

## Bank hires new lender, promotes branch manager

The Bank of Eastern Oregon hired Jill Peck as a Commercial Loan Officer for its Boardman and Irrigon branches, according to President George Koffler. Peck comes to the Bank of Eastern Oregon after successful stints at United States National Bank, Columbia River Bank and Bank of the West.



Jill Peck

Peck is an Eastern Oregon native and graduated from Oregon State University with a degree in Agricultural Economics. She and her husband, Dean, who teaches at Riverside High School in Boardman, will be relocating to north Morrow County.

In a related development, Julie Gisi has been named Branch Manager of the Bank of Eastern Oregon in Boardman. Gisi has been with the bank since its entry into north Morrow County in 1998. She worked previously at Inland Empire Bank and is enrolled in the Oregon Bankers Association's Bank Operations School.



Julie Gisi

Gisi and her husband, Paul, who works at Two Rivers Correctional Institution, live in Boardman with their children, Stefanie and Kenny.

The Bank of Eastern Oregon is a full service \$83 million commercial bank headquartered in Heppner, with six branches in Morrow and Gilliam Counties.

## Open class winners at the 2003 Morrow County Fair

The 2003 Morrow County Fair was held Aug. 13-16 in Heppner. Fair contests were available in both 4-H and open class categories. Following is the open class winners.

**Oregon Best Contest-Bob's Best Home Baked Bread:** Amy Jepsen; **Watermelon Seed Spitting:** ages 7 and under-Nathaniel Roberts at 10 feet 2 inches, ages 8 to 15- Paul Hams at 16 feet 6 inches, Women's- Megan McCabe at 19 feet 1 inches, and Men's- Ron Bowman at 22 feet 7 inches; **ABT Sweepstakes Winner:** Flowers: Pam Worden; **Crafts:** Lynn Pardue; **Canning:** Amy Jepsen; **Food:** Kylee Disque; **Art:** Betty Mills; **Photography:** Kristi Worden; **Needlework:** Lynne Uitto; **Clothing:** Bobbi Peck; **Quilts:** Marlene Currin; **Kids 3-6:** Paige Grieb; **Superkids 7-9:** Garrett Gibbs; **Junior 10-13:** Shannon Clay; **and Booths:** Fair and OPR Court.

**People's Choice Art:** Landscape and Scenery by Janice Paustian.

**Viewer's Choice Photography:** Little Wet Dog by Kristi Worden.

**Anne's Favorite:** Winter Charm by Deepa Data.

**Morrow County Creative Arts Award- Art:** Molly Day, and **Crafts:** Ginger Keithley.

**Flowers- Best Horticulture:** Pam Renfro, and **Most Blue Ribbons:** Kathy Tellechea and Pam Renfro.

**Animals- Best Mini Rex sponsored by KT's Bunny Barn:** Anna Unruh; **Most Unique sponsored by Barbara VanArsdale:** Garrett Gibbs; **Most Attentive sponsored by Barbara VanArsdale:** Samantha Baumgardner; and **Youngest sponsored by Barbara VanArsdale:** Macy Gibbs.

**Beef- Champion Heifer Calf:** Makenzi Hughes, and **Champion Female:** Paige Grieb.

**Swine- Champion Gilt:** Colette Cason.

**Sheep- Champion:** Colette Cason.

**Small Animals- Champion Chicken:** Garrett Gibbs.

## Diana McElligott receives scholarship

Each year CSU Transport, Inc. located in Arlington, awards one \$500 scholarship to the child of a driver employed by the Company. The winner of the 2003 CSU Driver Scholarship is Diana McElligott.

McElligott is a 2003 graduate of Ione High School, and the daughter of Charity and Paul McElligott of Ione.

## Intoxicants still factor into 25 percent of fatal crashes in Morrow County

The statistics should be sobering enough. Since 1998, each year more than 22,000 drivers in Oregon are arrested while Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUI), which includes both alcohol and other drugs. Furthermore, over the past five years DUI remains a contributing factor in more than 40 percent of all the state's fatal crashes.

In Morrow County though, there is a small bit of good news. According to 2002 statistics just released from the Transportation Safety Division of the Oregon Department of Transportation (TSD/ODOT), Morrow County's five-year average of alcohol and drug-related fatalities stands at only 25 percent of all fatal car crashes in Morrow County. While the numbers are encouraging-below the average for most Oregon counties- TSD/ODOT urges Morrow County to remain proactive in their pursuit of an even lower amount of incidents.

"Over the past five years, more than 1,100 Oregonians have needlessly died in alcohol and drug-related car crashes," said Gretchen McKenzie, TSD/ODOT statewide Impaired Driving Program Manager. "And DUI offenses always increase during holidays. In surveys, people of legal drinking age report that they usually drink more at holiday gatherings as compared to other times of the year. As we approach Labor Day, followed by the winter holidays, we want to remind people to be even more vigilant about not drinking and driving- and not allowing friends who are under the influence to drive."

Nationwide studies show that 77 percent of American adults believe they have enough information about drinking and driving and how alcohol affects their individual blood alcohol concentration (BAC) levels. However, 72 percent of adults do not know the BAC limit for driving in their own state, erroneously responding with .33 percent-four times the .08 BAC level for drunk driving in Oregon.

McKenzie added, "People tend to think that they are in better shape to drive than they really are. In fact, 83 percent of adults are unaware that whether they drink beer, wine or distilled spirits, the effect on their BAC level is going to be the same. Moreover, controlled substances- or even medicines taken as prescribed- can have

a considerable negative impact on driving ability. Combine drugs with alcohol, even in small amounts, and the effects can be particularly dangerous."

As Oregonians hit the road for the final holiday of the summer, representatives of TSD/ODOT encourage the public to keep in mind the top three tactics- in addition to simply not driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol- that help reduce the potential for DUI offenses:

**1) Designate a driver.** According to studies, designated drivers- people who have not consumed alcohol or drugs- save thousands of lives and spare thousands more from suffering injury due to intoxicated driving. Annually more than 70 million people serve as designated drivers or are driven home by one.

**2) Take the car keys.** Prevent a person from driving under the influence by having them hand over the keys well before they become impaired. If the person is already impaired, make every effort possible to take away their keys and secure an alternate mode of transportation for them.

**3) Report drivers you suspect may be under the influence.** If you see a driver weaving, driving with the windows down in cold weather, passing dangerously, straddling the center line, making wide turns, driving too slowly or tailgating, the driver may be ill or intoxicated and shouldn't be on the road. Report the car, along with its description and location, to the police or sheriff or call 800-24-DRUNK (800-243-7865)- keep this number in your car or programmed on your wireless phone.

For more information about DUI in Oregon and TSD/ODOT's campaign urging drivers to "Drive Sober," contact Gretchen McKenzie, TSD/ODOT statewide Impaired Driving Program Manager at (503) 986-4183. And for more information about DUI, visit [www.odot.state.or.us/transafety/Impaired\\_Driving.htm](http://www.odot.state.or.us/transafety/Impaired_Driving.htm).

## HHS announces September schedule

School will begin on Sept. 2 at 7:57 a.m., for Heppner Junior/Senior High students.

The Morrow County School Board meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 8, at 7:30 p.m., at A.C. Houghton. A Site Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 10, at 6 p.m., in the HHS Library.

School pictures will be on Monday, Sept. 15. Homecoming will be on Friday, Sept. 26.

Also watch for the many volleyball and football games through out the month.

## Art workshop scheduled

Morrow County Creative Arts and Crafts is sponsoring a two-day art workshop with artist Sandra Haynes, Saturday, Sept. 6 and Sunday, Sept. 7. The workshop will be held from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. both days, at the 4-H annex at the Heppner Fairgrounds.

Haynes has shown her work throughout the Western States. The registration fee is \$80 prepaid plus pencils. Drawing material will be provided.

For more information and registration, call Judie Laughlin at 676-9781.

## Fall agenda for MC Creative Arts and Crafts

The Morrow County Creative Arts and Crafts will be holding their meeting Aug. 28, at 1 p.m., at GD's banquet room.

A print of this year's Robert Walton Workshop will be available to see and a supply list will be provided. The workshop is scheduled for Oct. 24-26 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Cost for the workshop is \$100, payable by Sept. 26. For more information contact Betty Mills, 676-5546 or Bebe Munkers, 676-9677. The workshop painting is of a mountain scene with elk.

Sandra Haynes will be doing two workshops. One will be a two-day workshop on Sept. 6 and 7, using colored and regular pencils. She will show the class how to layer colored pencils to give different shades. Judy Laughlin can be contacted about the workshop at 676-9781. The cost is \$80 payable in advance of the class. The second workshop will be held Nov. 15 and 16, and will be on Scratch Board Art. Haynes also uses watercolor in this class, which is something new for everyone to try. The class must be paid for by Oct. 12. All classes are limited in size to 10 or 12 people.

There is still some space available for the Fall Trip scheduled to leave on Oct. 10 to the Oregon Gardens, Lincoln City, Bandon and Sisters. For more information on this trip contact Betty Mills, 676-5546.

## Death Notice

### William Rowell

William Rowell, 76, of Ione, died Sunday, Aug. 24, at Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial Veterans Administration Medical Center in Walla Walla. Arrangements are pending at Sweeney Mortuary in Heppner.

## Methodist church to hold kids program

The Heppner Methodist Church will be hosting a "Kids Kontinental Breakfast" and Sunday school, on Sept. 7. The breakfast will begin at 9 a.m., with Sunday school following.

More information will be provided in next week's Gazette.

## HOST FAMILIES NEEDED



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