

Boardman appoints new planning commissioner



Members of the Boardman City Council planted this Crimson King Maple, donated by the Boardman Park & Recreation District, in honor of Arbor Day. -Contributed Photo

Tuesday night the Boardman City Council appointed Steve Taylor to the Boardman Planning Commission. He will serve a three year term ending December 31, 2011. Taylor is a new Boardman resident who is interested in the development of the city. His first meeting will be Wednesday, May 20, 7 p.m. at Boardman City Hall.

The Boardman Planning Commission meets the third Wednesday of each month to discuss city planning issues for recommendation to the Boardman City Council. Currently there are two vacancies on the commission; the city would like to fill those immediately. Interested parties should

contact Boardman City Hall for information on how to apply.

In other city news, councilors approved a liquor license for Macario's Restaurant, located at 302 N. Olson Road. The new Mexican restaurant is due to open its doors May 1. On Saturday, April 18, the Boardman City Council planted a tree on City Hall's south lawn in honor of Arbor Day. The tree is a Crimson King Maple, donated by the Boardman Park & Recreation District.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Boardman City Council is Tuesday, May 5 at 7 p.m. at Boardman City Hall.

ODFW to hold public meeting in Heppner

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will be holding a public meeting on Wednesday, May 6, from 6-9 p.m. at the ODFW office in Heppner. The office is located in the old Kinzua Mill office at 54173 Highway 74. Proposed tag number for the 2009 big game seasons will be discussed.

Morrow SWCD to hold board meeting

Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District will hold a board meeting on Tuesday, May 5, beginning at 6 p.m. at the Ag Service Center, 430 W Linden Way in Heppner.

Agenda items include approval of the April minutes and treasurer's report. Review of the Morrow County Budget Hearing, Watershed Field Day plans, staff and agency reports.

Meetings of Morrow SWCD are open to the public.

BEO Bancorp reports 2009 first quarter earnings

BEO Bancorp (OTCBB:BEOB) and its subsidiary, Bank of Eastern Oregon, announced today net income for first quarter of 2009 of \$179,000 or \$0.20 per share, compared to first quarter 2008 earnings of \$623,000 or \$0.71 per share. Total assets increased 8.6% year over year to \$227,938,000, while total loans grew 16.3% to \$177,205,000 and deposits increased 4.4% to \$181,705,000.

"Core earnings are strong and even with adding \$1,050,000 to the loan loss reserve during the first quarter, we continue to be profitable," said President and CEO, Jeff Bailey. "First quarter results are influenced by the national and regional

economy. We expect 2009 to be a challenging year. The board of directors and management continue to take sound steps to make sure the provision for loan loss is funded at an appropriate level to address potential future loan losses," added Bailey.

Bailey went on to say, "The board of directors is continuing its long-held philosophy to increase capital and build reserves in turbulent economic times. In keeping with this conservative tact, the board has voted not to pay a cash dividend for first quarter 2009."

For further information on the company or to access internet banking, please visit our website at <http://www.beobank.com>.

Mule Deer Initiative Planning Committee to meet April 30 in Heppner

The Heppner Unit Mule Deer Initiative Planning Committee will meet April 30 from 2-4 p.m. at the ODFW office, 54173 Hwy 74, Heppner.

The Mule Deer Initiative is a new effort by ODFW, partner sportsman organizations, land managers and others to increase mule deer. Heppner is one of five wildlife management units selected for the initial effort.

The nine-member planning committee will be reviewing and discussing their draft action plan during the meeting. The action plan includes objectives and strategies related to mule deer habitat, population and predator management; disease; disturbance and harassment on winter range; law enforcement; and public involvement and outreach.

Planning committee members include representatives from Oregon Hunters Association, Mule Deer Foundation, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Morrow County Soil Water Conservation Service, USDA

Wildlife Services, a private landowner and member of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, and Oregon State Police.

Members of the public are welcome to attend to listen to the meeting. An opportunity for public comment is scheduled for 3:45 p.m.

Mule deer populations have declined across the western United States for a variety of reasons including loss of habitat, changes in land and predator management practices and other factors. Many of today's hunters grew up hunting mule deer and want their kids and grandkids to have the same opportunities they did.

Mule deer hunting and viewing also contribute significant dollars to eastern Oregon's economy. Last year, more than 74,000 people went deer hunting in eastern Oregon, generating an estimated \$22 million for the economy.

For more information contact Steve Cherry at 541-676-5230 or Greg Jackle (541) 575-1167.

Young artist winners featured in concert

The Inland Northwest Musicians is holding another series of concerts May 2-3 featuring the winners of this year's Young Artist Competition, which was held March 8 in Pendleton. The Inland Northwest Orchestra and the soloists will perform at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 2 at Walla Walla Community College, and at 4 p.m. Sunday, May 3 at the Hermiston High School auditorium.

Mozart's "Piano Concerto No. 12 in A" will feature junior division winner Justin Chua as piano soloist. Andrew Hunt, senior division winner, will perform the "Piano Concerto No. 2 in G" by Saint-Saens. Bach's "Violin Concerto No. 1 in A" will be performed by Ellie Hoffner, elementary division winner, and Teresa Zorich, honorable mention soloist, will play Mozart's "Piano Concerto No. 19 in F." The orchestra also will present Handel's "Water Music Suite."

Admission to the concerts is free, donations are accepted and are tax-deductible. For more information, contact Teresa Best at 289-4696 or e-mail inwm@mach-media.net.

Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) signup open in Oregon

For the first time since 2005, the Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) is open for enrollment in Oregon. GRP is a voluntary program offering landowners the opportunity to protect and preserve working grasslands.

The GRP signup will be open in Oregon from April 20 until May 15, 2009 for working grazing lands and lands under expiring Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts. Grazing lands included in the signup are: grassland, rangeland, pastureland, shrubland and certain other lands.

The program aims to conserve grassland resources, promote agricultural stability, prevent conversion to other land uses, improve biodiversity, and protect Oregon's scenic landscapes.

For Fiscal Year 2009, approximately \$725,000 in GRP funding is available in Oregon.

For application materials and more information, visit the NRCS Web site at: www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/grp.

Umatilla National Forest firewood permits available May 1

Personal-use firewood cutting on the Umatilla National Forest will open May 1, according to Kevin Martin, forest supervisor. Starting Friday, firewood permits can be purchased at Umatilla National Forest offices in Pendleton, Ukiah, Heppner, Walla Walla, and Pomeroy and at several conveniently located vendors.

Firewood permits will continue to cost \$5 per cord with a minimum purchase of four cords for \$20. Though new this year, the maximum limit for personal-use firewood on the Umatilla National Forest has been increased from 10-cords to 12-cords-per-household-per-year. "This change was made to accommodate those who wish to purchase their maximum limit from local vendors," said Martin. Vendors can only sell firewood permits in 4-cord packets.

Also new this year is the vendor fee. For each 4-cord, \$20 firewood permit you purchase at a local vendor, you will be charged an additional vendor fee up to \$2. "Our vendors provide a great service to the woodcutter by selling firewood permits at times more convenient to the public," said Martin. Most vendors are open early mornings, late evenings and on the weekends. An additional fee is not charged if you purchase

a permit at a Forest Service Office.

Though woodcutting season traditionally opens May 1, significant snow levels in the mountains this year will make it difficult to get to the firewood. "It's an unusual spring," said Martin. Much of the forest, especially to the north, is snowed under and those areas you can get to are saturated from winter melt off and recent rains. "We're concerned that folks will find themselves stuck in the snow or cause significant resource damage trying to get unstuck," said Martin.

Woodcutters are urged to: Contact the local Ranger District office before they head out to make sure the area they're traveling to is accessible; Avoid driving off the road and onto wet, unstable ground to load their firewood; Be prepared. Pack additional food, water, clothing and other emergency supplies; and let someone know your destination and estimated time of return.

Firewood cutting information and restrictions will be updated and posted on a recorded message at 1-877-958-9663. For more information on firewood cutting, please call the Supervisor's Office at (541) 278-3716 or the Heppner Ranger District at (541) 676-9187.

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Senior Center Menu

Hope/Valby/All Saints church members will be serving lunch on Wednesday, May 6. The menu will include chicken fettuccini, carrots, mandarin orange Jell-O, garlic bread and sweet potato pie.

Wedding Tables
 Riley Brett Wight & Amanda Dawn Miles
 Saturday, May 2nd
 Jared Dean Eckman & Trisha Kay Adams
 Saturday, May 9th
 Megan Kae Bailey & Kyle Richard Snow
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