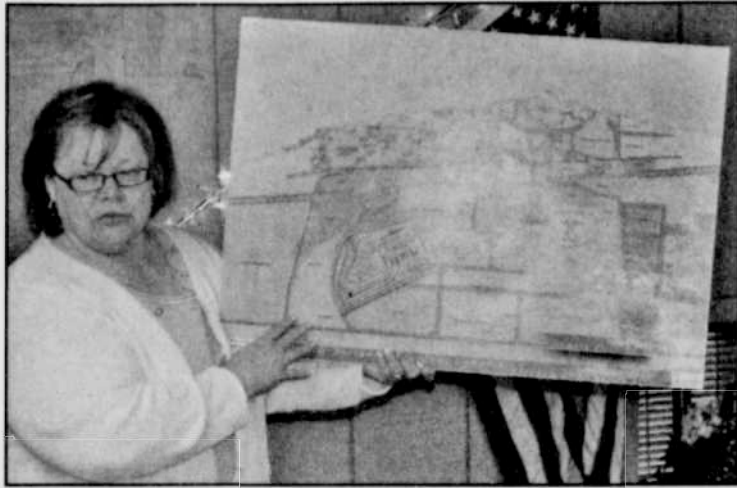


Boardman speedway moving forward



Billie Jean Morris shows Heppner Chamber of Commerce layout of the currently under construction Pacific Northwest Motorsports Park -Photo by David Sykes

-Continued from Page one contacted by individuals and companies from England, Japan and Australia about booking events there. "It will be a place to play," Morris said. "And it will also be the "speedway capital of the Pacific Northwest."

According to the speedway web site the park "will be the first of its kind in the Northwest - a Country Club for motoring enthusiasts - including sports cars, race cars, and motorcycles. Just as a golf country club centers its activities on a golf course, this club centers around a road racing course that is being designed and built for fun and competition. Think of PNMP as a place that its members go to

satisfy their "want to open up their throttle and let it rip and have fun." Many people own a sport or high performance car, or even a vintage race car. PNMP is a place to explore the potential of these cars and for the drivers to develop and practice their skills. PNMP will offer convenience and accessibility for its members who are able to treat performance driving as a sport or a hobby."

She said there will be an inaugural event, and when it happens, the people of Morrow County will be invited. "If it weren't for the Morrow County voters we wouldn't be where we are at today," Morris told the Chamber of Commerce.

City Beautification Committee plans park improvement

Aging trees and poor growth of grass is leading to likely improvements this summer in the City Park on Main Street according to City Beautification Chairman Chuck Bailey.

"We have been concerned about the integrity of the deciduous trees," said Bailey. "They are starting to splinter and crack and have become a hazard to the park goers. These trees are nearing the end of their useful life," he added. "The evergreens on the west edge of the park do not allow enough sunlight in the park and we are getting a poor stand of grass that sometimes limits usage of certain areas of the park," Bailey concluded.

The plan is to remove some of the evergreen trees and stumps to improve the amount of sunlight entering the park and improving the condition of the grass. The large Maple trees will be trimmed at the same time to preserve their health and better prevent limbs from breaking. After removal and trimming, consideration will be given to replacement trees.

City Manager Steve Bogart and Public Works Director Brian Harmon are developing a schedule of actions for completion of the project that will involve minimal interruption of park usage.

Questions regarding the plan should be directed to Bogart at City Hall.

Gates graduates from Pacific University

Billy Gates graduated on Saturday, May 17, from Pacific University in Forest Grove. He was awarded one of three Outstanding Contributions to Student Life awards for all of his activities during his four years at Pacific.



Billy Gates

Some of those activities included sports editor for the Pacific Index news-

paper (So-Jr), editor in chief of the Pacific Index (Sr), a Pacific University ambassador (So-Sr), he was a resident assistant for two years (So-Jr) in his dorm, he was president of Pacific's Pi Kappa Rho fraternity his senior year after joining it his sophomore year and he participated on the university's handball team all four years, bringing home several trophies.

School district adopts \$29 million budget

-Continued from Page one earning diplomas and numerous scholarships.

-said that the district is steadily achieving the board goals with testing gains up for the district and more children passing the writing test. He said that more kids are meeting or exceeding benchmarks, with the exception of seventh and eighth grade students.

In other business, the board:

-received a request to move Riverside High School graduation to Saturday morning, rather than Sunday as it has been in the past.

-passed a resolution in favor of restoring the state-wide simple majority voting requirement with Barney Lindsay and Berto Hernandez voting against the resolution. Currently with the double-majority rule, except for general elections, not only are a majority of the votes required to pass state-wide legislation, but also 50 percent of the registered voters must vote in the election.

-approved accepting two returning foreign exchange students at Heppner High School. This will require a change in the students' visas, approval by Immigration and Naturalization Service and payment of \$6,152 each in tuition by the students. HHS Principal Daye Stone told the board that the two are "exceptional students and want to come back."

-approved a request by HHS teacher John Flaherty to take a group of students to Washington, D.C., during the inauguration this year.

-approved attendance variances for 2008-09.

-approved a variety of organizational details for 2008-09.

-approved a resolution authorizing unantici-

pated revenues in insurance reimbursements due to the SBE fire in the amount of \$5,950,000 with expenditures in the amount of \$950,000 for support services and \$5,000,000 for construction and repairs

-approved a resolution authorizing the county treasurer to invest district funds.

-approved parental leave for A.C. Houghton Elementary School reading teacher Trixie Pullen.

-viewed the following attendance report as of June 2: ACH-345; Heppner Elementary School-193; HHS-231; Irrigon Elementary School-123; Irrigon High School-313; RHS-394; SBE-322; Windy River Elementary-227; district total-2246.

-approved the following resignations/retirements for: Cathy Gates, SBE educational assistant; April Linnell, ACH ed assistant; Molly Rill, HES Talented and Gifted coordinator; Kevin Payne, Heppner Junior High School assistant boys' basketball coach; Adam Doherty, HJHS head boys' basketball coach; Melissa Coiner, HJHS head girls' basketball coach; and Michael Cates, RHS assistant baseball coach.

-approved the following employment for: Craig Bensen, promoted from IHS assistant principal to IHS principal; Matthew Matz, hired as IHS assistant principal.

-approved the following extra duty contracts (Heppner schools listed only):

-HHS: Joe Lindsay, half-time band; Virginia Grant, rally advisor; Jodi Chapa, drama; John Flaherty, DART coordinator; Greg Grant, athletic director, head football coach, head golf coach; Les Payne, assistant football coach; Kevin Payne, assistant foot-

ball coach; Pam Dowdy, head volleyball coach; Petra Payne, TAG coordinator, assistant volleyball coach, head softball coach; Troy Morgan, head wrestling coach, assistant baseball coach; David Norton, head boys' basketball coach; Ken Grieb, assistant boys' basketball coach; Mark Dowdy, head girls' basketball coach; Chris Rauch, assistant girls' basketball coach; Rick Johnston, head baseball coach; Jason Palmer, assistant track coach. The head track position remains vacant.

-HJHS: Josh Coiner, head football; Wendy Cannin, head volleyball, head track; Mindy Wilson, assistant volleyball; Mark Lemmon, head wrestling, Larry Palmer, assistant track. The assistant football, head boys' basketball, assistant boys' basketball and head girls' basketball positions remain vacant.

-HES: Karen Smith-Griffith, DART coordinator; Mary Ann Elguezabal, English Language Learner site coordinator. The TAG coordinator position remains vacant.

-approved the 2008-09 board meeting calendar with one change as follows: July 2008-no meeting; August 11-Morrow Education Center (changed from district office); September 8-HHS; October 13-SBE; November 10-district office (changed from MEC); December 8-IES; January 12-HES; February 9-RHS; March 9-ACH; April 13-WRE; May 11-IHS; June 8-district office.

-held an executive session for personnel and legal issues.

-heard the following announcements: last work day for staff, June 10; board work session, June 26, district office, 7 p.m.; Independence Day holiday, July 4; next board meeting, August 11, MEC, 7 p.m.

Justice Court

Morrow County Justice Court Judge Charlotte Gray has released the following report:

-Pedro Avila, Bedolla, 27, Boardman, Driving While Suspended Violation and Driving Uninsured, \$944 fine.

-Colin Anderson, 29, Heppner, DUI Diversion.

-D Lea Mathieu, 50, Ione, Violation of the Basic Rule by going 75 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$148 fine.

-Edwin J. Watt, 20, Kennewick, WA, Violation of the Basic Rule by going 75 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$148 fine.

-John P. Looney, 27, Heppner, Driving While Suspended (misd.), \$845 fine.

-Richard G. Dorman, 70, Ione, No Operator's License, Failure to Register Vehicle, and Driving Uninsured, \$528 fine.

-Betty J. Barbee, 66, Heppner, Violation of the Basic Rule by going 75 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$185 fine.

DA's Report

Morrow County District Attorney Elizabeth Ballard has released the following report:

-Seth Thomas Wheeler, 30, was convicted of theft in the first degree, a class C felony, and was sentenced to 24 months supervised probation, 90 sanction units with 30 jail units, complete 80 hours of community service, other numerous conditions, and pay \$2,748 in fines, fees and assessments. Wheeler was also convicted of contempt of court but the count was discharged.

Senior Center Menu

St. Pat's Parish members will be serving lunch on Wednesday, June 25. The menu will include basque chicken, rice, onions, peppers, tomatoes, carrot salad with pineapple, hot rolls, and ice cream.

Oregon Wheat Foundation awards scholarships

The Oregon Wheat Foundation awarded \$500

scholarships to seven high school seniors. Students were judged on their community involvement, academic achievement and an essay on a wheat industry topic. Scholarships were awarded to Andre Rauch, Heppner High School, Emily Rietmann, Ione High School, Kaitlyn Muller, Griswold High School, Dustin Keys, Hermiston High School, Jana Marie von Borstel and Bailey Nogel, both Grass Valley, and Jeffery Markman, Wah-tonka High School.



Andre Rauch

Andre Rauch plans to study business at the University of Oregon. He is the son of Chris and Kathy Rauch of Lexington. Rauch graduated from Heppner High School and participated in football, basketball, baseball and 4-H.

Emily Rietmann graduated from Ione High School and lives with her parents Joe and Donna Rietmann. She served as a 4-H Ambassador, assistant athletic director, outdoor school counselor and lettered in three sports. Emily plans to major in environmental studies and pre-law at Willamette University.

Kaitlyn Muller, Griswold High School graduate, is the daughter of Wade and Vicki Muller. Muller was active in volleyball, track, student council, Future Business Leaders of America and community service activities. She plans to attend Western Oregon University.

Dustin Keys is the son of Calvin and Carla Keys. Keys graduated from Hermiston High School and will study biology at Eastern Oregon University. Keys is an Eagle Scout, member of the National Hunters Association and currently works for the Hermiston Ag Research and Extension Center.

Jana Marie von Borstel, daughter of Allen and Judy von Borstel of Grass Valley, will major in animal science at Oregon State University. Von Borstel was active in 4-H, National Honor Society, drug and alcohol prevention programs, basketball and volleyball.

Bailey Nogle lives with her parents Pat and Sandy Nogle of Grass Valley. The Sherman High School graduate was active in rodeo, 4-H, Project ALERT, track, volleyball and basketball.

Jeffery Markman graduated from The Dalles Wahtonka High School. His parents are William and Shelia Markman. Markman plans to pursue a degree in civil engineering. He was active on the ski and golf teams, 4-H, and participated in a mission trip to Mexico.

Oregon Wheat Foundation Scholarships are open to high school seniors whose parents are members of the Oregon Wheat Growers League or whose parents are employed by members of the organization. Scholarship applications for 2009 high school graduates are available online at www.owgl.org.

Emily Rietmann



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Chamber Luncheon dedicated to reviewing goals

This weeks Chamber Luncheon meeting will be dedicated to reviewing the 2008 goals developed by the Chamber Board.

Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 18.

Class of '48 to hold 60th reunion

The Heppner High School class of 1948 will be holding their 60th reunion on June 21 at the Heppner Elks Club. Social Hour will be at 5:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Those wishing to visit are welcome to come at 8 p.m.

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Heppner Little League to meet

Heppner Little League will meet at 7 p.m. at the Heppner Neighborhood Center on Wednesday night, June 18.

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