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HEPPNER 50¢
Gazette Times

VOL. 125 NO. 51 10 Pages Wednesday, December 20, 2006 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

High winds cause some damage in area

High winds last Thurday blew over this tree on a house at 605 NE Pioneer Drive near the Heppner hospital. The home was formerly owned by David and Deborah Kendrick who have moved from the area. The tree casued minor damage to the home. Another tree across the street from this home also was blown down, but caused no damage. Other wind related incidents were reports of water and debris in the road in Ione, and a man in Heppner reported to the sheriff department that he "found his neighbor's roof in his yard" (no address was given).

Sunday morning fire closes ODOT maintenance station

Fire consumes the ODOT building in Heppner

Damaged caused by a fire at the ODOT Heppner maintenance station, located at 273 W. Linden Way, Heppner, prompted officials to close the building. No one was hurt in the fire that started Sunday around 5 a.m. Phone services at the ODOT Heppner maintenance station have been impacted. Persons needing to contact the Heppner ODOT crew should call the ODOT District 12 Office in Pendleton at 541-276-1241.

Local fire departments responded to the alarm early Sunday morning and extinguished the blaze, which damaged part of the structure and one ten-yard ODOT truck. The cause of the fire is currently under investigation. The building will remain closed until further notice.

District 12 manager for ODOT, George Ruby, said he was very pleased with the good response from the Heppner Fire Department.

Unidentified Heppner fireman battles the blaze

Daylight reveals damage done to snowplow

First annual alumni football game planned

Plans for a first annual alumni football game are in the works. The game is scheduled for June 16, 2007. Depending on the response, two games are planned, younger vs. younger, and older vs. older. If there are not enough players, a blue vs. white game will be played.

A fee of $20 will be charged for those wishing to participate. This fee will cover the use of facilities and equipment, and a t-shirt. There will be a small charge at the gate that will be used to purchase a trophy to be passed on from year to year. The remaining money will be donated to the football program.

Teams will be announced on Friday, June 15, 2007, and a practice walkthrough will be held. Participants are asked to bring both jerseys to this practice. If a player does not have a jersey, Greg Grant will allow use of practice jerseys for the game.

Anyone wishing to participate can send a check made out to Jess Osmin and their t-shirt size to 58794 Balmfork Rd., Heppner, OR 97836 no later than May 1, 2007. Also, please send your phone number, the year you graduated, and the position you played in school.

Jess Osmin is organizer

For more information contact Jess Osmin at 541-676-9079. Anyone interested in officiating the game or working the chains is also asked to call. Enough interest must be shown by May 1 or the game will have to be called off.

Ione School robotics team third highest in contest

The Ione School Board, at its regular meeting Monday night, was treated to a demonstration by the Cardinal Robotics Team, who recently competed at a robotics contest in Redmond with good results. The team scored second in project presentation, fifth in robot design and ninth in teamwork for the third highest score out of 15 teams competing.

Along with the robotics demonstration, student Alex Carlson presented a report on soil bonding and nano technology. The project was sponsored by the Ione Education Foundation and the school district. Carlson also wrote the grant to obtain funding. Stacee Halvorsen, Zac Orem, Adam Collin, Steven Holland and Evan Rietmann demonstrated the robotics.

Also at the meeting, Superintendent Bryn Browning reported that the district has met all standards for public elementary and secondary schools as required.

In other business, the board:

-approved a cost increase for an addition to the school bus route, which will run approximately $5,000 per month. The addition is expected to cut down on the amount of time students spend on the bus. Transportation costs are 90 percent reimbursable from the state.

-approved staff recommendations for: Brandi Heideman, Ione High School assistant girls' basketball coach; Jim Swanson, IHS assistant boys' basketball coach; Lynn Dee Ramos, Ione Middle School girls' basketball coach; Dick Allen, IMS boys' basketball coach; and Dennis Stefani, IHS boys' head basketball coach.

-approved enrollment in the Oregon Growth Savings Plan for school employees.

-learned that ISD

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ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER 27th ISSUE:
FRIDAY, DEC. 22 AT 5:00 P.M.

MCGG GREEN FEED STORE in Heppner:

Happy Holidays from Green Feed and Seed!
Store Hours through Dec. 23: Mon-Fri 8-5:30 / Sat 8-5

December Specials:

13MWZ Wranglers: $19.95
All other Wrangler Clothing 20% OFF
Montana Silver 20% OFF
CoastKnives 20% OFF
HorseTack 20% OFF
Toys 20% OFF

Join us for our OPEN HOUSE ALL DAY FRIDAY, DEC. 22nd!
Plus enjoy coffee and cookies!

REGISTER TO WIN THE WORLD'S LARGEST STOCKING!
Drawing will be held Friday, December 22nd

CHRISTMAS TREES ARE 50% OFF!
(We have Noble Fir, Grand Fir & Douglas Fir trees. We also have Christmas lights & stands.)

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