

Prior Crop Disaster Program sign-up ends February 27

Larry Frey, Executive Director for USDA's Farm Service Agency in Oregon announced that the sign-up period for the 2005-2007 Crop Disaster Program (CDP) will end February 27.

The ending date of February 27 applies to the receipt of a signed and completed FSA-840 application along with all supporting documentation and required forms at the applicable county FSA office. CDP quality claims as well as quantity claims are still being accepted for review until this deadline. Sign-up information and required forms are available at each county FSA office. Late filed applications will not be approved after the February 27 deadline.

All application determinations will be made by March 27, 2009. For further questions about CDP and the sign-up deadline, producers may contact their county FSA office or visit FSA's website at www.fsa.usda.gov.

New ATV Safety Laws FREE online certification

New safety laws are now in effect for operating quads and three-wheel ATVs (Class I ATVs) and off-road motorcycles (Class III ATVs) on lands open to public use. (See chart below for age-related timelines.) In order to make training as convenient as possible, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department now offers this free safety and education program and certification online on the website www.rideATVoregon.org.

SAFETY TRAINING EXEMPTION: Safety training isn't mandatory for riders using an ATV or off-road motorcycle for farming, agriculture, forestry, nursery, Christmas tree growing operations or when riding on private land.

MANDATORY TRAINING AGES

Year	Mandatory Safety Training Age
Jan. 1, 2009	Youth 15 and under and adults supervising youth
Jan. 1, 2010	30 and under
Jan. 1, 2011	40 and under
Jan. 1, 2012	50 and under
Jan. 1, 2013	60 and under
Jan. 1, 2014	All riders must have an ATV safety education card

Morrow County OHV Park is active in these changes and do offer the hands on training. ATV Safety Institute and the MSF Motorcycle safety foundation do have instructors on site. Any questions or concerns please contact Morrow County 541-989-9500.

Ione Junior Class plans pork feed and service auction on Jan. 23

The Ione Junior Class is planning a pair of fundraisers during the next home basketball game on Friday, January 23. There will be a barbecued pork dinner at the school cafeteria from 5 - 8 p.m. Pulled pork sandwiches, coleslaw, homemade brownies, and a beverage will be available.

At the same time, there will be a silent auction of approximately 13 junior class members. Individual bidding sheets will be displayed in the cafeteria for



The Ione Junior Class (L-R) Back Row- Eric Jepsen, R.J. Ramos, Matt Hams, Brianna Peterson, Stefanie Archer, Alex Carlson, and Sarah Stillman. Front Row- Tyree Svetich and Oil Bittinger. -Contributed Photo

each potential worker. Bidding will start at 3 p.m. and will close at half time of the boys' varsity game that night. The winning bidders will then be announced. Each student worker will provide four hours of labor for the buyer.

Money raised from the dinner and auction will help to pay for this year's prom and other special junior/senior class events this coming spring.

HES announces December Students of the Month

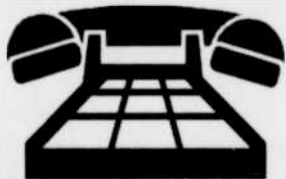
HES recently announced the December Student of the Month recipients. The character trait was compassion. Each student was chosen by their classmates and then presented with a certificate, pencil, and ribbon.

The winners were: kindergarten - Julie Teeman and Kenneth Troxell; first grade - Tresslyn McCurry and Gavin Hanna; second grade - Morgan Burch and Gibson McCurry; third grade - Shayna Osmin and Alex Lindsay; fourth grade - Nalani Stone, Bryan Fowler, and Kolby Currin; fifth grade - Sydney Maben and CJ Kindle; and sixth grade - Ella McCormack and Tom Gould.



Top row (L-R): Bryan Fowler, Kolby Currin, Ella McCormack, CJ Kindle, Tom Gould, Sydney Maben, and Morgan Burch. Bottom row (L-R): Shayna Osmin, Alex Lindsay, Julie Teeman, Kenneth Troxell, Nalani Stone, Gibson McCurry, Gavin Hanna, and Tresslyn McCurry. -Contributed Photo

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Community Bank: Bailout-Free Since 1955

It's difficult to review a year where banking headlines and financial shockers were manufactured on a daily basis. Despite this limited space, I'll still take a crack at it.

In 2008, The United States of America entered a recession. The financial industry finally fell apart, the global economic crisis began, deflation became a concern, commodities ruptured, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were placed into conservatorship, and government 'participation' in financial institutions escalated. I can easily go on, but I think everybody gets the point: 2008 was a disaster for several banks.

Several, but not all.

Please take comfort in knowing that your Community Bank weathered 2008 just fine. Throughout the year, the Bank improved loan quality and capital levels that were already strong. We did this while continuing to offer the high quality service our customers and local communities expect of us. **Most importantly, Community Bank did it all without a single taxpayer-funded, government bailout dollar. When we say we will remain independently owned and operated, we mean it.**

Community Bank customers can rest easy, knowing their bank is committed to exceeding their financial expectations, while remaining safe and secure.

Good luck in 2009.

Tom Moran
President & CEO
Community Bank



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Community Bank remains safe and secure. We have not requested, nor do we require taxpayer supported government bailout money (TARP). We will continue to be independently owned and operated.

Winner announced for raffle of Methodist Church replica



The United Methodist Women recently held a raffle for a replica of the Heppner Methodist Church. The winner of the raffle was Marie Murphy of Willow Creek.

Proceeds of the raffle were divided between the Neighborhood Center and the Senior Meal Site with \$136 going to each location.

The replica was built by Bob's Wood on Wood and was donated by Jo Meligan.

Important notice to CenturyTel customers

The Oregon Public Utility Commission designated CenturyTel as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier or ETC within its service area for universal service purposes. The goal of universal service is to provide all Oregon citizens access to essential telecommunications services.

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Heppner Garden Club sponsors HES students in poetry contests

The Heppner Garden Club recently sponsored elementary school students for state and national poetry contests. The theme is nature's song.

Nature's Song Poem

Like the leaves on the tree
whistling
The frog's croaking in the
night.
And the bird's song in the
morning.
Cricket's at night are in-
credible.
I hear those amazing songs
all the time.

Faith Jones
5th Grade

Nature's Song

The crash of the wave
brought terror to the sky.
As the wind whistles by
and the thunder booms on
high.
As the rain drips and
drops.
But when the thunder
clouds part.
And when the crushing
waves halt
When the whistling wind
blows out
And when the rain ceases.
So now the shining sun is
bright

Remember...
Nature is one big orchestra.
Kai Arbogast

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