

Water Street to close next week for construction

The City of Heppner announced this week that work is about to begin on the slopes, sidewalks and drainage project. This project will involve three areas of Heppner.

The first is Water Street, with the construction of new sidewalks and stairs. This will also include street and infrastructure improvements.

Improvements on Riverside are also part of this project. The sidewalks will be completed from the

swimming pool to the Little League ball field. Drainage and street repairs will also be addressed.

Last but not least, the bridge at Lover's Lane will be replaced and reopened. This project is a priority and will be started as soon as all the required permits are in place.

These projects will bring street closures and some disruption. The first will be on Water Street. Beginning Oct. 29 until around Nov. 15, Water Street will

be closed from the base of the hill and upward for about 300 feet. This will allow for the excavation of the stairs. The contractor, Jack Robinson and Sons, hopes to close the street at 7 a.m. and reopen before 5 p.m. Residents along that stretch of street will be accommodated so that they can reach their homes.

Residents may drop by City Hall for a look at the plans for these upcoming projects.

Chamber Chatter

Boardman

Morrow County Fair is looking for new board members. Each term is for three years; they meet once a month, on the first Wednesday at 6 p.m. Send a letter to Morrow County Court, PO Box 788, Heppner, OR 97836 and state why you want to be on the board.

Steve Doherty and Don Russell have opened a new laundromat in town. Main Street Laundry is now open at 106 S. Main Street adjacent to the car wash. The laundry is equipped with a variety of sizes of washers and dryers to handle any need, from small loads to the large bed spreads or sleeping bags that are

too large for most home machines. There will be a grand opening at a later date.

The Kiwanis Club of Boardman is looking for volunteers for the Community Halloween Party. Anyone interested contact Michelle Erickson at 541-314-2127 or michelle.erickson@conagrafoods.com.

A Very Poplar Run is a fundraiser for Hermiston Agape House. Saturday, Nov. 17. Registration 7-8:45 a.m. One Mile kids race- 9 a.m. 5K and 10K, 9:30 a.m. Walkers are welcome in all events. For more information, go to <http://www.averypoplar-run.com>.

Help support the Ki-

wanis Club of Boardman and feed your family with local crops donated by local businesses. Customer pick-up at the Senior Center Nov. 10 from 9-11 a.m.; 20 pounds potatoes (donated by ConAgra), 20 pounds onions (donated by Boardman Foods) and 1 1/2 pounds of dehydrated onions (donated by Cascade Specialties) just \$10 each. Shipping of smaller quantity for \$20 total anywhere in the US. Contact any Kiwanis member or get an application form from the Boardman Chamber office.

Give your extra winter coats to someone who needs it. Bring your good used winter coats to the clinic at Columbia River Community Health Services at 405 Tatone Street.

The Boardman Senior Center will hold the community breakfast on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 7:30 - 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Center. Breakfast is only \$5.

Boardman Hardware will hold a grand re-opening on Saturday, Nov. 10.

If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, help is available and that help is FREE of charge.

If YOU have a family member who suffers from gambling addiction, YOU can also receive FREE treatment even if the gambler is not receiving treatment.

If you are a resident of Morrow County and you wish to take advantage of the services above or desire more information, Please call any of the following numbers to set up a LOCAL appointment or just to talk:

Bobby Harris @ 541-676-9925 or 541-256-0175
Community Counseling Solutions (CCS) @ 541-676-9161
OR 1-877-695-4648 (1-888-MYLIMIT)

PODCAST FAME

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stress that the podcast is unfiltered and adult-themed, and not for the listening pleasure of anyone under 18.

The podcast is aired on Shooter Jennings' site, Black Country Rock. Jennings is the son of country legend Waylon Jennings; his show, The Electric Rodeo, is a top-rated show on XM Radio.

"Dogbite and "Black Water" say they began their podcast with the main goal of plugging underground bands that didn't have another outlet for their music; another goal was to "have fun."

They seem to have succeeded on both counts; three and a half years later, their podcast is what veteran of the Chicago music scene Jahshie P. calls "one of the most unique and unpredictable podcasts on the internet today."

Of course, Jahshie P. is a long-time fan. They first garnered his attention when he began playing Harris' music on his own show, Outlaw Radio Chicago.

Jahshie P. himself is best known as the former frontman of Failed Resistance, My Vengeance and later, Neverland, before developing an interest in country western and bluegrass music. Aside from his own podcast, Jahshie P. also ran the podcast portion of Jennings' show, uploading podcasts and seeing to the technical details. His influence earned the guys a spot on Jennings' site.

Harris says their ultimate goal is to be picked up by satellite radio. Until then, anyone with internet access can hear the duo by visiting www.blackcountryrock.org/dogwater. The podcast begins every Thursday at 6 p.m. Pacific Time and has a flexible length, ranging from one and a half to two hours. It's available to listen to live, or can be downloaded onto an MP3 player.

But, with all the freedom of expression and "adult-only" warnings on the door, should the faint of heart listen to this show? The guys say yes.

"You should tune in to

support the music, artists and, above and beyond, the cause, because the rise and tyranny of pop country is still knocking at the back door and we need to beat it off with the biggest...stick we can find," they say.

Harris and Maddern play an eclectic grouping of the underground and the old but good, with artists ranging from The Cheatin' Hearts, Ray Lawrence Jr., Bob Seger, Owen Mays, Pantera, Jayke Orvis, The Savage Henrys, .357 String Band, Angie and The Car Wrecks, The Shivering Denizens, "anything by Waylon and Willie" and, of course, Dog Bite Harris.

All of which brings us back to the CD release party. Many of the bands featured on Dog, Water Radio will be on "Live from the Trailer." Several of those will also be making an appearance at Bucknum's on Saturday, including Angie and the Car Wrecks from Centralia, WA; Owen Mays from Madison, WI and the Savage Henrys from Richland, WA.

Forest collaborative group to meet

The Umatilla Forest Collaborative Group will meet at the Umatilla Forest Supervisor's Office of the U.S. Forest Service in Pendleton, OR on Thursday, Oct. 25, at 10 a.m. to embark on a forest tour in the Thomas Creek Planning Area. The office is located at 72510 Coyote Rd off exit 216 of I-84.

This collaborative group is working to develop a recommendation for a project in the moist Thomas Creek Unit. Several forest service personnel will be present to answer questions and provide background. The tour is expected to conclude at 3 p.m.

The North Fork John Day Watershed Council is host to the group. Elaine Eisenbraun, Executive Director of the watershed council, explained that, "This group brings diverse

interests together to develop suggestions that are compatible with economic, environmental and social needs. We'd like to invite

anyone who is interested in the operations of the Umatilla National Forest to attend these welcoming meetings."

Children's theater to hold auditions

An audition will be held for the Missoula Children's Theatre production of The Secret Garden on Monday, Oct. 29, at the Heppner High School Cafeteria from 4-6 p.m. Those auditioning should arrive at 4 p.m. and plan to stay for the full two hours. Some of the cast members will be asked to stay for a rehearsal immediately following the audition.

All students, grades kindergarten through 12th grade, are encouraged to audition. No advance prepara-

tion is necessary. Assistant directors will also be cast to assist with the technical aspects of the production. MCT tour actor/directors will conduct rehearsals throughout the week from 4 to 8:30 p.m. each day.

The Secret Garden will be presented on Friday, Nov. 2, at 3 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 3, at 5:30 p.m. at Heppner High School Cafeteria. For more information, call William J. Kuhn at 541-676-9141 (day), 541-676-5033 (evening).

Quaking aspen: Preserving a natural habitat

Quaking aspen are heavily used by wildlife but have provided a history of benefits to both wildlife and people. Irish and Basque sheepherders of years past would seek out aspen groves for their cool, humid understory on hot days. Some of their camps are still identified by tree carvings or arborglyphs. Aspen also provide hiding and thermal cover, fawning and calving ground, and forage for deer and elk. Many bird species also benefit from aspen groves.

There has been an increasing concern about the lack of successful regeneration within the groves. Fire suppression, heavy browsing pressure from both wildlife and livestock,



Quaking aspens are an important part of local ecology and culture. -Contributed photo

and encroachment by conifers has all contributed to a decline in aspen.

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) has technical and financial assistance avail-

able for aspen projects. If you are interested in restoring or assessing the health of an existing aspen grove, contact the Heppner NRCS field office at 676-5021.

Cultural grants available

The Morrow County Cultural Coalition has money to give away.

The organization has

grant money available for individuals and groups undertaking cultural activities.

The coalition says its defini-

tion of culture is broad so, even if people aren't sure if their projects are cultural, a group may still qualify. Projects that have received money in the past include quilting and art groups, public art displays, artists in residence for schools, historical and heritage societies, structures used for cultural entertainment, and kids' activities for parks.

To get a form and apply for a grant, contact Susan Russell at 541-481-4277 or smsel@hotmail.com. Forms are due by Feb. 1, 2013.

Greg Walden
GREGWALDEN.COM

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