

# City looks at mobile home ordinance changes

*Smaller homes allowed, older homes no*

By David Sykes

Under a proposed zone change the city of Heppner would allow smaller mobile homes in some places but would restrict the placement of older homes anywhere in the city. The new ordinance does not affect current homes and would only cover new placements.

Under the proposed ordinance change, manufactured homes in the R-1 zone must be larger than 1,000 square feet of living area and be a doublewide or larger. The home must be no more than five years old at the time of placement. Under the current ordinance homes of more than 1,300 square feet of living area are allowed and must be built after 1991.

In the R-2 zone, mobile homes must have more than 960 square feet of living space in a double wide or larger and be manufactured within five years. The current ordinance stipulates the same square footage, but allows older homes built as far back as 1988.

In the R-3 zone, single or double wide homes will need to be at least 840 square feet of living area, and likewise be built within the last five years. The current ordinance also calls for 840 square feet but allows for homes built since 1988.

The city is considering the ordinance change in order to stop the placement of older homes moved from

other locations into the city limits. The council at its March 11 meeting did not vote on the ordinance change, as it needs to go through the zone change process, including hearings with public comment before it can be enacted, but it did vote to "move forward" with the changes.

In other business at the meeting the council heard from city auditor Richard Stoddard of Barnett and Moro P.C. of Hermiston. The auditor said random testing was done on different areas of the budget over the past year and some deficiencies were found, including the city having more cash on the books than was actually on hand. The auditor attributed the differences to the city having high turnover in the treasurer's position the past year. The issues have been addressed by city staff and corrected, acting city Manager Kim Cutsforth said.

In other action the council praised the public works crew for its hard work in snow removal during the past winter snow storms. They also complimented the crew for getting the town spruced up for the St. Patrick's Day Celebration this past weekend. Cutsforth was asked what the priority was for snow removal in the city and she said roads used by the ambulance, schools and other emergency services get first

plowing before the crews move to the side streets. She said the city is not able to take care of all the sidewalks downtown but does work on the approaches and keeping them free of snow.

In other business the council received the minutes of the March 4 Housing Authority meeting. The Housing Authority takes care of the operation of the St. Patrick's Senior Center in downtown Heppner. The minutes noted that there had been a TV outage for a period of time, which was due to snow on the satellite dish. The snow was removed by the maintenance man. It was also discussed that a person who doesn't live in the apartments and has no direct connection with any tenants, was entering the building and harassing one of the tenants. The police were called, and the outsider was removed. The person has also reportedly been making a nuisance of herself by being in places not open to the general public.

In other business the board authorized the purchase of a newer TV for the downstairs living room. It would be a 50-inch flat screen model for \$100. The board agreed to test it out and if it worked all right move forward with the purchase. The board also agreed to buy a hand truck for the maintenance man to move appliances.

# Heppner girls named to All-State 2A girls' basketball team



The entire girls' varsity team was honored in the St. Patrick's parade on Saturday.

Following the capture of the 2A state title, two members of the Lady Mustangs basketball team were honored with being selected for the 2A All-State team. Sophomore Sydney Wilson was selected for first team, receiving the second

highest number of votes and only missing player of the year by a few votes, which was awarded to Coquille's Morgan Baird. Senior point guard Jacee Currin received enough votes to make the second team all-state team. On the coaching side,

Heppner's coach Robert Wilson was selected as girls' state 2A basketball coach of the year. Wilson, in his fourth year as head coach, led the Lady Mustangs to their first state title in 33 years.

# St. Pat's Polar Plunge held



Five brave souls braved the frigid water to plunge for the cause. Proceeds from the Polar Plunge, approximately \$700, were awarded to Fuzz Ball Pet Rescue. Additional photos from the annual St. Patrick's celebration can be found on page eight. Pictured (L-R): Christy Woodbury (Richland WA), Alicia Doherty, Robin Barker (Hermiston), Charlie McKim (Pendleton) and Noah Wenberg. -Photo by David Sykes.

# St. Patrick's celebration winners announced



Bank of Eastern Oregon's Leprechaun float took first place in the Merchant division. -Photo by Bobbi Gordon.

Another successful "Wee Bit O' Ireland" celebration has ended and the Heppner Chamber has announced the winners of the many events. Some events were canceled or changed due to the weather and some others were added. Events canceled were the sheep dog trials, Ewe-Do-Bingo and the O'Ducky race and the Remembrance Walk traveled along a different path. New events this year were the Polar Plunge and the Gold Nugget hunt.

Great Green Parade winners were the Morrow County Health Department and Christian Life Center

in the Irish Theme category. Musical Entry winners were the Pendleton Cowboy Mountain Band and the Main Street Cowboys and Side Saddlers. Morrow County Museum and Desert Shrine won the Antique and Custom Vehicles class and the Merchant winners were Bank of Eastern Oregon and Morrow County Grain Growers.

One of the \$100 drawings held for purchasers of the buttons was awarded to Gwen Healy. The other name drawn was Sheryll Bates, so she asked that another name be drawn. Sheryll and Ashley Lynch

split the prize money for \$50 each.

The Welly Toss had only one team entered this year, with the win being awarded to the Heppner Forest Service team boasting a combined score of 278.3 feet. Team members were Jon Ellis, Brian Spivey, Rocky Turner and Brad Lathrop. Top male boot tosser was Rocky Turner with 94.5 feet. Top female winner was Crystal Mooney, 61.6 feet. Youth boy was Jacob Finch with 65.1 feet and youth girl was Hallee Hisler with 45.1

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The Morrow County Museum took first place in Antique and Custom Vehicles. -Photo by Bobbi Gordon.



Main Street Cowboys and Side Saddlers took second place in the Musical Entry class at this year's parade. -Photo by Bobbi Gordon.



The Pendleton Cowboy Mounted Band was the first place winner in the Musical Entries. -Photo by Bobbi Gordon.

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