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Crum indicted by grand jury on four counts Murder victim was pregnant

A Morrow County grand jury handed down a four count indictment against Steven Montie Crum, 29, of Ione on Tuesday, October 12. He was indicted on the counts of Murder with a Firearm - Pregnant Victim; Murder with a Firearm; Unlawful Use of a Weapon with a

Firearm; and Aggravated Theft in the First Degree.

The indictment stated:

- C o u n t

1 Murder with a Firearm - Pregnant Victim: The defendant, on or between October 1, 2010 and October 4, 2010, in Morrow County, Oregon did unlawfully and intentionally cause the death of Jessica Rae Killian, another human being. The state further alleges that on or between October 1, 2010 and October 4, 2010, Jessica Rae Killian

was pregnant and defendant knew that Jessica Rae Killian was pregnant.

The state further alleges that during the commission of this felony, defendant used a firearm.

-Count 2

Murder with a Firearm: The defendant, on or between October 1, 2010 and October 4, 2010, in Morrow County, Oregon, did unlawfully and intentionally cause the death of Jessica Rae Killian, another human being. The state further alleges that during the

commission of this felony, defendant used a firearm.

-Count 3 Unlawful Use of a Weapon with a Firearm: The defendant, on or between October 1, 2010 and October 4, 2010, in Morrow County, Oregon, did unlawfully possess with the intent to use unlawfully against another Jessica Rae Killian, a handgun, a dangerous weapon. The state further alleges that during the commission of this felony, defendant used a firearm.

-Count 4 Aggra-

-See MURDER INDICT-

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Steven Crum

HEPPNER

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Gazette
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VOL. 129 NO. 41 10 Pages Wednesday, October 13, 2010 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

First annual South Morrow County Oktoberfest to be held

The first annual South Morrow County Oktoberfest will be held Saturday, October 16, at the Ione Legion Hall.

Doors will open at 5 p.m. and music will start at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person. Children 18 and under are free. Performing

will be Rowdy Fix and Even Plane.

Taylor's Restaurant will be offering food, The Office Tavern will provide "Autumn Style" microbrew

beer along with other beverages. Latte's and Sew Much More will have pumpkin ice cream cones available for

purchase.

Activities planned include pony and cart rides and an art contest.

This event is sponsored by the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Wheatland Insurance, Sand Hollow Ag., Morrow County Grain Growers, and 2rfarm.

New deputy joins Morrow County Sheriff's Department

Ryan Jundt has joined the Morrow County Sheriff Department as a new deputy. He started his duties October 4 will be handling code enforcement.

A graduate of Hermiston High School Jundt, 26, says his life long dream is to be a police officer.

He will be moving to the North Morrow County area soon, and says he "looks forward to getting to know the community and working with the people in the area."

Jundt, who is single, will be attending the police academy at a later date.



Deputy Ryan Jundt

Ione Community School earns outstanding report card

The Ione Community Charter School received an "outstanding" status in the state report cards just released on October 7.

This is the second year the school has been labeled outstanding. Prior to that the school received an "exceptional" rating for two years in a row.

The district also met all the standards for the Average Yearly Progress report.

According to a

-See IONE AYP/Page FIVE

Program on state government spending set for Sunday

A program about excessive spending by the Oregon State Government and how is it effecting citizens and their rights, is scheduled for Sunday, October 17, at 2 p.m. at Heppner High School. The program will be put on by Common Sense For Oregon, Inc., a non-profit, non-partisan organization.

Common Sense also says its goal is: "By protecting Oregon's 100 year old Initiative System and Referendum Process, Common Sense For Oregon is an advocate for the voice of the people. Writing and supporting ballot measures, allows Common Sense to be on the front lines of the battle for Oregon's future. Common Sense represents Oregon's interest in increasing open government through stron-



Ross Day is currently the Education Director and General Counsel for Common Sense For Oregon, Inc., which according to its web site is a non-profit, non-partisan organization whose primary goal is to present pragmatic, common sense solutions to the problems facing Oregon. -Photo by David Sykes

ger government transparency and fighting wasteful government spending with spending reform. Common Sense works to expose those guilty of government waste by awarding them with the Golden Fleece Award. Oregon's budgetary problems lie not within

a revenue problem but a spending problem. The reckless spending habits of the state are limiting the rights of the people to have economic liberties."

The program is being sponsored by the local Willow Creek Tea Party Patriots.

Ballots to be mailed Friday

Morrow County Clerk Bobbi Childers has announced that ballots for the November election will be mailed on October 15. The deadline to return ballots is 8 p.m. on November 2. Ballots can be dropped off at the following locations:

City Hall, 200 City Center Circle; Irrigon Annex parking lot, 205 NE 3rd Street; Bank of Eastern Oregon, 280 West Main Street in Ione; Morrow County Public Works office parking lot in Lexington; and the Morrow County Courthouse, 100 S. Court Street in Heppner.

Lexington and Irrigon drop sites will be open 24 hours.

On election day, drop boxes at these locations will be open until 8 p.m. Ballots dropped off at the Post Office must be dropped off before 5 p.m. Postmarks do not count.

New Boardman

Heppner man wants horse riders to clean up, same as dog owners

"They should be required to clean up the manure," he says

By David Sykes

Heppner resident John Edmundson thinks the same rules that apply to dog owners cleaning up after their animals, should also apply to people who ride horses in town.

In a letter to the Heppner City Council, Edmundson urged the city to "address the problem of horse manure on our city's streets."

"I hold the position that people should clean up any messes they make around town. I applaud your efforts to control dog fecal residue. I think the same policy should apply to people who ride horses around town. They should be required to clean up the manure that the horses leave on our streets," Edmundson wrote.

"Over the past month I have cleaned up horse manure on North Court St. and Main St. eight times. These deposits really detract from the appearance



An unnamed rider and his horse ride along Main Street in Heppner. -File Photo

of our town. I urge you to address the problem of horse manure on our city's streets," Edmundson said in a letter to the council that he asked to be read aloud into the record.

The request sparked a lively debate between the council and Liz Pettibone, whose daughters often ride horses through Heppner on the way to the fairgrounds. "What are kids supposed to do here?" Pettibone asked the council. "I can see this

in other cities, but in Heppner?" She said the horse manure is not the same as dog droppings. "It is chewed up grass. Just kick it and it will scatter around and be gone. I think this is ridiculous," Pettibone said. "Kids are not a threat. They don't ride on sidewalks and they don't ride on Main Street. We live in a rural community. People are shocked that the city of Heppner wants to do this." -See CLEAN UP/Page FIVE

Heppner schools losing students Heppner schools down 29 from previous

By April Sykes

Morrow County School Superintendent Mark Burrows told the school board Monday night that Heppner schools are losing enrollment. He said that enrollment district-wide is down 38 students from the previous year and the majority, 29 students, has been lost from the Heppner area-12 from Heppner Elementary School and 17 from Heppner High School from the previous year. He said currently Heppner High School has 155 students in grades nine to 12, including foreign exchange students.

"It really smacks us in the face this year," said Burrows. "I think we need

to evaluate what we need to do to help keep Heppner High School a viable co-curricular school." Burrows attributed the decline to "natural attrition and the economy." He said that enrollment in Boardman and Irrigon schools was "flat" and a decline of nine students in the north end was largely due to "Umatilla kids who transferred to alternative education."

Board Chair Barney Lindsay suggested that the district investigate the number of home schoolers in south Morrow County in hopes that some home school families may be persuaded to enroll their children in Heppner schools.

"I'm doing my

part," joked Lindsay. "We're due in March."

"This is a dirty joke," quipped board member Berto Hernandez, "but do we need to create jobs for Mexicans (in Heppner)?"

The current district enrollment report, as of October 4, listed Heppner Elementary School, kindergarten through sixth grade, as having 182 students and Heppner Junior/Senior High School, grades seven-12, with 212. Heppner Elementary currently has 25 students in kindergarten, 31 in first grade, 21 in second grade, 21 in third grade, 32 in fourth

-See LOST STUDENTS/Page SIX

HHS, HES score 'outstanding' in state report card

Heppner Elementary School and Heppner Junior/Senior High both earned "outstanding" marks in the state report cards that came out last week. Both schools also met the standards in the Average Yearly Progress report.

HES has been named an outstanding school two years in a row. HJSHS was termed "satisfactory" last year.

All the other schools in the district, A.C.

Houghton Elementary, Irrigon Elementary, Irrigon Junior/Senior High School, Riverside High School, Sam Boardman Elementary and Windy River Elementary School, Boardman, earned "satisfactory" marks for the 2009-10 school year.

All the schools, excluding Riverside Junior/Senior High School, met the standards in the Average Yearly Progress report. Students at RJSHS considered "limited English proficient"

did not meet the overall AYP in math and students with disabilities did not meet overall standards in English/language arts.

Limited English proficient students did not meet academic status in English/language arts (reading) in academic status. Students with disabilities did not meet the English/Language Arts AYP, academic status and academic

-See HEPPNER AYP/Page TEN

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