

Beware of Puncturevine

Puncturevine, *Tribulus terrestris* L. or Goathead is not a noxious weed, according to Morrow County Weed Ordinance, but it is obnoxious. Seedlings are up and spreading "like bad weeds" and some may already have flowers that will become seed heads in one to two weeks. "Now is the time to get out your shovel or back pack sprayer and eliminate these invaders just waiting to unleash their wrath of pain and misery on you or your pet," said a news release from the Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District. "If you've ever stepped on a goathead that was tracked in on your carpet, you know what I mean."

Diligence and persistence are the name of this game. When digging goathead plants, take care

not to shake any seeds loose and dispose of the plant in the trash or burn barrel. You should go back to the area in a couple of weeks to check for new sprouts and especially after a rain. Each goathead burr separates into five separate segments, each segment has two to four seeds inside and can typically remain viable for three to seven years, patiently waiting for just the right conditions to sprout.

According to a spokesperson from the Morrow County Weed Advisory Board, puncturevine can be found all over Morrow County because the burrs will hitch hike on tires and randomly fall off and germinate. "Be observant when parking your car," said the release. "You could be in a puncturevine patch."

Oregon's child passenger safety law changes

Oregon drivers are advised to look to the law in deciding how to restrain and protect children in motor vehicles. The proper restraint of children will reduce the number of children killed in motor vehicle crashes and reduce the severity of injuries to children who survive motor vehicle crashes, according to a news release.

Oregon law has required children younger than six years of age or weighing less than 60 pounds to ride in booster seats. Recent research has shown that adult lap and shoulder belts do not fit children until they are age eight or 4'9" tall. By requiring the use of child safety seats for children up to age eight or 4'9", Oregon will be ensuring that children who do not fit in adult safety belts are protected.

The Oregon's Occupant Protection Law now reflects National Best Practice, according to the release.

Effective July 1,

Degree of Honor picnic planned

Degree of Honor members and friends are invited to a potluck picnic at the Heppner City Park on Tuesday, July 10, beginning

changes to the law require:
-Infants must ride rear-facing until they reach both one year of age and 20 pounds.

-Children who weight over 40 pounds must be properly secured in a booster seat until they are age eight or 4'9" in height.

• Children who are age eight or older or are taller than 4'9" must ride properly secured with the safety belt system.

The law continues to require:

-Children over one year old and between 20 and 40 pounds must be properly secured with a forward-facing child safety seat up to a minimum of 40 pounds or the weight limit of the seat.

Contact ACTS Oregon Child Safety Seat Resource Center for information on Oregon law, answers to child passenger safety questions or to locate a child safety seat check up event at 503-643-5620, 800-772-1315, or www.childsafetyseat.org.

Lifespan Respite Program Tillamook County Creamery Association awards scholarship to lone student

Management of the Umatilla/Morrow Lifespan Respite Program moves to RSVP of Eastern Oregon from the ARC of Umatilla County on July 1.

According to an RSVP news release, Lifespan Respite is a state-funded program through the Unit on Aging with the Department of Human Services for the State of Oregon. The Lifespan Respite Program matches up families who are in need of respite services with approved providers who are available to meet their needs. The program is able to fund a limited number of hours each month for respite services to qualifying families. Providers must pass a criminal history check, have references, and be current in training for CPR and First Aide. Lifespan Respite Services cover all of Umatilla and Morrow counties.

The Oregon Lifespan Respite Care Program helps counties develop and implement community-based Lifespan respite care networks. The Lifespan networks help families and caregivers locate respite care services in their communities. Respite care is temporary, short-term care for an individual with special needs, such as developmental and physical disabilities, emotional and behavioral disorders, chronic illnesses, Alzheimer's disease and related health concerns, medical fragility, and those at risk of abuse and neglect. The primary purpose of respite care is to give relief to families and caregivers from the extraordinary and intensive demands of providing ongoing care. Respite strengthens the

ability of families and primary caregivers to continue to provide care in the home. Occasional relief supports family stability and well-being.

"We are excited about this opportunity to offer respite services to the community," stated Scot Jacobson, RSVP director. "For those caring for loved ones, respite provides a time to take care of themselves so that they can continue to care for their loved one."

Families who are interested in participating can receive an application from the Lifespan Respite Office by calling 541-278-5696 or toll free at: 1-800-752-1139 extension 148. Respite services are for anyone who is caring for a family member or loved one. The person receiving the care does not have to be related to the caregiver by blood. Many people within our community are caring for others who have no family members. Respite services are for all ages, for the very young to the elderly and frail. Respite services are provided so that the care provider can do something to take care of themselves.

RSVP is currently seeking individuals who are interested in becoming providers. Applications may be obtained at the CAPECO Office at 721 S.E. Third in Pendleton or at 426 East Gladys in Hermiston. Applications may also be mailed by calling 541-278-5696 or toll free at 1-800-752-1139 ext 148.

For more information, contact RSVP director Scot Jacobson at 541-278-5696 or toll free at 1-800-752-1139 extension 148.

Irrigon Watermelon Festival upcoming

The 24th Annual Irrigon Watermelon Festival will be held Saturday, July 28, at the Irrigon Park and Marina.

The day begins with a breakfast from 6:30-9 a.m., with softball starting at 7 a.m. The Watermelon Parade begins at 10 a.m.

There will be entertainment and events all day, including Hispanic dancers, 98% Angels, dunk tank, kids games, a giant raffle,

Show-n-Shine car show, food booths, arts and crafts booths, bingo, boat rides by the Morrow County Sheriff's Office, and a "buck and duck contest."

The day concludes with a street dance and light show with Dan Burns and 3D Productions from 9 p.m.-midnight.

Everyone is invited to attend. For more information, contact LaVelle Partlow at (541) 922-3386.

Water aerobics classes to begin

A low-impact water aerobics class will begin Tuesday, July 3, and Thursday, July 5, from 5:15-6:15 p.m. at the Willow Creek Water Park.

The classes will be held in the outdoor pool every Tuesday and Thursday throughout July and August. Anyone who is not able to attend the beginning sessions may feel free to come at a later date.

The cost is \$2 a session or \$1 a session for those

who have pool passes.

Everyone is invited to "come and enjoy the fun," said organizer Merilee McDowell.

For more information call the pool at 676-5752.

HHS class of 1957 to celebrate 50th reunion

The Heppner High School class of 1957 will celebrate their 50th class reunion in the Heppner City Park on Saturday, July 21.

PGE employee lights up Boardman nonprofit with donation

Community groups throughout Oregon and southwest Washington are receiving a boost of monetary and volunteer power to help strengthen their programs, and it's the employees at Portland General Electric (PGE) who are behind the donations.

Throughout the year, the employees and retirees of PGE work hard to contribute thousands of hours as volunteers to charities, schools and sports teams in the communities where they live and work.

To honor their dedication, PGE makes financial contributions to many of these local nonprofits through its Employee Grant Volunteer program. PGE retiree Robert Conner received a \$500 grant for the Kiwanis Club of Boardman. The money will be used toward the club's annual scholarship program. The Kiwanis Club, whose members are men and women from all walks of life, is a community service organization committed to serving children and the community.

For the first quarter of 2007, PGE awarded a total of 76 EVGs throughout Oregon and southwest Washington, amounting to \$32,800. The EVGs represent 12,005 hours of community service contributed by PGE employees and retirees during the first quarter, which is valued at \$225,334, according to figures provided by the Points of Light Foundation.

EVGs are granted up to \$500 and are awarded to nonprofit organizations, schools and youth programs on a quarterly basis. PGE annually awards approximately \$125,000 to these groups on behalf of employees and retirees.

The Tillamook County Creamery Association, formed as a farmer-owned cooperative in 1909, has earned a reputation as one of the nation's premier brands of cheese, according to a news release. Tillamook is a national marketer of naturally aged cheddar and a variety of other cheeses, butter, and an extensive line of premium ice cream, sour cream and yogurt. TCCA is known for its internationally award-winning Tillamook Cheddar Cheese, continued the release.

Everyone is invited to stop by to visit and renew old acquaintances and renew memories.

DA's Report


Morrow County District Attorney Elizabeth Ballard has released the following report:

-Lloyd Alan Terpening, 45, was convicted of being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm, a Class C felony, and was sentenced to three years' supervised probation. He was ordered to participate in substance abuse evaluation, not possess weapons, firearms or dangerous animals and comply with numerous other requirements, complete 80 hours of community service and pay \$1,028 in fines, fees and assessments.

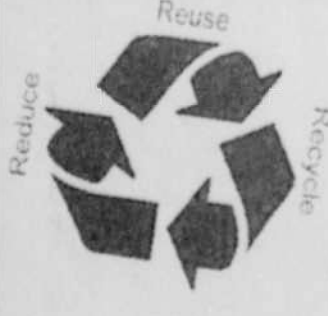

Terpening was also convicted of Assault in the Fourth Degree, a Class A misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 180 days in jail, with 150 days suspended and 18 months' bench probation. He was ordered to submit a written apology to the victim, have no direct or indirect contact with the victim, her residence or place of employment, complete an anger management program and pay \$913 in fines, fees and assessments.

GT deadline for all news & advertising: Mondays at 5 p.m.

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