

MC Sheriff's Office make arrests during patrol

On April 18 Sgt. Randy Rayburn and Detective Sgt. Terry Harper were conducting nighttime crime deterrence patrols on the south end of Morrow County when they stopped a vehicle for a traffic infraction near the intersection of Barlow Canyon Road and Valby Road near Ione.

During the course of the traffic stop the officers located some copper wire which the occupants could not adequately explain. The subjects, Christa Lee Cole, 20, and Nick Louis Turcol, 45, both of Gresham, were arrested for Failure to Maintain Metal Records and lodged at the Umatilla County Jail.

During the course of this incident, a white Dodge pickup with a dark canopy was seen speeding away from the area. Initial attempts to locate the vehicle were unsuccessful, however it was later located and arrests were made.

MC Sheriff's Office involved in pursuit

On April 19 at approximately 4:55 a.m. Sgt. Randy Rayburn observed a white Dodge pickup with a dark colored canopy northbound on Highway 207 north of Lexington. The vehicle matched the description of a suspicious vehicle seen speeding on Liberty School Road earlier in the night.

Sgt. Rayburn attempted to stop the vehicle and pursuit ensued. Multiple MCSO units responded to assist. The vehicle reached speeds approaching 100 miles per hour. At around mile post 5 on Highway 207, the driver pulled off of the highway and proceeded through the wheat fields followed closely by Sgt. Rayburn.

The driver ran into a drainage ditch where his vehicle became stuck. Sgt. Rayburn was able to take the passenger into custody at that time but the driver fled on foot. Shortly thereafter, Undersheriff Steve Myren located the driver hiding in a ditch a short distance away.

The driver was identified as Larry Dale Bush, 45, of Benton City, WA. He was lodged in the Umatilla County Jail on the following charges: Escape, Parole Violation, Failure to Appear/ Assault III (warrant), Attempt to Elude (vehicle), Attempt to Elude (foot), Possession of Methamphetamine, Delivery of Methamphetamine, Criminal Trespass II, Criminal Mischief I, Reckless Driving, and Driving While Suspended.

The passenger, David Lynn Bailey, 44, of Hermiston was lodged at the Umatilla County Jail on the following charges: Failure to Appear/Possession of Methamphetamine (warrant), Theft I, Attempt to Elude, Possession of Methamphetamine, Criminal Trespass II, and Criminal Mischief I.

MC School District announces district math contest results

Morrow County School District's highest achieving math students gathered at Heppner High School on Thursday, April 17 to compete in the annual Mathematics Contest. Students and parents filled the auditorium in anticipation of the test. With pencil and calculator in hand, students received testing room assignments and filed from the room to face a rigorous 50 item test that they would be required to complete in 60 minutes. In just over an hour, the tests were completed, collected and scored. The competition was fierce with few questions separating first place from tenth. All participating students gave it their best effort and are commended for rising to the challenge.

The following is a list of students who placed in the top ten for each of the five grade divisions:

4th Grade: Rory Barresse (1st), Jessica Kempken (2nd), Ryan Ibarra (3rd), Kristen Frederickson (4th), Kaden Clark and Trevor Fox (5th), Emily Pappas and Edith Velasco (6th), Juanita Aylett and Jose Agripino (7th), Patrick Collins and Victor Meyer (8th), Nathan Verley (9th), Caitlynn Bailey, Julisa Garza and Ryan Hahn (10th).

5th Grade: Cade Arbogast, John Propheter and Isabel Orozco (1st), Joe Schmidt and Morgan Smith (2nd), Ross Cutsforth (3rd), Alisha Sorensen (4th), Maddie Lindsay, Lisa Stanger and Colleen Barden (5th), Koyle Kendrick (6th), Skyler Hawks (7th), Kenzi Hughes (8th), Antonio Muniz and Teneisha Peterson (9th), Hans Rockwell and Sierra Koehler (10th).

6th Grade: Avika Sharma (1st), Jared Lemmon (2nd), Kelsey Caudron (3rd), Sarah Bose (4th), Keenan Helfrecht, Micha Hintz, McKayla Kindle, Preston Tarpley and Jordan Connell (5th), Arik Corpus (6th), Jefferson Dowdy and Margo Calvillo (7th), Ryan Dougherty (8th), Zach Burnett and Kaitlynn Linnell (9th), and Joe Amaral (10th).

7th Grade: Bryce Fowler (1st), Destany Griffin (2nd), Earl Propheter (3rd), Jacob Moore (4th), Lane Numerick (5th), Leticia Alvarez, Austin Gutierrez, and Maggie Collins (6th), Pablo Virelas-Garcia (7th), Samantha Thompkins (8th), Cheyenne Hackett and Faith Overton (9th), and Stephen Thompson (10th).

8th Grade: Briton Hanson (1st), Wyatt Bishop, Lance Bose, and Stephanie Schuler-Inskeep (2nd), Adriana Sanchez (3rd), Shane Smith and Trent Cannon (4th), Cody Nelson (5th), Justin Pranger (6th), Ignacio Zuniga (7th), Jaime Mendoza (8th), Cristina Martinez (9th), and Zachery Yocom (10th).

Ione School schedule of events

- April 31: Watershed Field Day for 5th graders
- May 1-2: Crop Science Field Trip
- May 4-8: Outdoor School at Tupper (6th grade); 5th grade to shadow 7th grade for ½ day
- May 14: Crystal Apple Awards at Pendleton Red Lion
- May 18: NHS youth track meet for grades K-5 (TBA)
- May 19: Monthly school board meeting
- May 20: Memorial Garden dedication at 5 p.m.; Junior/Senior banquet at 5:30 p.m.
- May 21: National Honor Society induction at 5:30 p.m.; High school awards night at 6 p.m.
- May 27: Kindergarten visitation
- May 28: Baccalaureate
- May 30: Graduation
- June 2-3: Physical Science field trip
- June 4: Middle school awards at 6 p.m.
- June 5: 8th grade dinner dance
- June 9: Monthly school board meeting/budget hearing
- June 10: Student's last day for 2007-2008

Annual Watershed Field Day to be held



This year's Willow Creek Watershed Field Day will be held on Wednesday, April 30, from 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Duane Neiffer's property west of Lexington. Approximately 150, 5th grade students from Morrow County Schools will attend the annual field day.

Water will be the focus of the presentations during the daylong education program. The day is divided into hands-on teaching sessions including: soils, weather, plants, compass and GPS/mapping, macro invertebrates, water quality and stream bank restoration. Also, the students will plant trees to stabilize stream banks.

The continued success of this field day is due to the support from many agencies, teachers, students, parents and schools. Caryn Appler, Umatilla/Morrow ESD coordinates the field day with the help of the Natural Resources System Consortium and Morrow SWCD.

Thimbleberries Quilt Club making quilt donation



Picture are: Kathy Skinner, Renee Devin, Bonnie Wenberg, Cynthia Wenberg, Barb Coiner, Ann Spicer, Tonya Jones, Denise Gobel. Not in picture is Heidi Wenberg and Corrine Miles. -Contributed Photo

The Heppner Thimbleberries Quilt Club made a charitable donation of this quilt called Stars of Hope. Thimbleberries is proud to be the sponsor of a year long program raising awareness and support for Faith's Lodge, a non-profit organization that provides a place where couples and families facing the serious illness or death of a child can retreat to reflect on the past, renew strength for the present and build hope for the future.

The Quilt is at the shop and will be mailed off soon. We are encouraging anyone that would like to make a quilt for Faith's Lodge or other organizations that need quilts, can come to the shop for a free workshop to sew on your projects on the second Sunday afternoon of every month.

FFA Banquet to be held April 30

The Heppner High School FFA Banquet will be held Wednesday, April 30, at 6 p.m. at the Morrow County Fairgrounds.

Members with last names beginning with A-M are asked to bring a dessert or appetizer and last names beginning with N-Z are asked to bring a salad/side dish. Meat and drinks will be provided by the chapter.

The FFA Alumni annual meeting will be held at 5 p.m., just prior to the banquet, at the fairgrounds. Anyone interested in supporting the FFA chapter are welcome. You need not have been an FFA member to attend.

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SMART fundraiser to be held May 9

The Hermiston Area Chapter of SMART (Start Making a Reader Today) is sponsoring a fundraiser, "Swing into Spring with SMART" to support the K-3 reading program in four Hermiston elementary schools, Stanfield Elementary, Heppner Elementary and Ione Community School. This event will be held on May 9th at the Desert River Inn in Umatilla beginning at 7 p.m.

It will be an evening of music performed by the "Swing Set" from Walla Walla, dancing, drawings, and both a silent and live auction. Admission to this event is \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. Appetizers will be served and there will be a no-host bar. Proceeds from this event will be used to help defray expenses for this year's SMART program at the listed elementary schools.

Tickets may be purchased from the SMART coordinators at Heppner Elementary and the Ione Community School. They may also be purchased at the Stanfield School District Office, Wilcox Furniture in Hermiston and the Greater Hermiston Chamber of Commerce.

The SMART program is a reading program aimed at improving the reading levels of children in kindergarten through 3rd grade. Studies show a child's success in school is greatly increased if they are reading at grade level by the 3rd grade. The program depends greatly on the volunteers that read with children on a weekly basis. Funding for the program comes from the SMART foundation and also from local supporters of SMART. Without the local support given to SMART by its volunteers and communities, it would not be possible to make this program available in our local communities.

Support the SMART program and join with other SMART supporters in the fun on Friday, May 9th, at "Swing Into Spring with SMART" at the Desert River Inn at 7 p.m. Any questions about this event or the SMART program may be addressed to 541-567-9409 or 541-966-3276 or to the local SMART coordinators.

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This ad paid for by the Committee to Elect Leann Rea Morrow County Commissioner