

G-T azette imes

Flooding hits area



Alita Nelson gestures in frustration outside her and husband John's home on Hwy 74 near Heppner. The home was hit hard by flooding Tuesday morning and Nelson said there was four to five inches of water inside. -Photo by David Sykes.

A heavy downpour in the Heppner area Tuesday morning caused some flooding and minor damage. The flooding in Heppner apparently hit hardest near the Blue Spruce Apartments and at the Nelson

home along Hwy 74 across from the old Kinzua Mill site. The fire department responded and was there pumping water out of the home.

Homeowner Alita Nel-

son said this was the third time, second major time, that flooding has hit her home at 54277 Hwy 74. She said there was four to five inches throughout the house with today's flooding.

Homecoming court announced



Jacee Curring was named homecoming queen during halftime at the game last Friday. The Heppner Homecoming Court is pictured back row (L-R): Gavin Hanna, Alyse Wentz, Dylon Jinkins, Tyler Carter, Jenna McCullough, Ken McCullough, Queen Jacee Curring, Steve Curring, Hunter Nichols, Mike Mahoney, Jaiden Mahoney, Gibson McCurry, Mike VanArsdale and Cami VanArsdale, Jason Rea. Front row (L-R): Callahan Baker and Joel Wilson. -Photo by Damon Brosnan.

G-T Trophy Corner



Above left: Pat Schiller shot this nice 3X4 buck at 250 yards Saturday afternoon on Buttercreek. Also pictured, Charlee and Vey Schiller make sure the buck is dead with Vey's stethoscope. -Contributed photos

Right: Griffin Copple, 9, of Turner, OR shot his first deer under the youth mentor program on the Harris ranch on Upper Rhea Creek. Griffin was hunting with his dad Ty Copple on an LOP tag donated by the Harris family. -Contributed photo



Above: Keegin Chitty, 12, of Heppner shot his buck on opening day in the Columbia Basin Unit. -Contributed photo

Heppner Council discusses several issues

Dogs, senior housing and hunters' garbage talked about

By David Sykes

The Heppner city council discussed a variety of issues from around the town at their monthly meeting Monday night.

Dogs: Heppner mayor Cody High said he had been receiving some complaints about dogs running loose in town. "We have been a little lenient on dogs running at large around town," he told the council. He said some dog owners have received "multiple warnings" and suggested maybe the city might have to start cracking down on repeat offenders. High said the city may have to start picking up the loose dogs and probably issuing citations. "Keep the dogs in the yards," he said. Councilmember Corey Sweeney said if the city starts ticketing they should first put out the word to city residents. "We should put a notice in the paper to let people know before we start ticketing." He thought people should have some warning before the crack down and tickets. It was pointed out that some people had received up to four warnings about their loose dogs. In a related matter High said certain pets are outright not allowed in the city and these include poisonous snakes and spiders, stinging insects and pit bull dogs.

Hunter's Garbage: It was brought up that some local people are using the free hunter garbage dumpster down by the city park. The dumpster is set up as a courtesy to hunters visiting town and is supposed to be used for only their garbage to be dumped on the way out of town. However, city public works director Chad Doherty told the council he has observed local people dumping their trash in the

hunter only dumpster. High said he saw rolls of old carpet in the dumpster recently, which he said is obviously not hunter garbage.

St. Patrick's Housing: Councilmember Teresa Hughes, who is also a member of the housing board, reported that the board met with a prospective new manager for the apartment complex on Main St. They are currently with Cascade Management but are not happy with them and have been looking for a new management company. The company they talked to is from Enterprise and is approved by the State of Oregon. The name of the company was not revealed. Hughes said the company looked promising, but no decision has been made. She also reported that they are looking for a new elevator maintenance and inspection company. She said the proposed company would save the senior center \$1,200 to \$1,400 per month.

TSP party: The council held a public hearing and then approved the recently completed Transportation System Plan which has been in the works for several months. The new plan covers all areas of transportation in Heppner. To celebrate adoption of the extensive new plan the city scheduled a party for the public to attend on Oct. 24 from 4-6 p.m. at city hall. Ten dozen assorted cookies were ordered for the TSP roll-out.

Sewage Treatment Plant: The council heard a report from city manager Edie Ball about the on-going need for the city to find a new way to dispose of its waste treatment effluent. The DEQ has put a deadline for the city to stop dumping treated effluent into Willow Creek. There are concerns about ammonia and arsenic going into the creek. Ball said there was discussion regarding a plan to pump waste water from Lexington, Ione and Heppner to a central treatment plant for all three towns. She said that plan did not prove economically viable so Heppner will now have to find another way of disposal. Lagoons are another option but that will require 32 acres of land, which is not available around Heppner, although the city is talking to Port of Morrow officials about using the old Kinzua Mill Site. It was brought out

that the city of John Day is putting in a new treatment plant that could cost \$10 million.

Cow permit not approved: The council failed to approve an animal permit request from Natasha Muniz who wanted to put a cow on property at 380 W Union Ave. in Heppner to raise for butcher. The council had not approved a similar cow request at last month's meeting, and this request was not approved either when there was no motion to approve. The council has said in the past they would only consider cow permits inside the city limits for 4-H Fair projects.

Neighborhood watch update: Minutes from a Heppner police commission meeting showed that a Sept. 19 meeting was attended by 35-40 people from several areas of town. The Neighborhood Watch program was instigated after a recent large city meeting over concerns of increased lawlessness in Heppner. The watch is designed to assist police in identifying people committing crimes. There were also some people from Ione at the meeting seeking information on how to set up a watch program.

Under the watch program each neighborhood selects a coordinator and a block captain. After the program is up and running there would be yearly meetings. If a member sees something they call the Sheriff's office first and then report to the coordinator and the block captain. Neighborhood watch members could also attend city police commission meetings if they have concerns they want to discuss.

Also at the police commission meeting Measure 105 that would repeal the sanctuary state law initiative was discussed. Measure 105 would repeal the law which forbids state agencies from using state resources to detect or apprehend persons whose only violation of the law is a violation of federal immigration law.

It was also discussed whether the city should try and find a way to increase coverage from two to three deputies. Funding for the additional officer is the issue. The commission decided to wait for the Neighborhood Watch and new school resource officer to have time to work before continuing discussion of another deputy.



Kegan Steagall, 15, of Lexington with his 3X4 buck that he shot in the Heppner Unit. -Contributed photo

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