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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

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April Hilton-Sykes News Editor
David Sykes Publisher

lawsuit from page one

Estes said that MCURD obtained the opinion of the state attorney general before the district was formed. "We feel very confident that formation of the district was legal and we are entitled to perform the services we are performing."

Estes said that the district does not know how the district will be affected if the judge rules in Glenn's favor. "The calculations are very complicated and tied up with Measure 50," she said. "The judge's decision is very important and is going to determine how we categorize, but what's equally important to the board is, 'Do the taxpayers

want to continue to fund the district?"

Estes said that MCURD plans to put an advisory vote to the voters in Morrow County as to whether they want to fund the district.

MCURD's next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 28, at Columbia Junior High in Irrigon at 7 p.m. Besides Estes, who represents the Heppner and Heppner south rural areas, the board includes: Jim Swanson, Lone, Lexington and rural areas; Terry Tallman, city of Boardman; Allen Gordanier, city of Irrigon; and Barry Turner, rural Irrigon-Boardman.

National Guard visits IHS



Photo by Theresa Hams

By Nova Rietmann
On Monday, May 11, at 11 a.m., an Army National Guard helicopter landed on the Ione High School football field. The National Guard was visiting the school and informing students about the benefits of joining the National Guard.

The Ione High School's personal finance/careers class, taught by Mark Bird, invited the National Guard to speak to the class about its program.

All grades at the school and the community of Ione were invited to look at the helicopter and go inside.

The National Guard offers students the opportunity to enlist, and receive: full-time summer

employment; college credits for military training received; college money with the GI Bill; additional college financial assistance through the state; job training and cash bonuses. For more information contact SFC Jan Ellner or SFC Brian O'Kelly by telephone at 1-800-Go Guard.

Waterpark announces swim lesson sessions

The Willow Creek Waterpark has announced its summer swim lesson schedule.

The swim lesson schedule for the first session at the waterpark, for June 22 - July 3, is as follows:

Morning schedule: 9:30-10 a.m. - parent/tot, level IIA, level IV and aqua jogging; 10:10-10:40 a.m. - aquatic exercise, level IIB, level V and aqua jogging; 10:45-11:15 a.m. - aquatic exercise, level III, level VI and aqua jogging; 11:20-11:50 a.m. - level I, aquatic exercise, level VII/fitness training and aqua jogging; 12-12:30 p.m. - preschool, aquatic exercise, fitness training and aqua jogging.

Afternoon schedule: 5:10-5:40 p.m. - level I, level IIA, adult intermediate and aqua jogging; 5:45-6:15 p.m. - preschool, adult beginner, adult advanced and aqua jogging; 6:30-6:50 p.m. - parent/tot, aquatic exercise, fitness training and aqua jogging.

Session two will be from July 13 - 24, and session three will be from August 3 - 14.

Lifeguard training will also be offered. The first class will meet on Tuesday, May 26, at 6 p.m.

Preregistration is required and the minimum age to enroll is 15. Contact Anne Morter at 422-7040.

A water safety aide course, for anyone interested in aiding swim instructors during swim lessons will be held Thursday, June 18, and Friday, June 19, at 11 a.m. Those enrolling must be good swimmers (Level IV or better).

Class prices for the outdoor pool will be the same for children and adults. The cost for season pass holders will be \$20 a session and non-season pass holders, \$30 a session.

Lap swimming will be held in conjunction with the open swim times. Aqua jogging in the slide splash pool has been added during swim lesson times. A single admission fee will be charged unless you are a season pass holder.

Purchase of season passes and swim lesson registration may be done at the Waterpark on Friday, June 22, from 12 - 7 p.m. Spa use will be announced next week.

Wheat Growers meeting, June 3rd

The Morrow County Wheat Growers will hold their annual spring meeting and pie social at the Lexington Grange Hall on Wednesday, June 3, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Topics to be addressed at this year's meeting include: "The Value of High Intensity Agriculture in Protecting the World's Rainforest & Wildlife," by Gary Reed, superintendent, Oregon State University (OSU) Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center; and "Logistics and Pricing for Today's Market," by Dan Steiner, manager, Cargill. The announcement of the 1998 Morrow County Conservation winner will also occur during the meeting.

County president Suzi Frederickson invites all growers to attend and asks that RSVPs be made to the OSU extension office, 676-9642, by Friday, May 29.

Defaulted loans can be garnished

Defaulted student loan borrowers who don't make regular payments to the Oregon State Scholarship Commission (OSSC) could see a decrease in their paychecks.

OSSC has received legislative approval to refer to Oregon employment records for defaulted student loan borrowers who owe money to OSSC. Access to these records will help OSSC garnish a defaulted borrower's net wages. Access will also help the agency maintain better contact with borrowers, work with them on repayment plans and determine what benefits may be available to them, said an OSSC news release.

OSSC is the state agency that guarantees (or insures) student loans under the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) for many Oregon students wishing to continue their education beyond high school. When a FFELP student loan borrower defaults (misses six payments), OSSC purchases the loan from the lender and collects the debt on behalf of the U.S. Department of Education.

Defaulted borrowers who are not making regular payments on their debt can avoid wage garnishment by contacting OSSC as soon as possible to negotiate a repayment plan.

Defaulted borrowers who can't make regular payments may still avoid garnishment by contacting OSSC and talking about their situation and options. Defaulted borrowers who are already making regular monthly payments as negotiated with OSSC may avoid garnishment by continuing to pay regularly.

This garnishment policy affects only defaulted borrowers who owe money to OSSC. Borrowers still in good standing at their lenders are not affected. To avoid default, borrowers need to work with their current lender or servicer when they can't make regular monthly payments, said the release. Borrowers having difficulty communicating with their lender or servicer or who don't know who to contact may contact OSSC's Default Prevention Division at (800) 261-4524.

Delinquent borrowers will soon receive letters that alert them to the new change and tell them what happens if they don't pay. The letters also encourage these borrowers to contact OSSC as soon as possible.

Borrowers with questions may contact OSSC by calling (800) 457-0135 or write to the Oregon State Scholarship Commission, ATTN: Collections Division, 1500 Valley River Drive, Suite 150, Eugene, OR 97401.

*Everett and Elma Harshman
are celebrating their
65th Wedding Anniversary!*
*Share in the fun on May 30th, 3 p.m.,
at Anson Wright Park.*
Polluck, Swiss Steak, punch and table service provided.
Bring stories, memories, lawn chairs and beverage of choice.
If the weather is bad, we will meet at Hardman Community Hall
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Wedding Table
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