

Donna Schonbachler Tribute walk held



Over 200 people attended the Donna Schonbachler Tribute, social hour/walk, and fundraiser for Pioneer Memorial Home Health and Hospice. —Photo by Sandy Matthews

Washington Defense Group supports area teachers

The contractor that built and operates the chemical weapons incineration plant at the Umatilla Chemical Depot is providing a \$10,000 boost to math, science and technology teachers in the four school districts adjacent to the depot.

The 20 \$500 Education Grants announced by Washington Defense Group will allow teachers to upgrade classroom equipment, increase technology-assisted learning, and provide hands-on activities such as ecosystem science simulations

and an after-school science club.

The Washington Defense Group, which is part of the EG&G Division of the URS Corporation, operates the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF). This is the third year the Community Partnership Committee at UMCDF has provided education grants to local teachers.

"Schools and teachers need a helping hand now more than ever," said UMCDF Protocol Manager Hal McCune, coordinator of the

grant program. "Our goal is to help hard-working teachers purchase equipment and provide learning activities they might not be able to afford otherwise."

Grants are being awarded to public school teachers in Hermiston, Stanfield, Umatilla and Irrigon. Irrigon teachers selected were: Judy Brown and Tonya Pomeroy at A.C. Houghton Elementary; Laura Rowe at Irrigon Elementary, and Gary Hunt at Irrigon Junior-Senior High School.

OSMI electrifies HES students



On Thursday morning, OSMI presented "Electrifying Science" which showed many different ways to make and use electricity. To prepare for this event, the 4, 5, and 6 graders visited the K-3 classroom on Wednesday to show them different science experiments. Then Thursday, OSMI talked about the two types of electricity, static and current, and the many ways we generate it and use it. —Contributed Photo


Supporters of the Heppner FFA to meet

The next Supporters of the Heppner FFA will meet on April 14 at 7 p.m. in the Ag room at Heppner High School.

Membership is open to anyone who would like to help support the Heppner FFA. You do not have to be a former FFA member to join.

Membership dues are \$25 per person. The dues are broken down to support all levels of the FFA. \$10 will go to the national level, \$5 to state, and \$10 will remain with the local chapter. A lifetime membership is also available for \$375 with \$150 going to the national level, \$75 going to state, and \$150 for the local chapter. These funds help with expenses and funding for scholarships.

For more information, questions, or concerns contact Craig Miles at 676-5290.



Real Estate

By DAVID SYKES
REALTOR

HOME PROBABLY UNDER INSURED

When you buy a home, the bank will require you to have homeowners insurance, at a minimum, for the amount of the mortgage. This makes sense for the BANK. It protects the bank's collateral. However, since you own the WHOLE house (not just the mortgaged amount), your insurance should cover your ENTIRE risk — not just the bank's.

With insurance, you are betting something will happen and the insurance company is betting it won't. You hope the insurance company is right.

With the rise in home prices over the years, it is important for homeowners to know the current value of their home's replacement cost. If you have owned your home for several years and have not adjusted the insurance coverage, chances are your home is under insured. Your insurance should cover at least 80% of your home value. The other 20% is usually considered the value of the land.



Property listings are available at www.sykesrealestate.net

188 W. Willow • P.O. Box 337 • Heppner, OR 97836
(541) 676-9228 • Cell (541) 980-6674
Fax (541) 676-9211
E-mail: david@sykesrealestate.net

Morrow County Court weekly meeting held

The Morrow County Court met on March 4 at the county courthouse in Heppner with Judge Tallman, Commissioner Grieb and Commissioner Rea in attendance. Following is a summary of those meeting provided by Leann Rea.

-The court approved monthly accounts payable and payroll in the amount of \$96,198.38.

-The court reviewed the minutes of the January 21st meeting. The court suggested several additions or corrections. The corrections will be made and presented at the next meeting.

-The court received the following road report: Depot Lane - Have completed the main excavation for the shoulder work all the way through. The crew has completed most of the touch up work along the shoulders, fixing any high or low spots as needed. They have extended one culvert, with a few yet to be extended. Currently the crew is in the process of building up an 800 foot section of the road that is between two ponds. We ripped up the old asphalt, processed that into base material, then laid down geo-tech fabric, and are currently covering the fabric with a two inch rock layer. We will then top it off with one inch of gravel. This will build the road up approximately one foot higher than it was and should keep the road bed from being damaged by the standing water in the area.; North End Transfer Station - Installed a catch basin and a 12 inch curb along the fence to contain any runoff rain water. The purpose of the new basin is to allow the water to evaporate. The crew picked up miscellaneous garbage along Frontage Road near the transfer site that had been dumped by inconsiderate individuals.; Road Canyon Bridge - The

contractor finished driving the 12 inch steel pilings for the head walls of the new bridge on Thursday the 26th. The average depth was around 19 to 20 feet before they hit solid material. The Road Dept. shared photos of the work that was done at the North Transfer Station and photos of the work being done on Depot Lane.

-The court opened one bid for the construction of a 30' X 50' building at the OHV Park. The only bidder was Blue Mt. Construction Services. The court also opened three bids for Chemical Toilets. These bids will be reviewed for completeness and the bids will be let at a later date.

-Burke O'Brien reported that there was an opportunity to access some additional "stimulus" funds. If the funds are awarded to the county, additional road work will be done on Rhea Creek Road from Basey Road toward Ruggs.

-The court heard a brief report from the Planning Director, Carla McLane and Commissioner Rea regarding the meeting they attended in Baker City for the proposed Idaho to Boardman power transmission line. Also in attendance were planners, commissioners and/or judges from Malheur, Baker, Union, and Umatilla County. The group met with representatives from Oregon Fish & Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management, and Oregon Dept. of Energy, and Idaho Power. Both felt it was a very good meeting that served to open the lines of communication.

-After the court's decision a couple of weeks ago on how the funds received from Pacific Ethanol Enterprise Zone would be dispersed, it was brought to their attention that the Boardman Rural Fire District was expecting the entire payment of \$37,320. The

court reviewed the Contract and the minutes from the Executive Sessions and rescinded the earlier decision and will award the entire amount to the fire district this year and the next four years.

-The court received a request from the Morrow County Health Department to rotate four of the vehicles that are currently in the county's motor pool for four of their older vehicles. This request was granted and then the 12 remaining vehicles were declared as surplus and will be advertised for sale. Anyone interested in any of these vehicles may view them at the county road department in Lexington.

-The court received a request to participate in the "Dinner at the Cemetery" scheduled for June 13. The court was interested in participating in this presentation, however, after reviewing other commitments, Commissioner Rea stated she regretted that she would be out of the area at that time and would not be able to participate.

-The court met with representatives of the Willow Creek Park District to discuss a small parcel of property adjacent to the swimming pool that is owned by the county. The district requested they be allowed to incorporate this into the parking area. The additional parking would benefit the swimming pool, the little league field and the museum. The court requested the park district contact the Museum Board regarding this matter. If the board was in agreement the county would agree to the transfer of ownership to the park district, with the district assuming all financial cost involved with the transfer.

-The court appointed Kenneth Matlack to the Mental Health Advisory Board.

Litter pick-up canceled

Because "residents and visitors were so orderly" this weekend during the St. Patrick's Celebration, the Chamber litter pick-up has been canceled for the week of March 23, according to John Edmundson. In recent weeks the city crew has done "a great job of clean-up" with the challenge of snow thrown in the mix.

The next scheduled clean-up will be the Mustang Mop-up before Memorial Day on Thursday, May 14. The Department of Transportation youth litter patrol will be in charge of clean-up for Fair and Rodeo. The next chamber pick-up is scheduled for before Daylight Savings Time.

Oregon East Symphony receives \$2,500 grant

The Oregon East Symphony has received a \$2,500 grant from the Bank of America Foundation. Funds from the foundation will be used to support personnel and administration operations for the 2009 calendar year.

At the core of Bank of America's national philanthropic strategy is neighborhood excellence. The Symphony received funds from the "Local Grants" program which aims to support and sustain organizations in the neighborhoods where Bank of America is located.

For more information about the Oregon East Symphony's regular concert season, special activities and music educational opportunities for area young people, contact the symphony office at (541) 276-0320 or email infor@oregoneastsymphony.org.

Senior Center Menu

Heppner Christian Church members will be serving lunch on Wednesday, March 25. The menu will include baked ham with apricot-pineapple sauce, scalloped potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, and Boston cream pie.

2009 Ione American Legion & Auxiliary Texas Hold'Em Poker Tournament Bingo Party Bake Sale & Rifle Raffle

Buy-In: \$40.00 Taylor's Cafe & Bar serving drinks
Sign-up: 6:00 PM
Play Begins: 6:30 PM
No Late Sign-ups!!!

Raffle Rifle- Marlin 22 LR
Tickets: \$1.00/ea, \$5.00/6
Tickets available at the event
Winning ticket will be drawn at the event

Saturday, March 21 2009

Ione American Legion Hall, 2nd Street Ione
For information call 541-422-7534

Texas Hold 'Em poker tournament to be held in Ione

The Ione American Legion & Auxiliary Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament and Bingo party will be held Saturday, March 21, at the Ione American Legion Hall on Second Street in Ione. A bake sale and rifle raffle will also be held during this event.

Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. and sign-ups will be held at 6 p.m. Play will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a \$40 buy-in. No late sign-ups

will be allowed.

A sandwich and salad bar will be available for a donation. Taylor's Cafe & Bar will be serving drinks.

Cash prizes will be awarded. Marlin 22 LR with stainless steel barrel and carbon fiber stock will be raffled off. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. The winning ticket will be drawn at the event.

For more information call 541-422-7534.

Pot O' Gold button winners announced

This year's St. Patrick's Celebration Pot O' Gold button winners were Butch Laughlin, Mari Close, and Pam Wunderlich.

Acres reporting begins in M.C.

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) office in Heppner will begin taking acreage reports for Morrow County producers beginning this week.

Producers who participate in FSA programs such as the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP),

Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP), or Non-Insurable Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) are required to file an acreage report each year.

Producers who also participate in Federal Crop Insurance Coverage (FCIC) are also required to file an acreage report.

Acreage reports will be taken by the Heppner FSA office by appointment. Call the office at 541-676-9011 ext.2 to make your appointment.

The deadline for filing an acreage report is June 30, 2009.

For more information contact the Morrow County FSA office at 541-676-9011, extension 2 or visit the USDA web site at <http://www.usda.gov>.

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!