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Ione School District proceeds with gym floor replacement process

By April Sykes

David McKay, project manager for the Ione School District Capital Improvement Project, told the board Monday night that a change order has been issued to proceed with replacement of the storm damaged gym floor, which was brand new prior to the flooding in the gym. He said that because of the expediency of the project, they will proceed prior to receiving the insurance reimbursement.

McKay said that they are pressing Brandsen Hardwood Floors and the insurance company for quick resolution of the project.

McKay said that the project budget is still in an "excellent state" and will come in under budget. He said they have not had to use the contingency funds. The revised budget for the total project is $2,107,046, up from the original $2,012,162.

McKay and ISD Superintendent Karl Ostheller updated the construction report as follows:

-the new high school roof should be done, except for the "punch walk";

-the countertops have been installed in the science rooms with the plumbing to be finished Friday;

-cement has been poured for the elementary stair pad, along with the pillars to support the new addition;

-the facing on the north side of the elementary building has been removed.

The board is still considering increasing the size of the gym floor, but has not reached a definite decision. Jeri McElligott, representing the Booster Club, said that the club was "up for it" if the board chose that option.

In other business, the board:

-approved a revised contract with the Morrow County Unified Recreation District for funding of extracurricular activities.

-approved adjustment of the district calendar to change an in-service date from October 16 to October 9, and removing one school day from the last week of school to a Friday in January.

-postponed approving the classified and licensed contracts. The classified contract has not been officially ratified by the classified employees and the licensed contract is still in their hands.

-approved spending $1,000 for the 360 Survey, which is an evaluation of the superintendent.

-discussed the published results of the OAKS tests, which was discussed and disputed by board members. The board plans to contact the Oregon Department of Education concerning those scores.

-directed Tami Peterson with UMESD to cast a vote for Barney Lindsay for the Oregon School Board Legislative Police Committee election-Region 2.

-approved staff contract recommendations as follows: Adam McCabe, Ione Middle School assistant football coach; Diana McElligott, middle school volleyball coach.

-received the following financial update from Chief Financial Officer Beth O'Hanlon:

*the district received $121,609 in basic school support. The latest basic school estimate totaled $1,528,116, which includes $68,269 in federal stimulus monies, which will be requested on a reimbursement basis.

-heard the following upcoming meeting announcements: UMESD Board meeting, October 14; October board meeting, October 19; OSBA annual conference, November 13-15, Portland.

-heard the following report from Ostheller:

*"The start of school went well even with the sounds of construction going on. Student enrollment is around 169 students K-12 with 76 students K-5, 29 students 6-8, and 64 students 9-12. The pool is still in use by the elementary and middle school for PE . . ." An elementary swim night was held September 17.

*The district has contracted with the Umatilla-Morrow ESD to serve as the director of special education for the year. Ostheller said the move would provide the new special education teacher, Gale Pratt, with additional resources and support. He said the special services files will be audited with the help of UMESD.

*The high school horticulture and natural resources classes are currently attending a field trip to Christmas Valley.

*The Ione Education Foundation dinner will be held this Saturday, September 26.

*A number of compliments have been received on how good the football field looks. Mowing is still an every other day project.

-approved the Ione School District Goals for 2009-10 as follows:

*1. Increase student academic results in all core areas as measured by state

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HEPPNER Gazette Times

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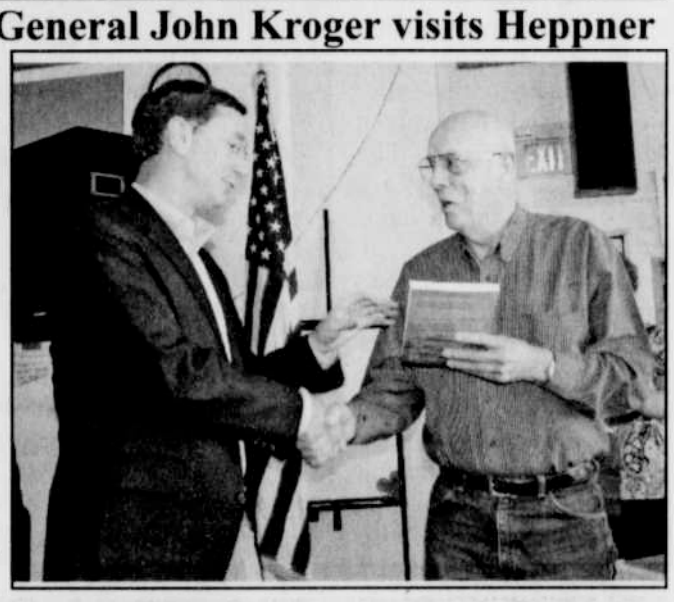
Oregon Attorney General John Kroger visits Heppner

Oregon Attorney General John Kroger told the Heppner Chamber of Commerce last week that he was visiting Heppner because he did not intend "to be the AG of the Willamette Valley. I want to be the AG of all of Oregon," he said.

Kroger said one of the biggest law enforcement problems in the state is methamphetamines.He said most of the meth is coming in from Mexico and is causing a lot of problems. He also said we need to make it easier to do business in Oregon to help the economy. "Oregon is 47th in the country in job creation. We need a more prosperous economy," he said



Heppner Mayor Les Paustian (right) presents Oregon Attorney General John Kroger with a copy of the book "Calamity" about the 1903 flood. Kroger visited the Heppner Chamber of Commerce last Thursday where he gave a short talk and answered questions.

Ione Education Foundation to hold 7th annual fundraising dinner

one School shop projects created by the students will be for sale at the foundation dinner. All sales support the Ione Educaion Foundation projects. Items for sale include blanket holders, trunks, a log computer desk, tables, shelves, and bird feedrs. Also for sale will be the center court from the old gym floor. *–Contributed Photos*

The seventh annual Ione Education Foundation meeting, dinner and auctions will be Saturday, September 26, at the Ione American Legion Hall. The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will be followed by a 6 p.m. social hour with dinner to follow at 7 p.m.

The dinner menu will consist of prime rib, salmon, baked potato, bread, salad, and dessert. The meal will also include two beverages of your choice.

The cost is $25 for adults, $10 for children 7-12, and free for children six and under. Tickets are available at the Bank of Eastern Oregon in Ione and are limited to 250 adults. Tickets may be reserved by calling 422-7435. They will also be sold at the door if available.

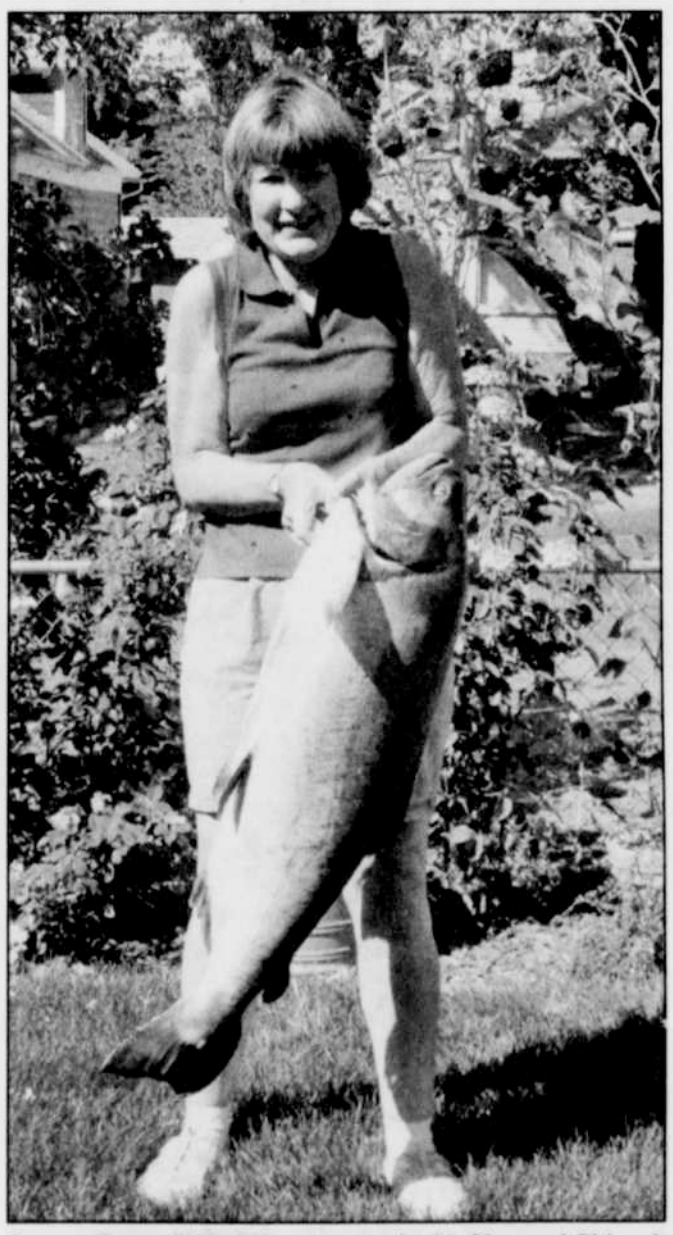
Following the dinner, the foundation will be auctioning Ione School memorabilia, items donated by community members and businesses, as well as items made by the students of Ione School. This year a Snake River jet boat fishing trip, donated and hosted by Bill Mullins, will be up for auction. Raffle tickets will be available on various items.

The Ione middle school and high school classes have worked as partners with the Ione Education foundation to promote shop education. The students build and donate a number of projects throughout the school year, which the Education Foundation will auction off during the annual fundraiser. In return the Education Foundation offers grants to the Ione shop program, which helps provide funding for these projects.

The Ione Education Foundation annual dinner and auction is the primary income source for the Tier One Grant that has allowed the Ione Community School to fund a $60,000 teaching position in the past school year. With the current decline in state funding, the Tier One Grant has been increased to $100,000 for the current school year.

Enjoy a fun evening and help support the Ione School. For more information call (541) 422-7435.

Brownfield lands 38 lb. Chinook



Luanne Brownfield of Heppner caught this 38 pound Chinook on the Columbia River off the mouth of the Deschutes River on August 15. *–Contributed Photo*

The Heppner Gazette-Times wants to see pictures of your trophy animals from this hunting season. Stop by to have your picture taken, drop off photos, or email them to editor@rapidserve.net.

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