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City enacts new gambling ordinance

By David Sykes

The Heppner City Council Monday approved a social gaming ordinance regulating card games and gambling within the city.

The six-page ordinance covers everything from what type of games can be played, the process to become licensed to hold social games, to how the

licenses can be revoked.

The city came up with ordinance after Bucknum's Tavern owner Nancy Gochnauer approached the council several months ago and asked what games could be played in her tavern.

After some research the council discovered that no games could be held in any establishment unless the city adopted a gambling ordinance. The city has worked the past several months crafting the new ordinance.

The ordinance states that no person shall conduct or allow the playing of "social games" in a private business, private club or place of public accommodation unless the person first obtains a social gaming license.

The permit requires a description of the premises where the games will be played, and the fingerprints of the owners, officers, principal managing employees, and all employees who are involved in conducting the

game activities or operating the game premises. The council said it would leave the cost of the permit up to the city manager.

In other business the council voted to only offer fringe benefits to full time employees, 35 or more hours per week). The city is in the process of hiring a part time billing clerk, and to save money wanted that position exempt from the city's medical and pharmaceutical health plan.

HEPPNER

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WCVEDG conducting rental survey

Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group (WCVEDG) recently hosted a meeting to discuss housing opportunities for the Willow Creek Valley with local contractors and real estate companies.

Following discussion, it was decided that a rental survey would be conducted of the current local properties to help address what is currently available.

It has been brought to WCVEDG's attention that there is a need by visitors interested in relocating to the Willow Creek Valley to have more family housing (three bedrooms, two baths). Current landlords that receive a rent survey are asked to take the time to fill it out and return it to the chamber office so we can better address the housing opportunities and needs of our community. If

you don't receive a survey, but are a current landlord, contact the chamber office at 676-5536 so a copy can be mailed to you.

Once the survey has been completed, it will give WCVEDG a better idea of what the next steps will be to improve the housing opportunities for the Willow Creek Valley. More information will be communicated at a later date.

Irrigon man arrested on drug charges

On July 10 the Umatilla/Morrow County Parole and Probation, Morrow County Sheriff's Office and the Blue Mountain Enforcement Narcotics Team arrested Joel Rodriguez, 23, of Irrigon. Rodriguez was arrested on a detention warrant from Umatilla/Morrow

County Parole and Probation for unlawful possession of methamphetamine. According to the Morrow County Sheriff's Office, Rodriguez may also be facing additional charges of child endangerment, child neglect, and endangering the welfare of a minor.

The arrest was made after Umatilla/Morrow County Parole and Probation and the Blue Mountain Enforcement Narcotics Team received information that Rodriguez had violated his parole and was currently involved in illegal narcotics use.

M.C. Cultural Coalition revises application guidelines

The Morrow County Cultural Coalition has made revisions to their application guidelines to match the coalition fiscal year and give funded proposals more time to complete their projects.

Morrow County literary, historical preservation, visual and performing arts, humanities and cultural organizations are invited to

submit proposals to Morrow County Cultural Coalition by August 1, 2009. Organizations do not need to have IRS tax-exempt status to apply. Project proposals must meet criteria noted on the Morrow County application.

Funding awarded will vary in amount, according to needs of the proposed project, and county

award from Oregon Cultural Trust.

To receive a Funding Proposal Request Form, contact Mary Lou Daltoso, Morrow County Cultural Coalition, P.O. Box 3, Boardman, OR 97818. Completed request

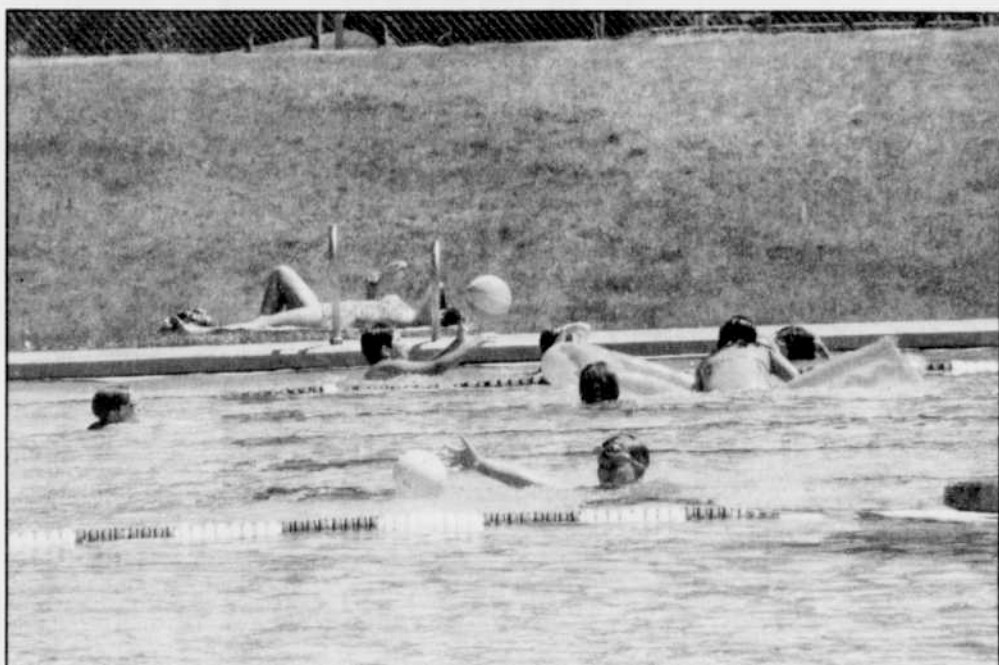
forms must be returned by August 1, 2009. Proposed projects must be completed by June 1, 2010.

Proposals funded in 2009 included: \$1,850 to North Morrow Community Foundation to match total project expense of \$3,600 for a Missoula Children's Theater residency to benefit 50 Irrigon and Boardman youth; \$1,200 toward a \$2,400 request to purchase Lavalieri microphones, stage lights and rent costumes for "Dinner at the Cemetery" players; and \$1,000 toward an \$11,040 project to start a string music program at the Lone Community Elementary School.

Funding for Morrow County proposals originates from contributions and donations to the Oregon Cultural Trust.

To learn more about supporting culture in Oregon, or individual and business tax credits for donations to the Trust, visit www.culturaltrust.org.

Sunny days at Willow Creek Water Park



Swimmers enjoy a warm, sunny day at Willow Creek Water Park. The water park is open Monday through Saturday from 1-8 p.m. and Sundays 1-5 p.m. Swim lessons and deep water aerobics classes are also available. -Photo by Autumn Morgan

Entry forms available for fair and rodeo parade

The Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo will be held August 5-9. This year, the parade will be held on Saturday, August 8, beginning at 10

a.m. Entry forms can be picked up at the chamber office or give the chamber office a call and one can be mailed or emailed to

you. All entries must be received by Friday, July 31. For more information contact the chamber at 676-5536.

Strategic planning meetings set for Heppner

The next strategic planning meetings for Heppner are scheduled for Tuesday, July 28, at 6 p.m. and Wednesday, August 12, at 6 p.m. Both meetings will be held at City Hall and are open to the public.

For more information or to get a copy of the current plan, contact the Chamber at 676-5536.

Articles wanted for annual fair edition

The annual Morrow County Fair is fast approaching. Once again this year the Heppner Gazette-Times will be putting together a special fair edition. Anyone interested in writing any fair related articles are asked to turn in those articles by Friday, July 17. Articles can be dropped off at the Heppner Gazette-Times or emailed to editor@rapidserve.net.

Mortimore chosen district leader of Elks USA

As members of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks from across the nation gathered in Portland from July 5-9 for the Order's 145th Grand Lodge Convention, Roger Mortimore of Heppner Elks Lodge No. 358, was installed as the new leader of the Northeast District of the Oregon State Elks Association. Members also voted on key issues facing the Order and elected its new national leaders.

In addition to helping set the course of Elks-USA in the coming year, District Deputy Mortimore also learned of the Order's many national accomplishments. Last year the nearly one million members of

the Elks made charitable contributions totaling more than \$200 million (cash and in-kind), which went to support scholarships and educational grants; drug awareness and education programs; 3rd grade dictionaries; aid to the nation's veterans; youth athletics; and the Elks state associations' major projects; which provide funding for everything from cancer treatment and research to shelters for the victims of domestic violence.

As the Elks national representative for the area, Mortimore will now be responsible for working with local Elks Lodges to fulfill the Order's

longstanding commitment to promote charity and patriotism in their communities. In the position of District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler, Mortimore will play a vital role in the workings of Elks-USA, with duties including the advising of lodges on important internal and business matters, reviewing how national policy is implemented by the lodges in the district, and assisting in the coordination and supervision of Elks' activities on many levels. Roger Mortimore's appointment to this key position in the Order signals the high confidence that the national officers of the BPO Elks places in his abilities.

HHS class of 1979 to hold reunion

The Heppner High School class of 1979 will hold their reunion on Saturday, August 15, at the Heppner Elks Lodge.

The evening will begin with a social from 5:30-7 p.m. A prime rib dinner will be held from 7-8 p.m. and a DJ will be there until closing.

The cost is \$30 per classmate and \$20 per spouse.

Jones wins rifle raffle



Frank Jones was the winner of Lion's Club rifle raffle. Pictured is Jones with his new .300 Winchester short mag, the "first thing ever won." -Photo by Autumn Morgan

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