

December events at Valby

Valby Lutheran Church will be offering a special opportunity for fellowship and worship during Advent. On Monday, December 3, 10, and 17, there will be a soup supper at 6 p.m. followed by Holden Evening Prayer at 6:30 p.m. Sunday morning worship continues weekly at 9 a.m.

On Sunday, December 16, the church will be transformed into the Bethlehem Inn, where the children of the congregation will be hosting a potluck "dinner theater" at 6 p.m. Dinner guests will have the opportunity to participate in the Christmas story. The final Monday evening, December 17, Advent soup and worship opportunity will be held at 6 p.m.

On Monday, December 24, the church will celebrate Christmas with a candlelight service at 6 p.m.

All are welcome. For more information call Katy Anderson, Intern Pastor, at 989-8174.

Morrow SWCD meeting to be held

The Morrow SWCD Board will meet on Tuesday, December 4, at 5 p.m. at the Ag Service Center in Heppner. Agenda items include minutes of the November meeting, treasurer's report, written staff report, partner agency reports and annual meeting program discussion. Meetings of the Morrow SWCD are open to the public.

Senior Center Menu

Willow Creek Baptist Church members will be serving lunch on Wednesday, December 5. The menu will include beef stroganoff, Brussels sprouts, fruit cocktail, hot rolls, applesauce, and cranberry cake.

Crop advisor speak to IHS class



Crops are pretty clever things, considering they are stuck in one place and have to find ways to cope. Thanks to crop advisors, like Craig Holland of Morrow County Grain Growers, their time can be more bearable. Students from Erin Heideman's crop and soil science class attended a hosted tour by Holland to examine the nutrient and growth requirements of crops in the local Ione area.

"We are just finishing up a unit on plant nutritional requirements in class and Mr. Holland helped provided a relevant extension of the classroom," said crops teacher, Erin Heideman. "I appreciate Mr. Holland's time and efforts."

Mr. Holland helped students understand the relationship a crop advisor must have with a producer, the demands of the job, what education is required for such an occupation and how to determine what application method is appropriate for particular crops.

In addition the plant requirements, units in the crop and soil science class also include weed management, forestry, nursery, greenhouse, soils and fertilizers. College credit through Blue Mt. Community College will also be available this coming spring.

HES announces honor card recipients

Heppner Elementary School announces the recipients of honor cards for the first quarter of the 2007-08 school year. Students must maintain positive grades, behavior, citizenship, and attendance to receive the card. They are able to use them at 10 different locations in Heppner for various items. HES appreciates the community for their generous donations and support for these outstanding students.

Mrs. Morris' class: Drew Coe, Kellen Grant, Kammille Holtz, Evan Kollman, Mason Lehman, Annabella McDaniel, Nicole Prophet, Gavin Robinson, Cheyenne Shaw, Jordan Sweeney, and Cami VanArsdale.

Mrs. Haguewood's class: Morgan Burch, Jacee Currin, Sheridan Deike, Dakota Howard, Cason Mitchell, Hayden Qualls, Caitlyn Scrivner, Cheyenne Smith, Susanna Teeman, Leo Waite, and Cody Wizner.

Mrs. Matteson's class: Zach Bredfield, Madison Combe, Keegan Gibbs, Jaiden Mahoney, Kaitlyn Martin, Antonio Matthew, Daniela Sanchez, Olivia Schmidt, and Naleah Stone.

Mrs. Clough's class: Patrick Burch, Morgan Correa, Riley Gorham, Sophie Grant, Payton Lehman, Alex Lindsay, Kevin Smith, Reiah Waite, and Andrea Woods.

Mrs. Rill's class: Kolby Currin, Bryan Fowler, Caden Hedman, Timothy Jaca, Odalis Jimenez, Sydney Qualls, Sierra Robie, Demitra Schmidt, Kane Sweeney, Lane Wilhelm, and Rian Wizner.

Mrs. Gibbs' class: Alexis Bray, Tommy Bredfield, Faith Jones, Rylee Kollman, Will Lutzer, and Rylee Wagoner.

Mrs. Smith-Griffith's class: Caitlyn Bailey, Patrick Collins, CJ Kindle, Emily Pappas, and Kelly Wilson.

Mrs. Dowdy's class: Tate Gentry, Maddie George, Macy Gibbs, Micha Hintz, Makenzi Hughes, Mekayla Kindle, Dalton Neal, JC Putman, Joseph Schmidt, and Alyssa Wizner.

Mrs. Allen's class: Abby Ames, Ethan Ashbeck, Ryan Dougherty, Blake Greenup, Jared Lemmon, Samatha Lemmon, Maddie Lindsay, and Ali Lovgren.

The following businesses contributed to the HES honor cards: Heppner Shell, Stable of Youth, Wheatland Insurance, Bank of Eastern Oregon, Cornerstone Gallery, The Video Store, Sweet Productions, Heppner Family Foods, Willow Creek Diner, and Murray's Drug Store.

IMS TAG Kids to compete in tournament

The Ione Middle School Talented and Gifted group meets every seventh period to prepare to compete in a tournament to be held in Vancouver on December 9. The tournament is part of the LEGO's Mindstorm First Project. Students have built the community to help research and create a technological or engineering solution concerning alternative forms of energy. Students are in the process of building a robot that will then be programmed to conduct 11 missions during the competition.

In order to make the most of the trip to the Portland area, the students are working on raising money. As a fundraiser a bake sale and raffle will be held at the Legion Hall November 30 - December 1 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. during the Ione Open House. Ione Cardinal 17 oz. Stadium Cups will also be for sale. These would make a great stocking stuffer!

So come in and take a peek to see the progress. Ask about the project, the challenge and the presentation. Your curiosity will only make our presentation stronger.

SHEPHERDS FLAT WIND FARM: NOTICE OF FILING

Caithness Shepherds Flat LLC has completed its site certificate application for the proposed **Shepherds Flat Wind Farm**. The Oregon Department of Energy (Department) filed the application on November 19, 2007.

The complete application consists of the Amended Preliminary Application submitted in February 2007 and the Application Supplement submitted in November 2007. These documents are available for public review at the Oregon Department of Energy in Salem, at the Gilliam County Library, 310 S. Main in Condon, at the Arlington Public Library, 500 W. First Street in Arlington and at the Boardman Library, 200 South Main Street in Boardman.

Description of the Proposed Facility and Its Location

The proposed Shepherds Flat Wind Farm would be a wind energy facility consisting of not more than 303 wind turbines. The facility would have a combined peak generating capacity of up to 909 megawatts (MW). The applicant has not selected a turbine type for the project but is considering turbines that have a generating capacity in the range of 1.5-MW to 3.0-MW. Turbine tower height would range from 80 meters to 105 meters (263 feet to 345 feet), and overall height (maximum blade tip height) would range from 121 meters to 150 meters (398 feet to 492 feet). In addition to the wind turbines, the facility would include approximately 57 miles of new access roads, two field workshops, two substations, six meteorological towers, 17 miles of aboveground 230-kV transmission line, 103 miles of 34.5-kV collector transmission line (limited to 38 miles aboveground) and a communications system.

The facility would be located partly in Gilliam County and partly in Morrow County. The project area lies between Highway 19 and Highway 74 on privately-owned land. The site is approximately five miles southeast of Arlington. The power output of the facility would enter the Federal Columbia River Transmission System through Bonneville Power Administration's Slatt Substation.

Procedure for Review of the Application

The facility must meet standards established under ORS 469.501 by the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council (Council) and set forth in OAR Chapter 345, Divisions 22 and 24. The Department serves as staff to the Council and conducts the application process. The Department's website at oregon.gov/ENERGY/SITING/process.shtml includes a full description of the site certificate process.

Review and Comment Period

The Department, other state agencies, tribes and local governments will review the application for compliance with regulatory requirements. The Department invites public comment on the application at this time. **This comment period ends on January 10, 2008.** The public will have further opportunity to comment later, as described below.

Land Use

The facility must comply with statewide land use planning goals. The Council will review compliance with local land use ordinances (ORS 469.504(1)(b)). The Council will apply the zoning ordinances of Gilliam County and Morrow County. If the facility does not comply with local ordinances or with the applicable statewide planning goals, the Council may allow an exception as provided in ORS 469.504. The proposed facility is located on privately-owned land that is zoned Exclusive Farm Use. The facility must not cause significant interference with accepted farm practices on surrounding farmland.

Draft Proposed Order and Public Hearing

After reviewing the application and comments from the public, state agencies, tribes, local governments and others interested in the project, the Department will issue a **draft proposed order** that includes the Department's proposed findings and recommendations to the Council. If the Department recommends that the Council issue a site certificate, the draft proposed order will include recommended site certificate conditions. **The final opportunity for public comment will be announced when the Department issues the draft proposed order.** The Department will hold a public hearing on the draft proposed order. Comments may be given in writing or at the hearing.

A person must comment in person or in writing on the record of the public hearing to preserve the right to participate in the contested case proceeding and to preserve the right to appeal the Council's final decision. A person who intends to raise any issue that may be the basis for a contested case must raise the issue with sufficient specificity so that the Council, the Department and the applicant have an adequate opportunity to respond. Even if you comment earlier, you must still comment on the record of the hearing in order to participate in the contested case. Any comments made at the public hearing will be part of the decision record for this application.

Proposed Order

After the public hearing, the Council will hold a meeting to review the draft proposed order. The Department will give public notice of the Council meeting. After considering public comments and after Council review, the Department will issue the Proposed Order.

Contested Case Proceeding

The Department will issue a contested case notice upon issuing the Proposed Order. Only the applicant, the Department and persons who appeared in person or in writing at the public hearing may be parties to the contested case proceeding. Issues in the contested case are limited to those raised in person or in writing on the record of the public hearing described above. At the conclusion of the proceeding, the hearing officer will submit a proposed contested case order to the Council.

Council Decision

The Council will hold a meeting to decide whether to issue a site certificate. The Department will give public notice of the meeting.

Reconsideration and Appeal

Any party to the contested case will have 30 days to apply for a rehearing and may file a petition for judicial review within 60 days from the date of service of the Council's final order (or within 30 days after denial of a petition for rehearing). The Oregon Supreme Court has exclusive jurisdiction to review the Council's decision.

For More Information

The Department will post all announcements and notices about the proposed Shepherds Flat Wind Farm on the Department's website: oregon.gov/ENERGY/SITING/announce.shtml. If you would like to comment, or if you have questions about the proposed facility or the site certificate process, contact the Department's project officer:

John G. White
Oregon Department of Energy
625 Marion Street NE
Salem, OR 97301-3742
Telephone: 503-378-3194
Toll-Free: 800-221-8035 (in-state only)
Fax: 503-373-7806
E-mail: john.white@state.or.us

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