

## TSP meeting to be held in Lexington

Local citizens and interested parties are invited to attend a Morrow County Planning Commission Public Hearing regarding the Morrow County Transportation System Plan update. Co-adoption of City Transportation System Plans and the supporting proposed changes to county zoning documents will also be discussed. The meeting will start at 7 p.m. on May 11 at the Morrow County School Administration Building located at 270 West Main Street, Lexington.

The county will consider the adoption of the Morrow County Transportation System Plan as well as code revisions required to implement the Transportation Plan. The updated Transportation System Plan (TSP) insures that the County's transportation network will be able to serve the entire county over the next 20 years. The proposed code revisions include clarifications for private road standards, sight distance requirements, site plan review requirements, gravel road design standards, updated access management standards for county roads and applicable access management descriptions for state highways. The updated TSP will also insure that the county is consistent with the requirements of the State of Oregon Transportation Planning Rule.

The hearing will also consider the co-adoption of the Transportation System Plans for the cities of Irrigon, Boardman, Lexington, Ione and Heppner.

The community is invited to attend and comment about the current and long-term transportation needs, plans, and code revisions for enhancing the road system for everyone who uses it.

Those unable to attend but who would like to comment may contact Howard Roll at CTS Engineers at (503) 597-2903 or hroll@ctsengineers.com (e-mail); or Joyce Jackson at Mitchell Nelson Group (MNG) by mail, telephone, or email: 2116 NW Wilson Street, Portland, OR 97210, (503) 225-0822, extension #5 or jlj@mngi.com.

## BEO Bancorp posts net income of \$249,000 on strong loan growth

BEO Bancorp posted net income of \$249,000 in the first quarter of 2005. This compares to a small operating loss of \$17,000 in 2004. Interest income increased 32 percent from \$1.6 million to \$2.2 million in the first quarter. Earnings per share were \$0.57. Annualized at \$2.28, this compares to 2004 earnings per share at \$2.11, an 8 percent increase. First quarter return on equity was 12.47 percent. "The results of the first quarter of 2005 were encouraging," said President and CEO George Koffler. "We have turned the corner and the merger expenses of 2003 and 2004 are behind us. While the first quarter was relatively slow, we are on track to have a record year for net income. Our efficiency ratio improved from 96.8 percent to 76.07 percent, a critical part of improving profitability."

Total loans grew from \$63.4 million to \$96.1 million, an increase of 52 percent in the past year. "New loans and new customers in Ontario, John Day and Burns have fueled that increase," said Chief Credit Officer Jeff Bailey. "We continue to aggressively add to our allowance for loan losses, which is now at 1.31 percent of outstanding loans. Our lenders continue to monitor credit carefully. Our past due loans to total loans stands at .02 percent at quarter end. Net charge offs were

only \$1,248 for the quarter."

Deposits grew from \$134.8 million to \$147.8 million, an increase of 10 percent in the past year. "We are pleased to see continued strong deposit growth, despite rate increases," said Chief Operating Officer and EVP Linda LaRue. "We had a 12 percent increase in non-interest bearing deposits, always a good trend. We anticipate deposit growth to continue despite tough competition for those dollars. Gaining market share in John Day, Burns, Boardman, Irrigon and Condon have led the way."

Net interest margin (NIM) for the bank improved 16 percent, climbing from 3.61 percent for the first quarter of 2004 to 4.20 percent for the first quarter of 2005. "This improvement in NIM was a direct result of a planned shift of assets from the investment portfolio to the loan portfolio," said Koffler. "We used called securities and regular pay downs of mortgage backed securities to fund the increasing loan demand we have experienced."

BEO Bancorp is the holding company for Bank of Eastern Oregon, which operates 11 branches in six eastern Oregon counties. Branches are located in Arlington, Ione, Heppner, Condon, Irrigon, Boardman, Burns, John Day, Prairie City, Fossil, and Moro. Bank of Eastern Oregon also operates a mortgage division, loan production offices in Hermiston and Ontario, and offers brokerage services thru BEO Financial Services. The bank's website is www.beobank.com.

## Final preparations underway for Coil benefit

Tickets are on sale now for an elegant evening of fine dining and entertainment to benefit the Darcy Coil family on Friday, May 6 at the Heppner Elks Club.

An elegant Italian dinner will be offered downstairs with two seatings available, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. After dinner, guests will move upstairs where local musicians will play a variety of music including vocals, violin, piano and harp. Those wanting to come for dessert/music only can purchase dessert tickets and join the first seating dessert at 7 p.m. Tickets for dinner are \$25 for adults and \$15 for kids 12 and under. Dessert only tickets are \$10. Tickets may be purchased at Murray's Drug and the Bank of Eastern Oregon in Heppner and Wheatland Insurance in Ione.

Decorations will be an elegant "European theme" but there is no "dress code" and people can wear whatever they are comfortable in. "We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of businesses and individuals and we are very excited about the event," said Marianne Smith, chairperson. "We are hoping it will be a fun 'Mother's Day' dinner with proceeds going to a very good cause."

For more information, contact Marianne Smith, Carri Grieb or Ann Murray.



Marianne Smith displays some of the decorations that will be part of the Coil benefit dinner sponsored by the Diva Club.

## Justice Court report

The Justice Court for Heppner and Irrigon handled 162 cases in the month of March 2005. Of those cases, 135 were traffic citations, one was a game citation, 19 were misdemeanors, three were civil claims and FEDS, one was a small claim and three were DUI.

The court also handled 13 pre-trials; issued 69 warrants; ordered 148 suspensions; filed three DUI Diversion; returned 62 warrants from the sheriff's office; and sent 299 accounts to collection. The court also held seven minor hearings (traffic).

The total amount received was \$35,716.70. Of that amount, the state received, \$8727; the county received \$26,766.70; and \$223 was turned over in restitution.

Tickets recently processed included:

Jerry C. Walker, 37, Lexington, Violation of the Speed Limit, 65 mph in a 55 mph zone, No Operator's License and Driving Uninsured, fine \$621.

## ODFW reminds hunters to apply for big game hunts

State wildlife officials are urging big game hunters to apply for this fall's controlled big game hunts as quickly as possible to avoid the lines expected to occur near the May 15 deadline.

Hunters should submit their applications through their local license agent, mail order or Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife office. However, because the deadline falls on a Sunday this year, ODFW offices will not be open that day, and some license agents

also may be closed.

ODFW limits the number of hunters for particular hunts to improve game management and enhance the hunting experience. Hunters must apply for tags for these "controlled" hunts in the spring. A random computer drawing occurs in June and hunters are notified by June 20 if they were successful.

Pronghorn, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, eastern Oregon buck deer, many eastern Oregon bull elk seasons, and most antlerless deer and elk seasons are managed via the controlled hunt system. The cost to apply is \$4.50 per hunt type. Hunters must have a 2005 hunting license to apply.

Hunters will receive quicker service at a license agent if they have the following materials readily available: hunting license or Hunter/Angler Identification Number, a list of the hunts being applied for, and, if applicable, the party leader's license number.

## - 4-H News - North Lex Market Steer 4-H Club

By Eric Jepsen, Reporter

The North Lex Market Steer Club had their first 4-H meeting of the year on Wednesday, April 20 at the Wayne and Lori Seitz's home. The club had a very good meal of pizza and pop before starting the meeting.

First, club officers were elected. Amy Jepsen was chosen as President, Heather Yocom was picked as club vice president, Regi Seitz was voted in for secretary and Eric Jepsen was chosen for reporter. After the officers were elected, club members went out and looked at steers and talked about what each was feeding their steers.

Members present included: Regi Seitz, Natalie and Andre Rauch, Mary Rietmann, Heather Yocom and Amy, Eric and Rebecca Jepsen.

## MC Sheriff's Report

**April 19:** MCSO received a report from Portland PD that Michael D. Scott, 25, was arrested on Irrigon Justice Court warrants for Failure to Pay Fine/Contempt- Disorderly Conduct and Failure to Pay Fine/Failure to Appear on a Citation/Underlying Charge of Theft III.

-MCSO cited Karen Marie Williams, 37, for Violation of the Speed Limit, 92 mph in a 65 mph zone.

-MCSO cited Larry Blumhagen, 59, for Violation of the Basic Rule, 73 mph in a 55 mph zone.

**April 20:** Boardman PD cited Javier Pena Ramos, 20, for Driving Uninsured.

He was also cited for MISC-Throwing Burning Material and False Information about Insurance.

-Boardman PD arrested Nancy Rodriguez, 25, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Pay Fine/Theft II x4.

-MCSO arrested Allen Kevin Tompkins, 42, for Assault IV Domestic. He was lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

-MCSO cited Cory Breeding, 21, for Violation of a Restraining Order.

-MCSO received a report from McMinnville PD that Kenneth Alan Harrison, 34, was arrested on a Morrow County Circuit Court warrant for Failure to Appear/Harassment Physical and Criminal Trespass II. Harrison was lodged at Yamhill County Jail.

-MCSO arrested Louis Hauhane Nakapalau, 54, on a Clark County, WA warrant for Conditional Release Violation. He was had a local charge of Failure to Register as a Sex Offender. Nakapalau was lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

-Boardman PD cited Leobardo Jacquez III, 29, for No Insurance.

**April 21:** MCSO cited Pedro Rodriguez Gomez, 64, for Violation of the Basic Rule, 79 mph in a 55 mph zone, No Operator's License and No Insurance.

-MCSO cited Nora Jo Rogers, 38, for No Valid Operator's License. Rogers was also warned for Defective Equipment.

-MCSO arrested Christopher Dewayne Schneider, 22, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Pay Fine/Driving while Suspended.

-MCSO received a report from Pendleton PD that Ronald Ivan Scheel, 24, was arrested on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Pay Fine/No Angling.

**April 22:** Boardman PD arrested Robert Wayne Evans, 44, on an UCSO warrant for Failure to Appear/Criminal Mischief II. Evans was lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

-Boardman PD cited Marcalino Rivera-Lomeli, 48, for DUII and for BAC refusal.

-MCSO cited Migel Lopez, 42, for No Operator's License and Failure to Carry Proof of Insurance.

-MCSO arrested Theresa Horner, 44, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Pay Fine/Driving while Suspended misdemeanor.

-MCSO arrested Kevin Wayne Smith, 32, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Pay Fine/Driving while Suspended-misdemeanor. He was also arrested on an UCSO warrant for Failure to Appear/DUII and False Info to a Police Officer. He was lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

**April 23:** Boardman PD cited Maria Martinez, 37, for No Operator's License. The vehicle was impounded.

-Boardman PD cited Jackie Kristine Roberts, 26, for Driving Uninsured. She was also warned for Failure

## Keep Power Poles Clean



A wooden power pole may seem like a great place to put up a sign, but it is dangerous to line workers who have to climb the pole - and it is illegal in many states! Staples, tacks or nails used to attach signs can trip up a line worker, or pierce the workers' safety equipment, possibly resulting in electrocution. They also prematurely damage poles.

A message brought to you in the interest of safety by Columbia Basin Electric Co-Op, Inc., your locally owned & operated electric utility.

**Real Estate**  
By DAVID SYKES  
REALTOR

### BEING RELOCATED?

So, you are being relocated to another city! At least you are not alone. IRS statistics show that more than 1.5 million wage earners claim a Moving Expense Deduction each year as a result of job-related moves.

A great number of these are supported by corporate relocation benefits programs. Some provide for a direct reimbursement of expenses incurred. These can include cost of transporting household goods; travel expense for the family's move; temporary living ex-

penses if the transferee must be at the new location before the actual move takes place or while awaiting the arrival of household goods. Some corporations offer a house buying program as a "safety net" in case employees are unable to sell their home.

If a job-related move is on the horizon, ask for full details regarding the company's relocation policy. Determine what costs will be covered - and what will not be covered.

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