

## City makes progress in reducing flood map

After five years of work, efforts by Heppner city manager Jerry Breazeale to reduce the town's flood map may be paying off.

Although in a staff report released at a city council meeting Monday night Breazeale said, "It is too early to cancel your flood insurance and take out that long awaited building permit, but I do believe relief is on the horizon."

The flood maps determine who in the city has to pay flood insurance and also governs what extra building requirements there are on property within the city's flood plain or flood way.

Breazeale said FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency), which will handle the remapping, has indicated that the job will be done sometime in 2004.

The city manager had investigated the cost of the city doing the remapping itself and found it to be very expensive. "We have investigated the cost to remap Heppner and found that the cost would be in the neighborhood of \$50,000. To remap the towns of Lexington and Ione located in the same drainage would raise the cost to nearly \$100,000. The affected communities do not have the financial capabilities to perform the necessary work to have the maps redrawn. Further, we think it unfair to expect the communities of Heppner, Lexington, and Ione to foot the bill for an error which was not the doing of any of the communities," Breazeale wrote in email to Anthony Lowe, Director of the Flood Hazard Program for FEMA. Breazeale added that he did not know if FEMA planned on redrawing Lexington and Ione also, but did say that FEMA planned to foot the bill for the map redraw itself.

Breazeale said his success in convincing FEMA to take another look at the flood maps resulted from showing the agency that its figures might need revising.

"The review of the original flood study indicates that the 1 percent probability of a flood of the magnitude used for the original study to be greatly overstated. The actual flood hazard is much less than the scenario used in the original study by a very

wide margin. We feel that the citizens of Heppner deserve some relief from the economic burden placed on them by having a map that reflects a much greater area of flooding than that which would be anticipated," Breazeale wrote.

He also said that US Senators Ron Wyden and Greg Smith helped with the effort through their contacts with FEMA.

In other business at the Monday meeting the council:

-approved a request from Shamrock Lanes, the local bowling alley that allows the business to play "amplified music" at the establishment. Shamrock owner Terry Lupinacci said he plans on offering "cosmic bowling, parties, karaoke and dancing." He said he has already had some of these activities and they have proven very successful with local youngsters. "It gives the kids something to do," Lupinacci told the council. He said the activities could be offered during regular business hours, which are Monday through Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., Saturday from 12 noon until 11 p.m. and Sunday from 12 noon until 9 p.m. He said it is possible that the parties could run to as late as 2 a.m. by request. Some council members said they were aware the music could be heard outside the business, but passed the permit unanimously "subject to complaints by neighbors" of the bowling center.

-heard from city sheriff deputy Justin Slinger who said there have been reports of increased car break-ins in Heppner. Slinger said some have been at night, but there was also an auto break-in at the High School during daylight hours. He said there were several stereos stolen around town. He asked everyone present to report suspicious activity to the Sheriff Department.

-agreed to have property at 660 N. Elder Street cleaned up and the owners of the property billed for the clean up. The council agreed to spend up to \$1,000 on the effort. It put off enforcement of clean up at property at 675 North Main until a later date.

-heard that the Sheriff Department is interviewing candidates for Heppner's patrol job on Jan. 16 and 17. There are 7-8 applicants to be interviewed. The county sheriff department provides city patrol officers under a two-year agreement with the city of Heppner. The council also was informed that City Manager Breazeale will be interviewing a public works director Friday. The city has been without a public works director for several months now.

-received a letter from the Willow Creek Country Club requesting that the city pay for damage done around a bridge after an irrigation line leaked in the area. Estimates to repair the damage was set at \$5,200. The city feels that it is its responsibility to only fix the irrigation pipe and not any other damage. Treated city

effluent is used to irrigate the golf course.

-heard from city fire chief Rusty Estes who said that structure fires had increased quite a bit in 2003 over the previous year. He said the fire department fought seven structure fires this year as compared with two the previous year. On a positive note, he said car accidents in the area requiring ambulance were down from 12 in 2002 to two in 2003.

-voted to put stop signs on Gilmore Street where Willow joins Gilmore. The council understood that the new signs would take awhile for people to get used to and several suggestions included stop "bars" painted on Gilmore, to putting up a temporary flashing light to warn motorists of the new stop signs.

## BMCC announces winter term classes

In the middle of the holiday hub-bub, don't forget that registration for winter term is ongoing for Blue Mountain Community College classes at all the BMCC centers. Winter term begins Monday, Jan. 5, 2004.

For the degree-seeking student, the selection of distance and online classes continues to expand. Sixty-three classes are offered in many areas of study including art, business, math, writing, social science and more. Registration for these classes began Nov. 19 and continues until classes begin on a space available basis.

An option for students wanting to obtain skills but not necessarily needing to earn credits is the Ed2Go class selection. Run through the Small Business Development Center, Ed2Go offers over 100 online courses covering a wide variety of topics. The benefits of Ed2Go are you never have to worry about a class being cancelled, you take the class from the comfort of your own home or office and the class fits your schedule because it is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A complete listing of classes offered and registration fees is available at the website [www.ed2go.com/bmcc](http://www.ed2go.com/bmcc) or call Anne Morter, BMCC Coordinator at 422-7040 for a print copy.

Classes also being locally just after the New Year. Included in the schedule are

two Parent and Child art classes, a selection of computer offerings, a Food Handlers course and a workshop for those interested in returning to college full time. Complete details are available in the BMCC Winter Term flyer (call for a copy if yours is misplaced) or online at [www.bluecc.edu](http://www.bluecc.edu).

For more information on any of the BMCC programs or classes, contact Anne Morter at 422-7040.

## Christian satellites free for the asking

Christian programming is available 24 hours a day through the Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN) via satellite. The Seventh-day Adventist Church has purchased a number of these satellite dishes and would like to make them available to anyone who would enjoy using them. The only station they will pick up is 3ABN and there is no charge to you.

Programming is varied throughout the day. Included are programs with the following topics: Christian music, health discussions and exercise programs, vegetarian cooking demonstrations, creation science, Bible-based talks, prophecy classes and programs for children.

If this sounds like something you would enjoy call 676-9449 and arrangements will be made for your free 3ABN dish and free installation.

## Lars Larson to speak at annual Cattlemen's Association meeting

Radio talk show host Lars Larson will speak at the annual meeting of the Umatilla County Cattlemen's Association (UCCA) and the Umatilla County Cattle Women (UCCW) on Dec. 13 at the Pendleton Convention Center. Larson will speak at the organizations annual luncheon at 12 noon. The public is invited to attend the luncheon to hear Larson speak. Pre-registration for the \$10 per person luncheon is required. Those interested in attending can pre-register by calling the Cattlemen's Association at 278-5404.

Larson, the popular conservative radio talk show host does a daily show on the Radio Northwest flagship station Newsradio 750 KXL and is heard on radio stations throughout Oregon. In the Pendleton broadcast area, he can be heard on 1290 KUMA. Although friends tell him he "has a face made for radio," Larson has worked for television stations in Eugene and Portland.

The annual business meeting for the Cattlemen and Cattle Women begins at 10 a.m. of the same day at the Pendleton Convention Center. For cattlemen and friends of the cattle industry the annual program will continue into the afternoon after the luncheon program with Larson, with a variety of speakers addressing issues of interest to the cattle industry. Bryan Weech, Cattle-Fax western region market analyst will present a review of the current market situation and make market projections including the potential impact of County-of-Origin Labeling (COOL) legislation and the possible effects of the reopening of the Canadian boarder to cattle markets. Rodger Huffman and Andrew Clark of the Oregon Department of Agriculture will discuss the merit of a national

livestock identification program. Eric Moeggenberg, a livestock water quality specialist with the Oregon Department of Agriculture will explain new regulations affecting Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO's). Please pre-register by calling 278-5404.

The Cattlemen will also be holding their annual Cattlemen's Ball two weeks following the annual business meeting, the evening of Dec. 27 at 6 p.m. at the Pendleton Red Lion. Headlining the entertainment for the Cattlemen's Ball will be Montana's own "Ringling 5." The "Ringling 5" is a group of Montana ranchers turned entertainers. Most years the entertainment business is more profitable than the cattle business. With smirks, smiles, and laughter, the "Ringling 5" will be tellin' us all what it really means to be a cowboy. There's a nostalgic movement to romanticize the West and the ranching life—rugged men and strong women. Well, the "Ringling 5" has just one thing to say, "Bull." They sing original songs of today's West and the cowboy way of life. These boys are ranchers when they are not making money. You won't want to miss this group. Pre-registration of the Roast Sirloin of Beef buffet dinner and the evening entertainment is \$20 person. Please call 278-5404 to pre-register for this event.

The Cattlemen are also raffling off a custom made Severe Brothers Saddle. Raffle tickets can be purchased at Les Schwab Tire in Pendleton, Red's Clothing in Pendleton, NW Farm Supply in Hermiston, from any Cattlemen's Association officer, or by calling 278-5404. Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 10 for \$45. The winning ticket will be drawn at the Cattlemen's Ball on Dec. 27.

## Cardinal Booster Club news

The Cardinal Booster Club met on Monday, Dec. 1 at the Ione School library. Thirteen members were present. Club members ironed out final details for the Ione Basketball Bonanza. Dean Robinson will order trophies for the championship varsity and junior varsity teams.

There will be a sign made to honor those who donated to the track project. Now that the school construction is nearing completion, members need to decide where to place the sign. Community supporters who have not yet donated to that project may still do so.

It was agreed businesses should once again be honored for their support of Ione Schools. Robinson will

notify businesses to be recognized at home basketball games. Besides being introduced and given a certificate, their ads will be placed on game programs if possible.

Karen Padberg is working to revive the Ione Community Band. Anyone interested in participating may call her at 422-7326.

The club is looking for someone to write up the boys and girls high school basketball games. Debbie Radie will continue taking pictures. Anyone who is interested should contact Dean Robinson.

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

**Murray's  
Holiday Hours:**

**We will be open Sunday, Dec. 14 & 21  
from 12-4 p.m. (Free Gift Wrapping!)**

**Wednesday, Dec. 24 ~ Christmas Eve!  
CLOSING AT 5 P.M.**

**Thursday, Dec. 25 ~ Merry Christmas!  
CLOSED**

**Friday, Dec. 26  
1/2 Price Christmas Sale!  
Open at 10 a.m.**

**Thursday, Jan. 1 ~ Happy New Year!  
CLOSED**

**We carry all these items/depts.:**

Pharmacy • OTC Products • DME Supplies  
Hallmark Cards & Ornaments • Unique Gifts • Beer & Wine  
Toys (Brio, Ty, Breyer, etc.) • Cosmetics & Perfumes  
Frames • Baby Gifts • School/Office Supplies  
Russell Stover & Novelty Candy • Jelly Bellies  
Yankee Candles • Full Service Espresso Bar  
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**Holiday  
Gift  
Suggestions**

**Open Sunday,  
Dec. 14  
from noon  
to 4 p.m.  
Enjoy fresh  
coffee, punch  
& cookies!**

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Jewelers of America, Inc.  
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No matter how rushed the Christmas season becomes, there's always time to thank our good customers for their patronage throughout the year and to wish each of you a Joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year!



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