

HES second graders visit county courthouse

On May 29th, Heppner Elementary School second graders took a walking field trip to the Morrow County Courthouse.

Passports designed by Karen Wolff were stamped at each office they visited. Students were able to "vote" for their favorite treat in the county clerk's office, discuss with Judge Terry Tallman and Commissioner Ken Grieb about their weekly meeting agendas, and wear special glasses to demonstrate the effects of alcohol and drugs in District Attorney Elizabeth Ballard's group. Maps were viewed in the assessor's office, the vault and ledgers were shown to students in the treasurer's office, and circuit court shared their job duties with each group. Students were also able to sit in the jury boxes, the jury room, and viewing some historical records in the clerk's office.

Adults as well as students learned a great deal about the court house and our county offices. All agreed that the air conditioning was a big plus on the day of the field trip.

Some groups of the



Top Photo: Heppner Elementary School second graders. **Middle Photo:** Pictured left to right are Keegan Gibbs, Zach Bredfield, Braden Linnell, Antonio Matthew, Leo Waite, and Dakota Howard. **Bottom Photo:** Zach Bredfield votes for his favorite treat on a ballot in the clerk's office. -Contributed Photos



second graders continued their field trip to the city library to learn about the summer reading program, visited Howe's Pizza to see first-hand, how a pizza was made from basic flour to the delicious end of tasting pepperoni pizza. Butterflies that were hatched in the classroom were also released at the feed store.

Morrow County Court weekly meeting held

The Morrow County Court met on July 8 in Irrigon with Judge Tallman and Commissioner Rea in attendance. Following is a summary of those meeting provided by Leann Rea.

The court approved the minutes of June 24.

The court reviewed and approved accounts payable, SAIF premium prepayment, retirement taxes and payroll in the amount of \$391,269.81.

The July 1 road report is as follows: **Juniper Lane:** Finished paving for the year, ended up with 1.3 miles yet to pave. Patched pot holes and made shoulder repairs on the balance of the road. Patched pot holes on the Ione-Boardman Road, Ella Road, and in the Boardman areas on Columbia Avenue, Rippee Road and Root Lane. **Myers Lane:** Added more shoulder rock along Myers Lane where the recent paving was done. **Road Grading:** Cecil Road (repaired washouts), Fairview Lane (cleaned ditches and repaired shoulders from washout), Sunflower Flat Road (prep work for dust abatement), and Strawberry Lane (repaired washouts). Repaired alkali blowouts on Alpine Lane, Grieb Lane and Campbell Road. Conducted culvert cleaning on Fairview Lane, Cecil Road, Palmateer Road and Four-mile Canyon Road. **Dust Abatement:** The crew has

been watering, grading and rolling on the Sunflower Flat Road and East of Morphine Lane in preparation for the dust abatement to be applied July 1. **Road Sweeping:** The crew has finished sweeping on Willow Creek Road, Coalmine Hill and Balm Fork Road, currently working on Sand Hallow Road.

The July 8 road report is as follows: **Myers Lane:** Continue working on shoulder rock with a blade truck and broom. **Depot Lane:** Started on Depot Lane with road grader pulling up shoulders to new asphalt. When completed on Myers Lane the truck will move to Depot Lane to finish up the shoulder work. **Road Grading:** Have been working on East of Morphine Lane, the 2128 Road, Sunflower Flat Road and Penland Lake Road. **Cattle Guards:** Removed a cattle guard on the 2128 road, installed cattle guards on the 2039 road and on Board Creek Road. **Bridge and Culvert Work:** Installed gabion baskets to bridge approach on Meadow Brook Road and a cattle guard on Clarks Canyon Road. **Road Sweeping:** Finished sweeping on Sand Hollow, Little Butter Creek and Big Butter Creek, continuing sweeping on Myers Lane in conjunction with the shoulder work. **Dust Abatement:** Finished with the dust abatement application East of Morphine Lane.

Ken Matlack, County Sheriff, reported on the following: Stated that the contract for jail beds has expired and that he is working on some new language to reflect the current practices, rather than

renew the old contract; Reported on concerns with job titles and pay grades; Reported on having a problem with individuals camping on some of the islands in the Columbia River. All islands except Sand Island is off limits for a variety of reasons; Reported on a problem with vandalism at the Irrigon Marina.

Linda Skendzel introduced herself to the court and gave a brief report on her recent training classes. Skendzel is the new Veteran's Administration person for the county, she is in the VA office two days a week and also works part time as an assistant for the court clerk in Irrigon office. She reported that while the training was very informative, it also made her aware of how much more training is needed.

Elizabeth Ballard, D.A. and Patty Maness spoke with the court regarding security issues for the D.A.'s office and the Circuit Court office. Ms Ballard is to follow up with county council to determine the best way to proceed towards improving the safety of those two offices.

The court conducted the following business: Reviewed a drawing of the proposed sewer construction crossing on Willow Creek Road; Approved the expenditure of \$1,855 to replace and repair signage for the Columbia River Heritage Trail; Approved a resolution for an Interfund Loan from the General Fund to the CSEPP Fund in the amount of \$60,000; Approved an Order Designating Newspaper (Heppner Gazette) as the official paper for publishing foreclosure list for the Mor-

row County Tax Collector; Reviewed and authorized Judge Tallman to sign a letter appointing Community Counseling Solutions (CCS) to be the financial assistant administrator for services provide by CCS; Authorized an agreement between the county and RSVP of Eastern Oregon; Reviewed and approved a Strategic Investment Program (SIP) agreement between the county and Shepherds Flat Wind Farm; Heard a report from the Planning Department regarding a new water master for the Condon office and a report on the Evenergy Dedication Ceremony.

The court was reminded of the Port/City (Boardman)/County meeting scheduled for later in the day, also discussed other upcoming events.

Carlson to compete in Miss International 2009

Jessica Carlson, daughter of Fred Carlson of Heppner, was recently crowned Miss Oregon International 2009.



Jessica Carlson

Carlson graduated as valedictorian from Grant High school in Portland. She has earned a bachelor's degree in biology from the honors college at Portland State University and a master's degree in biology also at Portland State University. She has conducted research with the Naval Medical Research Center in collaboration with the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD.

In 2005, Carlson held the title of Miss Oregon USA, and competed in the Miss USA pageant in Baltimore, MD sponsored by Donald Trump. She had the honor of singing the National Anthem at a Baltimore Orioles game as well as a Portland Trailblazers game.

Carlson is currently a third year medical student and the president of the class of 2011 at Oregon Health and Science Univer-

sity (OHSU). Her research in the vascular surgery department has recently been accepted for publication later this year. She also holds a position on the Alumni Association executive council for OHSU, and enjoys event planning for the university's alumni and students.

Carlson enjoys being involved with the school of medicine and has helped organize such events as the annual phonathon, head and neck cancer screening day, holiday adopt a family, and medical specialty speed dating. She has previously served on the board of directors for Portland Metro Performing Arts, and has seven years of extensive volunteer work with Cascade AIDS project. She has performed in professional theater and musical theater as an actress, singer and dancer.

Carlson has had an extensive modeling career in both print and runway fashion. She is currently being featured in an article in the OHSU Alumni Associa-

tion's Bridges magazine.

Jessica is thrilled to hold the title of Miss Oregon International 2009. During her year, she plans to continue her platform work: promoting cardiovascular health in women. As heart disease is the number one cause of death in women, she will continue her education and outreach projects, including work with the American Heart Association, OHSU, and other organizations around her community. Research has been and continues to be a large part of Carlson's life. She will also continue to aid in fundraising efforts, to continue research that can save the lives of heart attack and stroke victims, and provide support to their family and friends.

Carlson will be competing for the title of Miss International 2009 in Chicago on July 25. You can vote for her online at www.miss-international.us (click on "the contestants"). To learn more about Jessica visit her blog at <http://www.jessicacarlsonmissoregon.blogspot.com>

Summer reading and live music to be held at Heppner library

On Friday, July 17, Eric Herman Music will be at the OTLD Heppner branch library at 4 p.m. with lots of music, comedy and fun for kids and families.

Eric Herman performs concerts and programs to kids across the country. His music has been heard nationally on PBS Kids, XM Radio and Sirius and his video for "The Elephant Song" is one of the most popular of all children's music videos with over 3 million views on YouTube.

His song "Blackbeard, Bluebeard, and Redbeard" was voted Best Children's Song by the international music organization Just Plain Folks for their 2006 awards and his video for "Snow Day" was shown on Fox & Friends.

In 2007 and 2008, Eric was presented with ASCAP Plus awards for his substantial contributions to children's music media. The program is free and open to everyone.

A&H grant funds elk habitat improvement projects in Blue Mountains region

Nine elk habitat improvement projects funded by a \$100,000 Access and Habitat grant awarded to the Blue Mountains Elk Initiative are now underway on both private and public lands in seven counties in Oregon's Blue Mountains region.

In addition to the \$100,000 provided by A&H, matching funds from over 20 project cooperators will total nearly \$2 million. The funds will be used to improve 13,619 acres of elk habitat among these nine projects.

The 19-million-acre Blue Mountains region of Oregon and Washington harbors one of the world's largest elk populations, estimated at more than 55,000 animals.

"Elk are important to the Blue Mountains region—ecologically, economically and culturally," said ODFW Wildlife Habitat Biologist Jon Paustian. "This year's projects include a range of elk habitat improvements including weed control, juniper cutting, prescribed fire, native shrub planting, and water development."

The projects are:
-Continued noxious weed control along the North Fork John Day River (Umatilla, Grant, and Morrow counties)
-Control of rush skeleton weed in Hells Can-

yon (Baker and Wallowa counties)

-Wildlife habitat improvement on Dow Ranches property (Crook County)

-Juniper control to enhance big game habitat in Murderers Creek Basin (Grant County)

-Wildlife habitat improvement on Kastor Ranch property (Crook County)

-Wildlife forage enhancement in Owsley Canyon (Union County)

-Prescribed fire to improve habitat in Trail Creek/Stickles area (Baker County)

-Noxious weed control in the Wallowa Canyonlands (Wallowa and Union counties)

-Prescribed fire to improve wildlife habitat in Woodtick/Burnt River (Baker County)

The A&H Program is funded by a \$2 surcharge on hunting licenses. Funds raised by the program are distributed through grants to individual and corporate landowners, hunter organizations, and others for cooperative wildlife habitat improvement and hunter access projects throughout the state.

For information on the A&H Program call program staff at 503-947-6087 or visit the web site at www.dfw.state.or.us/AH/.

Large newly remodeled home in Heppner



You have to see this home inside. Completely remodeled including new kitchen counters, carpeting and a completely redone basement. Small barn and lots of room out back for horses or other animals. 3 plus bedrooms and nice big living room. 1.5 acres m/l for your horses or animals. A total of 2856 Square/feet. Call 541-980-5045. **\$164,500**

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Wedding Tables

Madison Bailey & Jeremy Rosenbalm
Saturday, August 29th

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