Bessie Wetzell Newspaper Library
University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403

HEPPNER 50¢

Gazette Times

VOL. 124 NO. 51 10 Pages Wednesday, December 21, 2005 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

Snow day. . .

John Wight made Heppner streets a little safer Monday during the snow and ice storm with his four-wheeler outfitted with a snowplow.

Lexington Council discusses water conservation plan

The Lexington Town Council heard a presentation from Braid Baird, representing his company concerning the town's water conservation plan at the town at the regular town meeting Tuesday, December 13. The town has only until March 23 to meet the state plan deadline, but Baird said that he could probably get an extension. He also said that he would notify the town of items needed to complete the plan.

Also at the Tuesday night meeting, the council heard some concerns about the town's street names. Council member Mike Orwick suggested that the town change some street names, such as 'E" Street, 'A' Street, East Street, to make it easier to identify streets... However, some people in the audience opposed altering the names because it would change many addresses.

In other business, the council:

-heard from Fire Chief Charlie Sumner who reminded people to let town recorder, Nicki Clement, know if street lights have burned out.

-approved recommending a man from Boardman as a representative on the GEODC Board of Directors.

-learned that rules concerning Measure 37 have been suspended because a Marion County Judge has declared them unconstitutional.

-discussed the town's building permit procedure.

-learned that a discrepancy between water meters at some residences was due to a faulty meter. The meter was replaced and a solution offered to the resident, asking them to pay $80 for the water previously used with the incorrect meter. The council also authorized a delegate to negotiate with residents for an easement to extend the water line.

-discussed formulating a policy for water meters for transient residents, such as renters. The council plans to discuss the issue further.

-approved a request by ODOT for a proposal providing for an alternate selection process to obtain a bridge inspector.

-learned the cost for the engineering firm of Anderson & Perry for a water management plan would be around $7,500.

-agreed to have the fire chief make a list of surplus items to possibly donate to another department or to sell at public bid.

-learned from Sumner that some fire fighters are not living up to their responsibilities, such as attending regular meetings, and he said that he may not allow some to remain on the department.

-approved purchase of one load of gravel or $200 worth of gravel, whichever is less.

-discussed the town's lack of snow removal equipment.

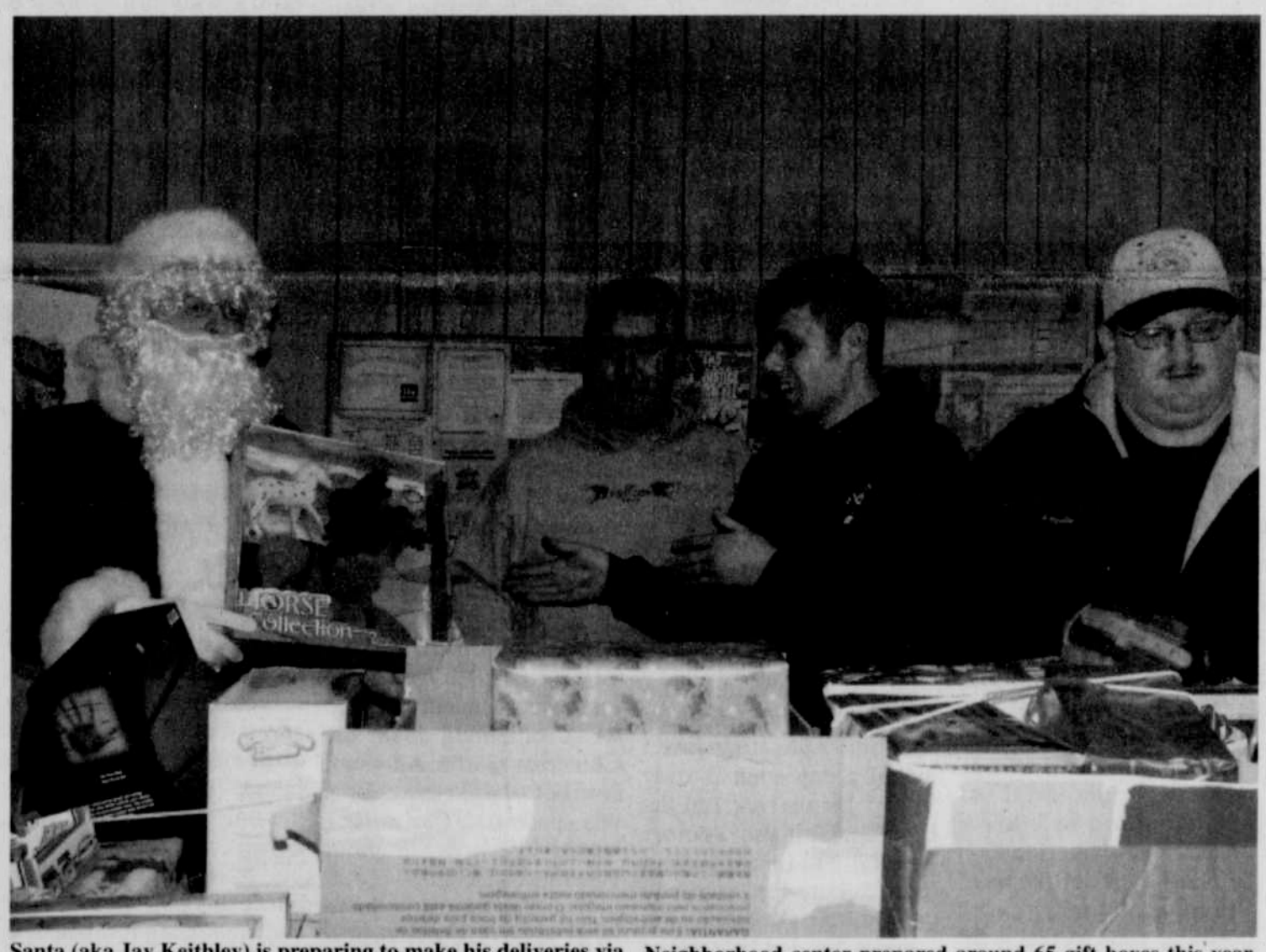
-received report from Christmas lighting chair Mindy Wilson, who reported that two more categories had been added to the contest. She said she had received donations and was hoping to add more prizes.

-authorized Clement to apply to the bank for a credit card, which will make ordering supplies and equipment easier.

-postponed a decision on what to do with the old telephone building after the issue has been advertised in the newspaper. If no one comes forth, the wood in the building could be used for salvage or the building could be destroyed.

-approved a solution to a dispute concerning water at a residence shut off in error. The council agreed to delete the carrying of $34 in exchange for liability in the water turn off.

Santa Claus is comin' to town



Santa (aka Jay Keithley) is preparing to make his deliveries via fire truck from the Heppner Neighborhood Center Tuesday night, with the assistance of Heppner Volunteer Firemen Randy Rayburn, Chris Rayburn and Jim Kindle. Not pictured is Fire Chief Rusty Estes, who also helped distribute toys. The Neighborhood center prepared around 65 gift boxes this year, with Santa delivering to the little ones, said Neighborhood Center Director Jan Skaggs. She said that they prepared about the same amount last year. She was assisted by Glennave Arriaga.

Catholic churches schedule Christmas observances

St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Heppner: Saturday, Dec. 24-Christmas Vigil: 8:30 p.m. Christmas carols; 9 p.m. Candlelight Procession, Blessing of Nativity scene and Vigil Mass. Sunday, Dec. 25: Christmas Mass at 11 a.m.

St. William's Catholic Church, Ione: Sunday, Dec. 25-8:45 a.m. Blessing of Nativity scene, Christmas carols and Christmas Mass.

Bookworms donate to area children

The Heppner Bookworms met at the home of Marj Gardner for their Dec. meeting. The Bookworms each shared a Christmas reading, either a story, poem, or short event with the members. During the meeting it was decided to donate $50 to the Neighborhood Center for their Christmas giving and sharing program.

Marj Gardner and the late Joyce Dinkins put together a collection of 30 children's books over the summer and those will be gifted to the Heppner Day Care for Christmas.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, Jan. 10, at GD's restaurant with Kathryn Hoskins as hostess and Pat Edmundson as reviewer.

Heppner Colt Basketball begins new season

Parents and interested volunteers are invited to attend the Colt Basketball organizational meeting, Monday, Dec. 26, 6:30 p.m. at the Pettyjohn Building in Heppner.

Colt basketball includes boys and girls, grades three to six, attending Heppner Elementary School.

For more information call Rob Waite, 676-5433.

Christmas eve invitation

Members of e Church of the Nazarene invite everyone to a pre-Christmas party, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. Entertainment will be "Hope, Joy, Peace, Truth, Light, Life, Love, Real Happiness, Communion with God, Forgiveness, Miraculous story" and much more.

Admission is free. Come as you are.

"Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the lamb." Revelation 19:7-9 added Pastor Jones.

Community Christmas dinner planned

Everyone is invited to attend a community Christmas dinner with ham/turkey and all of the trimmings, Sunday, Dec. 25, 1 p.m. at St. Patrick's Senior Center.

Please bring a salad or dessert. Attend early to share the day with friends.

For more information call Corol at 676-5596 if you would like to volunteer or have a question.

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

ALL ANNIE OAKLEY perfume, cologne, body lotion
10% OFF

We will be closed December 24th, 25th & 26th
~ HAPPY HOLIDAYS! ~
Morrow County Grain Growers
Lexington 989-8221 • 1-800-452-7396 For farm equipment, visit our web site at www.mcgg.net