

Construction of Pacific Northwest Motorsports Park moving forward

Construction of Pacific Northwest Motorsports Park (PNMP), Motorsports Country Club, the first phase in Boardman's planned Speedway Activity District development will move forward at a brisk pace now that the preliminary requirements for construction at the site have been met.

Behind the scenes, Michael Runyon, AIA Director of Development and David Allen, General Counsel have been working with Morrow County officials to incorporate the 2002 Decisions of State Law and Oregon State Senate Bills 1094 and 665 into the Morrow County Code of law. Adopted without appeal, the legislation that approved the development of a motorsports activity district in Boardman and the necessary zoning changes on the acreage for the development provides the legal foundation needed to begin construction on the motorsports complex. County officials also moved forward on the approval of a 50-year master plan for the expansion of the Boardman

Airport. Part of the overall vision plan for the motorsports destination resort, the plan received approval from the Morrow County Planning Commission and moved through the County Court hearing process without opposition. Now in the midst of a mandatory 21-day appeal period, the final decision on the airport plan is expected in the second week of April.

In January and February, a number of essential pre-construction activities were completed at the site including: the rough layout of the club's 6.0-plus mile road course, geotechnical soil analyses, and placement of the access service roads.

Surveyors completed staking the preliminary layout for all three connecting road courses using different colored flags every 100 feet to mark the course centerline and elevations. State mandated seismic testing and a geotechnical soil investigation and analysis were completed. Thirty-one test pits and eight borings

were dug across the site to provide a full analysis of the ground below the surface of the course area, and an evaluation of the seismic activity in areas designated for the six-story club house and grandstand areas. Eight-plus miles of access service roads, boarding the I-84 freeway and Tower Road Interchange Site were rough-cut into the 1,482-acre site.

The next steps include: a site visit by course designers to walk the course, evaluate track layout and make adjustments to the course as necessary, detailed site development planning, County Site Development Review and development of rough grading of the site access road system and road course bid packages.

For more information about development activities at Pacific Northwest Motorsports Park, contact Billie Jean Morris, Director of Marketing at 541/481-7000, bjmorris@pnwmotorsportspark.com, www.pnwmotorsportspark.com.

Bunny scramble



Children rushed to find Easter eggs last Saturday at the annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Heppner Elks Lodge. -Photo by David Sykes

The Wiz of the West - a fairy tale with a twang

This Saturday, March 29, at Sam Boardman Elementary School, 301 W. Wilson Lane, Boardman, follow your friends from the Land of Oz through the wild, Wild West of yesteryear - but with a twist... or should we say a twister? Join Missoula Children's Theatre and Boardman and Irrigon students as they perform in the original musical production of The Wiz of the West.

A local cast will perform the roles of: Dotty, Mooch, Scared Crow, Tinhorn, Lionel and Hawknose Halley, mean and nasty the worst of the lot. Other featured roles are: Dr. Ozzy, the wonderful wizard of pioneer potions and tall-tale tonics; Top Dog's bunch of bad barkin', back bitin' bowwows including Mad Dog and Bad Dog. To complete the ensemble, students will appear as: Coyotes, Munch Kin, Buzzards and Taran-tulas.

The Wiz of the West will be offered at a 3 p.m. matinee, and a 7 p.m. evening performance at Sam Boardman Elementary.

Tickets \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for students are available at the door. Doors close 5 minutes before performance begins.

North Morrow Community Foundation presents the Missoula Children's Theatre in Boardman as a Spring Break Artist in Residency Support from: Boardman Health Mart Pharmacy; Boardman Foods, Inc; Wheatland Insurance Center, Inc; Columbia River Processing, Inc; Gladys Hobbs; Kathy and Randy Yates; Kathy and Gary Neal; Susan and Don Russell; Main Street Shell; John and Rose Sebastian; Daltoso Family; Daltoso/Wilcox Family; Doug and Jane Pope; Boardman Tree Farm, LLC; J and D Electric, Inc; Triple A Trucking LLC; Alex's Transport, LLC; M & M Accounting Service; Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility; Community Women's Club Boardman Senior Citizens; Umatilla Electric Cooperative; Banner Bank; Irrigon Watermelon Festival, Inc.; and Greenfield Grange #579 provides this week long workshop free to Boardman and Irrigon youth.

For more information, call Mary Lou Daltoso 541-481-4761. A down-home, country telling of every cowpoke's favorite yarn...Aw, Auntie Em, there's no place like home on the range.

Wrangler's Riding Club to start in April

The Wrangler's Riding Club will start on Sunday, April 6 beginning at noon with a potluck lunch. The club will meet for four Sundays at the fairgrounds.

The Wrangler's Riding Club will be starting early this year because of scheduling conflicts at the fairgrounds.

For more information contact Kyle Robinson at 676-9014 or Angie Hughes at 676-9909.

BEO Bancorp declares quarterly cash dividend

BEO Bancorp, parent company of Bank of Eastern Oregon, today announced that its Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.15 per share payable on April 11, 2008, to shareholders of record on March 31, 2008. Annualized, this dividend is an increase of 9.1% from the 2007 cash dividend payment of \$0.55 per share.

This is the 23rd year in a row the Company has paid cash dividends. This is the first time the organization has paid a quarterly dividend. The board will continue to review its dividend policy. Cash dividends, when and if declared, will typically be paid in April, July, October, and January. The Board will continue to review a wide range of indicators including operating results, retained earnings, capital, and general market conditions in making decisions on future dividends.

For further information on the Company or to access Internet banking, please visit our website at <http://www.beobank.com>.

Boardman proclaims Arbor Week

During Tuesday's meeting, the Boardman City Council authorized a Mayoral Proclamation observing April 6 through April 12 Arbor Week in the City of Boardman.

Arbor Day is America's National Tree Holiday, the day we set aside to plant ceremonial trees, educate children and adults about the importance of trees, and honor the important role trees play in our daily lives. All 50 states celebrate Arbor Day although the dates may vary in keeping with the local climate. At the federal level, in 1970, President Richard Nixon proclaimed the last Friday in April as National Arbor Day. Oregon set aside an entire week to

honor trees. The Oregon State Legislature has decreed that the first full week of April shall be designated as Arbor Week.

Boardman's Proclamation urges citizens to observe Arbor Week by planting one or more trees and by participating in one or more programs that the sponsors of Arbor Week may provide.

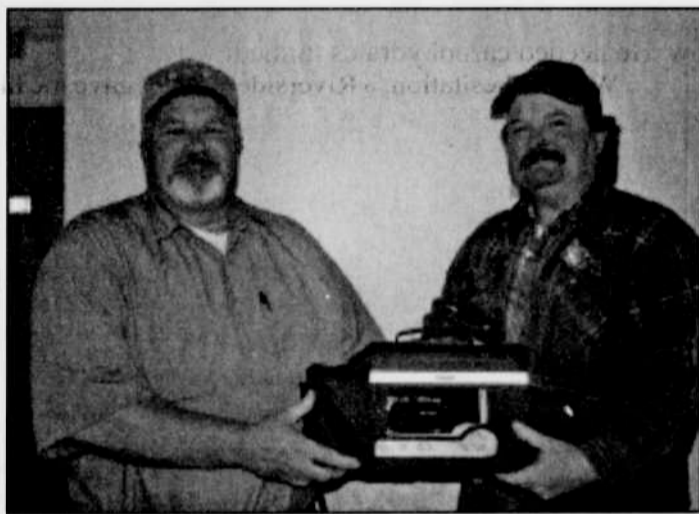
In other City business, Councilors approved a Supplemental Budget Resolution for the 2007-2008 budget year.

The next meeting of the Boardman City Council will be Tuesday, April 1, 2008 at 7 p.m. at Boardman City Hall.

Neighborhood Center cedar chest winner announced

Regi Seitz purchased the winning ticket for the cedar chest that was raffled off by the Heppner Neighborhood Center during St. Patrick's Celebration.

Ione Ambulance receives new blood pressure machine



Rusty Estes (left) and Harvey Childers received an automatic blood pressure machine for the Ione Ambulance. The machine was purchased with donations from the McElligott family of Ione. -Photo by April Sykes

Willow Creek Country Club opens for 2008 season

Willow Creek Country Club Ladies Play begins Tuesday, April 1 at 9 a.m. with breakfast and business meeting. Best ball scramble will be held at 10 a.m. Interested guests are welcome to attend.

The Willow Creek Country Men's Kick-Off Breakfast will be held Sunday, April 6 at 8 a.m. with play beginning at 9 a.m. For more information about this event call Lorrene at 989-8209 or Bob at 676-5019.

The Willow Creek Country Club Work Day to begin spring play will be Saturday, March 29 at 8:30 a.m. Those working are asked to bring rakes, shovels, saws, etc. Lunch will be provided.

Baby shower to be held at Catholic Parish Hall

A baby shower will be held for Kathleen (Greenup) Albitre on Sunday, March 30 at the Catholic Parish Hall at 2 p.m.

Albitre is registered at Babies-R-U's and Target. The shower is being given by Amy Kollman, Kelsey Greenup, Sara Campbell, Susan Hisler, Annie Weygandt, and Jaci Hughes.

Albitre gave birth to a son, Joseph Andrew, on Tuesday, February 2.

Drama Club to tour NYC

The Heppner Drama Club will be touring New York City March 27 through April 2.

The group of 20, which includes five from the Boardman Drama Club, will be attending three Broadway shows. They will see Phantom of the Opera, Wicked, and Spamalot. The group will also attend a medieval dinner show in New Jersey, a dinner cruise, and will also attend a workshop with the cast of Hairspray. On Monday, March 31, the group will be in the audience of the Today Show.

The Drama Club will make a community presentation of their trip after their return.



HEPPNER ELKS 358

676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

- Thursday, April 3rd -

Ladies Night

Italian Dinner
by Chef Kim Cutsforth
starting at 6 p.m.



- Saturday, April 5th -

Installation of Officers

New York Steak and Oyster Dinner
No Host Cocktails from 5-6 p.m.
Installation at 4 p.m.

SPRAY GRANGE #940 INVITES YOU TO OUR ANNUAL AUCTION!!!

Sunday, April 6th starting at 1 p.m.
Spray Grange Hall - Spray, Oregon
Frank Bettencourt, Auctioneer

Roast Beef Dinner starts at 11 a.m.
\$6.00 per person

If you have items to donate, please contact:
Bill Wyatt (541) 468-2017
Zee Tankersley (541) 468-2182
Betty Parkhurst (541) 468-2621

GT News Deadline
Mondays at 5 p.m.

Correction

Last week Doris Brosnan's story about the Leprechaun Run inadvertently omitted Catherine McElligott, HHS track team, and Cody Orr, the HJH track team as helpers with the event.