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Bessie Wetzell Newspaper Library  
University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403

### Fire closes Sam Boardman Elementary for remainder of school year

An early morning fire at Sam Boardman Elementary School has forced district officials to cancel school for the remaining 10 days of the school year. The fire is not suspicious.

The fire, which started at around 4 a.m. Monday morning, caused damage to the library, a work room, and at least one classroom, as well as structural damage to the 53,125-square-foot building from the heat.

Due to the extent of the damage, district officials decided to close school at Sam Boardman for the remainder of the year. The Oregon Department of Education has approved an emergency school calendar change. Sam Boardman Elementary students had already exceeded the required instructional hours for kindergarten through third grade for the year.

School and district staff helped make phone calls to parents through a phone

tree, in conjunction with Mid Columbia Bus Company, to put out word of the fire Monday morning.

However, the other schools in the district will continue on schedule through the last day of school on June 6. A school barbecue at Sam Boardman on May 24 also will still occur, just outside the building and on June 6.

The fire is believed to have been started by a heating unit near the library and work room, said

Superintendent Mark Burrows. The fire burned hot, and got up into the building's attic, forcing fire fighters from Boardman and Hermiston to cut a hole in the school's roof to fight the flames and release the smoke.

"The fire alarm went off and the fire doors closed, just like they were supposed to," Burrows said. "We really want to thank the Boardman and Hermiston

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HEPPNER

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VOL. 126 NO. 21 18 Pages Wednesday, May 23, 2007 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

### Road levy goes down; school board incumbents handily beat opponents

The Morrow County Road improvement levy went down 1167 to 791 in the May 15 election. The levy also failed to achieve the 50 percent rule with only 43 percent of the total eligible voters voting in the election.

Morrow County School Board incumbents Bill Kuhn, Pat McNamee and Craig Miles handily beat their opponents in the May 15 election.

Kuhn beat out challenger Ken Hackett, 984 to 499, for Position 3. McNamee had 1074 votes to 317 for Elizabeth Melendez for Position 5. Craig Miles, with 960 votes, took the lead over Darrell Gale with 319 votes and Kerry Muniz with 191 for Position 1.

Daniel Daloso took MCS D Position 4 with 775 votes over Kent Hansen with 318 and Neila Coffman with 295. Ken Matlack previously held Position 4, but chose not to run. Matlack and Donald Eppenbach ran for two spots on the Irrigon Cemetery District, receiving 282 and 302 votes, respectively.

Bink Ramos of Ione ran unopposed for director

Special Election		H E P P N E R	H A R D M A N	L E X I N G T O N	I O N E	I R R I G O N	B O A R D M A N	T O T A L S
Tuesday, May 15, 2007 - Morrow County - unofficial results								
Measure 25-48 - Morrow County Road Levy	YES	380	59	94	114	144	791	
	NO	324	76	134	385	248	1167	

Position 2 on the Ione School District, accumulating 207 votes. The position was previously held by Gregg Rietmann, who did not run. Ione School District Position 1 incumbent Joe McElligott also ran unopposed and garnered 193 votes.

McElligott was also elected to the Umatilla-Morrow ESD Position 6 with 1525 votes, the Ione Rural Fire Protection District board of directors with 193 votes and the Ione-Lexington Cemetery District with 214 votes. Marcus Collier was elected to the other Ione RFPD spot with 213 votes and Marilyn Childers took the other Ione-Lexington Cemetery District spot with 298 votes. Tom Groat ran unopposed for the

ESD Position 7 and received 1270 votes.

Incumbent Marvin Padberg ran unopposed for the Port of Morrow Commissioner Position 4 and garnered 1421 votes. Incumbent Larry Lindsay, also unopposed, received 1494 votes for Position 5.

Incumbents Linda LaRue, Morrow County Health District Director Position 4, and Larry Mills, MCHD Director Position 5, both ran unopposed and received 1523 and 1508 votes respectively.

Dean Mason ran unopposed for the Morrow County School District Boardman Community Education Committee Position 3 and received 316 votes. No one ran for the MCS D Boardman CEC

Positions 2, 4 and 5. the MCS D Lexington/Heppner CEC Positions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 nor the Irrigon CEC Positions 2, 3, 4 and 6.

Bob Conner with 226 votes and Clinton Finley with 213 beat out Jerry Johnson with 90 for two director positions on the Boardman RFPD.

K e l w a y n e Haguewood with 190 votes and Don Bennett with 152 were unopposed for two positions on the Heppner RFPD. Lynn Hobbs ran unopposed for Irrigon RFPD Position 1, receiving 389 votes, and Cindy Turner ran unopposed for the Irrigon RFPD Position 2, receiving 382 votes.

Kim Cutsforth, Patti Allstott and Skip Matthews

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### Ione School District returns \$30,000 grant, hopes to combine grants to hire teacher next year

The Ione School District Board, at their regular meeting Monday night, approved returning a \$30,000 grant to the Ione Education Foundation because, according to state funding projections, the funds won't be required to balance the district's budget.

Instead, the board voted to ask the foundation to combine this year's \$30,000 gift with next year's, so that the district could hire an additional primary school teacher with those funds. "We're all (the

school and the foundation) trying to make the best school we can," said retiring board member Gregg Rietmann.

The board directed Superintendent/Principal Bryn Browning to "put the wheels in motion" to begin seeking an additional teacher who will be hired if the foundation is agreeable to the request.

The board also approved a change in the proposed teacher's contract which would provide a cash incentive to teachers to not

use their personal leave days "unless they really need to." According to the change, which now goes to the teachers, teachers will receive the same amount as the daily substitute rate, now around \$142 per day, if they do not use their personal leave days.

The board heard from Browning that the Morrow County Unified Recreation District approved \$94,000 to lease Ione School District facilities for extra-curricular activities and community activities and

events for the 2007-08 school year.

Also at the meeting, the board received the 2007-08 bus estimate from Mid Columbia Bus with the base daily rate (50 mile minimum) per bus up \$5.25 to \$243.71. The base mileage rate per bus in excess of 50 miles is up .03cents to \$1.34. The rate per mile for motor coach activities is up .05 cents to \$2.48. The rate per mile for

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ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE  
for the Wednesday, May 30th issue:  
THIS FRIDAY, MAY 25th AT 5:00 P.M.

### Ehrmantraut set to retire from City of Heppner

After 27 years of service to the City of Heppner, Roger Ehrmantraut has decided to retire and do a little traveling.

Ehrmantraut began his work for the City of Heppner in April of 1980 as a fill-in for someone who had taken some time off. When that person decided not to return in May, Ehrmantraut was offered the fulltime position as assistant public works supervisor. He has worked for the city ever since.

Ehrmantraut first came to Heppner in 1972 and worked in plywood mill. He then left but later returned in September of 1975 to work in the Kinzua Saw Mill where he worked until its closure in December of 1979.



Pictured is Roger Ehrmantraut standing next to his truck that he has used for his work with the City of Heppner.

Ehrmantraut was born in North Dakota and lived there until 1953 when his parents moved to Billings, MT, where he went to first and second grade. In 1956, he moved to Couer d'Alene, ID where he spent most of the rest of his school years. After school he went into the Army from 1966-1972.

Ehrmantraut's first job out of the service was at Montague's Trailers where he helped restore trailers for sale. After that he worked in an apple cannery. Prior to coming to Oregon, Ehrmantraut worked for an aluminum company that made handles for.

After moving to Heppner, he married Carol Papineau in 1978. She has two sons, Corey from Ione and Rodney in Grand Rapids, MI. Ehrmantraut also has two children from a previous marriage, Bettina in Spokane, WA and Bryan in Post Falls, ID.

Ehrmantraut has done many jobs for the City

of Heppner. He especially remembers one job where he was digging to find a water leak. There was not supposed to be anything in the ground when suddenly, his backhoe hit an 880 volt electrical line. He prepared to jump off the backhoe but his foreman stopped him and told him to stay where he as until Columbia Basin Electric could turn off the power.

Ehrmantraut enjoys fly fishing and hunting and plans to spend some extra time doing both once he is retired. For the first month after his retirement, Ehrmantraut and his wife plan to travel. They plan to first go to Michigan visit one of Carol's sons. From there the plan is to go on Tennessee to visit the Grand Ole Opry and go to Dollywood. After that they will head to New York to see the Liberty Bell.

Ehrmantraut is also planning to travel to Couer d'Alene to visit family and

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### Assistant Superintendent Wade Smith resigns position

Wade Smith, assistant superintendent of the Morrow County School District, recently announced his resignation to accept a job as the assistant superintendent of the Hermiston School District.

Before becoming assistant superintendent, Smith was the principal at Heppner Elementary School and then Heppner Jr./Sr. High School for three years.

"My five years in Morrow County have been truly wonderful; the best of my professional career. I have had the opportunity to work with outstanding people; from the teachers at both Heppner schools during my principal tenure, to the custodians in the buildings in my maintenance role, to the teachers in the SIOP cohorts, on up to the administrators and district office personnel. Morrow County is truly blessed with exceptional and dedicated people," said Smith.

Smith will begin his new job in July. No replacement has yet been named.

The Heppner Gazette-Times will be closed on Monday, May 28, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. The deadline for the Wednesday, May 30 newspaper is Friday, May 25, at 5 p.m.

**Napa Tools, Equipment and Filters Sale**  
Sale through May 29th!  
Check out the sale at:  
Lexington Boardman Umatilla  
MCGG/Napa Napa Napa  
**Morrow County Grain Growers**  
Lexington 989-8221 • 1-800-452-7396 For farm equipment, visit our web site at www.mogg.net