

Ione American Legion hosts Navaho Code Talkers and Freedom Team Salute

The Ione American Legion Post #95 will host the Memorial Day Services at the Memorial Marker and flag pole at the ball field in Ione at 10:30 a.m. After the placing of the wreath, refreshments will be served at the Legion Hall along with a program.

A special speaker this year will be: Samuel N. Tso who was one of the Navajo Code Talkers during WWII. He was with the 5th Marine Division who was stationed on Iwo Jima. Following his presentation, the Freedom Team Recipients will be recognized.

Even though Memorial Day is a day of remembrance of the veterans who gave the ultimate sacrifice, it is also a day of



Pictured is Samuel P. Tso, a Navaho Code Talker during WWII who served with the 5th Marine Division. Tso will be the speaker at the Ione American Legion Post #95 Memorial Day Services. —Contributed Photo

honoring those who have represented our country by serving in the military. Veterans of the Korean War, Viet Nam, Lebanon/Grenada, Persian Gulf and Panama will be presented with Freedom Team Salutes. This will be an opportunity for all

of us to say thank you to the men and women who have served our county.

The Freedom Team Salute program is an official Army program that depends upon a team of volunteer ambassadors. These ambassadors act as a local point of

contact. Ambassadors try to find opportunities to honor and thank all Army veterans for their gift of service to our country. This includes active, reserve and Guard veterans. Since there are many Army veterans in the Ione area, it is not possible to recognize all of them at one time, so the Freedom Team Salute will be recognizing some veterans at other functions throughout the year. In addition to veterans who can be recognized, spouses, parents or employers who have been outstanding in the support of the veterans can be selected. School children are sometimes selected for outstanding support to veterans located overseas and in Army hospitals.

Morrow County Court weekly meeting held

The Morrow County Court met on May 6 in Heppner with Judge Tallman, Commissioner Grieb and Commissioner Rea in attendance. Following is a summary of those meeting provided by Leann Rea.

May 6

The court approved the following minutes: February 11th, April 22nd, April 24th, April 27th and April 30, 2009.

The court reviewed the pooled cash report and then approved accounts payable and payroll in the amount of \$183,321.39.

The Road Department provided the following report: Cutsforth Park—the dam at the park eroded away and the pond washed out. Due to the need to acquire several permits, the dam will not be repaired nor replaced until next year at the earliest. Upper Rhea Creek Road—the crew will finish hauling and placing gravel as needed today. All banks have been sloped, culverts have been

extended and the ditches have been cleaned. This will complete the work on this road. McNab Lane—on Saturday, May 2 there was a severe thunderstorm near Ione which sent a lot of mud, rocks and debris across McNab Lane in two places. Two flaggers blocked the road until the grader could get to the area to clean the roadway. The road was blocked for approximately three hours from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The crew will be hauling base rock to fill the shoulders with base rock, so there are no edges of the pavement exposed. Big Butter Creek Road—a report of a large bolder in the road near Pine City was received around 12:30 a.m. on May 3. The large bolder along with many smaller rocks were removed from the roadway at approximately 2 a.m. Road Sweeping—the crew completed sweeping Fuller Canyon Road, Spruce Lane, and the sheriff department's parking lot and is currently working on Willow Creek

Road. Road Grading—the crew had to do some touch up work on several roads in the Ione area after the recent storm. All road grading projects have been completed, except for touch up grading from water damage and the Mountain Roads which are still covered with snow. Miscellaneous—the department is in the process of moving all of the paving equipment to Depot Lane in the Irrigon area, with paving to begin around May 11. Discussed the need to replace the county's lowboy some time in the near future.

The court conducted the following business: Conducted an initial review of the new proposed fees from the Public Works Department which includes per day, per week and per month fees for the new cabin at Anson Wright Park; approved two utility permits for CenturyTel, one on Reitmann Lane and one along Lindsay Road; approved the installation of a CenturyTel FAX line and the county's telephone

system in the Boardman office for Commission on Children and Families; approved a request from the City of Heppner to extend the \$10,000 Hager Park Restroom Needs and Issues grant until December 31, 2010 with no additional extensions allowed; approved and signed a Resolution declaring Saturday May 2, 2009 as Ken Turner Day;

The sheriff's department provided the court a brief report on recent activities in the county. Stating that Under-sheriff Myren and Detective Harper have left for Wisconsin to pick up the new emergency vehicle.

The health department provided the court with a report on the Swine Flu and the anticipated additional flu shots that will possibly be needed this fall. While there are currently 21 known cases in Oregon, as of 4:30 p.m. May 5 there are no known cases in Morrow County.

Free weatherization services available for income eligible households

Community Action Program of East Central Oregon, CAPECO, has federal funds available for income eligible households to receive cost-free weatherization to their homes. These funds allow CAPECO's energy services to install measures in the home that will reduce energy consumption. The weatherization measures may include attic, wall and/or floor insulation, insulation of water pipes and heating ducts, as well as other measures designed to reduce energy consumption.

CAPECO provides this cost free weatherization service to income qualified residents of the four county service area, Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam and Wheeler. Once the household has qualified, it is placed on our waiting list and upon

rising to the top of the list they will be contacted. CAPECO's professional energy auditor will make a home visit to evaluate what measures may be installed. The program's goal is to help income eligible families lower their utility bills, stay warm, safe, and comfortable.

Qualification is based on the following income guidelines.

Family size (Monthly Income): 1 (\$1,805); 2 (\$2,428); 3 (\$3,052); 4 (\$3,675); 5 (\$4,298); 6 (\$4,922); 7 (\$5,545); and 8 (\$6,168). Each additional member added \$623 per month.

Individuals and Families that are interested in applying for weatherization services should contact CAPECO in Pendleton at 541-276-1926 extension 150 or toll free 1-800-752-1139 extension 150.

Ione students learn through hands-on experience



Students in Erin Heideman's science classes at Ione Community School recently dissected pigs as part of their class. Top photo: Marco Juarez and Kevin LaRue prep their pigs to investigate the respiratory system. Bottom photo: Yesenia Verduzco and Mariah Bradfield dig into their specimens. —Contributed Photos

Farm Foundation receive Certificate of Recognition



Larry Mills (left) and Cliff Green accept a Certificate of Recognition on behalf of the Farm Foundation from Chuck Bailey (right), chairman of the City of Heppner's Beautification and Parks Commission. The Foundation and its all volunteer board of directors and officers manage and operate the Agriculture Museum and the Morrow County Heritage Museum. The recognition was for the "...achievement of creating an attractive environment in our community." As one Beautification Commission member stated, "it's hard to imagine Heppner without the two museums." Mills is the Foundations' treasurer and Green, who serves as president, states their accomplishments "are owed to their volunteers and members." —Contributed Photo

St. Patrick's Apartments to hold grand opening

The newly renovated St. Patrick's Apartments will hold a grand opening on Tuesday, May 26.

Apartment viewing will be held from 3-6 p.m. with a complimentary meal will be served at 6 p.m. Bingo will follow the meal at 7 p.m.

The grand prize for Bingo will be a two night stay in Las Vegas, NV.

St. Patrick's Apartments are located at 190 North Main Street in Heppner.

Discount Spay/Neuter Clinics!

Hermiston
May 26 - Sign up at
www.neuterscooter.com
or call 289-8829

\$50 average cost *Discounts Provided for Feral Cats
Need help Trapping? Contact 278-2287

Hands-on learning at Willow Creek Watershed Field Day

Over 175 fifth graders attended the 12th annual Willow Creek WFD on Wednesday, May 6, at Duane Neiffer's property west of Lexington. Students from Heppner, Ione, Boardman and Irrigon stepped off of their buses, gathered in groups with an Ione student leader and headed for the various stations.

With the help of Heidi Hartmann, Umatilla County SWCD and Terra Lang Schultz, ODF&W the students planted willow cuttings on the banks of Willow Creek. At this station they learned how planting the trees helps to protect the stream bank. At the weather station, National Weather Service Hydrologist Dennis Hull helped students take temperature and humidity readings. As a weather balloon was released, one student tracked its direction with a compass, another watched its height with a range finder and a third wrote down the direction and elevation at certain points as the balloon floated away. This taught the kids how the wind patterns may change as the balloon moved from ground-level to higher elevations.

At the Water Quality Station Dieter Waite's Heppner high school science class, Frank Meyers, Julia Mey-



Top photo: Heppner High School science teacher Dieter Waite talks to students about water quality. Bottom photo: students test water samples. —Contributed photos

ers, Kylie VanArsdale and Catherine McElligott helped students measure basic water quality parameters including pH, turbidity, conductivity, temperature, and dissolved oxygen.

Along with these stations students

learn to identify various macros from Willow Creek presented by Gary Hunt, Irrigon JR/SR High School, Larry Lucher, OSU Extension Agent, helps students identify the elements of the soil profile i.e. top soil, subsoil,

Clint Carlson, WMA Coordinator, helps students identify various weeds in the area and Duane Neiffer, local land owner teaches students how to use a compass.

High School students from Ione and Heppner were leaders and helpers for the day Ione-leaders: Eric Jepsen, Tom Holland, Matt Coleman, Clay Morter, Jake Trahan and Tori Heagy; Ione-presenter assistants: Stephanie Medina, Becca Jepsen, Beth Morter, Brenna Rietmann, Alex Carlson, Tiana Camarillo, Marco Juarez, Sarah Stillman, Tanner Rietmann, and Mikey Raible. Heppner-presenter assistants: Anna Walter, Lenka Dobosova.

The continued success of this field day is due to the cooperation of the Corp of Engineers, the support from many agencies, teachers, students, parents and schools. Tami Sasser-Umatilla Basin Watershed Council, Merilee McDowell-Morrow Soil & Water Conservation District coordinated the field day with the help of funds from

Umatilla/Morrow ESD & Morrow SWCD. The following businesses donated items for the day: MCGG, Devin Oil Co., Inc., Bank of EO.