

Ione School District

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sell through the school or Collier's Market;

-over 30 volunteers have been trained for the SMART program;

-Browning is working with the ESD to create a staff emergency handbook under a grant in conjunction with the ESD. The grant is also paying for the district's half of the defibrillator and will cover use of the defibrillator, first aid and CPR;

-beginning with the 2006-07 school year the district will offer the "Expanded Options Program (Senate Bill 300) concerning college class offerings;

-an estimate for state school funding indicated that Ione's estimate was "relatively flat in comparison to the current year." Browning said she has contacted the Oregon Department of Education and requested them to revisit the school's calculation;

-a survey will be sent to parents asking them in March or April how well the school district is doing.

In other business, the board:

-adopted the second reading of the policy for selection of students for honor roll and honorable mention. High school students must be enrolled in at least four core units of credit and middle school students must be enrolled full time. Students receiving a grade of less than 'C' or

receiving a grade of incomplete or 'no grade' will not be eligible for honor roll or honorable mention. Students must have a grade point average greater than 3.49 and no more than one grade of 'C' for honor roll; students must have a grade point average greater than 2.99 and less than 3.5 and no grade less than 'C' for honorable mention.

-approved the 2006-07 budget calendar as follows: March 15-teacher/staff budget requests due to superintendent; March 20-publish first notice of budget committee meeting; April 3-publish second notice; April 10-budget committee meeting, presentation of budget message and document, 7 p.m.; May 25-final meeting target date for budget approval by budget committee; June 5-publish notice of budget hearing and budget summary; June 12-budget hearing, 6 p.m., followed by regular board meeting and budget adoption, appropriations and levy tax.

-approved hiring of a half-time reading aide for the remainder of the school year.

-approved moving the charter review until the next meeting.

-approved a resolution accepting the ESD service plan

-approved various policies.

-learned that the next meeting will be held on Monday, March 20.

Group works to bring mega motorplex to Morrow County

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highlights of Gardner's NASCAR career are his 1983 NASCAR Winston Cup Champion win with Bobby Allison as his driver, his 43 NASCAR Cup Series wins (still among the top-15 in all-time Cup Series wins for car owners) and his 1982 Daytona 500 win.

Part of the Boardman proposal hinges on how Morrow County voters respond to a Speedway Activity District Excise Tax measure on the May 18 ballot. Morrow County Commissioners approved putting the measure on the ballot at their Feb. 22 meeting. The proposed eight percent excise tax will be charged on ticket sales and specific retail goods and services sold only within the Speedway Activity District. Of the eight percent, 7.5 percent will be used by Oregon International Speedway to pay for road and utility improvements and .5 percent will go to Morrow County to offset costs of administering the tax.

Approval of the excise tax will provide Morrow County Commissioners the option to enact a motor vehicle fuel tax and lodging tax only within the Speedway District. Those funds would be used by OIS to repay the public purpose bonds.

"The excise tax will only be charged on ticket sales and retail goods and services sold within the Speedway Activity District," said Tallman. "The county will use its share of the excise tax to administer the tax. OIS will use funds from the tax to pay for roads and utility improvements for the speedway."

"The tax will sunset in 30 years and it can not be changed in any way without

approval from Morrow county voters," he added.

OIS is in the process of securing race date commitments from motorsport organizations to bring major events to the speedway in 2008.

"OIS is committed to working with the Port of Morrow and Morrow County commissioners to make this project a reality," said Steve Brucker, OIS Senior Vice President of Operations. "This speedway will create economic growth for Morrow County and for Oregon."

The estimated statewide economic impact could be more than \$140 million per year, according to OIS projections. The construction of the project's phase one will support an estimated 1,200 jobs and \$175 million in wages. An estimated 250 permanent jobs will be created by the completion of the speedway's first phase.

Governor Ted Kulongoski, Senator Gordon Smith, US Representative Greg Walden and Oregon Representative Greg Smith have all sent letters of support for the project to Port of Morrow Commissioners.

"As the governor of Oregon, I have emphasized economic development and the creation of new jobs as one of my top priorities," wrote Kulongoski. "I want to encourage you in your efforts to locate a major motorsports speedway and family recreation destination in Boardman. A project of this magnitude will be of great benefit not only to your region, but also to the entire State of Oregon."

Women of Hope donate to Helping Hearts program



Jan MacDonald (left), with Columbia Basin Electric Co-op, receives a \$100 check from Pauline Matheny (center) and Joan Basile (right), of the Women of Hope group for CBEC's Helping Hearts Program.

The Women of Hope group from Hope Lutheran in Heppner held a bake sale and donated \$100 of the proceeds to Columbia Basin Electric Co-Op's Helping Hearts program. The program helps families in need pay delinquent bills to keep their electricity on.

Helping Hearts was started four years ago and is funded by donations and matching funds from the CBEC Board of Directors. The board will match up to \$2000. Persons in need can contact one of two representatives, one Heppner-based and one Condon-based, and have their situations assessed and

if granted, at least a portion of the delinquent bill will be covered to keep the electricity on.

This year, 34 families requested assistance and each family received help, said Jan MacDonald with CBEC. She also said that funds donated to the program are tax deductible. One-time gifts may be made to the fund, or there is an option of giving a monthly donation with your electric bill.

For more information on donating to the program, or for assistance, you can contact Columbia Basin Electric at 676-9146.

Nazarene Church to host guest speaker

Rev. Paul Barber of Tillamook will be speaking at this year's Church of the Nazarene Oregon Zone Crusade. The crusade will come to Heppner on Saturday, March 11 at 7 p.m., hosted by Rev. Duane Jones.

Meetings will also be held: Friday, March 10 in Pilot Rock at 7 p.m.; Sunday, March 12 in Arlington at 10:30 a.m.; and Sunday, March 12 in Pendleton at 6 p.m.

The public is invited to attend. The evening will

also include a time of praise, worship and inspirational music.

The Northwest District Church of the Nazarene encompasses Washington State east of the Cascade Mountain range, Idaho north of the Salmon River and Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow and Umatilla counties in Oregon. There are 71 Nazarene Churches in the district that are divided into 11 zones.

For more information, contact Rev. Duane Jones at 676-5529.

Ione Board of Education extends superintendent contract

The Ione Board of Education announced this week that it has awarded Superintendent Bryn Browning a two-year contract extension. The action took place following the annual evaluation process for the superintendent, which was completed at the board's regular February meeting.

Board President Joe McElligott said the board was pleased to be able to extend the contract through 2009.

In completing the evaluation of the superintendent, the board stated that Browning has provided excellent leadership for the district since taking over in July of

2004. They feel that she has established a positive working relationship with the board, the school staff, students, parents and the community.

The board further commended the superintendent for the district's sound financial position and the management of the district resources. Browning was also acknowledged for being directly involved in the daily instructional program for students including both a high level of visibility in classrooms and for helping lead instructional changes.

Board members also indicated that they feel she cares deeply about the success of all Ione students.

Hermiston man dies of injuries in Boardman industrial accident

Henry O. Ploeg, 63, of Hermiston suffered fatal injuries on Feb. 23 in an industrial accident at Logan International in Boardman, said Boardman Police Department Chief John Zeiler.

Ploeg was employed by Logan International when the accident occurred. He was working on a machine when a piece of his clothing became caught and he was pulled into the machine and was crushed. He was given

CPR by the Boardman Police Department and a medic from the Boardman ambulance crew. Ploeg was transported to Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston where he later died from his injuries.

Tillamook County Creamery Association offers scholarship to local students

Tillamook County Creamery Association is offering one \$2000 scholarship to local graduating high school seniors. TCCA encourages all students that are eligible, to apply for the scholarship.

Students applying for TCCA's excellence in leadership scholarship should be a 2006 graduating senior from Heppner High School, Ione School or Riverside High School. Students need to be accepted to attend an accredited college, university or technical school for a degree program on a full-time basis. All students must have a GPA of 3.0 or above. Previous winners of the TCCA scholarship program may not reapply.

"Our youth and the communities where TCCA is located are very important to us," said Jim McMullen, TCCA president and CEO. "We feel that it is important to encourage our youth to strive for a college education and be a leader in their community." The scholarship will be awarded based on leadership,

community and school involvement, and scholastic achievement.

Scholarship applications and directions are available at the three Morrow County high schools or by calling the Columbia River Processing, Inc. main office at (541) 481-3770. Students can also contact Christie Lincoln, TCCA public relations manager, at (503) 815-1358. All application components must be returned to the scholarship committee by April 3, 2006.

The Tillamook County Creamery Association, formed as a farmer-owned cooperative in 1909, has earned a reputation as one of the nation's premier brands of cheese. Tillamook is a national marketer of naturally aged cheddar and a variety of other cheeses, butter, and an extensive line of premium ice cream, sour cream and yogurt. TCCA is most famously known for its internationally award-winning Tillamook cheddar cheese.

Births

Zandra Raylee Masterson- a daughter, Zandra Raylee, was born Feb. 3, 2006, at St. Anthony's Hospital in Pendleton, to Betty Jo and Michael Masterson of Ione.

Aerianna Destanie Decker- a daughter, Aerianna Destanie, was born Feb. 4, 2006 at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston to Ashley Ellis and Ryan Decker of Boardman.

Sally Lynn Deike- a daughter, Sally Lynn, was born Feb. 8, 2006, at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston to Sherry Deike and Eddie Pergande of Irrigon.

Nevaeh Marie Hall- a daughter, Nevaeh

Marie, was born Feb. 8, 2006 at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston to Kandi and Ty Hall of Boardman.

Axel Abuid Gonzalez- a son, Axel Abuid, was born Feb. 17, 2006 at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston to Josefina and Victor Gonzalez.

Megan René Joyce- a daughter, Megan René, was born Feb. 22, 2006 at Holy Rosary Medical Center in Ontario to Philip and Tina Joyce of Ontario. She weighed 8 pounds 2 ounces and was 19 inches. Megan joins sister, Julianna and brother, Kellen. Her grandparents are Gary and Marcia Kemp of Lexington and Kitsie Joyce and the late Peter Joyce of Ontario.

ABOUT THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES NEWSPAPER

News articles

The Heppner Gazette welcomes news articles that are of interest to the communities of Ione, Lexington, Heppner and the surrounding area.

You can submit your article through mail, fax, email or bring it to our office (see below under how to contact us).

There is no charge for news articles, but if the article is a moneymaking activity for a person or business other than a non-profit or community service organization, it must run as a paid advertisement.

Advertisements

There are several different types of advertisements in the Heppner Gazette.

Display ads are the boxed ads that run throughout the newspaper and are charged for by the amount of space. The larger the ad the more it cost. Photos and graphics may be used in display ads.

Classified, or want ads, run in the section near the back of the newspaper and are charged by the number of words in the ad.

Business directory ads are boxed ads at a discounted rate. You must agree to run the ad unchanged (except for minor corrections) for a minimum of three months.

Legal notices. The Gazette is the legal newspaper for various public entities and is able to satisfy publishing requirements for Morrow County.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor must be signed. The Gazette-Times will not publish unsigned letters. Please include your address and phone number on all letters for use by the G-T. The G-T reserves the right to edit. The G-T is not responsible for accuracy of statements made in letters. (Any letters expressing thanks will be placed in the classifieds under "Card of Thanks" at a cost of \$10) Letters in poor taste or libelous will not be published.

Photos

The Gazette welcomes photos to run with news articles. We accept either black and white or color photos and they can be returned. We also accept digital photos. Email or bring the digitals to the office on a disk. We also accept digital camera "chips" to download the photos from your camera. Please contact us if you are unsure how to submit your photo.

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