relaxed most of the year. A place with wide open spaces and friendly people. The all American Spirit comes alive in August when big name PRCA cowboys, WPRA cowgirls, double tough rodeo livestock, specialty entertainment and coveted awards come to Heppner. You definitely know professional rodeo is alive and kicking during rodeo weekend.

Every two-and-a-half hour performance of the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo is a multi-faceted entertainment extravaganza, packed full of more wild, unrehearsed action than most folks see in a lifetime. Noted as one of the oldest PRCA Rodeos in Oregon for the past 81 years, the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo features more than 200 PRCA cowboys and cowgirls competing in seven world championship events.

Featuring the rough and rugged action of saddle bronc and bareback riding, the skill and precision of calf roping and steer wrestling, the color and speed of cowgirls' barrel racing and the heart stopping danger and thrills of the world's most favorite and dangerous event... bull riding, can all be seen at the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo in Heppner.

The stock is provided by the famous Big Bend Rodeo Company. Their bucking stock is consistently awarded national titles at the NFR every year. Big Bend Rodeo Company will thrill you with bucking stock like saddle bronc horse Spy, Spring Fling and bulls like Unforgiven and Rapid Fire. The owner, Donny Hutsell, has received many national titles with his stock such as the famous Skoal's Spring Fling, Unforgiven and Copenhagen Two Spot. Hutsell promises a preview of these great animals. They will be at the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo to meet the talent of world famous contestants. Watching the performances is just a preview of the best stock and riders in the world.

Each wild and western performance at the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo begins with Muttin' Bustin' 30 minutes prior to each grand entry. The rodeo officially starts with the grand entry of the Rodeo Bandits and Rodeo court members. The chutes open for the first performance at 7 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 16. Don't miss out on the popular "Call Your Dog Contest" during Friday night's performance. The main show on Saturday, Aug. 16 will begin with grand entry at 1:15 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 17 will bring local rodeo entertainment with the Morrow County Jackpot Rodeo. Other features include live music following the PRCA shows and a good time is assured in the "Spur 'Em" barn. Live entertainment, daytime family fun and fair activities will run during the days and into the evening.

The added awards and money have always been an added attraction for the contestants. This includes the Mike Currin Memorial Calf Roping Buckle, bounty money, and added bonus money for fastest time. But more than the money and awards, rodeo keeps alive and kicking in the spirit of the 'Old West' and the legend of the cowboy and his way of life. The Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo welcomes rodeo fans, friends and contestants.

A special vacation package is being featured this year for visitors from out of town. The package includes fabulous lodging on the outskirts of town. This gives you the true feeling of the 'Old West' out your back door with fresh air, a quiet setting and abundant wildlife, yet with outstanding comforts of home. These private lodges hold between two and twelve people. Some include meals while others have full cooking facilities. Most have hot tubs or other peaceful benefits of the lodges. The package includes VIP seating for three days at the rodeo and other options in the package include golf, swimming or shooting trap. Prices are very reasonable but vary with lodges. For more information or bookings, call Sue Gibbs at (541) 676-5446.

The cowboy was, and still is the original American professional athlete and some of the PRCA's best will be in action at the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo in Heppner. Be a part of the weekend. Tickets may be purchased at the gate or VIP seating can be purchased by calling Mindy at (541) 676-5818.

Continuing its mission of promoting healthy families, providing educational opportunities, preserving the environment and supporting the arts, in the second quarter of 2003, the PGE Foundation awarded \$270,500 to 37 Oregon nonprofit programs. To date in 2003, the Foundation- the corporate foundation of Portland General Electric (PGE)- has awarded a total of \$362,500 to 55 charitable organizations in Oregon.

Given its mission of recognizing the work of large and small nonprofit organizations in rural and urban areas across the state, in the second quarter alone, PGE Foundation grants rewarded a broad scope of geographically and distinctively diverse organizations.

Among the grants given was a \$5000 grant to the Oregon 4-H Foundation for management and growth of the Morrow County Outreach Program. This is a bilingual and bicultural program that encourages Latino youth participation in the 4-H organization.

The PGE Foundation, the corporate foundation of Portland General Electric, was established in 1997 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a permanent endowment. The Foundation's giving is separate from the corporate giving of PGE. Since its inception, the Foundation has distributed more than \$7 million to help improve the quality of life for all Oregonians by supporting statewide programs and service that encourage healthy families, provide education opportunities, clean up and preserve the environment, encourage the arts and cultural diversity. Gwyneth Gamble Booth is Chair and Carole Morse is President.

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MOUNTAIN PROPERTY. One acre (approx.) in the mountains. Water and electricity to the property. Leveled spot. Ready to build on. Located at Blakes Ranch, 15 miles from Heppner. **\$12,900.**



WELL KEPT SPLIT LEVEL. Large fenced yard with flower beds. 10x16 storage shed in back yard. Large

family room in basement. Living room with fireplace. **\$120,000.**

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