

## Rep. Greg Smith votes to create jobs for Oregon's youth

Rep Greg Smith (R-Heppner) today supported a grant request directing federal stimulus dollars to a state program that promotes youth employment on public and private forestlands. The \$6.25 million grant, approved today by the Ways and Means Education Subcommittee, is expected to put 2,000 Oregon youth to work on natural resource conservation and restoration projects.

"I am pleased to support this measure to create jobs for young Oregonians while improving the health of our forestlands and natural resources," Smith said. "The grant will support a public-private partnership that provides education, training and new opportunities for at-risk kids throughout our state. The grant stimulates our economy while improving the skills and work ethic of Oregon's youth."

The U.S. Forest Service grant will allow the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) to expand programs offering teens and young adults hands-on experience working on natural resource projects. OYCC estimates that 2,000 kids will participate in various natural resource projects during the 2009 and 2010 summer months and will partner with 25 alternative high school programs during the school year.

"With legislative approval of this grant request, OYCC can offer new jobs that would not otherwise be available," Smith explained. "Over the next two summers, thousands of kids will begin building trails, removing invasive species, improving fish and wildlife habitat and completing other important work." The grant request now moves to the full Committee of Ways and Means next week.

## Chamber lunch meeting changes announced

Changes to the Chamber lunch meetings will go into effect on April 2.

The weekly meetings will now be held at St. Patrick's Senior Center cafeteria and local chamber food vendors will be catering a boxed lunch from their specific business. All caterers who wish to participate will be scheduled on a rotat-

ing basis. The cost for lunch will remain at \$9 each. The meetings will continue to be from 12-1 p.m.

It is important that those planning to attend RSVP to the Chamber office or respond to the weekly email by Wednesday at 5 p.m. so the food vendor can know how many to plan on for lunch.

## Why we walk



Pictured are: (front row) Peggy Fishburn, Sally Walker and pet Gabby, (back row) Jean Strange, pets Jake and Ellie, Rosemary Burns, Mike Burns, and Barb Hayes. -Contributed Photo

Sally Walker and her husband Ralph have lived in Heppner for 20 years. She taught for 18 years, 12 of them in the Morrow County School District. She is also the team captain for Walker's Walkers and they will be participating in the Heppner MS Walk on April 18. "When they can, my daughter Carrie and her best friend, Jill Messecar, come over from Portland to walk on my team. If they can't make the walk, they always collect money for my team. I have had a great group walking with me for the past four years."

When asked why she walks she stated, "I walk because I have a dear friend here in Heppner who has more and more trouble walking every day. So, if I can walk for a cure that may help her walk well again with me someday soon, then I have achieved my goal."

Walker challenges everyone to join her in the fight against MS on April 18 in Heppner. Money

raised from the walk helps with the purchase of medical equipment, provides respite care and funding for medical research. Registration/check-in is at All Saint's Episcopal Church on Church and Gale Street at 8 a.m. The walk begins at 9 at the city park downtown. After the walk enjoy a free ham and pancake breakfast back at the church.

Recruit your family, friends and co-workers and join us by walking, volunteering or sponsoring a walker. There is no registration fee for participants and walkers are asked to raise a minimum of \$25 per person. Prizes can be earned for outstanding fundraising, starting with a T-shirt for raising \$75. Register on-line at [www.walkMSoregon.com](http://www.walkMSoregon.com) or by phone at 800-344-4867. You can also register the day of the walk. If you have any questions contact Merilee McDowell at 541-676-5238 or Joan Basil at 541-676-5832.

## HHS to hold parent teacher conferences

Heppner High School will be holding parent teacher conferences on Thursday, April 2, from 4-8 p.m., Friday, April 3, by appointment from 10 a.m.-noon, and Tuesday, April 7 from 4-8 p.m.

Parents are invited to enjoy refreshments, pick

up report cards and visit with teachers.

## Heppner Garden Club to meet

The Heppner Garden Club will be meeting on Monday, April 6, at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's Senior Center. Hosts will be Danny Picard and Ida Farra.

On the program will be: plans for Blue Mountain District meeting on April 18 at St. Patrick's Catholic Parish Hall; and the annual Garden Club's plant exchange at St. Patrick's Senior Center dining room on May 2 from 8 a.m. until noon.

## Fair Board announces meeting changes

The monthly Fair Board meetings have been changed to the second Tuesday of the month. April's meeting will be on April 14 at 6 p.m. at the Port of Morrow building in Boardman.

## Inland Northwest Musicians ensembles to hold combined concerts

Two of Inland Northwest Musicians' orchestras will be joining forces in Stanfield and Wallowa on April 4 and 5. The Willow Creek Symphony (Irrigon) and the Wallowa Valley Orchestra (Wallowa) have combined efforts to perform a concert in each of their regions. Jeff Searles and Randy Morgan are the associate conductors to R. Lee Friese.

"Playing with the symphony is absolutely awesome," says Joe Richardson-trumpet player with Willow Creek. "I almost live for it! This is the thing I love doing second only to spending time with my family." When asked about the music to be performed in this pair of concerts Richardson

comments, "It's lively and fun- of course my favorite piece is the Trumpet Voluntary by Purcell." Joe's son Cody also plays trumpet in the symphony.

The Willow Creek Singers are also a part of this concert. They will be performing Gloria Patri by Palestrina, Pie Jesu by Greg Gilpin and a variation of Amazing Grace.

We hope you will find time to attend one of these fine performances. As always, the concerts are free to the public.

Times and locations are: Saturday, April 4 at 7 p.m. at Stanfield Elementary School gymnasium; and Sunday, April 5 at 4 p.m. at Wallowa High School gym.

## M.C. Arts and Crafts Club takes tour, sponsoring classes



Pictured is Ruth Pitman with one of her art pieces. -Contributed Photo

The Morrow County Arts and Crafts Club took a tour to Madras on March 19 to view the art work of Ruth Pitman, who is featured on the American Masters of Stone website.

In the early 1960's Ruth started lapidary work. In 1964 she began making rock tapestries, an art form she continues to this day. She has taught early American art, Tole painting, Norwegian rosemaling and other forms of art.

Making stone tapestries is her passion and it is a laborious time consuming enterprise. Each pinhead size piece (meticulously crushed and sized, 150-200 screenings required) is put down individually with tweezers. The rock and minerals she uses are all natural colors. She uses some 6,000 different shades of rock. Each tapestry is between 900 and 1,500 hours to finish.

Ruth and her work have been seen on TV many times on Channel 2 in Portland. Her tapestries have

been featured in many newspaper articles and magazines. Her work has been displayed in several museums. Ruth's website is [www.RuthPitman.com](http://www.RuthPitman.com).

The Morrow County Art Club has sponsored Art in the Schools, travels to various locations to visit art galleries and visit with artists. The club is in charge of the exhibits at the Morrow County Fair, was instrumental in starting the mural committee in Heppner and encourages the field of art and music in our communities.

The Morrow County Art and Crafts Club is sponsoring an oil painting class by Bob Walton in April and a water color class in June.

Anyone interested in joining can call Sharon Harrison at 989-8496, Trish Sweeney at 676-9226 or Betty Mills at 676-5546. The club meets the fourth Thursday of each month at the Stable of Youth at 1 p.m.

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent a floral piece, if so we saw it there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say; perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much whatever the part.

A special thanks to the Hardman and Heppner Community for the dinner given for the family and friends of Ivan.

**The Ivan McDaniel Family:**  
Punk, Sam, Mary, Pete,  
The Grandkids  
and Bob & Jamie

**PRIDE COMMUNITIES LLC**  
"YOUR HOUSING SOLUTION"  
**Homes starting at \$45,900**  
1280 sq. ft., 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom

AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES:  
Baker • Gilliam • Grant • Morrow • Sherman  
Umatilla • Union • Wallowa • Wheeler  
and the following cities: Arlington, Athena, Baker City, Heppner, John Day, LaGrande, Milton-Freewater, Moro, Pendleton, Wasco and others...  
Please contact us to learn more about this exciting offer.  
Matt - 541-280-9576      Scott - 541-788-8737  
[matt@pride-communities.com](mailto:matt@pride-communities.com)      [scott@pride-communities.com](mailto:scott@pride-communities.com)

**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!