

National Weather Services to conduct free Skywarn Weather Spotter training in Heppner

Wants residents to keep eyes on skies to help track storms

Volunteers are being sought to participate in the latest weather spotter training on April 27 in Heppner. Weather spotters trained by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) are key volunteers who assist the meteorologists by providing up-to-date information about storm activity.

The Skywarn Weather Spotter training is free and will be held in the Morrow County Emergency Operations Center, located at 320 South Willow View in Heppner beginning at 6:30 p.m. and co-sponsored by Morrow County Emergency Management.

"Skywarn volunteers are not storm chasers, although many Skywarn members, both local and nationwide, may chase storms on their own time," said Dennis Hull, NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist at the forecast office in Pendleton. "The National Weather does not encourage storm chasing because it is very dangerous."

Hull added, "The safety of all Skywarn spotters is a high priority. Skywarn members are volunteers trained in weather spotting and reporting those findings in a timely manner using the phone, amateur radio, or internet."

Skywarn spotters attend a two-hour training ses-

sion where they learn how to observe cloud formations and other weather in this area. The Weather Service teaches how to determine which storms are potentially severe. Spotters use a special toll free number, amateur radio frequency, or the internet address to let the forecasters at the National Weather Service office in Pendleton know what is happening in their area. Meteorologists use this data as they issue severe weather warnings or statements to the residents of Morrow County.

In the winter, spotters report heavy snow, icing, high winds, and blizzards. Skywarn also works to ensure National Weather Service forecasts, watches, and warnings are broadcast and received in a timely manner.

Interested residents who would like to learn more about the local weather or those who may have an interest helping your neighbors obtain good weather warnings, are invited to attend the Skywarn Weather Spotter training. Volunteers are asked to bring information about their latitude, longitude, and elevation so their locations can be easily mapped. Those attending will be eligible for door prizes.

More information about the training is available by contacting Morrow County Emergency Manage-

ment at 541-676-5161 or the National Weather Service at 541-276-4493 ext 223. You can also email Hull at dennis.hull@noaa.gov. Additional information is also available at the National Weather Service website at <http://www.weather.gov/pendleton>. NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts to Morrow County from transmitters at Sillusi Butte and Wilkenson Hill on a frequency of 162.425 MHz and near Boardman on AM 1610 KHz.

Additional informa-

Gambling Ordinance

continued from page 1

determine the impact on establishments such as the Elks Club where people get together and play cards.

Farmer's Market will need proof of insurance

In other business the council heard from Nancy Snider of Wheatland Insurance about the city's insurance policy and a proposed farmer's market planned at the city park this summer.

Snider said the city is open to liability if something happens during the farmer's market, and that it is not uncommon for cities to require proof of insurance before allowing vendors to use city property such as a park. She said sometimes vendors can show a certificate of homeowner's policy and that is enough.

Margaret Flaherty, who is spear heading the effort to set up a farmer's market in Heppner, was at Monday's council meeting and said she had checked with the Pendleton Farmer's Market, which sets up downtown on city streets, and found their insurance cost \$350 per year. She said there is an energetic group working on the Heppner market and the starting date is set for the first Friday in June. Flaherty said vendors would be local people with homemade type food items. She said the market's motto is "homegrown/homemade".

"There is city liability," said Spicer. "What if someone gets sick from the food? What if they get salmonella poisoning?" Spicer said the city could be open to a lawsuit.

"No one wants to hamper something that is good happening in the community," said Snider. But she did point out that city is not charging anything to use the park and that most people have a homeowner or renter's policy they could use. She said everyone who sets up as a vendor during Roundup in Pendleton has

tion about Skywarn can be found at <http://www.skywarn.org>.

The National Weather Service is the primary source of weather data, forecasts and warnings for the United States and its territories and operates the most advanced weather and flood warning and forecast system in the world, helping to protect lives and property and enhance the national economy. To learn more about NWS, please visit <http://weather.gov>

to provide a certificate of insurance.

"Everyone at Farmer's Market (in Heppner) should have insurance," said Spicer. "I am not suggesting people need to incur a lot of expense." She did say, however, that the city needs to be covered.

Mayor Les Paustian wanted to know who was going to monitor and enforce the insurance requirement. The council took no action but agreed to have the city attorney and city manager look into the issue.

No restroom at Hager Park

In other business the council learned that the restroom project at Hager Park would have to be postponed "indefinitely" because of a \$6,000 "error" in the city budget. City manager Dave DeMayo said because of the error the city would have no money to put in the improvements that would have allowed installation of the rest room facilities. A local group had raised close to the \$35,000 needed to purchase a modular restroom for the park, and the city was going to pay for certain improvements of around \$7,500, money which it now says it does not have.

More help at city hall

The council also discussed the possibility of adding additional staff at city hall. The current treasurer does the utility billing as well as handle other city chores, and is finding there is not enough time to complete everything, said DeMayo. DeMayo said he is budgeting next year for two positions to do the work. "Other work like dog licensing and collecting on delinquent (water and sewer) accounts goes by the way side" said DeMayo. He said the former city treasurer did some her work at home and the current treasurer sometimes comes in on weekends to catch up.

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office reports handling the following business:

Jan. 23: Morrow County Sheriff's Office, Heppner Ambulance, Heppner Fire Department received report of a one-vehicle accident between Heppner and Lexington. The vehicle rolled, but the driver was reported to be out of the vehicle and walking around.

-MCSO arrested Robert Scott Martin, 37, on a Morrow County Circuit Court warrant for Failure to Appear/Assault IV. He was released on his own recognizance with \$100,000 bail.

-MCSO cited Toby Rodriguez, 38, for Driving while Suspended-Revoked

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon man that he and his step-daughter were in a verbal dispute about her moving out.

-MCSO received report that money was stolen from a Heppner High School student at the school. A MCSO deputy responded.

-MCSO received report of a wounded goose walking on north First and Highway 730. The goose was taken care of.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon subject that there is illegal activity across the street with the people hauling in junked cars and attempting to build a fence.

-MCSO cited Keri Ann Johnson, 26, for Violation of the Basic Rule/74 mph in a 55 mph zone.

-MCSO received report of a dead deer on the fog line near the Pettyjohn Building in Heppner. A message was left for Heppner ODOT.

-Boardman Police Department cited a 17-year-old juvenile for no operator's license and Artemio Mendoza Garcia, 19, for Permitting Unlawful Operation of a Vehicle.

-BPD arrested Victor Penada, 24, for DUI and Failure to Carry and Present. Subject was lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

-BPD cited Maria De Jesus Torres, 41, for Violation of the Speed Limit.

-Heppner Fire Department received report of a vehicle in the ditch on Hwy. 74 near Lone.

Jan. 26: Morrow County Sheriff's Office received report of a subject breaking windows out of his father's vehicle in Irrigon. A subject advised that the situation had not yet gotten physical.

-MCSO received report of a bail of hay in the middle of the road on eastbound I-84 near Boardman.

-Boardman Police Department received report of a semi that lost its trailer and is sideways in the board. One man was cited for Failure to Obey Police Officer.

-Irrigon Ambulance received report of a male subject who fainted and hit his head. The subject, who then regained consciousness, refused transport.

Jan. 27: Morrow County Sheriff's Deputy cited Patricia Rodriguez, 34, for Violation of the Basic Rule, 74 mph in a 35 mph zone.

-MCSO received report from a subject in Lone who said he could not get back into his wheelchair and didn't want to wake his roommate to assist. He was advised that the nearest deputy was in Irrigon and Lone medics could be dispatched to assist. He said

that he would be okay on his couch.

-MCSO received request for a welfare check for a subject in Lone who was perhaps suicidal and feared he was dying. A deputy responded and determined he was okay.

-MCSO received report from a Heppner subject that a deer had been stuck in his fence. He advised that he got the deer out, but it lay down in the middle of the road. Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife had possession of the deer.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon subject that her ex was abusing her six-year-old daughter. She advised she had filed a restraining order.

-MCSO received report of bad snow drifts on Hwy. 206. Oregon Department of Transportation was advised.

-MCSO received report of a house that had broken into in Irrigon.

-MCSO received report of a non-injury accident with a semi tipped in the ditch on Hwy. 74 near Lone.

-MCSO received report of a two-vehicle non-injury accident on Hwy. 730 in Irrigon. MCSO cited George Norris, Jr., 64, for Failure to Yield when entering roadway.

-Boardman Police Dept. received report of a burglary in Boardman.

-Heppner Ambulance responded to a report of a Heppner 81-year-old who had fallen and was dizzy. She was transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

Jan. 28: Morrow County Sheriff's Office received report of a four-year-old in Irrigon who had a seizure.

-MCSO received report of a dead deer on Hwy. 74 near Heppner. ODOT was advised.

-MCSO received report of a dead deer in the Heppner cemetery. A city worker was advised.

-MCSO received report of Irrigon subjects who had done business on Craig's List and had received a \$2,000 bad check.

-MCSO received report of a fight between two mail juveniles at the Morrow Education Center in Irrigon. Two juveniles were arrested for Disorderly Conduct and Harassment and were lodged at Norcor.

-MCSO received report of an aggressive pit bull in an Irrigon woman's back yard.

-MCSO received report that someone had broken off a faucet outside of a house in Heppner.

-MCSO cited Gregg Alan Rietmann, 45, for driving 80 mph in a 55 mph zone.

-MCSO received report of a large group of kids out after dark in the park with flashlights in Irrigon.

-MCSO, Irrigon Fire Dept. received report of a house fire in Irrigon. It was determined to be a chimney fire.

-Irrigon Ambulance received report of a 24-year-old intoxicated male who had a seizure. He refused transport

- Boardman Police Dept. received report of a hit and run in Boardman. The victim did not want to press charges.

Road crew rebuilds Elder Street Bridge



The Morrow County Road Crew reconstructed the Elder Street Bridge in two days. The project was a joint effort of Knife River, the City of Heppner, and Morrow County. -Contributed Photo

Mathieu to hold book signing

Lea Mathieu will be reading from her book "The Literate Spirit" and signing copies on Saturday, April 25, at 10 a.m. at Lone Community Church.

In her book, Mathieu, a United Church of Christ minister, discusses books that explore questions about life and death.

Pioneer Memorial Clinic, Heppner Your Partner in Wellness

In these Tough Economic Times it's Especially Important to Take Care of Your Most Important Asset - Your Health.

A clinic appointment now can help avoid a Higher Cost Emergency Visit Later.

Now is the Time to Take Charge of Your Health and Your Healthcare.

If you have questions or concerns, or haven't had a physical exam in awhile, schedule an appointment today with one of our providers.

Remember, without good health, those other investments don't really matter!

Our Staff of Caring Professionals are here for all your Family Medical Needs. Our providers are Ed Berretta, MD, Sheridan Tarnasky, PA-C, Betsy Anderson, MD and Russel Nichols, MD. Our nursing staff has over 50 years of combined experience.

Some of our services include:

Well Baby/Child Exams + Women's & Men's Health Exams + Cardiac Stress Testing + Acute and Chronic Disease Management + Smoking/Tobacco Cessation

**Colonoscopy & Endoscopy Testing
Diabetes Management + Vasectomy + CDL
Physicals Allergy Shots + Sports Physicals**

We accept most major insurance plans

including Tri-Care

Call 541-676-5504 for Appointments 8:30 am - 5 pm

Pioneer Memorial Clinic is part of Morrow County Health District

Murray's Drug is pleased to announce our Automatic Refills Option for Prescriptions. Sign up today and forget about having to reorder your maintenance prescriptions each month! Give us a call... we're glad to help!

Murray's Drug
217 North Main • 676-9158

Serving Morrow, Gilliam & Wheeler Counties since 1959.