

Ione grand marshals put the fireworks in the Fourth of July



Members of the Ione Fourth of July fireworks crew set up for last year's big fireworks show, placing shells and boxes in pre-dug trenches and holes. -File photo by Jay Reid

Merkley hit with power line questions

Boardman to Hemingway questions asked at town hall



U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley addresses a town hall meeting of more than 30 people at the Grange in Lexington Sunday. -Photo by David Sykes

By David Sykes

U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley held a town hall in Lexington Sunday, and was asked by several Morrow County land owners, what's going on with the Boardman to Hemingway power line project? Questions ranged from "Why isn't anyone talking to us?" to statements that "nobody

wants it."

PacificCorp, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), and Idaho Power propose to construct a new 500-kilovolt transmission line from a proposed substation near Boardman to the Hemingway Substation near Melba, ID. It is known as the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission

Line Project, or B2H, and would cut through Morrow County—and most likely across private property.

Morrow County farmer Sam Meyer said he recently received a letter stating that a new route has been planned for the power line project and it "goes right through our fields." The proposed line could inter-

rupt a number of things on his farm, he said, including aerial applications and internet reception. Meyer said he has had little communication from the planners of the project, a complaint heard from other affected landowners, and that the route is constantly being

-See MERKLEY MEETING/
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MCSD to introduce preschool program

Morrow County School District has announced it will offer a Ready for Kindergarten preschool program designed to instill all four-year-old Morrow County children with the skills and resources necessary for "kindergarten readiness."

The goal is to provide all four-year-olds in Heppner, Irrigon and Boardman with the opportunity to

receive a preschool education.

Children will be taught in four classes with up to 20 children each for two days per week, 2.5 hours per day, from approximately Sept. 6, 2016 through May 18, 2017.

Two classrooms will be located in Head Start's Irrigon Early Learning Center. These classes are from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., one

class Monday and Wednesday mornings and another class Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

Two classrooms will be located at Sam Boardman Elementary. These classes are from 1:30 to 4 p.m., one class Monday and Wednesday afternoons and another class Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

MCSD is also working with Heppner Day Care to

provide Preschool availability for all four-year-olds in Heppner.

Call Umatilla-Morrow Head Start at 1-800-559-5878 or George Mendoza at 541-922-4016 to learn more or to register your child, or visit <http://www.morrow.k12.or.us/news>.

Heppner police commission to meet

The Heppner city police commission will meet July 5 at 11 a.m. at Heppner City Hall. This regular meeting is being held during a time other than normal. The public is invited to attend.

G-T closed Independence Day

The Heppner Gazette-Times will be closed Monday, July 4, in observance of the Independence Day Holiday.

News and advertising deadline for the July 6 newspaper will be this Friday, July 1, at 5 p.m. Normal business hours

will resume Tuesday, July 5.

We wish everyone a safe and happy Fourth of July.

Ione Fourth of July Celebration

Sunday, July 3, 2016

Golf Tournament, Willow Creek Country Club, Heppner, 9 a.m.

Volleyball Tournament, Ione City Park, 9 a.m.

Monday, July 4, 2016

Fireman's Breakfast, Ione Fire Hall, 7-10 a.m.

Creative Care Preschool 5k Walk/Run, Ione City Park, 7 a.m. registration/walk starts at 7:30 a.m.

Ken Turner Memorial Horseshoe Tournament, Horseshoe Pits, 9 a.m.

3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, 2nd Street in front of Legion Hall, 10 a.m.

Blues Cruise Car Show, Main Street, 10:30 a.m.

Vendors & Booths, Ione City Park, 11 a.m.

Fish Pond, Frog Jump, Bike Raffle, Fire Hall/Park, 11:00 a.m.

Altar Society Pie Sale, Ione Fire Hall (or Church Basement), 11 a.m.

Parade, Main Street, 1 p.m.

Park Activities—Dunk Tank, Duck Races, Money Pile and More, 1 p.m.

Free Swimming, Ione Swimming Pool, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Blues Cruise Awards, Ione City Park, 3 p.m.

Corey Peterson Band, Amphitheater Stage, 3:30 p.m.

Talent Show, Amphitheatre Stage, 4 p.m. registration/show at 4:30 p.m.

Martin Gerschwitz, Amphitheater Stage, 6:30 p.m.

Boat Trip Auction, Amphitheatre Stage, 7:45 p.m.

Quarterflash, Amphitheatre Stage, 8:30 p.m.

Fireworks Display, Visible throughout Ione, Dusk

All event times and locations are subject to change. Ione's Fourth of July Celebration is sponsored in part by Morrow County Unified Recreation District.

ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE:
MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.

Big Nursery Sale! Save \$\$\$
All Annuals 50% OFF
All Perennials Trees & Shrubs 20% OFF

We Will be closed Monday. Happy 4th July!

Morrow County Grain Growers Green Feed & Seed
242 W. Linden Way, Heppner • 676-9422 • 989-8221 (MCGG main office)