

13th annual Parade of Lights held

Although the weather was turning colder by the minute, and the event had to compete with out of town basketball games and the "Civil War Game," nothing stopped Heppner's 13th annual Parade of Lights and tree lighting/decorating celebrations.

Many merchants were ready to roll out the start of the Christmas season by offering special "customer appreciation" meals, prizes, activities and made sure there was Christmas inventory for early shoppers. Many merchants extended their regular hours to accommodate shopping after the Parade of Lights.

The Christmas tree is located by the Post Office. The decorations and ornaments were handmade by Heppner Elementary students and Heppner Day Care children. This added to the fun as the crowd watched (and helped) the children hang the ornaments on the tree.

Of course, the evening wouldn't have been complete without the Parade of Lights, sponsored

by Columbia Basin Electric Co-op, as they maneuvered their way up Main Street. David Sykes announced the event.

The parade was led by Jim Kindle's "Grinch of Christmas" which was awarded "Best Individual Float". "Ginger & Spice and Everything Nice @ BEO" was the theme for this year's Bank of Eastern Oregon float and was awarded Best Commercial Float. Representative Greg Smith and family had a float wishing us a "Merry Christmas"; The Quilter's Round-up and Fine Baskets float theme was "Warm Your World with Quilts"; and "Journey to Bethlehem" was entered by Heppner/Hermiston Seventh Day Adventist Churches and was awarded the Best Community Float. All schools were represented this year with a "Merry Christmas" from Heppner Elementary School; Heppner Junior High was awarded the Best School Float; and classes 2011-2013 were lit up and represented as well.

HHS November Students of the Month announced



Heppner High School Students of the Month were nominated in November for the characteristics of motivation and work ethic. Picture from left to right are: Emily Thompson, Devin Robinson, Zech Hintz, Sidney Coster, and Ricky Sanchez. Not pictured is Ali Lovgren. -Contributed Photo

Oregon East Symphony receives \$7,500 donation

The Oregon East Symphony has received a \$7,500 grant from The Collins Foundation of Portland. Funds from the foundation will be used to support general operations of the symphony and chorale.

The Foundation's purpose is to assist in improving, enriching, and giving greater expression to the religious, educational, cultural, and scientific endeavors in the State of Oregon, thereby improving the quality of life in the state. The foundation supports

proposals submitted by colleges, universities, organized religious groups, arts, cultural and civic organizations, as well as agencies devoted to health, welfare and youth.

For more information about the Oregon East Symphony's regular concert season, special activities and music educational opportunities for area young people, contact the symphony office at (541) 276-0320 or email info@oregoneastsymphony.org.

Chamber lunch meeting planned for Thursday

At the Chamber lunch meeting on December 10, Larry Mills will be announcing the closing of nominations for chamber board positions, as well as announcing new board members. The remainder of the meeting will encompass discussion on 2010 goal setting for the Heppner Chamber.

Sweet Productions will be the caterer. They will be serving two homemade soups, a beefy stew and a creamy potato, hot rolls with butter, and cherry cheesecake for dessert.

Marriages

Morrow County Clerk Bobbi Childers has released the following report of marriage licenses issued: -December 4: Richard Donald Blanchard, 59, Boardman and Barbara Ann Long, 58, Boardman.

You're invited to come to a....

Art Studio Holiday Open House

Denise Smith Studio
62772 Little Buttercreek Rd.
Fine Art, Photography & Giftables, Refreshments

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12
12 noon - 6 p.m.
676-5013

www.denisesmithsranchstudio.com

Volunteers work on Community Firewood Project



Like clock work, December rolls around and it's time for community firewood project. This year, Forest Service employees, their families, along with retirees, were joined by community members young and old split and delivered 12 cords of wood. There was enough wood to stock pile some at the Neighborhood Center for those who may need wood later this winter. Again, high school teacher John Flaherty showed up with Heppner High School students, and, along with community members Terry Harper and Dick Sargent, filled 16 pickups and a trailer headed for Heppner and Lexington. Don Moody of La Grande donated his time and equipment to deliver the truck load of wood. Pictured above are volunteers that donated their time to cut and deliver the wood. -Contributed Photos

Pastor Adams to lead renewal service at Valby

On Sunday, December 13, Pastor Mark Adams will lead the renewal service at Valby Lutheran Church.

Pastor Adams has been the pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Hermiston for the past 20 years. He attended Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN, before taking leadership at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

"Bethlehem Lutheran Church is very excited to be involved in providing pastoral assistance to the renewal services program at Valby Lutheran Church," said Pastor Adams. "Our focus is to provide an opportunity to learn God's word. I will be

leading the Bible study on the Christmas songs of the prophets. The focus Sunday, December 13, will be on Isaiah 9. We will be following the Bible study with Service of the Word."

The Bible study will be held at 3 p.m. in the parish hall. The worship service will follow at 4 p.m. All are invited to attend.

For more information about Bethlehem Lutheran Church visit www.bethlehemhermiston.org, or call the church office at 567-6811.

The historic Valby Church is located at 60492 Valby Road, 16 miles south of Ione, or 25 miles west of Heppner. The church phone number is 422-7515.

Ione horticulture class still selling Christmas trees

Erin Heideman's horticulture class at Ione School still has Christmas trees for sale. The trees are \$30 and can be delivered this week. For more information contact Erin Heideman at 422-7131.

Get your reward cards here! Shop here and collect reward cards. Redeemable for great prizes at the December 17 Celebrate Heppner Event

Drink Special **York Peppermint Patty Mocha 24 oz. \$3.50**

We are open Sundays! (except Rx)
12-4 pm
December 13 & 30

Congratulations \$100 Treasure Hunt Winners
Kai Arbogast- Youth
Lynn Uitto- Adult

Wedding Table
Brett Barber & Shannon Milligan
December 5, 2009

Murray's Drug INC.
217 North Main • Heppner • Phone 676-9158 • Floral 676-9426
Serving Heppner, Lexington & Ione

Morrow County Court weekly meeting held

The Morrow County Court met on November 25 in Heppner with Judge Tallman, Commissioner Grieb, and Commission Rea in attendance. Following is a summary of the meeting provided by Leann Rea.

The court reviewed and approved accounts payable in the amount of \$218,297.70 and credits in the amount of 8,612.96. One payment in the amount of \$300 was held until further research regarding the invoice could be completed.

The court reviewed and approved the minutes of November 12, 2009.

Road Report:

Bunker Hill and Meadow Brook - The crew finished with the grindings of the used asphalt and used the product on Meadow Brook and Bunker Hill Roads. The crew patched and graded other bad areas on Bunker Hill Road. Upper Rhea Creek Road - Completed the placement of roc on the shoulders along the new asphalt. The center line markers were installed and reflectors were installed on the corners and intersections. Cattle Guards - Removed a cattle guard on Morgan Road and one on Immigrant Trail Road. The cattle guards on Immigrant Road and Baker Lane were cleaned and repaired as needed. Gabion baskets - Installed some gabion baskets on the intersection of Ione Gooseberry Road and Pipe Line Loop Road. More gabion baskets have been ordered so the project can be continued. Bombing Range Road and Highway 207 intersection - On November 23 the crew began working on this project by moving the cut material from the south side of the project to the north side fill area. Also, identified phone lines and fiber optic cables in the area and are in the process of having them lowered. Grading - Reviewed a list of all roads that were graded during

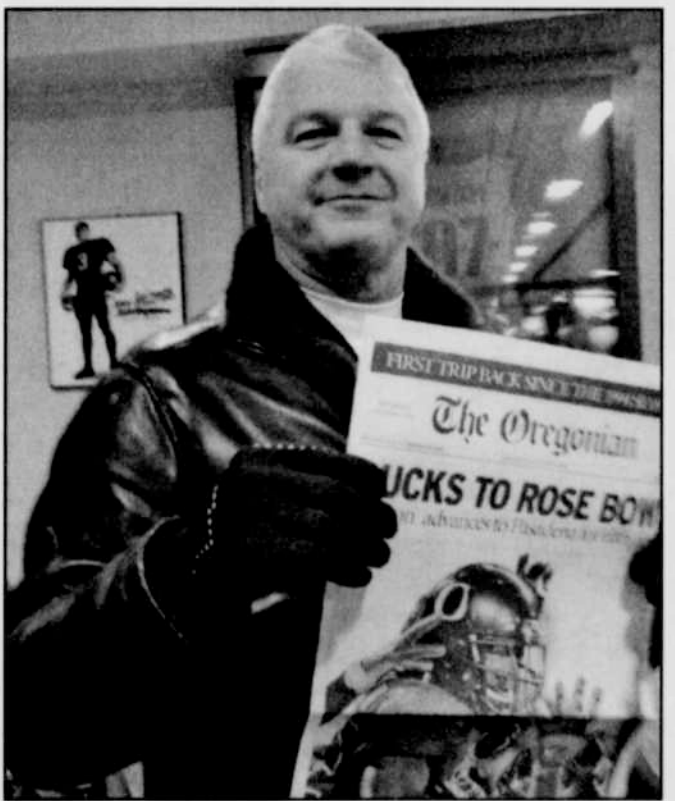
the month of November. Miscellaneous - Preparation work for winter sanding and ongoing sign repairs and installation of new signs and posts. Plowed snow and sanded on Willow Creek, Coal Mine and North Fork Roads. Placed some gravel on some light areas on Dee Cox Road. The court approved an access for Cleaver Land, LLC from Depot Lane.

County Council Ryan Swinburnson, County Sheriff Ken Matlack, Emergency Management Director Casey Beard, Health Department Director Sheree Smith, County Accountant Fred Carlson and the court discussed the need to develop a written policy regarding purchasing and procurement. The county has procedures that are very adequate, however, they are not written. Reviewed the first draft of these procedures and suggested some possible additions. This item will be further discussed in the very near future.

The court conducted the following business: Approved a return of a double payment of property taxes in the amount of \$1,959.91. Judge Tallman was appointed to the GEODC Board of Directors. An amendment to an EPA Grant in the amount of \$49,259.40 was approved. The payments that have been received from the Echo Windfarms Project and the Willow Creek Energy Community Service Fees were reviewed. The treasure was directed to make the payments to the various taxing districts as soon as possible and to hold the county's portion in their respective accounts until the county determines how they want to allocated these funds. Reviewed various correspondences and meeting notices.

Any one wishing to be placed on the list to receive county minutes can contact Karen Wolff at (541)676-5620.

Duck fans celebrate



Pictured is Pat Kilkenny just after Oregon, Oregon State, "Civil War" game ended. Chris Anderson, former Heppner resident, Oregon State graduate, and editor of The Oregonian had these front pages printed up in advance. Anderson was sitting in a box with Kilkenny and surprised everyone by handing them out just as the game ended. With their win over Oregon State, the Ducks will be going to the Rose Bowl. Kilkenny, former athletic director at University of Oregon, played a role in hiring Oregon head football coach Chip Kelly last spring. -Contributed Photo

Now Open Sundays!

Peterson's Jewelers
will be open on
Sunday 12/13 & Sunday 12/20

12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.