

Morrow County Court news

The Morrow County Court met on April 6 in Heppner with Judge Tallman and Commissioners Ken Grieb and Leann Rea in attendance.

The court reviewed and approved the account payables in the net total amount of \$70,445.57. Also reviewed were payroll payables, payroll monthlies and Dike final payroll.

Giant Cane: Dave Pranger, Weed Control Supervisor provided the court with pictures and a report regarding the arrival of the first root stock for Arundo Donax (Giant Cane). The root stock arrived on April 4 in totes, being hauled into the area from California in an enclosed van. Planting was started on a 32 acre circle of land farmed by Frederickson Brothers. There will also be planting at Three Mile Farms under a circle and at Greenwood using drip irrigation. This crop is being grown on a test basis as a possible alternative fuel source at the PGE Boardman Coal Fire Plant. Mr. Pranger stated that he is still working on the final details for the "Control Bond" with PGE regarding assurance of the eradication of the cane if the experiment is not successful.

Budget Information: Greg Sweek, assessor provided the court with information regarding ORS 368.710 Apportionment of certain local option taxes; compression. This explains how local option tax imposed for road improvement, repair or maintenance must be apportioned. Sweek stated that the county does not have a "local option tax" so the method of determining apportionment to the five local communities is not obligated to follow the formula that has been used in the past several years. This past year (2010-2011) the cit-

ies received the following: Boardman-\$266,188.31, Heppner-\$33,924.23, Ione-\$8,632.78, Irrigation-\$26,069.98 and Lexington -\$6,080.98. The amounts were determined by the assessed values in each city. There was discussion regarding how the county might want to proceed with their budget plans with this new knowledge. The court will have further discussions regarding how the money is distributed to the cities.

Road Report: Several employees from the road dept. provided the court a report regarding the recent truck accident on Ely Canyon Road that resulted in a spill of diesel and hydraulic oil. It was decided that an environmental recovery procedure will be developed that will assist the local rural fire depts., sheriff's office and other agencies regarding the protocol for handling such incidents. **Graders:** The graders are currently grading roads in the Brenner Canyon Road, Hardman/Hale Ridge Lane, Shobe Canyon Road and Beach Lane areas. The Sunflower Flat Road is drying out and firming up and will probably be gradable by next week. Tupper Lane will be opened up by the 7th, but it will still have weight restriction until it firms up. **Lexington Grange Road & Baseline Lane:** The work at the intersection has been completed with the paving to be done this summer. **Bridge:** The crew has been working on the bridge project on McNab Lane. They have excavated out each end of the bridge and built new retaining walls out of concrete blocks. Currently they are working on the wing walls on the west end of the bridge. **Willow Creek Road:** Conducted emergency repair work when it was discov-

ered that a bank was washing away and the pavement was in jeopardy. When the emergency repairs are finished the crew will be back to the McNab Lane bridge repair. **Permits:** On the recommendation of Burke O'Brien, roadmaster, the court approved the following permits: An approach permit # 166 onto Depot Lane for Cleaver Land, LLC and Permit # OIG with Century Link for a buried line along Fairview Road near Cecil Road.

Sheriff's Report: Kenneth Matlack, sheriff provided the following report to the court: Assisted the OSP with a two vehicle accident near Mile Post (MP) 177 east bound on I-84. They conducted a welfare check on a female that had become separated from her caregiver. Responded to a report of a wrong way driver on I-84, with a stop of the vehicle near the 165 MP and issued a citation to a gentleman born in 1923. The dept. assisted the Boardman Police that were responding to a report of gun shots fired in the area of the Sandpiper Apartments. The dept. responded to a traffic hazard in the area of Hwy. 207 and Bombing Range Road. The dept. cited a driver with reckless driving and criminal mischief III for an incident at Jordan Elevator. The sheriff discussed the need for "transitional housing" for individuals being released into the area when there are no family members to assist with the transition. The Parole and Probation Dept. was supervising 92 offenders at the end of March. There was a crew of seven that performed clean-up work at the fairgrounds.

Juvenile Dept. Quarterly Report: Tom Meier, director, provided the court with his quarterly update. The number of offenders continues to

increase, with 12 new admits in the third quarter. The 2009-2010 year saw a total of 16 admissions and the current 2010-2011 has a total of 27 admissions with three months to go before the reporting period ends.

Planning Dept. Update: Carla McLane, planning director, provided the court with an update of planning actions. McLane stated there will be a work session on the Transportation Plan update April 27 following the regularly scheduled planning commission meeting at the Port of Morrow. McLane provided an update on the status of Senate Bill 195, which has been referred to the House Transportation and Economic Development Committee. Senate Bill 195 will ease some of the restriction on the land that was zoned for the Space Age Industrial area west of Boardman. McLane reported on the EIS scoping status for the Cascade Crossing power line.

The court conducted the following business: Signed the order in the matter of over-turning the planning commission's decision regarding the permit to use rifles and handguns at the Hermiston Rod and Gun Club; Authorized the settlement of \$3,605 from the insurance company and the disposal of the 2005 Ford that was wrecked during one of the winter storms; Authorized the disposal

First Fridays ministry ends for summer

The next session of First Fridays Friends of Jesus, sponsored by the Shared Ministry of Hope Lutheran and All Saints Episcopal churches, will be held on May 6 at All Saints from 8 a.m. until noon. All children ages four through 12 are invited to a morning filled with Bible stories, crafts, games and music.

A free lunch is served, and there is no cost to attend. Although this will be the last session until September, newcomers are always welcome. May would be an especially good month to attend, so parents and children can see what it's all about and build First Fridays into their fall plans.

More information is available by calling the Shared Ministry office at 541-676-9970.

Springer wins Methodist Church raffle



Congratulations to Claudia Springer, who won the barbecue raffle from the Heppner United Methodist Church kitchen remodel project. -Contributed photo

at the state surplus of the 1954 Cadillac ambulance. The court authorized the payment of \$200.00 from the court's discretionary fund for the fishing derby to be held at Cutsforth Park on Saturday, May 21; Appointed the following to a four-year term on the Morrow County Parks Committee: Betty Gray, Sheryll Bates (with John Edmundson as an alternate), Burke O'Brien, Bob Nairs, Sandi Putman, Tony Clement, Kirsti Cason, Allen Anderson, Dean Robinson, Don Strober, Todd Buchholz, Lori Seitz, Tom Wolff, Les Paustian, Dan Brosnan, Karen Wolff, Ken Grieb, Dave and Roberta Jones, also appointed Jerry

Breazeale and Rudy Bergstrom to two year terms; Approved the request to join the Oregon Public Property Managers Association with the annual dues of \$50; Approved and signed the amendment to agreement the Finley-Buttes Landfill Company contract. The primary change to the contract is for disposal of tonnage in excess of 1,000,000 tons per operational year;

Various correspondences and upcoming meeting notices were reviewed and discussed.

Anyone who would like to be placed on the list to receive county minutes, please contact Karen Wolff at (541)676-5620.

BPD arrests Boardman man after confrontation

The Boardman Police Department arrested 51-year-old Daniel Bozarth of Boardman on April 27, after a standoff of nearly 12 hours.

On April 26 around 7 p.m., the BPD responded to a call concerning a mental subject walking down the road and yelling at people while carrying a hammer or ax.

When the responding officer arrived to the area of 126 Columbia Ave. NW, the subject approached the officer in the roadway and yelled at him. When the officer got out of his car, the subject ran into a nearby residence.

The subject was identified as Daniel Bozarth of Boardman. Officers attempted to contact Bozarth at his residence in order to take him into custody for

Disorderly Conduct II and Menacing. Bozarth refused to exit the building and threw a claw hammer at the officers through a window.

Deputies from the Morrow County Sheriff's Office arrived to assist the BPD in securing the scene.

Negotiators and members of the Pendleton Crisis Response Unit also responded and used a drop phone to attempt to contact Bozarth. Bozarth would not communicate with the negotiator, who tried to communicate with the man until approximately midnight. At that time, they removed the drop phone from the residence.

The BPD continued to secure the scene and applied for a search warrant. Bozarth then exited the residence around 8:15 a.m. and refused to obey an officer's verbal commands. Bozarth was taken into custody by the officers, who had to use tasers to subdue him.

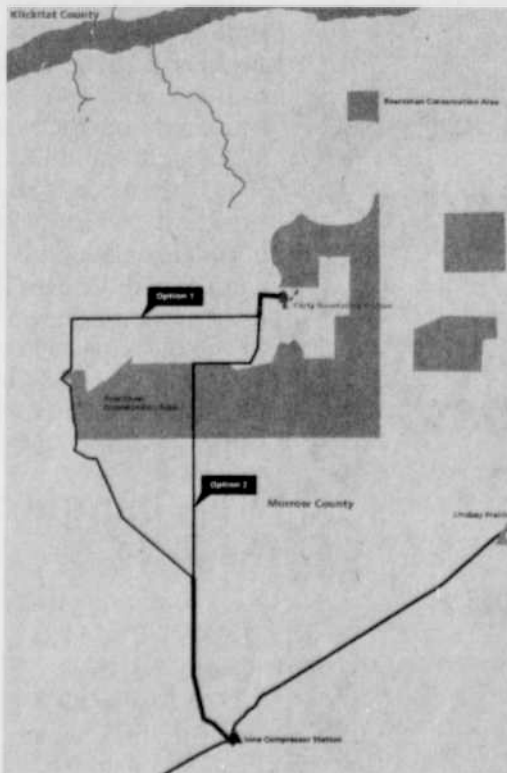
Bozarth was transported to the Umatilla County Jail, where he was lodged on Disorderly Conduct II, Menacing, Attempted Assault II and Interfering with a Peace Officer.

Do you have a story or picture for the Gazette email editor@rapidsolve.net or call (541) 676-9228

Open House Gas Transmission Northwest LLC

You are invited to attend an open house to learn more about the proposed Carty Lateral Project in Morrow County. Gas Transmission Northwest LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of TransCanada (a leading North American energy infrastructure company) proposes to build a 20- to 25-mile natural gas pipeline lateral to serve an electric generating facility being proposed by Portland General Electric.

The proposed pipeline lateral would extend from GTN's existing mainline near Ione northward to the PGE plant site. The lateral as proposed would be capable of transporting approximately 200 million cubic feet a day (MMcf/d) of natural gas to make electricity to serve PGE's 800,000 customers. The natural gas could come from Canada and the U.S. Rockies.



GTN is committed to working with those who live and work along the potential pipeline routes. This open house is an opportunity for you to learn more about the project, the potential routes, schedule, environmental fieldwork and design and to gather your feedback.

This "come-and-go" format of the open house will allow you to spend as little or as much time as you like talking with our project experts - one-on-one or in small groups.

Questions? Visit the project Web site by going to www.gastransmissionnw.com and clicking on the Carty Lateral Project Link. You can also call, toll-free, 1.855.21CARTY (855.212.2789). You can email us at carty@transcanada.com.

We look forward to meeting you at the open house.

Location
Port of Morrow
Wednesday, May 11, 2011
5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
2 Marine Drive
Boardman, OR 97818



HEPPNER ELKS 358

676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

LADIES NIGHT Thursday 5-5-11

Beef Stroganoff with Caesar and fruit salads, rolls, and cheesecake.

DINNER STARTS AT 6PM, MOTHER'S DAY CEREMONY AT LODGE WILL FOLLOW AT 8PM.

Hosted by Corey, Brandi, Cam, and Stefanie Sweeney

CINCO DE MAYO SPECIALS

with Margarita Madness
Thursday May 5th

Mother's Day Steak Specials
We have a new cook!

JOHN'S PLACE 164 N. Main • Heppner 541-676-5017