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HEPPNER

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VOL. 123 NO. 2 8 Pages Wednesday, January 14, 2004 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

FEMA agrees to look at area floodplain

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has agreed to re-examine Heppner's floodplain maps sometime within the next year, the Heppner City Council learned Monday night.

Heppner city manager Jerry Breazeale has been pushing for the revised study for the past four years and he recently received notice that FEMA will study not only Heppner but Ione and Lexington's floodplains also.

Meeting set on Heppner urban growth boundary

A meeting will be held to discuss the possible expansion of the Heppner Urban Growth Boundary on Tuesday, Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. at the Bank of Eastern Oregon conference room. The Governor's Economic Revitalization Team has used Heppner as a pilot for describing how a small community might expand its urban growth boundary. Carla McLane, Morrow County planner, and Gerald Breazeale, Heppner City manager, will be present at the meeting to give an overview of the proposal and to answer questions.

At the meeting the UGB concept will be explained relative to Oregon Planning Laws. Also to be discussed are zoning designations, including EFU, and what they mean. In addition, the Governor's Economic Revitalization team decision to choose Heppner to review the process to expand an Urban Growth Boundary will be explained.

Interested community members are invited to attend to get first hand information regarding the various issues involved with changing an urban growth boundary and what it might mean for the community and affected property owners.

If the study shows the threat of flood had been overestimated in some areas in these cities, residents will not have to purchase flood insurance on mortgage and property loans in the future. Certain building restrictions could also be eased in the floodplain.

"Jerry's hard work is finally beginning to pay off and will

be a big help to the city," said Heppner Mayor Bob Jepsen.

In a related matter, Breazeale announced that he has been accepted to attend a week-long FEMA floodplain course in Maryland in February. Breazeale will attend the all-expense paid course in preparation of the new floodplain study.

Chamber banquet, growers meetings scheduled January 15

The Heppner Chamber annual Town and Country Banquet "2004 Heppner for All Seasons" will be held this Thursday, January 15, beginning at 7 p.m. with a baron of beef dinner at the Heppner Elks Club. A no-host social hour will get the evening underway at 6 p.m. prior to the banquet.

The Slob Sisters will provide the evening's entertainment, along with the coronation of the Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Court, the Morrow County Extension award, annual Chamber of Commerce awards, including man, woman, business, educator, youth and lifetime achievement awards.

The door prize is compliments of Peterson's Jewelers.

Tickets are available at the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Murray's Drug and the Chamber office for \$20 each.

For more information and reservations contact the Heppner Chamber of Commerce, 541-676-5536.

Everyone is invited to attend a variety of meetings hosted by the Morrow County Livestock Growers and the Soil and Water Conservation District upstairs at the Elks the afternoon of January 15. For more information contact Janet Greenup, SWCD, 676-9011, or Bill Broderick, Extension Service, 676-9642.

Slob Sisters to entertain at Town & Country

The Slob Sisters, Pam Young and Peggy Jones, will be back in Heppner Thursday, January 15, for the annual Town and Country banquet beginning with a baron of beef dinner at 7 p.m.

The real-life sisters will share the essence of their new book, "Whoa Nelly: Harness Your Inner Brat and Get Rich (not yet released)." With humor they will show how to change behaviors that stand in the way of wealth and prosperity. "You will discover the reason behind overspending and credit card abuse and you will be given simple and fun tools to reap the wealth you were created to have," according to a news release.

Pam Young and Peggy Jones live in Washington with their husbands, Terry and Danny. They have six children and 13 grandchildren between them. "They have a soft spot in their hearts for Heppner and are excited to return to celebrate Town and County with everyone," said the release.

Snowed in . . .



A scarecrow on a chilly day. Photo by Linda Bristow of Ione.



Bert Houweling, owner of Central Market, tries to pry ice from his parking lot, along with most downtown merchants.

We weren't exactly snowed in, but many area residents claim to be suffering a case of cabin fever as snow and ice, freezing rain, fog and frigid temperatures persist in the area, limiting travel. The area has shown a slight warming trend, in the upper 20s, with warmer temperatures forecast as the week progresses. Some at higher elevations already report sunshine warmer weather-into the 30s. Snow and ice caused school closures in Morrow County the week of January 5-9, with the exception of Tuesday, January 6, cancellation of most school games, cancellation of the Morrow County Health District meeting in Irrigon December 29 and the Morrow County School Board meeting in Boardman January 12. The health district will postpone meeting until the next regularly scheduled meeting January 26. The school board has tentatively scheduled a meeting for Monday, January 19, at Sam Boardman Elementary School.



Snow piles up at the corner of Main and Willow streets in Heppner.



Heppner City Public Works Director Bruce Nelson moves snow on Main Street.



Hungry deer venture down to the Willow Creek Terrace Assisted Living in Heppner to graze on hay bales set out there. The WC Terrace residents enjoy viewing the deer; the hay is donated by Mac Hoskins and transported by Bob DeSpain.

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