

Morrow County Court holds January meeting

The Morrow County Court met on February 3 at the Morrow County Court House in Heppner with Judge Tallman, Commissioner Grieb and Commissioner Rea in attendance. Following is a summary of the meeting provided by Leann Rea.

-The Court approved accounts payable, payroll, etc. in the amount of \$83,593.53.

-The Road Department report stated: Upper Rhea Creek Road - The crew has been working along portions of the road sloping banks back on some of the corners to improve sight distance and using that material to build up the shoulders where there is very little shoulder; Basey Canyon Road - Continuing with adding crushed rock to the shoulders along both sides of the road; Lunceford Canyon Road - Finished removing material from the landslide. Cleaned the area up and seeded the area with grass seed. Did sanding as needed and are continued replacing road signs and rural addressing around the county.

-The Court heard the monthly report from the Sheriff's office. It was reported that the Sheriff's office had recently handled a call involving several minors in possession of alcohol.

-The Court reviewed

the following requests for extension on "Needs & Issues" projects: The Riverside Booster Club, requested an extension until September 1, 2009 (granted); The Boardman Cemetery requested an extension until March 31, 2009 (granted); The City of Ione requested an extension until May 31, 2009 (granted). A request for extension from the Boardman Community Development Association was reviewed and sent back to the group for further clarification.

-The Court reviewed and signed a letter to be sent to the governor regarding the declaration of a county-wide disaster area for agricultural producers in the county.

-The Court reviewed other correspondences and upcoming calendars and meeting notices.

-The Court discussed with some of the Department heads the possibility of meeting twice a month. It was decided that for the time being we will continue meeting on a weekly basis.

-The Morrow County Health District requested a loan in the amount of \$250,000.00 from the Morrow County Equity Fund to help pay for the costs involved in the creation of the new Long Term Care wing at the Pioneer Memorial Hospital located in Heppner. It was reported that the remodel has been

completed and has had as many as six patients. It was further reported that due to the expansion, the District has hired seven new staff members and there are two additional positions available, including a certified nurse's aide and a new risk management professional. The Court approved the request which will have a ten year payback period. This is the first loan that has been made from the Equity Fund which has been in existence for several years.

-In 2007 there was a House Bill (2331) introduced which directed a "Committee" to conduct a comprehensive assessment of state court facilities throughout Oregon's 36 counties. As a result of this action, the Court head a report on "Safety and Efficiency" needs for potential upgrades to the County Court House. The two items that were given the higher priority was the installation of a fire alarm and sprinkler system at an estimated cost of \$240,000.00 and an auxiliary power system at an estimated cost of \$140,000.00. In today's economic status it is unlikely that either one of these projects will be undertaken in the near future. All agreed that any upgrades would need to be done in a manner so as not to take anything away from the historic look of our facility.

Armato selected as semifinalist in Coca-Cola Scholars Program

Maggie Armato has been selected as a semifinalist in the 2008-09 Coca-Cola Scholars Program. Because so few of the total number of applicants (nearly 75,000) for the Coca-Cola Scholars Program are advanced as semifinalists, this is considered this an outstanding achievement.



Maggie Armato

Maggie will return an additional more detailed application. 250 student finalists will be selected from these applications. Those selected as Coca-Cola Scholar finalists must attend the Coca-Cola Scholars Weekend (April 2-5, 2009) at the Scholars Foundation's expense during which they will interview for one of 50 National Scholar awards of \$20,000. The remaining 200 Scholars will receive Regional Scholar awards valued at \$10,000.

As one of 2,100 Semifinalists, Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation views Maggie's selection as affirmation of her ability to distinguish herself academically and personally.

Red Hats to hold no-host luncheon

The Red Hats will hold a no-host luncheon at noon on Thursday, February 19, at Sweet Productions.

Ione students examine bobcat



Glenda Taylor, a local Ione resident, found a bobcat and brought it in for "show and tell" in Erin Heideman's high school animal science class on Tuesday, February 3. The first grade class joined the class and got a chance to look at the cat and touch it. The class talked about habitat, breeding and other animal physiology traits. -Contributed Photo

Heppner Family Foods accepting donations for bone marrow research

Heppner Family Foods owners, Bert and Kim Houweling, are supporting fundraising for bone marrow research by accepting donations for pink, red and white hearts to be displayed in their grocery store.

The Fanconi Anemia Research Foundation (FARF) is asking the public to "Have a Heart!" to raise funds for research of this rare disease. Known primarily as causing bone marrow failure in children, researchers believe that FA is under diagnosed as the primary cause of many head and neck cancers, heart and liver failures, pituitary gland diseases as well as hand and lower arm birth defects.

A defective gene inherited from both parents' causes Fanconi Anemia; in the United States the odds of a child having FA is one in a million. Recently discovered to have two genes in common with breast cancer, researchers believe finding the cure for FA will lead



Heppner Family Food employees Caliene Smith, Diane Munkers, Danny Picard and Bonnie Buschke show a "Have a Heart!" to raise funds for bone marrow research. -Contributed Photo

to the cure of other genetic diseases.

The Mike and Kay Proctor family of Heppner has dealt with Fanconi Anemia in two of their children. In 2007, their son underwent a successful bone marrow transplant in New York. In 2000, survival rate of a FA bone marrow transplant patient was only 25%. Thanks to worldwide research funded by FARF,

the success rate has climbed to 75%.

FARF receives no government funding for research, all funds are raised by the affected families.

Donors may write their names or a message on the hearts. The campaign runs through February 15. For information, contact fanconi.org or the Heppner fundraiser chairperson, Kay Proctor.

Walk planned in memory of Donna Schonbachler

Friends helping Friends will gather Saturday, March 14, in Heppner to pay tribute to Donna Schonbachler, Home Health and Hospice care icon, who lost her own battle to cancer last April.

In 2008, during Heppner's St. Patrick's Day Celebration parade, Donna was seen riding up the street on a float with her hands held high, wearing boxing gloves and a cancer survivor shirt. She fought a most courageous battle for years, and always put her job and life passion first, to help people

through illness. It's a great time now, for us to honor her and say Thank You for all she has done for her patients and their families.

In conjunction with this tribute, a social hour from 8:30-9:30 a.m. at the Heppner United Methodist Church, where Donna attended, will give people a chance to reunite. There will be a short walk at 9:30 along the same path that Donna and her friends enjoyed so many times. Pink shamrocks will guide the way.

Friends helping Friends are requesting contributions in memory of Donna to go to Home Health or Hospice programs. All donations, will stay locally, and continue Donna's love

and devotion for Home Health and Hospice programs.

A commemorative T-shirt is available with a February 23rd pre-registration deadline. You need not walk or buy a T-shirt to participate in this tribute. Money donations are welcomed and may be sent to Home Health or Hospice, Box 9, Heppner, Oregon.

Flyers may be picked up at Heppner TV/Windwave, Murrays, Country Shears, Dickenson Chiropractic, Heppner Post Office, Pioneer Memorial Hospital, and Hair Expressions. For any questions, contact Susan Hisler 676-5878 or Kathi Dickenson 676-9932.

DA's Report

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

-Victor Landeros Jr., 21, was convicted of unlawful possession of methamphetamine, a class C felony, and was sentenced to 18 months formal probation, 90/30 sanction units, complete a drug package, complete 80 hours of community service, other numerous conditions, and pay \$1,771 in fines, fees and assessments.

-Kenneth Twidwell, 46, was convicted of unlawful possession of methamphetamine, a class C felony, and was sentenced to 18 months formal probation, 90/30 sanction units, complete a drug package, complete 80 hours of community service, other numerous conditions, and pay \$1,771 in fines, fees and assessments.

-Toni Marie Penneck, 31, was convicted of possession of less than one ounce of marijuana, and was ordered to pay \$1,000

in fines, fees and assessments.

-Vince Monroe, 23, was convicted of harassment, a class B misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 90 days incarceration with 90 days suspended, one year bench probation, complete 20 hours of community service, and other numerous conditions. Monroe was also convicted of two counts of contempt of court and was sentenced to one year bench probation for each count and other numerous conditions. Monroe was ordered to pay \$399 in fines, fees and assessments.

Justice Court Report

Judge Charlotte Gray, Heppner Justice Court, has released the following report:

-Richard Earl Fox, 66, Cornelius, aiding in a game violation, \$76 fine.

-Arthur Jones Smith III, 56, Springfield, hunting on the enclosed land of another, \$545 fine.

-Erin E. Hansell-Heideman, 33, Ione, violation of the basic rule by going 74 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$148 fine.

-Enoch J. Sparks, 34, Heppner, passing in a no passing zone, \$244 fine.

-Tyler M. Bradfield, 23, Ione, driving while suspended-violation, driving uninsured, \$810 fine.

-David R. Spaulding, 75, Stanfield, violation of the basic rule by going 74 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$147 fine.

Valentine's Day is Saturday!

Flowers!
Candies!
Cards!

Drink Special
Chocolate Covered Cherry Mocha
25c off Regular Price

Wedding Tables

Christopher Sykes & Breana Anderson
Saturday, February 28th
3:00 p.m.
Pendleton Free Methodist Church

Macy Rhea & Dale Crenshaw
Saturday, April 25, 2009
Westwood United Methodist Church,
Los Angeles, CA

Murray's Drug, INC.
217 North Main • Heppner • Phone 676-9158 • Floral 676-9426
Serving Heppner, Lexington & Ione

Morrow County Public Works

NORTH AND SOUTH END TRANSFER STATIONS ACCEPTING COMPUTER MONITORS, DESKTOP COMPUTERS AND LAPTOPS ALL FREE OF CHARGE AT THESE MORROW COUNTY LOCATIONS:
69900 FRONTAGE LANE, BOARDMAN
57185 HWY 74, LEXINGTON
HOURS OF OPERATION
9:00 - 4:00 SAT. AND SUN.
541-989-9500

RELECTRONICS

REUSE
RECYCLE
RECYCLE

Please visit <http://www.oregoncycles.org>
For additional items accepted.

Saving the planet... one old computer at a time.

WANTED

Your Household Hazardous Waste

look for label marked "Warning" and "Danger"

Turn Them In!

Saturday May 09, 2009 Located at the Northend Transfer Station, Boardman

1:00p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Reward for turning in Mercury Thermometers

- a safe, digital thermometer!