

Morrow County joins national Crime Victims' Rights Week

During the week of April 23-29, crime victims and survivors and those who serve them will join together across America to promote victims' rights and services, and to educate our communities about the devastating impact of crime on victims, neighborhoods, schools and our nation as a whole. The theme of the 2006 National Crime Victims' Rights Week-Victims' Rights: Strength in Unity- pays tribute to crime victims and survivors who, for many decades, have joined together in mutual support and advocacy to promote victims' rights and services. It also recognizes the ongoing efforts of countless victim service providers, justice professionals and allied professionals and volunteers who selflessly dedicate their lives to helping victims of crime.

For decades, crime victims and those who serve them have joined forces to ensure that all victims are aware of their rights and have access to the many

community and justice system-based services that can help them in the aftermath of crime. "There are programs in our community that provide victims with crisis intervention, counseling, support, safety planning and advocacy throughout criminal and juvenile justice processes; and our state's victim compensation program helps victims recover from the many costs associated with criminal victimization," advised the Victim Assistance Director, Samarra D. Van Doom.

According to John W. Gillis, Director of the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) within the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, "the victims' services field has gained strength by having a unified vision, a unified voice, and unified policies and practices to promote justice and healing for crime victims."

"By 'putting victims first,' our community recognizes that crime victims are integral to criminal, tribal, military and juvenile

justice processes," Gillis said. "And by speaking out axed sharing the 'power of their personal stories,' crime victims help us recognize the hurt and harm that victims endure."

OVC "kicked off" the 2006 National Crime Victims' Rights Week in Washington, D.C. with its fourth annual National Candlelight Observance on Thursday, April 20 and its award ceremony was held Friday, April 21.

"It is so very important that the victims of crime in Morrow County be allowed to have a voice," stated Deputy District Attorney Elizabeth Ballard. "Healing does not come easy in many cases and as a prosecutor I make every effort to be a strong, effective voice for each and every victim I work with."

For information about local resources please contact the Morrow County Victim Assistance Program at (541) 676-5665 and national resources are available at the website developed by the Office for Victims of Crime at www.crimevictims.gov.

Students attend Oregon Writing Festival

For the 22nd year, hundreds of students gathered at Portland State University to celebrate the art of writing. This year, 794 young authors took part in the day's festivities, including 21 from Morrow County School District.

The day began with introductions from four Oregon authors, Roland Smith, Marie Smith, Michael Hoeye and Robin Cody. All of the authors were available at the book sale to sign copies of their books and visit with the young people in attendance. Marie and Roland Smith have penned a book entitled "B is for Beaver," which is an ABC book about the State of

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office reports handling the following business:

Apr. 19: MCSO received a report advising that a white vehicle was hitting the rumble strips and trying to pass on the right shoulder going 80+ mph. Call was transferred to OSP.

-MCSO received a report that the reporter was sent a Chase credit card bill, and the reporter does not have a Chase card.

-MCSO received a report that a compressor and 10 gallons of gas cans were taken.

-MCSO received a report that four or five unidentified males assaulted the reporter. The reporter's finger is broken.

-MCSO arrested Marvin L. Strickland, 26, for grand jury indictment for possession of heroin.

-MCSO received a report that a dog ran out in the road and hit the reporter's car. The reporter and owner of the dog are going to work the situation out between them.

-MCSO received a report that a stop sign was accidentally knocked down.

-MCSO received a report that a neighbor girl kicked a ball into the reporter's yard and retrieved it despite the no trespassing signs.

-MCSO received a report that Beaverton PD

BEO Bancorp announces 1st quarter results

BEO Bancorp and its subsidiary, Bank of Eastern Oregon, earned net income of \$243,000 for the first quarter of 2006, down slightly from the \$249,000 in net income for First Quarter 2005.

Core earnings increased by 15 percent at the bank level, but increased payments for the Trust Preferred Securities purchased in First Quarter 2005 increased total TRUPS interest expense from \$55,171 to \$123,705 for the quarter. "Our first quarter results were close to budget projections, but our results were dampened by interest on debt, a \$36,000 external fraud loss and increasing cost of funds for deposits," said President and Chief Executive Officer E. George Koffler.

Total loans grew from \$96,104,000 to \$108,954,000 in the past year, a 13.4 percent increase. Past due loans at quarter end were very low at \$7621, or .01 percent of loans, and there is a single non-accrual loan of \$24,500 or .02 percent of loan totals. "We continue a very positive trend of increased loan totals

for each of the past nine quarters. Both the agricultural and commercial sectors are showing excellent increases," said Vice President and Chief Credit Officer Jeff Bailey. "Our pipeline continues to fill and we think loan totals of \$120,000,000 by year end are achievable. The lack of problem loans is a testament to the lenders working positively with borrowers and strong underwriting standards being maintained," said Bailey.

Total deposits grew from \$147,809,000 to \$162,910,000 in the past twelve months, a 10.2 percent increase. Non-interest bearing deposits led the way with an 18.9 percent improvement. "Our market share increases in the past year are very gratifying. It shows the right mix of products delivered by a positive group of bankers is being well received by the market," said Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer Linda LaRue. "In terms of operating efficiency, the first quarter saw Vice President and Information Systems Manager, Kevin McCabe, lead the implementation of our Check 21 initiative that will reduce expenses and increase investible funds. We are very pleased with the seamless integration of this new processing method," said LaRue.

"Net Interest Margin (NIM) declined from 4.41 percent to 4.16 percent year over year," said Koffler.

Baker, 18, for going 77 mph in a 55 mph zone.

-MCSO arrested David Escareno Ramirez, 23, on a Hermiston Municipal Court warrant for failing to pay fine for a DUII, driving while suspended, menacing, and carrying a concealed weapon and possession of Marijuana.

-MCSO issued a citation to Kristen Louise Dailey, 21, for not having an operating license.

Apr. 21: MCSO arrested a female subject on an IJC warrant for failing to pay fine for possession of less than an ounce of Marijuana.

-MCSO arrested Erasmo Rodolfo Barrera, 20, on an IJC warrant for failing to pay fine for driving while suspended.

-MCSO issued a citation to Paul Naranjo, 49, for going 83 mph in a 65 mph zone.

-MCSO arrested a subject for a grand jury indictment and unlawful possession of meth.

-MCSO issued a citation to John Edward Mann II, 17, for going 76 mph in a 55 mph zone.

-MCSO issued a citation to Rodrigo Manuel Cervantes Zepeda, 21, for PCS less than an OZ.

Apr. 22: MCSO issued a citation to Pamela Marie Barrera, 19, for going 95 mph in a 55 mph zone.

-MCSO issued a citation to Alex B. Allen, 20, for going 81 mph in a 65 mph zone.

-MCSO issued a citation to Christina A. Vasquez, 26, for going 86 mph in a 65 mph zone.

-MCSO arrested Sherry Ann Jones, 42, on a MCSO and IJC warrant for failing to complete alcohol education.

-MCSO received a report that a male subject was arrested by Umatilla PD on an IJC warrant for failing to pay fine for Theft II.

"Our cost of funds has increased more quickly than our yield on earning assets during the first quarter. We are taking steps to lower our cost of funds during the second quarter and will actively monitor these numbers. We anticipate the Fed is near the end of its tightening phase which should improve NIM going forward with our slightly liability sensitive posture," said Koffler.

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 through BEO Financial Services. The bank's website is www.beobank.com.

Garden Club to meet

Heppner Garden Club will be meeting May 1 at 7 p.m. at the St. Patrick's Senior Center. Jean Brazell will be demonstrating how to make flower arrangements. She encourages everyone to bring flowers and vases (imitation or real) and she will make an arrangement for you. Brazell lives in Lexington and is known for her lovely flowers. She also arranges the flowers each Sunday for the Methodist church. Hostesses for the meeting are Gladys Alderman and Peggy Connor.

Heppner Garden Club's person of interest is Eve Ironhawk. She moved here from Portland in 2001, retiring after 30 years of teaching. Her sister, Alma Cabor, had taught kindergarten in Heppner. Ironhawk came from South Dakota. Her husband, A.L. Ironhawk, had taught in Pendleton. He returned to South Dakota and married Eve. She taught in an Indian reservation and then an Indian boys' boarding school in California before moving to Portland.

Activities related to being a member of the Heppner Garden Club: served as secretary; weeded and pruned flowers at the island near Heppner Memorial Park as well roses near Blue Star marker; helped with wreath making and other things for the green's workshop; served on a committee to assemble the Garden Club yearbook and scrapbook; and is responsible for sending flowers/cards to individuals when needed. Activities related to the Nazarene church: serve as pianist weekly; helped prune roses and flowers at churchyard; and served as a janitor regularly.

She also helps on a weekly schedule to entertain residents at Willow Creek Assisted Living doing crafts with the residents. She also volunteers three hours a week at the St. Patrick Senior Center office.

She also purchases item to fill two-gallon "Crisis Care" kits several times a year, which are sent overseas.

Periodically, she picks up trash on highway near her residence, as well as puncture vine for about a half mile.

Over the Tee Cup

Seventeen ladies gathered on April 18, a perfect spring day, for Willow Creek Country Club's Ladies Play Day.

Pat Edmundson took low gross of the field. Lorrene Montgomery took low net of the field. Suzanne Jepsen took least putts of the field.

In flight A, Carol Mitchell and Karen Bishop took low gross; Carole Hamilton took low net; Eva Kilkenny took least putts; and Edmundson took long drive on hole #17 and KP on hole #13.

In flight B, Lynnea Sargent took low gross; Lois Hunt, Juanita Martin and Jackie Allstott took low net; Virginia Grant took least putts; and Allstott took long drive on hole #17.

In flight C, Joanna Barbee took low gross; Pat Dougherty took low net; Joyce Ward took least putts; and Barbee and Dougherty took long drive on hole #17.

Kilkenny had a chip-in on hole #13 and Jepsen had a chip-in on hole #16. Edmundson and Kilkenny had birdies on hole #13. Hamilton had the longest putt on hole #10 at 5 feet 8 inches.

The Mustang Scramble will be on Sunday, April 30.

ODFW to hold public meetings

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will be holding public meetings in Heppner and Fossil to discuss the 2006 hunting season tag recommendations. The first meeting will be on Wednesday, May 3 starting at 7 p.m. at the Heppner ODFW office. The office is located in the old Kinzua mill office at 54173 Highway 74. The second meeting will be on Thursday, May 4, starting at 7 p.m., at the Fossil Community Center, 401 4th Street.

All 2006 hunting season proposed tag numbers will be available. People are encouraged to stop by and visit with the biologists concerning any wildlife questions they may have.

OWC to hold meeting & review

The Oregon Wheat Commission will hold a regular and budget review meeting to discuss commission business on Thursday, May 4, beginning at 9 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Port of Morrow, 1 Marine Drive, Boardman.

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. The ADA prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities. To request an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities, please contact the Oregon Wheat Commission office 48 hours in advance at (503) 229-6665 or TTY (503) 986-4762.

Commission meetings are open to the public and anyone wishing to attend is encouraged and welcome to do so. Dress is business casual.

Morrow SWCD board to meet

The Morrow SWCD board has a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 2 at 5 p.m., at the Pettyjohn office building in Heppner. Agenda items include: minutes of the April meeting; treasurer's report; written staff report; Tom Butcher with DEQ on Willow Creek TMDL process (bacteria); Mitch Mund with Oregon Forestry on drought affects; and partner agency reports. There is prospect of an executive session according to ORS 192.660(1)(f).

Meetings of the SWCD are open to the public.

Foster Care classes to be held

If you have an interest in helping children in need, consider attending the Foster and Adoptive Parent Pre-Service Classes being offered at the Boardman DHS Office on May 12 and 13, 2006, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. This is a free class. Please register by calling 481-9482, ext. 224.